

Vineyard UU Voice

We are an intentionally welcoming congregation of diverse faiths and shared values, fostering spiritual growth, community action and universal justice.

Volume 6, Issue 3

March 2020

Special points of interest:

- Food Offertory, page 5
- Snapshot: Ann Hollister, page 6

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The Power of One Vote Your Vote. Your Voice. Use It.

No matter how we feel about the candidates for any office or any policy matter that comes before us, *exercising our right to vote is fundamental to our democracy.*

Here are some examples of the POWER OF ONE VOTE:

In the 1800s Thomas Jefferson and John Quincy Adams were elected President by one vote in the Electoral College. In 1846 President Polk's request for a Declaration of War against Mexico passed by one vote. In the 2000 Presidential election, George W. Bush won Florida by 537 votes, making him the 43rd President of the United States. Six million voters went to the polls in that Florida election. It may not have been one vote, but it was the slimmest of margins.

In November 2016 45% of citizens of the United States did NOT vote. Citizens face inconvenient polling places,



limited voting hours, and transportation problems to get to the designated voting places. Some citizens did not like the choices for President, so they sat out the election.

Your passion for the inherent worth and dignity of every person, civility, truth, freedom of the press, climate change, reproductive rights, racial justice, restoring our democracy, equal rights for LGBTQIA+ citizens, gun control, just to name a few of the most important issues facing us as a country today, matters. Your vote for the can-

didates of your choice, who believe in issues you are passionate about, is your right and your responsibility.

The results of the elections in November 2020 will define our country for a generation. We live in perilous times. While we disagree on many issues, we are blessed to live in this amazing country and to be able to have a voice in our government.

Your one vote does make a difference; each and every one of our votes make a difference. Your voice does matter. Our actions today make a difference now, tomorrow, and the day after.

If you are not registered to vote, make this a priority to do tomorrow!

—Rita Brown, for the Restoring Democracy Team, Dorie Godfrey, Nancy Wood, Donna McElroy, Peter Meleney, Sue Streeter

Please support UUSMV in these two ways:

When making online purchases, use AmazonSmile.com and designate UUSMV as the recipient of a percentage of your purchase price; and don't forget to use the Donate button on the home page of www.uusmv.org.

—Janice Casey, Treasurer



How do you feel about prayer?

I am creating a worship service for March 8 called "The Power of Prayer" and I need your help. For this Family Service, I am looking to include members of the congregation, both to prepare the service and to participate in the service:

How can you be involved?

1. Read a prayer or reading during the service.
2. Share your personal experience: How do you pray? Why do you pray? When do you pray?
3. Suggest a prayer or a reading about prayer to include in the service.
4. Make suggestions for a hymn or music selection for the service.

Please call/text/email Jennifer Knight with any of your thoughts/contributions.

—Jennifer Knight

Worship Services

11:00 am

March 1: *Following Our Children into the Unknown* - Marsha Winsryg



In 2004 Marsha visited the Mama Bakhita Cheshire Home for children

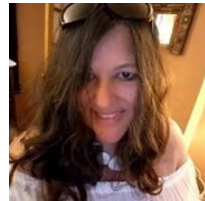
with disabilities in Livingstone, Zambia where she had been sending the meager profits she was making from the sales of African crafts. This is the story of how the small idea of a clueless American evolved over 16 years into a multifaceted community project for the most vulnerable and destitute. Crafts will be available after the service to support the work of the AACDP. Marsha Winsryg studied art at Bennington College in Vermont and education at Bank Street College of Education in New York City, both of which significantly influenced her work in Zambia 40 years later. She lives in West Tisbury, Massachusetts and spends time

each year in Zambia and Florence, Italy.

March 8: *The Power of Prayer* - Jennifer Knight and Members of the Congregation

What does the word prayer mean to you? Do you have a prayer practice? What does it look like? Sound like? Feel like? During this month's "family service" we will explore the myriad ways that people pray and share examples of how members of our community pray.

