



**Meetinghouse Messenger from the First  
Religious Society  
April 6 through April 12, 2015**

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**This Sunday**

**April 12 at 10 am:**

"Being Visibly Religious, Visibly Different", Rev. Diane Miller. In conjunction with the Religious Education curriculum study of Islam, the minister will address the intersection of religious freedom and discrimination. Children will begin upstairs with a Message for All Ages and depart for their classrooms. The Choir has the Sunday off, and the young and accomplished pianist David Jiang will play Chopin's Valse Brillante Op. 34 No. 1 and Haydn's Presto from Sonata No. 53 in E Minor. David is a student of local piano teacher Mary Roberts who has played at FRS on many occasions. Dan Ryan will direct the music and lead us in a chant, Alhamdulilla (Alleluia).

Coffee Hour this week April 12: The Finance Committee

**Upcoming Services**

April 19 at 10 am: 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. Organized by the FRS Environmental Action Committee. Music directed by Dan Ryan. The RE Program will resume the blanket making social action project after the Message for All Ages.

**Facebook**

**Church Directory**  
**3.31.2015**

**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:**

Today I watched from across the room as a Carlisle elder, a guest at the Council on Aging luncheon hosted by FRS, struggled to get out the front door while using a walker. It was a knuckle-scraping squeeze to get through the exterior half door. Someone familiar with our building would have known to get both doors open, and then push until they caught and stayed open. But the person helping was also a guest here. Even if one did know the tricks of those heavy double doors, it wouldn't be easy to manage while relying on a walker.



Later on, after the lunch and after I had locked those front doors, a parishioner returned to check on the kitchen and said, "I'm glad the front doors were still open so I could get in."

Such are the issues we have with our entrance! And so I am especially appreciative that a new entry door will be coming soon, likely this summer. See the description below.

Not everything about FRS can be made completely accessible, but with the support of the congregation and talented volunteers, we are doing our best to make it as hospitable as possible, for each other and for guests. ~ Diane

**New Front Door for FRS**

After many efforts over the years to maintain the front doors, the buildings and grounds committee asked architect and FRSer **Stew Roberts** to design a replacement. His design of one door to replace the existing two doors was approved by B&G and also the Parish Committee. Stew took the new door plan, which he designed to look very much like the existing doors, to the Historical Commission, which approved the new design. The new door will meet current code and we expect will be much easier to use. This project is a major expense and will be covered by the buildings and grounds budget. We hope to have the new door installed over the summer. A drawing of the door plan has been posted on the blue kiosk bulletin board in Union Hall. - **Susan Emmons**, co-chair of the Building and Grounds Committee

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

**A Message from the Religious Education Director**

Welcome, Spring!

This week, Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, the children celebrated the Easter holiday and welcomed the coming of Spring. In the worship service the children participated in telling "A Crocus Story", in which the earliest blooming flowers survive the persistence of Winter - truly a seasonal tale! The children then heard the Easter story in their classes and made beautiful "stained glass" tissue paper cards to be delivered with the flowering plants for community members who are unable to come to church.



Next week, Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, we will be learning about Islam. During the service the children will hear a story about a Muslim girl, a birthday cake, and Ramadan. Then, in their classes, they will learn about the life of Mohammed and practice a bit of Arabic. After their classes, the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade class is planning a visit to the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center (ISBCC) for a tour and to observe afternoon prayer. ISBCC is a very welcoming educational center, a hub of Muslim activity in the Boston area. Interested RE parents or teachers are welcome to join this group; please contact Lisa for field trip information.

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](mailto:dre@uucarlisle.org) or 781-883-3411.

**Pledge Program Status**

As of Monday April 6<sup>th</sup>, we have received 54 pledge commitments for a total of \$98,480. Thank you to all of those who have generously made their pledge commitments. This is a great beginning but we still have not heard from almost half of our loyal supporters. As we approach annual meeting and the beginning of the next church year, it is very important for planning purposes to have good information regarding our committed support from members. If you have not done so already, please take a minute to fill out your pledge card and send it in. If you cannot locate your materials, just contact the church office and a copy will be provided. If you have any questions regarding the pledge process, please contact Joe Sheedy, the Chairman of the Finance Committee. We are so

fortunate to have such a committed group of members who regularly pledge financial support. Thank you all so much for your attention to this important process.

### **News and Programs**

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.

**Collection for Household Goods (oops-Goods), Inc.:** Please save your gently used towels, blankets of all sizes, queen size sheets, pots, pans and flatware for donation to this organization based in Acton. Household Goods, Inc., is an independent 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that provides household goods, free of charge, to people in need, helping them to make a home. Our collection, organized by the Social Action Committee, will run from from Sunday, April 12 through Sunday, May 3. Please bring your donations to the church on Sundays or whenever the church is open and put them in the containers in the front hall.

### **Parking**

Traffic cones are placed on Church Street as a reminder that the Town has designated the church side of Church street as a no parking zone beyond the Senior Parking sign on the lamp post. Those who can walk from the school parking lot are encouraged to park there on Sunday morning, leaving spaces closer to the building for those who need them.

