



The First Unitarian Church in New Bedford

# News & Views

Volume LIII, Issue 11

November 2015

## COORDINATOR'S COLUMN

October has been a great month at the church. We've had the gates open three days a week, for "lunch in the labyrinth" and will continue to do so as long as the weather is warm enough. We've had some wonderful visitors to the pulpit, including Stacy Latt-Savage, fine arts professor at UMASS Dartmouth, who gave a great talk on "The Courage of Creation," and Pamela McLeod-Lima, executive director of the Women's Center, who spoke about domestic violence in our community, as a preface to the domestic violence vigil that will be held at the church on Oct. 27. Best of all, was our first Harvest Festival, which I think was a great success. It may not have netted a big pile of money, but it certainly inspired our membership and engaged our community. I have the feeling that the neighborliness and welcoming atmosphere that the people enjoyed there will pay off in a hundred different ways. Many thanks to all the volunteers who made the day so much fun! I loved showing off our sanctuary to people, all of whom were sufficiently wowed by our beautiful building and our lovely yard.

Right now, our church yard and parking lot have tents pitched for the Connecting for Change conference and we are so happy to host this event and get more people through the gates. This Sunday I will be talking about "Our Two Mary Rotches," a sermon inspired by a sign that was discovered in one of the dark corners of our building. I don't want to give away too much, but it will outline an interesting sliver of our church's history and hopefully, solve the mystery of this sign we found. This is a perfect topic to set up the Nov. 1 service, "Honoring our Congregational Ancestors," which will be a group effort. Several members will be speaking about members of our congregation who have gone before us. If anyone has pictures or other objects from past members, please bring them for the memorial altars, which will be placed at the front of the sanctuary. If anyone would like to speak about someone special, please let me know. I'll be making calls this week to fill the time, and I hope we get lots of people to honor our congregational ancestors. It feels right to me that those who put in so much time and energy into this congregation be remembered, and that their names remain on the lips and in the hearts and minds of our congregation for years to come.

Like many ministers and members before me, I am getting sucked into the amazing history of this congregation, which is so closely woven with the history of our fair city. Our church was home to, or visited by, so many of the people who shaped New Bedford, the region, and the country in its earliest days. The names of the original pew owners in our sanctuary reads like a list of New Bedford street names, and indeed, these were the people who our streets were named for. I have to admit that the research for the services to come have had

### WAYSIDE PULPIT

*Give thanks for each  
new morning  
with its light,  
for rest and shelter of  
the night,  
for health and food,  
for love and friends,  
for everything thy  
goodness sends.*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

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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

- Nov 1 Way Cool Ancestors—Hero's Journey  
RE TEAM MEETING 12:15 {Tryworks}
- Nov 4 ADULT EDUCATION {Registration Required}  
Part I of II: This I Believe {6:30-8:30pm} {Parish House} Childcare Available
- Nov 8 Way Cool Sunday School—Hero's Journey  
Poppies for People  
Organ Recital 3pm {Childcare Available}
- Nov 12 AHA Home is Where the Heart Is {5-7pm}  
Volunteers Needed Every Second Thursday of Month
- Nov 14 Eaglesclaw Academy Camp {10am-5pm} Harry Potter Fun
- Nov 15 Way Cool Sunday School—Hero's Journey— Malala Yousafzai
- Nov 18 ADULT EDUCATION {Registration Required}  
Part II of II: This I Believe {Parish House} Childcare Available
- Nov 22 Thanksgiving Potluck  
Sarah Hale Saves the Day
- Nov 29 No Sunday School {Childcare Only}
- Dec 5 Holiday Stroll Happenings {10-3}

*If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like Sunbeams and you will always look lovely. {Roald Dahl}*

**Save the Date: DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup> Solstice Service {Lovelight}  
Something Beautiful {Alexi Murdoch}**

**WATCH ON YOUTUBE** to learn the song we will sing on 12/20. We will begin our “musical production” the next few weeks! We have props, words to learn, shadow dances and more to create! You thought last year’s “Golden Rule” service was spectacular, wait until you see what the children will be working on for our “Lovelight” service. Calling ALL volunteers! <https://youtu.be/l-JL0g3lrto>

**At our RE Team meeting** we will discuss our Parent/Child Workshops for Chal-ice Lighting, the “Lovelight” Solstice Service on December 20<sup>th</sup>, registration updates, AHA committee, Parenting Books and more. Please join us. ALL are welcome. We meet the first Sunday of the month in Tryworks.



