



THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBOROUGH

25 South Main Street, Middleborough, MA 02346

<https://uumiddleboro.org>

508-947-1935

May 2024

*We offer in-person and online worship services at 10:30 a.m.
The link to each service will be posted on our website every week.*

Sunday, May 5

Rev. Peter Connolly preaching
Intimacy and Interdependence

To experience intimacy with another human being is one of the great joys in life. To experience a feeling of independence can make one feel expansive. Today, we'll explore the teachings of the Dalai Lama that allow us to see the key connection between these two experiences.

Sunday, May 12

Rev. Peter Connolly preaching
The Dedication of Mothers

On Mother's Day, we take some time to acknowledge what we do not acknowledge enough--the love and dedication that mothers bring to the lives of their family members, the love that binds wounds and soothes aching hearts. Music will be provided by a women's vocal ensemble singing "1,000 Grandmothers" by Holly Near.

Sunday, May 19

Music Sunday

Connections: Music, Nature, People

Music Sunday this year is a series of reflections on MUSIC by Susan Hotchkiss (Music Director), joined by the Chalice Choir, vocal ensembles, soloists, and instrumentalists. What is the connection between music and nature, music and people, people and nature? Why is music important? Quoting Frank Ticheli, "music and singing can be our refuge, our light against darkness and strife." Join us as we celebrate the power of music and its ability to connect us all.

Sunday, May 26

Rev. Peter Connolly preaching
Memorial Day and Our Civil Religion

Memorial Day honors those who died while serving in this country's armed forces. When we look closely at the symbols for the country for which those sacrifices were made, we find them saturated with religious significance. Today we will take a close look at this connection.

Please Note:

The details in this Newsletter are up-to-date as of the publication, but there may be changes/updates, so be sure to check the weekly "UU Updates" for any updated information. If you are not subscribed to receive the "UU Updates," visit the website at uumiddleboro.org and use the link at the bottom of the home page.

A Note from the Minister

Request for Use of Sanctuary & Parish Hall by Seventh-Day Adventist Haitian Refugees

As most folks reading this know, a fairly large group of refugees from Haiti (178 persons) have been lodged at the Quality Inn in Middleboro for the past several months. In keeping with our desire to provide ministry to the larger community, especially those in the most need, we have been searching for ways to help. On March 31, a group of four ministers representing the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, whose members are among the Middleboro Haitian refugees, approached me with a request to use our facilities for their weekly Saturday worship services and social time. Our Social Justice Team expressed warm support of the idea, providing certain concerns are satisfactorily addressed.

As the SJT and Parish Committee consider this request, they would like to see these items addressed:

- (1) Establish that our UU principles include respect for the inherent dignity of all persons including members of the LGBT+ community.
- (2) Ensure that the church has in place what we consider to be sufficient liability coverage for accidents and/or incidents that occur on the property during its use by the group.
- (3) Make it clear that any agreement between UU Middleboro & the refugees be for a limited period of time and that a continuation of the arrangement is contingent upon a successful review of the initial experience.
- (4) Any use of church facilities by the SDA group will need to accommodate prioritized church-sponsored and/or church-approved activities. This would include activities on the church grounds. We would share our monthly calendar of events in advance.
- (5) The use of the facilities by the SDA group should not preclude use by others in the Haitian refugee community. Any agreement should include enough flexibility for this to occur.
- (6) The minister and other church representative(s) will meet with the SDA pastor to go over our expectations and concerns and those of the SDA group and will schedule regular check-in meetings once any arrangement has been approved.
- (7) Several members of UU Middleboro will need to be present at the start of the service, throughout the time the parish hall is in use, and at the time SDA members exit the building until a predictable routine has been established. At that time, we will assess and modify policy as seems appropriate.
- (8) The group has not asked to use cooking facilities. Still, UU church members will ensure that the SDA group is familiarized with all aspects of kitchen use, including use of the sanitizer. Parameters for use of the cooking facilities, if any, will have to be established. The group will ensure that the facility is left in good order and cleanliness.
- (9) Expectations for the use of the church's lighting and sound system will have to be established. If these options are to be utilized, the group will need to be well-trained or UU church volunteers will have to provide the services.
- (10) Both parties will agree to established terms through a contracted agreement.

