



Sabbatical Guide

November 10, 2019 – May 10, 2020

Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein, Parish Minister

What is a sabbatical?

The sabbatical is a time of rest, renewal and learning for clergy. In our Letter of Agreement with Rev. Vicki, signed when she was called to be our minister in 2012, "The minister shall use sabbatical leave for study, education, writing, meditation, and other forms of religious and professional growth."

(The UUA now encourages parish ministers to take shorter, more frequent sabbaticals, eg, three months after three years of service.)

The sabbatical is a time when the lay people own their own ministry even more completely. At UUCGL, the congregation will have an opportunity to hear a variety of different perspectives from the pulpit, and to be the primary providers of pastoral care and support.

What will our minister be doing on her sabbatical?

Rev. Vicki will be gone from November 10, 2019 through May 10, 2020.

She will be working on a book of essays about a spirituality of the tragic, and traveling to Europe in November to explore cultural experiences connected to what she calls "the fruitful tragic:" several operas based on the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice in London, a musical about the six wives of King Henry VIII; the city of Venice, which is sinking as sea levels rise; La Sagrada Familia Cathedral in Barcelona, whose brilliant architect, Gaudi, was killed by a train trolley while he crossing the street by the construction site; and Orleans, France, where the fascinating young woman, Joan of Arc, led French forces to a defeat against the English in the Hundred Years War. Joan was later burned at the stake as a heretic but was pardoned and canonized.

Vicki wants to write about the American discomfort and denial of the tragic elements of human existence and how that leads to emotional and spiritual paralysis.

She will be editing her doctoral dissertation, "Covenanting: Ancient Life and New Promise For the Contemporary Church" for publication and hopes to make progress with that.

She has been accepted as a Minister In the Vicinity at Harvard Divinity School and will be auditing a course on Universalism.

And finally, Vicki will be in Tucson, Arizona at the Hesychia School for Spiritual Direction two two-week intensives in order to be trained and certified as a Spiritual Director.

Can I call or get in touch with Rev. Vicki while she is on sabbatical?

No. This period is meant to allow the minister to be totally relieved of all ministerial duties and she will not be available to parishioners. But if you see her around town, please don't feel you have to avoid her! She will be happy to see you and hear how you're doing.

What if I need someone to talk to, or to visit me in the hospital?

Please contact Claire Wilson, our Sabbatical Pastoral Care Coordinator.

What if someone dies?

We are very glad that our 2016 Summer Minister, the Rev. Sarah Napoline, our 2019 Summer Minister, Jaime Dingus, and the Rev. Art McDonald, have all agreed to be on call in the event that a member of the congregation passes away. Please call the church office for assistance in speaking to a minister.

Who should I go to if I have concerns about a relationship or program within the church?

Please do not hesitate to let our Acting Interim Director of Community Life and Learning, Mark LaPointe, know if you have questions or concerns about programming. Business Administrator Elizabeth Muller and Administrative Assistant Angie Kern are also available to you for support for questions regarding building use, operations and finances. Also remember that we have an excellent Board of Trustees who would appreciate being made aware of any concerns you may have about life at UUCGL. Michael Celona is our President this year and will very likely be able to help you find the answers you need.

Contact Information

Claire Wilson, Sabbatical Pastoral Care Coordinator
781-595-8836 Ext. 16 pastoralcare@uucgl.org

Mark LaPointe, Acting Interim Director of Community Life and Learning
781-595-8836 Ext. 12 mlapointe@uucgl.org

Elizabeth Muller, Business Administrator
781-595-8836 Ext. 10 emuller@uucgl.org

Angie Kern, Administrative Assistant
781-595-8836 Ext. 14 akern@uucgl.org

Michael Celona, President
president@uucgl.org

Sundays Calendar and Worship Leaders

November 2019

- 17 Claire Wilson, Pastoral Care Coordinator
- 24 Multi-Generational Thanksgiving Service (Mark LaPointe and Kenneth Griffith)

December 2019

- 1 Clem Schoenebeck
- 8 Rev. Peter Boullata
- 15 Christmas Pageant (Mark LaPointe and Kenneth Griffith)
- 22 Rev. Peter Boullata
- 24 Rev. Peter Boullata (Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:30 pm)
- 29 Rev. Peter Boullata

January 2020

- 5 Rev. Art McDonald (Founders Sunday)
- 12 Rev. Art McDonald
- 19 Rev. Michael Hall
- 26 Social Justice Ministry Team

February 2020

- 2 Myozen Joan Amaral
- 9 Rev. Alix Klingenberg
- 16 Rev. Alix Klingenberg
- 23 Rev. Alix Klingenberg

March 2020

- 8 Michael Celona, UUCGL President
- 15 Rev. Michael Hall
- 22 Rev. Michael Hall
- 29 Music Sunday

April 2020

- 5 Rev. Art McDonald (Palm Sunday)
- 12 Rev. Art McDonald (Easter)
- 19 Green Sanctuary Ministry Team (Earth Day)
- 26 Myozen Joan Amaral (Ferry Beach Retreat)

May 2020

- 3 Claire Wilson
- 10 Rev. Vicki (Mother's Day, Anniversary of Call)
- 17 Rev. Vicki (Youth Bridging)

**Sabbatical Guest Ministers
and
Worship Leaders**

Guest Ministers and Worship Leaders

Myozen Joan Amaral moved to the Boston area in 2012 from San Francisco Zen Center to serve as guiding teacher for the Marblehead Zen Center. In 2014 the Zen Center relocated to Beverly and in 2016 changed its name to Zen Center North Shore.

