



Meetinghouse Messenger
from the First Religious Society

April 27 through May 3, 2015

In This Issue:

[This Sunday](#)

[Upcoming Services](#)

[A note from the
Minister](#)

[A Message from the
RE Director](#)

This Sunday, May 3

May 3: "May Day" - Laura Fell Scholten, guest preacher. After beginning upstairs for the Message for All Ages, children will learn about Beltane traditions and the Maypole dance, which adults are invited to join during Coffee Hour. Music for the service will include the anthem "Spring" by Gustav Holst. This charming and effervescent work for women's' choir is a setting of a text by the 5th century Sanskrit poet Kalidasa. The service music will also include J. S. Bach's *Pastorale* for organ.

Laura Scholten is a lifelong UU who grew up in Carlisle and FRS, graduating from CCHS, Wesleyan, and this May from Harvard Divinity School. Laura is also completing a two year ministerial internship at our neighboring congregation, First Parish in Bedford. She and her husband Donnie live in Haverhill and operate Fletcher Community

[A Message from the Finance Committee](#)

[News and Programs](#)

[Behind the Scenes](#)

[Denominational Events](#)

[Community Events](#)

Quick Links

[FRS Calendar](#)

[FRS Homepage](#)

-

[Like us on Facebook](#)

[Church Directory, March 2015](#)

[Staff and Committee contacts March 2015](#)

-

Farm, where spring is lambing season.

Upcoming Services

May 10: "Selma Journal" - Rev. Miller

May 17 "State of the Church" - Rev. Miller

May 24 "All-Ages Celebration" - Rev. Miller

May 31 "All-Church Arts of Spring" Fifth Sunday

Coffee Hour this week May 3 : The Social Action Committee

A Note from the Minister:

First Parish in Weston hosted the annual meeting and Assembly of three UU Districts on Saturday, April 25th. Ballou Channing, Clara Barton, and Massachusetts Bay District delegates assembled for "Love Calls Us Home," an inspiring worship led by the Rev. Elea Kemler of Groton. This was followed by the sort of meeting that is of interest to polity wonks and a test of faith for everyone else. It was largely a continuation of the conversation at last year's meeting, but with mostly a new and different group of delegates. A major reorganization is going on, and what we knew as governance by Districts is over. UUA staff are now in regional teams, employed by the UUA. The District Boards still exist, and we elected new officers to them, but the Boards no longer have staff or run programs. They own various restricted funds which they pass along to the UUA to support the regional staff efforts. The delegates adopted a new statement of purpose for the District Boards, and urged them to explore how they might operate as completely volunteer entities, as centers for activists in congregations who want to meet in cross-congregational projects. The delegates also urged the District Boards to look into giving their assets to the UUA, and to furthermore look into dissolving themselves as non-profit structures. More action may be taken next year after the groups have had time to explore the new reality and see if they become a vehicle for volunteer connections in our region.



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
Wednesday is her

On a personal note, I will be in Kansas May 1--5 for a visit with family, and Laura Fell Scholten will be preaching.

~Diane

A Message from the Religious Education Director

Why Do We Learn About other Religions?

Last Sunday, April 26th, in our All Ages service, we learned about how people of different faiths pray and worship together. Campbell MacDonald, who visited the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center (ISBCC) two weeks ago talked about his observations and Maddie Smack shared her experiences in writing. They described differences and similarities with FRS. Campbell MacDonald read prayers from different faith traditions.

Next week, Sunday, May 3rd, FRS will be celebrating the pagan Beltane or May Day. During the service we'll learn about various pagan festivals, from the point of view of Rupert the Rabbit, and in our class time we'll learn the special ribbon dance around our own maypole. Adults will be welcome to join in during coffee hour; the maypole will be set up outside, weather permitting, or otherwise in Union Hall.

If you have questions about 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.

Pledge Program Status

Thank you very much to the 90 households who have sent in their generous pledges. We now have over \$128,000 committed in support of the FRS budget for next year. We do, indeed, share a generous community spirit. If you have not yet sent in your pledge, we would still love to hear from you. You can retrieve pledge

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

information from the FRS website. If you have any questions about pledging please feel free to contact Joe Sheedy, the Chairperson of the Finance Committee.

News and Programs

Share the Plate

Sharing the Plate on May 3 - **Project Bread - Walk for Hunger.**

"Project Bread brings a fresh approach to ending hunger. These are our goals: to promote sustainable and reliable access to healthy food for all, to invest in the strength and resiliency of local communities, and to collaborate with others in building a robust regional food system.

With the support of our partners, donors, corporate sponsors, individuals-and tens of thousands of Walkers-we work to break the cycle of hunger and poverty by devising, funding, advocating for, and facilitating solutions that change lives across the Commonwealth. As the only statewide anti-hunger organization, we listen and learn, identify needs and opportunities, and connect people, resources, and programs-in ways both tried and new."

Support Our Own Walker: Ann James won't be in church on Sunday, May 3. For the 28th year she will be taking part in the Greater Boston Walk for Hunger. Contact Ann (978 369-1296) or ajames3@comcast.net) for ways to donate-either by check or on line.

