

NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CREATURES
The First Religious Society in Carlisle
Unitarian Universalist
A Welcoming Congregation
Volume XXXVII No. 02
October 2012

"Dianiana" Message from the Minister

Like many of you, I've been following the news and campaigns as we march toward the November elections. There have been some nutty comments and "gotcha" efforts in virtually every campaign. You will make your choices at the polls, and you don't need my help deciding on candidates or parties to support. But I do address issues.

I was appalled to see videos of campaigners for our current senator making "tomahawk gestures" and stereotypical "whoops" to mock the challenger, who has indicated she has Native American heritage.

I have strong feelings about this. My aunt Synia's husband was Native American. Their children, my first cousins, were blonde tow-heads. I didn't think of them as Native Americans when we were growing up – they were just cousins. But they are enrolled tribal members, and my cousin Hilton, a businessman, spent many years on the leadership council of his tribal Nation. Another more distant cousin is not enrolled in a tribe, but is a leader and educator of Native American traditions in the Michigan school system. My late father-in-law told us about his grandmother being Native American. He said the family tried to cover it up. When we looked up the census records, she was listed as white. Interestingly, her husband was the census-taker in their area, so did her heritage become white for the record? I would challenge anyone to pick the Native Americans out of the family lineup (except when dressed for a Pow-wow or Annual Gathering).

Native Americans have long been legally defined by how much "Indian blood" they have. This is called the "blood quantum." Full blood. Half blood. Quarter blood. It began with European contact. A wall quote at the National Museum of the American Indian says: *"Who is an Indian? A Native American? An indigenous person? American Indian, First Nation, or Aboriginal? All these labels are used, but none is entirely correct. Who decides?"*

See you in church!

---- Diane Miller

"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."

Upcoming Worship Services

Sundays at 10 o'clock

The Nursery opens at 9:00 am

Choir Rehearsal at 9:15 am

October 7 Rev. Diane Miller,

"The Doctrine of Discovery." On the Sunday before Columbus Day, a sermon about the long lasting legacy of a Papal decree of 1452 which provided the justification for the "Discovery" of new lands such as America, and has an impact on our legal system still today. Children will begin downstairs in Union Hall.

October 14 Rev. Diane Miller, Compassion in Dying." A sermon on the Death with Dignity Act which comes before Massachusetts voters this fall. The Bell Ringers will play. The Message for All Ages will be Bryan Sorrows telling us about fire safety.

October 21 Guest Preacher, the Rev. Kathleen McAdams, Executive Director of *common cathedral*, an outdoor church and street ministry in Boston, with the homeless community at its center. She will preach about homelessness and the theology behind *common cathedral*. Following the service and greeting people in Union Hall, Rev. McAdams will lead an adult forum in the upper conference room with more information about *common cathedral's* programs and how you can be involved. The Message for All Ages will tell about the *common cathedral* worship service, in which our congregation will participate and provide lunch on Sunday, November 4th after church.

October 28 "South Africa Journey"

Muggsie Rocco and Melanie Rocco, describing their summer volunteer work in Durban, South Africa. Rev. Diane Miller will conduct the service.

Message from the Director of Religious Education

As we reflect on September and make plans for October it is with optimism and anticipation that we see the children and youth of the First Religious Society working together each Sunday with their classes and teachers. We seek to balance the work load of “big events” with the excitement and energy they generate. The big event for October is the Harvest Fair. With the Social Action Committee matching any funds the children and youth can raise, the challenge is to find meaningful “things” for the children to make and sell at the Harvest Fair. Busy hands making meaningful somethings are the *best time for serious discussions and learning*. On a small scale this is done for each Sunday school class. On a bigger scale, such as getting ready for the Harvest Fair, there are many opportunities for parents, teachers and adult members of the congregation to share their passions with our church children for helping others and for Social and Environmental Action. The younger children will raise money for purchasing school uniforms for Ugandan orphans and Cambodian school children. The Junior Youth Group will raise money to combat Hunger; the Open Pantry of Greater Lowell, the Eliot church, and the Concord Crop Walk. The Senior Youth Group will raise money for Habitat for Humanity. All these causes are sponsored by members of our own congregation. It is in these intergenerational discussions, presentations and reflections of each “worthy cause” that children learn to care and become motivated to help others. We hope you will attend the Harvest Fair and buy some seeds, wild grape products and fresh pressed cider and engage the children in conversation as you do so! – Alison Saylor

The Junior Youth Group has lots of plans for the autumn. We’ll be at the Harvest Fair with many yummy homemade treats to sell. We are planning a banner for the crop walk and are doing yoga and meditation, from time to time! We will be studying several Unitarians and Universalists across history, particularly those that worked to alleviate the conditions of suffering in their own time (as well as those who meditated for some extra encouragement). We have a noble history to explore. All in all, we are busy, ready for a fruitful fall and enjoying each other’s company – Linda Simmons

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

A birthday celebration

Woody's Word

(Sung to the tune of "Shall We Gather At the River")

Text from the Book of Widrick 1:1-10
as translated by Marguerite Shaw,
Minister of Music

When our Woody came to this fair place,
he brought his sweetheart, Trudi.

