



The First Unitarian Church in New Bedford

# News & Views

Volume LIV, Issue 2

February 2016

## COORDINATOR'S COLUMN

I hope you all kept safe and warm while the snow fell and the wind blew this past weekend. I also hope everyone enjoyed the Sunday off and found some spiritual satisfaction in the beautiful white blanket and the neighborhood friendliness that shoveling and walking in snow inspires.

Speaking of inspiration, our UUNB Google group has gotten off to a good start and the ideas, especially about fundraising, are flowing. There is a meeting scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 11, which will bring us together to present some of these ideas, but also to see who is interested in short-term fundraising versus long term development and planning. It's very exciting to see and hear so much enthusiasm and it feels like momentum is building.

My column this month is going to be short and sweet because I've been spending time with my grandmother in her final days. She has always been there for me and I'd like to be there for her. There will always be more columns and sermons to write, but not many more hours to hold my grandmother's hand and sing "You Are My Sunshine."

Bright Blessings, everyone.

Karen

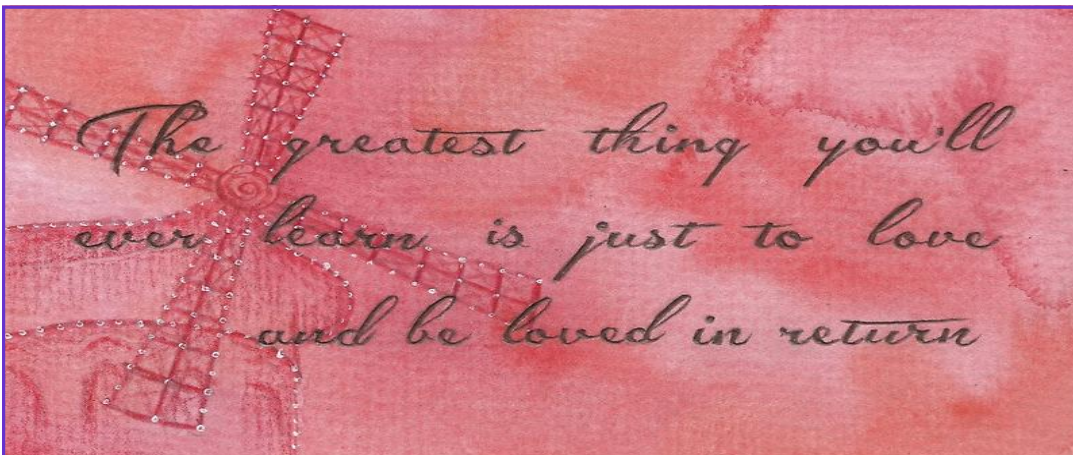
### WAYSIDE PULPIT

*Turn your face  
toward the sun and  
the shadows will fall  
behind you.*

*Maori Proverb*

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Coordinator of  
Ministerial Services  
Hours  
Tue, Wed & Thu 10-1  
or by appointment at  
your convenience. You  
may call the office  
(508-994-9686)  
or call  
Karen Andersen at  
508-441-9344

# RE NEWS—WAY COOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

January 31	Way Cool Sunday School Claying Around Simple Twist of Fate {12:30-2:30pm}
February 7	Chinese New Year {Children arrive at 10:30am} “Souper” Bowl {Yes we “CAN”} RE Team Meeting {12:15 Tryworks}
February 11	AHA Fire & Ice Frost & Flame{Sanctuary 5-7pm}
February 14	Love Letters Chocolate Auction
February 21	Way Cool Sunday School Sewing Circle {12:00 Tryworks} Frederick Douglas Read-a-Thon {2pm}
February 28	Way Cool Sunday School Simple Twist of Fate {12:30-2:30pm}
Save the Date	March 13th UU101 {Rev. Richard Trudeau} {12:30-2:00pm}

*“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.” Albert Einstein*

Sewing Circle: The children have expressed an interest in sewing. The choices are a pillow or a pouch! If you would like to assist in this endeavor please see Yasmin. Our first session will be February 21st!

2016: The Year of the Monkey {2004, 1992, 1980, 1968}  
Lucky Numbers: 4 & 9  
Lucky Days: 14th & 28th {Happens to fall on church days!}  
Lucky Colors: White, Golden, Blue  
Lucky Flower: Chrysanthemum

Please join us on Sunday, February 7th as the children parade through the sanctuary with their decorated dragon and share The Five Virtues of Confucianism and how it connects to our Unitarian roots. Confucius was a Chinese philosopher that lived 2,500 years ago. He believed our world could become perfect, if people exhibited “beautiful conduct.” Happy Chinese New Year!

## BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

### President

Judy Lund

### Vice President

Crystal Lubinsky

Cora Peirce

Kerri Cummins

Cecelia Weeks

Jorge Pereira

Jan Baptist

**Clerk**—Richard Pline

**Treasurer**—Ned Lund

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### House and Grounds

Richard Pline

### Committee on Ministry

Fred Gifun

### Endowment

Carlton Dasant

### Soup Kitchen Coordinator

Dave Thoen

### Food Pantry

Maggi Kerr Peirce

### Thrift Shop

Bill Bennett

### Choir

Katie Driscoll

### Social Justice

Rick Finneran

### Music

Carol Kolek

### Women’s Alliance

Pam Sherman

# CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

## SCHEDULING CONFLICTS

If you are planning a meeting or event in the church, you MUST check with the office first to make sure there isn't another group already meeting in that time slot/space. We must be respectful of each other and not interrupt when others are already meeting. Plus, we don't want to have too many groups meeting at the same time, which might divide the time of people that want to attend more than one. We also need to know which areas of the church will need to be heated at various times. So PLEASE ASK FIRST before planning any meetings. We will have many wonderful events this year and we want everyone to be able to coexist in harmony with each other!

Thank you for your cooperation.

~Linda

## WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

### WE'RE DONE WITH DYING

Our End of Life Group is shifting its focus this year to "AGING WISELY". Let's share the journey and have some fun along the way. This month we will be discussing Obituaries.

Please join us after the Worship Service on Sunday, February 21st in the Sanctuary at 12:30. (rescheduled from January 24th)

Carol Kolek, Marsha McCabe, Mary Beth Dowd

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 11TH AT 6PM

Please join this important group meeting headed up by Jan Baptist, as we discuss long term and short term fundraising events and opportunities for First Unitarian. We have an exciting year coming up! Come be a part of it!

## FREDERICK DOUGLASS READ-A-THON

The New Bedford Historic Society presents the 16th Annual Frederick Douglass Read-A-Thon in our Sanctuary on Sunday, February 21st from 2-6pm.

## COME SING A SONG WITH US!

The choir rehearsals will change from Monday evenings to Wednesday evenings from 7:15-9:15 PM beginning January 13th. The choir will sing during two services each month and on other dates as requested by the minister. The only requirements are that you want to sing and are willing to attend weekly rehearsals and scheduled performance dates. Membership in the choir is open to ALL, not only church members. All skill levels are welcome. Contact director Katie Driscoll with questions [klbrenle@gmail.com](mailto:klbrenle@gmail.com) or 508-536-8549.

## QUILTING GROUP

The Quilting Group meets on Tuesdays at 9:30am. New members are always welcome, even if you have no sewing experience. Join us for a cup of tea.

## SIMPLE TWIST OF FATE ADULT EDUCATION

Please join us following the worship service for a lovely afternoon on January 31st and February 28th from 12:30pm-2:30pm. A light luncheon will be provided.

Sources of Faith, This I Believe, Getting to Know Each Other, Meditation Practices, Shared Ministry...

An opportunity to connect, create and continue the conversation. All are welcome. You may attend one or both sessions.

Please RSVP by Phone: 508-994-9686

By Email: [admin@uunewbedford.org](mailto:admin@uunewbedford.org)

Or In Person: Yasmin or Karen

{Child Care will be provided}

## FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Our "Soup-erBowl" Drive will be held on February 7th! Please bring in a can of soup with you to church on February 7th and we'll see if we can beat our record of EIGHT BAGS of soup! Also, personal care items such as shampoo, razors and toothpaste, as well as Diapers and baby food are ALWAYS needed and would be gratefully accepted. We thank you so much for your generosity all year long!

*Members and friends of the Fairhaven UU Church volunteer at the Shepherd's Food Pantry in Acushnet once every 7 weeks. Their next day is Saturday, February 20th from 8:45-11am. If anyone would like to volunteer, call the office and I'll give you all the details. I will be there!*

~Linda



# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday to:

~ Domenic Padilla 2/9 ~ Raeghan Sampson 2/17 ~

~ Emily Johns 2/18 ~ Ron White 2/25~

If your birthday is in February, but it is not listed here, it's because I do not have it in my database. Please call the office and let me know your birth date so we can all celebrate with you!

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

♥ We send our best wishes and warmest thoughts to Karen Andersen and her family as they grapple with the declining health of her dear grandmother.

♥ We are happy and relieved to hear that Ken Peirce is at home and recuperating well after his surgical procedure last week. We wish him a speedy recovery!

## VALENTINE'S DAY CHOCOLATE AUCTION

Sunday, February 14th at 12:30pm

Each year, we ask for donations of chocolate and/or romantic "Valentine-type" items to auction off after service on the Sunday closest to Valentine's Day. This year Valentine's Day falls on the Sunday, so this should be the most chocolatey auction of all! Please consider donating some creative, chocolate-filled, romantic gifts to the auction. Popular items in the past have included: restaurant gift cards, wine & cheese baskets, chocolate covered strawberry "roses", etc. Be creative! (check out [www.Pinterest.com](http://www.Pinterest.com) for some fun ideas!) If anyone is interested in helping out with this fundraiser, please speak to Ron or Sylvia White or Larry Jaquith. Let's put the "FUN" back in fundraising!