## 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 Dasent

### 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



**ORGAN RECITAL** by  
Randy Fayan, Music Director  
**Sunday afternoon,  
November 8, 2015  
at 3 PM**

*(Childcare available)*

***Music will include works by J. S. Bach,  
Bruhns, Ives, and Olsson.***

In celebration of the recent repairs to the 1966  
tracker-action Flentrop Organ built for this  
sanctuary

**First Unitarian Church**

Corner of Union and County Streets, New  
Bedford, Massachusetts

*Donations will be gratefully accepted*

**FROM THE MUSIC COMMITTEE:** Last month's News and Views presented Katie Driscoll, our choir director. This month we are featuring Randy Fayan who is our Music Director. Many thanks to Marsha McCabe for interviewing Katie and Randy and writing the introductions.

**MEET RANDY FAYAN—MUSIC DIRECTOR**

When Randy was growing up in Cumberland, Rhode Island, he asked his parents if he could take piano lessons. He was ten years old. His family was not musical and there was no piano in the house, but Randy got his lessons and felt the magic. "I really liked it," he said, and he kept on playing through high school and college, for a time studying classical

under an outstanding teacher, Diana Smirnov. Randy earned his undergraduate degree at Brown University in electrical engineering and his master's in computer science, also at Brown.

As an undergraduate, Randy was introduced to Unitarianism when he played for rehearsals at the First Unitarian Church of Providence, substituting for Fred Jodry, the music director. Randy arrived at our church in 1994, at first as a substitute, then he was asked to stay on as Director of Music. "It was a bit terrifying," he said. Listeners would not have guessed he was the least bit nervous. He brought that same magic into the sanctuary and wowed us all with his intensity, his humor and his varied repertoire, from classical to jazz, to folk, to modern.

While he was happily playing piano in the sanctuary, those Flentrop Organ pipes were staring down at him from the balcony, and he knew that majestic beast up there was his next challenge. He began taking les-

## 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. Monthly topics will include Friendship, Losses, Happiness, Courage and More.

Please join us after the Lessons & Carols Service on Sunday, December 13th at 12:30 in the Tryworks Auditorium.  
Carol Kolek, Marsha McCabe, Mary Beth Dowd

## HARVEST FAIR

THANK YOU! Thanks so much to Lynn Whitney and all the wonderful volunteers that helped make our 1st Annual Harvest Fair such a great success! We can't possibly list everyone that helped, but please know that we are so grateful for all your effort!

## ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This I Believe: Spiritual Edition: This will be a creative approach to articulating our personal beliefs about deity and sharing them with one another. On Wednesday, November 4, Karen will give an introductory talk about theology and the many ways that people understand deity worldwide. She will talk a little bit about her own theology and ask those in attendance to think about how they perceive God, Goddess, etc (or not...atheists are welcome to come!) and there will be a writing exercise to help us pinpoint key words and thoughts. A creative homework assignment will be given, to be shared at the next meeting, on Nov. 18. This will be a visual representation of deity in whatever media inspires people. This will be a tool to initiate the discussion, where everyone will have a chance to tell the group what they believe and why. Nov. 4 & 18 are Wednesday nights and we will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. There is no fee, but registration will be required.

## SOUP KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS

Once again we are in need of more members and friends for our soup kitchen volunteer list. Our church, along with many others, supply the labor one day a month for the soup kitchen, now run by Catholic Social Services. Our day is always the fourth Wednesday of the month. It is run out of the parish hall at the Pilgrim United Church of Christ on Purchase St. A commitment of four hours is needed, from 9 to 1. We have a steady group of volunteers but need a backup list for the times when the regulars cannot be there. Long time church member, Dave Thoen is the group leader. Please leave your name with Linda in the office or sign up on Sunday during coffee hour. Thanks.  
Bill Bennett

## First Unitarian Thrift Shop

### HOLIDAY NEEDS

Cookbooks, Mixing Bowls, Pie Plates, Bread Pans,  
Cookie Tins, Dishes

### BOOKS!!!

Hardcovers—\$1, Paperbacks (fiction)—25¢ and 50¢  
(some books priced higher)  
Children's Books—25¢