And together they began the work of love
and faithful duty.

For all these years his word has been,
no matter what the wins or losses;

"Friends, you must remember this:
Our lives are always a process."

Soon we sang the chorus in our dreams,
recalled when joy and pain were closest.

Heard the words of wisdom loud and clear:
"Our lives are always a process."

So, Trudi dear, and Woody, too,
we all want you to remember;

No matter whether you are far or near,
your presence will still linger here.

And we'll remember what you taught us: your
lives, and ours, are a process.

Note: This song was sung at the retirement of the Rev. Dr. Eugene Widrick (Woody) and his wife Trudi in June of 2001, and was repeated, in celebration of his 80th birthday, at the Sunday morning church service on September 23, 2012.

FRS Programs and Announcements



Congratulations to FRS members Bruce Hall and Pam Collins who were married on September 2nd. Diane Miller officiated. They are now Bruce and Pam Hall.

Saturday October 13 Harvest Fair – Seeking Silent Auction treasures and help to prepare for and run the event.

The Silent Auction is one of the main features of the Harvest Fair, and is only successful when we get donations of interesting treasures, gadgets, trendy toys, collectibles and trinkets that appeal to a wide range of customers. Do you have anything to donate this year? Receipts for tax purposes are cheerfully given. Donations may be brought to church any time between 8:00am and 8:00pm on Friday October 12. Are you able to help sell at the Bake table, Country Store or organize the Silent Auction on Friday October 12? If so please contact Alison Saylor dre@uucarlisle.org.

Sponsors needed: The Junior Youth Group is participating in the Concord CROP Walk for Hunger again this year on the afternoon of October 14, so FRS youth will be seeking sponsors. For more information contact Linda Simmons, las897@mail.harvard.edu.

Sponsors needed: The Senior Youth Group is participating in the “Take a Hike for Humanity” to benefit the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell, also on the afternoon of October 14. For more information, or to walk yourself, go to www.lowellhabitat.org or contact our own John Redding at johnehredding@gmail.com.

If you can sponsor either or both of these worthwhile events, please contact the church office (frs@uucarlisle.org), 978-369-5180 or send a check to FRS Box 817, 27 School Street, Carlisle, MA 01741.

Solar Panels For the FRS? An after-church informational meeting - Oct 14

Interest in reducing our carbon footprint and in putting solar panels on the two south-facing FRS roofs is continuing to build. We held a summer service on the subject that was attended by 25 people-about twice the usual attendance for summer services. A petition to get things rolling in an expedited way was available and obtained 18 signatures. Another 6 signatures then easily found their way to the petition after the meeting. An ad hoc "Solar Purchasing Committee" (SPC) has been formed and, with permission from the Parish Committee, is working on proposal solicitations and scheduling congregational information meetings. Dave Erickson will be the presenter/facilitator. This meeting will have much more substance, facts, and numbers than the one held in September, because we hope to have at least one or two proposals by that time. We hope to also have a representative from Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light (MIPL) (the local faith organization spearheading carbon footprint reduction) available to answer questions and tell a little about what is currently happening at MIPL. Their chosen solar installation company (SunBug Solar) has recently signed up 11 area churches for photovoltaic installations in the first round of contract financing. The availability of attractive financing packages is a very dynamic situation however and depends in large part on supply and demand in the state solar incentives market and the ability of the installers to obtain tax rebates. So we will hope that when, and if, official approvals are obtained that the market is still very attractive. The two big official approvals needed are one from all of you by a congregational vote and the other from the Carlisle Historic District Commission.

WomenSpirit Potluck - Friday, October 19th - 7:00 PM. The WomenSpirit Potluck Supper will be in Union Hall on Friday, October 19th at 7:00 PM. All women are welcome. Bring a dish to share (appetizer, salad, entree or dessert). Nothing fancy expected. Our discussion theme for this year is Transitions. WomenSpirit meets monthly for potlucks or activities to provide connections and support to women in the community. RSVP to Sue Kirk sukirk@aol.com or 978-371-0176.

Fall Circle Dinners - Saturday, October 20th - 7:00 PM Our Fall Circle Dinners will be held on Saturday, October 20th. Small groups get together in a planned potluck dinner at one of our homes. It's a fun way to get to know each other. Please consider inviting a friend or neighbor to come along with you in order to "expand the circle" within our community. Your guests will come to the dinner with you. Hosts provide a main dish and guests will bring the rest (salad, dessert, or bread/wine). Sign up at Coffee Hour or you can email Ann Quenin at the church office (frs@uucarlisle.org). Hosts are needed! Any questions, please contact Sue Kirk (sukirk@aol.com) . Last day to sign up is Sunday, October 14th. Hope you can join us!

