



Meetinghouse Messenger

from the First Religious Society

March 23
through March 29, 2015

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This Sunday

March 29

Fifth Sunday Arts Celebration on Palm Sunday. The morning begins with a brief service in the Sanctuary, which includes an opportunity for people to join the church by signing the membership book. Then we disperse to a variety of creative art workshops. See the descriptions of the activities below. Nursery care will be provided for the youngest ones.

April Services

April 2 at 7:30pm - Maundy Thursday communion in the Sanctuary.

April 5 at 6:15am - Easter sunrise service at River Road Farm, followed by a potluck breakfast hosted by Liz and Maris Platais.

April 5 at 10am: Easter Service in the Sanctuary. "Faith and Doubt" Rev. Miller. The Choir will sing. Children will begin upstairs and depart for Easter activities and stories.

April 19 (Earth Day Service) - The April 19 (Earth Day) sermon will be given by Dr. Gary Rucinski, Northeast Regional Coordinator of Citizens Climate Lobby, a grassroots nonpartisan nonprofit building the political will to move us towards a sustainable climate.

Coffee Hour this week: Congregants - U-Z

onFacebook

**Church Directory,
March 2015**

**Staff and
Committee
contacts March
2015**

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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,

A Note from the Minister:

We tried something new last November, an Arts Celebration Sunday for the fifth Sunday of the month. Another one is coming up, the second of three this church year. The first Arts Celebration generated many positive comments. Activities suited the full age range of the congregation, and included hands-on doing, making, learning, creating, and cooperating throughout the building. Religion can be abstract and ephemeral, but it has long supported the Arts. Creating art fosters the ability to imagine what is not-yet, to dream, to aspire, to form a new vision. Creative activity can capture the dignity and discipline and satisfaction of making. Hands-on art strengthens the human capacity to create, to acknowledge the blessing of imperfection, to witness something that is more than the sum of its parts. Art brings us closer to Beauty, Transcendence, and Awe. See you in church! ~Diane



A Message from the Religious Education Director

What Does it Mean to Belong?

This week (March 22) was our monthly Service for All Ages. We talked about membership and belonging, while singing together and hearing "Pebble," a timeless story about finding one's place in the world. We explored together what it means for each of us to belong to a family, a community, or a church.



Next Sunday we will have our 5th Sunday All Ages Arts Celebration. After a brief service upstairs, the children can choose between egg decorating, palm frond weaving or card making activities. All ages are welcome to join in the fun - feel free to bring a friend or two!

This Spring we are studying World Religions. The next classes will be: 4/5 Spring/Easter and 4/12 Islam. We welcome new volunteers to join our teachers in presenting this fun and engaging curriculum. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Lisa or take a look at our Sign Up Genius page:<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094eafa72ca5f49-world>

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.

Saturdays vary, and Wednesday is her day off. Call for an appointment.

Religious Education Director:

Lisa Perry-Wood

dre@uucarlisle.org

781-883-3411

Music Director:

Dan Ryan

dryan@uucarlisle.org

Pledge Program Status

As you all know, we are in the middle of our annual pledge program. The initial results are encouraging as we have received over \$79,000 in pledges to date. Thank you very much to those who have pledged early. It is important to our planning for next year to have good information about our level of member support. For those of you who have not yet pledged, please take a moment to find that pledge card and send it in. FRS is fortunate to have such a loyal base of members who financially support the church. If you cannot find your pledge materials please contact the church office. If you need additional information regarding pledging or have any questions about the process please contact Joe Sheedy, the Chair of the Finance Committee. Thank you for your support!

News and Programs

Here are the activities you can choose from on Sunday, March 29:

- **Ukrainian Easter egg decorating**, a folk art tradition involving applying layers of beeswax and dyes, to achieve different colored designs where the dye resists the wax, and the latter is then removed. Because detailed designs are "drawn" in hot wax, this activity is not suitable for young children. We will extend the activity into the coffee hour time, to give more people the opportunity, since the number of tools and jars of dye are limited. Find out more at: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pysanka>. Led by Heather Hedden. Located in Union Hall.
- **Wondrous Machine: the Inner Workings of the Pipe Organ**. Have you always wondered how our organ works? How it makes the different sounds, how it supplies wind to the pipes, what the different shapes and sizes of pipes are, or how the stops work? On Sunday, March 29 all will be revealed in an interactive talk and demonstration given by Music Director Dan Ryan. Come learn how our amazing organ works and even try it out for yourself!
- **Decorating Papier-Mâché Easter Eggs**. Using colorful tissue paper, glue, and decorations, this fun creative activity is suitable for young children and every other age group. Led by Amy Smack in the "sink room" on the ground level. Put your eggs in a container of real grass to make an Easter decoration.
- **Palm Art**. Fold and weave strips of paper or real palm fronds into traditional and creative shapes. Led by Rick

MacDonald on the Ground Level

- **How to Prepare a Lay-Led Service - The Arts of Worship.** Led by Kim Kastens and Tom Rourk, past Chair of the Music & Worship Committee. Find out how to lead a Summer Service or another service you've envisioned. Widrick Room.

FRS Annual Circle Dinner - March 28 -

Our Annual Circle Dinner Extravaganza will take place Saturday, March 28, 2015. Appetizers will start in Union Hall at 6:00 p.m. It is during appetizers and conversation when you will find out who your host is. Dinners will start at 7:00 p.m. at the home of your host. Thanks to all who have volunteered to host. If you have any questions, please call Lisa Sama or email her at LisaSama828 at gmail dot com. See you on the 28th in Union Hall at 6!

