



THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBOROUGH

25 South Main Street, Middleborough, MA 02346

www.uumiddleboro.org

508-947-1935

October 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, October 6

Rev. Beau Rivers preaching

The Gift of Awareness

The hard work of dismantling the structures of oppression involves developing an awareness and appreciation for differences between race, culture, class, gender, and so much more. We will consider how far we've come as a denomination since 2017.

The Chalice Choir will be singing an anthem by Eric Whitacre called *Sing Gently*.

Sunday, October 13

Jill Lauzon presenting

The Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe Looks to the Future

As we honor Indigenous Peoples Day, we welcome Jill Lauzon, Co-chairwoman of the Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe. She will share the tribe's vision for the future. A vocal ensemble will sing *Water Is Life ~ Mni Wičoni, a song for Standing Rock*.

Sunday, October 20

Rev. Beau Rivers preaching

Let Me Introduce You to JetPig!

Who is *JetPig* and why is it important for us to have a relationship with this adorable creature? Come find out this Sunday!

The Chalice Choir will be singing *Hallelujah* by Leonard Cohen.

Sunday, October 27

Rev. Beau Rivers preaching

Remembering the Ancestors

In this family friendly service, we will learn about the history of Halloween and have an opportunity to remember those who have gone before us. People of all ages are invited to come to church in costume and bring a photo or memento of a loved one (pet or human) to place on our Table of the Ancestors. There will be treats for everyone and games to play during coffee hour!

Special music will include *The Monster Mash* sung by Ed Priest.

Minister's Message

October 2024

As memories of summer fade in the cool air of Autumn, the rhythm of nature invites us to turn our focus inward. Buttoning up the garden, putting away the air conditioners, and debating on how soon we should turn up the heat remind us winter is coming. I am grateful for this time of year when I can don my favorite sweaters to enjoy the crisp morning air and feel the warm afternoon sun on my face. My delight in the beauty of brightly colored leaves and clear blue skies somehow make it easier to let go of Summer and prepare to embrace the quiet beauty of Winter in New England.

Members of the Parish Committee, our DRE Kelly Lownds, and I are happy to announce the dates for our upcoming *Getting to Know You*, cottage meetings! See the times listed below and look for the sign-up sheets on the Parlor table this Sunday or email office@uumiddleboro.org with your preferred date:

10/09	Wednesday	6:00 PM	10/29	Tuesday	7:00 PM (Zoom)
10/10	Thursday	4:00 PM	11/01	Friday	10:00 AM (Zoom)
10/23	Wednesday	6:00 PM	11/10	Sunday	1:00 PM (Youth)
10/24	Thursday	4:00 PM	11/12	Tuesday	7:00 PM (Zoom)
10/27	Sunday	1:00 PM	11/15	Friday	10:00 AM (Zoom)

Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday meetings will be at the church, and Tuesday and Friday meetings will be on Zoom.

I want to know what excites you about church! What feeds your spirit? What are you passionate about? We want to hear from everyone, including our children, elders, and remote participants. This is our dream time! So login or bring the kids and join the conversation. Snacks and beverages will be provided onsite by the Parish Committee.

"May we live like a river flows, carried by the surprise of our own unfolding!"

John O'Donohue, adapted

Bright Autumn Blessings,

Rev. Beau

*The Celebration of Life service in honor of
The Reverend Patricia Tummino
will be held on
Saturday, November 2, at 11:00 a.m.
at the
First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough
Please join us as we remember Tricia.*

From the Parish Committee



Parish Committee Sets Goals for the Church Year

At our annual retreat on August 25, the Parish Committee (PC) welcomed Rev. Beau Rivers, renewed our vision for the church, and set goals for the coming year. Our vision has not changed: we see a church that reaches out to the larger community, welcomes and integrates newcomers, provides opportunities for spiritual exploration, and serves social justice. The most important goals for 2024 - 25 are completing major building repairs and streamlining committee functions.

The retreat began in the church parlor with a warm welcome to Rev. Beau. Rev. Beau then led a “True Colors Personality Quiz,” an exercise designed to deepen our understanding of our personality types, how they affect our interactions with each other, and how they underlie our leadership and management styles.

