



The First Unitarian Church in New Bedford

Volume LIII, Issue 10

October 2015

News & Views

COORDINATOR'S COLUMN

Summer's fever has finally broken and fall has shuffled in on old slippers to close the windows when the sun goes down. I love the between times, when it's warm in the daytime but not hot, and cool at night but not cold. Spring and autumn in New England have such a presence to them; every second of daylight becomes precious, and we can clearly see and feel the darkness devouring or releasing a few more minutes every day. Time becomes a trick of the light and our bodies adjust gradually to ease us into summer or winter - those seasons that seem to stick.

My first few weeks as Coordinator of Ministerial Services has been fruitful and fun. It is also the hardest, best job I've ever had. I had no idea just how busy our office and thrift shop are, and I've been truly impressed with the ministry going on there. People in despair often seek out churches as a resource for help when they need it. Everyone in our office and in the thrift shop takes the time to listen and does everything they can to help without judgment. It's amazing and I feel blessed to be part of the outreach we do here at First UUNB and part of a team that works well and joyfully together to serve our congregation and community.

And it's not just the office and the thrift shop...our church is alive with folks coming and going all day for all sorts of reasons. The energy created within our walls is positive and abundant and it spills out into the world beyond like a rising tide. I'm drawn to it, I love to be there, and obviously, so do many others.

Our year is off to a great start. The Water Service was chock full of fun, symbolism, storytelling, Great Imaginations, and Big Ideas. The Shared Ministry service featured my sermon, "Minister is a Verb," which is a perfect and simple summary. The bottom line: we have the freedom to shape a Shared Ministry that suits our congregation and meets our needs. This will begin with assessing what needs to be done and exchanging our Big Ideas about how to get where we want and need to be. I'm always at church early on Sundays and I will be in the Parish Hall at 10:15 every Sunday for anyone who wants to start putting their heads together on this front. Coffee will be available!

This Sunday we began to explore the Hero's Journey, which is the theme of the year. We will be exploring each stage and its importance, while many of the kids in the RE program do the same. This is an opportunity to have some after-service discussions that could include the children and I think those could be very interesting conversations where we might learn a lot from each other. The guest list for pulpit supply is growing and becoming more interesting all the time. The first speaker, on Oct. 4, will be Stacy Latt-Savage, a sculpture professor at UMASS Dartmouth, who will talk about the courage of creation. Don't miss it!

WAYSIDE PULPIT

*Do the difficult things
while they are easy
and do the great
things while they are
small. A journey
of a thousand miles
must begin with
a single step.*

Lao Tzu

Inside this issue:

Way Cool	2
Sunday School	
Upcoming	4, 5
Events	
Birthdays	5
Calendar	7

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

- October 4 RE Team Meeting at 10:15am {Green Room}
Way Cool Sunday School
World Mythology
Passport to the World
- October 8 AHA Up in a Castle {Volunteers Needed}
Lighted Labyrinth and more...5-7pm
- October 11 Way Cool Sunday School
Call to Adventure
- October 17 Harvest Festival
Church Garden {10am-2pm}
- October 18 Way Cool Sunday School
Historical Hero's
- October 25 Walking Field Trip Downtown
{Chaperones Needed}

Save the Date: November 14 {Eaglesclaw Camp}

"Your mind is the garden, your thoughts are the seeds, the harvest can either be flowers or weeds." {William Wordsworth}

Our first Religious Education {RE} Team Meeting will take place on Sunday, 10/4 at 10:15 am {before church} in the Green Room. We will discuss program goals, volunteer opportunities and parent/child workshops. All are welcome.

Registration Forms must be complete prior to Sunday School attendance. Our program cost is \$50 per child and \$20 for each additional sibling. {FREE if you are a Church Member} {Scholarships Available}

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

Heather Spark will be caring for the wee little ones during Sunday Morning Service in the Green Room. Heather comes to this position with years of experience, dedication, and professionalism. Heather has three beautiful daughters and recently moved to Fairhaven from South Carolina to be closer to her husband's family. Heather enjoys hiking, music{her husband is a musician} and creative arts. Heather is delighted to be in this role and looks forward to a safe and happy year.