To be clear: if this group is granted access to the facilities, our church members will have to “step up,” to provide the support and supervision that will ensure a successful experience for all.

If you are a member with questions, please address them to me or a member of the Parish Committee. We will need a strong commitment to see this project through.

Springtime blessings and I look forward to seeing you at church,

Rev. Peter



Music Sunday at UU Middleboro is an annual springtime tradition, a chance to develop some musings into a worship service for the congregation. When I shuffle through the 15 annual Music Sunday files in my cabinet, I'm struck by the variety of music and topics we've explored. One of the earliest involved a congregational survey of favorite songs. Last year we presented a masterwork with John Rutter's multi-movement "Requiem." We've focused on Maya Angelou, Paul McCartney, and Paul Basler. We've created programs around themes, such as color palettes, inner instruments, and transformation. We usually take on at least one selection that is TOO HARD... only to discover that we can figure it out. There's truth in that old adage, "Practice makes perfect."

We are practicing and hoping that you will join us on **May 19th for Music Sunday 2024.**

Susan Hotchkiss, Director of Music



SONG CIRCLE

Friday, May 10 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Parish Hall



We hope you will join us for this fun night of music, sponsored by the Church and open to the public! We start at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck of hearty snacks in the Parish Hall, so bring along a favorite treat to share. A circle of chairs will be set up along with a portable keyboard, and we will provide some percussion instruments. Participants can bring their own guitars, ukuleles, dulcimers, etc., or just their voices – hands for clapping and feet for stomping! At 6:30, join folks who enjoy getting together with others to sing – no particular expertise required, the point is having fun and learning! This is a shared activity sponsored by the Church and open to the community at large. So, invite your friends! RSVP to andreapriesto@gmail.com so we can add your chair to the circle! Hope to see you there!

Bet Giddings, Andrea Priest, Ed Priest



CIRCLE OF MUSIC WEEK AT FERRY BEACH

August 11 - 17

Come to Ferry Beach Conference Center August 11-17 for a fabulous week of musical learning and sharing at the beach in beautiful Saco, Maine! This year we welcome as our guest artists Debra Cowan and Atwater-Donnelly, the duo of Aubrey Atwater and Elwood Donnelly. Visit [Ferry Beach](#) for more details; click on "View Our Complete Schedule," then click on the "Circle of Music" week. See Dorine Levasseur or Ed and Andrea Priest for more information. Ed is our musician of the week at Circle of Music!





The end of the church school year is coming, but don't let that stop you from enjoying our groups, some volunteer opportunities and getting a chance to build your own bear before we wrap up! In April we volunteered at the Cooler Middleboro Fair, and in May we will be graduating our OWL class at the end of the month. We have been adding more badges to our bears, including "Grow your Dreams" and "Listen to Life" in RE and in Youth Group. We try to ensure the children are learning about their faith home and enjoying coming back each week to enjoy food, fun and friends. We have a nursery each week for young children and infants as well as Religious Exploration class for children. Enrollment is ongoing and can be completed at any time. Kids of any age are welcome in the morning; and if children are interested in being with older children, there is a youth group available two times a month on Sunday evenings.

RE Classes: We will meet each week and in May will start to prepare for your Youth Sunday Celebration in June. We will also wrap up our "Build a Bear Wholeness" curriculum and allow the children to bring home their bears. Our last lessons are about "Comings and Goings" from home, "Muhammed" and seeking and finding our faith home, and "Memories of Home" and how we create memories in our homes that will carry us throughout our lives. It will be a busy and productive month!

Nursery is still being led by Niko Pucillo-Dunphy, who receives support from Jesse Hoyle as the second in charge. We have two toddlers and are always ready to have more young children/infants if you are interested in joining us on a Sunday morning.

OWL is wrapping up and has its last sessions on May 5 and on May 19 when we will have a closing ceremony together. Group members have been very present for all the activities and participated in some lively and thoughtful discussions.

RE Committee: The RE Committee meeting will be held on May 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor. The committee members are currently Christine Hoyle, Chris Dargelis and Kelly Lownds. New members are welcome. Please reach out to dre@uumiddleboro.org if you are interested in helping our group.

Kelly Lownds, Director of Religious Exploration

HOW DO WE CHOOSE OUR PARISH COMMITTEE?

