

NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CREATURES  
The First Religious Society in Carlisle  
Unitarian Universalist  
A Welcoming Congregation  
Volume XXXVI No. 9  
May 2012



**Message from the Minister**

In contrast with the cycle of nature, May and June are the "harvest season" in the church year. Many projects come to fruition. Children and Youth graduate to another rank of classes and programs. Leaders and volunteers move into new ways of furthering the ministry of this congregation. A new Mission Statement will be acted upon at the Annual Meeting. The much-anticipated Auction will transport us to *la belle France*. We have an Ordination to celebrate. The Memorial Garden will be dedicated. Key verbs of this season are dedicate, thank, ordain, bless, graduate, remember, and celebrate. Be here for the festivities! See you in church.

–Diane Miller

**Announcement of Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the First Religious Society will be held on Sunday, May 20, 2012, at 11:30AM in Union Hall. All are welcome to attend although only members in good standing may vote. This meeting is called by the Parish Committee: Michael Dundorf, John Lyons, Paul Morrison, Muggsie Rocco, Christine Lear, Eric Darling and Mary Hult.

**WARRANT**

**Annual Meeting**

**The First Religious Society in Carlisle, Massachusetts  
May 20, 2012**

1. Elect a moderator
2. Elect a secretary/clerk
3. Receive the Report of the Minister
4. Receive the Report of the Trustees
5. Receive and Vote on the Budget Proposal for the 2012-2013 year.
6. Receive the (previously submitted) Reports of the Standing Committees of The Society. (Copies circulated electronically and posted on the church website. A limited number of paper copies will be available at the meeting).
7. Approve 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."
8. Adjourn

**Upcoming Worship Services**

**10 o'clock**

**May 6: Poetry Service led by members of the Music and Worship Committee.** Coffee Hour will be enhanced by the Memory Tea.

**May 13th, "Coming of Age"** This multigenerational service, led by the 9th-11th grade Coming of Age class, will feature the credo statements of belief of seven students. These have been crafted over the last five months with the help of their mentors. We will celebrate the contemplation and contributions of congregational participants you may not often see but who are active in the life of the church. Special music will feature some of these senior youth group members playing contemporary rock music. Come celebrate Mother's Day with the whole family in the service!

**May 20: Dedication of the Memorial Garden, Flower Ceremony, and Annual Meeting.**

Beginning in the Sanctuary with the story of how the Memorial Garden came to be, told by several of those who brought it into being, we will process outside past Morris Dancers celebrating the Joy of Spring. Pick up a flower at the entrance to the Garden and place it in the vases at the foot of the Memorial Stones, the Flower Ceremony ritual. Dedication of the granite cenotaphs to their ministry of remembrance and honoring lives. We will then return for Coffee Hour and the Annual Meeting in Union Hall.

**Saturday, May 26: Ordination, 2pm. See below**

**May 27: "Blessing of the Animals"** Diane Miller, Alison Saylor, and Bucky Rogers

A cherished tradition at FRS. Bring your pet or a representation of your pet to be blessed. Songs and some thoughts on the love we feel for the animals who are part of our lives and families. Outdoors, weather permitting, or Union Hall.

### Message from the Director of Religious Education

Easter came early this year, but with the unusually warm spring weather it seemed perfectly timed to the season. On Palm Sunday the children decorated and dyed both boiled and blown out eggs from the Saylor flock to both take home and to make the pulpit look festive. On Easter the Junior Youth Group hid plastic eggs filled with coins for the younger children to find. This money, once counted, will be sent to the Stella-Rosie Foundation to benefit Ugandan orphans.

During April vacation week the Religious Education Program conducted a Pet Memorial Service. The stack of rocks (cairn) for these pets is on the edge of the Memorial Garden and the steep bank that rings the Memorial Garden on the Church side. Anyone who wishes to add a stone to the cairn for their pet may do so at any time. Do also look for the new library path that leads from the Arkansas stone area to Gleason library. We ended the April vacation week with a fun field trip to Sweet Autumn Farm, an organic farm on Prospect Street in Carlisle. There was much to see and touch during our visit, as farmers Leslie Thomas and Katharine Endicott brought out a baby kid for all to touch, let the children brush Sarah their rare breed draft horse, and let everyone taste some arugula picked from their slide-on-rails unheated green house. It was a marvelous way to celebrate Earth Day.

