

**FIRST RELIGIOUS SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 817  
Carlisle, MA 01741

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**NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CREATURES**

The First Religious Society in Carlisle  
Unitarian Universalist  
A Welcoming Congregation

Volume XXXVII, No. 14

April 3, 2006



WE ARE LOCATED IN CARLISLE CENTER OPPOSITE THE COMMON, JUST OFF ROUTE 225 AROUND THE CORNER FROM THE ONLY ROTARY IN TOWN. A CLASSIC NEW ENGLAND MEETING HOUSE WITH THE TOWN CLOCK IN THE STEEPLE. COME AS YOU ARE. "LOVE IS THE DOCTRINE OF THIS CHURCH, THE QUEST FOR TRUTH IS OUR SACRAMENT AND SERVICE IS OUR PRAYER."

**Newsletter for April 3, 2006**

**CHURCH INFORMATION**

**Church Service and Sunday School: Sunday at 10:30 a.m.**  
Coffee Hour following services.  
**Dates and details of church events on the Calendar on page 7 in this newsletter.**  
**Church Office:** 978-369-5180; Fax no. 978-369-1891  
**Web site:** www.uucarlisle.org **E-mail address:** frs@uucarlisle.org  
**Church Mailing Address:** [including minister and all business]  
PO Box 817, Carlisle, MA 01741-0817  
**Minister: Tim Jensen** (study and home) 978-369-0284, (cell) 503-816-2859,  
Email: uucleric@mindspring.com  
**Minister Emeritus:** Dr. Eugene R. Widrick  
**Parish Committee Co-Chair:** Alan Cameron, 978-369-2223;  
Email: alancameron@comcast.net  
**Parish Committee Co-Chair:** Lisa Sama, 978-692-6592, Email: lms@bostonbits.com  
**Office Administrator:** Kathy Varney, 978-369-5180  
**Religious Education Director:** Molly Sorrows, 978-371-2217,  
Email: frs\_re@comcast.net  
**Minister of Music:** Marguerite Shaw, 978-501-4220; Email: frsmusic@comcast.net  
**Collector of Funds:** Charlie Davis, 978-371-2844; Email: cdavis@modavi.com  
**Lay Minister:** Sally Hayen, 978-369-7591  
**Membership:** John Lyons, 978-369-1216

**THE ECLECTIC CLERIC**

"Dawgs verses Huskies"

Now that March Madness is finally behind us, I have an unusual confession to make. I didn't fill out my tournament bracket this year based on which teams I thought would win or lose. Instead, I filled out my bracket according to which teams I wanted to see play. My fantasy tournament had Duke playing my alma mater, the University of Washington, for the national championship (who advanced to the final game by defeating Utah State, Illinois, U Conn, North Carolina and Arizona along the way). UCLA was the only one of my predicted regional winners to actually reach the Final Four, and I also had Gonzaga, Boston College, Kansas, Texas and Florida playing deep into the tournament.

But my point is not that I could have picked a better bracket if I'd only followed my head instead of my heart. My point is that sometimes it's just as important to know what you WANT to happen as it is to anticipate what you THINK will happen, even when you don't really have any effective control over the outcome.

Some years ago now one of my old coaches tried to explain to me the difference between Persistence, Tenacity, and just plain ol' Stubborn. Persistence is about Purpose: about having a goal and sticking to it, even when the road gets tough and we encounter setbacks along the way. Persistence sees failure as a stepping stone to ultimate success, because it sticks to its purpose, keeps its eyes on the prize and learns how to succeed from its mistakes.

Tenacity is about Principle: about having certain core values you know are so important that they are worth holding on to and fighting for, even in the face of long odds and overwhelming opposition. Tenacity teaches us to avoid the temptation of simply taking the easy way out, or following the path of least resistance because it appears to mean less work and fewer struggles in the short term. Tenacity sees to the heart of the matter, and gives us the courage to remain true to our ideals even when it is difficult to do so.

But Stubborn is typically about Pride: about refusing to recognize that you are on the wrong track simply because you

**THE ECLECTIC CLERIC** *(continued)*

don't want to admit to yourself or others the possibility that you might be wrong. Stubborn Pride isn't always a bad thing: it's mostly pride for example (along with a smattering of tenacity and persistence) that keeps us playing hard in the waning minutes of a lost cause, even when we're getting blown out. But more often than not, stubborn pride is a barrier to our eventual success, because it prevents us from recognizing that we can become better than we are. This is why Pride is one of the Seven Deadly Sins. It stands in the way of our own self-improvement.

