



THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBOROUGH

25 South Main Street, Middleborough, MA 02346

<https://uumiddleboro.org>

508-947-1935

Summer 2024

We offer in-person and online worship services. Check our website.

Sunday, June 2, at 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Peter Connolly preaching

Reflections on Thirty Years of Ministry

As in any profession, in ministry there are ups and downs, successes and failures. Our stories help shape us and may provide lessons for others. Today, Rev. Connolly provides stories. And the lessons? The Chalice Choir will be singing *Love Has Already Won* by UU composer Jason Shelton.

Sunday, June 9, at 10:30 a.m.

Religious Exploration Youth presenting

Religious Exploration Sunday

The youth will be hosting the service this morning. We will provide a homily and a bridging ceremony for Conor Dragunas and Mia Stevens. In addition to celebrating Pride Month, we will explore the curriculum we completed this year, "Creating Home" and "Sing to the Power." Our youth is a group with a strong center and is excited to celebrate. In "Creating Home" we learned about how to make home wherever we are, and what values go into that. In "Sing to the Power," we dug down into our desire for justice and committed to the elements and the virtues they represent. Special music will be provided by Tony Soares singing *Over the Rainbow*.

Sunday, June 16, at 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Peter Connolly preaching

Flower Communion and Celebration Sunday

Probably more than in any other denomination, the success of a church in the Unitarian Universalist tradition depends on the active involvement of its members. Today we celebrate and give thanks for the many ways our members contribute to our success. ***Please bring a flower to add to our gorgeous bouquet.*** The Elsie Gaudette Award will be presented this morning. The Chalice Choir will be singing *Omnia Sol*.

Sunday, June 23, at 10:30 a.m.

Vi Fairweather presenting

Farewell to Reverend Peter

The congregation will have the opportunity to express their gratitude to Rev. Peter for stepping up to the plate and ministering to us for the past two years. We will wish him well on the next phase of his journey. *You're invited to bring a snack to share for our period of fellowship afterwards.*

Summer Worship Services Begin

Please join us for our Summer Worship Services. The typical service starts at 9:00 a.m. and lasts about a half-hour with the rest of the time taken up by Fellowship time until 10:00 a.m. Summer services are held in our air-conditioned Parish Hall.

Sunday, June 30, at 9:00 a.m.

Dorine Levasseur presenting

What Does It Mean to Be an Activist in This World?

"I just want to live my life. I'm not political. You can't fight City Hall. My vote doesn't matter. No matter what I do, I'm just one person. What difference would it make? Leave me alone." Sound familiar? Have you heard yourself expressing versions of these thoughts out loud—or saying them to yourself? Why does it matter anyway? Activism can mean so many things—and take very unsuspected forms. This service is not about convincing anyone to be an activist. Instead, it will be a conversation about what it means to live our values. Spoiler alert: It means different things to different people.

We offer in-person and online worship services at 9:00 a.m. Check our website.

July 7: ***A Short History of Middleboro*** **Jeff Stevens**

A brief overview of the early history of our town, including early Indian history before the Europeans' arrival. The impact of the first contact with European traders and fisherman, the arrival of the Pilgrims and the first white settlers to the area will be discussed. This presentation will include an overview of early Middleboro "town" history through the American Revolution.

July 14: ***Experience in the Peace Corps*** **Liz Elgosin**

Liz will present a personal account of how service in the Peace Corps broadened her life and why every teenager should experience it. Her talk will include a presentation of Costa Rica then and now, as well as culture shock and culture awareness.

July 21: ***Paganism and What It Really Means*** **Tanya Trezciak**

Tanya will present an exploration of one of the most misunderstood spiritual traditions and how it has changed from ancient times to the present day.

July 28: ***Curiosity in the Era of Electronic Media - A Match Made in Heaven or Hell?*** **Diane Reed**

In this era where information, entertainment, and unlimited resources are at our fingertips, has electronic media become a curse or an opportunity to satisfy our innate curiosity? Let's explore how that access can provide an opportunity to learn more about our faith, ourselves and the world around us.

