

**FIRST RELIGIOUS SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 817  
Carlisle, MA 01741

Address Service Requested

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
**Permit Number 10**  
**Carlisle, MA 01741**

**NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CREATURES**

The First Religious Society in Carlisle  
Unitarian Universalist  
A Welcoming Congregation

Volume XXXI, No. 5

November 6, 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 November 6, 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:** Suzanne Whitney Smith, 978-369-0922;  
swsmeslrs@earthlink.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 Contact:** Sue Kirk, 978-371-0176

**Coffee Committee:** Margaret Darling, Gio DiNicola, Anne Ketchen, Richard Ketchen,  
Tom Rourk, Suzanne Whitney Smith, Jack O'Connor, Jenifer Bush

**THE ECLECTIC CLERIC**

"Birthday Thanks!"

Even though my writing arm is still a little sore from addressing all the envelopes, I thought I'd use my column this week to thank all the people who helped make my 50th birthday such a delightful experience. There was such a good feeling in the room that morning: lots of laughter and energy and enthusiastic good will. It just makes me wish I could somehow figure out a way to turn 50 EVERY Sunday.

I received lots of great cards too (some more tasteful than others), including a few from folks who couldn't be here in person. As you might imagine, dogs (and especially Boston Terriers) were a well-represented theme. Also received a few small and tastefully appropriate gifts; and then a very large and extremely tasty gift for us all from Dian Cuccinello, in the form of her delicious cake! Hurray and Three Cheers for Dian! -- we can always count on you to routinely exceed all expectations.

I thought the chocolate roses were an especially nice touch, particularly after I quoted in my sermon HL Mencken's definition of an Idealist as someone who "on noticing that roses smell better than a cabbage,

concludes that they will also make better soup." But we do not live on soup alone. And some roses truly do taste as sweet as they smell.

Probably the most unique gift was an ear-cleaning kit for Parker. But here's my question for Dr Lee: now that I KNOW she can hear me, why does she still not come when she's called?

Of course, the very best present of all was the presence of so many of you. It's just a plain simple fact of ecclesiastical arithmetic: the more of us there are, the better we all feel. This is because (as I've said so many times before) Church is something we all do together, and the more we put into it, the more we get out of it as well. We can always find SOMETHING to celebrate on a Sunday morning. So what are you waiting for -- a personal invitation?.....twj

PS Just in case you do sometimes have to miss a Sunday, this is another reminder that when one is available we generally post the manuscript of the previous week's sermon on the church website. If you want to see your friends, hear the music, and enjoy a bite of cake though, I'm afraid you'll actually have to show up yourself.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**November 12:** Charlie Clements of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee will be our guest speaker

**November 19:** Thanksgiving Theme  
Rev. Jensen

**November 22:** Please join us for our Thanksgiving Service at St. Irene's Catholic Church at 7:30pm.

**November 26:** Rev. Jensen

**December 3:** Matt Mayer, professional percussionist will do the service on December 3 entitled "The Secret of Music". He will also perform in the Winter Holidays Concert on that evening.

Winter Holidays Concert  
December 3  
7:00pm  
In the Sanctuary

### Inside this issue:

Harvest Fair 2006	4
Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser	5
Message for All Ages	5
Advent Wreath Making	5
UU Events Around Us	6
Office and Staff Schedule	6
Calendar	7

## VISIT THE FRS LIBRARY

by Molly Sorrows, DRE

Recently during the Message for All Ages I mentioned the books in our church library. The one I mentioned, *Badger's Parting Gifts* by Susan Varley tells the story of each of Badger's friends realizing the special gifts that they will always treasure from their friend. In *Tikun Olam* two Jewish friends, Dr. Mender and Mr. Fixit are always helping people. Tomie de Paola's *Now One Food, Now the Other* shows a young boy and his grandfather learning from each other. Most of the church library books are on a bookshelf opposite the elevator at the lowest level, and there is a blue binder with the listing of all our books. You may borrow books by marking a card in the index box on the bookshelf, or by leaving me a note with your name and the books.

You might enjoy *Who Belongs Here? An American Story* by Margy Burns Knight. It's a challenging story of a young boy who flees Cambodia for Thailand and then comes to the United States as a refugee. Sprinkled with historical and political facts about immigrants, the lands they have come from and the struggles they face, families with upper elementary and middle school children may appreciate this book as a starting point to discuss their ideas.

