

**The First Religious Society in Carlisle**  
**Unitarian Universalist**  
**1st Sunday in Advent: Hope**

December 3, 2017 Order of Service, 10:00 am

\*Asterisks indicate that the congregation will stand as able in body or in spirit

**Prelude**                      A Christmas Medley    Lorena Neptune

**Lighting of the Candles**

**Welcome and Opening Remarks**    The Reverend Lisa Mobayed

\***Hymn No. 1022**            **Open the Window**

**Lighting of the first Advent candle**    Muggsie and Greg Rocco

**(Response, spoken in unison)**

*May it kindle in us hearts full of expectation*

\***Chalice Lighting** (spoken in unison)

*May the light of this flame illuminate lives and strivings of the spirit.*

*May it heal misunderstandings and strengthen love.*

\***Covenant of the Congregation** (spoken in unison)

*Love is the doctrine of this church;*

*The quest for truth is our sacrament;*

*And service is our prayer.*

*To dwell together in peace;*

*To seek knowledge in freedom;*

*To serve humanity in friendship;*

*To the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine –*

*Thus do we covenant with each other and with God.*

**Story**                      Second Wind Quartet & Pam Howell, Director of Religious Education

**Children's Recessional**

*Go your way in peace; wander as you may.*

*Blessed is the path you take, may love guide you on your way.*

*Comfort find in truth; may your struggles cease.*

*May the fire within your heart light the way of peace.\**

\*Music & lyrics by Jim Scott, adapted from Mozart. ©2005 Jim Scott (SESAC)

**Candles of Community**    Rev. Mobayed

A time to share the prayer on your heart

**Prayer**    by Jan Richardson

**Choral Response**            Nothing But Peace is Enough    by Jim Scott

**Offering: Shared today** with    the House of Hope  
(see announcements for more information)

**Offertory Anthem**            Keep Your Lamps    Spiritual, arr. by Andre Thomas  
*The FRS choir with Ian Wolossow, bongos*

\***Doxology No. 402**            From you I receive to you I give,  
together we share, and from this, we live

**Reading**    by Jan Richardson

\***Hymn No. 224**            **Let Christmas Come**

**Sermon**                      *Receiving Hope*    Rev. Mobayed

**Silent Meditation**

\***Hymn No. 244**            **It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

\***Benediction**    by Sarah Ban Breathnach, adapted

**Choral Response**            May Peace and Love Go With You    by Marguerite Shaw

**Chalice Extinguishing** (spoken in unison)

*Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.*

**Postlude**                      I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas    Second Wind

Greeters: Karen and Tom Dunkers

Verger: Nancy Hartle

Coffee Hour comestibles: Congregants with last names K-P

**Accessibility:** The elevator to all three floors of the building is located in the hallway through the door next to the pulpit. Personal hearing devices are available on tables at the back of the Sanctuary.

#### Staff and Committee Contacts

Parish Cmte Co-Chairs:	Eric Darling, edarling@carlisletaxcredits.com, Jackie Schaefer, jackie.schaefer@comcast.net
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# The First Religious Society in Carlisle Unitarian Universalist

***1st Sunday in Advent: Hope***  
**December 3, 2017**



**A Welcoming Congregation**

## Today in Religious Education

Little's (1yr-4yrs) with Bella Eckler  
K-Ones(K-1st Grades)- with Carly Neale Paris, Brianna Neptune and adult, Rebecca Bromark - Building and Singing  
Middle's (2nd-5th Grades)- Holly West, Rachel Bryan and adults Judy Bose and Pam Howell - This Little Light of Mine  
JYG - (6,7,8th Grades)- teen leaders: Jasmine Neale Paris and Katie Baum, with adult Emily Stewart: Creating the Gingerbread Village for the Elf Workshop  
NYG - (7th-12th Grades) - with 6th Graders!  
6-8:30pm Setup Elf Workshop, 8:30-9 - Games and Dark Silence.