March 15: *Is Your Message Being Heard?* - Jaqueline Noel



We can all agree that communication is vital to our survival as a

family, a community, a country, a world. And every day, we have important things to say to one another - to our children, our partners, our

fellow committee members, our neighbors, our leaders. But are we delivering those messages in a way that others can hear or want to hear them? Jacqueline is a mother of five wonderful children, a new wife to a fabulous man (a Lutheran, at that!), a musician, a former Congressional Aide and speech writer, and an avid, yet undertrained, chef.

March 22: *Trust* - Reverend Bill Clark

Reverend Bill examines the virtue of trust. What is trust? What does it mean to be trustworthy? What happens when trust is broken? How can it be restored?

March 29: *Juggling* - Reverend Bill Clark

Rev. Bill explores the talent of juggling. From small colored balls to flame throwers to life's many challenges, how do we juggle them all and still remain centered? Is juggling a talent that can be taught?

Children's RE



March 1: School vacation; no RE

March 8: Family Worship

March 15, 9:00 am at Waterside Market:

Parent Social Hour. Child care provided at the Chapel starting at **9:00 am**.

March 15: Story Book

March 22: Curriculum: Ostara

March 29: Fifth Sunday, no RE

Teen SAM:

We could use one more volunteer for **Saturday**,

March 14, 6:00-8:00

pm to participate as wait staff at UUSMV's St. Patty's Day Pie Day Dinner Fundraiser. Dinner included. Those who've already agreed to help are: Joey, Samuel, and Samantha.

We've decided to do a Food Drive on **Saturday, March 7 or 21, 10:00 am-2:00 pm** at Cronig's Market in VH. We'd encourage shoppers to buy items for the local Food Pantry while

they shop and then leave the items with us; cash donations welcome. A Doodle Poll will be sent out to determine the best day. One or two hour shifts.

Beach Clean Up on Earth Day, **March 18**. Details still being worked out, but we'll be joining the Vineyard Conservation Society with their efforts to clean up MV, followed by refreshments at Sailing Camp.

—Erika Berg

In Faith and Service...

It is said of the weather that “March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.” However, this can also relate to our emotions, stamina and overall view of life. There is no doubt the ending of February brought to our congregation multiple layers of sorrow. With the sudden loss of two of our members, it has taken many of us until early March to be able to process these losses.

We will be losing our Music Director, Sean McMahon, as he

sets out on new paths. Too many losses all at the same time.

We have in place an outstanding Music Director Search Committee, already looking at prospective candidates. We celebrated the life of Kay Leaird at a gathering at Camp Jabberwocky. The softness to the ending of March will be as we gather to memorialize the life of Barbara Krause on **March 28th at 1:00 pm.**

This is some of what religious



and spiritual communities do so well together: memorializing those we hold in our hearts and spirits.

So in this fast moving month of March, let us be there for one another – treating one another with kindness and gentleness – as we are all human beings here. Handle with care!

See you in church

~ Rev. Bill

Rev. Bill will be on vacation March 1-14. For Pastoral Care March 1-7, please contact Reverend Vicky Hanjian; March 8-14, please contact Rabbi Lori Shaller



From Your President

Continuing the conversation about the history of voting rights in the US from page 1:

In 1848 The Seneca Falls Convention, the first women’s rights convention, was held in Seneca Falls, NY. Women’s suffrage—the right of women to vote—was proposed by Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

In 1866 The American Equal Rights Association, working for suffrage for both women and African Americans, was formed at the initiative of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. In 1870 non-white men and freed male slaves were guaranteed the right to vote by the 15th Amendment.

In 1869 the territory of Wyoming was the first to grant un-

restricted suffrage to women, followed by Utah. In 1886 the suffrage amendment was defeated in the US Senate two to one. In 1917 the National Women’s Party posted silent sentinels to picket the White House. Nearly 500 women were arrested, 168 of whom served jail time.

Women finally won the right to vote when the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the US was passed by Congress June 4, 1919 and ratified August 18, 1920.

