



Meetinghouse Messenger

from the First Religious Society

June 29 through July 5, 2015

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This Sunday

This Sunday, July 5, join us for an informal Lay Led Service in Union Hall where we will share and read favorite poems. Bring a volume of your favorite poet, or come to hear something new. From the profound to the profane, the lyrical to the lusty. We will have a number of books of poetry there to share where you might find a long forgotten set of verses. Always a favorite summer service to many. Led by Tom Rourk

Summer Services July and August

July 12 Concord River Canoe excursion. Fabulous "Church on the River" event. We still have space and canoe seats available for the Annual FRS Concord River Flotilla on Sunday, July 12. If you have your own boat and would like to join us, great! But if you don't, worry not, we will find you a seat! We will gather at the Bedford landing on Rte 225 at 9am on the 12th, paddle down to the Riverview Restaurant in Billerica for breakfast, and return again in our craft to the landing. No experience necessary. Phone Tom Rourk at 978 369 5366 to let him know if you plan to join us, if you have a craft and can take a passenger, or if you will need a seat. He will find a seat for participants whether you have a canoe or kayak or not.

July 19 Joe Sheedy and Woody Widrick

July 26 Jenn Stevens

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

August 9 Claude Von Roesgen. Solar and renewable energy

[onFacebook](#)

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

Sunday. Friday is
preparation time,
Saturdays vary, and
Wednesday is her

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.

Message from the Minister

I have not yet read the opinions of the Supreme Court decision making same-sex marriage equal in all fifty states. I look forward to reading it over the summer, but for now it is time to celebrate. We gave out "Standing on the Side of Love" stickers on Old Home Day, and rainbow flags, and featured a display of photos of FRS leaders participating in witness events. My relief and joy at hearing the court decision was tempered by sadness because the decision brought to mind friends who did not live to see this day. Their stories will not be forgotten. When a documentary is made I hope it will highlight the courage of Margaret H. Marshall, former Chief Justice in Massachusetts, who wrote the majority decision that made this state the first to implement equal marriage. Here in Carlisle and at FRS may we also appreciate the efforts of a dedicated group who led this congregation to a strong vote in support of becoming a Welcoming Congregation. To all who worked on this issue of justice, in ways large and small: Thank you!



I am mourning the deaths of the nine church leaders in Charleston, as their Memorials are taking place. There are no words I can add to the eloquent statements of forgiveness from bereaved families, and the powerful eulogy on Grace delivered by President Obama. Let us explore these spiritual concepts in months to come.

"Joy and Woe are woven fine, clothing for the soul divine" wrote the poet William Blake, words we sing in a hymn. How true for our nation, as well as for our lives.

There is much to do to address injustice in our nation, in our world, and in our immediate spheres of action. At this time, let us be glad that some barriers have fallen and some justice gained. Hooray!

--Diane

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

Summer at FRS

The summer schedule for the church is simplified.

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 is in the church office and with members of the Parish Committee.

A message from the Office Administrator: My hours this summer will vary, but mail will be picked up, bills paid, and the MM and Friday postcard will continue as usual. In July, the best time to contact me is Tuesday mornings. 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

Congratulations to **Corinne (Cori) Saul and Michael Dean**, who were married at Gibbett Hill in Groton, with Rev. Miller officiating and Margaret Darling at the keyboard. Cori is the daughter of **Janice and Peter Saul**, and sister to Jonathan and Steven Saul. The Deans will live in Florida.

The life of **Herbert M. Oyer**, 90, father of **Michael Oyer** and father in law of **Janet Oyer**, was Memorialized in the Sanctuary on Sunday, June 28th. Condolences to all the Oyer family.

Congratulations to the **Aeschliman** family, parents Matt and Kathleen, and sister Emma, on the first birthday and Child Dedication Ceremony for **Graham Rene Aeschliman**, held at home on June 27th.

Old Home Day was celebrated once again on a beautiful June day. Many events were in and around the Meetinghouse. The church had a table in the foyer with brochures, a slide show, and handouts focused on the Religious Education program, and many goldenrod "**Standing on the Side of Love**" stickers to celebrate the Supreme Court Decision. As it has been said, it is no longer Equal Marriage or Gay Marriage or Same-sex Marriage...it is plain Marriage, throughout the land.

Behind the Scenes

It was **Susan Emmons** to the rescue, and **Ann Quen** following after, who reset the elevator during Old Home Day when the minister was trapped inside.

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 General Assembly has concluded its meetings in Portland, OR. Many major events can be viewed on line at www.uua.org