For May we have a series of special events planned including a Memory Tea on May 6 during Coffee hour where prior to the event we learn good manners such as direct eye contact, a firm handshake, and how to ask and answer questions in a social setting. The Memory part is our starter questions will be the children asking adults about things they remember. The tea portion is that in addition to coffee, we will serve tea and practice eating and drinking politely while we talk to adults. On May 13 we will stay upstairs in the Sanctuary almost the whole time to watch and listen to the Coming of Age Service, which is where the High Schoolers in this program prepare and present the service with the assistance of their mentors and Bucky Rogers, Student Minister and Coming of Age coordinator. On May 20 all classes will participate in the Memorial Garden Service which will include singing special music taught to the children by Marguerite Shaw, watching youth Morris Dancers, and parading to the Memorial Garden for an outdoor dedication. We end the month in grand style on May 27 with the beloved Blessing of the Animals Service.

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

### Message from the Student Minister

Last week I was preparing to give a walking tour of downtown Boston to a UU Coming of Age group from outside of Philadelphia. I have given this tour a half-dozen times and am pretty familiar with the different sites and the stories that go along with them. Last year, the new board of our student ministry group made a small change to the tour booklets we distribute and base our tours on. Looking at a map of Boston, the direction of the tour went from being counter-clockwise to clockwise.

I knew that I still knew what to say at each stop, but I was surprised at my own dismay. This change in orientation to a familiar task was disconcerting. I pride myself on being flexible and open to new and challenging ways of doing things, valuing those traits in an activity, not being scared off by them. That's why I switched to brushing my teeth half with my left hand and half with my right, and why I took up snowboarding this winter despite Dave Barry's fearsome portrayal of it. I like getting to try new things for the sake of their newness, and I believe that it is good for me.

According to Wikipedia, (this is a direct quote) "The brain changes throughout life." I do mean to sound a little glib here, but also to point out that this is now a fundamental truth of brain science; such was not always the case. Understandings of adult neuroplasticity have only changed in the last generation of that field's work. Some of our inherited beliefs about the ability of adults to change how they think are vestiges of prior neuroscientific theories about the brain. Despite the recently-healed bruises it incurred, I am happy to have stretched my neural pathways to comprehend snowboarding this winter. I look forward to continuing to contemplate new horizons for thought and learning, knowing that I have "encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations" as stated in the third UU principle.

----Bucky.

## FRS Programs and Announcements

**Auction News:** The May 5<sup>th</sup> Service Auction is right around the corner. The newest and most updated list appears on the FRS website (<http://uucarlisle.org>). For those of you who are unable to access it, Ann Quenin will have hard copies printed. You can either visit her at the church office or grab one on Sunday.

Who will bid on Nancy Hendrie's house in St. George, Bermuda? It is available for the week of September 1-8, 2012. Or, do you want to see Bill Clinton? He is speaking at Symphony Hall on Wednesday, October 3, 2012. And, for you foodies, there are gift cards to Le Lyonnais, 80 Thoreau Street and Gibbet Hill. How about fishing with Steve Kirk? There are also dinners galore like a barbecue, a full English breakfast, French and Italian cuisine. How about the summer homes donated by Janice Saul, the Barbers, the MacDonalds, and the Jimenezes? There are also homemade breads, pies and other delectable treats. And, there is a tour of the JFK Library, and visits to the MFA and to the BPL and other places of interest in the Boston area. How about learning tennis or taking archery lessons? This is just a sampling of what's offered. So many wonderful things, so little space to mention them all. Don't forget to view all the items on the website or get your hard copy from Ann. And, this year we are taking MasterCard and Visa.

Remember to buy tickets to Frank Rigg's lecture on the Cuban Missile Crisis. Tickets will be sold at the auction for \$25 per person. This is your chance to reserve your tickets early, before they are offered to the general community.

Make your reservations for the Auction and dinner as soon as possible. Please call Ann at 978-369-5180. Let her know how many in your party, who you would like to sit with and whether or not you want a vegetarian meal. BYOB. Tickets are \$25 per person. Please pay at the door.

**Graduating?** If you or someone in your family is graduating this spring, please email the church office so that we can note the transitions.