*Heather Highlights:
Favorite Book: Mystery,
thrillers and non-fiction
novels
Favorite Color: All Colors
Favorite Food: Tiramisu*

Tracey Saloman will be the teacher for the older children in our Way Cool Sunday School. Tracey has a Masters Degree in Literature and has taught in numerous school settings throughout the South Coast. Tracey is a creative and passionate teacher dedicated to instilling the potential in each of her students. When Tracey is not chasing her chickens around or playing fetch with her dog or loving on her kitty, she is reading, playing music and enjoying nature!

*Tracey Tidbits:
Favorite Book: Too many
to list
Favorite Color: Purple
Favorite Food: Nachos*

Sophia Millicent {Daughter of Cora Peirce/Board of Trustees} & Tonie Garcia {Daughter of Melissa Lavalee} will be Teachers in Training! We are thrilled to have these young ladies assume positions that will help them to see what it takes to be a teacher. Welcome to the land of many hats!

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

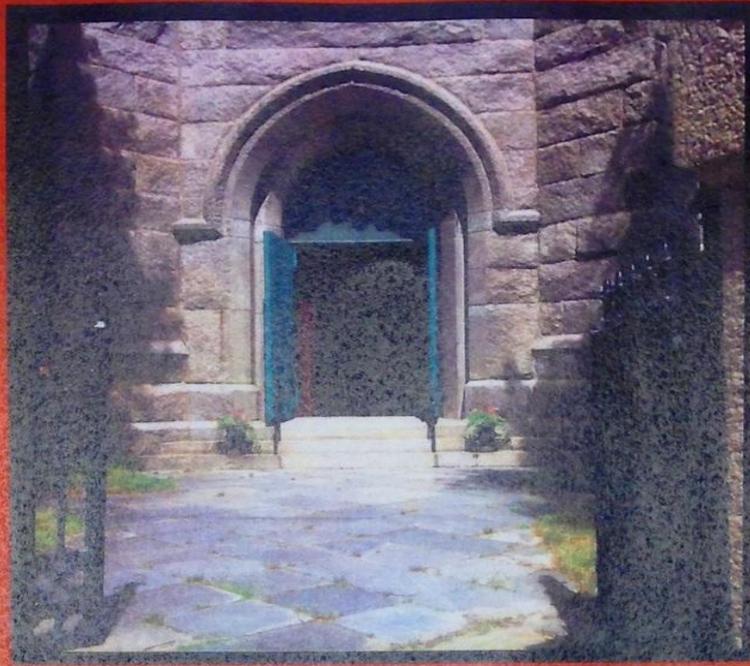
Rick Finneran

Music

Carol Kolek

Women's Alliance

Pam Sherman



First Unitarian Church in New Bedford

Harvest Festival



Saturday, October 17 - 10 to 2

On the Corner of
Union and County Streets

Kids Activities, Food, Crafts, Music,
Labyrinth Walks, Sanctuary Tours
and Much More!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH AT 12:30 WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

Those of us who are growing older or have aging parents or grandparents (in short all of us) cannot help but occasionally think of end-of-life issues. This is a particularly difficult subject when people find themselves, or a family member, with a prolonged illness such as dementia or progressive neurological disease.

Last fall members and friends began gathering once a month to share thoughts and information on a variety of related topics. Please grab a bite at Coffee Hour and join us in the conversation.

Mary Beth Dowd, Carol Kolek & Marsha McCabe



BAKED GOODS NEEDED

We are looking for contributions of baked goods to sell at the Fall Festival on Saturday, October 17th. Your cookies, muffins, cakes, fudge, candies, quick breads etcetera can be dropped off at the church starting at 8am. We thank you in advance for your help.



WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

The October meeting will be held on **Tuesday the 13th at 11:30am**, followed by a brown bag lunch (beverage and dessert will be provided by our hostess). The 1pm program will be **"a Conversation With Karen Andersen"**, our new Coordinator of Ministerial Services. The meeting, lunch and program are open to all members and friends of the church. This is an opportunity to learn more and ask questions about the Shared Ministry the church has embarked on with Karen.

Pam Sherman, President



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

CALLING ALL TOM SAWYERS

Now that the cooler weather is here, we would like to get the fence outside the front of the church painted. Tony Gonsalves, our over-worked sexton, assures us that we have all the material we need on hand, scrapers, wire brushes and paint. The only thing that we are missing is labor. So if anyone has a few hours to spend on a Saturday or even any week day morning let Bill Bennett in the thrift shop know or give your name to Linda in the office and we will set up a painting crew.

Bill Bennett

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Please continue to give as generously as you can. Most needed items include: cereal/oatmeal, canned tuna/meat, canned fruit, peanut butter, pasta, pasta sauce (no glass jars), cooking oil & cake mixes. Also needed are personal care items such as razors, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner.

First Unitarian Thrift Shop

hours:

Wednesdays 9:00am-1pm

Thursdays 1-4pm

Saturdays 10am-2pm



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

SAVE THE DATE ORGAN RECITAL

To celebrate the refurbishing of our beloved Flentrop Organ, our music director, Randy Fayan, will give an Organ Recital at 3pm on November 8, 2015. Mark your calendars and plan to be here for this joyous occasion!

COORDINATOR'S COLUMN (continued from page 1)

Our yard is looking beautiful, thanks to the many hands that have worked so diligently to make it so. Thanks to Nancy Crosby, Rick Finneran and son, Lynn Whitney, David Donahue, Larry Jaquith, Cynthia Brenner, Mario Costa, and Maureen Fanning (I apologize if I've missed anyone) for your efforts to make our yard visible and gorgeous. Bill Bennett has battled the overgrown labyrinth, like Theseus himself, and it is now available for walking. Starting next week, Yasmin and I will be opening the gates from 11 to 1, Tues, Wed, and Thurs., and setting up a few tables and chairs in the yard so the public can sit down with their lunch, enjoy our yard, and walk the labyrinth if they'd like. We've been talking about this for years, and we're just going to do it and see how people respond. I will put up a few fliers at downtown eating establishments to increase the chance of visitors.

There's so much happening, and everyone is keen to make this year a time of positive change and renewal. I can already feel the seeds we've planted breaking through their hard shells and I can see little sprouts bursting everywhere. A little bit of springtime hope to tide us over through the winter to come. The grace and fortitude this congregation has already shown makes me believe that we can accomplish anything we set our minds to. We are all stewards of the castle, we are all ministers to each other, and we are all invested in our success. That's fertile ground enough to grow. May it be so.

~Karen



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday To:

~Michael Camara 10/8 ~ Scott Lima 10/10 ~ Martha Savage 10/17~

~Sophia Bilodeau 10/21 ~ Judy Lund 10/21~



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!

LUNCH IN THE LABYRINTH

Yasmin and Karen will be opening the front gates from 11am to 1pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays for the month of October (weather permitting). We will set up a few tables and chairs in the yard so the public can sit down with their lunch, enjoy our yard, and walk the labyrinth if they'd like. Let's enjoy this beautiful green space we have!



Our wonderful quilt group hard at work on another beautiful creation!

FOCUS ON MEMBERS

Meet Katie Driscoll—Katie joined our church over a year ago, and she's all about music. You may have heard her beautiful, rich voice rising in the congregation on Sunday morning, or maybe you've seen her up front directing the church choir. Katie has sung everywhere—in school and civic groups; with the New Bedford Symphony and the Vox Symphonic Choir, an a cappella group. But the thing Katie has never done before is direct a choir. She was excited and more than a little flattered when she was asked to direct the Unitarian Church choir.

"The choir members have been wonderful to work with," she said. "They have given me the confidence to direct. They make it look easy but it's not. I hope we can bring in more singers. We have about ten and I'd like to double that."