Native American women played a vital role in passing the 19th Amendment but were unable to reap the benefits until four years later, June 24, 1924, when the American government granted full citizenship to Native Americans with the passage of the Indian Citizenship Act.

However, many states made laws and policies that prohibited Native Americans from voting, and many were effectively barred from voting until 1948. Chinese immigrants, including women, received the right to vote in 1943. Japanese Americans, including women, got citizenship and voting rights in 1952.

In 1964, the 24th Amendment was ratified by two-thirds of the states, formally abolishing the poll taxes and literacy tests that were used heavily against African American and poor white men and women. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 strenuously prohibited racial discrimination in voting.

Your voice. Your vote. Your future.

Rita

PC Notes

Your Parish Committee met last month on February 18th. Here are some highlights.

- A search for a new Music Director is underway. The role may need to be split into two: choir director and accompanist, depending on applicants.
- The Search Committee will find accompanists until the position is filled.
- Sean and the choir's last performance will be the **March 15th** service.
- We've already had several inquiries which is exciting!
- We finished our work on the UUSMV Personnel Policy. A final copy will be available for approval at the March Parish Committee meeting.
- Our financial position is off to a great start for 2020.
- There were no extraordinary expenses in January. Pre-paid pledges and a Luce Foundation distribution resulted in favorable income for the month.
- Of note - we ended January with nearly \$60,000 more in our checking and investment accounts than the same time last year.
- Family worship services continue to be well received, and the summer worship schedule is shaping up nicely.
- With the passing of our beloved members Barbara Krause and Kay Leaird, Rev. Bill and the Caring Network were quite busy during February.
- The current group of volunteers has been doing a wonderful job "staffing" the RE Program in its new format. However, we need someone to fill the chair position

of the Lifelong Learning Committee ASAP, so we can resume our RE Coordinator search. If you have an interest, please contact Kristy.

- There are two members of the congregation who plan to attend the UUA General Assembly. We are working to provide them with the necessary financial support per the 2020 budget.
 - Reverend Bill will be on vacation March 1st through March 14th. Please see page 2 for pastoral care information during this time.
 - The next regular PC meeting will be on **March 10, 4:00-6:00 pm.** in the Chapel. Everyone is invited to attend. If you plan to do so, or have an agenda item to suggest, please contact Rita Brown.
- Kristy Brooks, Secretary

...we need someone to fill the chair position of the Lifelong Learning Committee ASAP, so we can resume our RE Coordinator search.

In Our CommUnity

Please hold the following members and friends in your thoughts and prayers:

Lucinda Sheldon, Steve Clark, Tom Osborn, Linda Wilson

It is with great sadness that we note the death of two of our members. To **Glenn Palmer** on the death of his wife, **Barbara Krause** and to the family of **Kay Leaird** we send out condolences.

Roberta Kirn, a friend of

UUSMV, lost her husband, Nicholas Azzollini to a long illness.

Last month was challenging for many people, including **Rita Brown** and **Jan Casey** on the death of their dog Kodi and for **Susan Desmarais** on the death of her dog Johnny. News has reached us that **Art Bingham** died on November 28, 2019. Please hold his family and **Ann Maley** in your thoughts and prayers.

We welcome **Bri**, foster child

of **Liz Loucks** to our church family!

Congratulations to **Tenley Brooks, Tripp Hopkins** and **Jack Crawford**, grandson of Tad and Judy Crawford, on their performances in *Big Fish* at the MV Regional High School.

This is the time of year that many are battling colds, flu and falls, so please check in on neighbors, friends and members.

—Celeste Stickney

A Response to Food Insecurity on Martha's Vineyard— Food Offertory

Last winter while vacationing in Florida, our family attended a service at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine. This congregation has made a commitment to bring non-perishable food donations to a designated worship service once a month. The children of the congregation serve as the collectors during this “food offertory.” As you might imagine, our Ethan, ever-willing to participate, dove right in and gathered armfuls of food to add to the communal basket at the front of the church. We are going to try this practice during our Intergenerational Service on **March**

8th. When you come to services on **March 8**, please bring along an item or two from The Island Food Pantry’s Donated Food Wish List (<http://islandfoodpantry.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Food-Pantry-Donation-Wish-List.pdf>). The children will be collecting it as a part of our service.

