

NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CREATURES
The First Religious Society in Carlisle
Unitarian Universalist
A Welcoming Congregation
Volume XXXV No. 3
November 2010



Potpourri

Good News! Kathy Varney has reconsidered the full time job she had been offered elsewhere and decided to remain in her job as church office administrator at FRS. We are delighted. —Diane Miller

The Director of Religious Education position is open, since the person selected was not able to begin the job. Consult the website for more details. Contact Susan Lohrer if you are interested sue.lohrer@yahoo.com

Youth RE Assistants help in classrooms and nursery each week. High School students and young adults interested in these positions, which pay \$10 per Sunday, should contact Diane Miller.

New Member Orientation, November 21: Those interested in becoming members of First Religious Society are invited to an orientation on Sunday, November 21 from noon to 2:00pm in the upstairs conference room. A light lunch and babysitting will be provided if you sign up by Nov 14. Contact the church office or use the sign up sheet at Coffee Hour. Lead by Diane Miller and the Membership Committee.

Woody Widrick's book, Life Wins!, is a collection of essays and sermons edited by Alex and Linda Beavers. It is available from Amazon.com in a kindle edition, and a paperback version. We hope to have some printed copies available on November 28th.

November 21, Book discussion of Appel is Forever: A Child's Memoir: Tom Rourke will lead a discussion of the book by Suzanne Mehler Whiteley, our speaker on October 17. Gather at 11:30 in the sanctuary.

The Parish Committee thanked Suzanne Whitney-Smith for her service on the Parish Committee and her leadership as Co-chair. They accepted her resignation with regret in September. Michael Dundorf was chosen to take on the Co-chair responsibilities with John Lyons. The Nominating Committee nominated Mary Hult to fill the open seat on the Parish Committee, and Mary was elected by the Parish Committee to fill Suzanne's term, through June 2011. Mary continues to serve as Treasurer of the church.

Upcoming Worship Services

November 7 Bucky Rogers, Student Minister. "Resonating with Reason." Reason and rationality are defining traits of our Unitarian Universalist heritage, and continue to distinguish our values today. Drawing on the lessons handed down by Ralph Waldo Emerson, as well as contemporary philosophers, this sermon will explore the spiritual insights we can gain through use of the human capacity for imagination that reason unlocks.

November 14 Rev. Diane Miller "Because It's Wrong." Our Human Rights series started with Suzanne Mehler Whiteley, and continues by looking at the moral and theological arguments for the rights of humanity.

November 21 Rev. Diane Miller "The Benefits of Gratitude." What nourishes the soul? A sermon for the season of Thanksgiving which looks at one of the sources of spiritual growth.

Wednesday, November 24, 7:30pm: Our annual Thanksgiving Service will be at St. Irene, Wednesday, November 24th at 7:30 pm. This joint service with the Catholic congregation in Carlisle alternates location each year. Diane Miller will present the sermon.

November 28 Rev. Eugene R. "Woody" Widrick, minister emeritus. "Holism and Holiness." Woody Widrick, will preach on this first Sunday of Advent.

Message from Bucky Rogers, Student Minister

On one of the warm, sunny October days we were blessed with this fall, I had the privilege of taking a Senior Youth Group from First Unitarian Brooklyn on a tour of Boston's UU heritage sites. One of my duties as a member of the Harvard Divinity School UU Ministry for Students is to conduct such tours, and it has been a great way to learn about UU history. A classmate and I met the students and their youth advisor at Divinity Hall in Cambridge, to talk about Emerson's famous Divinity School Address, and then toured various sites around Boston Common.

Before I trained to give this tour last fall, I had little conception of just how entwined 19th century Boston history was with Unitarianism. But the amount of history that we could cover in a very small radius was astounding. Some of the great Theodore Parker sermons that Diane preached about last month were delivered at the Boston Music Hall, located just blocks down Washington Street. from the West Street home of the Peabody sisters, where the transcendentalist publication *The Dial* was edited.

