



Meetinghouse Messenger

from the First Religious Society

September 8, 2014
through September 14, 2014

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A Message from the Minister -- What a wonderful start to the new church year! It was wonderful to see the gathered congregation and to have our new staff team guiding the Sunday morning. Our water was gathered from many places. From the written cards:



This summer we canoed down the Concord River with FRS folks, and swam in Bear Lake in Waterford, Maine, with family members. Water of the ocean off Chappaquidick where much fun, happiness and family-centered rebalancing takes place each summer. ... Water from the swimming pool at the Masters World Championship in Montreal in August. ... I did a swimming test. I also went off the Diving Board. ... Katahdin Stream, Baxter State Park, Maine. ... Yeast bottle and water from making pizza! . . . This water represents friendship. It is from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in MN, where I took a week-long wilderness canoe trip with 5 girl friends. We all went to camp together 50 years ago. Good times -- great memories!

Upcoming Services Sunday, September 14th

"Our Own Origin Stories" Rev. Diane Miller. Do you recall why you got involved in coming to church? A sermon on motivations for new beginnings and change. Lisa Perry-Wood will tell a story for the Message for All Ages, "In the Beginning" then the children will learn about creation stories in Way Cool Sunday School. The music will be wonderful.

**A Message from the Religious Education
Coordinator**



Way Cool Sunday School Begins!

We had a great start on the first Sunday, with an introduction to our Bible Stories curriculum for the Fall/Winter session. The K-2 and 3-5 classes learned that there are many bibles or holy books for different religions, about the Old and New Testaments, and that they are filled with stories that have been told and retold for hundreds of years. We agreed that everyone, young and old, loves stories! It should be a fun and engaging few months. Many thanks to our volunteer teachers for a terrific beginning! If you are interested in volunteering to teach an RE class, there are still openings. Please contact Lisa Perry-Wood, RE Coordinator, for details.

We are in need of volunteers for our **Social Action Sunday, on September 21st**. We're planning an FRS "People's Climate March," to coincide with that day's event in NYC: <http://peoplesclimate.org/march/> During our RE time, we'll have a discussion with the children about climate change, followed by sign-making, based upon their ideas. After the service, joined by adult congregation members, we'll march around the Green to demonstrate FRS solidarity with the goals of the UN summit on climate crisis. As stated on the Climate March website: *"We'll take to the streets to demand the world we know is within our reach: a world with an economy that works for people and the planet; a world safe from the ravages of climate change; a world with good jobs, clean air and water, and healthy communities."* Please let Lisa know if you are willing to volunteer that day.

If you haven't signed your child up for Religious Education, please go to the RE table, before church or at coffee hour on Sundays. Or feel free to drop by the RE office on Tuesdays or Thursdays, when Lisa has office hours.

News and Programs

Climate Change: Over 30 people gathered on Sept 7th for the screening of the film "Disruption" about climate change and the upcoming People's Climate March in NYC on September 21. The showing was sponsored by the Environmental Action Committee (EAC). Going to the Climate March? Several people from Carlisle are going on buses from Worcester, and others will leave from Alewife Station in Cambridge for one-day trips at \$30. Go to peoplesclimate.org to sign up for this transportation, and email

Bob Luoma to let him know your travel plans. Bob will facilitate meeting up in New York City. Ernie Huber, Diane Miller and Lisa Perry-Wood are working on ways to involve the children and the community on that day. Ringing the Church Bell 350 times, a Children's March on the Common, and RE Social Action activities are being explored. Your ideas are welcome.

Third Friday Potlucks and Programs begin September 19.

A series of six Third Friday Potlucks for all ages, followed by a choice of programs and activities, are planned for the church year -- in the months of September, October, November and February, March and April. You are welcome to come only for the potluck, or a program, or both. The potluck will begin early, at 5:30, to allow time for the evening programs. So far we have Cakes and UU Film (see details below). Other programs are in planning stages.

"Cakes for the Queen of Heaven" is a woman-honoring adult religious education curriculum widely used in Unitarian Universalist congregations. It is both informational and designed for personal growth and reflection. There are two parts. "On the Threshold," is a 6-week series that reclaims the stories of powerful women in ancient Judaism and early Christianity, as well as Goddess cultures. We will begin with "On the Threshold" to parallel the Timeless Themes curriculum in Religious Education. "Cakes" will be led by Rev. Diane Miller. If you are interested in signing up, please call Rev. Miller to be on the list for more information, and save the dates.