**You're Invited! To the Ordination of Bucky Rogers on Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> 2 PM followed by a reception in Union Hall.**

A special occasion to celebrate the culmination of his Internship with this congregation, graduation from Harvard Divinity School, and credentialing for Ministerial Fellowship with the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Please come for a service and celebration: At the First Religious Society, 27 School St in Carlisle.

RSVP to Paul Morrison ([pempaz@verizon.net](mailto:pempaz@verizon.net)).

**Ordination announcement from student minister Jonathan "Bucky" Rogers:**

Now that I have successfully passed the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (they are even asking me to serve on advice panels for it now!) last month, I am proud that FRS will be hosting my ordination service Saturday, May 26th at 2pm. I could not get my role model, John Haynes Holmes, for the occasion, but many of my other favorite ministers and professors will be giving messages and blessings. Only congregations have the power to ordain in Unitarian Universalist polity, not the denomination, so I am grateful FRS will exercise its rights to ordain me to the UU ministry. Hope to see you there!"

**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.

**Job and the Meaning of Suffering.** Yes, it's bible study at FRS! The Book of Job in the Hebrew Bible presents several understandings of suffering. This group, facilitated by Diane Miller, is using the readable Stephen Mitchell translation. Drop in. Remaining dates are Thursdays, May 3 and 10. You have a choice of afternoon (1—2:30) or evening (7—8:30). Free and open to all.

**Carlisle Garden Club Plant Sale 10:00am – 2:00pm Saturday May 19.** Our own plant expert George Bishop will sell houseplants to benefit the Infinity Garden. The Farmers Market will be that same day outside on the Common, where many vendors will sell their own home grown vegetable seedlings; a great source for heirloom tomato plants and unique peppers.

**Save the Date:** May 28, for our delicious Annual Memorial Day Luncheon in Union Hall at Noon, after the ceremonies.

**23<sup>rd</sup> Annual SPARK Benefit Concert.** Save the date of Thursday, May 31 at 7:30 PM. This will mark the 23<sup>rd</sup> year that FRS presents a concert to benefit SPARK (Supporting Parents and Resilient Kids) at the Boston Medical Center, a program that serves inner city children and families who are at risk from HIV/AIDS and domestic violence. The concert will include a wonderful array of music for harpsichord, flutes, and voice. Admission is free, with all donations going to SPARK. A reception will follow in Union Hall. Please plan to support this great social action outreach tradition of our church. Questions? Contact Marguerite: [music@uucarlisle.org](mailto:music@uucarlisle.org) or 978-369-5180.

**Coffee Hour Goodies:** Here's the line-up for May: May 6 – Congregants whose last names begin with D - F; May 13 – Men's Group; May 20 - Congregants whose last names begin with G – I; May 27 - Congregants whose last names begin with J - M. 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

**“The Joy of Giving”** The Parish Committee voted to accept, with appreciation, a generous gift of fifty thousand dollars from church members who wish to remain anonymous. The gift is for two specific purposes. Half is for the addition of a screened porch to the parsonage, and half is for the Minister's Discretionary Fund. The donors added that they experienced the joy of giving in making this special gift. The Parish Committee and the Minister express their appreciation for this generosity.

The Building and Grounds Committee is working with church member and architect Karla Johnson ([www.johnson-roberts.com](http://www.johnson-roberts.com)) on the design for the porch and has been gathering bids for the project. The Minister's Discretionary Fund is used for a variety of purposes including benevolence and other purposes to further the mission of the congregation and jump start new initiatives. It is never used for the minister's benefit, but is allocated at the discretion of the minister. As a special fund, it is segregated from the annual operating budget and the balance is carried over from year to year. The Minister's Discretionary Fund covered the cost of the mobile cart and flat screen TV, which was much needed for current programs

**Deadline of June 1 for the inaugural group of Memorial Garden engravers.** This is the last chance to donate \$750 to engrave one name or pay \$1000 for two names. Please note that on June 1 the required donation will jump to \$1000 for the first name and \$500 for each subsequent name. After June 1 the engraving requests will likely be done in spring 2013, so we urge you to send in your money and name *promptly* to Ann Quenin in the church office. The format for an engraved name is JOHN H SMITH 1947 - 2013 If the named person is still alive, then the last four digits are left blank for later engraving. Please note there are no titles or credentials; just names, nicknames, or initials.

