

NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CREATURES
The First Religious Society in Carlisle
Unitarian Universalist
A Welcoming Congregation
Volume XXXVI No. 10
June 2012

“WE ARE A WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY, STRIVING TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE, NOW AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. WE ARE DEDICATED TO SERVICE, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL ACTION. WE CARE FOR EACH OTHER AND FOSTER PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH.”

Message from the Minister

Carlisle has responded to the experience of a local same-sex couple who discovered that an unknown person had come into their home to leave a religious pamphlet warning about an “Appointment with God”. After learning from Kathy Coyle that the police had no more leads and wouldn’t be able to resolve this felony intrusion into a private home, I wrote a letter to the Mosquito published on May 18th. I decided I would fly a rainbow flag, symbol of Gay Pride and inclusive diversity, and wear a rainbow ribbon. I called on the community to join in this show of support and solidarity. Thanks to Alison Saylor and Marguerite Shaw, an order of small plastic rainbow flags was on its way that day. The Parish Committee endorsed displaying a rainbow flag in our Wayside Pulpit, and with help from Linda Meyers-Tierney, who maintains the rotating messages, a flag was quickly on display. Another flag on the front of the church signaled the location of the 250 small flags, which were set out for people to pick up and display at home. They were all picked up in three days and became visible around town, so we ordered more.

More than one person has mentioned feeling a little bit vulnerable after putting a flag in front of their home or driveway, in case they would be targeted by someone hostile to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or questioning (GBLTQ) people. This is an important awareness. Couples, parents, kids, singles or other non-majority people may feel at risk living in the community because of who they are – every day.

Years ago someone organized the "Gay For A Day" campaign, inviting straight people to spend one regular day of their lives identifying themselves as GBLT. I never talked to anyone who actually did it by announcing to their spouse, parents, children, or workplace that they were no longer straight. One minister announced in a sermon that he was gay and then subsequently informed the congregation that it was an exercise in learning tolerance. It was a terrible idea since it violated our ideal that ministers speak the truth in the pulpit, and the congregation felt yanked around. Although why should it matter, after all.

Our ministry has had plenty of gay ministers who felt unable to speak the truth of their own lives. Thankfully, that has changed in most places in UU congregations. Over time we have grown up. In 1990 a youthful-looking second-career student minister gave a personal sermon in which he came out to the congregation as a gay man. When he concluded, one of the elderly members who sat up front turned and said to a friend, “I had no idea Ned was forty!” That’s how much of a stir it caused.

Displaying a gay pride flag may raise awareness and increase empathy. It may contribute to our understanding of how non-majority people can feel. It may give a signal to the person or persons who have harassed a local family, and let them know that this community will not tolerate bigotry and homophobia.

The UUA has a campaign logo for its work for GBLTQ justice and Immigration reform, called “Standing on the Side of Love.” There is a logo and goldenrod-colored t-shirts and banners. I ordered a clergy stole. It is a simple message: We are standing on the side of love. Isn’t that what being part of a religious community is all about?
–Diane Miller

Upcoming Worship Services

Sundays at 10 o'clock

The Nursery opens at 9:00am

June 3: “Celebrating and Honoring our Children and Youth”

This service will include pictures and reflections from the Junior Youth Group, a presentation of bibles to first graders and 8th graders, plus songs and readings to touch the head and heart.

June 10: "Standing on the Side of Love"

Rev. Diane Miller

How the community has responded to an incident of harrassment of a same-sex couple by flying rainbow flags, symbols of gay pride. If you would like to participate, let me know. There will be several parts for readers.

June 17: "Refulgent Summer"

Rev. Diane Miller

Ralph Waldo Emerson's Divinity School Address is full of good advice to ministers. What does he tell us about Fatherhood, in that essay and in his life? This is our final 10 o'clock service of the church year.

After a hiatus on June 24 and July 3, lay-led services begin for July and August, beginning at 9:30 in Union Hall.

Message from the Director of Religious Education

As I reflect on the past church year to look for what worked and what didn't as we make plans for next year's lesson themes and teaching teams, I am gratified that many of our initiatives worked rather well.