Next, we examined our vision for the church – our individual and collective picture of what the church becomes as we follow our mission. We reviewed and reaffirmed a Vision Statement that was originally drafted at the 2022 PC retreat. We welcome your comments on the Vision Statement. Check [here](#) soon to see the revised Vision Statement. ***What do you see when you imagine our church 10 or 20 years from now?***

After a stimulating morning, we moved to the Parish Hall where Tony Soares and a team of helpers (Susan Hotchkiss, Rick and Cindy Benard, Sue Curtiss, and Stephen Larrett) presented an exquisite luncheon in honor of the occasion. Tony prepared sandwiches to our individual specifications, which were served with a variety of fresh salads and delicious baked desserts and followed by warm conversation. Thanks to Tony and his team, the retreat luncheon set a high mark for hospitality by the congregation. *(See photo below.)*

During the afternoon the discussion moved on to goals for the coming year. We identified more than a dozen areas where efforts are needed, ranging from keeping a roof over our heads to “having fun!”

(continued on next page)

The three highest priority goals are:

- Integrate Rev. Beau Rivers into our congregation;
- Fund and complete needed building repairs;
- Strengthen our committees by developing charters, streamlining organization, and encouraging volunteers.

We took a deeper look at the immediate challenge of critical building repairs and options for paying for them (estimated cost in FY24-25: \$50,000). Work may need to begin this fall to avoid losing our building insurance or facing substantial increases in premiums next June. Funding options were discussed. While cutting staff, programs and routine expenses could generate some savings, all agreed these options are not consistent with our mission. However, a fund drive has a good chance of success, based on previous experience. If funds are needed before the fund drive gets underway, we believe that borrowing from our own investments is a feasible option, provided we treat it as a loan to ourselves and pay it back responsibly. The PC has asked the Finance Team to develop plans for a fund drive and to provide guidance on use of investments to bridge immediate needs. The Building & Grounds Committee will proceed with plans for the needed repairs.

Finally, the PC agreed to create a Committee on Ministry to support the minister, provide a forum for conflict resolution, and evaluate the overall ministry of the church. In consultation with Rev. Beau, it was agreed that Susan Curtiss, Dave Kraemer, and Vi Fairweather would be asked to serve on the Committee.

PC meetings take place in the Parish Hall on the third Wednesday of each month, 6:30-8:00 pm. PC meetings are open to all members of the congregation, and visitors are encouraged.



Chef Tony Soares (l) and Stephen Larrett relax after presenting a special luncheon at the 2024 PC retreat.



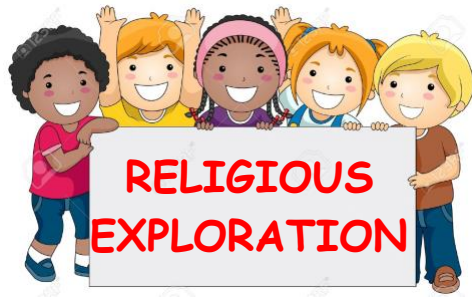
Such a treat starting up the new church year, with bells of enthusiasm ringing from every direction! The Chalice Choir is off and singing with 24 registrants. The Music Committee has compiled a large list of concerts and music related gatherings, most of them noted on the church calendar. The decision to have a monthly “family-friendly” service opens the doors to more music for children’s programming. And the beat goes on for our monthly Song Circle on the second Friday evening of each month.

Our featured music event in October is a Sunday afternoon Drumming Workshop on the 13th, led by Sam Holmstock of Entrain. Sam is super-competent and LOTS of fun! Last year we were thrilled to be stacking up African and Afro-Cuban rhythms based on clever mnemonics. Bring your own drum, or Sam will have plenty to share. We are asking for a \$10 donation. Registration is important because the workshop is limited to 22 drummers. Please contact me directly or call the church office to leave a message.

Thanks to a generous gift from the children of Genie Mullen, we now have funding for a choir accompanist this year for Sunday mornings. The Genie Mullen Fund is a memorial gift for Eugenia Ellis Morse Mullen, born 1924, died 2009. This year is the 100th anniversary of her birth. Genie was a well-known and active church musician during her lifetime, and this gift is fitting and much appreciated indeed! Kudos to Patricia Mullen, Laureen Gilbert, Gail Dugan, Joanne Cote, James Mullen, and John Mullen.

HAPPY FALL TO ALL!
Susan Hotchkiss, Music Director





We care about the interdependent web of life and taking care of one another. At UU Middleboro we strive to create a program that allows our children to explore their ideas and faith in a safe and nurturing environment. We draw our curriculum from the Tapestry of Faith on the UUA website for both the children and the youth. We work hard to allow for the children to enjoy faith, fellowship, food and fun!

Earth Advocates!

