

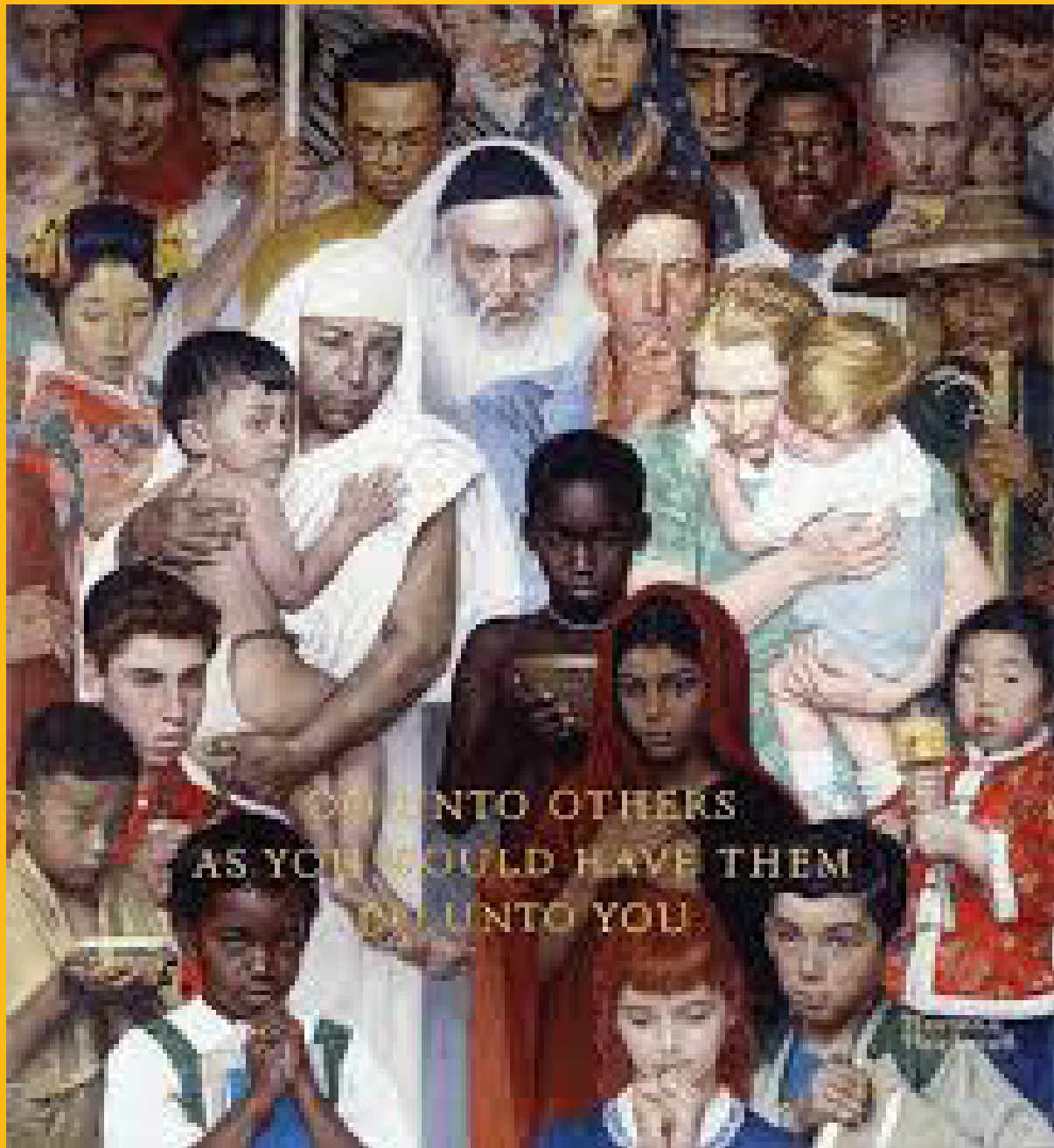
UUMH Newsletter

September 2022



“The members of the UU Meeting House hold sacred each individual’s spiritual and ethical development. We welcome all and seek unity in diversity. We commit ourselves in service to the wellbeing of the congregation and to all of life.”

