



Meetinghouse Messenger

from the First Religious Society

March 16, 2015
through March 22, 2015

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This Sunday

March 22 "**Covenant, Membership and Belonging**"

All Ages Celebration of what it means to be part of a congregation. Lisa Perry-Wood and Diane Miller will tell stories. Asia Forcucci will share her spiritual journey. The choir will sing. Everyone is encouraged to bring a non-perishable donation for the Open Pantry shelves on this Sunday, when we share the plate with the **Open Pantry of Greater Lowell**.

Those who are considering joining the church next Sunday are invited to a brief preparation session in the Widrick Room, immediately following the service. Childcare will be extended for parents who are attending.

Upcoming Services

March 29 **SPRING ARTS -- Fifth Sunday Celebration**

On Palm Sunday, March 29, we will have our second Arts Sunday. We will gather in the Sanctuary for a brief united service that will include an opportunity to join the church by signing the Membership Book. Then everyone is invited to learn, create and participate in arts in the Meetinghouse. If you would like to offer an arts activity, or assist with one of the ones listed here, contact the Minister.

Ukrainian Easter egg decorating, a folk art tradition involving applying layers of beeswax and dyes, to achieve different colored designs where the dye resists the wax, and the latter is then removed. Because detailed designs are "drawn" in hot wax, this activity is not suitable for young children. We will extend the activity into the coffee hour time, to give more people the opportunity, since the number of tools and jars of dye are limited.

Administrator:

Ann Quenin

978-369-5180

Frs at
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 at
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 day off.

Call for an
appointment.

**Religious
Education
Director:**

Find out more at:<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pysanka> Led by
Heather Hedden. Located in Union Hall.

Wondrous Machine: the Inner Workings of the Pipe

Organ Have you always wondered how our organ works? How it makes the different sounds, how it supplies wind to the pipes, what the different shapes and sizes of pipes are, or how the stops work? On Sunday, March 29 all will be revealed in an interactive talk and demonstration given by Music Director Dan Ryan. Come learn how our amazing organ works and even try it out for yourself!

Decorating Papier-Mâché Easter Eggs. Using colorful tissue paper, glue, and decorations, this fun creative activity is suitable for young children and every other age group. Led by Amy Smack in the "sink room" on the ground level. Put your eggs in a container of real grass to make an Easter decoration.

Palm Art. Fold and weave strips of paper or real palm fronds into traditional and creative shapes. Led by Rick MacDonald on the Ground Level

How to Prepare a Lay-Led Service - The Arts of Worship. Led by Kate Sacco, Chair of Music and Worship Committee, and Tom Rourk, past Chair. Find out how to lead a Summer Service or another service you've envisioned. Widrick Room.

Planting Seeds for Social Justice - ground level. Details to be announced.

APRIL 2 at 7:30 PM, **Maundy Thursday** communion in the Sanctuary

APRIL 5 at dawn, **Easter Sunrise at River Road Farm** followed by potluck breakfast hosted by Maris and Liz Platais.

APRIL 5 10 AM **EASTER SUNDAY**

A Note from the Minister:

It was my great privilege to spend four days in Alabama for the 50th Anniversary of the Bloody Sunday march. I had planned to attend the UU Conference in Birmingham, but instead went with Leroy Moton and several members of his family to events in Selma where he was honored with a Courage of the Movement award by the Mayor. On March 1st



Lisa Perry-Wood
Dre at uucarliste
dot org
781-883-3411

Music Director:
Dan Ryan

Dryan at
uucarliste dot org

Wendy Davis spoke at FRS about taking part in the March to Montgomery, and on March 15th Leroy Moton spoke about his experiences as a teen working for Civil Rights. Being with the Motons and attending events where I was a minority made me aware of how white my environment has been all of my life, and how racial injustice and racism are "issues" that can be taken up at times when I choose to address them. That's white privilege in this country. I also observed how Leroy's 26 year old son was observed carefully in the mall when we went shopping for a new tie. Leroy's sister, who also marched and was jailed during the voting rights struggle, converted to Islam in college and wears a hijab. I noticed how she was glanced at with some wariness when we went out to eat. People who fit into minority categories aren't able to be "just themselves" in ways I take for granted.

