

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 8

August 2020

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Retired but Never Forgotten

Reverend Bill first came to us in 2012 as a frequent Sunday guest minister as we searched for a part time minister. And then one day, Rev. Bill asked Sarah Shepard to share lunch. He had grown to love this congregation and wanted to be considered as our contract minister. We were delighted. Rev. Bill served as our contract minister for about two years. In September of

2015, the congregation voted unanimously to call Rev. Bill as our settled minister on January 1, 2016.

We are sad to say good-bye, and we understand and respect Rev. Bill's decision to retire from UUSMV ministry. As Rev. Bill said in his letter, "Being on leave these past few weeks has given me a new perspective on my life, my losses, my health, and my

future. It has been a joy and wonder to be your minister. I wish you all great peace and happiness."

We will remember our Rev. Bill and all that he shared with us...His wonderful services, his love for our children, his commitment to universal justice, his sense of humor and so much more.
—Dorie Godfrey





Worship Services

11:00

All Worship Services take place on Zoom. Please see page 11 for details about how to join.

August 2: *Hearing the Voices of the Silenced - Freedom Cartwright*

Exploring our history of slavery, lynching, Jim Crow and mass



incarceration in Montgomery, Alabama with Freedom Cartwright of Freedom Rail Tours.

Freedom Cartwright is a Black American of African, Scots-Irish and English descent. She transmits energies of Black Americans whose perspectives have been suppressed and buried in order to celebrate the indomitable power of love.

August 9: *To Be Determined - Surprise Sunday!*

Look for updates in "This Week at UUSMV" Friday emails.

August 16: *Grasping at Straws - Reverend Rob Hardies*

We spend much of our lives grasping at the world, reaching for the things we believe will fulfill our wants, needs and desires. A few months ago, I broke both arms in a bike accident, leaving me unable to grasp. My frustration eventually gave way to a question: What if the greatest fulfillment in life comes not from grasping the world, but from being grasped by it?



The Rev. Dr. Robert M. Hardies returns for his fourth summer guest preaching at UUSMV. In June, Rev. Hardies completed nineteen years as Senior Minister of All Souls Church, Unitari-

an in Washington, DC. During Rev. Hardies's ministry this dynamic, multicultural congregation grew in membership, attendance, and influence, becoming a flagship church for progressive religion in our nation's capital. This summer, Rob begins a one-year sabbatical to rest, reflect and discern the next chapter of his ministry. Rob lives in Washington with his husband, Christopher Nealon, and their 8-year-old son, Nico.

August 23: *Poetry, Community, and The Holy - Chris Nealon*



What kind of connections can a poem create among the people who read it? Are certain kinds of poems especially

good at creating connection, either because of their form, or their subject matter? And can this feeling of connection — to words, and to the others who may read them — move us deeper into the world, rather than simply further along the page? I'll pursue these questions with reference to a beautiful poem by Juliana Spahr called "Gentle Now, Don't Add to Heartache."

Chris Nealon teaches English at Johns Hopkins University. He is the author of two books of literary criticism, *Foundlings: Lesbian and Gay Historical Emotion before Stonewall* (Duke, 2001) and *The Matter of Capital: Poetry and Crisis in The American Century* (Harvard, 2011), and four books of poetry: *The Joyous Age* (Black Square Editions, 2004), *Plummet* (Edge Books,

2009), *Heteronomy* (Edge, 2014), and *The Shore* (Wave Books, 2020). He lives in Washington, DC with his husband, Rev. Hardies and their son Nico.

August 30: *Inside Out - Reverend Catie Scudera*



Using brain science, philosophy, and the popular Pixar film *Inside Out*, we'll explore how to better identify, respond to, and care for our feelings. We'll also take a moment to practice utilizing our emotional awareness and intelligence.

The Reverend Catie Scudera has served the Unitarian Universalist congregation at First Parish in Needham, MA since August 2014. She previously served as the intern minister of Arlington Street Church in downtown Boston, as the student and summer minister of the Winchester Unitarian Society in Winchester, MA, and as a student chaplain at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. Her personal theology is guided by historic Universalism and Unitarianism, as well as progressive Christianity and engaged Buddhism. Rev. Catie was a co-founder of the A. Margaret Barr Children's Village, run by local Unitarians in Meghalaya, India and previously was a member of the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council board. She lives in Needham with her spouse, their new baby, and their two dogs.