Standing in front of what is now the Arlington Street Church, I got a chance to tell our youth not only about the theological advances of William Ellery Channing's heretical Unitarianism, but also about the educational reforms of Horace Mann and other parishioners dedicated to liberal ideals. Standing in front of the State House, the proximity of UUA Headquarters at 25 Beacon Street serves to further illustrate the relationship between Unitarians and the Massachusetts elite, as do the statues of Unitarians Daniel Webster and Charles Sumner.

Exploring the Boston area allows one a uniquely embodied sense of American history. As religious liberals, we have many sites of particular interest in the area. From the *Make Way for Ducklings* statue (author Robert McCluskey was a Unitarian) to the all-black 54th Regiment Civil War monument (Colonel Robert Gould Shaw-Unitarian), I am continually astounded by how much history we have here. I look forward to joining with you in creating our future!

---Bucky

Staff and Office Hours

Church Office Hours: The church office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 8:00am and 2:00pm. To reach Kathy Varney in the office call 978-369-5180 or email frs@uucarlisle.org.

Minister: Reverend Diane Miller can be reached at the minister's office number 978-369-0284, 617-851-8222 (cell) or minister@uucarlisle.org. Call her directly to schedule an appointment or leave a message. Wednesday is her day off.

Minister of Music: Marguerite A. Shaw can be reached at the church 9:00am-2:00pm daily or by phone at 978-369-5180, or email music@uucarlisle.org.

Director of Religious Education:
dre@uucarlisle.org

Student Minister: Bucky Rogers can be reached by email at youth@uucarlisle.org or 207-660-1348.

Minister Emeritus:
Dr. Eugene R. Widrick

Lay Minister:
Sally Hayen



WINTER HOLIDAYS CONCERT
December 5 at 7:00 pm

Our annual celebration of winter holidays: Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa
Choral and instrumental music, vocal solos, handbells, jazz group,
audience singing of songs and carols

A reception in Union Hall follows the concert
Free and open to the public, the program is child-friendly,
usually no longer than 1 hour 15 minutes

RE Notes

Soup and Games Night, Saturday, November 13, 5:00pm: Join us on November 13 at 5:00pm for a wonderful evening of fun. We start with interactive full-group games for adults and kids and then enjoy homemade soups, fresh bread, salads and dessert. After supper enjoy favorite board games, a card game or the always popular Twister. Come relax and visit together! Bring a favorite game if you'd like. All are welcome!

The nursery and preschool group is under the continued coverage of Dixie Morrison, with the help of rotating Youth RE Assistants and an adult volunteer each week. The nursery opens at 9:15 every week for choir members, parents and teachers.

The K-2 class is beginning a six-week study of Hinduism, as part of their world religions curriculum. The 3-5 class is beginning their study of the UU faith using the "Toolbox of Faith" curriculum. The junior youth are starting a study of Catholicism, and planning community service projects.

The Senior Youth are looking forward to Common Cathedral.

The Our Whole Lives (OWL) program is underway in Bedford, with four eighth grade participants from FRS. Bucky Rogers is on the team of four teachers leading the program on Sunday evenings from now through March.

Each Sunday Youth RE Assistants of high school age help in the nursery, K-2, and 3-5 classrooms, where they are much appreciated. High School interested in contributing to FRS in this paid position are encouraged to contact Laura Scholten.

Fleece Blanket Project: Union Hall was filled with sewing machines, huge bolts of fleece, a dozen mothers and 30+ young boys from the Fenn School and Carlisle on the afternoon of October 19 where they managed to cut, sew and decorate 99 fleece blankets, 27 hats and 37 scarves, all of which will be donated to the Pine Street Inn for distribution to homeless people. The money to buy the fleece was raised by the Fenn families. Weezie Petrie, mother of Fenn student Miles Petrie, purchased all the materials, and organized the Fenn mothers and boys to come to Union Hall for the intense, but fun cutting, decorating, assembling, and sewing event. Some boys, under close supervision, tried their hand at sewing on machines, some cut out fleece to make decorations on blankets or fringed scarves and cut out patterns for warm hats. Three cutting stations ran the entire time where the boys rolled out the fleece to pre-measured tape on the floor and used scissors to cut out fleece blankets. FRS Junior Youth Group members Peter Fox and Gavin Saylor were joined by three friends to do this community service project, which has been a joint FRS and Fenn project run by Molly Sorrows for several successful years. It is a worthwhile project to keep going in the future. "I felt good knowing I helped the homeless" said Gavin Saylor. Please contact Alison Saylor if you would like to help with next year's Fleece project. Experience with sewing fleece is not a requirement!