The end of the church year is drawing near, and we can be proud of all we have accomplished. Our church board – the Parish Committee (PC) – has been very busy all year, working to streamline procedures and manage all the needs of the church, from keeping our beautiful building in good shape to supporting programs and special events.

- **When are new officers and members of the PC elected?** Every year at our annual meeting in June we elect new officers and members for the PC. Each officer or member serves a two-year term; they may be re-elected for a second consecutive two-year term. The terms are staggered, so that half of the members are elected in any particular year. In even years, we elect the President, Treasurer, and one At-Large Member. In odd years, we elect the Vice President, Clerk, Assistant Treasurer, and one At-Large Member. And in any year, we fill vacancies and approve appointments that have been made during the year to fill vacated positions.

- **Who can vote at the annual meeting?** Everyone who has been a member of the church for at least 30 days has a vote.

- **Where do nominations for the PC come from?** From all of you in the congregation!! We welcome you to find out more about what the PC does and the important ways in which each of its officers and members contributes. Attend a PC meeting or two to see what it's like; get to know those who are currently involved. **You may nominate yourself for a position or you may contact the Nominating Committee to suggest someone else you feel would make a unique contribution by serving.**

- **Will there be a slate of officers presented at the annual meeting?** We are pleased to report that we have now filled out a proposed slate of officers/members to present at the June annual meeting. We will be sharing this with all of you very soon.

- **If you are interested in serving on the PC at some point, please get in touch!** Openings occur from time to time, and we would love to know whom we can call on when a need arises.

- **What are some other ways I can get involved in the church?** In addition to positions on the PC, there are many very rewarding committee openings available and a wide range of ways to serve: from baking a special treat for coffee hour or helping in the beautiful Memorial Garden to serving as a friendly greeter on Sunday mornings. What a wonderful feeling to be an active part of this vibrant church community!!

With many thanks,

Nominating Committee:

Bet Giddings, Chair – betgiddings@comcast.net

Dorine Levasseur – dmlevasseur925@gmail.com



Understanding Humanism

A group of nine of us, members and friends of UU Middleboro, met seven times over the course of two months recently to read and discuss the book, *Humanist Voices in Unitarian Universalism*, edited by Kendyl Gibbon and William Murry. At the end of that time, some of us accepted the challenge to create our own definitions of humanism, as did, indeed, the authors of the essays in that book. This is the second installment that we offer for your enjoyment - and maybe, even, edification!

--Rev. Peter Connolly

We Are Tribal

I was first awestruck by the mystery of the existence of life at age 13, when I peered into a microscope at a sample of swamp water. It was full of tiny living things. As best we understand, our universe began with a big bang roughly 13.7 billion years ago. Our universe has been evolving ever since. It is amazing that atoms would organize themselves into molecules that would replicate themselves. Molecules like them eventually evolved into a mammalian species called *homo sapiens*. For most of our existence, we humans have seen ourselves as part of nature. Judeo-Christian tradition saw us as separate from nature, though, having dominion over the earth. Our attempts to dominate nature have led us to develop nuclear weapons and to our current climate crisis. We are facing the possibility of our being the cause of our own extinction.

The essential nature of life is to propagate itself and to maintain the survival of species. The purpose of life is living.

As Unitarian Universalists, we join together in supporting each other in trying to figure out how to best live our lives and to prepare the way for future generations. We humans are obligately social animals. We accomplish things and survive together. *Homo Sapiens* has been around for roughly 300,000 years. For the vast majority of that time, we have lived in groups of fifty to one hundred people. We saw ourselves as inseparably part of our group. We intermarried with neighboring bands and traded with others. It is only relatively recently (for the past 10,000 to 15,000 years) that we have organized into cities and nations. Biologically, we are still tribal beings.

We are at a tipping point in our history. We all inhabit a small planet in an immense universe. We need to understand and feel that we are all in this together. We need a global solution to the threats to our survival. That is up to us humans. There is no supernatural power that is going to fix it for us.