August 4: ***Lughnasadh Ritual at Soule Homestead*** **Members of CUUPS**

CUUPS will celebrate Lughnasadh at Soule Homestead, 40 Soule Street, Middleboro, 9:00 -10:00 a.m. We will gather in ritual to offer gratitude for our lives, for the abundant gifts of the earth and all the good things that enrich our lives on this planet. This is the first of three harvest Sabbats that celebrate the cycle of life and rebirth. We will honor this time of peace by sharing gifts from our gardens, gifts of the talents we possess, or a reading we wish to share. Along with the sharing among us, please bring something from your pantry that we may share with those less fortunate through Matthew Mission. PLEASE NOTE: If it is sunny, a hat, umbrella, or sunscreen is advised. ***There will be no service at the church on this day.***

August 11: ***My Civil Rights Pilgrimage to the Deep South*** **Dody Adkins-Perry**

In 2017, Dody went on a 9-day pilgrimage through Alabama, Mississippi, and Memphis, Tennessee. The Living Legacy Project says, "The Pilgrimage is so much more than a civil rights history to us." The group did visit historic sights, but they also met with veterans there, working in small consciousness-raising groups dealing with our relationship to racism and white privilege.

August 18: ***Synchronicity: The Dance Of Coincidence And Meaning*** **Sue Curtiss**

Have you ever found yourself thinking about someone, only to receive a phone call or a visit from that person minutes or hours later and wondered "What was that about?" Synchronicity is what happens when seemingly unrelated events coincide in improbable ways that have some significance for you. Jung believed synchronicities were evidence of a unifying consciousness at play in the Universe, creating physical manifestations of what's happening in our psyche. This presentation will be an exploration of the fascinating phenomenon of synchronicity from the scientific, psychological and spiritual perspectives. We will explore ideas such as "What is synchronicity, what does it mean and can I apply the synchronicities in my own life in a meaningful way?"

August 25: ***An Exploration of Stoicism*** **Adrian Gunn**

Adrian will offer an exploration of stoicism as a philosophy, detailing how it has informed his own life and provided a framework for being a useful, ethical human being and a valuable member of community. As a way of being, it intersects in many ways with the Principles upon which Unitarian Universalism is based.

September 1: ***Thriving During Transition*** **Vi Fairweather**

Soon we will begin our fall services with our new minister, Reverend Beau Rivers. During the next few months, we will be working to bring forth our gifts and the best in one another through interconnectedness and collaboration. In this service, Vi hopes to share some tools rooted in faith's highest values that will support our thriving during this transition.

A Note from the Minister

Has it really been two years already? When I think back on the 3-day drive from Bowling Green, Kentucky, to Middleboro, that certainly seems ages ago. But when I think back on the first time I stepped into my office, the first time I met Val and Kelly and Susan, that doesn't seem so long ago at all. I made arrangements to meet Val at the church to pick up my key, but I did not know who she was or what she looked like, so when I heard noises coming from the sanctuary, I went up to introduce myself to a very nice and lively woman. Only several minutes into the conversation did I realize that I was speaking not with Church Administrator Val Ortelt, but with Music Director Susan Hotchkiss. And so the potentially awkward process of finding my way began. Staff and church members ensured that it went as smoothly as possible, though.

I remember looking through the latest edition of our church directory and counting up the names I recognized from twenty years earlier-- no less than fifty! That told me two things-- that this church had a stable membership and that we were getting, well, long in the tooth. Bob Waterman gave me a tour of the church. It seemed that every few feet, he would say, "This is storage and this is storage and this is storage." A church with a 133-year history has a lot of things to store! Bob was the perfect person to introduce me to the church, not only because he knew it so intimately, but because his manner was so open, thoughtful, and friendly. One of the great shocks of my life was receiving the call from Sue Curtiss telling me that Bob had died. It felt like a deep personal loss to me; I could only imagine what the church family was feeling. And, truth to tell, I wondered if we could find a way to get through it together. In some way, the grieving service we pulled together a few days after receiving the news marked a new stage in the life of the church. I was so pleased with the quality of the tributes and the deep sense of community that was clearly present. I still didn't know how well we would get through this loss, but my confidence in the health of the church community was bolstered.

