Barbara Nowicki New Member Biographical Sketch

I'm a retired marine research scientist living in Exeter. I worked as a coastal marine ecologist for over 30 years at the URI Bay Campus. My husband and I joined the UU Church in Newport in the late 1990's when we felt the need of a spiritual community and appropriate religious education for our young daughter, Sarah. Although we were both raised in fairly conservative Christian faiths, the beliefs and principles of the UU Church spoke to us in a way no other religious community could. We loved that a broad acceptance and respect of others was so central to UU beliefs and that spirituality was viewed as a life-long individual journey. We wanted our daughter to grow up "steeped" in these beliefs. Sarah is now 28, living in Oregon, and my husband has passed away, and I find that I need a UU community a little closer and easier drive to my home. In my "pre-Covid" visits to UUCSC I was thrilled to find a kind and welcoming UU community nearby. I'm an avid gardener and I was especially delighted to discover that I could probably just drop by for Sunday services at UUCSC in my grubby gardening clothes and no one was likely to object! I'm so looking forward to becoming part of your wonderful congregation.

(P.S. the UUCSC gardening committee has already recruited me!).