Healthy Foods

- Pasta Sauce
- Salsa
- Ketchup - Mustard - Mayonnaise Olive Oil - Salad Dressing
- Dried Fruits and Raisins
- Salted or Unsalted Nuts/Sunflower Seeds Coffee/Teas

- Canned Protein (Tuna / Salmon/Chicken) Hearty Soups
 - Crackers Muffin/Cake/Bread Mixes Gluten Free Foods Interesting Cold Cereals
 - Especially for Kids**
 - Boxed 100% Fruit Juice Fruit Leather Graham/Animal Crackers Granola Bars
 - Baby Food
 - Other**
 - Toothpaste
 - Toothbrushes
 - Bar Soap
 - Shampoo
 - Canned/Dry Pet Food
 - Feminine Hygiene Products
 - Incontinence Pads
- Jennifer Knight

The children of the congregation serve as the collectors during this “food offertory.”

St. Patrick’s and Pi Day FUNraiser



Join us for a fun evening of FUN-raising. We will be having a St Patty’s day

dinner and Pi (Pie) night. The date is **Pi, Saturday, March 14, 6:00-8:00 pm** in the Chapel. We will be serving a traditional corned beef dinner

with veggies and Irish soda bread and Pi pies, PIES. There will be a vegetarian option, and Mary McEvoy’s Miracle Magic Homemade Chicken Pot Pie. Please indicate corned beef or pot PIE preference on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board or see Celeste or Norman Stickney. Price per person is \$25 and includes entree, bread, salad, dessert and beverages. Desserts will be Pie, Pies, and more PIE, with choice of ice

cream or whipped cream. Remember to wear Green. Place setting will not need to be brought from home. As a special treat, Teen SAM will be our evening wait staff. Show UUSMV some green and sign up soon. —Celeste and Norman Stickney



March Coordinators:

Caring: Barb Caseau

Hospitality: Celeste Stickney





Snapshot: Ann Hollister

I feel fortunate to have stumbled upon UUSMV when I did. I have lived on Martha's Vineyard for over half of my life and before that visited here from my earliest years.

I did not have an early or strong introduction to a spiritual life. As a young child my brother and I were taken to Sunday school in Protestant churches, but our parents did not attend church themselves. That told us it was not too important.

As a teenager in a very upscale suburb, the Young People's Group took place at Christ Episcopal Church. I attended and taught Sunday school, which was really childcare for the youngest children. I was married at Christ Church, where my ex-husband was a

Crucifer in his teen years.

We attended the Episcopal Church wherever we lived and raised our sons in that faith until they balked at Confirmation classes. I felt they had been given a church background, but, in retrospect, I wish I had searched then for a more liberal faith for my sons and myself.

Then I became a single parent, and life was about regrouping. Looking back, it would have been helpful for us all to have had a spiritual place in which to connect and get support, during a difficult time.

I worked many hours teaching, 3rd grade and working with student teachers from many local colleges. Sundays were always "preparation days" for getting home- and schoolwork planned and done. I feel now it could

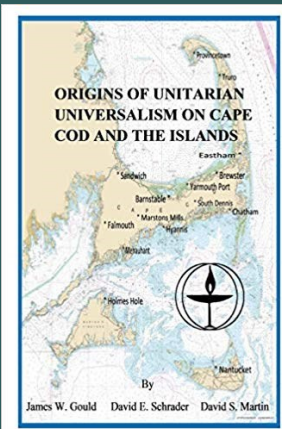
have "filled us up" to begin the day at a UU service.

In 2012, as a retiree, I decided to attend UUSMV one Sunday, having visited off and on for years. It was an "aha" moment! It was a welcoming, open, spiritually encompassing place where I felt instantly at home. Why had I not looked into this sooner? I have since brought my sons and friends to this place I love.