The “Earth Advocates” have begun their year, and the beautiful poster Christine Dargelis made and Sebastian Glaspey helped post in the children’s area will show our journey through the year. This year’s curriculum dives deep into our 7th Principle - “respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.” We have started with a simple covenant and learned about the “Grumpy Gecko” and how Tiger taught him that all the animals, insects and weather in the jungle depend on each other to make everyone and everything thrive. In the next weeks, we will be thinking about nature’s interdependence and partnerships.

Youth Group

Youth Group is for children 6th grade and up. We started our year off with a field trip to support another youth group in Holliston, MA, on September 22. We are hoping to do a lot of work looking at ourselves and at the broader world. We are going to have some hard conversations about how we can respect and care about others despite differences in values. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Babysitting Available!

Nursery Care continues to be available for babies and toddlers under five years of age each Sunday from 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. Child care is also offered during other church activities.

Registration

Please be sure to register your children for the program. We will need updated (or new) information to ensure we know the children as best we can as our class time goes by fast, and we always want to make sure we have the right snacks! Registration is rolling throughout the year and is available here: [Religious Exploration Registration Form \(google.com\)](#).

Volunteers

Many of you have received my requests for volunteers, and more emails are coming for those who have not received one. CORIs are required for all teachers and, if wanted, a short teacher orientation can be provided.

RE Committee

The RE Committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Christine Hoyle is the Committee Chair. We are always looking for new volunteers.

Lakeville Arts Festival

The children and youth are volunteering at the Lakeville Arts Festival again this year. We are making popcorn and selling water. We will also have a couple of small activities to entertain any children who come to the group with their families.

Kelly Lownds, Director of Religious Exploration



ROTARIANS, VETERANS AGENT, AND CONGREGATION DEDICATE NEW PEACE POLE

Members of the congregation gathered around the new Peace Pole on the church lawn early Sunday afternoon, September 15, with district and local Rotary Club officers and the Middleboro Veterans Agent, to dedicate the pole to the cause of peace. The Rotary Club graciously donated and installed the pole, which displays the words "May peace prevail on earth" in eight languages, including American Sign Language and Braille.

Brief speeches were delivered by our Rev. Beau Rivers, Rotarian Kevin "Quack" Quackenbush who spearheaded the project for the Middleboro Rotary Club, Veterans Agent Stephen Adelman, and Joel Kopke, a district Rotary Club officer. All spoke to the need for peace, service and understanding. Ed Priest led the assembly in singing "Let There Be Peace on Earth." Susan Hotchkiss led a round of "Dona Nobis Pacem." All enjoyed the colorful chrysanthemums Patty Simon had planted around the pole before the event. Many enjoyed refreshments in the parish hall after the ceremony, provided by the Social Justice Team.

LGBTQ+ OLDER ADULTS & ALLIES – LUNCH AND ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, October 3 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Bridgewater Senior Center, 10 Wally Krueger Way

To reserve a space, call 508-697-0929 or email seniorcenter@bridgewater.org.

PEACE, JUSTICE & EQUALITY VIGILS

Every Saturday 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Church Lawn

We continue scheduling weekly ½ hour vigils on Saturday mornings from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the church lawn. All are invited to join in. Contact Dody Adkins-Perry (adkinsperry@gmail.com).

TEEN LGBTQ+ PEER SUPPORT AND SOCIAL GROUP

Every Monday 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

ADULT LGBTQ+ PEER SUPPORT AND SOCIAL GROUP

Every Monday 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.

36 North Bedford Street, East Bridgewater, 2nd floor, 2nd door on the left

This group is an opportunity to get to know your peers, support one another, share challenges, celebrate, seek support, play games & be; 978-809-2245, speak or text to "J"

POSTCARDING & LETTER WRITING PARTY

Thursday, October 10 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Final chance to get together while we finish up postcards and letters before Lois mails them by the October 15 deadline. Come help encourage reluctant and undecided voters in swing states to get to the polls. We don't tell them who to vote for. We do speak of the issues they care about. Light refreshments, great camaraderie. Don't worry if you cannot donate stamps. It's great if you can. But we appreciate your time and effort, and we will come up with enough stamps somehow. Questions? Contact Lois at lois.aldrich63@gmail.com.

LIVING LEGACY PROJECT - CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS WHO LED THE MOVEMENT FROM BEHIND THE SCENES

Wednesday, October 23 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Pauli Murray was a pioneering lawyer, activist, and priest who fought against racial and gender discrimination. Murray's legal theories laid the groundwork for future civil rights legislation. <https://www.livinglegacypilgrimage.org>.