Of course, my old coach put it a little more vividly. "You can be Pig-headed, or you can be Bull-headed, or you can just be a Jackass. But at least the Pig eventually gets the truffle, while the Bull either wins or dies trying. But all the Jackass gets is a whack on the side of the head, and then afterwards he's still the same Jackass he was before...."

Or something like that. Like I said, it was a long, long time ago....twj

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**UPCOMING SERVICES**

**April 9:**  
We will celebrate Palm Sunday

This will also be Membership Sunday when we will welcome new members.

The short drama "Jayk & Joch And The Most Delicious Mango That There Ever Was" will be performed. Rehearsal starts at 9:15. (Prop workshop on April 6 at 2:30pm in Union Hall.)

**Dr. Nancy Hendrie and the Social Action Committee** will talk about the support our church gives to The Sharing Foundation for their work in Cambodia during the Message For All Ages.

**April 16:**  
Easter Sunday with a sunrise service at Clark Farm and a 10:30 morning worship service.

**April 23:**  
Earthday celebrated with Rev. Jensen and the Environmental Action Committee.

**April 30:**  
We will celebrate the service with a Hymn Sing. Please send your favorite hymns and songs to Marguerite so she can include them in the service.

The Choir will sing every Sunday

**CALENDAR**

**Church Office Hours:** The church office will be open between the hours of 8:00am and 1:30pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. The office will be closed on Tuesdays.

**Minister Office Hours:** Tim is generally available at church most mornings when the church office is open and other times by appointment. It is always a good idea to call in advance. You can reach him at 978-369-0284 (study or home), 503-816-2859 (cell) or by email at uucleric@mindspring.com.

**Director of Religious Education:** Molly Sorrows, DRE and Youth Advisor, can be reached by email (frs\_re@comcast.net) or phone (church, 978-369-5180; home, 978-371-2217).

**Music Rehearsals Schedule**

The Choir  
Wednesdays at 7:30-9:00pm  
Sundays at 9:45am  
Family Singers TBA  
Handbell Choir TBA  
Drumming TBA

Next Newsletter Deadline is April 10.

If you would like to be added to or removed from the newsletter mailing list please call or email the church office.

Apr. 6	Skit workshop 2:30-5:00 in Union Hall. See RE column.
Apr. 6	Music and Worship Committee meeting at 7:00pm in the conference room.
Apr. 7	Womenspirit meeting at 7:00pm at the home of Judy Richardson.
Apr. 9	Membership Sunday
Apr. 10	Environmental Action Committee meeting at 7:30pm in the conference room.
Apr. 13	Maundy Thursday service at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary.
Apr. 15	Buildings and Grounds clean up of grounds at 8:00am.
Apr. 16	Easter Sunrise Service at Clark Farm.
Apr. 17	Easter morning service at 10:30 in the sanctuary. RE Committee meeting at 7:00pm in the conference room.
Apr. 20	Parish Committee meeting at 7:00pm in the conference room.
Apr. 22	Cranberry Bog walk 10:00am. See RE column.
Apr. 27	All church calendar meeting at 7:30pm in Union Hall.

**Committee meetings are open to any interested party.** To address a committee on a specific issue please contact the committee chair. **All are welcome** to attend Parish Committee meetings, except in cases of executive sessions.

## OUR PEOPLE

**Jeanne Rourk, 82, passed away on March 22** after months of illness and hospital stays. She maintained her good humor, wit and zest for life throughout. We will miss her. Her son Tom, also an FRS member, was a wonderful, loving caregiver through Jeanne's illness. We send our sympathy to him and all his family.

**Our thoughts are with Gio DiNicola** and her family. Gio's brother, Pompei DiNicola, passed away on March 25 in western Massachusetts. He taught culinary arts at Pittsfield High School for 26 years where he was known as "Mr. D" He was also co-owner of the Madison Cafe in Pittsfield.

We also just received word that **John Forcucci's brother Richard has recently passed away**. Richard was a dentist in East Milton where he joined his father's practice and worked together with him for 15 years. Our thoughts are with John Forcucci and his family.

**Support Your FRS Walkers:** Ann James, Ellen Huber and Kathy Varney will be walking in the annual Walk for Hunger in Boston on Sunday, May 7. Walking 20 miles is not easy. They deserve your pledges. Pledge checks should be made out to Project Bread. If any other FRSers are walking, please let Kathy know and she will add your name in the next newsletter. Your pledges will support 400 food pantries, soup kitchens, food banks, and food salvage programs in 136 communities across the state. Visit [www.projectbread.org](http://www.projectbread.org) for details.

