



# Meetinghouse Messenger

## from the First Religious Society

May 11 through May 17, 2015

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### **This Sunday**

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

E.L. Doctorow has been widely quoted as saying: "Writing a novel is like driving a car at night. You can see only as far as your headlights, but you can make the whole trip that way." Some congregations adopt highly goal-oriented mission and vision plans, clear road maps for their journey to an agreed upon destination. Others move along week to week, following their headlights, meandering and side-tripping, present in the moment. Do we save the world or savor it? Reflections on the First Religious Society through the eyes of the minister.

### **Upcoming Services**

May 24 - "All-Ages Celebration" - Rev. Miller. Memorial Day themes of remembrance. The minister would like to talk to children who have taken part in the Town of Carlisle Memorial Day exercises to find out what it means to them.

May 31 - "All-Church Arts of Spring" After a brief service in the Sanctuary, there will be planting, gardening, and music workshops to take part in. Activities for all ages.

**Coffee Hour this week May 17 :** Congregants - M-Q

### **A message from the Flower Committee:**

The Flower Committee would appreciate contributions of flowers for the pulpit table for the rest of the year. The final church service will be June 21, Father's Day, which will also be our traditional Flower Sunday. Please let any member of the

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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

Flower Committee know a week in advance if you will provide flowers, so that we might mention your occasion in the Order of Service.

**Share the Plate**

**Sharing the Plate on May 17: Human Trafficking**

We received a letter from the **Open Pantry of Greater Lowell, our Share the Plate recipient for March 22.** They wrote: "Thank you for your generous donation of \$284.38... We serve an average of 1,500 people a month and more than a third are children. Our mission would not be successful if it were not for organizations such as yours." "

**A Message from the Religious Education  
Director**

Yesterday, Sunday, May 10th, FRS children learned about the Quaker religion. Susan Emmons and Abby Zimmerman, who were both raised Quaker, led the K-5 classes in a discussion of Quaker beliefs and practices, followed by an experience of a "Friends Meeting."



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: dreatuucarlisle.org or 781-883-3411.

**Pledge Program Status**

Thank you very much to the 93 households who have sent in their generous pledges. We now have over \$131,900 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 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. We are very close to our goal, so your commitments are very important!

**A Message from the Social Action Committee:**

The Social Action Committee wishes to thank everyone who participated in the **Butler Middle School (Lowell) Library Book Drive.** We collected well over 200 current

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

books and some wanted magazines as well. A special thanks to Linda Dodge at the Gleason Public Library for greatly contributing to this project. The budget for the school library has been slashed, and the social worker at the school says that this influx of more current books has contributed to the increased enthusiastic reading by students at the school. A special thanks to Ellen Huber and Jean Bagnaschi for helping with the delivery of the books.

Please contact Dollina Borella if you have any questions. Dollinaborellafrsatgmail.com or 978-771-3732.

The Social Action Committee thanks all who contributed to the Household Goods, Inc. collection. **Forty-five bags and boxes** were delivered to their facility in Acton!

**A message from the Music and Worship Committee**

*Summer Services.* Sumer is a cumin in! And so come our lay led Summer Services. Have an idea for a service? A favorite subject or opinions/values you would like to share? We have had some very thought provoking and dynamic Lay Led Services in the past, and we are looking forward to more this summer. Don't worry if you have never led one before. It's easy, and our format is very informal, with much discussion and exchange of viewpoints. We already have a couple of services lined up (including our now traditional Canoe Flotilla down the Concord River), and we welcome your ideas. On Sunday, June 7 we will host a short 30 minute workshop on the practical skills you might need to create such a service. Interested? Contact Tom Rourk (978 369 5366) or Kim Kastens.

On **Saturday, June 6**, we will be once again hosting Kendric Price and the children of his Big Business Network here at FRS. You may remember Kendric from the wonderful service he did for us last year, with Gospel Singers and dancers. Or you might remember that we hosted him and his group here last fall for a day of apple picking. This time we hope to share a day at the State Park with his 20 or so kids, have a tour of the dairy, take a hike, and have lunch together. Would you like to help out by being a supervising adult? A hand at lunch? Or just

someone to have fun with the kids and share a great day. Let Margaret Darling or Tom Rourk know if you could help in any way.

### **News and Programs**

**The Annual Meeting of the First Religious Society** will be held on Sunday, May 17, 2015, at 11:30AM in Union Hall. All are welcome to attend although only members in good standing may vote. This meeting is called by the Parish Committee, and the warrant has been circulated.

**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 [msorrwsatcomcast.net](mailto:msorrwsatcomcast.net) or 978-371-217(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 prior to Annual Meeting this Sunday.

**Friday, May 15 is another of the monthly family-friendly potlucks in Union Hall.** Beginning at 5:30 pm, come to set up tables, arrange the potluck food, and set out toys and active play items for the children in Union Hall. Dinner happens as people arrive. These informal evenings are a chance for families to meet, children to play, and parents to have some conversation. They are open to the community, and serve to introduce families to the FRS congregation, the minister, and the religious educator. Not only for people with young children - all are welcome.

Thanks to Margot Morse for coordinating these dinners!

**FRS Screening of "Still Alice," Sunday evening, 6:45, May 24th, at FRS.** This Academy Award winning film, based on the book by Lisa Genova, describes the experience of Alzheimer's Disease from the perspective of the professor who is diagnosed with early onset of the illness. Popcorn and cold drinks provided.

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.

### **Behind the Scenes**

Thanks to **Susan Emmons** and **Abby Zimmerman** for delivering the Message for All Ages and then teaching the children about Quakerism. Thanks to **Kim Kastens** and the **Environmental Action Committee** for hosting the very successful Invasive Plants Workshop on Saturday May 9. Thanks to **Alison Saylor, John Bakewell** and **Kay Fairweather** for leading it.

### **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**

**Vegan Potluck Dinner Tuesday, May 12 at 6:30 pm, Parish Hall in Concord.** Have a family-friendly, planet-friendly night out eating great food and meeting nice people. Enjoy a delicious pot-luck dinner in Parish Hall, First Parish in Concord, Tuesday, May 12 at 6:30 pm hosted by FP Reverence for Life and the FP Environmental Leadership Team. Please bring your own beverage and a dish (4-6 servings) to share that is free of meat, fish, eggs, honey, and dairy. Please also bring your own place setting to reduce paper waste and clean up. Also, attach a card with the

ingredients of your dish, to help out those with allergies or special diets. Children welcome! Creative fun at children's craft table provided. Parish Hall is located in the First Parish UU church at 20 Lexington Rd, Concord.

First Parish UU in Concord **Photo Club Exhibit & Reception** on Sunday, May 17, from 3 - 5pm. Photos, demonstrations, Q&A by club members, revolving slide show with seating, refreshments. All are welcome to this annual event!  
20 Lexington Rd, Concord.