Where Do We Go from Here?



In a joint letter to the membership on July 7, Reverend Bill Clark and I announced Rev. Bill's decision to retire as our Minister. If you did not receive our letter, please email me and I will send one right out to you. As a congregation we are grateful for seven years of service with Rev. Bill as our minister. We celebrate the many gifts Rev. Bill has given to us. Join us in wishing Rev. Bill good health and all the best in this new time on his life's journey (address in Contacts, page 10). We are planning to have a farewell event and will let everyone know "the plan" once it is firmed up with Rev. Bill and the Parish Committee. COVID-19 complicates personal contact, so we will be inventive! Members are asking "where do we go from here?" All congregations, and ours is no exception, go through periods with no minister. Every ministry has a beginning and an end. The Parish Committee will be working with and supporting the Worship Committee to fill the pulpit for the foreseeable future. Together we will bring

per diem professional ministers, community members, and members to the pulpit to offer UU spiritual nourishment and timely topics to engage our minds, our spirits, and our hearts. We will be, in UU terms, a "Lay-led" congregation. After the first of the year, the Parish Committee will begin the process to realistically assess what kind of ministry our congregation wants. Members' input is essential, and everyone will be invited to be part of the process. Our search may begin by searching for a part time contract minister; for example, s/he might contract with us to preach Sunday services twice a month and provide pastoral care. There are small UU congregations—some much smaller than ours—that are lay led by design; they may bring ministers in to speak, but they don't have a minister who supervises staff, who meets with the governing body, or who has responsibility for committee work. Our goal will be to provide the options available to us and to decide as a congregation what is our best way forward at this time in our

history. Perhaps we will want to continue virtual services, as well as in-person services when we can all be together in the Chapel again. With the COVID-19 pandemic still a clear and present danger, it is unknown when we will be back in the Chapel for services, and that impacts our process and timing. The volunteer leadership understands that a period without a professional minister may cause concern. I invite you to share your feelings and thoughts with any of the Parish Committee members during the period of transition. The Parish Committee has engaged Rev. Vicky Hanjian, well-known to many of our congregation, to provide professional pastoral care to us. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, support is via phone. Our Caring Network also stands ready to be of service to all our members and friends. We will be "Ok." With abiding friendship,
Rita Brown, President

"After the first of the year, the Parish Committee will begin the process to realistically assess what kind of ministry our congregation wants."

In Our CommUUnity

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

Steve and Joan Clark, Isabel Noel, Reverend Vicky Hanjian, Tom Osborn, Lisa Nickowal.

Thank you to The Black Lives Matter banner team, **Norman Stickney** and **Russ Hartenstine**, for climbing up ladders to attach it to the Chapel; to **Lucinda Sheldon** and **Kristy Brooks** for the design and color selection;

and to **Rita Brown** for spearheading the project.

Welcome home to **Herb and Carol Golub**, who had gone to California for the winter and got stuck there when COVID hit the country and they were delayed returning, due to medical treatments.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Go Fund Me for **Lisa Nickowal** and her three young children, who suffered a devastating home fire. Donations are still

needed if you can help.

<https://gmail.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=024d2e8eedb98316a0d081cc9&iid=df45f6adc5&e=7fcf4601ab>

Lisa is still looking for housing. She has been housed by the Red Cross only until the end of July. If you know of ANY housing, 2 or 3 bedrooms ideally, please email her.

Mikeysmommy72@gmail.com

—Celeste Stickney

Parish Committee Notes

Your Parish Committee met via Zoom last month on July 15th. Here are some highlights.

- We accepted Mary McEvoy's resignation from the Parish Committee with regret, understanding and appreciation.
 - If you have an interest in joining the PC, please let Dorie Godfrey know!
- Vicky Hanjian will be providing interim Pastoral Care. We will continue the Caring Network Clusters that began during COVID and look to create a Lay Pastoral Care Associate program in the Fall.
- In January 2021, we will begin congregation-wide discussions regarding a new minister search.
- We're waiting to hear from Rev. Bill as to when he will be on Island so that we can plan some type of "social-distance celebration."
- Our financial position continues to remain stable, as we have lower than planned expenses due to not being in the Chapel, and members and friends continue to generously make offerings and pledges. Thank you!
- Please see page 5 for a recap of General Assembly from UUSMV members who attended various workshops.
- Everyone agrees that the Sunday Worship Services via Zoom keep getting better and better. Thank you to our Worship Committee for your efforts!
- We are looking for volunteers for the Pledge Team, which will start meeting in August. Contact Rita Brown if you're interested in helping.
- Celeste Stickney will be reaching out to UUSMV parents to determine if/what/how RE might look while our congregation

continues to meet via Zoom throughout the Fall.