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**The 2006 Unirondack brochure is here!** If you are looking for a summer camp experience for kids that provides UU values, an exceptional staff-to-camper ratio, a warm welcoming community, and lots of fun, check out the brochure in the church front entryway or check it out at: [www.unirondack.org/pages/2006church.announcements.html](http://www.unirondack.org/pages/2006church.announcements.html).

The First Religious Society in Carlisle is an inclusive community bound together in the Unitarian Universalist tradition of friendship, free inquiry and service to humanity.

We recognize our commonality as spiritual seekers, and welcome and celebrate the participation of all people, without regard to age, race, religious heritage, political opinion, gender identity, sexual or affectional orientation, socio-economic status, disability or ethnicity.

We are committed to continual learning and growth toward affirmation of the enriching diversity of humankind, and to working to create a more just, sustainable and loving world.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS *by Molly Sorrows*

### Soup & Games Night for All

The RE Committee is happy to announce the first FRS Soup & Games Night, an intergenerational event featuring good homemade food and everyone's favorite games, old and new. We'll start the event with some group games and icebreakers designed to get everyone up and running as a group. After a nurturing supper of soup made by RE Committee members, breads and desserts, we'll bring out the board games and invite everyone to find themselves an opponent or two. Whether your favorite is chess, Parcheesi, Cranium Cadoo, Trivial Pursuit, Crazy Eights, Chutes & Ladders or backgammon, you're sure to find a lively match and have a wonderful evening. Please plan to join us! Contributions of "finger" desserts (cookies or bars) are welcome, but not everyone needs to contribute something. Bring along your favorite game! Call or email Nancy West with questions: 978-369-6515; [NancySWest@direcway.com](mailto:NancySWest@direcway.com).

### Cambodian Skit: Jayk and Joch

The story of two monkeys who go to a wise master to help find a solution to their conflict will be presented on Sunday, April 9 during the worship service.

**Rehearsal:** Sunday, April 9, arrive at 9:15 to get in place for a prompt **9:30** start.

### Thursday, April 6, after school until 5pm

Prop making and practicing scenes in Union Hall. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come after school (at 2:20 or 3:00) to help. Call Alison Saylor with any questions.

### End of Year Youth Recognitions

Each year we like to recognize the children finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades at our annual Religious Education Sunday in June. Please help us to have complete lists by checking the names below and sending us any corrections; sometimes I have recorded someone in the wrong year, and I would hate to leave anyone out. Families will be contacted with more information through letters this spring.

#### First Graders

Josh Szczesniak  
Brian Szczesniak  
Tim West  
Meg Davis

#### Eighth Graders

Gabe Rocco  
Lexie Lohrer  
David Reed  
Krista Stengrevics

#### Twelfth Graders

Ariel Morrison  
Laura Scholten  
Aimee Carter  
Ian Saylor  
Margot Smith  
Jill McElligot  
Walter Woodward

### Family Ramble

Copying the idea of "rambles," or walks to enjoy visiting with one another, the RE committee is planning a walk appropriate for all ages. We will meet at the Cranberry Bog on Saturday, April 22 at 10am. To be sure this is accessible and enjoyable to everyone, people in our group are asked to keep any dogs on leashes. Contact Molly Sorrows or Nancy West for more

## SEVEN SCHOOL STREET *by Alison Saylor*

Although I am not a member of the committee investigating the possibility of purchasing the large white house on the corner of Rte 225 and School Street, I have toured the house and attended the two public informational meetings. What a wonderful opportunity! It is so kind of the current owner, Mary Tinchler, to give FRS a chance to purchase 7 School Street before she sells it to someone else. I hope we can come up with a purchase price that satisfies all parties.

I gather that if we purchased the property it would be fiscally responsible to continue to rent the building as a home and commercial space for two businesses. This only leaves the barn available for FRS use in the short term. I have so many ideas for how to use the barn/garage. I think even with no investment we could use the basement and parts of the barn for youth group gatherings, Harvest Fair and Green Sale storage. With some capital investments it could be turned into a terrific meeting space; larger than the third floor conference room and more cozy than Union Hall.