Katie grew up on the Cape and credits her grandmother, who sang with the Sweet Adelines, for passing on her love of music. Another influence on Katie was the treasure trove of music she and her brother discovered in her public library. "We could walk to the library from middle school," she said. "I was exposed to classical and Broadway music for the first time and fell in love with shows like Phantom of the Opera. "This new awakening inspired Katie to perform in productions at Barnstable High and join the Vocal Jazz Ensemble.

Katie earned her degree in English at UMass Dartmouth and now works as a paralegal for a firm in Fall River. She and her then fiancé, Brian, discovered our church when they were looking for a wedding venue. They stopped in for Sunday services with daughter Emily and felt at home with the spirit and philosophy of Unitarianism. Katie also discovered how important music was to the church.

"I'm really glad I'm able to do music here," said Katie, who says she suffers from an embarrassment of riches. "Things just seem to be jumping in my lap!"

And we're really grateful to have Katie here as a fellow parishioner and choir director.

The choir sings one Sunday a month and on special occasions such as Christmas eve and Easter. Rehearsals are held at the church on Monday evenings, 7:15 to 9:15. You are most welcome to join this happy group, whatever your skill level. Also, Katie's a cappella group will be singing in the church at the Christmas fair on December 5th.

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 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



October 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 12:30pm What's Your Plan (T)	28 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 6pm Women's Council Mtg (P) 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S)	29 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)	30 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	Oct 1 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	2 5pm Wedding rehearsal (S) 	3 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 3pm Wedding (S)
4 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	5 7pm Pride Café (Gr) 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S)	6 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)	7 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	8 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm CUUPS Elders (Gr) 5-7 AHA! Night Labyrinth & Sanctuary Tours	9 5pm Wedding rehearsal (S) 5-7pm Alma Del Mar Fallapalooza (T)	10 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 3pm Wedding (S)
11 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 	12 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S) OFFICE CLOSED	13 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 11:30am Women's Alliance Mtg (P) 6:30 Board of Trustees Mtg (Gr) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)	14 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	15 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	16 	17 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open FIRST ANNUAL HARVEST FAIR 10am-2pm
18 11am Worship Service (S) 12:00pm Social Hour (P)	19 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 7pm Pride Café (Gr) 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S)	20 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)	21 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	22 1-4pm Thrift Shop 6:30 Social Justice (S) 7pm CUUPS Waxing Moon (Gr)	23 September Newsletter Submission Deadline 11am Connecting for change luncheon & dinner (P)	24 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 11am Connecting for change luncheon & dinner (P)
25 10 am YOGA-THON (T) 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 12:30pm What's Your Plan (S)	26 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 7:15 UU Choir Practice (S)	27 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 6pm Domestic Violence Vigil (S) 7pm GNB Choral Society Rehearsal (Gr)	28 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	29 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	30 	31 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)



STANDING ON THE SIDE OF

LOVE

NEWS AND VIEWS
Volume LIII, No. 10
October 2015

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH
IN NEW BEDFORD
71 Eighth Street
New Bedford, MA
02740-6025
Email:
admin@uunewbedford.org
Web: www.uunewbedford.org
Church Office
Phone 508-994-9686
Fax 508-994-9687

HARVEST FAIR

The Harvest Fair is going to be held on Saturday, October 17 (see the flyer inside) in the front of the church and in the garden. We will be serving lunch in the garden and we will have seasonal games for the children, thrift shop table with seasonal items, informational tables about the life of the church and the religious education program, seasonal wreaths, centerpieces and the like, items for sale, a bake table with seasonal items, apples, pumpkins and other food vendors with items for sale. We will also have tours of the church and labyrinth walks. We will be decorating the front of the church with corn stalks, hay bales, pumpkins and mums. We will move the fair into the Parish House in case of inclement weather.

If you'd like to volunteer at the Fair or with any of the organization, please email Lynn at lynnwhitney17@yahoo.com or you can reach her at her office 508-996-8297.

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 klbrenge@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": October 27, 2015.**