*The Helping Hands Handbook* by Patricia Adams and Jean Marzollo and *Kids Who Make a Difference* by Joyce M. Roche and Marie Rodriguez join a longtime favorite, *50 Simple Things Kids can do to Save the World* in our collection of books about how each of us can make a difference in shaping the world around us.

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.

Next Newsletter Deadline is  
If you would like to be added to or removed from the newsletter mailing list please call or email the church

**Join Us at Upcoming Greens Sale Events!**

**Saturday, November 11:**  
Gingerbread House Workshop  
8:30am to 4:00pm in Union Hall

**Sunday, November 12:**  
Small Bow Workshop  
At noon in the conference room

**Saturday, November 18**  
Boxwood Tree Workshop  
8:00am to 5:00pm in Union Hall

**Sunday, November 19**  
Decorate the Sanctuary  
At noon in the Sanctuary

**Wednesday, November 29**  
Christmas Greens Arrangements Workshop  
All Day in Union Hall

**Thursday, November 30**  
Wreath Decorating Workshop  
All Day in Union Hall

**Friday, December 1**  
Set up and price items for Greens Sale  
8:00am in Union Hall.

**Friday, December 1**  
Pre-order pick up at 5:00pm in Union Hall

**STAFF AND OFFICE SCHEDULE**

**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

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY by George Bishop**

On Saturday, October 21 five volunteers from FRS worked on the two houses on Governors Drive in Reading (Tom Lockwood, Tim Hult, Charlie Davis, Dik Dagavarian, and George Bishop). Ernie Huber also stopped by in the morning to touch base and see how things were going.

Construction on the houses is proceeding very rapidly. They are two-story center entrance colonials with an attached one-car garage. The houses are nearly completely framed and sheathed. One of the houses has the windows in. Since the interior walls are framed one can clearly see the room layout. As you enter the front door, there is a coat closet and ahead the door to a half bath/laundry room. On the left is a large living room and on the right a front to back eat-in kitchen. Upstairs is a full bath and three bedrooms. Because of the high water table at the site, the houses are built on a slab. As a consequence some space in the house, attic and garage must be used as utilities.

Tim and Dik worked at installing windows in the second house. Everything is not perfectly coordinated. When the window openings were framed, the exact size of the windows were not known so the openings were made oversized. To take up the difference shim boards had to be cut and fitted. Tom and Charlie worked inside house #2. They cut out and framed the opening for pull-down stairs to the attic. They also framed a bedroom closet. Working with them was a Airman from Hanscom Air Force Base.

The other major activity on house #2 was finishing the plywood sheathing on the garage roof, and sheathing the gable and above the garage, which is easier to do with the garage roofed. On house #1 the roof was ready to be shingled.

The plywood from our FRS "luncheon sale" at the Fall Fair will be used in the attic floor, not on the roof. Everyone we talked to said you use 5/8" on the roof. Habitat is using 1/2" - coordination again!

George got involved in roofing in a minor way. The roof on the second house was temporarily covered with plastic sheathing which was blowing

in the wind. Andy Barlow, who lives on South Street volunteered to go up and nail down strapping to secure it. George's job was handing up the strapping and helping to move the ladder. When we finished that job, we made a run to Home Depot to pick up plywood and Tyvex. George finished the day helping a young woman from Chelmsford sort, move, and consolidate piles of lumber.

Helping to sheath the garage roof on house #2 were about six young women from the University of Lowell. More on people I mentioned: Andy Barlow from South Street, he and his wife Beth are dedicated Habitat volunteers. I first met them at Habitat in Concord at the Baker Avenue site. Andy was helping with the building and Beth was the advocate for one of the families who would be taking ownership of one of the units. We have since met them at envelope stuffing bee's and other Habitat events.

Two other Carlisle and also FRS folks who are heavily involved with Habitat are Ann James and Ralph Anderson. Ralph has been a member for at least five years of the "over the hill gang" of retirees who work every Tuesday, fixing what we did on Saturday, or so they claim. Ralph is the leader when Bill Murphy goes to Florida in the winter. Ann, who has always been interested in wood working and carpentry joined the group the summer after retiring from teaching at Carlisle Public Schools.

Our next time to work at the site is December 16, the 3rd Saturday in December. We can only have about 5 people working so if you are interested in working then get in touch early with Ernie Huber; 369-6678 or George Bishop; 369-5080.

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.

