

Meetinghouse Messenger

from the First Religious Society



December 29, 2014
through January 4, 2015

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January Services

January 2015 -- A Month of Special Services.

Jan 4 -- The Rev. Colin Bossen. "Through Eyes That Have Cried" How can we see through eyes that have cried? In this service Rev. Colin Bossen reflects upon stories he gathered from undocumented and deported migrants this summer in El Salvador and the ongoing need for a transformation of the United State's immigration system. Rev. Bossen has been a Unitarian Universalist minister for seven years and is currently pursuing a PhD in American Studies at Harvard University. He blogs at colinbossen.com

He was sabbatical minister at FRS in January & February of 2014.

Jan. 11 -- Poetry Service, led by the Music and Worship Committee. The choir and Dan Ryan will be off. Music by members of the congregation, including Nina Benkley and Robert Canavello.

Jan 18 -- The Rev. Victor Carpenter, "Parish Ministry"

FRS Homepage

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**Office
Administrator:**

Ann Quenin

978-369-5180

frs@uucarlisle.org

Hours: Mon. 8-
9:30am

10:30am-noon

Tuesday: 8am-noon

Closed Wednesday

Thursday 8-noon and
1pm-4pm

Friday 8am-noon and
1pm-3pm

Minister:

Rev. Diane Miller
978-369-0284
church study
dmiller @
uucarlisle.org

The Minister is usually in the church study for portions of Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and

Sunday. Friday is preparation time, Saturdays vary, and Wednesday is her day off. Call for an appointment.

Thoughts on the very special nature of this ministerial profession past and future. Vic was Interim Minister at FRS 2007-2008, and returns to FRS on the weekend honoring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jan 25 -- Lisa Perry-Wood leads a Service for All Ages

A Message from the Religious Education Director

Learning to Be a Good Neighbor

Next Sunday the children will learn the story of The Good Samaritan and talk about what it means to be a good neighbor. We will ask questions like: Who are our neighbors? How can we help others? What should we do if we see someone in need of help? This will also be a time to talk about our Social Action Sundays and brainstorm activities and ideas to help those in need.

Sign-up is ongoing for teachers for our Spring 2015 K-5 World Religions classes. We'll be using a curriculum based on lessons from the UUA's "Tapestry of Faith," with lots of engaging stories and activities to introduce our young people to many of the world's religions. A number of our Fall teachers enjoyed their classes so much that they've said they'd like to teach again this Spring. Whether you're an experienced teacher or have never taught young children, you are warmly welcomed to sign up. If you are interested and did not receive the Sign-Up Genius email, please contact Lisa.

If you haven't signed your child up for Religious Education, please drop by the RE table, before church or at coffee hour on Sundays. Or feel free to come to the RE office on Tuesdays or Thursdays, when Lisa has office hours: dre@uucarlisle.org or 781-883-3411.



News and Programs

Share the Plate

Sharing the Plate on January 4 will be the **Carlisle Neighbor Fund**. The CNF was begun in 2008 at the start of the recession by two local families concerned about the impact of unemployment and financial straits in the community. Additional donations have been made to replenish the fund. The CNF is held by the three congregations in town, and allocated by the local clergy. CNF is restricted to local residents, and has been used to meet a wide

**Religious
Education Director:**

Lisa Perry-Wood

dre@uucarlisle.org

781-883-3411

Music Director:

Dan Ryan

dryan@uucarlisle.org

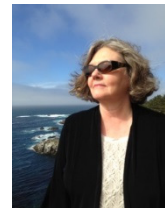
variety of needs for which there are no other resources.

Behind the Scenes

Thanks to **Beth Sullivan** for designing and **Kate Sacco** for procuring the Winter Holidays poster in the Wayside Pulpit. Thanks to **Rick MacDonald** for creating and posting the Christmas Eve & Waffles and Jazz sign in the Wayside Pulpit. Thanks to **Tom Rourk, Lisa Sama, the FRS Jazz Group** and the many volunteers who helped make the Waffles and Jazz event such a success.

A Note from the Minister: January Sabbatical Plans

The Parish Committee approved plans for me to take a month of sabbatical in January, which I will spend with family in Salina, Kansas. Instead of having a sabbatical minister, this is an opportunity for pulpit guests at FRS. I will be back for the February 1st Service. Should you need to contact me, check with the church office or Parish Committee co-chairs. I will be on email only part of the month.



Facebook Afficionados: "Like" the church page on Facebook so you are more likely to see the photos and updates on your news feed. You can always visit the page by writing "First Religious Society in Carlisle" into the Search box on Facebook. Or type in the URL in a browser and go there directly: <https://www.facebook.com/FRSCarlisle>

An ad hoc group of three posts things to the page: Tom Rourk, Rick MacDonald, and Diane Miller. Contact them if you have photos or information you want posted.

General Assembly is just six months away! The annual meeting of Unitarian Universalists will be June 24--28 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon. The gathering is for learning, worship and building community among Unitarian Universalists. Youth programming, lay leadership development, social justice work, and more. See www.uua.org for more information. If you are interested in attending as a delegate, contact the Parish Committee or the Minister. More information at www.uua.org

The **Social Action Committee** contributed to the Northeastern Correctional Center, to help with purchasing gifts for children of men in the facility, which are given out at a special holiday party.

Steve Kirk, who volunteers there, suggested supporting the program. FRS got a handwritten message to the congregation in a Christmas card: *We were so surprised and blessed by your generous gift towards purchasing the presents for the children of the men incarcerated at our facility. Please know that you made their Christmas very special this year. Please also know that the men appreciated what you did for their children. Steve can tell you about the excitement on their faces as they came forward for their gifts. Thank you for blessing us -- and may the blessing come back back to you tenfold. Ellen, Director of Treatment.*

Happy New Year from the entire staff!