## CONTINUING EVENTS

**Mondays** at 5:30pm: Tai Chi — Meets in the Green Room. Free. No meetings on Monday holidays.

**First & Third Mondays of each month** at 7:00pm: Pride Café—Meets in the Parish House.

**Second Tuesday of September, December and June** at 11:30am: Women's Alliance Meeting in the Parish House (unless otherwise stated).

**Tuesdays** (September-December & January to May—weather permitting) at 9:30am: Quilting Group—Meets in the Parish House. Come and join the fun, even if you're not a quilter.

**Wednesdays** at 7:15pm: UU Sunday Choir Rehearsal—meets in the music room.

**Fourth Wednesday of the Month** from 9am-1pm—Soup Kitchen Service, Pilgrim United Church, 635 Purchase Street, downtown New Bedford.

**Third Thursday of the month** at 7:00pm: Board of Trustees meeting. Meets in the Historic Room.

**Fourth Thursday of the month** at 6:30pm. Social Justice Committee — Meets in the Historic Room

**Third Saturday and/or Sunday of the month:** Dinners for Eight.

### CHURCH STAFF

Karen Andersen,  
Coordinator of Ministerial  
Services

Yasmin Flefleh-Vincent,  
Director of Religious Ed

Randy Fayan,  
Music Director

Linda Fredette,  
Church Administrator

Tony Gonsalves, Sexton

Vikki McMaster,  
Bookkeeper

Arthur Green,  
Sunday Sexton





# February 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 12:30pm Simple Twist of Fate (Gr)	Feb 1 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 7pm Pride Café (Gr)	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i> 9:30am Quilt Group (P) 7pm GNBCS (Gr)	3 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr) 7:15 UU Choir Practice(S)	4 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 7:30pm CUUPS Imbolc Potluck (Gr)	5	6 Candlelight Vigil-10th Anniversary of the Puzzles Lounge Attack (S)
7 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) "Soup-erBowl" Sunday 12:30RE Team (T)	8	9 <i>Mardi Gras</i> 9:30am Quilt Group (P) 7pm GNBCS (Gr) 	10 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr) 7:15 UU Choir Practice(S)	11 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 6:00pm Development Meeting (Gr) 8:00pm VOX (S)	12 	13 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) Valentine's Day Chocolate Auction (P) 	15 <i>President's Day</i> 7pm Pride Café (Gr) <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 	16 9:30am Quilt Group (P) 7pm GNBCS (Gr)	17 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr) 7:15 UU Choir Practice(S)	18 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 7:00pm Board of Trustees Meeting (H) 8:00pm VOX (S)	19	20 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
<b>SCHOOL VACATION WEEK</b>						
21 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 12:30pm RE Sewing Circle (T) 12:30pm What's Your Plan? (S) 2-6pm Frederick Douglass Read-A-Thon (P)	22	23 9:30am Quilt Group (P) 7pm GNBCS (Gr)	24 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr) 7:15 UU Choir Practice(S)  <b>SOUP KITCHEN DAY</b>	25 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 6:30pm Social Justice Meeting (H) 8:00pm VOX (S)	26 	27 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
28 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 12:30pm Simple Twist of Fate (Gr)	29 	March 1 9:30am Quilt Group (P) 7pm GNBCS (Gr)	2 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr) 7:15 UU Choir Practice(S)	3 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 8:00pm VOX (S)	4	5 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
6 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	7 5:30pm Tai Chi (D)	8 9:30am Quilt Group (P) 7pm GNBCS (Gr)	9 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr) 7:15 UU Choir Practice(S)	10 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 8:00pm VOX (S)	11	12 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open

 = private/non-church related event

Green Room(Gr), Dining Room(D), Sanctuary(S), Parish House(P), Tryworks Auditorium(T), History Room(H)



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FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH  
IN NEW BEDFORD

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Church Office

Phone 508-994-9686

Fax 508-994-9687

### WINTER WEATHER NOTICE

In case of inclement weather, cancellations will be posted on our website and on our Facebook page. Our phone answering system will be updated with the latest details and notices will be sent to channel 7 (NBC) and channel 56 (CW). In the case of a Sunday service cancellation, we will also send a notice out to all recipients of this Weekly Compass newsletter. In any case, if services/meetings/events are NOT cancelled, please use your judgment as to whether you believe it is safe to travel. Please don't take unnecessary risks.

### CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

You should have received a short survey on church communication, either via email or "snail mail" (if you are not on our email list). Please fill out the online form at your earliest convenience or return the paper form to the church as soon as possible. There will be some paper surveys available on Sunday for those who did not receive one. If you have any difficulty opening the online form, please let us know and we'll re-send the link.

The Committee on Ministry looks forward to your participation.

Fred Gifun, chair, Mario Costa, Carol Kolek, Elise Korejwa, Cecelia Weeks

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The "News & Views" goes to print on the third or fourth Tuesday of each month. **The deadline to submit articles into the newsletter is the Friday before it goes to print.** All submissions are reviewed by the editor for content and grammar. **Next "News and Views": February 23, 2016.**