We accomplished a good many things together. We adopted a new mission statement, the first one in twenty years-- and we've integrated it into the life of the church in several ways. We've drafted a church covenant statement, which I hope we will adopt at the upcoming congregational meeting. It reminds us of our duties to one another when we say it together at each Sunday worship service. We have resurrected a Public Relations Team, which I expect will become even more effective under the capable leadership of Bet Giddings in the new church year. Our Pastoral Care Team has provided a spiritual anchor. We have done our best to see that the congregation feels well cared for when in time of need, whether a congregant lives in Middleboro or one of the surrounding communities (50% of us do). We are working on our sixth (!) draft of an organizational chart which we hope to have in place for September. I could go on, but I'm in danger of recreating an annual report.

Returning to Middleboro as your interim minister twenty years after my parish ministerial career started here as your first student intern minister has been a blessing. I hope you all feel that way, too. We still have a month to be together-- plenty of time to offer gratitude and to celebrate community.

Peaceful days,

Rev. Peter



Music Sunday on May 19 was a highlight of the church year involving a cast of 25 singers, speakers, and instrumentalists: piano, organ, flutes, hammered dulcimer, guitar, keyboard and xylophone. So many talented people making such splendid music in our lovely Sanctuary! My heartfelt thanks to all who participated, including the congregation who came out in full force.

We have just three worship services in June before we close out the formal church year. The Music Committee will have its final meeting on June 5 when we review where we've been and plan for Fall and the upcoming church year. All are welcome! This meeting is held by Zoom - If you are not on the Music Committee, please contact me for the link.

A few dates for our music calendars:

- Tuesday, June 11 - Last choir rehearsal this season
- Sunday, June 16 - Last choir-Sunday this season
- Saturday, August 24 - Choir party at Valerie Fontaine's
- Sunday, August 25 - Raincheck date for choir party
- Tuesday, August 27 - Weekly choir rehearsals start
- Sunday, September 8 - Ingathering!

Happy Summertime,
Susan Hotchkiss, Music Director



CIRCLE OF MUSIC WEEK AT FERRY BEACH

August 11 - 17, 2024

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!



ANNUAL CHOIR PARTY

Saturday, August 24 (rain date August 25) 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.
at Valerie Fontaine's home

All Chalice Choir members are invited to Valerie's home for our Annual Choir Party.



This year we all worked together, even the adolescents, to "Build Bears of Wholeness." We built teddy bears together and took them out monthly to add badges representing parts of our learning and our values. The badges included "Grow your Dreams," "Listen to Life," "Fostering Community" and "Share Your Blessings." Everyone received bears, everyone received badges and everyone shared ideas and values about what went into being a whole person.

The Youth Group met and started a mural that had the elements of "Air, Earth, Water and Fire" as part of the "Sing to the Power" curriculum. We shared songs that supported the values we learned each week such as "community" and "kindness."

Our RE program grew this year as compared to the last 4 years. The RE Sunday school program grew from 3 to 9 children this year, and the youth program was consistent in numbers compared to last year with a total of 8 youth. We had a successful OWL program for 7 youth, and we had the addition of 2 toddlers in the nursery on a regular basis with 2 of our older youth serving as babysitters.

Next year we will continue to work to grow interest in the programs and support the youth and families in attendance at church. The RE children, kindergarten age and up, will explore the "World of Wonder." According to the program notes, "Children are born with an ability to feel wonder and our world is full of amazing plants, animals, spaces, processes, textures and patterns that can awaken it." (uua.org) We will focus on how we can support those ideas and learn about "Sustainable Middleboro" and how we can be involved.

The youth will be meeting every other week and exploring how "Love Connects Us." The curriculum shows how we UUs are "moved by love and gathered in spirit" and that "we embrace our responsibility toward one another and the world at large." "We encourage one another's search for truth and meaning. We strive to be active in peace-making and other efforts to improve the world." (uua.org) The youth will also be encouraged to be engaged with "Sustainable Middleboro."

