

**FIRST RELIGIOUS SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 817  
Carlisle, MA 01741

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**NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CRETURES**

The First Religious Society in Carlisle

Unitarian Universalist  
A Welcoming Congregation

Volume XXXIII No. 13

March 16, 2009



WE ARE LOCATED AT 27 SCHOOL STREET 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."

**2009 Pledge Drive**

**Why Support Your Church?**

-- John B. Wolf, Minister Emeritus,  
All Souls Unitarian Church in Tulsa, OK

free thinkers and those who insist against orthodoxy that they must work out their own beliefs.

"There is only one reason for being part of a Unitarian Universalist Church and that is to support it. You want to support it because it stands against superstition and fear. Because this church points to what is noblest and best in human life. Because it is open to men and women of whatever race, creed, color, place of origin or sexual orientation.

You want to support a UU church because it is more concerned with human beings than with dogmas. Because it searches for the holy rather than seeking out the depraved. Because it calls no one a sinner, yet knows how deep is the struggle in each person's breast and how great is the hunger for what is good.

You want to support a UU church because it has a free pulpit. Because you can hear ideas there that would cost any other minister his or her job. You want to support it because it is a place where your children are not saddled with guilt or terrified of some celestial peeping Tom, where they can learn that religion for joy, for comfort, for gratitude and love.

You want to support a UU church because it can laugh. Because it stands for something in a day when religion is still more concerned with platitudes than with prejudice and war. You want to support it not because it buys you some insurance policy towards your funeral service, but because it insults neither your intelligence nor your conscience and because it calls you to what is truly worthy of your sacrifice. There is only one real reason to be part of a UU church: to support it to the fullest extent with your time, talent and treasure..."

You want to support it because it is a place where walls between people are torn down rather than built-up. Because it is a place for the religious displaced persons of our time, the refugees from mixed marriages, the unwanted

That's why.

**Newsletter for March 16, 2009**

**Church Service and Sunday School: Sunday at 10:00 a.m.** Coffee Hour following services.  
**Church Office:** 978-369-5180; Fax no. 978-369-1891, www.uucarlisle.org, frs@uucarlisle.org  
**Church Mailing Address:** PO Box 817, Carlisle, MA 01741-0817  
**Minister:** Diane Miller (study) 978-369-0284, cell: 617-851-8222 Diane\_Miller@comcast.net  
**Office Administrator:** Kathy Varney, 978-369-5180  
**Religious Education Director:** Molly Sorrows, 978-371-2217, frs\_re@comcast.net  
**Minister of Music:** Marguerite Shaw, 978-501-4220; frsmusic@comcast.net

**Minister Emeritus:** Dr. Eugene R. Widrick  
**Parish Committee Co-Chair:** Suzanne Whitney Smith, 978-369-0922; Suzanne\_w-s@comcast.net  
**Parish Committee Co-Chair:** Lisa Sama, 978-692-6592, LMSama@comcast.net  
**Collector of Funds:** Charlie Davis, 978-371-2844; cdavis@modavi.com  
**Lay Minister:** Sally Hayen, 978-369-7591  
**Membership Contact:** Sue Kirk, 978-371-0176  
**Coffee Committee:** Gio DiNicola, Anne Ketchen, Richard Ketchen, Tom Rourk, Suzanne Whitney Smith, Cindy Jaquith  
**Union Hall Coffee House:** Dian Cuccinello 978-287-5745, dianfrancesca@comcast.net

**UPCOMING SERVICES**

**Sunday, March 22:** Improv Church, An exploration of how the lessons of improvisational theater apply to our lives and church. George Bishop will be our pledge speaker.

**Sunday, March 29:** “Afterlives and Imagination” David Eagleman is a neuroscientist who has stepped beyond his field and invented forty vignettes describing afterlife. These witty and insightful stories point to awe and wonder at who we are, here and now. I am looking for several readers for this service – if you would like to be one of them, please call or email me.

**April 9 7:00pm** Maundy Thursday Service. This service of communion, part of our liberal religious heritage, will be held in the Sanctuary. We will use some of the original communion pewter for the ritual sharing of bread and wine in memory of Jesus of Nazareth. All ages welcome.

**April 12 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service** at Dot Clark’s field, 185 Concord Street. Park near the house and barn and walk across the field to the knoll that Dot calls “my chapel.” The brief outdoor service will be followed by a pot-luck breakfast in Dot’s kitchen. Sally Hayen will set up for the breakfast, so check in with Sally if you have questions about what to bring.

**April 12, 10:00am Easter Service** with festive music by our choir, soloists, and instrumentalists, and a homily titled “Hearts on Fire,” we will celebrate the triumph of hope after the crush of defeat. There will be nursery care for the youngest, and no RE classes. Children and youth will attend with their families.

