



## Meetinghouse Messenger

September 21, 2015

### This Sunday at FRS:

September 27 "Ministry from the Inside." The Rev. Olav Nieuwejaar, guest preacher. Rev. Nieuwejaar is the Ministerial Settlement Representative for our region of Unitarian Universalist congregations. He will preach in the morning and lead a congregational workshop about the Ministerial Search process after coffee hour. Those with long involvement with the congregation might remember that Olav served this congregation when he was a ministerial student at Tufts in the late 1960s. The service begins promptly at 10 AM. Childcare will be provided in the Red Balloon and playground. Parents may want to bring lunch for their children.

In our Share the Plate initiative, half of this Sunday's offering will go to the UUA-UUSC Refugee Crisis Fund. The donations will go directly to "our partners operating on the ground in countries receiving refugees. Our work will focus on ensuring the safe passage of refugees seeking safety and helping refugees access their rights in host countries." The UUSC and the UUA has a long history of aiding people fleeing violence and persecution and feels it has a moral imperative to act and help with this tragic situation.

### October Sundays

**October 4 "Rung Like a Bell"** Rev. Diane Miller. First of an occasional series reflecting on four decades of ministry, this sermon addresses what ministers describe as the call, traditionally meaning being called by the Divine to serve in ministry. Increasingly that sense of being called is described by people in non-clergy roles. What is your calling? The service begins at 10 AM.

October 11 Lisa Perry-Wood, Student Minister, will be preaching

October 18 & 25 Rev. Diane Miller preaching

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### A Message from the Minister

Black Lives Matter yard signs should be delivered this week. You are invited to stop by the church and take a sign to display at home. I will try to have several outside around the church and parsonage so that you can pick one up as you go by. If you want to contribute to the cost, put something extra in the offering, as the signs are already paid for. The signs are one way we will address the issues raised by the Black Lives Matter movement through the year. One small way to counteract the racism baked into our society and history. The Sept 28th film in Belmont (see events below) is another chance to engage these issues. I welcome your thoughts on ways to address racism. ~  
Diane



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### A Message from the Religious Education Coordinator

We had a wonderful time together Sunday morning. Lots of children, many stories, a beautifully lit chalice, singing and the sharing of joys and sorrows: It's simple really. These are the ingredients of building a faith community together. It's not fancy, it is just real and it has been a gift to be a part of the unfolding of a new church year.



**Next week**, our Middles will be participating in their Social Action Sunday. We will be making crafts for The Harvest Fair. It will be a hands-on Sunday for all of our children. Our Junior Youth Group (Teens) will be traveling by foot to Clark Farm. They will gather materials from the farm to make a banner for The Crop Walk(10/25), an important march for the hungry in Massachusetts.

We will also be collecting food and monetary contributions for Open Pantry in Lowell. We will intentionally focus on this collection on our Social Action Sundays. It is just one way that our congregation reaches out into the world with helping hands.

#### **This Week in RE, 9/27:**

Little's - 0-5yrs

Meets downstairs at 9:50 in the REd Balloon with Nina, Samantha and Asia.

Middles - 1st-5th Graders

Meets downstairs after the Message for All Ages. We will be making crafts to support our

congregation. We will also continue working with Judy Bose and our Children's Choir.

Teens - 6th-8th Graders

Our teens will walk to Clark Farm. Please dress for the weather. We will go rain or shine, but not hurricane

**Blessings,**

**Pam Howell**

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## News and Programs



### **The Ministerial Search Committee needs your feedback!**

Along with Cottage Meetings, our FRS Survey is the primary forum for members of our church community to voice their thoughts and opinions about FRS for the search committee and prospective ministers. The results will greatly influence the committee's work of the coming year, and eventually help us to choose our new minister. Please take advantage of this opportunity! Please click [here](#) to fill out the survey. We would like results as soon as possible, and at the latest by October 1st. This will allow us to keep to our ambitious schedule to find a settled minister. If you have not yet signed up for a Cottage Meeting, now is your chance! Please [here](#) to see available meeting times and locations. We have added additional dates. Sign up now - slots are filling up fast.

### **The Social Action Committee asks you to consider this**

The UUSC and the UUA are urging people to help in responding to the global refugee crisis. They have established a Crisis Fund. The money will go directly to the UUSC/UUA partners operating on the ground in countries receiving refugees. The work will focus on ensuring the safe passage of refugees seeking safety and helping refugees access their rights in host countries. A second request is to support a petition drive asking John Kerry to push for raising the general refugee

admission ceiling to 200,000, before September 30 when the government's fiscal year ends. The present ceiling is 70,000.

