

**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 XXXIII No. 5

November 10, 2008



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 10, 2008**

**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, 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

**From The Minister...**

On Tuesday morning I shed tears while reading Robert Pinsky's column in the Boston Globe, in which he introduced Walt Whitman's poem, "Election Day, November, 1884." It begins:

If I should need to name, O Western World,  
your powerfulest scene and show . . . .

and goes on to identify our "quadrennial choosing" as our nation's greatest monument and wonder. Here in 2008 it was a beautiful day for voting, for witnessing the powerful force of democracy in our hands. My tears flowed again in the evening as the results emerged. There was a gracious speech by John McCain and a moving address by President Elect Obama which reached out to the entire nation, and to the world. The challenges before us are enormous. I pray that we move forward as a nation to transform hope into change.

My deep appreciation for the beautiful Installation service and the hospitable reception that followed. The sermon by the Rev. Deborah J. Pope-Lance left us with an unforgettable image of a bee swarm and what it tells us about relationship. Some copies are available in the front hallway in case you missed it. Minister emeritus Woody Widrick was warmly wise and poetic. Marguerite Shaw accomplished her goal of having all the service music by Unitarian Universalists, and that included her own fine compositions. District Executive Lynn Thomas

delivered greetings on her way to do a service for a nearby congregation. Co-chairs Michael Dundorf and Jackie Schaefer of the Search Committee, and Lisa Sama and Suzanne Whitney Smith of the Parish Committee, led the formal Act of Installation.

We inaugurated a new chalice during the service, a gift from Margaret Darling. We relocated it to the center of the Candles of Community, which are now held in the copper stand given by Hal and Shirley Sauer.

The congregation's offering for The UUA Living Tradition Fund was \$505. This fund supports theological students, new ministers and an emergency fund for clergy.

Much of the work for the service was done quietly by a large group of volunteers, but I do know that the choir, Gio DiNicola, Dian Cuccinello (a fabulous cake filled with strawberries!), Roger Goulet, Tom Rourk, Sally Hayen, Lisa Sama, Suzanne Whitney Smith and many, many others pulled off this fine morning.

An interview in the current issue of the Carlisle Mosquito introduces me to the community. It was written by Priscilla Stevens with photographs by Beth Clarke. By any measure I've now been widely introduced and our shared ministry here is launched. Thank you for all you have done to launch this new era at FRS. - Diane

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

By Molly Sorrows

**Soup and Games Night** will be Sunday, November 16 at 4:00pm in Union Hall. Contact the church office if you would like to bring soup!



**Fa La La La La! Save the date:** We're Christmas caroling this year on **Friday night, December 19th**



**from 5 to 7**, so be sure to invite your family and friends. We'll meet in Union Hall to warm up our voices and assemble plates of cookies to share with our audience, and then head over to Carlisle Village Court to sing. Afterwards, we'll return to the church for cookies and cider. A little snow makes the evening magical, but rain cancels. If you can, please bring a plate of cookies to share. Questions? Contact Jane Mosier at 978-371-2844 or janemosier@modavi.com

**This year our intergenerational Christmas Pageant** will be held on Sunday, December 21 during our morning worship service. Molly is coordinating and is looking forward to everyone's support and active involvement.

### Inside this issue:

Habitat for Humanity	4
Thanksgiving Christmas Project	5
Advent Wreath Making	5
FRS Movie Night	6
Emergency Preparedness Training	6
Staff and Office Hours	7
Calendar	7

## MUSIC NOTES

By Marguerite Shaw

### Winter Holidays Concert December 7, 2008 7:00pm In the Sanctuary



Join us in celebrating



Christmas, Chanukah and Kwanzaa.



Carols · choirs · bells · instruments

## CHURCH CALENDAR

November 13	9:00am	Gingerbread House baking in kitchen.
November 13	7:00pm	Membership Committee in conference room.
November 14	7:00pm	Womenspirit Potluck at 7:00pm at Joan Dalton's house, 706 West Street (978-369-6708).
November 15	9:00am	Gingerbread House candy sorting with youth in Union Hall.
November 16	11:30am	Church Council at parsonage.
November 16	4:00pm	Soup and Games night in Union Hall.
November 17	7:00pm	Environmental Action Committee Movie Night in Union Hall.
November 18	7:00pm	Finance Committee meeting in church office.
November 18	7:30pm	Knitting for the Homeless in the conference room.
November 20	7:00pm	Parish Committee meeting in conference room.
November 22	8:00am	Boxwood Tree Workshop in Union Hall.
November 23	6:00pm	OWL class in Union Hall.
November 24	7:00pm	Buildings and Grounds Committee in conference room.
November 26	7:30pm	Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service at St. Irene's.

**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 usually available at the church weekdays 10:00 –3:00. Telephone 978-369-5180 or cell 978-501-4220; email [frsmusic@comcast.net](mailto:frsmusic@comcast.net).

Next Newsletter Deadline is November 17. If you would like to be added to or removed from the newsletter mailing list please call or email the church office.

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.

**FRS Movie Night  
Monday November 17  
7:00 p.m.**

The award-winning documentary "A Convenient Truth: Urban Solutions from Curitiba, Brazil" will be shown on Monday, November 17th at 7p.m. in Union Hall. Curitiba is an international model for sustainable development, the result of strategic, integrated urban planning. The 1980s were marked by widespread economic recession, rising urban poverty and increasing deforestation rates in Brazil. During this period, Curitiba rolled out a number of ecofriendly and social programs. This 52 minute documentary focuses on innovations in transportation, recycling, social benefits including affordable housing, seasonal parks, and the processes that transformed Curitiba into one of the most livable cities in the world. Sponsored by The FRS Environmental Action Committee.



