



Volume 20 | Issue 8 April 2019 Unitarian Universalist Congregational Society of Westborough

April Worship Schedule

SUNDAY APRIL 7, 10:30 AM

The Reverend Cynthia A. Frado, Minister Emerita

Finding Hope and Healing in the Broken Places

Throughout our individual lives and our community life, there are moments that inevitably “bring us to our knees.” For good, bad, or indifferent our familiar world implodes and we are left with a panoply of emotions, changes, challenges, and concerns. In all instances there is a time to grieve, but at some point, there is also a time to pick-up-the-broken-pieces, find our strength and purpose and hope, again, and create something new with our lives and community. It is in such moments that we rediscover the vital essence that was there all the time, and that calls us to push through the pain, sorrow, and disillusionment. Fear and giving-up are not options that lead to growth and renewal. Please join us this morning as we welcome this new season of infinite possibilities. All hail, glorious Spring!

SUNDAY APRIL 14, 10:30 AM

Program Sunday – Andy Koenigsberg

Lessons from the Worst of Times

As we approach Earth Day, it is appropriate to look at what the Earth teaches us about itself, life, and our place on it, from the perspective of a concept called “Deep Time”.

SUNDAY APRIL 21, 10:30 AM

Program Sunday – Kathie Metzger

Easter Flower Communion Family Service

Join us for this special service when we celebrate Easter and spring with a Flower Communion. Please bring one or more flowers of your choice for our communal vase. At the close of the service, every family will be asked to choose a few flowers to take with them.

SUNDAY APRIL 28, 10:30 AM

Program Sunday - Cassie Lengel and Jerry Breecher

Morality, Right and Wrong

As Unitarian Universalists, we believe morality is not merely a set of rules. We learn about right and wrong from many different sources; our sophistication increases as we get older. How our kids learn about morality matters to us and to our society. We will look at ways our kids learn about right and wrong, and explore how we as adults address questions of morality and justice.

Children and Youth Religious Education Program

Battling Horcruxes!

This year our 5th/6th grade RE class is participating in the program Harry and the UU, which explores the injustices in the world today through the lens of JK Rowling's Harry Potter book series. **For the months of March and April our final Horcrux will be the Environmental Horcrux.**

EASTER EGG HUNT!

All our youth are welcome to join us on April 14th – the week BEFORE Easter, for a special day of fun! There will be eggs full of goodies to find and some treats for snack time! (Guests are always welcome to join us, but should let us know about any food allergies upon arrival). And for those of our older youth who want more than helping to make our younger kids happy, may I interest you in our special eggs that have cash in them! Come everyone and enjoy!

Multigenerational Ethics Service!

I would like to cordially invite our RE families for a special Multigenerational service on April 28th. This service is about ethics/morality and how we teach our kids about the big questions. We would love to have your kids there so they can help me talk about all the wonderful things UUCSW is already doing and what we want more of!

Sunday Morning Programming for March:

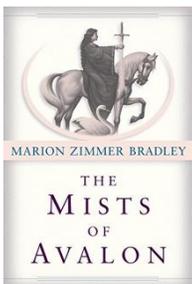
April 7 - We will be having normal RE classes and the youth will begin in the Sanctuary.

April 14 - Come one, come all to our EASTER EGG HUNT! We will begin in the chapel for a brief discussion then move into a Group RE time for an Easter egg hunt and Easter goodies!

April 21 - Happy Easter! Please come and enjoy our Multigenerational Flower Communion Service!

April 28 - Come join us for a tantalizing Multigenerational discussion about ethics and how we teach our youth!

Book Group – April 12th



For **APRIL**, we are reading *The Mists of Avalon: A Novel* by Marion Zimmer Bradley. Please join us. The group is open to all. We usually meet in members' homes and enjoy small groups of seven to ten people. We enjoy some light refreshments, lively discussion, and wonderful company. You are welcome to attend.

If you are planning to attend for the first time, please email: Juditheacake@gmail.com.