NEW MOON MEDITATION ON ZOOM

with Natalie Johnson

Tuesday, October 1 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/96051804737>

This month's New Moon falls in the sign of Libra, the great equalizer. Sometimes pictured as a set of scales, it weighs opposite energies and seeks to bring them into balance.

October is now known as Indigenous People's Month in honor of those upon whose lands we currently live...the land originally called Turtle Island.

Tonight we are choosing to honor indigenous people with a look at their worldview, how they regard the more than human beings as kin, not commodity. They understand that this world is full of people, only some of whom are human. There is much that could be gained by following the indigenous kinship world view. One can only reflect on how different this country might now be had those who arrived 400 years ago come with respect and curiosity instead of guns and greed.

We cannot undo history but we can own it, learn from it and perhaps begin anew each in our own way to bring our lives into better balance and to walk more softly upon the Earth, greeting all we meet as beloved kin.

All are welcome.



Song Circle

**First Unitarian Universalist
Society of Middleboro, MA**

SEPT 13, OCT 11, NOV 8
Second Friday of every Month!

6:00 POTLUCK HEARTY SNACKS
6:30-8:00 SONG SHARING

Accessible building
25 South Main St., Middleboro, MA
Please RSVP: andrapriesto@gmail.com
"Rise Up" songbooks welcomed.

All are Invited!

PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, October 16 6:30 p.m.
Parish Hall



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



FULL MOON MEDITATION ON ZOOM

with Natalie Johnson
Thursday, October 17 6:00 - 6:45p.m.
<https://zoom.us/j/95107432576>



This month's Full Moon falls in the sign of Aries, the cosmic ram. We, who still honor the Old Ways, are preparing for the Sabbat of Samhain, the final harvest. It is the last harvest before the cold winds of Winter move across the land.

In olden times, after the last harvest was gathered, the fields were opened up for the gleaners, as there were always vegetables and fruits left behind. These days, in spite of the wealth of this country, food insecurity exists in many places. There are now many groups who are reviving the practice of gleaning, and some generous farmers welcome them. For the farmers, it is a way to tidy up their fields. For the gleaners, it is a way to fill a need for those facing lack. The ultimate harvest now, as always, falls to the crows, who can be seen in their inky blackness flying from cornstalk to beanpole finding treasure still, sending their raucous thanks across the sky.

Deer often appear at dusk to enjoy pumpkins hidden under dried leaves. Nothing goes to waste in Nature's pantry. Tonite we will remember the abundance most of us enjoy and explore ways in which we can be as generous as Mother Earth in sharing with others.

All are welcome.



Don't Miss Our Super Fun
4th ANNUAL UU ROAD RALLY
Saturday, October 19 9:30 a.m.

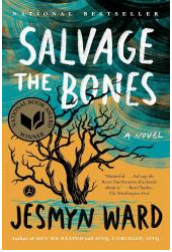
UU Middleboro is once again hosting a Road Rally! Up to 20 cars can participate, and each car carries a team of two to four people. (Hint: Four is easier than Two!) Each team follows directions to navigate a slightly tricky course over public roads. The team's challenge is to use clues to answer questions while safely following all traffic laws along the way. Only \$45 per team.

Cars will "launch" from the Middleboro Town Hall Parking Lot at three-minute intervals starting at 9:30 a.m. Teams with the most accurate combined scores for time, mileage, and answers will be awarded trophies and medals. Entertainment and snacks will be provided to contestants at the grand awards ceremony. We're talking trophies and medals! For details and to register, email JohnNMullen@gmail.com.

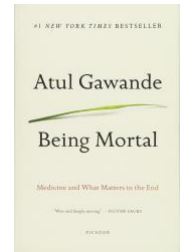
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP ON ZOOM

Monday, October 21 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

The UU Book Club continues to meet on the third Monday of the month. Book Club members will be emailed the Zoom link a few days before each meeting.



Our selection for October is *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward. Vi Fairweather will be facilitating this discussion. The book for our November meeting is *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande.



If you are not on the Book Club's email list, but would like to join us for the discussion, please contact Lois Aldrich (lois.aldrich63@gmail.com).

New and old members are welcome.



CUUPS SAMHAIN RITUAL
Monday, October 28 7:00 p.m.
in the Parish Hall



The Wheel has turned once again to Samhain, It is said to be the time when the veil between the worlds is at its thinnest, making communication with our beloved dead most favorable.

