



# Meetinghouse Messenger

## from the First Religious Society

**August 17  
through August 23,**

**2015**

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### **This Sunday 10 AM in Union Hall**

**August 23** Join us this Sunday, August 23, for a Lay Service, led by Asia Forcucci. Since its founding, American society has been plagued with racism. For hundreds of years African Americans have fought for equal rights. However, there seems to be little gain for people of color. Asia will lead us in a discussion, asking why, even 50 years after the Civil Rights movement, we still have so far to go. In our country, even today, African Americans are being denied basic rights and freedoms, victims of hate crimes, police brutality, and the insidious, subtle prejudice that is part of our judicial system. Asia will bring up these topics, and will ask: What is it that we can do, as individuals and as community to address this and better our society? 10am in Union Hall. All are Welcome!

### **Summer Services in August and September**

**August 30** Diane Miller, "Blessing of the Animals." Bring your animal safely constrained, ready for a warm blessing and a time to appreciate all beings, pets, and the

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**Church Directory**

**Staff and  
Committee  
Contacts**

-  
**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

interdependent web of life.

**Sept. 6** Pancake Breakfast in Union Hall. A warm welcome on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, pancakes with all the fixings. 10-11. Volunteer pancake flippers much appreciated.

**Sept. 13** Services resume in the Sanctuary with the choir. Religious Education begins.

**Message from the Minister**

On Sunday afternoon, August 16th, I went to Bethel A.M.E. Church in Lowell for the Interfaith Memorial to the Mother Emmanuel Nine of Charleston, SC. Colleague Ellen Spero of Chelmsford shared a well-received reflection. Kate Sacco and Michael Dundorf of FRS also attended. The service was filled with praise, music, preaching, and participation -- the entire congregation was an Amen corner.

The hope was expressed for increased unity among congregations in the Greater Lowell area, an annual joint service, and more action to address issues of racism. Now a year since the Michael Brown killing and the start of the Black Lives Matter movement, the June shootings during a Bible Study meeting were intended to start a "race war." Instead, they have prompted increased attention to the "war on people of color" that has been so prominent in our nation's history.

~ Diane

Summer is often the season for church building improvements. The new front door is installed and now painted. It moves easily, and closes securely. The large room on the ground level, formerly the Red Balloon space, is being spiffed up in September by clearing out items no longer in use, and having the floor painted. This will become RE classroom space as well as a multipurpose room for church and community meetings. The carpeted classroom in the NW corner will become youth space for the Junior Youth Group and Senior High School gatherings. Pam Howell has redone the RE Office and classroom space. Check out these improvements when you are in the building. ~ Diane



Wednesday is her day off. Call for an appointment.

**Student Minister**

Lisa Perry-Wood

dre@uucarlisle.org

781-883-3411

**RE Coordinator**

Pam Howell

drepanhowell@gmail.com

978-270-0341

**Music Director:**

Dan Ryan

dryan@uucarlisle.org

FREE INTERLOCKING FOAM MATS, formerly Red Balloon flooring, are being discarded to make way for refurbishing the space in the large room. The mats have been well used, with ground in dirt. Possible uses for gardening, animal areas, etc. First come first served. Anything left will be taken with trash on Saturday August 22.

**A message from the Office Administrator:** Regular office hours will resume in September, although until then I will be here for some part of the day Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, usually mornings before it gets too hot. If you need to get in touch right away, call my cell phone 781-820-2783. Meetinghouse Messenger announcements will need to be in my hands no later than the Thursday morning before it is published on Monday, so please keep that in mind. Email news to frs@uucarlisle.org Thanks! Ann Quenin

**News and Programs**

**Our condolences** to the MacDonald family at the loss of Rick's father, Jerry MacDonald. (Lt Col Gerald Elwood MacDonald, USMC Ret.) He will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. near all of his brothers and his parents, grandparents and Rick's maternal grandparents.

**Facebook Postings:**

Individuals or Committees wishing to post notices, events, pictures or updates on our Church Facebook page are asked to email these to Tom Rourke at tfrpiano@comcast.net He will put them up on the main page feed for all to see. You can access our Facebook page [here](#)



Greetings from the MSC! We met on August 15, 2015 and spent the meeting going reviewing the questions that will make up the survey for the community. Members of

the Ministerial Search Committee have carefully reviewed past questions; questions suggested by the UUA and still other questions that the committee suggested. We will now work individually on comments then the survey coordinators will bring another draft for the entire MSC to consider. The survey will be another opportunity for members and friends of FRS to share their thoughts about what FRS has to offer and needs to consider when seeking a successful candidate.

Our first cottage meeting with youth was held last week and it was a fantastic experience! We gathered many insights on what interests and invigorates young adults in terms of worship and church. We are excited about the number of people who have signed up to attend one of the Cottage Meetings! For more information about the cottage meetings and to see the ways to sign up, please click [here](#). We have many dates and times available, and we encourage all members and friends of the congregation to attend.

Please feel free to contact the MSC at [FRS\\_Search@UUCarlisle.org](mailto:FRS_Search@UUCarlisle.org). Members of the MSC are Chairperson, Molly Sorrows, Sally Hayen, Kim Kastens, Christine Lear, John Lyons, Margot Morse and Frank Rigg.

### **Behind the Scenes**

Congratulations to **Jean Ford Webb** who was given the Excellence in Leadership Award by the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network for her work with a series of professional and volunteer projects, including the FRS Building Addition.

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. You may email or call the office if you would like to be sent a copy.