## HARVEST FAIR 2006 *by Alison Saylor*

We have not had such lovely weather for the annual Harvest Fair in many a year. Cool crisp weather and sunshine was perfect for the outside cider press activity run by the youth. Many thanks to the Johnson and Barton families for their generous donation of organic apples from their own orchards and to the youth that picked them. Cider pressing is hard work, but the results are so delicious! Union Hall was filled with tables of home baked delights, plants, grape jelly, White Elephant treasures and Silent Auction items. The Luncheon Cafe's offering of intriguing wraps, pumpkin soup, chili, hotdogs and pies received rave reviews from all the patrons. Well done Dian Cucinello and all the hard working kitchen crew that made all that delicious food look and taste so good. Did you know that the three talented performing musicians Alex Lane, Tim Lane and Emmie Saylor grew up in this church? The Harvest Fair provides a venue for raising money for Habitat for Humanity, the Sharing Foundation, the Heifer project as well as for FRS. Here is the report from our Harvest Fair treasurer Charlie Davis:

### Junior Youth:

Cider Press	\$106.90
Games	3.20
Crafts, Face Painting	8.00

**TOTAL Junior Youth**                    \$118.10

### Grades 1-3

Coffee, Tea, Cocoa	\$197.00
--------------------	----------

### Grades 4-5

Grape Jelly	\$146.00
-------------	----------

### Habitat for Humanity:

Plywood Signing	\$326.00
Luncheon Cafe	\$550.40
Silent Auction	\$381.00
Raffle – Thanksgiving	\$231.00
Country Store	\$271.51
White Elephant	\$203.85
Bake Table	\$230.05
Plant Table	\$114.50
Stuffed Animal Table	\$ 20.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 50.59

Thank you all for your generous contributions to this year's Harvest Fair. Without the pie bakers, fudge makers, money takers, decorators, and of course patrons, none of this would be possible!

Of course we immediately look ahead to planning for next year. The Bake Table, youth activities, Luncheon Cafe and Silent Auction will remain the same. The Plant Table will move downstairs. We will have the planned but not ever executed Hayrides. The big proposed change is to replace the White Elephant tables with Antique dealers, artisans, and quilters. Do you know of anyone that might like booth space next year? Please contact Alison Saylor (978) 369-1809 Saylorfarm@comcast.net

## 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 Muggsie Rocco at 978-369-2656 during the month of November.

**Message for All Ages:** Three Sundays a month, the children and youth are with us in the sanctuary, and an important part of the service is the Message for All Ages. This 3-4 minute segment is (as the name implies) designed to appeal to everyone and leave them with something to think about. We are inviting congregation members and friends to do an MFAA and thereby share their knowledge and experience with us. There are many models: homespun (Suzanne Whitney Smith and her Church Mouse), scientific (George Bishop on the phases of the moon and the lunar calendar, Ernie Huber on global warming), cross-cultural (Heather Hedden on Jewish and Islamic holidays, Florence Goulet on children's life in Uganda). You could talk about your own childhood or that of your parents. An interactive Q&A format engages the children more than being "talked at," and allows those of us not involved as teachers in RE to see just how smart and insightful our kids are. To volunteer for a MFAA, please contact Roger Goulet, 978-369-6825 or [goulet27@aol.com](mailto:goulet27@aol.com).

*Roger Goulet  
for the Music & Worship Committee*

**Habitat for Humanity fund raiser Saturday, November 18 at 7:30pm in Union Hall:** Come for a Blues Club style evening of entertainment with Carlisle's own Hot Blues Band "Scrumdaddy". Tickets are \$20 each payable at the door with all proceeds going to the Habitat for Humanity of Lowell. Refreshments provided, but BYOB. Questions? Call Dian Cuccinello 978-287-5745 dianfrancesca@comcast.net

**There will be a family Advent Wreath Making Service on Sunday, November 26 at 3:30pm in Union Hall.** Following the wreath making we will have a carol sing. Please bring greens, clippers for cutting if you have them, a holder for the candle in the center and a plate or platter on which to place the wreath. Advent wreaths are a tradition based on religious ancient uses of evergreens and light symbolizing the expectation and hope of the Christmas season and the birth of Jesus. There will be an Advent Wreath in our Sunday services this December. The wreaths are part of home and church observance of Christmas. Please call the church office if you would like to attend (978-369-5180). There will be a sign up sheet at coffee hour for the next few Sundays.

**The Carlisle Council on Aging has lots of opportunities for volunteers.** Some of the needs are immediate, some will come up occasionally and over time. This does not need to mean a great deal of time. Any help is appreciated, even an hour a year is valued. Volunteer applications which list ideas to help are located at the Carlisle Town Hall outside the Council on Aging office.