The past year has seen many losses and leave-takings for us both personally and as a church family. The outer world of politics and climate change brings another layer of upheaval that is difficult to navigate. Tonite we will remember our ancestors...those who came before us and who also faced difficulties and losses. Our very presence is testimony to their perseverance and ultimate triumph over adversity. We will invite them to come close.

Invoking sacred space with our candles and callings, we will create a circle of safety and love within which all may feel seen and held. An altar will be set up to receive photos or mementos of our beloved dead. Whether your loss is recent or remote, human or more than, personal or communal, all expressions are warmly received. It is in remembering our beloved dead that we keep them alive. Know also that simply witnessing in silence and being part of the circle is fine. Some losses may still be too tender to share. We can still support each other by our presence.

Our time together will end with a simple potluck feast. Please also bring an item for the Food Pantry. Robes, costumes or your best witchy garb is also fine. There is no better time than Samhain for that Little Black Dress and pointy hat.

All are welcome.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING
September 18, 2024

Present: Jeff Giddings, Stephen Larrett, Rev. Beau Rivers, Vi Fairweather, Nancy Backus,
Diane Reed, Lois Aldrich

Absent: Jim Bonnar

Guest: Kelly Lownds

Meeting called to order by Jeff Giddings at 6:30 p.m.

Check-In

Opening Words read by Rev. Beau Rivers

Minutes of August 21, 2024 PC meeting accepted. Suggestion made that PC meeting minutes be voted on and accepted at the time PC members receive the minutes from Lois Aldrich via email. Upon receipt of meeting minutes via email, members will comment or will accept the minutes, which will be noted in the minutes by Lois. This will allow minutes to be posted in Updates or Newsletter in a timelier fashion.

ACTION: PC members review meeting minutes promptly and comment or vote to accept.

PC Retreat: Jeff Giddings distributed notes from the August 25 PC Retreat written by Lois as well as an article summarizing the Retreat written by Jeff. The article will be posted in the October Newsletter. PC members voiced approval of the notes and the article.

ACTION: Jeff to submit newsletter article to Valarie Ortelt by September 23.

Reports: The following reports were submitted to the PC prior to the meeting and accepted:

- Music Director Report: In addition to the report submitted by Susan Hotchkiss, Rev. Beau informed the PC that the UUA has approved our congregation as a test site for a virtual hymnal. We will be one of 20 congregations to go through this process, which will take 4 - 6 weeks. More details to come.
- RE Report: Kelly Lownds would like to have a clean-up party in the Church's backyard where there is a lot of brush to be cleared. This space could be used for RE activities once cleaned up. Jeff suggested Kelly check with Alan Melchior, as this is a Building and Grounds matter.

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ACTION: Kelly to check with Alan about backyard clean-up.

- FY 26 Budget process calendar
- FUUSM program planning/fundraising for the coming year
- Social Justice Team Report

Treasurer's Report: Stephen Larrett reported that there is currently \$50,675 in the checking account, and \$7,676 in the Minister Discretionary Fund. Liz Snay is working on finalizing figures for the August statement.

ACTION: Stephen to make arrangements with Rockland Trust.

Kelly and Rev. Beau requested debit cards, which the PC approved. Stephen will follow up with Rockland on the debit cards and also request signatory authority for the checkbook for Rev. Beau.

A question arose as to what the process is for acknowledging donations received from outside the Church. Should we acknowledge receipt of the donation in writing? The PC agreed we should, but it is not clear who is responsible (Assistant Treasurer? Minister? President?). Topic tabled for discussion at a future meeting.

Minister's Report: Rev. Beau will submit her written report to the PC. She has been working with the Worship Committee and staff to have 3 types of worship services each month: a family friendly service, a traditional sermon-based service, and a collaborative service.

Rev. Beau reported that she recently met with the Pastoral Care Team. Mal Marvill will be leaving the team, and Cate Vanzant will be joining the team. Mal had been keeping data on services provided by the team, and this important effort will hopefully continue.

Rev. Beau now has a UU Middleboro email account and will soon have business cards. She also reported that she has been reviewing documents that were in her office and has put them in the locked file cabinet, which is now full. Vi Fairweather offered to go through the cabinet with Rev. Beau to determine which documents need to be in the locked cabinet. *All agreed that we need a system that will centralize all of the church's documents, whether on paper or (preferably) digital.*

ACTION: Vi and Rev. Beau to sort through files and remove those that don't need to be in the locked cabinet.