**OUR PEOPLE**

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Please submit “Our People” articles to Kathy in the church office at frs@uucarlisle.org or call 978-369-5180.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

March 17	7:30pm	Knitting at the Gleason Library
March 18	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal in sanctuary
March 19	7:30pm	Parish Committee meeting in conference room
March 20	3:00-9:30pm	Olin Mills church directory portraits
March 21	noon-5:00pm	Olin Mills church directory portraits
March 23	7:00pm	Adult Lenten Program Union Hall
March 23	7:00pm	Prospective OWL Parent Meeting in conference room
March 25	7:30pm	Choir rehearsal in sanctuary
March 26	7:00pm	Finance Committee meeting conference room
March 28	9:00am-1:00pm	PATH to Membership Class in Union Hall.
March 28	6:30pm	Tri Church Potluck at the Congregational Church
March 30	7:00pm	Adult Lenten Program Union Hall
April 1	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal in sanctuary
April 2	7:30pm	African Dance Class Union Hall
April 4	7:00am	MensGroup in Union Hall
April 4	7:30pm	Union Hall Coffeehouse
April 5	10:00am	Membership Sunday during morning worship service

**Church Office Hours:** The church office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 8:00am and 2:00pm. The office is closed on Wednesday. Email: frs@uucarlisle.org or phone: 978-369-5180.

**Minister:** Rev. Diane Miller is available weekdays in the office on Monday, Wednesday & Thursday. Tuesday is her day off and Friday and Saturday are usually blocked out as service preparation time. Call the study at 978-369-0284 to set an appointment or to confirm that the minister is in.

**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).

**Minister of Music:** Marguerite Shaw is on medical leave. Our music program continues in her absence. Call the minister or the church office if you have any questions.

For a complete calendar of meetings and activities here at The First Religious Society please go to the church calendar on the website: <http://www.uucarlisle.org/calendar.html>

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

**PROFESSOR MOOMAW  
SERMON AVAILABLE**

Professor Moomaw's sermon of February 8 was recorded by Dave Ives, and is being broadcast on Concord-Carlisle TV. There is a CD of Professor Moomaw's service available in the church office. If you would like to reserve the CD please call Kathy in the church office 978-369-5180.

Many CCTV programs are available at Gleason Library on DVD.



**WE ARE A WELCOMING  
CONGREGATION**

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.

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**Letter to FRS from Open Pantry:**  
*To The Congregation,  
The Open Pantry of Greater Lowell wishes to thank you for your recent donation. The response of so many individuals and organizations is truly heartening for those who run the Open Pantry, as well as the recipients. Since the Open Pantry has been open, thousands of people have been helped. We hope you find gratification in the knowledge that your donation is a part of this ongoing work that fills an urgent need in the greater Lowell community.  
Again, Our Thanks,  
The Pantry Volunteers*

**CARLISLE HAPPENINGS**

**Open Pantry Food Drive Reaches its Goal!**

Not only have we reached our goal of collecting 80 cases of food for Open Pantry but surpassed it by collecting 83 cases! How far can we go? See the progress chart and pantry photos in Union Hall. Feel free to contribute another case.



Any cash donated will be used to purchase food for the campaign. Please make your cash contributions to Paul Morrison or Michael Dundorf.



**If you are new to Unitarian Universalism, or just want to know more about our tradition and this church,**

sign up for Path to Membership. The Path class will be offered on Saturday, March 28 from 9-1, led by Rev. Diane Miller and the Membership Committee. This is an informal program with brunch in the middle. Child care is available if requested in advance. There will be an opportunity to join the church at the end of the session.

**Three-Church Pot Luck & Sing-along--Sat., March 28;**



All are invited to the three church get-together on the 28th at 6:30 p.m. at the Congregational Church. Sign up at coffee hour or give Kathy a call (978 369-5180) by March 26. The dinner is truly pot luck. After dinner the joint choirs will sing two pieces and then Pastor Steve Weibley will lead the sing-along (he is a master at this). The three churches are also asking that people make a donation to the Friends of COA fuel assistance fund.

**Don't forget to sign up for the Church Photo Directory:**



There are still appointments available for Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21. The Membership Committee has engaged Olin Mills to create a new photo directory of our congregation. Call the church office to schedule your sitting. Photos will be taken on Friday, March 20 from 3:00-9:00pm and Saturday, March 21 from noon-5:00pm. Each family photographed will receive a free 8x10 portrait and a free church directory.

**Upcoming Union Hall Coffeehouse Dates:**

- **April 4 - 35th Parallel** - A tour de force, which winds its way on a musical trail through the Middle East, North India, North Africa, and the Mediterranean, featuring Carlisle's own Mac Ritchey. They are described by Showcase Magazine as "One of Vermont's most innovative ensembles."
- **May 2, 2009:** The Return of Miss Tess and The Bon Ton Parade, and her flagship of swing dancers. (More to come) Opening Act: Theresa Storch
- **June 6, 2009:** We welcome back Southern Rail with a "sweep us into summer show." It'll be great fun!