Since 2012 I have attended frequently and became an involved member. UUSMV has filled a place that had been missing. While I feel I have lived UU values without realizing it, I now have a place to live them with others.

And I continue the journey!

—Ann Hollister



Book Donation

UUSMV has received a copy of *Origins of Unitarian and Universalism on Cape Cod and the Islands* by James W. Gould, David E. Schrader and David S. Mar-

tin. This was a gift from Dr. Martin who has twice given us pleasure when he served us as a pulpit supply minister. It will be placed in the UUSMV library and

can be borrowed. We are very grateful to Dr. Martin for his thoughtful gift.
--Sarah Shepard

This Old Church

Universal Access Door situation looks like a replacement. Considering options. The Rubbermaid outbuilding for the summer theatre group has been rotated about 45 degrees. Now the door points towards the northwest instead of north. Kind of odd.

The visually accented, non-slip step-edge strips project is stumbling along. Removing the old tape is yucky. It comes off molecule by molecule and still leaves bits. And the adhesive is tenacious. And there are little threads of yuck. My bulkhead drip edge replacement project lives as a

dream: Hauntingly attractive, disturbingly unlikely, surprisingly self-inflicted.
—Norman Stickney, Trustee



March Meetings

Neighborhood Convention meets **March 3, 11:00 am** at Federated Church, 45 South Summer Street, Edgartown. Reverend Richard DenUyl will conduct the worship; Josie Kirkland of Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary will present the program: *Animals in Winter*. Please bring a bag lunch; dessert and beverages will be provided by the hosts.
—Sarah Shepard



Sewcial Action Knitwork meets **Friday, March 6, 2:00 pm** at Katharine Colon's. Please join us as we work on comforts, or bring a project of your own to work on.

—Laura Beebe



Women's Group meets **Thursday, March 12** with Esther Hopkins as discussion leader and **Thursday,**

March 26 with Celeste Stickney as discussion leader. Meetings are **2:00-4:00 pm** and in the Chapel. All are welcome: members, friends and newcomers.
—Celeste Stickney



Men's Group meets **Saturday, March 14, 9:30 am** at Russ Hartenstine's.

—Peter Meleney



CUUPS meets to celebrate the Vernal Equinox

Friday, March 20, 6:30-8:00 pm. Come and help us welcome spring: warmth, sun, plants growing, birds returning, gardens being planted. Hopefully no blizzards or nor'easters!
—Barb Caseau

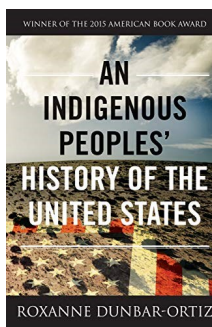


The Book Discussion Group meets **Tuesday, March 24, 2:00 pm** at

Doreen Kinsman's. Each member will read and report on a different book, or on a book that changed their life.
—Peter Meleney

The "Ageing to Sageing" Group meets **Wednesday, March 25, 2:00 pm** at Marianne Goldsmith's.
—Ann Hollister

UUA Common Read Book



Discussion meets

Thursday, March 26, 6:30-8:00 pm. The book is: *An Indigenous*

Peoples' History of the United States, an important read about the true history of our US First Nations. Youth and adults welcome; copies of both the adult and youth versions are available to loan.