**Emergency Preparedness Training for Congregations  
Saturday, November 22, 2008  
9:00am—3:00pm  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester  
90 Holden Street, Worcester**

Facilitated by the Reverend Aaron Payson from the UU Trauma Response Ministry. This workshop will help participants create an emergency response plan for their congregation including issues such as command structures, communications, resource development, and important issues related to disaster management within a faith-based community.

FRS is sending a team of up to 5 people. If you are interested contact Diane Miller.

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.

**UPCOMING SERVICES**

**Sunday, November 16:** The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted sixty years ago this December 10<sup>th</sup>. Most people are vague about what exactly the UDHR says, and how this document has made a difference in our world. The sermon will explore its story and look at the critical human rights issues we face today.

**November 23:** A Thanksgiving celebration. A Thanksgiving sermon by Diane Miller.

**November 26: The Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service** will be held on Wednesday, November 26 at 7:30pm at St. Irene's Parish in Carlisle. This annual community event is a joint effort by FRS and St. Irene's. Because our minister will be away for Thanksgiving this year, St. Irene's will both host and provide the service.

**GREENS SALE WORKSHOPS**



I hope everyone will attend on December 6 and also volunteer for the workshops listed below or other jobs like picking up and delivering greens, setting up tables and, of course, clean-up. Call Janice Kissinger at 978-369-8968 to sign up for workshops.

- **Saturday, November 22**, Boxwood Tree Workshop 8:00am to 5:00pm in Union Hall
- **Sunday, November 30**, Decorate the Sanctuary at noon in the Sanctuary
- **Wednesday, December 3**, Christmas Greens Arrangements Workshop All Day in Union Hall
- **Thursday, December 4**, Wreath Decorating Workshop All Day in Union Hall
- **Friday, December 5**, Set up and price items for Greens Sale 8:00am in Union Hall.
- **Friday, December 5**, Pre-order pick up at 5:00pm in Union Hall
- **Saturday, December 6**, Greens Sale 10:00am to 2:00pm in Union Hall

## FRS HABITAT WORKDAY IN OCTOBER

An FRS crew of 4 worked at the new Habitat for Humanity project in Bedford on Saturday, Oct 25. The crew consisted of Mike Ramnarine, Dave Verrill, Dave's daughter Lindsey and her friend Dakota Woodworth. Quoting Dave:



"We had a great time, and got a lot done. There were several 'crews' from around the area - the largest a group of students from Bentley College. The project is renovating a 100 year-old farmhouse in Bedford, with an additional six Habitat houses going up on the same land - one of their largest projects in the area. We did a lot of work in the basement in the morning - removing rocks, cement, and trash. We also took down the chimney, with 100 years of ashes sadly not revealing any old coins or mysterious bones! The toughest part of the work was cutting through the foundation and digging holes to add proper footings for metal columns that will be put in to hold up the foundation. In the afternoon we built 12x12 boxes to help form the cement for the footings. It turned out to be a lovely day, so we appreciated being out of the dust and soot for the afternoon. All in all, a wonderful experience. They [the girls] learned a lot about many hands making light work, and all for a better community."

Unfortunately things did not go so smoothly for Mike. He stepped on a nail, infected his foot, but worked the whole day anyway. Quoting Mike: "Ignoring all that, and the pain at the time, I had a good time. The highlight was lunch, as it was provided by Whole Foods, and was quite good. I also enjoyed the day because it was my first time working on a Habitat house. We worked on clearing rubble from the basement, and setting up to pour footings for new lally columns. We also demolished a concrete patio."

We hope Mike is fully recovered by the time you read this.

## FRS HABITAT WORKDAY IN NOVEMBER

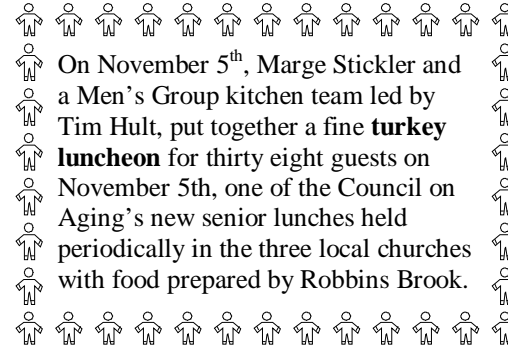
We've signed up to provide 5 FRS workers for the Bedford project on Saturday Nov. 15. If you're interested please contact Ernie Huber at 369-6678, or at e2huber@verizon.net ASAP.

## CHURCH HAPPENINGS

### A Special Thank You!

**Installation Sunday, November 2: Special thanks** to the Search Committee, Music and Worship Committee and all the many individuals who contributed to the success of the Reception following Diane's Installation Service on Sunday. The contributions of salads, savories and sweets were enjoyed by everyone. Those who helped with set up and clean up made for a smooth transition from empty hall to party and back again. **THANK YOU ALL!**

-The Parish Committee



On November 5<sup>th</sup>, Marge Stickler and a Men's Group kitchen team led by Tim Hult, put together a fine **turkey luncheon** for thirty eight guests on November 5th, one of the Council on Aging's new senior lunches held periodically in the three local churches with food prepared by Robbins Brook.

### There will be a family Advent Wreath Making Service on Sunday, November 30 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).

### Once again the Social Action Committee will sponsor its Thanksgiving and Christmas project.

We have a new contact at the Butler Middle School in Lowell. The administration of the Butler will work with some of its staff members at the school to provide us with the names of five families who are in need. Through monetary donations collected from our congregation, several members of the Social Action Committee will shop for Thanksgiving groceries which will be delivered directly to the families the Monday before Thanksgiving. The children of these same families will received two Christmas gifts each: one clothing gift and one recreational gift. You may donate money during coffee hour, or write a check with the notation 'Lowell Families' on it. If you need more information, please contact Dollina Borella, 978-371-0149.