There are major improvements in the Civil Rights history landmarks, including a new museum in Selma and a National Park Service center on highway 80 near where Mrs. Viola Liuzzo was murdered. The UU group, Living Legacy, has been offering tours for some years, as do many other groups.

Thanks to a special gift to the Minister's Discretionary Fund, FRS covered some of the costs of the trip for Leroy and his family, and my professional expenses covered my costs. So FRS was part of it all, and the Motons sent a card of warm appreciation. It was a privilege to be there and take part in such an important part of American history. ~ Diane

A Message from the Religious Education Director

Grandfather Gandhi

This week (March 15) was our Social Action Sunday. First we heard the story of *Grandfather Gandhi*, as told by his grandson, Arun. Grandfather's lesson is that when we're angry we get to choose, either the "lightning" or the "light;" violent reaction or a peaceful, educating response. The children continued to talk about the lesson of this moving story as we completed another fleece blanket for Project Linus Boston. We're all very proud of the work we're doing to help out other children.



Next week is our All Ages Service. We'll be focusing on membership and belonging, through music, stories and action. What does it mean for each of us to belong to a family, a community, or a church? Please join us!

We could still use a couple more volunteers for our Spring 2015 K-5 World Religions classes. We're using a curriculum with lots of engaging stories and activities to

introduce our young people to many of the world's religions. We especially need help for the lesson on Islam (4/12.) Curriculum and support are always provided. Access the Sign-Up Genius page here:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094eafa72ca5f49-world>

If you haven't signed your child up for 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 at uucarlisle dot org or 781-883-3411.

News and Programs

Come to the family friendly potluck supper on Friday, March 20 beginning at 5:30pm.

Union Hall is open at 5:00 , with space for children to play while parents can set up for the supper. There will be a simple introduction to the Seder tradition of Judaism. All are welcome to this intergenerational potluck.

FRS Annual Circle Dinner - March 28 -Save the Date and Sign Up!

Our annual Circle Dinner is only 13 days away. The Circle Dinner is a UU tradition that offers a lovely evening in a member's home enjoying great company as well as sharing a delicious pot luck meal. The main objective is to relax, break bread together and get to know newcomers to FRS or catch up with old friends while having a wonderful evening in a relaxed atmosphere. For those new to this tradition, here's how it works: There are usually 8-12 people at each dinner- each host specifies how many they can accommodate. The host provides the venue and a main dish and guests bring the accompaniments. Specifics are assigned by the planning team in the days prior to the dinner. Sometimes (as is the case this time!), we begin at Union Hall for appetizers and socializing and then head out to the dinner locations. And sometimes (also the case this time!), there is at least one 'family friendly' location/host providing an option for bringing along children.

All are welcome! Sign-up sheets for hosts and participants are available in Union Hall during Coffee Hour. Please consider hosting and carrying on this lovely time honored tradition. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Sama at Lisasama828 at gmail.com or Kathy MacDonald or kathmv at yahoo.com.

Three times a year, **FRS hosts a lunch coordinated by Carlisle's COA for Carlisle seniors.** The food is prepared by Chelmsford Crossings in collaboration with Minuteman Tech. Our last lunch for 2014-2015 is on **Wednesday, April 1st** in Union Hall. If you are interested in attending, please contact Angela Smith at asmith at Carlisle dot mec.edu or 978-371-2895. We usually get 40 or more attendees.

If you would like help out with our FRS merry band, please contact Fontaine Richardson at FKR at FontaineRichardson dot com. We need help setting up tables, setting the tables, getting the food, serving the food, eating the food and then cleaning up. This month's menu will be roasted turkey breast dinner, cranberry sage stuffing, mashed potatoes, butternut squash and pumpkin pie - Thanksgiving in April. We usually start at 11:00 AM and finish by 1:30 PM or so. Many hands make light work.

Help needed at Coffee Hour! The Coffee Hour committee is seeking volunteers for 3/22, 3/29 and 4/5. A committee member is signed up for those dates. We need an extra person to help out.