### Next Sunday in RE 12/10-

Little's (1yr-4yrs) with Bella Eckler  
K-5th Grades - Elf Workshop 10am-12pm  
Children will be making gifts with the Elf Helpers (JYG and NYG teens)  
NYG - (7th-12th Grades) - with 6th Graders!  
7-8:30 Elf Crafting - A chance for teens to make gifts in the Elf Workshop  
8:30-9pm - Games and Dark Silence.  
**Save the Dates:** December 10th & 17th - Holiday Elf Workshop -  
Special RE Sunday from 10am-Noon (Staying late is optional)  
Don't miss this annual event where children make homemade and heartfelt gifts for friends and family.  
December 10th - FRS Christmas Concert with our Children's Choir at 7pm  
December 17th - Angel Sunday - The Children's Choir will Sing  
December 24th - Christmas Eve Tableau - 3pm  
Come and be part of the Christmas Story.

## Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 3, 2017	9:15-9:45am	Choir Rehearsal
		Nursery is open after the Message for All Ages
	10:00am	Service
	11:00am	Coffee Hour
Monday, December 4	7:30pm	Environmental Action Committee
Saturday, December 9	2:00pm	Handbell rehearsal

## Upcoming Services

Dec 10th, Second Sunday of Advent: Receiving Peace  
Dec 17th, Third Sunday of Advent: Receiving Joy  
Dec 24th, Christmas Eve Services, 3pm (family)  
5pm (candlelight) Fourth Sunday of Advent: Receiving Love

## Announcements

We share the plate (50-50) today with **the House of Hope**. This year, as usual, FRS will be donating Christmas stockings for all the moms, dads and children at House of Hope in Lowell. Last year we donated 61 filled stockings, for 28 moms and 33 children. We expect similar numbers this year. We will also be filling stockings for the Alloh family, Syrian refugees who have now settled in Carlisle. Social Action buys the stocking gifts, and this month, the Sunday school children will pack the stockings, which are made in Cambodia by the sewing school of The Sharing Foundation, another charity FRS supports. HOH says it is the most appreciated gift of the year. This project depends on your continued support.

**Pastoral Concerns Ride Board:** If you have trouble driving -- at all or at night -- and would like a ride to and from the FRS holiday concert (Sunday evening, Dec. 10), please email [nancyswest@gmail.com](mailto:nancyswest@gmail.com) or call the church office at 978-369-5180. If you would be willing to give someone else a ride to/from the holiday concert, please email [nancyswest@gmail.com](mailto:nancyswest@gmail.com) or call the church office at 978-369-5180.

**A note from the Parish Committee and the Buildings and Grounds Committee:** The Parish Committee along with the Buildings and Grounds Committee would like to thank all of those who donated to the sanctuary window replacement project. The contractor installing the new windows has offered to restore the remaining four windows in the sanctuary at the same discounted price (\$2,000/window). So, once again we would like to ask for donations toward this worthy project. If you missed your chance to help out last time, now is the time. Please make your check out to FRS and put "window improvement fund" in the **memo line**. **Send it to FRS, Box 817, Carlisle, MA 01741. Thank you!**

**Don't forget the Holiday Concert, Sunday December 10 at 7pm.** This festive, participatory event will ring in the season with carols, songs, and instrumental music presented by the adult choir, the children's choir, soloists, handbell ringers, the Second Wind Barbershop Quartet, and the FRS Jazz Group. The concert is suitable for people of all ages and is interactive with audience participation encouraged. The choir will perform John Rutter's lively "Star Carol," Patrick M. Liebergen's gentle "Pacem," and Jay Althouse's joyous "May the Season Never End." The handbell ringers and barbershop quartet will present arrangements of holiday favorites, and the jazz ensemble will offer their renditions of familiar holiday jazz standards. The program will also include vocal and instrumental solos by FRS members and guests, along with carols and songs celebrating Hanukkah, Christmas, and the Winter Solstice sung by all. Admission is free and a reception follows the concert. Hope to see you there!