Three times a year, **FRS hosts a lunch coordinated by Carlisle's COA for Carlisle seniors.** The food is prepared by Chelmsford Crossings in collaboration with Minuteman Tech. Our last lunch for 2014-2015 is on **Wednesday, April 1st** in Union Hall. If you are interested in attending, please contact Angela Smith at asmith at Carlisle dot mec.edu or 978-371-2895. We usually get 40 or more attendees.

If you would like help out with our FRS merry band, please contact Fontaine Richardson at FKR at FontaineRichardson dot com. We need help setting up tables, setting the tables, getting the food, serving the food, eating the food and then cleaning up. This month's menu will be roasted turkey breast dinner, cranberry sage stuffing, mashed potatoes, butternut squash and pumpkin pie - Thanksgiving in April. We usually start at 11:00 AM and finish by 1:30 PM or so. Many hands make light work.

Help needed at Coffee Hour! The Coffee Hour committee is seeking volunteers for 3/29 and 4/5. A committee member is signed up for those dates. We need an extra person to help out.

If you can volunteer for the whole shift, you should plan to arrive at 9:15 to help with set up and stay afterward for clean up. If you can only do set up or clean up, your help is still greatly needed and appreciated. Please let Gio DiNicola know - gfdinicola at gmail dot com

From the Flower Committee: Many of us like to honor the memory of a loved one by placing flowers or other memento on the pulpit table during the Sunday service. We'd like to remind you

that these gifts can be made for celebratory reasons as well. A new baby girl in the family? Place a vase of pink roses on the pulpit table for an hour before taking them to the new mother. Uncle Bob's birthday? Let us all enjoy the sunflowers before they travel to the big party. Or, if the event is too far away to attend, send a picture of your gift on the pulpit table via email, with best wishes from the congregation.

Sign up on the Flower calendar, or email any member of the flower committee: Pam Hall, Jackie Schaefer, or Deb Jancek.

Please note that our newest church directory is available as a pdf in the **quick links** column to your left. A staff and committee contact list is also there. There will be hard copies available at Coffee Hour or you may email or call the office if you would like to be sent a copy.

Share the Plate

Sharing the Plate on March 29 will be the UUSC. (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee).

UUSC advances human rights through grassroots collaboration. In more than a dozen countries throughout the world, UUSC fosters social justice and works toward a world free from oppression. UUSC's innovative approaches and measurable impact are grounded in the belief that all people have inherent power, dignity, and rights.

Behind the Scenes

A message from Frank Rigg and the Social Action Committee: Dear Friends,

Thanks to all of you who contributed to our last St Paul's Kitchen Dinner in Lowell on January 30, especially Dave and Max Barber who led the group in my absence. I was with my family enjoying a New York celebration my having registered the proverbial three score years and ten. A welcome and shout out also to Brad Eckler, Asia Forcucci and Stephanie Salguero who joined us for the first time in serving the dinner. Thank you Asia, Brad, and Stephanie! I hope you found helping St Paul's Kitchen to be as rewarding as all the rest of us.

Our next fifth Friday will be on May 29. It's quite a long break but there is a shortage of fifth Fridays this year. The remaining two fifth Fridays for 2015 are on July 31 and October 31. Please save those dates.

After I return from my trip to England and Italy I will be back in

touch regarding the May dinner.

Thanks very much everybody: Dave & Max Barber; Linda Clark; Joan Crooker; Margaret Darling; Mike Dundorf; Brad & Lauree Eckler; Asia Forcucci; Roger Goulet; Stephanie Hackbarth; Nancy Hendrie; Marilyn Harte; Ellen Huber; Anne Ketchen; Sue Kirk; Christine Lear; Diane Miller; Art Milliken; Hannelore Munson; Ann Quenin; Fontaine Richardson; Barbara Ritz; Tom Rourke; Stephanie Saguero; Lisa Sama; Alison Saylor; Marguerite Shaw; Amy Smack; Sally Stokes; Beth Sullivan; Linda and Steve Tierney; Bob Wallhagen; Nancy West; and Sally Zielinski.

We are indeed fortunate to have so many members who join in this work. Your generosity is greatly appreciated not least by those we serve. And remember, as the FRS covenant says: "Service is our prayer." Cheers, Frank

General Assembly is just three 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

Community Events

Common cathedral ART SHOW AND AUCTION, March 26th, 2015 Wilson Chapel, Andover Newton Theological School, 210 Herrick Rd, Newton, MA 02459. Join common cathedral from 6 to 9pm for a private showing -- and live auction -- of art created by *common art* artists. Original pieces are now available by **silent auction**. Check out their website to view these pieces.

SPRING CONCERT: Violinist Sarah Whitney returns to her hometown of Concord to launch a concert series called **BEYOND THE NOTES, on Saturday, March 28, at the Concord Art Association, at 7:30pm**. For the inaugural concert, Sarah will be joined by SYBARITE5 colleague violist Angela Pickett. Everything from Bach and Mozart to Jean Luc-Ponty and Irish fiddle tunes. Concert vignettes and conversations with the performers. For information and

tickets: www.gobeyondthenotes.com.

Environmental Film Series

Tuesday, March 31, at 7:00 p.m.

First Parish, 20 Lexington Road, Concord

Have you considered reducing your intake of animal products? Perhaps you're concerned about your health, or the environment, or the way animals are treated. Please join us on March 31 at 7:00pm for a showing of *Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret*. While some object to the title, the film itself is an excellent exploration of the impacts of large scale animal agriculture on our environment and why environmental organizations are so afraid to talk about it. Sponsored by the Social Action Committee Council and Reverence For Life.