**The Pledge Drive Committee** invites you to take part in their goal this year of 100% participation. Please return your pledge cards by April 5th.

**NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW  
CREATURES is a bi-weekly publication.**

**To submit items for publication send to:**

Kathy Varney, Administrator,  
P.O. Box 817, Carlisle, MA 01741  
978-369-5180, frs@uucarlisle.org

If you would like to be added to or removed from this mailing please email the church office at frs@uucarlisle.org.

The next newsletter deadline is March 23.

## OWL - A CELEBRATION AND A BEGINNING by Molly Sorrows

On March 1 we celebrated the completion of one of the OWL programs in our cluster with 15 youth and their parents recognizing this milestone with a presentation of resources, remembrances and thank yous. The three leaders worked hard each week to prepare the presentations and activities, and the youth and families appreciated the time and effort they put in.



Our Whole Lives, or OWL as it is usually called, is a comprehensive program covering a wide range of topics including human development, relationships, personal skills, behavior, health and society and culture. The program is based firmly on the values of self-worth, health, responsibility, justice and inclusivity. The OWL program will be offered next year and is typically taken by 8th graders with some 9th graders. The curriculum includes approximately 30 sessions which are 90 minutes each. In the past we have run the program in a schedule such as Sunday evenings from 6 to 9pm, beginning in October and finishing in March.

Already we are making plans for the OWL class for next year. I will be holding a general information session for interested parents of current 7th and 8th graders about the Our Whole Lives sexuality education program at The First Religious Society. The meeting will be Monday, March 23, 7 - 8:30pm, in the 3rd floor conference room at FRS.

The purpose of the session is to give an overview of the program to those who would like to consider whether it might be the right program for their youth, and to provide that overview early enough for families to think about it, ask questions, and plan for it in their schedule for next year.

Please contact Molly Sorrows in the church office if you have questions. The OWL program is open to youth outside of FRS, and this information session is open to any prospective parents. I encourage anyone to give me a call ahead of time if you need more information; often parents who are unfamiliar with the program like to do that. If you are interested in the program but are unable to make this meeting, please contact me for more information.

If you have any of the blue/white checked tablecloths that you kindly took home to wash, could you return them to the church. We have many events coming up and are in need of the tablecloths. Thanks!

## UU HAPPENINGS



### Transylvanian Unitarian Spring Trips:

The Partner Church Council is offering two spring trips and has a few openings. Deadlines are March 15 for the Spring Pentecost trip to Transylvania & Budapest and March 31 for the June Budget Transylvania tour. Register at [www.uupcc.org/trips.html](http://www.uupcc.org/trips.html) With the USD at record highs against the Hungarian Forint and the Romanian RON there has never been a more affordable time to visit Eastern & Central Europe and reconnect with our Unitarian roots.

**UU Lobby Day:** The Third Annual UU Lobby Day will be held on April 1. It will begin at 10:00am at the UUA offices at 25 Beacon Street, Boston for coffee and presentations. Participants will then go as a group to the State House to meet with legislators. Check the UU Mass Action website for further information <http://uumassaction.org>.

**The Spring Conference and Annual Meeting of the Clara Barton District will be held on April 4, 2009** at Nichols College in Dudley, MA. Registration check-in will begin at 8:30 am followed by worship, and our keynote speaker. Lunch will be followed by the CBD Annual Meeting, workshops, vendor booth visiting, and our closing worship. The day's program will end at 4:00 pm.

## EVENTS AROUND US

### The Healing Power of "YES":

Communicating Effectively with Persons with Alzheimer's, Saturday, April 4 from 9:30am - 3:30pm at Wright Tavern Center for Spiritual Renewal, First Parish Concord, 20 Lexington Road, Concord MA 01742. Led by Rev. Jade Angelica, D.Min. Candidate & Healing Moments Staff. Participants engage in exercises designed to enhance their awareness and understanding of, openness to, and skill in navigating the improvisational reality of Alzheimer's while experience, embracing and expressing joy. Register by April 1 as lunch will be provided. \$95 First Parish nonmembers. To register online: [www.wrighttavern.org](http://www.wrighttavern.org) or call 978-369-9602.

**Traces of The Trade: A Story From the Deep North** on Saturday, April 4 from 2:00-5:00pm at Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm Street, Concord. This PBS film traces the DeWolf family's journey confronting its history as the largest slave trading dynasty in the US. The film challenges viewers to examine their complicity in the long-term consequences of slavery. Facilitators are Dain Perry, a DeWolf family descendant, and his wife, Constance, who together have guided over one hundred such conversations nationwide.