FRS Programs

Harvest Fair report: Although the Harvest Fair is more than just a fundraiser, it is always interesting to see what each component of the fair made in terms of "profit". This year the financial report shows FRS made \$83 from vendors, plant table - \$36, Environmental Action Committee - \$94, Bake table - \$204, Silent Auction - \$366, and the Luncheon Cafe an outstanding \$806. The Religious Education classes K-5 made \$94.35 for their special causes, and the Junior Youth Group \$208.25. Habitat for Humanity netted \$308 and the Kenyan jewelry booth made by HIV positive women grossed an amazing \$700+. FRS will also receive 50% of the proceeds from the Pumpkins on the Common and we just have to wait for those numbers, although we predict they will be \$200 or more. The volunteers who should get special recognition are Dian Cuccinello for producing wonderful soup and sandwiches for the Luncheon Cafe, George for setting up all Friday afternoon, growing the decorative cornstalks that are tied around the columns in Union Hall, and helping to man the plant table and Habitat board signing station. Barbara Ritz for organizing the Silent Auction, Kevin Brown for using his cider press and cool apple pulp grinding machine with the Junior Youth group, Ellen Huber for coordinating the Bake table, and Laura Scholten for her penmanship making lots of signs. Many thanks also to Harvest Fair workers, Judy Munroe, Nadine Bishop, Pam Fox, Janice Kissinger, Mike Saylor, and Jackie Schaefer in the kitchen, Gavin Saylor and his friend Robert as waiters, Ernie Huber and Dan Scholten on the EAC table, Frank Rigg helping Barbara Ritz with the Silent Auction, Peter Fox, Lucy Hill and Erika Hedden selling cider and apples, and fudge and witches' hands sold by the Browns, Herlihy's, Kellys, Ecklers and Schaefer's. There are always so many people who just step in here and there to make everything run as smoothly as possible, bake goodies, bid on Silent Auction items, buy treats, donate items, help clean up afterwards...to those unsung heroes a big thank and virtual hug from Alison Saylor, Harvest Fair coordinator 2010.

Union Hall Coffeehouse, Saturday, November 6 at 7:30pm, Big Blues Night with Damon Fowler Group and The Sugar Shack Tour. With his hybrid of roots rock, blues, and sacred steel, Florida native Damon Fowler started wowing audiences with his musical exploits as a teenager, building a reputation as one of the hottest young players on the scene. Adding songwriting and vocal skills to his repertoire over the years has brought him many accolades, with critics extolling his originality and maturity as well as his technical guitar expertise. In last year's "Best of Tampa" poll, *Creative Loafing* magazine named him "Best Guitarist... And Slide Guitarist... and Lap Steel Player... And Dobro Player." Tickets available online (unionhallcoffeehouse.com), or at the door. Please call Dian Cuccinello at 978-287-5745.

Cambridge Society for Early Music Concert Thursday, November 11 at 8:00pm in the sanctuary: Ingrid Matthews, violin, and Byron Schenkman, harpsichord. J.S. Bach: Sonatas for violin and obbligato harpsichord. Go to CSEM.org for details and to order tickets.

FRS Adults and Youth offer Spiritual Support and Food to Boston Homeless, Sunday, November 14: Common Cathedral/Ecclesia Ministry offers an outdoor service for Boston's homeless community on Boston Common each Sunday. On November 14 FRS will send a delegation of adults and youth on its fifth annual trip to Common Cathedral, to participate in the service and serve lunch for approximately 100 homeless individuals. This has been very fulfilling for those who have attended in the past. It is also a big undertaking for our congregation, and one that relies on the participation of many families and individuals. We are seeking volunteers to make the trip, volunteers to make and bring in food to be distributed, a volunteer to pick up the cake at Costco, and monetary donations to fund a sheet cake. Sign up sheets with detailed instructions will be available at Coffee Hour in Union Hall, starting October 24 or you can sign up through the church office.