**Strawberry Festival:** The Strawberry Festival will not be held on the planned June date this year. Instead, we hope to serve homemade strawberry shortcake during coffee hour on the final Sunday of the church year, June 17, Father's Day, as a special treat for the congregation. We are looking for a coordinator to organize this scaled-down effort. If this is a way you would like to serve, please contact the church office. Call 978-369-5180. In future years, the Strawberry Festival may be held on Old Home Day as an FRS event.

**Digital pictures of Memorial Garden needed.** If you have pictures of before, during or after the construction of the garden, please let Alison Saylor know so that they can be incorporated into the dedication service on May 20.

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## Notes of Appreciation

“...Thank you Social Action Committee and members of First Religious Society for your donation of \$250 and your continuing partnership with Concord Prison Outreach. Your support helps us to reach some of the most needy in our society We believe rebuilding lives and restoring hope is truly sacred work. You have given a great gift of love.”  
*Carol Peters, Executive Director*

“The Open Pantry of Lowell wishes to thank you for your recent donation. You are helping fill an urgent need in the Greater Lowell area. ”  
*The Pantry Volunteers*

“Thank you for your gift of \$155.00 to UU Mass Action. This represents the coming together of a movement for change where Unitarian Universalists live out their values in the world. We are able to mobilize to Stand on the Side of Love because of your generosity.”  
*Jesse C. Jaeger, Executive Director*

“Please know how grateful we are for your donation of \$200 during these dark days of the Religious Institute. Bless you for acting quickly to show your support for our ministry. Your support makes a profound difference in our ability to not only survive, but to flourish once again.”  
*Rev. Debra W. Haffner, President*

This note was received from a Carlisle resident who was helped thanks to the Carlisle Neighbor Fund: ....”*Thank you for all you did you help me get my car repaired. It was such a relief to finally get it taken care of thanks to you and the kindness of some Carlisle residents. It is truly inspirational that there are people who are so generous. I am so grateful to have had somewhere to turn to when I was in need of help.*”

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## 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.



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## 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](mailto:frs@uucarlisle.org)
- If you would like to be added to or removed from this mailing please email us at [frs@uucarlisle.org](mailto:frs@uucarlisle.org).
- The next newsletter deadline is January 23, 2012.
- To receive the weekly e-newsletter send the church office a note at [frs@uucarlisle.org](mailto:frs@uucarlisle.org)

## Parish Committee

Parish Committee Co-chair: Michael Dundorf 978-390-9505, email: [mdundorf@comcast.net](mailto:mdundorf@comcast.net)

Parish Committee Co-chair: John Lyons 978-369-1216, email: [johnalyons@comcast.net](mailto:johnalyons@comcast.net)

Parish Committee: Paul Morrison, Muggsie Rocco, John Lyons, Christine Lear, Eric Darling,  
Michael Dundorf, Mary Hult

## Church Treasurers

Mary Hult 978-369-0448, email: [mphult@comcast.net](mailto:mphult@comcast.net)

John James 978-369-1296, email: [jjames3@mac.com](mailto:jjames3@mac.com)

## Standing Committees

Activities Committee: Janice Kissinger 978-369-8968, email: [janicekissinger@aol.com](mailto:janicekissinger@aol.com)

Buildings & Grounds Co-chairs: Ann James 978-369-1296, email: [ajames3@comcast.net](mailto:ajames3@comcast.net)

Susan Emmons 978-369-7921, email: [susansemmons@comcast.net](mailto:susansemmons@comcast.net)

Environmental Action Committee: Dan Scholten 978-369-1209, email: [dks@mitre.org](mailto:dks@mitre.org)

Lisa Sama 978-692-6592 email: [lmsama@comcast.net](mailto:lmsama@comcast.net)

Finance Committee: Joe Sheedy 978-256-5068, email: [jos.sheedy@verizon.net](mailto:jos.sheedy@verizon.net)

Music and Worship Committee: Tom Rourk 978-369-5366 email: [tfrpiano@comcast.net](mailto:tfrpiano@comcast.net).