--Jim Bonnar

Religious Humanism

Humanists believe that the resources that we need to confront our challenges and solve are problems exist in the natural world rather than in the supernatural. A "pure" or narrow view of humanism insists that reason and rationality are all we need to address human problems, but I believe that intuition and imagination are also valuable tools and essential human attributes. We are born into a world of mystery and as we grow, we grow in wonder, using our imaginations to make connections between things, and our intellects to integrate our growing understandings. If we are fortunate, we are nurtured by the love of family members, relatives, and, later, friends. Our emotions, too, are integral in our growth, and the emotional richness of our surroundings feeds our sense of worth and sense of self. As we grow and understand ourselves as part of an always growing and dynamic interconnected whole, we try to find our place in it and, if we are sensible, look for ways to contribute to it. We understand that life has a sacred aspect and if we align ourselves with that sacredness, we increase our ability to make sense of life, to find a purpose that makes life meaningful.

Humanists don't rely on miracles or supernatural intervention, but are aware that there is always something beyond our capacity to understand in purely rational terms. We work assiduously to understand things with our minds-- our intellects and imaginations-- but we understand that beyond our understanding lies mystery. I accept as a fact that some mysteries will never be revealed. The sense that life has mystery at its core and beyond the boundaries of our understanding adds to the richness of our experience of life.

--Rev. Peter Connolly



CUUPS BELTANE RITUAL

Monday, May 6 7:00 p.m.

Parish Hall

CUUPS will celebrate Beltane, the great fire festival that honors the full flowering of Earth in renewal. In earlier times, bonfires would blaze on the hilltops, illuminating the night sky. People would dance the Maypole, and young lovers would celebrate their tryst by jumping the broom.

It is still a time of rejoicing - of celebrating the return of vibrant color, sweet scents, lush abundance and High Magick as Nature sends forth new life and we welcome the coming warmth and ease of summer. Everything is fresh and lovely; everything holds promise. Everything seems possible and indeed... it is.

Join us this night as we celebrate the beauty of the season and the gifts that Goddess has bestowed upon us once again. Bring a poem or other reading to share.

We will follow our ritual with a simple feast.

All are welcome.



NEW MOON MEDITATION

on Zoom

with Natalie Johnson

Tuesday, May 7 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/96697347630>



This New Moon falls in the sign of Taurus the Bull... the quintessential Earth sign. The Bull had great significance for many ancient cultures... Egyptians worshipped the Apis bulls to the extent that they mummified them and buried them in their own temple in the Serapeum or Saqqara. Bulls were also significant to the ancient Greek god Zeus who often shapeshifted into one to interact with humans. The bull also held a prominent place with the ancient Hebrews, whose calendar began with the sign of Taurus.

As the second sign of the Zodiac... situated between Aries and Gemini... Taurus the Bull offers a middle ground between the fiery, tempestuous Ram and the ephemeral, flighty, changeable personae of the Twins.

Join us this night as we learn more about who Taurus really is, how he is the very soul of Mother Earth, and how we can invoke his energy to assist us in our commitment to being good caretakers of our planetary home.

All are welcome.

PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, May 15 6:30 p.m.
Parish Hall



All members and friends are invited to attend the Parish Committee meeting.



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

on Zoom

Monday, May 20 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.



We are continuing in the tradition of meeting and discussing various genres of books. We continue to meet on the third Monday of the month from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Zoom. The link will be sent to Book Club members a day or two before the meeting. Please contact Lois Aldrich (lois.aldrich63@gmail.com) if you would like to receive the Zoom link. New and old members are welcome.

The book we are reading for May is *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. If you enjoy reading, please pick up the book and join us!



FULL MOON MEDITATION

on Zoom

with Natalie Johnson

Thursday, May 23 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/91739601770>



This Full Moon falls in the sign of Sagittarius, the archer... he who encourages us to aim higher always and to fulfill our own divine potential.

This night we will travel to join in the worldwide celebration of the Wesak Festival, honoring the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha. Wesak is the second of three great spiritual festivals, the first being Easter. At this time, there is an opening through which an outpouring of blessings is transmitted from the Higher Realms, through the Buddha, to the Christ, then into the hearts and minds of people of goodwill everywhere on Earth. It is an act of grace on the part of Divinity for the upliftment and blessing of humanity. Surely at this time, our world can benefit from this gift of pure love.

Join us this night as we travel in spirit to the Wesak Valley in Tibet and take part in this beautiful dispensation. All are welcome.



SUMMER (JUNE/JULY/AUGUST) NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Monday, May 27

Articles for the Summer (June/July/August) Newsletter may be submitted to office@uumiddleboro.org by May 27.





