



Vineyard UU Voice

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

Volume 9, Issue 1

2022

Special points of interest:

This will be our last monthly Vineyard UU Voice.

We hope you will enjoy our new weekly newsletter:

Weekly Vineyard UU Voice

Look for the first edition on January 7, 2022

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Happy New Year!

Join us for the UUSMV Annual Meeting – Jan 23, 12:30 pm

The Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Society is **January 23 at 12:30 pm** on Zoom following the Sunday service. All are welcome, but if you are a voting member of the UUSMV, we urge you to stay or come for the meeting. We need to reach a quorum so we can vote on the slate of candidates for PC, Officers, Trustees, and Moderator and to pass the budget for 2022.



Two weeks before the Annual Meeting voting members will receive an email invitation to the Annual Meeting with the Ballot, the 2022 proposed budget, the slate of officers and elected leaders nominated for 2022, with biographies, and the Annual Report for 2021. If you cannot attend the Annual Meeting, please send in your ballot by **Thursday January 20**. (Those with no email access will be mailed all information except the Annual Report, which will be in the website in the members section).

Please join us to honor the volunteer work of members of our congregation.
- Rita Brown

The Monthly Newsletter is Changing to the Weekly Newsletter

We are hoping 2022 brings many positive changes and among these changes will be our move from a monthly and weekly communication to a weekly newsletter. The design and weekly content have not yet been determined, but rest assured we will include everything we communicate in the newsletter throughout the month. You will now find in the weekly email. Messages from your President, Minister, PC Notes, Care Coordinator updates, In Our CommUnity, UU meetings, Universal Justice and Community Action, birthdays and timely community news and announcements.

- Community members who only receive communication through the mail will now receive the weekly email in the mail.

We hope to bring you information in a more timely manner and we welcome your feedback. We hope you enjoy this change! Rita, Rob, Dorie and Ann



Worship services 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=STN5bVZXd2lnEpmUxTYW5ib0pWdz09> Or call: 1-646-558-8656, and when prompted give this ID# including the pound sign at the end 9407668736#, password 735531

Worship Services are at 11:00 am. All Worship Services take place on Zoom. The Zoom link is on the website: www.uusmv.org or follow the instructions on sidebar.

Jan 2: "Want What You Have" - Rev. Hardies

"This could be our revolution," writes Alice Walker, "to love what is plentiful as much as what is scarce." Rather than strive for more, how can we learn to live content with the many gifts we've already been given?

Rev. Rob Hardies is our part-time minister. He is a preacher, teacher and an experienced leader of retreats and pilgrimages. From 2001 to 2020, he was Senior Minister of All Souls Church, Unitarian in Washington, DC, a large, dynamic multiracial congregation. During his ministry at All Souls, Rob helped create organizations that advocated for marriage equality and for voting rights.

He lives in Washington with his husband and son.



Jan 9: 'Finding Our Deepest Intentions' - Rev. Vicky Hanjian

How do we find our deepest intentions, and what are some markers to let us know when we are being authentic with ourselves and in the wider world. Together, we will explore these life-giving matters of the spirit.

Reverend Vicky Hanjian, an Island resident for 26 years is ordained in the United Methodist Church. She has served as interim pastor for two of the Methodist churches on the Island and as chaplain and bereavement counselor for Hospice of Martha's Vineyard. She and her husband, Armen, enjoy a "double belonging" as active participants in the life of the First Congregational Church of West Tisbury and the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center. Reverend Vicky serves as our pastoral care minister.



Jan 16: A Talk with Sharon Brown

Sharon Brown is the Island Food Pantry Operations Manager. Sharon graduated from the College of New Rochelle with a degree in Guidance and Counseling, and has done counseling at non-profits in New York, Philadelphia, and Delaware, working with homeless men, young mothers, and chronically homeless seniors. After receiving her nutritional and health coaching certification, Sharon moved to Martha's Vineyard as the Vice President and Health and Wellness Coordinator of the Martha's Vineyard Vegan Society, and now lives here year-round with her young son.



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From Your Minister

A New Year of Self-Acceptance, Gratitude and Intention

Dear Friends,

Many of us begin the New Year by making resolutions—a list of changes we'd like to make in our lives, goals we'd like to accomplish, or things we'd like to do or acquire.

While a little bit of goal-setting never hurt anyone, I wonder if our

ambitious resolutions don't set us up for a spiritual fall. Instead of a to-do list, what if we began the year by finally accepting ourselves for who we are, and then moving forward from that place with intention and gratitude?

In the last sermon he ever preached before succumbing to cancer, my colleague the Rev. Dr. Forrest Church of All Souls Church in New York City shared with his congregation a simple mantra

that had sustained him through many ups and downs in life.

He preached: "Want what you have. Do what you can. Be who you are." In my first three sermons in 2022 we'll explore Rev. Church's simple but profound recipe for living with self-acceptance, intention and gratitude in the New Year.



January Caring Coordinator: Laura Beebe



Continued from page 2.

Jan 23 "Do What You Can" Rev. Hardies

We can sometimes be overwhelmed by the amount of work it will take to build a more just and equitable world. Don't be overwhelmed. Instead, begin where you are and do what you can. The longest journey begins with a single step.

Jan 30—A Talk with David and Saskia Vanderhoop,

This is the 1st in a series of 2 ser-vices.



David Vanderhoop, Aquinnah Wampanoag, was born and raised on the island of Noepe, currently known as Martha's Vineyard.

Born and raised in the Netherlands, Saskia grew up in a little village where she grew her affection for nature and small-scale community. David and Saskia founded Sassafras Earth Education in 2005 with a mission to deeply connect people to nature, self, and others. David is an Aquinnah Wampanoag elder, and programs are offered on his ancestral lands.