UUCSW's at Lunch, Wednesday, April 10th



We will welcome Spring Wednesday, April 10th at 11:30 at the Olde Post Office Pub in North Grafton. Take Route 30 to 140, turn left on 140 and left again on Ray Street.

If you plan to meet with us, please let Mary Tribe (508-329-1646 or email: marytribe5@gmail.com) know by Sunday, April 7th, so she can make reservations.

Buddhist Group

The UUCSW Buddhist Group has begun. We discuss and practice meditation. We read and discuss Buddhist ideas. Meetings in April are Sunday, April 7 and one other date to be determined, 1:30 PM in the Chapel. For questions, contact Erin Gold (kentuckybluerose@gmail.com) or Carol Palmer (cgpl1fe@yahoo.com).



Friday Fun Night



Join fellow UUCSW friends each month for Friday fun night. Stop by the chapel on the last Friday of each month at 6:30 pm to meet up with friends and decompress after a busy week. Bring a game, food and/or beverage to share, and join us for the fun.

UUCSW Knits

Do you enjoy any type of needle or yarn craft? Then bring your WIP (Work in Progress) to sit and gab with other crafters while you make some progress! We provide a zero-pressure setting, and we have a great time. We welcome all skill levels. Join us in the parlor on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 6:30 pm.



Welcome Back Spring Potluck Brunch

Join us for a potluck brunch in place of coffee hour on April 7th. We look forward to welcoming back the promise of Spring and old and new friends. Please sign up at the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084BAFAE2DA6FC1-welcome>

Coffee Hour Updates & Information

I want to thank everyone who has helped with coffee hour and flowers/arrangements for the altar so far this year! It has been great to have the coverage for “coffee and conversation” after our services. The addition of the arrangements has enhanced beauty to our sanctuary!



- If you haven't signed up to date to host and support the coffee set up and/or provide goodies, we still have many opportunities to do so between April and June to finish out the year! (It can be done all in one Sunday **or partnered with someone else.**)
 - ❖ PLEASE take some time to sign up for open dates either on “Signup Genius” or on the board in the chapel.
 - ❖ Note: *If no one signs up for goodies on a particular Sunday; Only coffee and tea will be provided for that Sunday.*

This year the K.I.S.S. (Keep It Simple & Streamlined) rule has been followed! We have some fabulous bakers, but not all feel that comfortable with this task, or have the time to prep for it.

- For “goodies”- A “**Rule of 2- 3” (MAX)** is what should be applied when hosting. *Lighter is better...!* The idea is something people can have with their coffee or tea- not lunch. Some suggestions-
 - A possible sweet – *store bought cookies are perfectly acceptable.*
 - One cut up veggie OR fruit – *dip optional*
 - One cut up cheese with crackers
- For “coffee/drinks”- (UUCSW provides the coffee and teas required to be set up).
 - a pint of ½ & ½
 - 1 qt milk (2% or whole)
 - One Non- sugar juice
- ❖ Arrangements to the altar will also be welcome too! ☺

Please contact me if you have any questions at janetlpb@gmail.com or 508-494-4250.

Thank you again for your help and support this year!

Janet Purney-Balabanis

Ministerial Search Committee Update

Hello All – We wanted to keep everyone updated about what’s happening on the search committee to keep you abreast of where things are in the process and what we are working on.

Here are some of the tasks we have been working on thus far:

- Compiling and reviewing the data collected at the BRAINSTORMING SESSION with members of the congregation on January 27th which was focused on: Prioritizing essential duties by responsible party.
- Creating/Sending/Compiling results from: the MEMBER SURVEY of the congregation and beginning to review collected data. Meeting with congregation on 3/31 to discuss results.
- Gaining access to the UUA MINISTERIAL SEARCH SITE, collecting/compiling documents and data needed to post on site, reviewing UUA guidelines, recommendations and suggestions for conducting search process. Working on job description.
- UUCSW WEBSITE reviewing information on current UUCSW site – making sure information is correct and up to date.
- DEVELOPING TIMELINE in coordination with the UUA. We are working on a timeline and developing a schedule with associated interim deadlines to work through the varied responsibilities, tasks and benchmarks to have a new minister in place by August, 2019.
- MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! Sunday, March 31st following coffee hour. Search Committee Conversation with Congregation about member survey and vision for UUCSW.