The visitor program where a guest or actor portraying a character presents the Message for All Ages and then visits each class will continue. We began the year with Florence Goulet talking about Uganda and her Stella Rosie Foundation, and then welcomed Tom Rourk as Rev. Litchfield, Frank Rigg as Noah, Bucky Rogers as Jesus, and Christy Barbee from Restorative Justice. Who should we invite next year?

On Sundays where sports, holidays, or bad weather make attendance low, having special activities where K-5 or K-8 all work together, such as on Pageants or service projects does seem to keep the interest and engagement of those who do attend at a high level. We made cards for the Pastoral committee and planted seeds, experimented with compost, and studied Coral Reefs with the Environmental Action Committee. We hid eggs filled with money and then found the eggs and counted the coins for the Stella-Rosie Foundation. We will perform the UU Pageant next year, but what other special projects should we do?

The nursery is a thriving and happy place for both our littlest ones and the high schoolers who care for them. With Chasidy Jaquith's quiet competence, Peter Fox and Gavin Saylor's playful nature, and Mike Saylor reading story books, we offer an enriching Sunday morning experience. Ann Quenin and Margaret Darling have offered to read to the nursery children. Might you want to take 10 minutes from your Sunday morning to read-aloud a book to the children this upcoming year?

This past month we have invited the children to attend whole services; the Coming of Age, the Memorial Garden Dedication, and Blessing of the Animals. I think they worked out very well to engage all ages, but then perhaps I am biased? Did they work for you?

RE Sunday is June 3rd and we have songs and photographs to share. We hope you will come!

Director of Religious Education: Alison Saylor can be reached by phone at 978-369-5180 or by e-mail at DRE@uucarlisle.org

Message from the Student Minister

What a blessing it was to be co-ordained by the First Religious Society and the Waterville Universalist Unitarian Church last month on May 26th. This year so far has been a whirlwind of professional and academic conclusions, after I passed the MFC in March and finished my coursework this semester. As you read this, I will be up in Maine preparing to give a message on "Transitions" to my home congregation and let them know what is next for me, now that I am leaving my post as student minister. So, what is next?

As many of you know, I will be moving to Atlanta in June, where my partner, Annie, currently lives. I plan to get my EMT license so that I can eat and pay rent while I plan my next stage of ministry. As to what that next stage of ministry is, all I can say for certain is that it will be an expression of universal love. I have been in conversation with several colleagues, including my friend and classmate Erik Resly and Taunton's Christana Willie McKnight, about what starting a congregation might look like in Unitarian Universalism. So far, the consensus seems to be that small groups are the way to go, so I will probably be learning more about those and experiencing them in Atlanta. I believe that UUism has a message of love and caring that could reach more people if it were presented in new and engaging ways; one of my primary goals as a minister will be to present it in such ways. I have also been having conversations with the board members of the Lucy Stone Cooperative, which last year moved tenants into its new house for the first time.

Lucy Stone has been an inspiring and effective organization during my time in Boston, and I would encourage all who are interested in supporting cooperative housing to learn more about them. I would like to investigate the possibility of leading such an effort in Atlanta or other locales in which I might do ministry in the future.

I know that my drive to make the world a better place will continue to manifest in positive and important projects.

Thank-you for making FRS a place where I could work for good in the world and where I could hone my abilities on that front. The experiences I have had here preaching and leading the youth group in particular will be ones that I will call on for years to come in doing this work. I have had many positive conversations with people in the congregation who have trusted me with their burdens and provided wise perspectives on my own path. I am especially thankful for the work of my internship committee who have given me exactly the kind of useful feedback I had hoped for as a developing minister. I will miss my committee, my senior youth, and all who have influenced my time here, for whom I am grateful. Thank you.

