

Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard

September 27, 2026

"Shifting the Weight:

A Moment of Balance as the Seasons Turn"

with CUUPS MV

"And, and, and...you put the load right on me." — Robbie Robertson

Ring the Bell

Welcome and Community Connections

Norah Van Riper

Prelude

Peter Halperin

Opening Words by Sarah Gettie McNeill

Norah Van Riper

Hymn #134 "Our World Is One World"

Peter Halperin

Lighting the Chalice & Invoking Spirit

Samantha Greene

Responsive Reading #540 "The Peace of Autumn"

Candles of Joy and Concern

Norah Van Riper

Hymn #123 "Spirit of Life"

Offering

Norah Van Riper

Message & Ritual "Shifting the Weight"

Samantha Greene & Norah Van Riper

Benediction "The Weight"

Aretha Franklin

The Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) is an organization dedicated to networking Pagan-identified Unitarian Universalists (UUs), educating people about Paganism, promoting interfaith dialogue, developing Pagan liturgies and theologies, and supporting Pagan-identified UU religious professionals. On the Island, we are slowly rebuilding an active chapter for local pagans to find community and companionship under the CUUPS MV umbrella.

Thank you to Mary Carmel, Doris Troy and Karen Sankey for service support, Linda Moffat for refreshments and Jan Pogue flowers for today's service. Barb Cushman is our bell ringer.

Assisted listening devices are available during our services. Please ask if you need one!

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.



New Member Class & Welcoming Ceremony

The Membership and Hospitality Committee is offering a two-hour class on Tuesday, **September 29 (3:30–5:30 PM)** in the Chapel for anyone considering membership or wanting to learn more about UUSMV and Unitarian Universalism. The class, led by longtime UUs Mimi Davisson and Rita Brown, is a prerequisite for joining the church; after completing it, prospective members simply sign the membership book.

A Welcoming Ceremony for new members will be held at the end of the Sunday service on October 11, followed by a lunch hosted by the committee and Joni Merry.

Anyone planning to attend the class (who hasn't already) should contact Karen Sankey as soon as possible — by call/text at 508-789-1490 or email at kfsankey@gmail.com.

Save the Date

Tuesday, September 29, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.: New to UU Meeting, Stevens Chapel

Tuesday, October 6, 4:30 p.m.: Worship Committee (Zoom)

Sunday, October 11: New Member Welcome Ceremony

Monday, October 12, 3 p.m.: Parish Committee, Stevens Chapel

Sunday, October 25, after the service: UUSMV History Book Launch

Sunday, November 8, after service: Town Meeting to discuss the proposed 2027 budget

Sunday, December 13: Candlelight Service

