



Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard

April 27, 2025

"Animal Blessing"

"Animals are such agreeable friends — they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms." — George Eliot

Ringing the Bell

Welcome and Community Connection

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie

Prelude

Jeremy Berlin

Opening Words and Chalice Lighting

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie

Reading From *Of Time and Turtles* by Sy Montgomery

Steve Engh

Remembrance of Animal Spirits compiled by Chris Seidel

Hymn #21 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Jeremy Berlin

Time for All Ages *God Got a Dog* by Cynthia Rylant

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie

Candles of Joy and Concern

Bill Bridwell

Prayer

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie

Hymn #123 (seated) *Spirit of Life*

Jeremy Berlin

Reading From *Dawn Light* by Diane Ackerman

Sue Streeter

Offering

Bill Bridwell

Offertory Music

Jeremy Berlin

Reading From *The Soul of an Octopus* by Sy Montgomery

Chris Seidel

Animal Blessing

Introduction

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie

Blessing of animal neighbors Congregation

Touch the animal on the head as the following blessing is spoken:

[Name of animal], may you live a long, happy, and blessed life — may there be food in your belly, a warm place to sleep and joy in your days.

Concluding Prayer

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie

Hymn #203 *All Creatures of the Earth & Sky* (verses 1-3)

Jeremy Berlin

Benediction (Stand and hold hands)

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie

Thank you to our volunteers Bill Bridwell, Doris Troy and Sue Streeter for service support, Liz Loucks for flowers/visual arts and Sue Streeter for providing refreshments.

Worship Committee (WC)

The members of the Worship Committee (WC) are always open to hearing your thoughts, concerns, and ideas for the congregation. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the following committee members:

Sheila Hanley: sheilahanley4@gmail.com,

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie: maryjaneam@gmail.com,

Liz Loucks: botanicliz@gmail.com,

Linda Moffat: lindacmoffat@gmail.com,

Bill Bridwell: sbilbo92@yahoo.com

They look forward to hearing from you and working together to strengthen our community!

Pastoral Coverage and Care

Rev. Vicki Hanjian will provide pastoral care. She can be reached at 508-696-8225 or av.hanjian@verizon.net

Need Someone to Listen?

In addition to pastoral care being available from Rev. Vicky, your Lay Ministers (Bill Bridwell, Jan Casey, Kevin Longval) are available to lend support to anyone in our USMV community in their time of need by being available to listen and offer comfort.

You can reach them individually by calling: Jan Casey (508-942-3643),

Bill Bridwell (774-563-8542), Kevin Longval (781-249-4712) or reach out to

uu.society.mv@gmail.com

Scan this code to make a secure donation to UUSMV. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Upcoming events

Thursday, May 1, 5-6 pm: Universal Justice Meeting (Zoom)

Friday, May 2, 10 am: Let's Have A Visit (Zoom)

Friday, May 2, 2 pm: Sewcial Action Knitwork (meet at the home of Katherine Colon)

Saturday, May 3, 3:30 pm: Spiritual book club on Zoom (details below)

Saturday, May 10, 2 pm: Memorial Service for Jim Thomas

Monday, May 12, 3-5 pm: Parish Committee - meet at the Chapel.

Saturday, May 17: Celebration of Life for Doreen Kinsman

Wednesday, May 21 at 5 pm: Membership/Hospitality Committee (Zoom)

Saturday, June 14, 3 - 6 pm: Pride on Island - Pride Parade, Oak Bluffs

Saturday, June 28, 11 am: Memorial Service for Clara Kennedy