Joan is a dharma heir of Zenkei Blanche Hartman in the lineage of Shunryu Suzuki, Roshi. Her interest in zazen grew out of a background in modern dance and she continues to be interested in the ways that movement and the cultivation of energy can support the practice of stillness.



Joan trained at Tassajara Zen Mountain Monastery for six years. While in residency at San Francisco Zen Center, she formed a dharma group – Dharma en Español – devoted to studying Suzuki Roshi's *Zen Mind, Beginners Mind* in Spanish (*Mente Zen, Mente de Principiante*), in order to provide the opportunity for native Spanish speakers to hear the dharma in their own language. While in San Francisco, she led meditation classes at the County Jail where she also provided one-on-one spiritual counseling for prisoners.

She is a graduate of Georgetown University in Washington, DC, and also completed the chaplaincy program at the Sati Center in Redwood City, CA, where she studied with Gil Fronsdal, Paul Haller, and Jennifer Block. As a priest living back out in the world, her primary focus is on the dynamic relationship between formal practice and everyday, messy human life.

The Rev. Peter Boullata is a PhD student in psychotherapy and spiritual care at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. After several interim ministries on both sides of the border, Peter served Unitarian Universalist congregations in Weston and Lexington, Massachusetts. He is now the consulting minister with the Unitarian Fellowship of London, Ontario and a psychotherapy intern with Shalom Counselling Services. He is passionate about liberation movements, religious naturalism, process theology, the arts, spiritual practice and the ways these intersect with each other and with religious liberalism.



The Rev. Michael F. Hall, M.Div. was called as the 23rd settled minister of the Keene Unitarian Universalist Church in May 2012. Michael graduated with honors from Andover Newton Theological School in 2010, where he was a member of the Jonathan Edwards Society and earned the Massachusetts Bible Society's prize for the Public Reading of Christian Scripture. Before entering full-time ministry, Michael worked for 18 years as a historical interpreter at Plimoth Plantation and then 4 years as a Case Manager on the Dual Diagnosis Unit of a detox.



The Rev. Alix Klingenberg is an entrepreneurial UU minister, writer and spiritual director. She lives in Medford, MA with her husband, son, and 2 black cats. She writes a blog called Highly Sensitive Extrovert and uses creativity & archetypes to connect to community and the divine. A graduate of Oberlin College and Meadville Lombard Theological School, Alix has served in various capacities in the Chicago, San Diego, and now the Boston areas. Some of Alix's passions include photography, tabletop games, tarot, and the Enneagram.



The Rev. Art McDonald is Minister Emeritus, First Universalist Church of Essex. Settled minister in Essex from 2003-2017. Settled minister at Allegheny UU Church, Pittsburgh, PA., 1991-2003. Adjunct college/university teacher, 1979-2013, latest appointment at Salem State U., 2005-2013. PhD, University of Pittsburgh, Religious Studies, focus on religion and politics, liberation theology in Latin America, 1993. Ordained in 1978, Dominican Order of priests, ministering in South Bronx, New York City, 1978-1982. Active with Essex County Community Organization, 2003 to present, board member for over 10 years. Member of Advisory committee of Notre Dame Spirituality Center, Ipswich, MA.



Author of soon to be published book on progressive Catholic clergy in Pittsburgh, PA. Married to Melanie McDonald for 37 years.

Clem Schoenebeck, longtime, beloved member of UUCGL with his wife, Bonnie, has had poems published in *The Aureorean*, *Midwest Poetry Review*, *Caribbean Writer*, *Ibbetson Street Press*, *Small Brushes/Adept Press* and other publications. Four of his poems had been nominated for The Pushcart Prize. He and his daughter, Kristen, were named featured poets of *Aureorean's* December issue in 2000. Schoenebeck's short stories have won various prizes in *Writer's World*, *Marblehead Festival of Arts* and, in 2012, his winning poem was selected for The Marcia Doehner Award and his winning short story was awarded the first Georgette Beck Award. *Dancing with Fireflies* is a memoir of Schoenebeck's family living through the darkness and light of his mother's schizophrenia, and how poetry brought hope and healing. His recent collection of poetry, *Where the Time Went: Poems at Eighty*, was published by Encircle Publications and was nominated for The Massachusetts Book Award for Poetry, and Foreword INDIES Book of the Year.



Claire Wilson grew up in the Unitarian Universalist tradition and, thus, explored a variety of spiritual paths before returning home to UUCGL. She earned a Masters in Social Work at age 60 from Salem State University, and specialized in working with adults who struggle with Trauma and Substance Use Disorder, as well as men mandated for Intimate Partner Violence Intervention. "Retired" from her Outpatient Clinical practice at Eliot Community Human Services in Lynn, she is currently engaged in training in Animal-Assisted Therapy and certification in Narrative Therapy. Having inherited the spirit of her parents' values, Claire also enjoys regularly participating in volunteer service, among which are the Northeast Animal Shelter, Care Dimensions, and Gloucester Stage Company. In 2020, she will celebrate 50 years as an ethical vegetarian. Claire is our Sabbatical Pastoral Care Coordinator.



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OUR WEBSITE: www.uucgl.org