---Bucky

FRS Programs and Announcements

Thank you to all who pledged so generously for 2012-2013

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Matt and Kathleen Aeschliman | Sally Hayen | Gordon and Hannelore Munson |
| John and Ann Ballantine | Heather and Tom Hedden | Bob and Lyn Oleksiak |
| Max and Dave Barber | Steve Herbst | Janet and Michael Oyer |
| Marian Barbour | Linda Johnson | Alison Plante |
| Linda and Alex Beavers | Terry and Eva Herndon | Elizabeth and Maris Platais |
| Gertrud Behn | Shannon Hill | Santo Pullara |
| Nina and Carl Benkley | Ann Jackson | Ruth and Bill Reeder |
| Dana and Kathy Booth | Ernie and Ellen Huber | Judy and Fontaine Richardson |
| Priscilla Bromaghim | Tim and Mary Hult | Frank Rigg |
| Jenifer Bush and Jack O'Connor | Natalie and David Ives | Barbara Ritz |
| Alan Cameron | Harland Jackson | Muggsie and Greg Rocco |
| Douglas Carmichael | John and Ann James | Elizabeth and Edward Saef |
| Elisabeth Carpenter | Dr. John and Norma Japp | Hal and Shirley Sauer |
| Donna and James Carter | Karla Johnson and J. Stewart Roberts | Janice and Peter Saul |
| Sally Coulter and Dr. James Pope | Lenny and Marjorie Johnson | Alison and Mike Saylor |
| Joan and John Dalton | Sue and Steve Kirk | Jackie and Jeff Schaefer |
| Eric and Margaret Darling | Bob and Mary Lou Koning | Marguerite Shaw |
| Lillian and Angelo DeBenedictis | Rebecca Konkle | Joseph and Susan Sheedy |
| MichaelDundorf | Michael Ramnarine | Amy and Kent Smack |
| Susan and Don Emmons | Teresa and Bob Kvietkauskas | Susan and John Stengrevics |
| Annie Fredkin | Alan and Christine Lear | Jennifer Stephens |
| Andi and Jim Gettys | Ed and Liz LeClair | Nancy Shohet West |
| Verna Gilbert | John and Helen Lyons | Alix and Rich Taylor |
| Roger Goulet | Kathy and Rick MacDonald | Woody and Trudi Widrick |
| Stephanie Hackbarth | Scott and Linda McCutcheon | Sylvia Willard |
| Bruce Hall and Pamela Collins | Diane Miller | Pam Woodhull |
| Ken and Marilyn Harte | Art Milliken | Margot Woodruff |
| Nancy Hartle | Gabor and Bonnie Miskolczy | Bob and Sally Zielinski |
| Steve Tobin | Paul Morrison | Mary Zoll |
| | Judy Munroe | |

Religious Education June happenings

Sunday June 3rd “Celebrating and Honoring our Children and Youth” This service will include pictures and reflections from the Junior Youth Group, a presentation of bibles to first graders and 8th graders, plus songs and readings to touch the head and heart. **Sunday June 10th** Sunday School classes will learn about an energy saving mode of transportation – bicycling. This is a bicycle safety class, with instruction for rules of the road, bike maintenance tips, “how slow can you go” and other tricycle and bike skill activities. Some older youth may choose to attend the Pan Mass Challenge in Concord. On **Sunday June 17**, no RE classes, but yes to the Nursery. Old Home Day parade prep for ages 3-93 on Thursday June 28 10:00- noon. Throwing candy to cheering crowds while riding a float is great fun! Bring a bag lunch or we might buy lunch at Fern's.

Seeking teachers and Religious Education Committee members for next year. To continue to bring meaningful, community-spirited Sunday school classes and activities to our children and youth requires a team of supportive adults to plan and supervise classes and field trips. Please contact Alison Saylor the Director of Religious Education, dre@uucarlisle.org, if you have ideas for projects, or time and energy to give to the RE program.

Seeking read-aloud readers for 10 minutes in the Nursery Do you enjoy reading to young children? The children in the Nursery love having adults read them stories. There are High School caregivers who set up the toys and snacks and supervise the young ones, but it is very enriching for the Nursery age youngsters to hear a

read-aloud story. Margaret Darling, Ann Quenin, and Mike Saylor have offered to read some Sundays. How about you?

