



Meetinghouse Messenger

from the First Religious Society

February 23, 2015

through March 1, 2015

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A Note from the Minister:

During the Building Bridges service on March 22 I told about a member of a UU congregation who asked the church members to join hands in a human ring around a local Islamic Worship Center on the evening of September 11, 2001, and how her leadership began an ongoing relationship between the two congregations.



In the news today is the story from Oslo, Norway, that more than a thousand Muslims formed a human shield around Oslo's synagogue on Saturday, offering symbolic protection for the city's Jewish community. A Reuters report said:

Chanting "No to anti-Semitism, no to Islamophobia," Norway's Muslims formed what they called a ring of peace....

"Humanity is one and we are here to demonstrate that," Zeeshan Abdullah, one of the protest's organizers told a crowd of Muslim immigrants and ethnic Norwegians who filled the small street around Oslo's only functioning synagogue.

"There are many more peace mongers than warmongers," Abdullah said as organizers and Jewish community leaders stood side by side. "There's still hope for humanity, for peace and love, across religious differences and backgrounds."

Our service expressed that hope, and the choir sang the memorable anthem "We Are One." As the children continue learning about world religions, we will grow as a congregation in understanding, compassion and strength.

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.

**Religious
Education
Director:**

Lisa Perry-Wood
dre@uucarlisle.org
781-883-3411

Music Director:
Dan Ryan

dryan@uucarlisle.org

There is a lot happening when we gather on Sunday mornings at FRS, both in the planned program and with the serendipity of conversation and connections. See you in church! ~ Diane

March Services

Mar 1 "Selma 1965: A Dialog Sermon with Wendy Davis and Diane Miller." Wendy and her late husband, Jim Davis, heeded the call from Martin Luther King, Jr. and went to Montgomery for the march on the Alabama capital in support of voting rights and racial justice. Looking back at that experience, fifty years later.

Mar 8 **The Rev. Lilia Cuervo, Pulpit Guest.** Lilia has until recently been Associate Minister at First Parish in Cambridge, and brought a multicultural program to that church. Rev. Miller will be in Alabama attending the 50th anniversary of the Selma march.

Mar 15 **"A Martyr for Racial Justice" Rev. Diane Miller with Mr. Leroy Moton.** The story of Viola Liuzzo, who was murdered at the end of the march in 1965. Leroy Moton, who was with her when she was killed, plans to be with us for the service and speak of his experiences.

Mar 22 **"Covenant, Membership and Meaning."** All Ages Celebration of what it means to be part of a congregation. Asia Forcucci will share her Spiritual Journey.

Mar 29 **Fifth Sunday Celebration on Palm Sunday.** The morning will begin with a brief service in the Sanctuary, which will include an opportunity for people to join the church by signing the membership book. Then we will disperse to a variety of creative art workshops for all ages with Easter and Spring themes.

A Message from the Religious Education Director

Blankets for a Very Snowy Winter!

This week was our monthly Service for All Ages. Since we missed our Social Action Sunday last week, we decided to move our blanket making project to this week. In the service, we read Robert Frost's classic "Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening," to



set the mood for helping other children stay warm this winter. Afterward, during coffee hour, children and adults knotted simple fleece blankets, which will be distributed to children in need through Project Linus. The children have really enjoyed these blanket making sessions.

Next Sunday we continue with our World Religions curriculum, with a lesson on Hinduism. We'll learn the story of the Birth of Ganesha, the Elephant God, during the service. Then the K-2 class will hear the wisdom tale of Little Lord Ganesh and the Mango. The 3-5 class will learn about the birth of Krishna and talk about themes of birth and death in the Ganesha and Krishna stories. Both classes will also enjoy a visit from a Carlisle resident who grew up Hindu. <http://www.bostonprojectlinus.com/index.html>

Our Spring K-5 World Religions classes are going really well, but we could use a couple more teachers, especially for our lesson on Islam and our Spring/Easter celebration. If you have questions about teaching, please contact Lisa. You can access the Sign-Up Genius page here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094eafa72ca5f49-worldor> talk to 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 contact Lisa directly at: dre@uucarlisle.org or 781-883-3411.

News and Programs

A message from the Finance Committee:

Pledge season is about to begin. If you have not received it already, within a few days you will be receiving a mailing with a reminder to pledge for next year. Pledging is important for the Church so we can budget for next year. Without pledges, we (the Finance Committee) can only guess at what our income will be. So, please return your pledge card as soon as you receive it.