~Mission Statement of the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House of Provincetown



Norman Rockwell

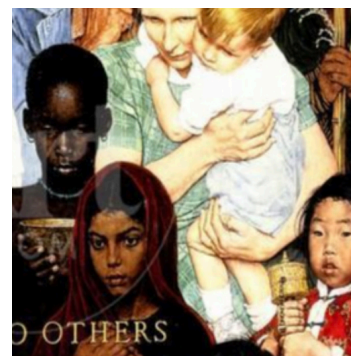
There are only a few phrases that are so familiar to just about all of us in our culture that we recognize them by the first couple of words...sort of a name that tune championship challenge. Here are a few examples:

“Thou shalt...” As soon as we hear those two words most of us know we are listening to the Ten Commandments.

“Mind over. . .” and you’ll say, “matter,” right?

I’m sure you can come up with more.

I’m directing our attention this month to: *“Do unto” . . .*



The whole phrase, which our culture calls the Golden Rule, is actually from Matthew’s Gospel, 7:14. There are other translations that begin slightly differently, but the “Do unto” version has really impressed itself into our minds. We hear those words and we don’t need the rest of the sentence. You would think, then, if this is so embedded into us and is so deeply spiritual and philosophical--surely we are living it to the fullest! hmmm.....

This same “rule” (and the irony of not always following it) can be found in other cultures from around the world. We find virtually the same profound idea in the sacred texts of various religions and spiritual practices: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, Confucianism, Taoism, et cetera...as you’ll hear about in Rev. Kate’s monthly letter in the pages to follow. Wide and deep is the simple thought: “do unto others as you would have others do unto you.” Worldwide and soul deep.

So, why don’t we? Why don’t we do unto others as we would have others do unto us? Is it hard to keep in mind? Do we despair of our own goodness so we think the worst of others? Have we lost hope? Do we relish vengeance, mistaking it for justice?

Also, there are some philosophical problems with the construction of the idea--it doesn’t always produce a positive result, in that, for example, if a sociopath were to live according to the Golden Rule, havoc and destruction would be the consequence all around.

But for our thinking time now, let’s say in the main, the Golden Rule is a helpful guideline. Let’s think more about it this issue.

Worship Worship Worship
Worship Worship Worship
Worship Worship Worship September



We are Live
and
On-line
Sundays
11 am

The more you give,
the more you get.
The more you laugh,
the less you fret.
The more you do unselfishly,
the more you live abundantly.
The more of everything you share,
the more you'll always have to spare.
The more you love,
the more you'll find
that life is good
and friends are kind.
For only what we give away
enriches us from day to day.
(Author Unknown)

We will be live-streaming via YouTube.

join in at 11 am

www.uumh.org

Click on Sermons

A note from Rev. Kate

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A note from Rev. Kate



The Golden Rule and the Platinum Rule

For years we had a poster up in Acker Bosworth Hall that depicted the Golden Rule as it is represented in religious traditions from all over the world.

We've since taken down almost all of our posters (paper + humidity = mold in a post-flood building!), but I remember that one and I was able to find this picture of it online.

How amazing that so many traditions would center this one important idea.

Islam: "None of you believes until he wishes for his brother what he wishes for himself."
 (An-Nawawi's Forty Hadith 13)

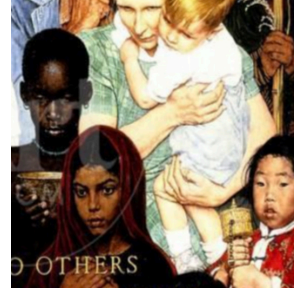
Christianity: "Do to others what you want them to do to you." (Matthew 7:21)

Judaism: "That which is hateful to you, do not do to your fellow. That is the whole Torah; the rest is commentary."
 (Talmud, Shabbat 31a)

Buddhism: "Do not hurt others in ways you yourself would find hurtful."
 (Udanavarga 5:18)

Hinduism: "This is the sum of duty: do nothing to others that would cause you pain if done to you."
 (Mahabharata 5:117)





I remember in one of my early anti-racism trainings learning the difference between the golden rule and the platinum rule! The golden rule is to do unto others what you would have them do unto you. But the platinum rule is to do unto others what they would have you do unto them. Meaning that we all have different needs, hopes, and expectations of how we would like to be treated. And to truly respect another, you need to follow their lead and not assume that their needs are the same as yours.

