

Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard

August 9, 2026

"It Takes Courage To Be Crocus Minded"

with

Rev. Dr. Kristen Harper

Crocuses are one of the first flowers that bloom in the spring. They are small, but colorful and strong, courageously breaking through hard, frozen ground and snow to bloom. There is a lessons they are trying to give us about how we live our lives and how to live out our values in the world.

Ring the Bell

Welcome and Community Connection

Bill Bridwell

Opening Words "With Dirt on Our Hands" by Rev. Dr. David Breeden

Prelude

Peter Haleprin

Chalice Lighting "Thirsty" by Gregory Pelley

Zach Gitlin

Hymn #163 "For the Earth Forever Turning"

Peter Haleprin

Candles of Joy and Concern

Bill Bridwell

Hymn #123 "Spirit of Life"

Peter Haleprin

Prayer

Rev. Dr. Kristen L. Harper

Offering

Reading "The Crocus Prayer" by the Rev. Kim Crawford Harvey

Meditation Music "Dream On"

Peter Haleprin

Sermon "It Takes Courage to be Crocus Minded"

Rev. Dr. Kristen L. Harper

Closing Hymn #121 "We'll Build a Land"

Benediction/Blessing

Rev. Dr. Kristen L. Harper

Postlude

Peter Haleprin

Thank you to Men's Alliance for service support, refreshments and flowers for today's service.

The Rev. Dr. Kristen L. Harper has served as the minister of the Unitarian Church of Barnstable, Unitarian Universalist, for 24 years. She was only the second woman of African descent to be called through the settlement process to a UU congregation and the longest serving woman of color in our Association's history. Rev. Harper received her graduate degree from Meadville/Lombard Theological School and served churches in Chicago, Lansing, MI, New York, New York, and Ormond Beach, FL prior to being called to Cape Cod. She lives in Marstons Mills with her puppy Levi and cat Advent.

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 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

As the plate comes around, if you're new with us today, please feel free to let it pass. Your being here — showing up, joining us — is gift enough.

If you would like to donate securely online, please scan this QR code.



Save the Date

Tuesday, August 11, 5 p.m.: Vineyard Sound at Stevens Chapel (Last Event this Season)

Wednesday, August 12, 3 p.m.: Membership and Hospitality Meeting at Stevens Chapel

Thursday, August 13, 4:30 p.m.: Post Card Party at Stevens Chapel

Saturday, August 15, 10 a.m.: Island Insight Meditation, all are welcome!

Sunday, September 13, after service: Member meeting

Monday, September 14, 3 p.m.: Parish Committee, Stevens Chapel



BLACK LIVES MATTER