Please click [here](#) to go to the website for more information and to sign the petition or donate.

### **A Message from the Coffee Committee**

Coffee Hour has long been an integral part of fellowship at FRS, a place to share ideas, make connections, catch up with friends and welcome newcomers. Please help the Coffee Hour Committee continue this valuable tradition by signing up to be an occasional volunteer. Responsibilities include helping with set-up, preparing food for the table, making coffee and tea and clean up. That's it! You'll be working with a seasoned member of the Coffee Hour committee. Sign-up sheets will be in Union Hall after the service, during Coffee Hour. We need helpers for the following dates: 11/1 and 11/08. Please contact Gio DiNicola at [gfdinicola@gmail.com](mailto:gfdinicola@gmail.com).

**Standing Invitation:** It is no secret- the purpose of our Music & Worship (M&W) Committee is to - create and support worship, through word, song, and music, that engages the mind, touches the heart, and invites people to a new depth of spiritual development. - To this end (and beginning), the M&W Committee invites you to share your Spiritual Journey, lead our congregation in lighting the chalice and stating our covenant together, or take the role of verger to coordinate the details of the service on a Sunday morning. Please see Nina Benkley, Art Milliken, Roger Goulet or Kate Sacco for further information and to discuss how you might like to avail yourself of these opportunities. Sally Coulter, Frank Rigg and Tom Rourk can help you too.

**Spread the word about the Harvest Fair!** It is coming up fast...Saturday October 3rd 10am - 2pm. Please invite your friends and neighbors!

**Wanted - Donations to the Harvest Fair Silent Auction for Saturday October 3.** Jewelry, antiques, collectibles, gadgets, and treasures. We especially love funky items that appeal to children and youth. Items should be valued at over \$5, as each item or collection must be described and staged for maximum appeal. We will provide receipts for tax purposes. Please drop off items to Union Hall any time between 9:00am- 8:00pm Friday October 2. Questions? Contact Alison Saylor (978) 369-1809 [saylorfarm@comcast.net](mailto:saylorfarm@comcast.net)

**Please help with the Harvest Fair!** We need pies, baked goods, harvested vegetables, set-up people and especially this year ... a team of good-hearted souls to perform clean-up. All afternoon on Friday we are cooking the PulledPork, Sloppy Joe and Vegetarian Chili that will be served at the Luncheon Cafe. Donations to the Silent Auction need to be arranged and assigned a lot number. The Harvest Fair is a fundraiser, a community event, a social action awareness opportunity and a membership drive. No experience necessary. Stop by and we will find a suitable job for you to do with a team of friendly helpers.

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## Our Shared Ministry

Staff are looking for the painted canvas banner with harvest colors and pumpkins. Do you know where it was stashed perchance?

B&G volunteers have continued the care of the building. **Susan Emmons** and **Bob Zielinski** stained the outdoor wooden benches, which had been prepared by **Bryan Sorrows**. **Kate Saccodid** a thorough cleaning of the lower level windows, brightening up the Red Balloon room considerably. Painting of the floor will be done by Dave Butler and company the week of October 5--9.

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## Denominational Events

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## Community Events

**Used Book Sale:** The Friends of the Gleason Library will hold a book sale on Sept 26 from 10-2 in the former Red Balloon space. Gently used books can be dropped off at FRS on Wednesday September 23 from 4-8 and Thursday September 24 from 9-6 For more information see the Gleason Public Library website [www.gleasonlibrary.org](http://www.gleasonlibrary.org)

**Film Screening "The Aryans" Sept. 28th** You are invited to join Rev. Diane Miller for a screening of the film "The Aryans" on Monday, September 28th at 7 PM at Studio Cinema, 376 Trapelo Road in Belmont, MA. This screening is sponsored by Belmont Against Racism and the World Cinema series. (German, 93 minutes). Meet at the Cinema or carpool from the church at 6 PM.

German filmmaker and actress Mo Asumang, whose father was born in Africa, sets out to get to the bottom of right-wing movements worldwide, as well as their complete misinterpretation of the word "Aryan" as the tall, blond, blue-eyed master race promulgated by French philosopher Gobineau.

Asumang travels to the area where the real Aryans originally came from, now part of Iran. During this personal journey into the madness of racism, she not only meets German neo-Nazis, the US's self-proclaimed leading racist, the notorious Tom Metzger, and Ku Klux Klan members, but also scholars, a neo-Nazi infiltrator, a Holocaust survivor, and a number of Germans who have been led to believe that they are certified Aryans ([www.die-aryer.com](http://www.die-aryer.com)).

Q&A with filmmaker Mo Asumang following the film.