Updates:

- Building & Grounds: Stephen reported that repairs to the Avis Clay Parlor windows have been completed and have been fully paid for.
- Committee on Ministry (CoM): Sue Curtiss, Dave Kramer, and Vi Fairweather have agreed to be on the CoM. Rev. Beau will also be on the Committee. The Committee will report to the PC and to the Minister and will develop a charter.
- Newsletter: Jeff offered to convene an ad hoc subcommittee to develop options for the future of the Church's Newsletter. Goal is to report back to the PC by our October 16 meeting. Rev. Beau will speak with Val Ortelt as to her role on the subcommittee.

ACTION: Jeff to convene ad hoc subcommittee. Rev. Beau and Val to decide on extent of Val's participation.

- UUA Northeast Regional Board Retreat: Jeff and Vi recently attended the UUA NER Retreat. The retreat validated many of the things the PC has been doing and was very supportive of our efforts. The UUA offered to provide us support as needed. Both Vi and Jeff said it felt good to be part of the bigger UUA world.
- Acknowledgements: Vi mentioned how important it is for us to acknowledge those who do additional work for the church. For example, JR Pucillo-Dunphy recently installed hardware to make internet access more available in the Parish Hall. Vi reminded everyone that there are also thank-you notes on the welcome table in the Parlor which anyone can use to acknowledge good works done by others in the congregation.

Discussion:

- Cottage Meetings: The PC and Rev. Beau agreed to schedule Cottage Meetings in October. Rev. Beau will circulate proposed dates to the PC. Rev. Beau will attend each cottage meeting, and at least one PC member will also attend to take notes. Lois will send out list of questions previously used at cottage meetings as a starting point for developing questions for this year. Suggestion made to include a cottage meeting with children and their families. Once dates are finalized, the congregation will be invited via announcements and UU Updates. A sign-up sheet will be made available in the Parlor.

ACTION: Rev. Beau to propose dates for Cottage Meetings. Lois to send out list of questions from 2022 cottage meetings. ALL to consider questions for Cottage Meetings.

- Vision Statement: Copies of a draft of our 2024-2025 Vision Statement were distributed at the meeting. The PC members were asked to submit comments by email to Lois so we are able to move forward and approve (or not). Suggestion made that we have copies of the final draft available at Cottage Meetings to discuss with the congregation and obtain further feedback.

ACTION: PC members review draft 2024-25 Vision Statement and comment to Lois (by October 1).

Recap: Members were asked to name one take away from the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting October 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Parking Lot (things we did not have time to discuss):

- UUA webinar on pledge drives: Approve \$50 registration for 3-person team to be named later.

ACTION: Jeff to register team before October 1, try to recruit at least one more attendee (along with himself and Gil Cote).

- Events Calendar
- Accountability: How will we evaluate the performance of our ministry, governance and programs during the year and at year's end? [Vi]
- FY26 budget planning: Budget priorities developed at the PC retreat (maintain staffing and programs, develop fund drive and other strategies to pay for major repairs) will be used by the Finance Team as guidelines for FY26 budget. Next step: request input from committees/program leaders by early November. [Jeff/Stephen]

**PLEASE SIGN UP TO BE A GREETER
OR**

A COFFEE HOUR HOST ON A SUNDAY MORNING!



You may use the sign-up sheets on the Parlor table or email andreapriesto@gmail.com to volunteer to be a Coffee Hour Host or Dorine Levasseur dmlevasseur925@gmail.com to be a Greeter or email office@uumiddleboro.org. Instructions will be emailed to you. Thank you for participating in this ministry.

Other Ways to Help with Coffee Hour

If you are not able to host Coffee Hour on a Sunday morning, there are other ways you can help.

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."



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.



Parish Care

Parish Care help is available to assist with meals, transportation, emergency babysitting, and hospital visits during illnesses or other family emergencies.

We are a diverse, active and caring community; and we welcome your questions and your participation. You are always invited to call or visit our minister to discuss any matter of concern to you.

Lay Ministry Coordinator: Susan Curtiss
Lay Pastoral Minister: Sue St. Germain
Lay Pastoral Minister: Dave Kraemer
Parish Care Coordinator: Mal Marvill
Minister: Rev. Beau Rivers

Parish Committee

President: Jeff Giddings
Vice President: Viola Fairweather
Treasurer: Stephen Larrett
Assistant Treasurer: Nancy Backus
Parish Clerk: Lois Aldrich
Members At Large: Jim Bonnar
Diane Reed



[CHURCH CALENDAR](#)