Transgender Film Series at FRS: What is gender? How is gender different from male and female? How is the word Queer being used today? What does cisgender mean? What does transgender mean? Are you informed about this aspect of human experience? Are you an ally and an advocate for justice?

Two more films will be presented at FRS with an opportunity for reflection and asking questions. The goal is to apply our quest for knowledge toward deeper understanding of an evolving area of human identity.

Who should come? Adults and Youth 16 and up (or who have completed the 8th grade Our Whole Lives – OWL - curriculum.) **What?** Films on transgender topics. Popcorn & Cider, Movie & Conversation.

When? Sundays, 4-6 pm, at FRS:

Suggested donation \$4. Put the dates on your calendar. For more information contact Rev. Diane Miller, minister@uucarlisle.org, or call 978-369-0284. The series is organized by Diane, Margaret Darling and Jenn Stephens.

Harvest of Hope Benefit October 25 At the Whistler House Museum of Art in Lowell, featuring a cabaret performance by Michael Lally. Tickets are \$125. RSVP by October 16 to www.hopelowell.org.

Cuban Missile Crisis Lecture: Join us on 10/27 at 5:30 PM. in Union Hall for a Blue Ribbon BBQ dinner and a lecture by Carlisle's own Frank Rigg. 2012 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Frank Rigg, curator of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library for 26 years, has spent his career immersed in the life of President Kennedy. The Cuban Missile Crisis represented some of the most challenging days for Kennedy and the Nation. Frank offers a presentation on the Crisis for up to 100 audience members.. The price of admission is \$40, all proceeds to benefit the First Religious Society. For tickets and reservations, please contact Christine Lear at cmlteatime@comcast.net or (978) 318-0850.

Holiday Greens Sale December 1. The Holiday Greens Sale will be on Saturday, December 1 from 10 AM to 2 PM. I hope everyone will volunteer to help in some way since this is a big project and we'll need many helping hands. (signed) Janice Kissinger



Save the date: Winter Holidays Concert December 2 at 7pm.



Reminder: If you plan a meeting or an event at FRS, please reserve the space with Ann well in advance of the event. She will then put it on the office calendar and on the website and will cite it in the weekly enewsletter and the monthly newsletter. Please put "room reservation" on the subject line if you are sending the request by email.

Knitting in Service Society (KISS) has resumed meeting. KISS usually meets on the third Thursday of the month, at various members' homes. New knitters of all levels are always welcomed. The KISS knits to benefit the homeless community in Boston. The group knits hats and scarves as Christmas presents to congregants of Common Cathedral, Boston's worship community for the homeless. For questions or to be added to the KISS email list, contact Linda Myers-Tierney at lindamt@comcast.net.

Carlisle Resilience: On October 16 Michael Dunderf will present "Don't Send a Thank You Note" on better ways to follow up after an interview. Carlisle Resilience is a weekly gathering of people who are looking for employment, changing careers, and starting new ventures. The group constitutes a talent pool of diverse skills, so if you are looking for talent and skills, or have an inside track on job openings, this is where you might find the

right person for the job. If you have expertise you can offer to a group of job seekers, we appreciate having guest presenters. Tuesday mornings at 10 AM the group gathers at FRS. It is a changing group of people from FRS and the larger community. There is a brief check-in from everyone present, and then we delve into an aspect of search in greater depth. Looking for work is complicated. Getting no responses or rejections can be deeply discouraging. Being out of work can begin a cascade of problems. We are here to offer support and encouragement and real connections. Facilitators are Rev. Diane Miller, John Redding and Michael Dundorf. There is hot coffee, and no charge for the meetings. Contact John (JohnEhRedding@gmail.com) or Diane (minister@uucarlisle.org) to find out more, or just drop in.

Do you like to meet new people and serve your community? Come join the wonderful crew of Election Volunteers that serve the Town of Carlisle so well each Election Day! We welcome new volunteers at all times and especially now for the Presidential Election in November! We are happy to provide training ahead of time so you will feel perfectly comfortable on Election Day.

We offer a variety of schedules to accommodate full-time workers, part-time workers, busy moms, retirees, and anyone interested in helping even if only for a couple of hours. We have openings for volunteers to work during the Election Day as well as for ballot counters after the polls close.

If you would like to learn more about the volunteer opportunities and find out how you can join our team of election volunteers, please contact the Town Clerk's office by telephone at (978) 369-6155 or by email at chinton@carlisle.mec.edu. We look forward to hearing from you soon. Thanks! Charlene M. Hinton

Membership Minutes: The church Membership Committee could use your help! We have created a new sign-in card for visitors and would appreciate everyone's help in making visitors feel welcome by saying hello and introducing yourself. Visitors can find out more about happenings at FRS via the email announcements and can be added to the list by completing a card in the front lobby. (They can also remove themselves from the list at any time). The newest flyers about our social action, religious education, music and other church programs are on the bookshelves in Union Hall. Thanks for your help in making FRS a warm and welcoming place to all visitors.