### CORRESPONDENCE

Postcards—10¢, Greeting Cards—25¢

### FALL JACKETS & COATS

\$5 and up

*\*FREE Reusable shopping bag with any purchase, while supplies last!*

Thrift Shop hours:

Wed 9am-1pm, Thur 1-4pm, Sat 10am-2pm

*"Come and find what you didn't know you needed!"*

## FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who has brought in donations! It is very much appreciated! Keep them coming! The food pantries are gearing up for the Holidays now, so please keep that in mind when you are doing your weekly shopping. Most needed items include: stuffing mix, boxed potatoes, cranberry sauce, canned vegetables, cocoa, cake or bread mixes, and personal care items such as shampoo, razors and toothpaste. Diapers are ALWAYS needed as well.

## COORDINATOR'S COLUMN (continued from page 1)

my attentions rather diverted in the past two weeks. I've been poring over old documents, newspaper articles, photographs, Board minutes, notes from the Women's Alliance, and so much more. I love history, generally, and when the history is so close at hand, feels so personal, and virtually emanates from the walls, it can overwhelm the mind with the possibilities of how it can be shared and honored. It has also made me very aware that we are making history, right now, and it feels like a great privilege and responsibility. One day, in many years to come, we will all be the honored ancestors. A fringe benefit of membership in our church is that we each get to touch and influence many people's lives with our friendship and activism in our community and congregation, and in doing so, we will be remembered as we remember those whose hands have done the work in the past. I find that a tremendous comfort. May the stories that future generations tell of us be inspiring, and may they speak our names with love into the warmth of our sanctuary. ~Karen



### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday To:



~ Ned Lund 11/1 ~ Clayton Johnson 11/3 ~ Cora Peirce 11/10 ~ Casey Wiencek 11/16 ~  
~ Aaron Lima 11/19 ~ Christian Johnson 11/20 ~ Abigail Kettle 11/21 ~  
~ Allison Kettle 11/21 ~ Olivia Costa 11/22 ~ Sylvia White 11/26 ~



*DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS ON 11/1/15*

*Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour on Halloween night before you go to bed! Enjoy the extra hour of sleep!*



## CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

### QUILTING GROUP

The Quilting Group is in need of new members! Please join us for quilting, conversation and tea on Tuesday mornings at 9:30am in the Parish House. You don't need to know how to sew to join. There are lots of tasks to do that do not involve sewing. It's a great way to spend a Tuesday morning!

ALL are welcome to join us!

### THANKSGIVING DINNER

Join us for this fantastic annual event as we gather together after worship service on Sunday, November 22nd to share a meal together. Bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish to share. The sign up sheet will be in the Parish House, or speak with the Dinner Coordinator, Thelma Baxter.

### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Thursdays at 10am beginning November 12th and running for 5 weeks (skipping Thanksgiving), Mary Finin from Community Nurse Home Care will provide bereavement support to members of our community who have experienced the loss of a loved one. The group will meet in the Green Room and is open to all members of the community, regardless of whether or not you or your family has received services from us. Members can expect to receive coping techniques and share their experiences, grief, hopes, and strengths with other members in an inviting and calm environment. Please register by November 9th by calling the Community Nurse office at 508-992-6278.



## MEET RANDY FAYAN—MUSIC DIRECTOR (continued from pg 3)

sons with master Donald Dame. “It was a blast, a hot new instrument for me,” he said. “The pedal work was completely new—making a sound with your feet. The Flentrop is a revealing, lively instrument. You can't hide.”

And there is no hiding in that balcony. On Sundays, Randy fills the sanctuary with sound—spirited, excited, sorrowful, reflective—all of it wonderful.

We know Randy is a star at First Unitarian, but few of us know he is a star at work. He is the Director of Engineering for the Creative Tools group at Avid Technology in Burlington, MA, a company he has been with for 18 years. He is responsible for Media Composer video editing as well as Sibelius music notation software. Media Composer, by the way, is the company's flagship product so this is a very big deal. Randy is married to artist, Anna Kristina Goransson, and they live in Arlington, MA with their two young sons, Oden, 5, and Torsten, 3.

Randy is working hard preparing for his recital on the Flentrop Organ on Sunday, November 8th at 3pm—in celebration of the organ's recent restoration. The Flentrop Organ is the crown jewel of the church and the city. “It is a living, breathing instrument,” he said.