You're invited to the Twilight Picnic on Saturday June 9th from 6:30-9:00pm in the fenced-in yard next to the church. The RE Committee will sponsor and host this event which is open to all ages, and an especially beloved multigenerational, cooperative games, playful experience. Please bring a blanket, some bug repellent, a picnic dinner and a FLASHLIGHT and join us for games, karaoke, s'mores and fellowship! For more information please contact Jackie Schaefer jackie.schaefer@comcast.net or Alison Saylor dre@uucarlisle.org

Thank you. The Parish Committee would like to thank **Michael Dundorf** for his **many** years of service on the PC. Always a voice of calm and reason, his input and perspective will be missed. Michael traveled all the way from Lowell and currently from Methuen for meetings and to support the efforts of FRS and the Parish Committee. The good news is that he is currently considering any number of committee assignments at FRS, so we are sure to see Michael on Sundays and at many of our community events and activities. Many thanks Michael.

Wasting no time, the Nominating Committee quickly identified and invited **Stew Roberts** to join the Parish Committee. We are always happy to have a new voice on the committee, and are sure that Stew will be a wonderful addition. Welcome Stew and thanks for your willingness to volunteer for FRS in this new capacity. The members of the Parish Committee are Eric Darling, Chair John Lyons, Mary Hult, Christine Lear, Paul Morrison, and Muggsie Rocco.

Carlisle Resilience is a group for those seeking employment, launching a new venture, changing career directions, or seeking to thrive in this recession business climate. The group meets weekly in the upper Conference Room at 9 AM on Tuesday mornings. Free and open to all. Facilitated by John Redding and Diane Miller.

MUSIC TO MAKE SPARKS FLY! Music for a good cause is the occasion on Thursday, May 31st at 7:30 p.m. at The First Religious Society in Carlisle, as area artists present their Annual Chamber Music Concert. Admission is free and donations will be appreciated at the reception that immediately follows the concert. Every dollar will go to the SPARK (Supporting Parents and Resilient Kids) Center at the Boston Medical Center in Mattapan. The SPARK Center assists children and families in the Boston area who are coping with a host of issues including: complex neurological problems, HIV and AIDS, emotional and behavioral problems related to trauma, and developmental delays and related special educational needs.

This musical event will be delightfully eclectic featuring vocal and instrumental music of many genres and eras, including Renaissance, Baroque, and Classical. Highlighting the program will be a flute duet by the late Swedish composer Ingolf Dahl. In addition to many exceptional pieces this far ranging concert will also include a stunning Telemann quartet for recorder, flutes, harpsichord, and viola da gamba; powerful soprano and mezzo soprano duets composed by Cherubini; as well as a brilliant finale composed by Monteverdi and performed by the entire ensemble.

Performing musicians will be Anthony Allen, recorder; Terry D'Errico and Susan Jackson, flutes; Susan Harris, mezzo-soprano; Jessica Rossi, soprano; Deborah Jones, viola da gamba; and Alfa Radford, harpsichord.

This concert is sure to delight so please come and bring friends to hear beautiful music and support this important cause! Just the details: The concert starts at 7:30 p.m., admission is free, donations at the reception will be appreciated and all donations support the SPARK Center.

The concert is in the sanctuary of the First Religious Society in Carlisle.

Coffee Hour Goodies: Here's the line-up for June: - June 3 - last names N-R, June 10 – last names S-Z; June 17 – last names A-C. Please bring finger foods that are easy to eat while simultaneously holding a cup of coffee or tea in one hand. And thank you for participating! (Signed) Anne & Richard Ketchen, Co-chairs, Coffee Committee

Sign up early and often to help out at the Strawberry Festival (Wednesday, June 20, 6 p.m.). Lists will be out at coffee hours We've divided up the jobs and have already had some people agree to head them up: PR - Laura Scholten; berry pick up - Susan Emmons; hulling - Ellen Huber; supplies - Mary Hult; biscuit making - Joan Crooker; tickets - Fontaine Richardson; servers - Sally Hayen; whippers - Nancy Shohet West; entertainment - Ellen. We are still looking for people to head set up and clean up. Please call or email us (Laura--369-1209, lscholt123@yahoo.com; Ellen--369-6678, e2huber@verizon.net; or Sally--369-7591) if you can help with any of the jobs or if you have questions. Several of the jobs need many hands.