A message from Fontaine Richardson:

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 next lunch is on Wednesday, March 4th in Union Hall. If you are interested in attending, please contact Angela Smith at asmith@Carlisle.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@FontaineRichardson.com or 617 633 2421. We need help setting up tables, setting the tables, getting the food, serving the food, eating the food and then cleaning up. We usually start at 11:00 and finish by 1:30 PM or so. Many hands make light work.

FRS Annual Circle Dinner - March 28 -Save the Date and Sign Up! Our annual Circle Dinner is a month away. The Circle Dinner is a UU tradition that offers a lovely evening in a member's home enjoying great company of new and old friends as well as sharing a delicious pot luck meal. The main objective is to relax, break bread together and get to know newcomers to FRS or catch up with old friends while having a wonderful evening in a relaxed atmosphere.

For those new to this tradition, here's how it works: There are usually 8-12 people at each dinner- each host specifies how many they can accommodate. The host provides the venue and a main dish and guests bring along the accompaniments. Specifics are assigned by the planning team in the days prior to the dinner. Sometimes (as is the case this time!), we begin at Union Hall for appetizers and socializing and then head out to the dinner locations. And sometimes (also the case this time!), there is at least one 'family friendly' location/host providing an option for bringing along children.

All are welcome! Sign up sheets for hosts and participants will be available in Union Hall during Coffee Hour. Please consider hosting and carrying on this lovely time honored tradition. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Sama (978-273-1768 or Lisasama828@gmail.com) or Kathy MacDonald (617-803-7244 or kathmv@yahoo.com).

Share the Plate

Sharing the Plate on March 1 will be **Amman Imman: Water is Life** - an organization described by Maddie Smack during the Building Bridges service on Feb. 22nd. Amman Imman works with the poorest communities with a focus on empowering women. Their website is www.ammanimman.org

Behind the Scenes

Thanks to **Bryan Sorrows** for replacing a thermostat and working on the parsonage heating system on very short

notice on Feb 16th. Thanks to **Tom Rourk** and **Lisa Perry-Wood** for herculean snow shoveling efforts, and **Bob Wallhagen** for plowing FRS out on Feb 22. **Lauree Eckler** gets *huge* kudos for service above and beyond the call of duty in preparing the very successful fleece blanket-making project for us yesterday, after a long, late journey home from VT. Thanks, Lauree! The **Family Friendly Potluck Dinner** on Feb 20 was a success, thanks to the coordinating and communicating efforts of **Margot Morse** and all the participants.

General Assembly is just four 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

A note from the Council on Aging:

It is important that everyone have two ways to exit their homes. Kids -Earn \$100 Amazon Gift Certificate (donated by the Friends of the Carlisle Council on Aging) & help our Carlisle seniors. Whoever collects the most signatures after clearing the 2nd exit of a Carlisle senior's home will win! Open to anyone 18 or younger. Collect signatures with printed name, address and date of shoveling between now and March 1st. Drop the list off at the Carlisle Council on Aging (COA) Office in Town Hall between March 2 and 6th. The winner will be declared by March 9th. Questions? Call the Carlisle COA at 978-371-2895

Here at FRS: on **Thursday at February 26 at 8pm**, The Cambridge Society for Early Music will present: **Othello in the Seraglio: The Tragedy of Sümbül the Black Eunuch**, produced by the early-music cooperative *Dünya*.

The Carlisle Chamber orchestra will perform on **Friday, March 6 at 8 pm at the Congregational Church.**

One of the pieces,
Suite Modale by Ernest Bloch, features our Susan Jackson,
flutist. Suggested admission \$15.00

The First Church in Belmont Unitarian Universalist extends an invitation to members of surrounding UU congregations and community residents on **Saturday, March 7th at 3pm** to hear, Rick Weissbourd, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Senior Lecturer and Co-Director of the Making Caring Common (MCC) Project, talk about 'Raising Caring, Ethical and Happy Children'.

Rick will provide you will strategies that you can use to help shift your child's focus from one of personal gratification to someone who is a better friend, concerned community member and has a broader view of what is important. Learn about the 20 non-profit organizations that will be there to inform you, entice and inspire you to share some of your time as a volunteer. You may just find the perfect match that fits your interests.

The First Church in Belmont, Unitarian Universalist
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