

Meetinghouse Messenger

from the First Religious Society

April 13 through April 19, 2015

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**contacts March
2015**

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**Office
Administrator:**

Ann Quenin
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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:**

This Sunday

April 19 at 10 am: **"Our Way Forward--the language of commitment" Dr. Gary Rucinski**

Our Earth Day service, organized by the FRS Environmental Action Committee, will include guest preacher, 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. In addition to their mission of creating the political will for a sustainable climate, Citizens' Climate Lobby's secondary mission is to empower people to have breakthroughs in their exercise of personal and political power. This talk is designed to help people harness the power of commitment to help them achieve these breakthroughs. Given the enormity of the tasks we face as a society it is not unusual for individuals to feel overwhelmed and to react to recent events or immediate circumstances. We can spend more time acting in accordance with our chosen priorities if we are organized by our commitments. There will be special music chosen to honor Earth Day.

Upcoming Services

April 26 at 10 am: A service for all Ages. Marguerite Shaw will share her Spiritual Journey reflections. Two stories from the religious pluralism which inspires us will be told. This is the week for the "everyone" offering for Open Pantry, so please bring a non-perishable food item.

May 3 at 10 am: Pagan, Earth-Based, and Nature Religions Beltaine, May Pole, and a sermon by Rev. Diane Miller about types of Paganism and where it is within our Unitarian Universalist tradition.

Coffee Hour this week April 19: Congregants - E-H

**A Message from the Religious Education
Director**

Learning About Islam

This week, Sunday, April 12th, the children heard the story "A Party in Ramadan," about a Muslim girl who faces a difficult challenge during the fasting season of Ramadan. In their religious education classes, the children learned about Islam and heard stories from a local visitor who grew up Muslim.



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

Music Director:
Dan Ryan
dryan@uucarlisle.org

Afterward, the 3rd to 5th grade class, along with a number of adults, took a field trip to the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center (ISBCC) in Roxbury. We had a tour of their beautiful educational and worship center, experienced a prayer service, and sampled food in the café. This was a great way to learn about a religion and culture which often hold a lot of mystery and misunderstanding for non-Muslims.

Next week, Sunday, April 19th, FRS will be celebrating Earth Day. During the service we'll learn the song "This Pretty Planet" and hear the story of a woman who decides to make the world a more beautiful place. In their class time, the children will see the short film "The Overview

Effect": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHMifOecrlo> and plant seeds to beautify our own FRS garden.

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.

From John Lyons on behalf of the Parish Committee:

Given the letter in the Mosquito this past week about The Enchanted Kitchen idea for a café in the Red Balloon space, the Parish Committee would just like to let everyone know that we are evaluating the feasibility of the idea and have received input from RE, B&G and others. Nothing is imminent and any recommendation would be put to the entire congregation for a vote. For more information speak to John Lyons or Stew Roberts.

Pledge Program Status

As you all know, we are coming to the end of our annual pledge program. The initial results are encouraging as we have received over \$108,000 in pledges from 68 people as of April 11. Thank you very much to those who have pledged. 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. You can also pledge on line at the FRS website.** 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

Congratulations to the Rev. **Jonathan Rogers**, known by his nickname "**Bucky**" during his Student Ministry at FRS. He has been named Acting Associate Minister at the UU Congregation of Atlanta, GA. He has already been on staff as Youth Ministries Coordinator for the past few years. UUCA is a large, multi-staff congregation with extensive programs.

FRS Collection for Household Goods, Inc. Spring cleaning? Please donate your no-longer-needed, gently-used towels, blankets of all sizes, queen size sheets, pots, pans and flatware to Household Goods, Inc. Presently there is a special need for these items. The Social Action Committee of the First Religious Society is organizing a collection which runs through Sunday May 3. Donations may be brought to the church whenever it is open (usually Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday mornings) or left in plastic bags in the covered area by the church side door. Acton based 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.

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 April 19 - the Citizens Climate Lobby. (CCL). Citizens' Climate Lobby is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change.

Behind the Scenes

The 3rd to 5th grade class had a wonderful field trip to the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center thanks to their chaperone/drivers, **Christine Lear**, **Amy Smack** and **Susan Bacher**. Food, prayers, and a tour were thoroughly enjoyed by children and adults alike.

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.

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Community Events

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.