Knitting in Service Society (KISS) for the Homeless: Would you like to make a difference to someone who is homeless? Now you can do something you enjoy and also provide a holiday gift to someone in need. Knitting in Service Society (KISS) is a group of girls and women who have been knitting since 2006 to benefit those in need. New members are always welcome. We work at home and in a monthly meeting on hats and scarves from easy to advanced – using **any** pattern of your choice. They are knit for Boston's homeless through Common Cathedral and given as Christmas presents. For info on Common Cathedral, their needs and a pattern, see <http://www.ecclesia-ministries.org/howto.html>. KISS meets monthly, excluding summers, and can provide knitting instructions for those who would like to learn. Meetings are at members' homes in Carlisle at 7:30 pm on November 18, December 16, Jan 20, Feb 17 and March 17, April 28, May 19 and June 16. To be added to the monthly email reminders and locations, call or email FRS. **Deadline for this year's donations is November 14, when we will deliver the hats to Boston. Donations of goods, yarn and needles** can be dropped off at the FRS. Any and all knitted or crocheted items would be GREATLY appreciated.



Carlisle Community Thanksgiving Dinner, November 25 at 4:00pm: Come for a coordinated pot-luck dinner on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 2009, at 4:00pm in Union Hall, 27 School Street, Carlisle, MA. Sign up for the food you will contribute to the traditional holiday dinner. Free, but you do have to register at 978-369-5180 by Monday, November 22nd. We need to know the number of people coming (the number of vegetarians and the number of meat-eaters), what you will bring, how you will help (set up, clean up), and your contact information (phone and email please).

Carlisle Winter Farmer's Market in Union Hall Saturdays 9am to 12pm: Save these dates; November 27, December 18, January 22, February 19, March 19, April 16. Enjoy local, seasonal produce, eggs, honey, crafts and other delectable treats. For more information contact Leslie Thomas (978) 287 5024. Sponsored by The Environmental Action Committee.



Advent Wreath Making, Sunday, November 28, 3:30pm: Following the wreath making we will have a carol sing. Please bring greens, clippers for cutting if you have them, a holder for the candle in the center and a plate or platter on which to place the wreath. Advent wreath forms and candles will be available for sale the day of the wreath making. Advent wreaths are a tradition based on religious ancient uses of evergreens and light symbolizing the expectation and hope of the Christmas season and the birth of Jesus. There will be an Advent Wreath in our Sunday services this December. The wreaths are part of home and church observance of Christmas. Please call the church office if you would like to attend (978-369-5180).



Greens Sale, Saturday December 4 10:00am-2:00pm: We will be having our annual Holidays Greens Sale on Saturday, December 4 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. All are encouraged to volunteer their time and talents. We are hoping to be as successful as last year! We encourage all newcomers to join in the fun and get to meet some new friends. Looking forward to working with all of you.

- Saturday, November 13,** Gingerbread Mixing and Sorting at 9:00am
- Saturday, November 20,** Boxwood Tree Workshop 9:00am to 5:00pm in Union Hall
- Sunday, November 28,** Decorate the Sanctuary at noon
- Wednesday, December 1,** Christmas Greens Arrangements Workshop All Day in Union Hall
- Thursday, December 2,** Wreath Decorating Workshop All Day in Union Hall
- Friday, December 3,** Set up and price items for Greens Sale 8:00am in Union Hall.
- Friday, December 3,** Pre-order pick up at 5:00pm in Union Hall
- Saturday, December 4, Greens Sale** 10:00am to 2:00pm in Union Hall

Call Janice Kissinger at 978-369-8968 to sign up for workshops.