For instance, as a cisgendered woman (the gender I was assigned at birth matches the gender I feel inside now) I don't feel more comfortable in social situations when people introduce themselves using their preferred pronouns, but some of my transgender friends do. So it's important to honor that request, and sometimes even offer our pronouns without the request having to be made.

In middle and upper class white communities, especially in the North, it's common for adults to use their first names only when interacting with children. When I worked at the UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury, our predominantly white volunteers from the suburbs balked at our request for them to use their last names or titles with the students. They wanted their nametags to say "Susan" or "Todd," instead of "Miss Susan" or "Mr. Smith." But in Roxbury, that was an understood means of expressing respect for your elders, and it was a custom of the neighborhood that we wanted to honor.

Upgrading to the platinum rule has been an important learning on my own religious journey, and although I need to be reminded sometimes, it's a rule that I hold in a place of honor. So, please, if there is a way you would like to be treated that I haven't anticipated or understood, let's have a conversation about it! Having these important conversations is one way we can honor each other in community.

Rev. Kate

Racial Justice Provincetown is one of the sponsors of this institute.

Several UUMH members are planning to attend. If you would like more information please contact Rev. Kate.

#WPSCapeCod

OCTOBER 28 - 29, 2022



MONIQUE CLARK



DEBBY IRVING



EDDIE MOORE JR

Critical Discussions On:

- 👤 Privilege
- 👤 Education
- 👤 Social Justice
- 👤 (dis)Ability
- 👤 Other Forms of Oppression & Moore



RACE: Our Hidden History
Reflect. Act. Commit. Educate.

Register Now!

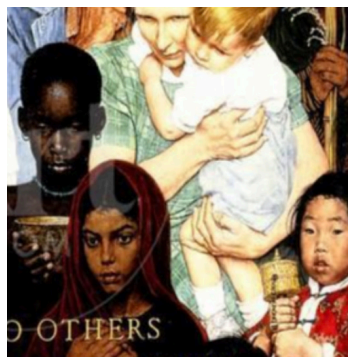


Barnstable High School
744 West Main Street
Hyannis, MA 02601



www.theprivilegeinstitute.com

“Compassion... asks us to look into our own hearts, discover what gives us pain, and then refuse, under any circumstance whatsoever, to inflict that pain on anybody else.”
Karen Armstrong



From the Board

From the Board

From the Board

As the vice president of the UU Meeting House Board, I am privy to the inner working of the UU. I continue to be surprised by the multitude of different things that go into making the UU work. Many people see just the Sunday services, which are always amazing, moving and inspiring. Thank you our one and only Rev. Kate and the Worship Committee.

The behind the scenes work is considerable. There is the building and all its varied needs. There are the grounds upon which it all happens, which, of course, require tending. There are the finances and expenses, which are complicated and demanding of time and energy. There are the different committees, who oversee much of what goes on.

Thankfully there are lots of people behind the scenes, doing what needs to be done. Thank you to our staff and volunteers.

Then add Covid to the mix! I think of all the ways we have had to stretch and bend to come up with new ways to continue in the face of Covid.

I want to mention 2 people who were so important in making this work, Will Hildreth and Ryan Cook. We could not have done it without their technological expertise and their willingness to put their time and energy into offering online and, then, live streaming services. Thank you guys! You are angels.

And thank you to everyone who participates in keeping this grand offering going!
What a privilege it is to be a part of this community.

Jen Shannon



The UUMH of Provincetown is a part of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). One of the service organizations within the UUA is the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Our newsletter will be highlighting what the UUSC does on this page every month. The work of the UUSC is vital. Their scope is international. It is important that we know what is being done in our name around the world to bring food, shelter, aid of all kinds to those in direst need. It is important, too, for us to remember that the UUSC needs us to help them to do this work.

“UUSC advances human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies. Our work is grounded in the belief that all people have inherent power and dignity.”

HISTORY

When Unitarian minister Rev. Waitstill Sharp and his wife Martha set sail from the United States in February 1939 to help refugees escape Nazi persecution, they put in motion UUSC’s more than 75-year legacy of advocating for human rights and social justice alongside the most oppressed, exploited, and vulnerable members of our human family.