Reminder: St Paul Feeding Ministry - Community Supper, St Paul's Church, Eliot Street Lowell, June 29, 2012 Please mark Friday June 29 on your calendars as the next date when FRS members will prepare and serve dinner for 100 of Lowell's needy. As always we would really appreciate donations of lasagna, salad, desserts, bread and rolls, and milk. If you can help with any of these items please contact Frank Rigg at frank.rigg@comcast.net or at 978 369 0277 and look for the sign-up sheets during Sunday coffee hour. Thank you!

New FRS Facebook Page: FRS has launched a new interactive Facebook page. We hope that this page will be an active electronic bulletin board for our activities and services, together with being a place to touch base with the events and personalities of our community, post pictures of our activities, and link to organizations that are important to us. We already have many pictures up, including the Memorial Garden Dedication, and Bucky's Ordination and the Blessing of the animals. This is an interactive site, where you will have the opportunity to respond to postings, comment on pictures and share relevant events. This feature will be especially valuable this summer, when we will have no Newsletters. We already have 26 members to this page, one from as far afield as Arizona! You can find us at www.facebook.com/FRSCarlisle. Or, you can search for us on Facebook as First Religious Society in Carlisle.

Organic and Locally Grown Potluck Supper Saturday June 2nd 6:00pm in Union Hall. The food at these potlucks is always fabulous. No one expects every ingredient to be organic or locally grown, but it is fun when one or more ingredients have those bragging rights. The format is informal with people nibbling on appetizers and talking before the main meal. Dessert is served after the guest visitor speaks. Do come and feel free to bring a friend or neighbor. This event is sponsored by the FRS Environmental Action Committee.

Pastoral Concerns

We serve as a means of outreach to people in our church who need our special support and friendship. We will arrange rides, visits, childcare, meals or anything else that lends a helping hand during short or long-term crises. If you are in need of this support, or know of someone who needs this support, please contact Sally Hayen at 978-369-7591.



We Are a Welcoming Congregation

The First Religious Society in Carlisle is an inclusive community bound together in the Unitarian Universalist tradition of friendship, free inquiry and service to humanity. We recognize our commonality as spiritual seekers, and welcome and celebrate the participation of all people, without regard to age, race, religious heritage, political opinion, gender identity, sexual or affectional orientation, socio-economic status, disability or ethnicity.

We are committed to continual learning and growth toward affirmation of the enriching diversity of humankind, and to working to create a more just, sustainable and loving world.



Communications



- *Neighbours & Fellow Creatures* is a monthly publication. To submit items for publication send to Ann Quenin, Administrator, P.O. Box 817, Carlisle, MA 01741, 978-369-5180, frs@uucarlisle.org
- If you would like to be added to or removed from this mailing please email us at frs@uucarlisle.org.
- The next newsletter deadline is August 23, 2012.
- To receive the weekly enewsletter send the church office a note at frs@uucarlisle.org

Parish Committee

Parish Committee chair: John Lyons 978-369-1216, email: johnalyons@comcast.net
 Parish Committee: Paul Morrison, Muggsie Rocco, John Lyons, Christine Lear, Eric Darling, Mary Hult, Stew Roberts

Church Treasurers

Mary Hult 978-369-0448, email: mphult@comcast.net
 John James 978-369-1296, email: jjames3@mac.com

Standing Committees

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Activities Committee: | Janice Kissinger 978-369-8968, email: janicekissinger@aol.com |
| Buildings & Grounds Co-chairs: | Ann James 978-369-1296, email: ajames3@comcast.net Susan Emmons 978-369-7921, email: susanssemmons@comcast.net |
| Environmental Action Committee: | Dan Scholten 978-369-1209, email: dks@mitre.org Lisa Sama 978-692-6592 email: imsama@comcast.net |
| Finance Committee: | Joe Sheedy 978-256-5068, email: jos.sheedy@verizon.net |
| Music and Worship Committee: | Tom Rourk 978-369-5366 email: tfrpiano@comcast.net . |
| Membership Committee: | Sue Kirk 978-371-0176, email: sukirk@aol.com |
| Pastoral Concerns: | Sally Hayen 978-369-7591 |
| Religious Education Committee: | Susan Lohrer 978-369-1612, email: sulohrer@comcast.net |
| Social Action Committee Co-chairs: | Ellen Huber 978-369-6678, email e2huber@verizon.net Max Barber 978-369-7943, email: damabar@comcast.net |