Carol Kolek appreciates Randy's ability to play with great intensity and also to play a lingering note that creates a pause and sense of stillness... I wonder on my way to church what Randy will play that day and I sometimes check out a piece or a composer afterwards...

Maggi Peirce said, “When he first came, I asked him if the church helped pay for organ lessons, would he take them? He instantly said YES! His quick response reflects his spirit of adventure and readiness to take a challenge. And his character is as super as his playing.”

Alan Powers notes that Randy came to us as an excellent pianist, and he has developed into a superior organ player, not to mention Cajun and French accordion. His musical selections vary—classical, religious and popular music—playing Joplin, I think, on our Dutch tracker organ, for example—and even now and then including my trombone.

We are blessed to have Randy Fayan with us.



## CONTINUING EVENTS

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

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

**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).

**Second Tuesday of the month** at 6:30pm: Board of Trustees meeting. Meets in the Historic Room.

**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.

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

**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

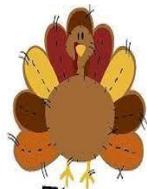
Vikki McMaster,  
Bookkeeper

Arthur Green,  
Sunday Sexton



# November 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)</p> 	<p>2 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 7pm Pride Café (Gr) 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S)</p>	<p>3 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)</p>	<p>4 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 6:30 Adult RE: <b>This I Believe</b> (T) 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)</p>	<p>5 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm CUUPS Samhain Potluck (Gr)</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open</p>
<p>8 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 3pm Organ Recital (S)</p> 	<p>9 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S)</p>	<p>10 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 6:30 Board of Trustees Mtg (Gr) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)</p>	<p>11 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)</p> <p>VETERAN'S DAY OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>12 10am Grief Support Group (Gr) 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open</p> <p>5-7 AHA! Night Book signing by Evelyn Gifun, Labyrinth &amp; Sanctuary Tours 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr)</p>	<p>13</p> 	<p>14 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open</p>
<p>15 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)</p>	<p>16 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S) 7pm Pride Café (Gr)</p>	<p>17 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)</p>	<p>18 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 6:30 Adult RE: <b>This I Believe</b> (T) 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)</p>	<p>19 10am Grief Support Group (Gr) 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr)</p>	<p>20 December Newsletter Submission Deadline</p>	<p>21 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 11:00am Memorial Service (S)</p>
<p>22 11am Worship Service (S) 12:00pm Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner (P)</p>	<p>23 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S)</p>	<p>24 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)</p>	<p>25 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)</p> <p>SOUP KITCHEN DAY</p>	<p>26</p>  <p>Happy Thanksgiving</p>	<p>27 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>28 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open</p> 
<p>29 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 1pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr)</p>	<p>30 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S)</p> 	<p>Dec 1 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)</p>	<p>2 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)</p>	<p>3 10am Grief Support Group (Gr) 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr)</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 10am-4pm Holiday Fair (P) 2pm Holiday Concert by VOX A Cappella (S) 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open</p>

 = private/non-church related event

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



### Daylight Saving Ends

**Sunday, Nov. 1 @ 2:00am**

Set your clocks **BACK** One Hour  
before going to bed on  
Saturday night  
October 31<sup>st</sup>

NEWS AND VIEWS  
Volume LIII, No. 11  
November 2015

### FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH IN NEW BEDFORD

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New Bedford, MA  
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Web: [www.uunewbedford.org](http://www.uunewbedford.org)

Church Office

Phone 508-994-9686

Fax 508-994-9687

### COFFEE HOUR DONATIONS

There is now a container in the Parish House that says "Coffee Hour Donations" on it. Donations are gratefully accepted to help purchase the coffee we use every Sunday. Thank you for your generosity!

### NAMETAGS

If you need a nametag for Sunday (new to the church, lost your nametag, etc) please call the office or send a quick email with your name. Thanks!

### HOSPITALITY

Please consider joining (or leading!) the Hospitality Committee. We have a lot more people on Sundays now (how wonderful!!) and we could really use a hand recruiting people to bring snacks and occasionally cleaning up. The sign up sheet is in the Parish House.

### COME SING A SONG WITH US!

The First Unitarian Church Choir is looking for singers! All skill levels are welcome. The choir rehearses on Monday evenings from 7:15-9:15 PM at the church. 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. Contact director Katie Driscoll with questions [klbrenle@gmail.com](mailto:klbrenle@gmail.com) or 508-536-8549.

### 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": November 24, 2015.**