We appreciate your thoughts and feedback and will keep you in the loop, so please look for updates in the Order of Service, Weekly Email Update and in the Vista.

The UUCSW Search Committee

Lisa Borchetta, leesabee@verizon.net

Bruce Hall, bruce300@gmail.com

Juliana Spofford, julianas@charter.net

Trustee Tidings

Named after Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty, April is a month of beginnings here in the Northeast. Soon the snow will be gone (or should be), flowers and buds breaking out, a baseball here, a tennis racket there and yes, even a lawn mower or two (or many).

So, what's April bringing for us? There is a lot happening.

Most importantly, the Board of Trustees wants to know what you are thinking, what's important to you and what questions and ideas you have for the future. We will be holding three listening sessions on Sundays, in the parlor during coffee hour: March 31st, April 14th and April 28th. Come bring with you a basket full of ideas.

In April we will complete our annual canvass in preparation for creating our budget for the next fiscal year. More information on the canvass is located elsewhere in this issue.

On April 7th, we hope to see all of you at a potluck brunch in place of coffee hour. This will be a great time to welcome back Spring and, perhaps, folks who haven't been able to make it to church in a while.

Several members have come forward with ideas and have volunteered to help coordinate services for April. Thanks to all! See the list of April services elsewhere in this Vista.

April is also a month with service opportunities. We will have our monthly meal packaging event on Sunday, April 7th (the same day as our brunch potluck). A very popular event where people of all ages can work elbow to elbow and get to know each other better.

UUMass Action is holding its 14th Annual UU Lobby Day on Tuesday April 9th beginning at the UU Arlington St Church then moving to the State House. It's a great event with typically over one hundred and fifty other UUs to talk to and with whom we can take action. We hope you can make time to do this if you possibly can. <https://www.uumassaction.org/new-events/2019/4/9/uu-advocacy-day>

Annual Canvass Message

Dear Members and Friends,

In March we marked the beginning of Spring as well as the beginning of our Annual Stewardship Campaign, also known as the Annual Canvass. UUCSW is a vibrant community which depends on all of us. To continue to flourish as a Congregation, we count on stewardship. What do we mean by stewardship? Taking care of something we value, the UUCSW, and enabling it to grow. When we become stewards, we take responsibility and contribute our time, talent and treasure.

UUCSW is self-governing and self-supporting. We are financially independent and are entirely reliant on our annual pledges, proceeds from fundraisers, rental income, and returns from our endowment fund to pay our staff and operate our buildings and programs. It takes significant financial resources to support what we cherish about this congregation.

How important is it to you and your family that UUCSW is still thriving next year, 5, 10 or 50 years from now? In order to do so, we must continue to invest in our staff and our building. We have passed deficit budgets for the last four years which drives a behavior of scarcity, not investing where we should be for fear of lack of funds and spending our limited human resources driving additional fundraisers. Let's move out of that behavior into an attitude of abundance. Together we can raise the funds to support UUCSW as it should be.

How much is that? This year, our canvass goal is \$106K. This target supports a planned expense growth of 3% to cover utility, programs, and cost of living increases. Our canvass goal represents a 3% increase over last year's pledges (\$103K). Our planning goal going into FY19-20 is to present a balanced budget offering competitive salaries to our new part-time minister and continuing staff. We have made good progress this past year in increasing our rental income and maintaining our operating expenses.

We ask you to consider what you could do to increase your pledge by 3% or more this year. Last year's average pledge was \$1700. A 3% increase would be \$51 per year, less than \$1 per week!

If you haven't pledged in the past but regularly put cash in the collection plate, please consider making a formal pledge this year and using the cash envelopes in the sanctuary to get credit for your donation.