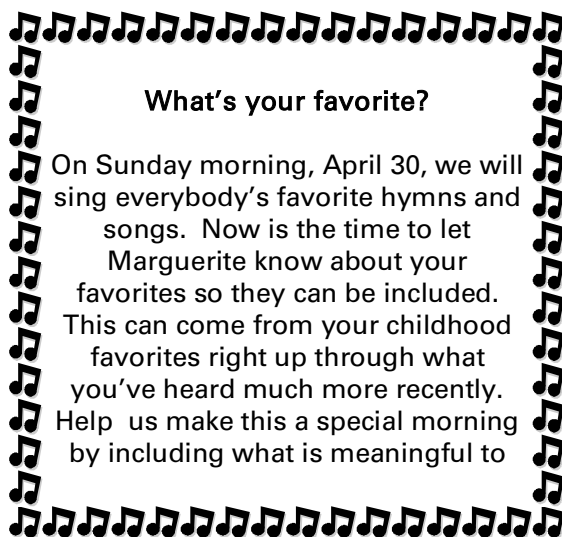
This is an investment in our future. I am willing to join any committee formed to keep the building running smoothly. I will be willing to organize a Coffee House or barn dance to demonstrate the usefulness of owning the barn. I will relocate the sunny border gardens if it turns out to be necessary to create new parking. I hope my enthusiasm for buying this property is contagious.

Alison Saylor (978) 369-1809  
Saylorfarm@comcast.net

Flower Committee chair, Music and Worship Co-Chair, 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee Chair, Harvest Fair Co-Chair, Service Auction Co-Chair, Pageant organizer, member of Building and Grounds, member of Small Group Ministries, and hopefully future member of 7 School Street Committee.

There is a "frequently asked questions" document on the website. This document was prepared by the Seven School Street Committee. There were two q&a sessions following morning services recently. Input from those sessions are included in the document.

Contact Annie Hill at [aj@jacksonhill.com](mailto:aj@jacksonhill.com) or 978-369-9491 with questions or comments.



**What's your favorite?**

On Sunday morning, April 30, we will sing everybody's favorite hymns and songs. Now is the time to let Marguerite know about your favorites so they can be included. This can come from your childhood favorites right up through what you've heard much more recently. Help us make this a special morning by including what is meaningful to

## PROGRAM NEWS

**Pastoral Concerns Committee:** We serve as a means of outreach to people in our church who need our special support and friendship. We will arrange rides, visits, childcare, meals or anything else that lends a helping hand during short or long-term crises. If you are or know of anyone in need of this support, please contact Natalie Ives at 978-369-6581 during the month of April.

**Thank you to the anonymous donor** who left a large sack of pennies at the church. The pennies amounted to \$41.35 which will be donated to the Open Pantry in Lowell.

**Spring Clean-up on Saturday, April 15:** Bring your rakes and gloves and come help us spruce up the church grounds on Saturday, April 15 between 8:00 and 11:00am. The emphasis is on the grounds, but feel free to come and spruce up anything inside that you want to work on! This work party is sponsored by Buildings and Grounds and they need your help!

**Judy Richardson will be giving a slide presentation at our next WomenSpirit meeting** on Friday, April 7th at 7:00pm at Judy's house - 121 Skelton Road. She will be sharing photos of her Underwater Adventures.

### Service Auction Saturday, May 13 Auction Donations

Fishing trips, pans of baklava, Mexican dinners for eight, trips to the airports, use of vacation homes, maple syrup production instructions -- you name it, we need it. Over the next few weeks we will gather a list of donations that will be sent in the newsletter. Please call or e-mail one of the following people with your donation (if they haven't already called you). If you can't think of an item, maybe they can help you.

Gio DiNicola	287-5407	<a href="mailto:gfdinicola@comcast.net">gfdinicola@comcast.net</a>
Sally Hayen	369-7591	
Annie Hill	369-9491	<a href="mailto:aj@jacksonhill.com">aj@jacksonhill.com</a>
Ellen Huber	369-6678	<a href="mailto:e2huber@rcn.com">e2huber@rcn.com</a>
Mary Hult	369-0448	<a href="mailto:mphult@comcast.net">mphult@comcast.net</a>
Lori Jimenez	369-4703	<a href="mailto:ldj4@columbia.edu">ldj4@columbia.edu</a>
Fontaine Richardson	369-8223	<a href="mailto:fr@fontainerichardson.com">fr@fontainerichardson.com</a>

*Thanks for your help in this, the church's biggest fundraiser*