Just weeks after their arrival in Czechoslovakia, the couple watched Hitler’s troops march into Prague. They were shadowed by Gestapo agents. Their offices were ransacked, and they had to burn files to protect refugees’ identities. The young couple narrowly escaped arrest by returning home in August.

Inspired by Rev. Waitstill and Martha Sharp’s courageous mission, the Unitarian Services Committee, the precursor to UUSC, was established in 1940 to continue and formalize humanitarian service. For more than 80 years, UUSC has maintained a steadfast presence on the frontlines of social justice movements around the globe. Although we continue to innovate in response to the rapidly changing landscape of human rights advocacy, our core values and vision of a world free from injustice where all can realize their full human rights remain foundational.

JOIN RACIAL JUSTICE PROVINCETOWN FOR

A SILENT VIGIL FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE



**THE FIRST
SATURDAY**
OF EVERY MONTH

**FROM NOON
UNTIL 1PM**
AT TOWN HALL ON
COMMERCIAL STREET

**WEAR A MASK AND MAINTAIN
SOCIAL DISTANCING OF 6 FEET**

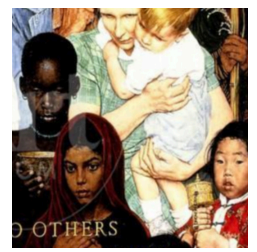
[FACEBOOK.COM/PROVINCETOWNRACIALJUSTICEPROJECT](https://www.facebook.com/provincetownracialjusticeproject)



“The people who give you their food give you their heart.” Cesar Chavez

Remember our Little Free Pantry. People are depending on our contributions as prices climb.

Poet's Corner



O Goddess of womb and word and wisdom,
We would nurture others
As you nurture us
But our waters run cold, or,
Dry.
Our courage fails and
Our belief in our own goodness crumbles
So we do not love ourselves
Let alone each other.
Help us remember ourselves floating
Inside You
Your breath our breath
Help us remember You floating
Inside Us
Our breath Your breath
Help us remember--You Who never forget--
That we may come to help ourselves,
And others,
Love themselves
As You love us all.

Poet's Corner

“Close to Home”



Come to a party to celebrate
housing resourcefulness on the
Outer Cape!

Hosted by

Silent Auction
Cash Bar

Highland Affordable Housing
at the beautiful **Truro Vineyards**

September 13, 2022 at 5:30 pm

Free Admission includes:

Robust Hors d'oeuvres and Music



Highland Affordable Housing
will confer the 2021-22

**Caroline Herron Award:
Michelle Jarusiewicz**

Proceeds from the event will be
matched by
Highland Affordable Housing and
donated to the
**Homeless Prevention Council
of Orleans**

RSVP:

www.highlandaffordablehousing.org

or

khenry15@comcast.net

or scan SR code

by September 9, 2022



“Close to Home”



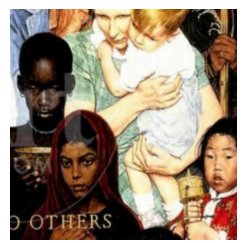
⇒ FYI:

Several of our UUMH members are on the Board or volunteer for Highland Affordable Housing of Truro:

Char Priolo
Will Hildreth
Kathleen Henry
Kat Black
Chris Vasquez
Mary Abt
Jane Lea

Several artists who are UUMH members have donated work to the event's Silent Auction, including Ellen Anthony, Lorraine Kujawa, and Jane Bunker

This event is free and open to the public.
Join us for FUNraising!



- We are saddened about the passing of our long-time member, Allen Gallant. He was an integral part of our community at some very hard times. Not to mention that he stood on our roof with a garden hose keeping the Meetinghouse safe during the great Whaler's Wharf fire.
- Dianne Kopser and Bruce de Ste Croix both had pesky dental work done and they can call it DONE!
- Speaking of Bruce de Ste Croix, he welcomes Axel, his new dog to his home. We celebrate for you, Bruce!
- We continue to hold Len Bowen in our hearts.
- We are thinking of Dave Hawver and Deb Felix AND Kate Wallace Rogers as they navigate the tricky parts of parenthood. We are here to hold you up whenever you need us!
- Great to see Anne Daignault among us!
- We will miss Moses Kafka desperately when he moves. What a kind and generous man!
- Missing Nancy Yeaw and hoping she is well.