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 Hayden 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 send to: Ann Quenin, 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 let us know..

- The next newsletter deadline is October 24, 2012.
- To receive the weekly newsletter send a note to frs@uucarlisle.org

Parish Committee

Parish Committee chair: John Lyons 978-369-1216, email: johnalyons@comcast.net
 Members: 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

Staff

Minister: Rev. Diane Miller, cell: 617-851-8222, email: minister@uucarlisle.org
 Minister of Music: Marguerite Shaw, 978-369-5180, email: music@uucarlisle.org
 Director of Religious Education: Alison Saylor, 978-369-5180, email: dre@uucarlisle.org
 Administrator: Ann Quenin, 978-369-5180, email: frs@uucarlisle.org
 Jr. Youth Group and Coming of Age Advisor: Linda Simmons 603-498-9520 las897@mail.harvard.edu

Standing Committee Chairs

Activities Committee:	Janice Kissinger 978-369-8968,
Buildings & Grounds	Ann James 978-369-1296, email: ajames3@comcast.net Susan Emmons 978-369-7921, email: susansemmons@comcast.net
Environmental Action Committee:	Dan Scholten 978-369-1209, email: dks@mitre.org Ernie Huber 978-369-6678 e2huber@verizon.net Lisa Sama 978-692-6592 email: lmsama@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
Nominating Committee:	Nancy West nancyswest@gmail.com
Pastoral Concerns:	Sally Hayen 978-3369-7591
Religious Education Committee:	Jackie Schaefer, 978-256-6770, email: jackie.schaefer@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 FRS 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

Greeter Committee: Eva Herndon, Nancy West, Karen Dunkers, Tom Dunkers
 Flower Committee: Pam Hall, Alison Saylor
 Coffee Committee: Pam Fox

The First Religious Society – October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7-10pm Savoyards UH	2 9:00am Staff 10:00am Carlisle Resilience UH 7:00pm Music & Worship Comm.	3 11:30am COA luncheon 2:45-3:45pm COA tap class 7pm dance rehearsal/UH 7:30pm choir rehearsal	4 7-10pm Savoyards UH	5 7:00pm League of Women Voters event, UH	6 7-9am Men's Group, UH
7 9:00 Nursery 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Coffee Hour 3-6:15pm Morris dancers, UH	8 7-10pm Savoyards UH	9 9:00am Staff 10:00am Carlisle Resilience UH 7pm Music & Worship upstairs 7-10pm Savoyards UH	10 2:45-3:45pm COA tap class 7pm dance rehearsal/UH 7:30pm choir rehearsal	11 7-10pm Savoyards UH 7:30pm KISS (offsite)	12 6:30pm: potluck and Contra dance/UH	13 10:00am Harvest Fair 3:45-5:15pm Bell ringing rehearsal Sanctuary
14 9:00 Nursery 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Coffee Hour 11:30am Solar panel discussion 3-6:15pm Morris dancers, UH	15 7pm B&G mtg 7-10pm Savoyards UH	16 9:00am Staff 10:00am Carlisle Resilience UH 7-10pm Savoyards UH 7:30pm Parish Committee	17 2:45-3:45pm COA tap class 7pm dance rehearsal/UH 7:30pm choir rehearsal	18 11:30am COA luncheon 7-10pm Savoyards UH 7:00pm KISS meeting, offsite	19 7:00pm WomenSpirit potluck	20 6:30pm Circle Dinner (in church members' homes)
21 9:00 Nursery 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Coffee Hour 3-6:15pm Morris dancers, UH	22 7-10pm Savoyards UH	23 9:00am Staff 10:00am Carlisle Resilience UH 7-10pm Savoyards UH 7pm Parish Committee mtg	24 2:45-3:45pm COA tap UH 7pm dance rehearsal/UH 7:30pm choir rehearsal	25 11:30 COA lunch 7-10pm Savoyards UH	26 7:9:00pm Beekeepers, UH	27 5:30pm Cuban Missile Crisis lecture and barbecue, Union Hall
28 9:00 Nursery 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Coffee Hour 2-4pm private recital & recep. 3-6:15pm Morris dancers, UH	29 7-10pm Savoyards UH	30 9:00am Staff 10:00am Carlisle Resilience UH 7-10pm Savoyards UH	31 2:45-3:45pm COA tap UH 7pm dance rehearsal/UH 7:30pm choir rehearsal			

The First Religious Society
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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 OCTOBER 24, 2012
SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO ANN QUENIN IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.