Note: experience nationwide is that this class often draws only women participants. If men wish to register they are welcome, as long as more than one man participates, due to the structure of the course.

Long Strange Trip is a six-part video series by Ron Cordes of Bedford, MA, that explores the history of Unitarian and Universalist thought and practice from the early, liberal strands in faith at the beginning of the Christian era to what we know today as Unitarian Universalism. Each part of *Long Strange Trip* is approximately one hour in length. We are seeking a volunteer to lead the screenings and discussion of the DVDs following the Third Friday potlucks.

Harvest Fair 2014 Saturday September 27 10am - 2pm

The Harvest Fair is early this year partly because the three participating groups; FRS, Carisle Garden Club's Pumpkin-on-

the-Common, and Farmers Market wanted an earlier date to have a better chance for warmer weather, an active harvest, and to catch people before they bought their pumpkins. Yom Kippur prevented us from having it on our preferred Oct 4 date, so our chosen date is Saturday September 27th. The traditional events include a Bake table, Silent Auction, Country Store, Luncheon Cafe and artisan vendors. Anything at all you can "harvest" from your attic or closets for the Silent Auction should be brought to church on Friday September 26. All afternoon and evening that Friday we will be setting up tables, arranging Silent Auction items, making cider, cooking Sloppy Joes, and arranging seasonal floral arrangements (fresh and dried flower donations are gratefully accepted). Anyone wanting table space to fundraise for their favorite charity or social cause is very welcome to join us outside on the front lawn, on the Common, or in Union Hall. Please contact Alison Saylor.

The Food Table at the Harvest Fair on September 27 needs your donations. Baked goods, entrees, baked beans, jams & jellies, any food in a container that you don't want returned, will be appreciated. You can sign up at coffee hours over the next few weeks.

Harvest Potluck Supper Saturday September 27 6pm in Union Hall

We will leave up the decorations and tables from the Harvest Fair to make an easy transition to a Harvest Potluck supper. If we made too much Sloppy Joe, that will be on the Entree table. We are also going to fire up the smoker and cook "something" from a local farmer all day during the Harvest Fair to carve and share at the evening potluck. You may find the item you baked for the Harvest Fair Bake table is brought as a dessert for the Potluck supper. Fresh produce purchased for the Farmers Market that day is sure to be featured in the side dishes and salads that we hope will fill the big wooden Potluck feast tables. This is a family friendly event and is open to all.

Adults, please bring your Open Pantry donations on THIRD Sundays this year, to coincide with the RE social action/outreach weeks. The church continues to actively support this Lowell program financially, through Tuesday morning volunteers and by our donations of non-perishable foods and toiletries.

FRS' Knitting in Service Society (KISS) invites you to Knit

for Boston's homeless faith community, Common Cathedral

Join other knitters in a relaxed and friendly gathering to make hats and scarves for Christmas presents for the homeless. We will bring them to Boston when we visit Common Cathedral and attend the service on November 9. We meet in members' homes at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. For this month's location and any questions please call the FRS office or go to <http://uucarlisle.org/index.php?page=common-cathedral-and-knitting-in-service-society-kiss>

Time to Turn in Knitted Hats and Scarves for Common Cathedral - deadline October 15

The FRS Knitting in Service Society (KISS) is collecting all the hats and scarves that have been knitted over the past year to bring to Boston on our upcoming visit. If you have any items to donate, please bring to FRS or the COA office in the Town Offices by October 15 so they can be sorted and tagged. Any questions please call the FRS office at 978.369.5180. Thank you.

Behind the Scenes

Natalie Ives edited the scanned texts of the "250 Minutes" stories, which will begin appearing as an email newsletter this week. **Florence Goulet** shared her Spiritual Journey with the congregation. Thanks to **Dan Scholten, Kim Kastens, Dave Erickson, Greg Rocco, Bob Luoma** and others who organized a screening of the film "Disruption." Thanks to everyone who helped last Saturday morning in a general cleanup of church and grounds - we look beautiful!