- Fundraising, while an integral part of our annual budgeted income, has been put on hold until we can figure out how to navigate raising money during COVID. Contact Celeste if you have ideas!
 - The Wayside Pulpit will be getting more frequent signage changes and a Black Lives Matter banner was installed at the Chapel on **July 19th at 9:30 am**. The next regular PC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, August 11th, 4:00-6:00 pm**. Everyone is invited to attend. If you plan to do so, or have an agenda item to suggest, please contact Rita Brown, as she will have details about how and where the meeting will be taking place.
- Kristy Brooks, Secretary



From the Treasurer

What a year this has been (so far)! We are more than half-way through the year and holding steady. We thank all of you who continue to give offerings and pay your pledges. UUSMV still needs your financial support. While we have some vacant staff positions that we will not fill right now, we are still paying Lori and Rev. Bill, insurance, and utility bills. We are still donating to UUA. And we've increased our social action activities signif-

icantly!

You can make your donations on-line using the Donate button on our website or by mailing a check to UUSMV, POBox 1236, Vineyard Haven, 02568, or you can call Jan with your credit card number, and she'll process the transaction for you. Also, a reminder that you can designate UUSMV as the charity that receives a small donation when you make a purchase at Amazon Smile. Log in to

www.smile.amazon.com

Of course, these days you may have to wait forever while the post office sorts out all the packages! But we're a hopeful group, aren't we?

Dorie will be emailing Quarterly Pledge Statements to remind you of the amount you pledged for 2020 and where you stand on fulfilling your pledge. Take care dear friends. Stay strong. Stay safe. Your Treasurer, Jan Casey

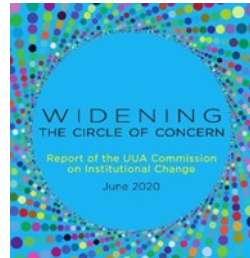
Three years ago, at the UUA General Assembly (GA), the Commission on Institutional Change was created. They were to complete their work in three years and report at the 2020 General Assembly. The charge given was to conduct an audit of the power structures and analyze systemic racism and white supremacy culture within the Unitarian Universalist Association.



global strife, people need a sustaining faith.

- A certification process like the Welcoming Congregation is long overdue to address racial bias and oppression.
- Identity groups can provide members of congregations needed supports. Groups like DRUMM, BLUU, TRUUSt, and EqUUal Access can provide much need-

Rooted, Inspired, & Ready!



Widening the Circle of Concern” (for marginalized groups), a report of the UUA Commission on Institutional Change, was presented with several workshops during the five days of GA 2020. The 193-page report is available for download on the UUA website. It can also be purchased.

This report addresses institutional racism within the UUA. Black people, Indige-

nous people, and people of color addressed the perennial problem of race in Unitarian Universalism.

A few take aways:

- We need covenantal understandings of equality, inclusion, and diversity initiatives that are identified by Black people, Indigenous people, people of color, or those who hold other identities, such as gender expansive, that are important for our individual and shared faith lives.
- New definitions of competency for religious leadership are needed, and multi-cultural competency must be a part of these new standards.
- Too few white people are engaged in intentional anti-oppression work.

- We need resources for ritual and worship that sustain the souls of people of color and other oppressed folks in these times.
- We need to center the experiences of Black people, Indigenous people, and people of color. *Centering* means a leaning toward, a prioritizing of perspective, attention to whose needs are considered and who is most affected. A more just and effective system would center the comfort, safety, growth, agency, and capacity for self-realization of those who are currently most oppressed, which would benefit all.
- In these times of political division, climate change, economic polarization, and

ed support to marginalized groups and members in congregations across the country. (These are on the UUA web site.)

- Anti-oppression work is the necessary foundation of justice work.
- The same energy, foresight, determination, capacity for organization, invention, and passion displayed in the European conquest of the world should be brought to bear in the dismantling of its oppressive, ecocidal, and genocidal practices.
- The cultivation of reparative values within our theology is a moral imperative and the only way to provide true integrity to our existing Principles.