Take time to consider what the Unitarian Universalist Congregational Society of Westborough means to you and the people and community it serves. Every bit helps to get us to our goal!

You may pledge using a standard pledge form (return in person or to Box 544 Westborough, MA 01581) or by using Realm (instructions will be posted this week via email). If you would like to receive a pledge form by mail, please contact Lisa Shumway at 508-243-9211 or LSS0907@gmail.com.

We are so grateful for your continued support of the UUCSW community. Please help us reach our 2019 stewardship goals so we can flourish together!

Thank you,

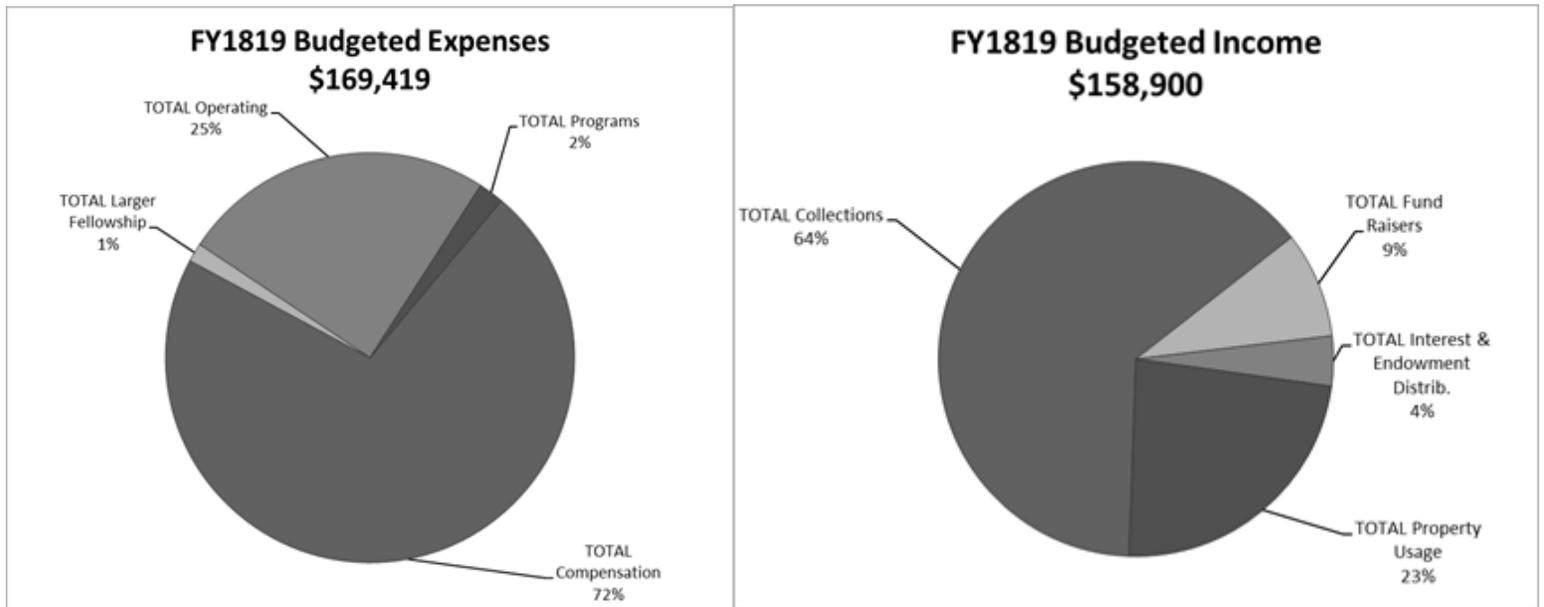
The Canvass Committee, 2019 - 2020

Lisa Shumway and Sharon Barrett

What does it cost to run UUCSW?

In 2018-2019 it will cost approximately \$170,000 to run the church - including building operations and staff salaries. This is equivalent to \$1,500 per adult member (based 113 members) or \$3300 per week.

We have 42 children, junior and senior youth enrolled in RE. We spend over \$500 annually per child offering our well regarded RE classes, activities and events.