### **Share the Plate**

Sharing the Plate on April 12 will be the UU Urban Ministry, Boston. Its mission is to help fund the after-school program for grades 8--12, offering tutoring, MCAS and SAT prep, college coaching and career options. Sixty students were enrolled at the end of the last school year. "I love everything about Roxbury Youth Programs. The tutors and volunteers

push us to do our best and succeed." -- 9th grader.  
More information is on their website, uuum.org

We received a letter from Bridge Over Troubled Waters, our Share the Plate recipient on February 8.

"Dear First Religious Society:  
Thank you for believing in our kids! On any given day there are hundreds of homeless youth in Boston, and our mission is to help them become healthy and productive adults. Keep us in your prayers." (Signed) Elisabeth Jackson, Executive Director

### Behind the Scenes

Our second Fifth Sunday Arts Celebration was a great success, largely due to the efforts of our terrific volunteers. **Heather Hedden** capably organized and led participants through the complicated and intricate Ukrainian egg-dyeing process - the results were spectacular! **Bonnie Miskolczy** brought her expertise to the project. **Amy Smack** worked with children (and a few adults!) to create beautiful tissue paper decorated eggs. And **Rick MacDonald** led a complicated, but ultimately very successful, lesson on making a colorful woven paper globes. **Dan Ryan** introduced rapt listeners--and some organ stop pulling helpers-- to the FRS tracker organ. The workshop on leading a lay service will be offered again in May, closer to the season of summer lay led services. Many thanks to all!

**Maundy Thursday** had a notable increase in people who gathered in remembrance and community. Special thanks to **Susan Emmons** for the bread, **Kate Sacco** and **Nina Benkley**, the readers and vergers, and to **Dan Ryan** and the Choir music. **Maris and Liz Platais** provided an ideal setting for the Easter Sunrise Service at River Road Farm, with flute played by **Rachel Platais Medrek**, and warm hospitality for a sumptuous breakfast afterward. **Easter** was celebrated at FRS with special thanks to the Choir, Soloists **Janice Saul** and **Lucy Bergin**, and reader **Art Milliken**, along with the many volunteers who make Sunday Morning a very fine time and FRS.

We received this email from Angela Smith of the Carlisle Council on Aging:

Dear FRS Volunteers:

We would like to thank everyone who worked so hard on the planning, setting up, picking up the food, drinks, and more, serving, cleaning up, and being so wonderfully helpful. The lunch was very nice, the hall looked lovely and the service was superb as usual! I hope that every volunteer had an opportunity to eat!

We really appreciate your reaching out and supporting our seniors for these important lunches. It is a great time for folks to get a good meal, visit with friends, meet new people and socialize which is so important to folks overall health.

We greatly appreciate your support.

Best,

Angela

Angela Smith

Carlisle Council on Aging Outreach Coordinator & Program Manager

### **Denominational Events**

#### **District Annual Meetings for Ballou Channing, Clara Barton and Massachusetts Bay.**

Combined annual meetings for three New England districts will take place on Saturday, April 25th at First Parish Church in Weston, MA from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. District business will be conducted, such as hearing reports, adopting budgets and electing officers and board members for the 2015 fiscal year. Registration available soon.

**General Assembly** is less than 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](http://www.uua.org) for more information. If you are interested in attending as a delegate, contact the Parish Committee or the Minister.

### **Community Events**

**Musicians of the Old Post Road** present a concert, "Beloved and Betrayed: Georg Benda's powerful *Ariadne auf Naxos*" on

Saturday, April 11 and Sunday, April 12. Locations and ticket information at [www.oldpostroad.org](http://www.oldpostroad.org). **Dan Ryan**, FRS Director of Music, is a co-founder of this ensemble and **Sarah Darling** is its principal violinist.

**Vegan Potluck Dinner and Song! April 14, Please come!** Have a family-friendly, planet-friendly night out enjoying great food and meeting nice people. Highlights this month are music by Anna Huckabee Tull, the return of the fair-trade chocolate fountain and a raffle with your \$2.00 donation for one of 2 books: *Becoming Vegan* (Davis/Melina) and *How to be a Vegan* (Castoria). Children are free and creative fun at craft table is provided. Enjoy all this at a delicious pot-luck dinner in Parish Hall, First Parish in Concord, Tuesday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m. hosted by Reverence for Life and the Environmental Leadership Team. Please bring a dish (4-6 servings) to share that is free of meat, fish, eggs, honey, and dairy and attach a card with the ingredients to help out those with allergies or special diets. Parish Hall is located at 20 Lexington Rd, Concord.

**Concord's Holocaust Remembrance Observance, April 26, 7:00 PM at the Concord Town House.** The Concord-Carlisle Human Rights Council announces the annual Holocaust Remembrance Observance gathering at the Concord Town House on April 26 at 7:00 PM. This year's speaker is Holocaust survivor Pedro Lilienfeld, who experienced the confinement of his father in a French internment camp; and his narrow escape from Nazi soldiers at a train border crossing. Also participating is cantor Rosalie Gerut and Rabbi Darby Leigh of Temple Kerem Shalom. The event welcomes the public and is without cost.