Infinity Garden Progress: Our thanks to Sally Zielinski and Christine Kavalaszkas who studied the church property in October to advise on questions related to wetlands and tree removal. They prepared a thorough report for the Infinity Garden task force and the Parish Committee. Sally is a Ph.D. Botanist and Plant Ecologist, and Christine is a Wildlife Ecologist/Biologist; both contributed their expertise pro bono. Sylvia Willard, Administrator for the Carlisle Conservation Commission, also met with them to describe what is needed for tree removal and the permit process. Their report is available in the church office.

Children's Books Needed for the Nursery: We are building a library of children's books for use in the nursery during Sunday morning service. Please join us by donating any books for kidlettes ages 2 through 5. More details on books were sent out in the weekly email. Donations can be left at the church office on the lower level, or in the box in Union Hall. Contact Michael Dunderf at 978-390-9505 with any questions:

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 or know of anyone in need of this support, please contact Anne Ketchen.



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: Kathy Varney, 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 the church office at frs@uucarlisle.org.
- The next newsletter deadline is November 18, 2010.
- To receive the weekly email send the church office a note frs@uucarlisle.org



Parish Committee

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

Church Treasurers

Mary Hult
 John James

Standing Committees

Activities Committee:	Janice Kissinger
Buildings & Grounds Co-chairs:	Ann James Susan Emmons
Environmental Action Committee:	Dan Scholten
Finance Committee:	Tucker Kelly
Music and Worship Committee:	Tom Rourk
Membership Committee:	Sue Kirk
Pastoral Concerns:	Sally Hayen
Religious Education Committee:	Susan Lohrer
Social Action Committee Co-chairs:	Ellen Huber Max Barber
Union Hall Coffee House:	Dian Cuccinello

The First Religious Society - November 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1 6:00pm Savoyard Light Opera/UH</p> <p>7:00pm Environmental Action/ground floor</p>	<p>2 noon JYG RE Project/UH</p> <p>6:00pm Savoyard Light Opera /UH</p> <p>7:00pm Music and Worship/upstairs</p>	<p>3 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4 6:00pm Savoyard Light Opera/UH</p>	<p>5 9:30am COA Line Dance/UH</p>	<p>6 7:30pm Union Hall Coffee House/UH</p>
<p>7 9:15am Childcare</p> <p>10:00am Worship Service</p>	<p>8 7:00pm Buildings & Grounds/ground floor</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>11 7:00pm Membership/ground floor</p> <p>8:00pm Cambridge Society Early Music/Sanctuary</p>	<p>12 9:30am COA Line Dance/UH</p> <p>6:00pm Contra Dance/UH</p>	<p>13 9:00am Gingerbread mixing & candy sorting/UH</p> <p>4:00pm Soup & Games/UH</p>
<p>14 9:15am Childcare</p> <p>10:00am Choir Sunday off and special music Worship Service</p> <p>Youth go to Common Cathedral</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 7:00pm Parish Committee/upstairs mtg rm</p>	<p>17 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>18 11:30am COA Luncheon UH</p> <p>7:30pm KISS Knitting/off site</p>	<p>19 9:30am COA Line Dance UH</p> <p>7:00pm Womenspirit at Music Man</p>	<p>20 9:00am Boxwood Tree Workshop/UH</p>
<p>21 9:15 Childcare</p> <p>10:00am Morning Worship Service</p> <p>11:30am Book Discussion</p> <p>Noon New Member Orientation</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 7:00pm Carlisle Fishing Group/UH</p>	<p>24 Set up for Thanksgiving dinner</p> <p>7:30pm Ecumenical Service at St. Irene's</p>	<p>25 4:00pm Thanksgiving Dinner/UH</p>	<p>26 9:30am COA Line Dance UH</p> <p>7:00pm Beekeepers/UH</p>	<p>27 8:00am Farmers Market/UH</p>
<p>28 9:15 Childcare</p> <p>10:00am Worship Service</p> <p>1:00pm Bring down decorations</p> <p>3:30pm Advent Wreath Making/UH</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>				

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 NOVEMBER 19, 2010