—Rita Brown

Virtual GA began just 24 hours after my boys finished virtual schooling for the year. We were all “Zoomed out” and I wondered how I was going to manage attending a multi-day virtual conference while keeping my kids happy and occupied without resorting to plopping them down in front of the television for hours at a time. I took comfort in the

fact that most of the workshops would be recorded and I could return to them throughout the summer. And, in order to accommodate the members on the west coast, a number of them were after my boys’ bedtime, so that made things easier. I resolved to remember to breathe and open myself to possibilities that might not occur to me.

What I didn’t expect in a million years is that Ethan would be so interested in the offerings. Whenever I would connect to a session, especially if it was a worship service, Ethan would make his way from the pile of Legos in our living room to the kitchen where I had stationed myself. Seconds later, he would pull up a chair and prop his feet up



against the dishwasher, completely engaged. “Mom, can we watch another service?”

Continued next page

August Caring Coordinator: Norman



Pastoral Care: Reverend Vicky Hanjian



The Reverend Vicky Hanjian is providing pastoral care to members of the UUSMV. Many know Reverend Hanjian as she has spoken from our pulpit and has provided pastoral care to our congregation

many times in the past. Many also know her as an Islander who does much to serve the people of Martha's Vineyard. In fact, in 2016, Reverend Hanjian (along with her husband Rev. Armen Hanjian) was presented the Spirit of the Island award for their decades of service. Reverend Hanjian has also served as a

bereavement counselor for Hospice of Martha's Vineyard and is an active volunteer at Windemere. For pastoral care, you may contact Reverend Hanjian directly. Her contact number is listed on page 10.
—Dorie Godfrey

GA article continued from previous page

His request was music to my ears and motivates me to explore how we at the UUSMV can engage our youth more deeply within our own worship services and programs. The business meetings that I attended were educational. I gratefully voted in favor of both Actions of Immediate Witness (AIW)—Address 400 Years of White Supremacist Colonialism and Amen to Uprising: A Commitment and Call to Action—on our congregation's behalf. During the Family Fun Evening, Stefan and I attended the GA's 1st annual virtual drag show, which was a huge hit

with us and within the larger GA community. We are looking forward to sharing it with the boys one of these evenings. I was most inspired by a workshop I attended entitled "Creating a Listening Community: Introduction to Restorative Circles." I believe that it is only by listening deeply to each other that we can find answers to the problems that plague our world. The practice of reflective listening builds empathy and a space where everyone can feel heard and understood. Kristy Brooks and I are currently attending a 6-week course that is giving us a foundation of understanding into

which we can invite our congregation and Island communities to engage in this way. The more I learn, the more possibilities I can envision. Thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility to represent our congregation and for gifting me with the opportunity to learn and grow as a UU. I am looking forward to delving into the Virtual G.A. On-Demand Library that allows registered participants to access recordings of many of the workshops, worship services, and events that were offered during GA. In love and light,
Jennifer Knight

This Old Church

My front door replacement lock order was close, very close. But I returned it because it was not close enough. Waiting for my next guess to come in from Amazon. We (the power couple Celeste and Mr. Celeste) mowed. A week without mowing is like a week without joy. The Black Lives Matter banner went up well, no injuries I know of. The front flower bed got a bit trampled.
Norman Stickney, Trustee

Anachronism is my word for this month. I watched a made-for-TV movie from like 1970: *One of My Wives is Missing*. It was slow going. Starring Jack Klugman and James Franciscus, it is a whodunnit from a different era. It was 90 excruciating minutes. Life was slower then, I guess. I am enjoying *Battlestar Galactica* with Edward J. Olmos; but will have to consult Wikipedia or Fandom sites to figure out what is really going on. It is kind of like *The Matrix*.
—Norman Stickney (Norman invites you to share your opinion on things you are watching!)

RESTORING DEMOCRACY



VOTING IN MASSACHUSETTS PRIMARY

August 22 is the last day to register to vote in the Massachusetts Primary on September 1. Early Voting for the primary is **August 22, 2020 - Aug 28, 2020**. See below on how to make sure you are registered. If you want to vote by mail return your ballot application ASAP. (See below)

Requesting to Vote by Mail in Massachusetts

You should have received an Official 2020 Vote by Mail Application in the mail. Voting by mail is available to all registered voters of Massachusetts, with no excuse needed. You should complete and submit the re-

quest for a mail-in ballot as soon as possible. Applications must be delivered to your local election office by August 26. If you did not receive your application in the mail, go to <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/e/e/elepdf/2020-Vote-by-Mail-Application.pdf>.