The Nursery will continue to operate with Niko Pucillo-Dunphy as Lead Teacher and Jesse Hoyle as the second in charge.

Ideas being explored for the upcoming year are offering the "Coming of Age" curriculum, Parent Coffee Hour, offering an adult "OWL" program and new ideas for outreach and volunteer opportunities as well as family social opportunities.

Kelly Lownds, Director of Religious Exploration



Narcan Training

Narcan training will be offered at the church on Monday, June 24, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. The training will prepare participants to respond effectively if someone (visitor, pedestrian, etc.) suffers an opioid overdose/emergency. Narcan nasal spray (an over-the-counter drug) will be made available after the training. There is no charge for this session, which is available to both congregation and the general public.

Protecting Democracy

In collaboration with the Workers Circle, our congregation wrote 500 postcards to voters in the Atlanta GA area urging them to vote in Georgia's May 22 primary. The Social Justice Team will conduct further writing drives as this election year progresses. We also recommend donations to the Workers Circle and two other organizations working to protect democracy, the Movement Voter Project and Working America. All three are nonpartisan and non-profit.

<https://www.circle.org/demanddemocracy>

<https://movement.vote/>

<https://workingameerica.org/>

Summer Cash in the Plate

June: 1st week: Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe Fund (non-profit) to acquire 38 acres of their ancestral land on Triangle Pond in Plymouth <https://www.herringpondtribe.org/>

June weeks 2-5: The Trevor Project, whose vision is "A world where all LGBTQ+ young people see a bright future for themselves." <https://www.thetrevorproject.org>

July: Bridgewater Communities for Civil Rights (BCCR) is a "community-based organization dedicated to defending the rights of all persons while fostering open communication, providing opportunities to examine issues of social justice, and advocating for the elimination of bias and racism." <https://bccrcivilrights.org/>

August: Sacred Heart Food Pantry - A Society of St. Vincent de Paul conference serving the towns of Middleboro, Lakeville, Rochester, and Carver. The conference sponsors and operates the Sacred Heart Food Pantry in Middleboro, which helps feed hundreds of families every month. <https://sydmiddleboro.org>



Spring Service Auction

Deadline to submit offerings is Friday, June 7.

It is time again for the ever-popular Spring Services Auction!

We are again planning a fundraiser centered on goods and services. It's a chance to pick up some great items, household help, and getaways.

We're seeking offerings that might include:

- Handcrafted and other items/gifts for sale.
- Craft classes or do-it-yourself craft kits/materials.
- Gift baskets, gift cards.
- Meals, treats, baked goods.
- Help with home/outdoor projects.
- Help with shopping, transporting items.
- Summer getaways.
- Reverse auctions where you are looking for help with a specific project.
- What else?

Please submit your offerings by email to FUUSMauktion@gmail.com or contact the church office at 508-947-1935 by June 7.

Be sure to include a detailed description of your offer, including quantities, limitations, a picture (if possible) and suggested minimum bid.

The auction will kick off on Friday June 14 at noon and run until Sunday June 29 at 8:00 p.m.

Thank you for all you do for one another and for the Church!

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBOROUGH



ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, June 14, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

We will hold 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 matters that will be decided at this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Parish Committee.

PASTORAL CARE COVERAGE FOR JULY

As there will be no minister on staff for the month of July, Rev. Connolly has arranged for coverage for pastoral care emergencies as follows:

July 1-7: Rev. Sarah Person: person.revsarah@gmail.com; 508-740-5809.

July 8-31: Rev. David Egan: minister@firstparishmedfield.org; cell: 617-620-1149.

We are grateful for their willingness to serve!



SONG CIRCLE

Song Circle will be on hiatus for June, July and August. *SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER*



NEW MOON MEDITATION

on Zoom

with Natalie Johnson

Friday, June 7 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/95622160223>



This month's New Moon falls in the sign of Gemini, the Cosmic Twins. Those born under this sign are the natural communicators of the Zodiac. They thrive in the company of others, sharing thoughts, ideas and opinions.