## Community Events

**Carlisle Dance on Friday, December 8.** Mostly contras and a few squares. Potluck supper at 6:30, followed by dancing to the Carlisle Band from 8-10. All are welcome for supper, dancing, or both. Potluck \$2; dancing \$6. Questions? ask Kim Kastens.

"Daring Democracy" Thursday, December 7, 7:30 p.m. First Parish Concord. Legendary author Frances Moore Lappé and organizer Adam Eichen will share highlights of their empowering new UU Common Read, *Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want*. They will be sharing highlights of the book and discussing ways that we can engage in a movement to save our democracy. Their presentation will be followed by a question and answer session and a book signing reception in the Parish Hall. The event is sponsored by the First Parish group Reclaim Our Democracy.

**Film And Panel Discussion:** Project Drawdown, a Comprehensive Plan to Reverse Global Warming, Monday, December 11, 7-8:30 PM Bedford Public Library  
There is no silver bullet for climate change because slowing planetary warming will require a variety of strategies. *Drawdown*, a new book edited by the green entrepreneur, Paul Hawken, analyzes 100 solutions, ranks them by the amount of greenhouse gases they could cut, and reaches some surprising conclusions. Join us for a brief film about the Drawdown plan. It will be followed by a panel discussion Sponsored by Bedford Energy Task Force, Transition Town Bedford

## About the Music

**Hymn 1022**, *Open the Window*, was composed in 1997 in Cuzzago, Italy by Elise Witt. It was inspired by a Spiritual from the Georgia Sea Islands called *Heist the Window, Noah*. Though Elise's version uses only one phrase from the original Spiritual, it keeps the intention of naming situations in our lives, personal and global, that need opening for the dove to fly in, for us to find peace. Elise performs this song "a cappella" in almost every concert, and she always gets the audience singing and signing (American Sign Language) along with her. It is a stirring cry for peace, and has been translated into many languages (including Arabic, Bosnian, Spanish, and French), and it is open ended for students and singers to add their own verses about situations in their lives that need a visit from the dove of peace.

The choir **Anthem**, *Keep Your Lamps*, is a terrific example of an African-American Spiritual that might have served multiple purposes. It may have been sung during the time of slavery to express spiritual devotion, or to share a risky sentiment or plan. As an expression of religious devotion, "Keep your lamps trimmed and burning" likely refers to the biblical parable found in the book of Matthew, Chapter 25, verses 1-23. In this passage, Jesus tells the story of the wise and foolish virgins. The virgins had been told that the bridegroom (Christ) would be coming, so they fetched their Lamps, trimmed and lit the wick, and set them burning at the appointed place; however, the bridegroom didn't arrive at the appointed time and the foolish only brought enough oil for one night. The foolish returned from buying more oil only to find that they had missed the bridegroom while they were away. Jesus then tells the disciples to be ready because the day and hour of his return is unknown. For an African-American slave, the parable may hold a double deliverance—faith that slavery will be abolished and that freedom awaited them in heaven. Andre Thomas (b. 1952) is an American composer and conductor. He currently serves as a professor of music at Florida State University and the artistic director for the Tallahassee Community Chorus.

The **Postlude**, sung by the Second Wind Barbershop Quartet, is "White Christmas," the 1942 Irving Berlin song reminiscing about an old-fashioned Christmas setting. It was written while Irving was staying overnight with a friend in Banning, California on New Year's Day in 1940 when he looked out the window only to discover a light snowfall. Snow occasionally falls in the San Geronio pass and while in Banning, Irving wrote the words because of the surprise of the snow covering Banning. The first public performance of the song was by Bing Crosby, on his NBC radio show *The Kraft Music Hall* on Christmas Day, 1941. The song established and solidified the fact that there could be commercially successful secular Christmas songs—in this case, written by a Jewish-American songwriter, who also wrote "God Bless America." It has often been noted that the mix of melancholy—"just like the ones I used to know"—with comforting images of home—"where the treetops glisten—resonated especially strongly with listeners during World War II. Although Crosby dismissed his role in the song's success, he was associated with it for the rest of his career.

Notes for *About the Music* are from internet sources and from *Between the Lines*, a UUA publication.