



Meetinghouse Messenger

from the First Religious Society

June 22 through June 28, 2015

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Summer Services July and August

Regular Services have ended for the summer, and this means that the much loved lay-led services are ready to begin! We have a very interesting list of presenters and subjects coming up for the season, and will offer more information on these as each one comes up. These services will be held in Union Hall, each Sunday morning at 10am. (Note exception on July 12th) We start out on Sunday, July 5, with a very casual service exploring **Favorite Poems**. This has always been a special gathering, where you can share a favorite few lines of verse, or hear something new from the person sitting beside you. -- Tom Rourk and Kim Kastens

June 28 No service. Old Home Day weekend.

July 5 Favorite Poems. Bring a favorite poem to share. Led by Tom Rourk

July 12 Concord River Canoe excursion. Fabulous "Church on the River" event. Be part of the FRS Flotilla. Gather at 9 AM at the Concord River boat launch in Bedford. Call Tom Rourk to confirm your craft and numbers. He will find a seat for participants whether you have a canoe or kayak or not. 978-369-5366

July 19 Joe Sheedy and Woody Widrick

July 26 Jenn Stevens

FRS Homepage

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Church Directory

**Staff and
Committee
Contacts**

-

**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

August 2 Environmental Action Committee (EAC) and
Rosalie Anders. Divestment of fossil fuel holdings

August 9 Claude Von Roesgen. Solar and renewable energy

August 16 Kim Kastens. Religion and Human Nature.

August 23 Asia Forcucci returns to lead a Summer Service

August 30 Diane Miller, "Blessing of the Animals."

Bring your animal safely constrained, ready for a warm
blessing and a time to appreciate all beings, pets, and the
interdependent web of life.

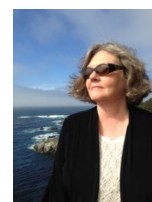
Sept. 6 Pancake Breakfast in Union Hall. A warm welcome
on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, pancakes with all the
fixings. 10-11. Volunteer pancake flippers much appreciated.

Sept. 13 Services resume in the Sanctuary with the choir.
Religious Education begins the Moral Tales curriculum.

A Message from the Minister

The horrific shooting at Emanuel African
Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South
Carolina, during their Wednesday evening prayer
meeting, shocks and saddens our nation. On a
personal human level, we grieve the nine precious
lives taken, so much like our families and friends -- parents,
elders, a young college graduate, public leaders, church
leaders, advocates for justice, citizens who took part in their
community and families. Once again we see starkly the
systemic patterns of racism, white supremacy, gun violence,
and denial that are a great sickness in our nation. This is not an
aberration, that nine black lives were taken by a white shooter.
It is part of the domestic terrorism that dates far back in the
United States. Emanuel AME Church has been a survivor of
violent attempts to silence it, including being burned to the
ground in 1822 by whites in response to Denmark Vesey
planning a slave revolt. In 1868 their minister was assassinated
by three white vigilantes. That minister, like the Rev.
Clementa Pinckney who was murdered this week, was bi-
vocational, having been elected to the South Carolina Senate.

Our "Standing on the Side of Love" banner is hanging over
the front of our church this week. That campaign was begun in
2008 in response to the shooting in the Tennessee Valley
Unitarian Universalist Church in Knoxville, TN that killed two
and wounded six. The shooter objected to the values of the
congregation, and their affirmation of equal marriage and
justice for all people. Our response was of course grief, anger,
and sorrow, and also a renewed commitment to Love. Great,
encompassing, committed, Universalist, justice-seeking Love.



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

Love requires action to turn it into justice. We will find ways to respond, to address violence and racism and heterosexism and white superiority, to affirm that Black Lives Matter, and to make room for Love in our nation.

Churches are vulnerable to violence. But we will keep our doors open because that is who we are and what we do. We will keep our vision and our actions leaning on the long arc of the universe, bending it as we are able toward justice. --Diane

**A Message from the Religious Education
Director**



Thank You, FRS Families!

Last Sunday, June 21st, was our final Sunday of the church year. The children learned about edible flowers, like day lilies and marigolds, and all of the benefits they have for our health, both physical and emotional. Of course, we cautioned them not to eat any plants without checking with an adult, but there are many summer flowers they can sample and enjoy!

We also had a joyful Twilight Potluck Picnic, on Friday, June 19th. We enjoyed hot dogs and S'mores, as well as strawberries and ice cream from the Strawberry Festival. A great time was had by all!