PC Notes



—Kristy Brooks, Secretary

Your Parish Committee met via

Zoom last month on December 8th. Here are some highlights.
 Lucinda Sheldon, Kristy Brooks, Karen Sankey, Jan Casey, Rita Brown and Celeste Stickney
 Not pictured: Maddie Maccaferi

Zoom last month on December 8th. Here are some highlights.

- We voted unanimously in favor of the 2022 Leadership Slate as presented by Dorie Godfrey on behalf of the Nominating Leadership Development Committee. The slate will be presented to the congregation for a vote at our Annual Meeting on January 23, 2022. Many thanks to those who volunteered for these positions!

- Reverend Rob was pleased to share that both Candlelight services were fully reserved at capacity. Thank you to the Worship Committee and all those members who worked tirelessly in planning an extraordinary event!

- Please be sure and check out the Friday Email Archive now on the UUSMV.org website and

let Rita or Reverend Rob know if you have any other ideas for our website.

- With the recent departure of key volunteers (Celeste and Norm, we're looking at you!), we are hoping to streamline Caring, Membership and Hospitality so that people can volunteer for smaller jobs without having to attend regular meetings. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

- In discussing the Minister Search, we agreed that we likely will need to cast a wider net in terms of advertising outside of UUA channels and consider looking at candidates who might not have UU affiliation at this time.

- The Worship Committee continues to plan for a soft open in the chapel in March after the new audio-visual system is installed.

- Jan Casey gave her Treasurer's report indicating we continue to be in solid financial shape with a year-to-date excess of \$39,559 in income over

expenses. There will be some year-end bills that she expects to come in during December which will be offset by several outstanding 2021 pledges she anticipates being received by year end.

- 67 households pledged for 2022 totaling roughly \$83,500. This is a decrease from 2021. There is still time to make your 2022 pledge! Contact Jan Casey.
- The PC approved the 2022 budget as presented by Fin-Com which included \$5044 shortfall and \$29,750 of one-time expenses that will be paid out of the 2021 excess. Please plan to vote at our Annual Meeting on January 23, 2022.

The next PC meeting:
Wednesday, January 12, 2:00-4:00 pm
 (*note time change).
If you plan to attend and/or have an agenda item to suggest, please contact Rita



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

How will UUSMV fight injustice in 2022?

Injustice did not take a holiday. It maintained its relentless pace. Challenging injustice takes work so please join us for a Zoom session on **Tuesday, January, 4, 5:00 – 6:00 pm** to plan how we will stand up for justice in 2022. The session will use the UUSMV Zoom and will last one hour.

We will identify areas we're excited about working on, discuss the question "Is there a groundswell of interest in one topic that could become a congregation-wide project?," and agree on next steps.

Fighting injustice takes everyone. Please join us.

Mimi Davisson for the Universal Justice Network

White Privilege and Discrimination - The Other Side of the Coin

What is racial discrimination and what is its impact? That is what we wrote last month was important to know before "we can begin to work on correction." In her book, "Waking Up White", Debby Irving wrote that white privilege and discrimination "are flip sides of the same coin." Many whites seem to have a hard time

thinking that they have been privileged or even that blacks have been and are still being discriminated against. We think we have to find a way to make the situation clearer and help whites change their thinking.

Allen G. Johnson in his book, "Privilege, Power, and Difference" lists many examples of race privilege from a white point of view. One example is that, "Whites are less likely than blacks to be arrested". Because this example doesn't emphasize the discrimination, we want to turn his examples around to the flip side, [the discrimination that blacks face \(as well as other minorities\).](#)

(To see the list of examples of discrimination that provides thoughts for examining white privilege go the UUSMV website –

<https://www.uusmv.org/vineyard-uu-voice-newsletter/white-privilege-and-discrimination/>

Peter Meleney & Char Owens

Contacts

Directory
Changes:

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President - Rita Brown, 508-221-8347

Vice President - Celeste Stickney, 508-627-1035

Secretary - Kristy Brooks, 415-606-6322

Treasurer - Jan Casey, 508-942-3643

Trustee Rep - Norman Stickney, 508-627-1035

Members-at-Large - Maddie Maccaferri, 508-246-7521

Lucinda Sheldon, 508-696-7863

Karen Sankey, 508-789-1490

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Finance Committee - Chair, Jan Casey, 508-942-3643; Mary Miller, 508-627-7053; Rich Peia, 202-567-1863; Kristy Brooks, 415-606-6322

Trustees

Norman Stickney, 508-627-1035; Michael Savoy, 617-335-3678; Russ Hartenstine, 774-836-0723

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Caring Coordinator:

Laura Beebe 508-693-3497

Committee on Ministries - Barb Caseau, 774-521-7621; Katharine Colon, 508-693-0790; Ann Hollister, 508-693-4183

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Membership Committee - Jenifer Parkinson, 508-524-1459, jponmv@gmail.com

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Ministerial Search Committee - Ann Hollister, holliann@verizon.net; Linda Moffat, lindac-moffat@gmail.com; Rita Brown, rabrown1950@comcast.net

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Protecting Democracy Team - Karen Sankey, 508-789-1490

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Stevens Chapel Legacy Society - Jack Street, 508-221-2963; Tad Crawford, 508-221-6307

Universal Justice and Community Action - Mimi Davisson, 508-696-1075

Women's Group - Celeste Stickney, cccrdh@aol.com, 508-627-1035; 65 20th Street South, Edgartown

Worship Committee - Jennifer Knight, 508-696-0459, 508-221-2615, Jennifer@mamasignite.com