Do You Enjoy Coffee Hour? Can You Help?

Jeff Stevens primes the coffee maker each Sunday and helps to make the coffee. The church buys the needed coffee.

What do we need?

Coffee Hour Hosts – Please use the sign-up sheet on the Parlor table or click [HERE](#) to sign up for a Sunday morning when you can help. Val Ortelt, our office administrator, will email you instructions, and there are many hands around to help as needed.

If you are not able to host, there are other ways you can help create coffee hour.

1. Buy boxed, non-perishable milk. Put on the shelf in the church kitchen (the shelf with the sliding windows to the Parish Hall). Buy 1/2 and 1/2, quart size, and put in the fridge.
2. Purchase packaged baked goods. Put in the bin on wire shelf labeled “coffee hour snacks.” Cookies, crackers, non-perishable goods.
3. Buy or bake perishable baked goods and bring on Sunday or put in the freezer. Please label them with the date and message “for coffee hour.”

Thank you,
Andrea Priest



Be A Greeter!



Our congregation is known for its welcoming spirit. A strong greeter program will help us grow our membership and strengthen our membership. Val will email you instructions. This simple 20-minute commitment will make all the difference in the connections newcomers and visitors make with us and the connections we make with each other. Please use the signup sheet on the Parlor table, or you may sign up [HERE](#). See Dorine Levasseur with any questions.

**FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
OF**



**MIDDLEBOROUGH
ANNUAL MEETING
Friday, June 14, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

We will be holding the Annual Meeting of our Society on Friday, June 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to participate, though only members of FUUSM as of May 14, 2024, who have made an annual contribution to the Society are eligible to vote on any matters that will be decided at this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Parish Committee.



Pastoral Ministry and Parish Care

The Pastoral Ministry Team seeks to listen with empathy to concerns of members of the congregation via phone, in-person conversations, or home/hospital visits, honoring privacy and confidentiality within the team.

The Pastoral Ministry Team Members are:
Rev. Peter Connolly (revconnolly@gmail.com)

- Sue Curtiss
- Sue St. Germain
- Dave Kraemer
- Mal Marvill

Parish Care: When the Pastoral Ministry Team identifies the need for short term assistance with meals, errands, rides, or more, for members of the congregation, the Parish Care Coordinator, Mal Marvill, contacts the meals coordinator or rides coordinator to enlist volunteers.

Parish Committee

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| President: | Jim Bonnar |
| Vice President: | Viola Fairweather |
| Treasurer: | Marc MacQueen |
| Assistant Treasurer: | Jeff Giddings |
| Parish Clerk: | Lois Aldrich |
| Members At Large: | Stephen Larrett |
| | Open Position |



Our Mission:

To create and sustain a welcoming and caring community that embodies our UU principles, inspires spiritual growth without dogma or creed, and promotes and serves racial and social justice.



Church Calendar

Please visit [MAY 2024 CALENDAR](#) to view the church calendar.

**MINUTES OF THE
PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING (virtual)
April 17, 2024**

Present: Jim Bonnar, Lois Aldrich, Stephen Larrett, Jeff Giddings, Viola Fairweather, Rev. Peter Connolly, Marc MacQueen

Guest: Kelly Lownds

Meeting called to order by Jim Bonnar at 6:36 p.m.

Opening Words: Rev. Peter Connolly read the church's Mission Statement.

Go Around

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from 3/20/24 PC meeting accepted.
- Reports: The following reports were received and accepted:
 - Treasurer
 - RE
 - Social Justice (minutes)
 - Music
 - Minister

Discussion Agenda:

- Building & Grounds:
 - Jim Bonnar reported that the church's building insurer has determined parts of the roof to be out of compliance (on the Nickerson Ave. side). At this point it is not clear what the issues are and what the consequences would be if not fixed. Jim will keep the PC posted as the details become known.
 - A church member has brought to Jim's attention that none of the church's bathrooms are accessible. It was agreed that the unisex bathroom is the only bathroom that could be modified at a reasonable cost to become accessible. Alan Melchior is looking into the ADA requirements and assessing our options and will report back to the PC.
- Request for Funds: The Social Justice Team has requested \$100 to pay for stamps for the current Get Out the Vote postcard project. Marc MacQueen informed the PC that money could be made available, as the church will be receiving \$1400 from Sustainable Middleboro for payment of the church's role as its Fiscal Agent. The PC agreed to the request. Lois Aldrich will inform the Social Justice team. Thanks, PC!
- UUA Contribution: Jim informed the PC that the UUA is requesting a contribution of \$11,000 for next year. Jim let the UUA know that we have budgeted \$6,000 for the UUA contribution, but our budget is not final yet.
- Nominating Committee: The task group appointed by the PC (Bet Giddings and Dorine Levasseur) has completed its task and forwarded a slate of PC nominees to the PC. These candidates will be voted on at the Annual Meeting. The task group also drafted a document *How Do We Choose Our Parish Committee?* to educate the congregation on how the nomination process works. The PC approved the document for posting on the church's website.
- Annual Meeting: The PC scheduled this year's Annual Meeting for June 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the church's sanctuary. The Warrant must be issued by May 26. A draft will be presented for review at the next PC meeting (May 15). The main items will be the congregation's vote on the slate of PC nominees presented by the Nomination Committee, approval of the 2024-25 budget, and a proposal for a church covenant statement.

- Minister Request: Rev. Peter Connolly has received a request from two Seventh-Day Adventist Church ministers to use the church building on Saturdays between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The ministers will hold worship service and gathering afterwards for 30 of the Haitian refugees currently residing at the hotel in Middleboro. They would not be renting; the church would be donating the space. Our congregation has previously committed to do whatever we can to assist the refugees, but will this be too big an ask? Rev. Peter presented a summary of concerns to the PC that were expressed at the Social Justice Team's meeting two weeks ago. These include:
 - One or two people from the church will need to be present at the church when occupied. We will therefore need to have a list of 12 or so volunteers who can commit to being available as needed on Saturdays. A suggestion was made to have "shifts" of 3 to 4 hours and also to have a sign-up sheet.
 - If the kitchen is used, whoever will be using it will need to have proper training and certification. Rev. Peter will speak to Susan Hotchkiss about requirements/concerns around use of the kitchen.
 - Suggested that if we do go forward with this request that it be for a trial period of one month.
 - Church's liability coverage will most likely not cover this request. We may need rider or co-insurance added to our policy. Marc MacQueen offered to contact the church's insurance company to check this out (how to cover 30+ guests one day per week). He will need insurance contact information.
 - Jim Bonnar suggested that this is a social justice issue. Therefore, the Social Justice Team will need to generate enthusiasm in the congregation to make this work.
 - Use of other equipment (music, audio/video, etc.) is of concern. Piano is not available for use.
 - Overall, the PC felt an obligation to investigate this request and will revisit it once the above concerns are clarified.
- Policies and Procedures:
 - Policy folder #3 was on the agenda to discuss, but we will need to revisit it as Lois (Social Justice) and Marc (Finances) have not completed their reviews.
 - Decision was made to review Folder #5 (Jim - Building & Grounds) at May's meeting and to review Folder #4 (Stephen--Safety) at the June meeting.
 - Lois informed the PC that Andrea Priest had said that there is an agreement or policy in place for the Library Box that is on church lawn. Lois asked that Andrea send the policy to her, and Lois will share it with the PC.
- Church Newsletter: Rev. Peter had informed the PC of the need for the PC to decide on whether or not we need a newsletter, since all information can now be found on the church's website and/or in the UU Updates. Given the many new duties Val Ortelt has taken on, it has become too much work for Val to do in the space of her workweek.

After some discussion, the PC agreed to announce that we are considering discontinuing the newsletter, and we invite feedback from the congregation and especially from newsletter readers. The congregation will be informed as soon as possible of this matter via announcements at the church service, UU Updates, posts on the website, one-on-one contact for those who are currently receiving hardcopies of the newsletter, and on the first page of the newsletters published in May and June.

 - Locked file cabinet: Stephen Larrett will contact Val to order a 3-drawer locked vertical cabinet that he found on Amazon.

Next Governance Meeting: May 1 at 6:30 in Parish Hall. Review of the organizational chart and discussion of committees and reports.

Next PC Meeting: May 15 at 6:30 (in person). (Please note that Lois Aldrich will be away for month of May).

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by Lois Aldrich, Parish Clerk