Once again, I want to thank all of the children and parents who helped to make this year of religious education such a grand success. It is absolutely true that we could not have done it without you - your dedication to your children and enthusiastic volunteering made it a pleasure to lead this program. I know you will welcome Pam Howell as you have always welcomed me. I will be at FRS in a new role, as Student Minister, but I will always be available for you and your children, should any need arise.

Have a great Summer!

A Message from the Music Director -- Dan Ryan

As I end my first year as FRS's Music Director, I wish to express what a positive experience the year has been for me getting to know all of you and working with such a talented and enthusiastic group of participants. I extend a big Thank You to the the choir members, bell ringers, and soloists for their great commitment to to the FRS music program. They have helped provide music that is beautiful, meaningful, and

enriching.

I wish you a wonderful summer and look forward to another year of music at FRS in September.

Summer at FRS

The summer schedule for the church is simplified. Most Committees take a break from meetings, though many programs and ministries continue. Building and Grounds Committee uses the summer to accomplish major projects, maintenance and repairs, and this is the season for the Infinity Garden Subcommittee. The newly named Ministerial Search Committee will be active over the summer.

The Minister will be on vacation in July. Minister *emeritus*, Woody Widrick, will be on call for pastoral needs, along with other clergy nearby. A copy of the clergy coverage and contacts will be in the church office and with members of the Parish Committee.

A message from the Office Administrator: I am away until Friday this week (June 26). My hours this summer will vary, but mail will be picked up, bills paid, and the MM and Friday postcard will continue as usual. If you need to get in touch right away, call my cell phone 781-820-2783. Meetinghouse Messenger announcements will need to be in my hands no later than the Thursday morning before it is published on Monday, so please keep that in mind. Email news to frs@uucarlisle.org Thanks! Ann Quenin

A Message from the Social Action Committee:

As the regular church year has ended, let's remember that the Open Pantry of Greater Lowell remains open all summer. FRS members will also continue to help out on Tuesday mornings. The needs of many in the Lowell community remain high through the summer months. Please be as generous as possible with extra donations of non-perishable food items, and or money, during Sundays in June, to help sustain the Open Pantry, June -- September. Thank you!

News and Programs

Condolences to Janet and Michael Oyer and their family on the death of Michael's father, Herbert M. Oyer, on June

20th in Carlisle.

Share the Plate -- We received a thank you letter from the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry Director, which said in part: "We are most grateful for your Share the Plate donation of \$244.50. The congregation's longtime partnership in this important social justice work means a great deal to us! Please know that we will put your very kind gift to good use providing after-school, weekend and summer programming to youth and children in Roxbury; support and spiritual healing for individuals and their children fleeing domestic violence, safe and affordable housing for young women, including those facing homelessness."

Behind the Scenes

Applause and appreciation for our talented **volunteer musicians! Margaret Darling** accompanied Matt Meyer throughout the service on June 7th and **Marguerite Shaw** taught children Spirit of Life. **Robert Canavello** played Robert Schumann pieces for the prelude and postlude on June 14th, and also played the hymns and the service music on short notice. **Janice Saul** conducted the **Choir**. **Henry Hedden** played the ukelele, which he took up during his first year as a student at Rochester Institute of Technology.

Banner Up! Our "Standing on the Side of Love" banner went up over the front entrance this week, thanks to **Bob Wallhagen**. The banner is there in anticipation of the Equal Marriage decision by the Supreme Court.

Door handles in several places were repaired and tightened up by **Don Emmons**.

Plantings for additional screening of the Memorial Garden are scheduled to go in on Monday. Stroll through and enjoy the additions.

Thank you to all who worked so hard to make our Strawberry Festival such a success. You know who you are! And to **Janice Kissinger**, who coordinated the myriad elements of the event and the smoothly functioning team of volunteers.

The Family-friendly potluck and Twilight Picnic (combined the year) drew many families to the FRS playground on June 19th. Thanks to all who contributed to the efforts of setting up and cleaning up, and to **Margot Morse** for coordinating these popular monthly gatherings

which are part of our RE programming.

Kay Fairweather did an amazing job of teaching the children about some edible flowers of summer. We sampled the many varieties she brought and learned how they can be used to flavor salads and desserts. Thank you, Kay!

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. You may email or call the office if you would like to be sent a copy.

Denominational Events

The UUA and UUSC Presidents have responded to Pope Francis's Encyclical on climate change. Read it [here](#)