Canvass Pledge Online

Now that the Annual Canvass is underway, it is easy to submit your pledge online.

Here is the link to sign in to Realm on your computer: <https://onrealm.org/UUCSW/SignIn>

To make a pledge

1. Sign into your site.
2. Click Giving on the main menu.
3. Click + Pledge, enter your pledge information, and save.

If you are using Realm Connect on your mobile device.

1. Click on the **Realm Connect** App
2. Click **Giving** on the menu at bottom of screen.
3. Click **Pledges** at top of screen.
4. Click **Make a pledge**, enter your pledge information, and save.

If you run into difficulty pledging with Realm, or need to edit your pledge, please contact Lisa Shumway - LSS0907@gmail.com

Kindness Week

April 7th to April 13th is Kindness Week, sponsored by Westborough Connects

You are invited to join in the celebration of kindness in our community!

Westborough Connects is an organization whose mission is to “build a more connected and kinder community where everyone feels like they belong”. This resonates with many of us here at UUCSW and aligns with our sixth UU Principle, “to covenant and promote the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all”. I believe that fostering kindness at the local level creates a culture where kindness, appreciation, empathy, and compassion are deeply instilled in everyone who is fortunate enough to live here. As young people go out into the world, they bring this loving way of being with them and naturally seek to connect with others raised in similar communities with kindness at their core. The far-reaching effect of these positive human connections is sure to promote peace and strengthen the “interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part”. – Sharon Barrett

Sunday, April 7th – Kindness Week Kick-off event from 2-5pm at Mill Pond School. Join us for an afternoon of kindness-themed activities **for all ages** including a Kindness Rocks workshop, Kindness Cards for deployed military, Chalk the Walks with Kindness, Knitting for Neighbors, Catch with a Cop, and a Community Drum Circle. Donations will be accepted for the Westborough Food Pantry.

To learn more about what else is happening during Kindness Week, click [HERE](#).

Saturday, April 13th - Earth Day Town-Wide Cleanup with Online Signup and Volunteer Picnic Lunch!

Join the annual town-wide litter clean-up sponsored by Westborough Community Land Trust and enjoy a drop-in Earth Day picnic lunch afterwards!

- Early birds meet at 6:30 am at West Meadow Plaza or Bellows Road.
- Families are invited at 9:30 am to check in at the Bay State Commons Green.
- From 11:30-12:30, volunteers will be treated to a drop-in picnic of pizza, healthy side dishes, beverages, and dessert at the Bay State Commons Green gazebo.

For more information about the Town-Wide Cleanup, click [HERE](#).

April Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
10:30 AM – Program Sunday	6:30 PM – UU Knits 		6:30 PM – Board of Trustees Meeting			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:30 AM – Program Sunday 12:00 – Potluck Brunch 1:30 PM – Buddhist Group 			11:30 AM – UU's at Lunch 		7:00 PM – Book Group 	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:30 AM – Program Sunday	6:30 PM – UU Knits 					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:30 AM – Program Sunday	Noon – Vista Articles Due 				6:30 PM – Friday Fun Night 	
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
10:30 AM – Program Sunday						

**THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY OF
WESTBOROUGH**

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**THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATIONAL
SOCIETY OF WESTBOROUGH**

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Director of Religious Education.....Cassie Lengel
Music Director.....Kala Farnham
Office Assistant.....Elissa Scully

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Treasurer.....Lisa Shumway
CollectorSusie Wells
Clerk.....Robin Fleming
ModeratorAndy Koenigsberg
Historian..... Judith Nicholson
Membership Engagement.....Melissa Meehan

DUE DATES

FOR VISTA NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Announcements, suggestions, or questions?

The VISTA is published monthly and submissions are welcome. Please email submissions to:

Andy Koenigsberg at amk32@cornell.edu.

Please put "VISTA" in the subject line.

**May Vista articles due by
Noon, Monday, April 22nd.**

**For updates visit
uucsw.org**