—Dorie Godfrey

SEPTEMBER 22 IS NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

Make sure everyone you know is registered to vote. Direct potential voters to register at <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/register-to-vote/> or have them point their smartphone camera at the QR code (below). Both options will direct them to forms to register to vote. If they live in a state

that does not offer online registration, this link will direct them to the next steps with their Secretary of State's office. Not sure if you are registered to vote? You can check here: <https://www.headcount.org/verify-voter-registration/?state>

—Dorie Godfrey



RESTORING DEMOCRACY TEAM COORDINATING GET OUT THE VOTE POSTCARDS

The Restoring Democracy Team is coordinating Get Out the Vote postcards across the Island and sending cards across the nation. We are collaborating with folks from the League of Women Voters, the NAACP, and the Social Action Committee of the MV Hebrew Center. We send postcards to people who may have been

purged from the voter rolls, people who may not have voted in recent elections, etc. All our postcards are nonpartisan from Reclaim Our Vote, Indivisible, and Women's March Foundation. We prepare a packet of postcards, instructions on completing the postcards, a list of names and addresses, and postcard stamps. If you would like

to help, contact Dorie Godfrey or Kristy Brooks. It's easy and you are helping people access their right to vote and have a voice in this representative democracy.

—Dorie Godfrey for the Restoring Democracy Team



...fostering universal justice and community action...



Black Lives Matter

Race, Agriculture and Access to the Land - from the Local Food Report on WCAI



The group Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust (NEFOC LT) started in 2017 as an informal alliance between farmers of color at Soul Fire Farm and Wildseed Farm in New York and Global Village in Grafton, Massachusetts. NEFOC LT, fiscally spon-

sored by Soul Fire Farm Institute, Inc, serves the Northeast region of the U.S. (New England/upstate NY.) NEFOC is working towards a collective vision of advancing land and food sovereignty in the northeast region through permanent and secure land tenure for POC farmers and land stewards who will use the land in a sacred manner that honors our ancestors

dreams - for sustainable farming, human habitat, ceremony, native ecosystem restoration, and cultural preservation. Check out the website <https://nefoclandtrust.org/> or their Facebook page for more information <https://www.facebook.com/NortheastFoCLT/>
—Dorie Godfrey

Understanding White Privilege to Dismantle Racist Systems

From WCAI's "On Point": "Talking about race can be hard, but anti-racist activists and diversity trainers say that understanding whiteness and white privilege is critical in dismantling racist systems. "Protests over systemic racism, spurred by more black deaths at the hands of police, are happening on the Cape, Islands, South

Coast, and across the world. Calls for change include asking white people to stand up and take responsibility for not only benefiting from, but helping to sustain, a system that perpetuates racism. A conversation about whiteness, white privilege, and white supremacy. "Joining the conversation is Debby Irving, a racial justice

educator and author of *Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race.*" You can still listen to the program by going to the website <https://www.capeandislands.org/post/understanding-white-privilege-dismantle-racist-systems?eNews#stream/0>
—Dorie Godfrey

Black Lives of UU



Black Lives of UU provides information, resources and support for Black Unitarian Universalists and works to expand the role & visibility of Black UUs within our faith. BLUU Organizing Collective is committed to:

- Expanding the power and capacity of Black UUs within our faith
- Providing support, information and resources for Black Unitarian Universalists.
- Justice-making and liberation through our faith.
- For more information go to <https://www.blacklivesuu.com/connect>

UU Allies for Racial Equality



Allies for Racial Equity disrupts oppression, uproots white supremacy, and plants seeds of justice. This is a ministry of faith which leads all who participate to spiritual growth and wholeness. We honor each other's humanity and capacity for growth by offering ourselves and each other grace and ac-

countability. Learn more at <https://www.uuare.org/>

Watch The History of White People in America

Here are four really short, but



enormously powerful, films on the history of race in America. In partnership with WORLD Channel and PBS's Independent Lens, *The History Of White People In America* looks at the history of race in the United States, in particular how the crafting of the idea of the White race — of whiteness — helped shape the nation's history, designating other groups for subjugation and having wide-ranging ramifications on social class and life experience that exist to this day. Watch the series of four digital short films on WGBH.org and on WORLD's YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1Rd6TW81AbC68e5-Q9cKuA>

Support these Black-Owned Businesses!