Gratitude: We got the following note from The Sharing Foundation, in response to the Social Action Committee's donation of \$1,200: "The children in Roteang [Cambodia] are happy and healthy, due in part to your generosity. They just celebrated the New Year with traditional sticky cake. Look for photos in the Summer newsletter! We appreciate all you do. Many thanks."

Keep the Donations Coming! Our collection for Household Goods Inc.

runs through next Sunday, May 3. Especially needed are gently-used towels, blankets of all sizes, queen size sheets, pots, pans and flatware. The Social Action Committee is organizing the collection. 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. We've already delivered two very big car loads.

Our Committees Need You! Contact the Nominating Committee with your interest. The Nominating Committee asks you to consider ways that you could put your dedication to FRS and your talents to work on a church committee. The Parish Committee serves as officers of the society, or "board," and the standing committees include Finance, Activities, Buildings & Grounds, Hospitality (Coffee, Greeters & Flowers), Membership, Music & Worship, Religious Education, Pastoral Concerns, Social Action, Environmental Action, and Nominating. Nearly all the committees have openings, and for many, you are not required to have signed the membership book.

This year we encourage you to contact Molly Sorrows at msorrows@comcast.net or 978-371-2217 (evenings) to discuss what committees you are interested in and to ask any questions about them. Committees and volunteer positions are essential to the running of FRS, and we send a great Thank You to all our volunteers. We are looking to fill all spots in the next few weeks, prior to Annual Meeting.

The Building and Grounds Committee is forming an Infinity Garden subcommittee to both maintain and make future plans for the Infinity Garden. If you are interested in being on this subcommittee, please contact Susan Emmons or Ann James.

Carlisle Screening of *Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret* Tuesday May 5, at 7 pm, Union Hall.

Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret

is a groundbreaking 90 minute environmental documentary investigating the most destructive industry facing the planet today -- large scale animal agriculture -- and why it is almost entirely unchallenged by the world's leading environmental organizations. Louie Psihoyos, Oscar-Winning Director of "The Cove" says that "Cowspiracy may be the most important film made to inspire saving the planet." Light refreshments will be available. **Sponsored by the Environmental Action Committee**

Native & Invasive Plants Workshop: How to increase biodiversity on your Carlisle-area property, Saturday, May 9, 2015, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm, Union Hall

In this free, family-friendly hands-on workshop, participants will learn 1) how native plants can increase the population of desirable birds and insects, 2) how to recognize native and invasive plants through real time observation in the FRS Infinity Garden and the Banta-Davis field, and 3) how to get rid of invasives if you choose to do so. Participants can take home a native plant from the Infinity Garden with directions for replanting at home.

The workshop will be presented by local experts Alison Saylor, Kay Fairweather, and John Bakewell with Kim Kastens hosting for the First Religious Society Environmental Action Committee.

Behind the Scenes

Well repairs were made by the Skillings company, with **Susan Emmons, Molly Sorrows, and Angelo DeBenedictis** tracking the repairs and flushing the system on April 20 & 21.

Lauree Eckler and Christine Lear helped the K-5 kids plant marigold seeds in a portable "greenhouse" that is now on a windowsill in Union Hall - check out their progress at coffee hour! The seedlings will be planted in the FRS gardens on the 5th Sunday in May. Thank you, Lauree and Christine!

Also, two weeks ago, the 3-5's visited the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center with **Amy Smack** and **Susan Bacheras** chaperones. It was a wonderful trip, made possible by our volunteers.

Thanks for all who helped with the Building and Grounds Committee's work party for the Infinity Garden on Saturday, April 25! The garden looks so much tidier and ready for a new growing season, thanks to all the raking, trimming, vine pulling, weeding, and wood cleanup accomplished by the 11 people who helped out: **Betsy Fell, Gio DiNicola, Susan and Don Emmons, Ann James, Art Milliken, Alison and Mike Saylor, Molly and Bryan Sorrows, and Bob Zielinski** (who pulled invasives earlier in the week).

Denominational Events

UU Social Media & Membership Growth with Peter Bowden, Saturday, May 16th, 9 AM -- 3 PM, at First Parish in Framingham. Designed to help UU clergy, staff and volunteer leaders adapt their communication, outreach, and visitor greeting strategies for today's digitally connected world. Contact Rev. Diane Miller if you are interested in attending.

Community Events

The UU Church in Harvard MA is sponsoring

Jimmy Tingle Live, with his "Humor for Humanity" on Saturday, May 2, at 3:00 p.m. Meet and greet Jimmy after the show. Jimmy Tingle has appeared on The Tonight Show, Conan O'Brien, Larry King, HBO, NPR, PBS, and Comedy Central. The Unitarian Church is sponsoring this event to restore the Steinway piano in the Fellowship Building. This facility serves the entire community. Tickets (\$25) are available at the door or by following this link:

<http://concertsatthecommon.tix.com>

Are you or someone you know struggling to make ends meet? If so, please invite them to come to **an indoor yard sale where every item is free**. Saturday, May 9, from 9am-3pm at Trinity Church Congregational in Bolton MA (14 Wattaquaddock Hill Rd). They have gathered together a large supply of gently-used clothes, household goods, toys, multimedia, etc. and are giving it all away.