—Barb Caseau

Entertainment Opportunity

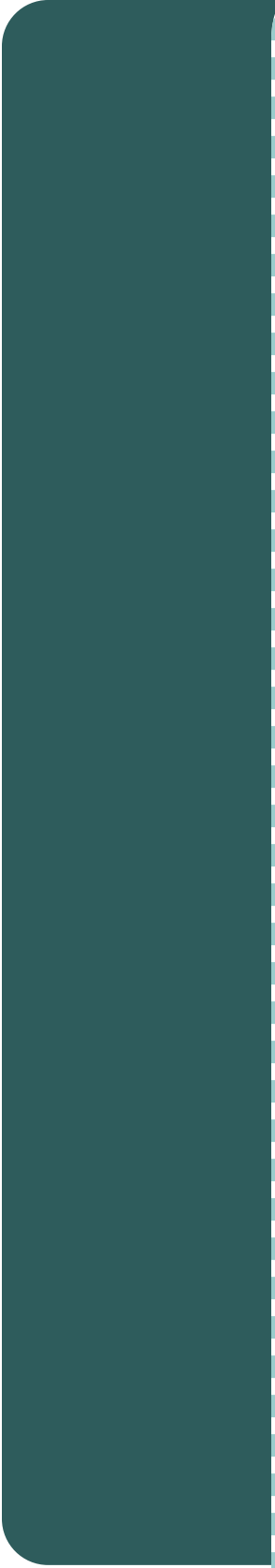


I scan the menu, virtually constantly, looking for something interesting. When I find a title that looks promising, I look. When I look, I usually find it

not interesting. Sometimes I discover the "not interesting" turns out to be interesting. The handiest tool I have is the DVR, the Digital Video Recorder. I record a lot of things, so I can skip over the advertisements and dull parts. A show that is growing on me is called *Bob Hearts Abishola*. It is a little awk-

ward because the actor playing Bob was in the series *Mike and Molly*, and I still am not over their breakup. Also I liked the one episode I saw of *About Zoe's Playlist*. Awareness never grows old in entertainment.

—Norman Stickney



Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard

Rev Bill will be on Island March 17-30.

March 2020

Sun	M	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 11:00 am: <i>The Zambezi Doll Company</i> - Marsha Winsryg Worship Coordinators: Linda Wilson and Sue Streeter	2	3 9:30 am: Meditation Circle 11:00 am: Neighborhood Convention at Federated Church, Edgartown	4 6:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal	5 7:30 am: Cleaners in the Chapel	6 2:00 pm: <i>Sewcial Action Knitwork</i> meets at Katharine Colon's	7 9:30 am: Men's Group meets at Russ Hartenstine's
8 11:00 am: <i>The Power of Prayer</i> - Jennifer Knight Worship Coordinator: Jennifer Knight Family Worship	9	10 9:30 am: Meditation Circle 3:45 pm: Parish Committee meeting	11 6:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal	12 7:30 am: Cleaners in the Chapel 2:00 pm: Women's Group meeting	13	14 6:00 pm: St. Patrick's and Pi Day FUNdraiser <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">π</div>
15 9:00 am: Parent Social at Waterside 11:00 am: <i>Is Your Message Being Heard?</i> - Jaqueline Noel Worship Coordinator: Jennifer Knight 11:00: Teen SAM meeting at Montessori School Story Book	16	17 9:30 am: Meditation Circle <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	18 6:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal	19 7:30 am: Cleaners in the Chapel	20 6:30-8:00 pm: CUUPS celebration of Vernal Equinox	21 9:30 am: Insight Meditation Group Rental
22 11:00 am: <i>Trust</i> - Reverend Bill Clark Curriculum Sunday	23	24 9:30 am: Meditation Circle 2:00 pm: Book Group meeting at Doreen Kinsman's	25 2:00 pm: "Ageing to Sageing" Group meeting at Marianne Goldsmith's 6:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal	26 7:30 am: Cleaners in the Chapel 2:00 pm: Women's Group meeting 6:30-8:00 pm: UUA Common Read Discussion	27	28
29 11:00 am: <i>Juggling</i> - Reverend Bill Clark No Children's RE	30	31				



Wishing a joyous birthday to:

Lily McEvoy who will be eleven on March 3;
Mike Kobran who will be 82 and Karen Sankey
who will be 75 both on March 4; and Marianne
Goldsmith who also celebrates her 82nd birth-
day on March 22.



The curb cut in front of the Chapel exists to make access to the Chapel as easy as possible from the road – especially for deliveries and for people with mobility challenges. Please do not park in front of the curb cut at any time.

Unitarian Universalist Society

of Martha's Vineyard

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