Every month, it seems, we have a page commemorating yet another life lost or tragically wounded because of systemic racism. If we fight the good fight together, if we make “good trouble,” we can change the world.



Ohio Police Officer Fatally Shoots Black Man in Bed, Body Camera Shows

By Marina Lopes and Brittany Shammass

Updated September 1, 2022 [Excerpts from article]

“Ohio police released body-cam footage Wednesday of an officer fatally shooting an unarmed Black man in his bed. Twenty-year-old Donovan Lewis was shot around 2 a.m. Tuesday by a police officer who was trying to serve an arrest warrant for him, the Columbus Dispatch reported. The video shows an officer pushing open a bedroom door and shooting Lewis as he sits up in bed. Lewis was unarmed and was found next to what appeared to be a vape pen.”

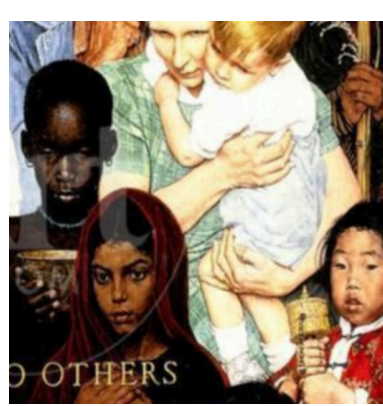
“A news release from the police department identified the officer who shot Lewis as Ricky Anderson, who has been on the force for 30 years and is assigned to the canine unit.”

“In the video, officers knock on the apartment door multiple times and identify themselves before two men come out and are handcuffed. Police then stand at the doorway with guns pointed and loudly announce that they will send in a dog.”

“‘Columbus police. If you are inside, make yourself known,’ one officer says. Off camera, a man can be heard saying, ‘They are sleeping.’ The officer repeats: ‘Come on out. Come out now.’”

“One officer then follows a police dog to Lewis’s room and opens the door. Immediately after a light illuminates Lewis propping himself on his mattress, Anderson fires. As Lewis writhes and moans in the bed, he is told to ‘crawl’ out of the room and to stop resisting arrest. He was handcuffed on the bed and died in a hospital shortly after.”

“The killing is the latest example of an unarmed Black American being shot by police. Black Americans are 2.5 times more likely to be killed by police than White Americans, according to a 2019 study by Northwestern University. Numbers are even starker in Ohio, where Black people are 4.5 times more likely to be killed by police than White people.”



ON THE HOOK



Handpainted Cards

By Daniel

Daniel LePage, age 14, is an emerging young artist. He has been painting since the young age of 6. He has been mentored by A. Paul Filiberto, Brenda Silva and Rob Longley, three of Provincetown's well-known artists.

Daniel is a member of the Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM) where his work has been selected for juried and member shows. At age 10, Daniel's painting "Blue Day" was chosen to be used as the poster for the Outer Cape Choral's concert, "Sea Sand & Song."

A 6th generation Cape Cod native, Daniel was the youngest member on the event's panel to explain his connection to Cape Cod and its influence on his art.

Daniel's work has been collected across the United States and Canada. His oil paintings of Capescapes have been commissioned by collectors nationally.

Daniel is an avid fisherman, and cartoonist.

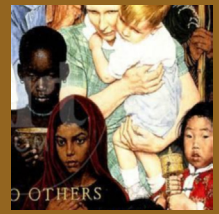
For more information call-
774.286.1291

YELLOW
PERCH



Daniel

Getting to Know You



My hobby for years has been tracking coyotes in the wild. I have 10 brothers and sisters- all younger.

Loretta Butehorn



Did she say COYOTES?

Did she say 10 Brothers and Sisters??



From the Editor

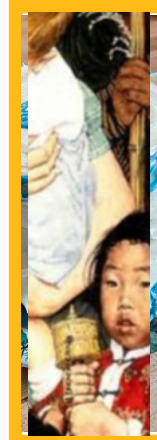


Take a step, or, two. . .



"Summer will soon sleep as autumn finds her footing."

words and photo Marty Cowden



Back Page
The
Meetinghouse News

Kathleen Henry, Editor

Submissions are welcomed
and encouraged!
Please submit written work,
announcements,
and artwork,
by the 20th
of the month
to

meetinghousenews@gmail.com