Somewhat mercurial, they tend to take flight easily and often, flitting from flower to flower, disseminating their wisdom but never staying too long in any one location... a quick sip of sweetness for themselves, delivery of pollen for the flower, then it is off to the next opportunity.

Join us this night as we consider the ways in which Gemini folk are like our pollinator friends who are all so very busy this season - the bees, butterflies, hummingbirds. Their counterparts, the moths and bats, take the night shift. Join us as we honor the importance of pollinators, both in the insect world and in the human one as we, too, have the ability to share ideas and inspiration and spread goodness and joy in the world. All are welcome.



on Zoom

Mondays: June 17, July 15, August 19 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.

For June, the Book Club chose a book recommended by Cate Vanzant called *Nature's Best Hope* by Douglas W. Tallamy. For July, we will be reading *The Last Green Valley* by Mark T. Sullivan. August's selection TBD.



PARISH COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Wednesdays: June 19 (on Zoom), July 17 (Parish Hall), August 21 (on Zoom)

6:30 p.m.



All members and friends are invited to attend the Parish Committee meetings. The Zoom links are sent out in the *UU Updates*.



FULL MOON MEDITATION

on Zoom

with Natalie Johnson

Thursday, June 20 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/98280583473>



Tonight's Full Moon falls in the sign of Cancer, the quintessential Earth Mother. We also celebrate Summer Solstice, the longest day when the sun is at its zenith in the sky, and after which the days will slowly begin to slide toward the dark half of the year. The Wheel turns once again; and although we enjoy an abundance of fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers at this time, we can sense that change is in the air. We are continuously moved through the cycles of life and reminded at every season of the trajectory we all take during our time here on Earth.

Join us this night as we honor Grandfather Sun, whose generosity sustains us, Grandmother Moon, who blesses us with her mystery and magick, and Goddess Gaia who feeds us with her lush abundance. All are welcome.

CUUPS SUMMER SOLSTICE RITUAL

Monday, June 24 7:00 p.m.

Parish Hall

CUUPS will celebrate the Summer Solstice, the Longest Day, when the sun reaches its peak in both height and power. It is one of two times each year when a mighty battle for dominance takes place between the Oak King and the Holly King. Tonight, as the Wheel of the Year turns once again, it is the Oak King who will surrender to the Holly King .



From this night on, the hours of sunlight slowly but steadily begin to decrease as we move toward the coming of cold and greater darkness. For now, however, it is midsummer, and we are blessed with the abundance of food and beauty brought forth by the coupling of the young God and Goddess at Beltane. It is a time of ease as fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers cover the landscape. It is a time of birdsong and baby animals growing under their parents watchful care. It is a time of ease and dreaming. In the haze of a summer's day, it is fine to slow down and give thanks for the gift of being alive.

We will celebrate all these things in ritual followed by a simple potluck feast. If so inclined, please bring a poem or reading to share.

All are welcome.



NEW MOON MEDITATION

on Zoom

with Natalie Johnson

Friday, July 5 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/96544363290>



This New Moon falls in the sign of Cancer, continuing the theme of powerful female beings in the higher realms looking after life on Earth with love and care. We are celebrating our nation's independence this night and its emergence from the rule of Empire. Goddess Gaia is joined by Lady Liberty, Goddess Minerva and Goddess Hecate tonight as they each bring their gifts of freedom, wisdom and a shining torch to keep the darkness at bay.

Come join us this night as we explore what freedom means to us and hear from these powerful beings on how to ensure that it is not taken from us by force or worse yet, lost through our own lack of vigilance.

All are welcome.

FULL MOON MEDITATION

on Zoom

with Natalie Johnson

Sunday, July 21 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/96276829760>



This month's Full Moon falls in the sign of Capricorn, the cosmic sea goat. Less hot headed than Aries the Ram, Capricorn inhabits high places and utilizes his sure footedness to climb to great heights in order to be closer to Source and to access divine wisdom.

As we continue to navigate the summer months, we can enjoy these last weeks of sun and heat, allowing us to drift on warm currents and indulge in a bit of daydreaming. Perhaps we can envision what we hope for in the future - for ourselves, our families and loved ones, our community, our country and the world at large.