For a complete calendar of meetings and activities here at The First Religious Society please go to the church calendar on our website:

<http://www.uucarlisle.org/calendar.html>

All are welcome to attend Parish Committee meetings, except in cases of executive sessions. FRS Committee meetings are open to any interested party. To address a committee on a specific issue please contact the committee chair.

Hospitality Committees

Coffee Committee Co-chairs: Anne and Richard Ketchen
 Greeter Committee: Eva Herndon, Nancy West, Karen Dunkers, Tom Dunkers
 Flower Committee: Donna Carter, Alison Saylor, George Bishop

The First Religious Society – June 2012

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 7-9am Men's Group, UH 6pm Organic potluck supper/UH |
| 3 9:00am Nursery 10:00am Worship Service 12:15-2pm Red Balloon ice cream party/playground 2-4pm Jazz Group rehearsal | 4 Staff 10:45-noon 7pm: Darling piano recital and reception/ Sanctuary/UH | 5 9:00am Carlisle Resilience/ FRS upstairs 7pm Music & Worship upstairs | 6 7pm dance rehearsal/UH | 7 7pm Darling/Jackson recital, Sanctuary/UH | 8 6:30pm: potluck and Contra dance/UH | 9 |
| 10 9:00 Nursery 10:00am Worship Service 1:30pm Saul recital and reception, Sanct/UH 7-9pm Jazz Group Rehearsal | 11 Staff 10:45-noon 7pm B&G | 12 9:00am Carlisle Resilience/ /FRS upstairs | 13 7pm dance rehearsal/UH | 14 Red Balloon last day 3pm COA tap class UH 3pm Roberts Recital, Sanct/UH | 15 7pm COA Summer Fling | 16 3:30pm Roberts recital, Sanct/UH |
| 17 9:00 Nursery 10:00am Worship Service | 18 Staff 10:45-noon 9-5 Biscuit making /kitchen | 19 9:00am Carlisle Resilience/ /FRS upstairs 9-5 Biscuit making | 20 9-12 Strawberry hulling/UH 6pm Strawberry festival/UH | 21 11:30 COA lunch 3-4pm COA tap dance/UH 7:30pm KISS | 22 | 23 |
| 24 No service | 25 | 26 9:00am Carlisle Resilience | 27 7pm dance rehearsal/UH | 28 3-4pm COA tap dance/UH 7pm GPL event/UH | 29 Lowell dinner 2pm set up for art show | 30 Old Home Day UH/outside and Red Balloon |

The First Religious Society
P.O. Box 817
Carlisle, MA 01741

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit Number 10
Carlisle, MA 01741

Address Service Requested



NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CREATURES

The First Religious Society in Carlisle, Unitarian Universalist
A Welcoming Congregation

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: "WE ARE A WELCOMING INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY, STRIVING TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE, NOW AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. WE ARE DEDICATED TO SERVICE, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL ACTION. WE CARE FOR EACH OTHER AND FOSTER PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH."

WE ARE LOCATED AT 27 SCHOOL STREET IN CARLISLE CENTER OPPOSITE THE COMMON, JUST OFF ROUTE 225 AROUND THE CORNER FROM THE ONLY ROTARY IN TOWN. A CLASSIC NEW ENGLAND MEETING HOUSE WITH THE TOWN CLOCK IN THE STEEPLE. COME AS YOU ARE. "LOVE IS THE DOCTRINE OF THIS CHURCH, THE QUEST FOR TRUTH IS OUR SACRAMENT AND SERVICE IS OUR PRAYER."

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE AUGUST 23, 2012
SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO ANN QUENIN IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.