Retail: C'Est La Vie, Kissmet MV, Lennox & Harvey, Legendary MV, MV Allston, Ackee Tree Caribbean Grocer

Restaurants & Cafes: Biscuits, Chef Deon's Kitchen, Edgartown Dine, Fat Ronnie's, Vineyard Caribbean, Dilly's Taqueria

Barbers, Salons, Spas: Gypsy Barbershop, Blair's Barber Shop, Caleen's Day Spa, Mansion House Spa & Salon, MV Holistic Retreat

Galleries & Photography: Cousen Rose Gallery, Gabriel Nelson Photography, Knowhere Art Gallery, Harry Seymour Gallery, Michael Johnson, So Focused Photography

Property Management, Real Estate, Rentals: Steven McCullough, Roy Cutrer, Jen DaSilva, MY Island-Wide Realty, Michael Johnson, Shelley Christiansen, Sea U On the Vineyard
Accommodations: Martha's Vineyard Resort & Racquet Club, Oak Bluffs Inn, Shearer Cottage

Worship: Abyssinian Baptist Church, Union Chapel

Transportation: Adam Cab, LLC, Atlantic Cab

Services: François Fine Tailoring, Deloris; Designs, Eco-Island Termite & Pest Control, Vineyard Powerwashing, Aruajo Brothers

Events & Entertainment: B. Edelin Events, MV Escapes Concierge, R&B Entertainment, DJ Smooth B

Fitness, Dental, Misc.: MV Endodontics, Dr Karen Gear, DDS, Vineyard Training Center, Offshore Kinetics MV

Organizations: MV African American Heritage Trail, MV African American Film Festival —From BLM MV

Contacts



Men's Group meets **August 8, 9:30 am**. Contact Peter Meleney for location.



Women's Group meets on Zoom **Thursdays, August 13 and 27, 2:00-4:00 pm**. All are welcome. Contact Celeste for more information.



Sewcial Action Knitworkers have been busy, continuing to make quilts, knitted items and other comforts. Some items will be donated to Handmade from the Heart, Hospice of MV's December silent auction benefit.—Laura Beebe



Ageing to Sageing and Book Club are not meeting in August and will return to meetings in September. The Book Club will read *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard

For Pastoral Care please call Reverend Vicky Hanjian at 508-696-8225.

Worship services and meetings listed are by Zoom. The UUSMV Zoom ID# is 940 766 8736, password is 735531

You can join using this url: <https://zoom.us/j/9407668736?pwd=STN5bVZXd21neEpmalxTYW5ib0pWdz09>

Or call: 1-646-558-8656, and when prompted give this ID# including the pound sign at the end: 9407668736#, password 735531

Please contact Ed Merck for the Zoom information for Tuesday morning meditation and Island Insight Meditation for the Saturday morning meditation.

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 11:00 am: <i>Hearing the Voices of the Silenced</i> - Freedom Cartwright	3 10:30 am: N&LD Meeting	4 9:30 am: Meditation Circle	5	6	7	8 9:30 am: Men's Group Meeting
9 11:00 am: To Be Determined. Surprise Service!	10	11 9:30 am: Meditation Circle 3:45 pm: Parish Committee Meeting	12	13 2:00 pm: Zoom Women's Group Meeting	14	15
16 11:00 am: <i>Grasping at Straws</i> - Reverend Rob Hardies	17	18 9:30 am: Meditation Circle 3:00 pm: Carving Committee Meeting	19	20	21	22 10:00 am: Island Insight Meditation with Chas Di Capua
23 11:00 am: <i>Poetry, Community and the Holy</i> - Chris Nealon	24	25 9:30 am: Meditation Circle	26	27 2:00 pm: Zoom Women's Group	28	29
30 11:00 am: <i>Inside Out</i> - Reverend Catie Scudera	31					



We may be staying close to home and wearing masks, but we can still wish very merry birthdays to:

Sally Williams on August 2,
Freedom Cartwright on August 4,
Rita Brown who will be 70 on August 7,
Danielle Hopkins on August 10,
Donna McElroy and **Sue Streeter** on August 15,
And a very special birthday for **Leigh Smith** who will be 93 also on August 15,
and Blair Shick who turns 83 on August 29.

Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard

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