Membership Committee: Sue Kirk 978-371-0176, email: [sukirk@aol.com](mailto:sukirk@aol.com)

Pastoral Concerns: Sally Hayen 978-369-7591

Religious Education Committee: Susan Lohrer 978-369-1612, email: [sulohrer@comcast.net](mailto:sulohrer@comcast.net)

Social Action Committee Co-chairs: Ellen Huber 978-369-6678, email [e2huber@verizon.net](mailto:e2huber@verizon.net)

Max Barber 978-369-7943, email: [damabar@comcast.net](mailto: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

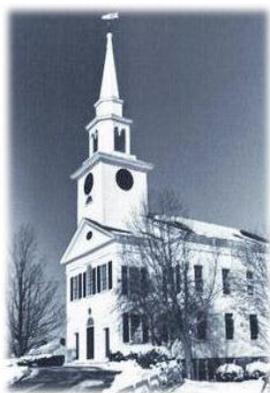
## The First Religious Society – May 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> <b>9:00am</b> Carlisle Resilience/FRS upstairs <b>7pm</b> Music & Worship upstairs	<b>2</b> <b>7pm</b> dance rehearsal/UH <b>7:30pm</b> Choir practice	<b>3</b> <b>11:30am</b> Robbins Brook lunch/UH <b>1-2:30pm</b> Job bible study <b>3:00pm</b> COA tap class UH <b>7-8:30pm</b> Job bible study	<b>4</b>  <b>5pm</b> Auction set up	<b>5</b> <b>7-9am</b> Mens Group, UH <b>9-11am</b> recital rehearsal/Sanctuary <b>6pm</b> Service Auction/UH
<b>6</b> <b>9:00am</b> Nursery <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service <b>1-3pm</b> private recital/Sanct.	<b>7</b> Staff <b>10:45-noon</b>  <b>7pm: EAC</b> downstairs	<b>8</b> <b>9:00am</b> Carlisle Resilience/FRS upstairs <b>7pm</b> Music & Worship upstairs	<b>9</b>  <b>7pm</b> dance rehearsal/UH <b>7:30pm</b> Choir practice	<b>10</b> <b>1-2:30pm</b> Job bible study upstairs <b>3:00pm</b> COA tap class UH <b>1-2:30pm</b> Job bible study upstairs	<b>11</b>  <b>6:30pm:</b> potluck and Contra dance/UH	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <b>9:00</b> Nursery <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service	<b>14</b> Staff <b>10:45-noon</b>	<b>15</b> <b>9:00am</b> Carlisle Resilience//FRS upstairs	<b>16</b> Sanctuary organ work all day  <b>7pm</b> dance rehearsal/UH  <b>7:30pm</b> Choir practice	<b>17</b> Sanctuary organ work all day <b>11:30am</b> COA luncheon/UH <b>3pm</b> COA tap class UH <b>7:30pm</b> KISS <b>7-9pm</b> CCI Annual Mtg/UH	<b>18</b> Sanctuary organ work all day	<b>19</b> <b>9am-1pm</b> Annual Plant Sale
<b>20</b> <b>9:00</b> Nursery <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service <b>11:30:</b> FRS Annual Meeting	<b>21</b> Staff <b>10:45-noon</b>	<b>22</b> <b>9:00am</b> Carlisle Resilience//FRS upstairs	<b>23</b> <b>7pm</b> dance rehearsal/UH  <b>7:30pm</b> Choir practice	<b>24</b>  <b>3-4pm</b> COA tap dance/UH	<b>25</b>  <b>7-9pm</b> Beekeepers/ UH	<b>26</b> <b>2:00pm</b> Ordination Ceremony and Reception, Sanctuary and UH
<b>27</b> <b>9:00</b> Nursery <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service	<b>28</b> Office closed  <b>Noon:</b> Memorial Day lunch	<b>29</b> <b>9:00am</b> Carlisle Resilience//FRS upstairs	<b>30</b>  <b>7pm</b> dance rehearsal/UH  <b>7:30pm</b> Choir practice	<b>31</b> <b>3-4pm</b> COA tap dance/UH <b>7:30-10:30</b> SPARK Benefit Concert and reception Sanct. And UH		

The First Religious Society  
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## NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CREATURES

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

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 MAY 24, 2012**

**SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO ANN QUENIN IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.**