In just a few short months, we will participate in an event that will shift the trajectory of all our lives worldwide. Let us call on the energies of Capricorn to lend his sure-footedness in order that we might find the right path forward. May he allow us to see from the heights he attains to consider the big picture when we make our decisions.

All are welcome.



NEW MOON MEDITATION

on Zoom

with Natalie Johnson

Monday, August 5 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/95815714238>

This New Moon falls in the sign of Leo, the great cosmic lion. It also falls within the Lion's Gate Portal: an alignment of Earth, Sirius and Orion within the constellation of Leo.

Timed with the annual flooding of the Nile in Egypt, this alignment creates a gateway of energy that can accelerate spiritual healing, transformation and the ability to manifest. Come join us as we set our intentions, meditate to connect with the heightened energies and together, manifest what we want to bring forth in the world. The Lion's Gate Portal is open from July 28 until August 12 with the most potent day being August 8, so we will be ready to take full advantage of this cosmic event.

All are welcome.

FULL MOON MEDITATION

on Zoom

with Natalie Johnson

Monday, August 21 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/92615804021>



This month's Full Moon falls in the sign of Aquarius, the Water Bearer. Although often associated with the element of water, it is actually an air sign and the higher octave of Gemini. Both rule communication, but where Gemini can be impulsive, unbridled and spontaneous, Aquarius is more refined, tempered and discerning... choosing exactly the right words and phrases to convey one's true meaning. In addition to assisting with correct speech, this sign can also help us to hear with greater acuity.

As the political frenzy ramps up toward the Fall elections, we will hear a lot of speech that is purposely vague, twisted or downright untrue. With the increased use of AI, it will become even more important to listen with the inner ear and with our etheric "lie detectors" tuned up to full volume. Tonight we will explore these concepts and learn ways to safeguard ourselves from being misled as well as ways in which our own words can carry truth and integrity and be a direct reflection of what is really in our hearts and minds.

All are welcome.



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 Committæ

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 [Church Calendar](#).

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING (virtual)

May 15, 2024

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

Absent: Lois Aldrich

Guest: Bill Howe, representing the Finance Team

Opening Words (Mission Statement) read by Rev. Peter.

Roundtable of things we are grateful for today.

- Consent Agenda
 - Minutes from April 17, 2024, PC meeting were accepted.
 - Reports: the following reports were received and accepted:
 - Music Committee
 - Finance Committee
- Discussion Agenda
 - Jeff Giddings presented figures and expected shortfall on next year's budget
 - Building and Grounds has not yet presented a budget for next year.
 - Bill Howe presented the Finance Committee's suggestions for addressing the budget shortfall in fiscal year 24/25.
 - We discussed sending the Warrant and other documents relevant to the Annual Meeting with "delivery and read" receipts via email allowing an opportunity to reach out to those not showing delivery or reads.
 - Per the insurance inspection, Alan Melchior secured an estimate to repair the roof and siding for the amount of \$45,750. The items listed by the insurance company fall into at least 2 categories - imminent or pressing. The roof and siding are perhaps more of an imminent need as opposed to the gutter guards.
 - Organizational Chart
 - The final chart has been fleshed out and will be presented to the respective committees and teams explaining the intent and structure and seeking feedback from them.
 - Jeff will reach out to the Finance Team and its subsidiaries
 - Viola will reach out to Membership Development
 - Stephen will speak with Information Technology
 - Marc will speak to the Building and Grounds Committee
 - Haitian Community
 - A list of concerns has been compiled based on communication with the Parish Committee and congregation. Rev. Peter has reached out to the pastors representing the Haitian community and has yet to receive a substantive response.
 - Newsletter
 - It has been proposed to end the dissemination of a Newsletter recognizing that all of the information presented in the Newsletter is duplicated online via the website. This would lessen the current workload for the Office Administrator.
 - Recognition of contributors leaving their positions.
 - Susie Sherman
 - Jim Bonnar
 - Marc McQueen
- Rev. Peter provided a closing reading.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Stephen Larrett.