If you can volunteer for the whole shift, you should plan to arrive at 9:15 to help with set up and stay afterward for clean up. If you can only do set up or clean up, your help is still greatly needed and appreciated. Please let Gio DiNicola know – gfdinicola at gmail dot com

From the Flower Committee:

Many of us like to honor the memory of a loved one by placing flowers or other memento on the pulpit table during the Sunday service. We'd like to remind you that these gifts can be made for celebratory reasons as well. A new baby girl in the family? Place a vase of pink roses on the pulpit table for an hour before taking them to the new mother. Uncle Bob's birthday? Let us all enjoy the sunflowers before they travel to the big party. Or, if the event is too far away to attend, send a picture of your gift on the pulpit table via email, with best wishes from the congregation.

Sign up on the Flower calendar, or email any member of the flower committee: Pam Hall, Jackie Schaefer, or Deb Jancek.

Share the Plate

Sharing the Plate on March 22 will be **The Open Pantry of Greater Lowell.** The OP has operated as an independent

organization for over 20 years. The Open Pantry receives much of its support from local churches as well as businesses. Our food and cash donations to the Open Pantry help many people who are in need. In addition to our donations, FRS continues to have several church members who work at the Pantry on Tuesday mornings, on a rotating basis, throughout the year. Our current volunteers are Max Barber, Stephanie Hackbarth, Ellen Huber, Sue Kirk and Tom Rourk. Please speak to one of them, or to Barbara Ritz, bpritz219 at gmail dot com if you would like more information about the Open Pantry or would like to become involved, as a substitute or a regular.

Behind the Scenes

Printing connections for staff were reset by **Bryan Sorrows** and **Susan Emmons**. **Ann James** and **Susan Emmons** oversaw the project of closing up the wall following the broken pipe in the religious education "sink room" and replacing the ruined carpet with vinyl composite tile in two of the small rooms in the ground level. Stop by to take a look at the new floor. Thanks to **Tom Rourk** who hosted our pulpit guest, Leroy Moton, for lunch after church on March 15 and helped him deal with a car problem. Once again, **Lauree Eckler** and **Christine Lear** helped the children create a beautiful, soft and warm fleece blanket for children in need. It will be so exciting to deliver these blankets to Project Linus in June!

Community Events

Seventh Grade Play, Tuesday, March 17 at 2:30 p.m. in the Corey Auditorium at the Carlisle Public School. The parents and students of the 7th Grade are offering a **FREE dress rehearsal for seniors**.

The play, "Night at the Wax Museum", features rambunctious bandits, boisterous outlaws, and violent pirates who suddenly rewrite history and cross paths, all looking for a valuable treasure hidden somewhere in the museum. Henry VIII falls for Cleopatra, sending Anne Boleyn into a frenzy. Butch Cassidy, Pancho Villa, the Sundance Kid, Blackbeard and a bunch of lady pirates are added into the mix, with one big thing in mind—a hidden bounty. The play will be over about 4:30pm and all are welcome to stay for refreshments with the cast.

Common cathedral ART SHOW AND AUCTION, March 26th, 2015 Wilson Chapel, Andover Newton Theological School, 210 Herrick Rd, Newton, MA 02459. Join common cathedral from **6 to 9pm** for a private showing -- and live auction -- of art created by *common art* artists. Original pieces are now available by **silent auction**. Check out their website to view these pieces.

First Parish Bedford is sponsoring a special showing of the movie **Selma** next Saturday morning, March 21, at 10:00am at the Lexington Venue Theatre. Cost is \$5 per person or pay what you can. Money will not be taken at the door but we'll simply pass a hat in the theatre. We hope as many people as possible can come to see this important film. So that we have an idea of how many are coming, please sign up on-line at [http://uubedford.ivolunteer.com/selma viewing](http://uubedford.ivolunteer.com/selma_viewing) This does NOT reserve a seat but helps us plan. The film will be in the downstairs theatre that IS wheelchair accessible. The movie runs 2 hours/7 minutes and is PG-13. This is such an important film for young, old, and in-between to see! The theatre is at 1794 Massachusetts Avenue in Lexington center. More about the movie: <http://www.selmamovie.com>

General Assembly is just three months away! The annual meeting of Unitarian Universalists will be **June 24--28 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon**. The gathering is for learning, worship and building community among Unitarian Universalists. Youth programming, lay leadership development, social justice work, and more. See www.uua.org for more information. If you are interested in attending as a delegate of the First Religious Society, contact the Parish Committee or the Minister. More information at www.uua.org