



FUS N e w s

First Unitarian Society in Newton Unitarian Universalist

June 24 - August 20, 2012

SUMMER SERVICES - 9:30 A.M

June 24 - "Fathers" - FUSN Fathers

Join us for a post-fathers' day summer service focused on the concept, reality, challenge, and joy of fatherhood. Hear music and words from an eclectic group of FUSN fathers (mostly) and bring along your own father (either in spirit or in the flesh) as we reflect together about what fatherhood means to all of us.

July 1 - "Spirituality of Caring" - Kate Mason

A touch, an unspoken word, a caring presence. Personal offerings in poetry, music and prose exploring Caring as a Spiritual Practice.

July 8 - "Stories of the Longest Night"- Kate Carney

What makes a night long -- an all night party? a deadline at work? Fear? a life-changing experience? insomnia? Come here colleagues tell stories of such a night, then tell one of your own to a neighbor.

July 15 - "Learning to Pray" - Rebecca Hinds

As a chaplain intern this summer at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center people ask me everyday to pray with them. I will share stories from this experience and explore prayer in Unitarian Universalism. Come share in this experiential, prayerful worship!

July 22 - "Listening" - Ellen Porter Honnet

When we listen to someone deeply, our relationship with them changes. In this interactive service we will listen in a special way and share how that changes us and our relationships.

SUMMER SERVICES (*continued*)

July 29 - "Saving and Savoring" - Green Sanctuary

The Green Sanctuary service on July 29 will focus on food production in relation to the 7th UU principle--the interdependent web. An intern from the Newton Community Farm will speak about her renewed passion for farming and how it has changed her life after years as a successful fashion model.

Aug. 5 - "The Revelation of Encounter"- Dan McCanan

For more than two centuries, people of faith have been at the forefront of movements for social transformation in the United States. Today's sermon will share the stories of faith-based radicalism, highlighting the interpersonal encounters that give activists the strength to change the world.

Aug. 12 - "Sunday Morning Vespers" - Amy LeClair

In keeping with the familiar vespers theme of lowering your blood pressure, FUSN's Vespers quartet, Vermilion, will sing music by one incredible master of the English Renaissance, William Byrd, bookended by music from the mistress of medieval chant, Hildegard von Bingen. Dollops of Neruda, Yeats, and Bradstreet will complete the rich spiritual repast.

Aug. 19 - To be announced - Father Walter Cuenin

Aug. 26 - "Before the Song at the Sea" - Matt Meyer

As people of faith we're called to work together to create the world as it might be. Living the change we wish to see can bring us through discomfort and troubled water. In the midst of a status quo that can push us down, join us this Sunday for a service of rhythm, song, and a challenge to live our values and lift each other up.

Staff: Erin Splaine, *Minister*, Cheryl Rubin Lloyd, *Community Minister*, Kristin Cleveland, *Coordinator of Member Services and Development*, Fran Clancy, *Administrator*, Mr. Barb Greve, *Consulting Director of Lifespan Religious Education*, Beth Walton, *Assistant Director of Religious Education*, Rebecca Hinds, *Youth Programs Coordinator*, Anne Watson Born, *Director of Music*, Carson Cooman, *Organist*, Roberta Humez, *Minister of Music Emerita*, Corey Hess-Mahan, *Beadle*.

Board of Trustees: Margaret Costello, Lisa Gresser, Bruce Henderson, Carl Metzger, Gordon Moriarty, *Chair*, Jonathan Reuman, Strom Thacker, *Vice Chair*, Charlie Watts, Ann Woodbury, Alan Cody, *Treasurer*, Conrad Buys, *Youth Rep*.

Operations Council: Pat Rohan, *Chair*, Jeannie Chaisson, Alan Cody, Anne Hess-Mahan, Laurel Farnsworth, Kim Shanks
First Unitarian Society in Newton • 1326 Washington Street • West Newton, MA 02465 • <http://www.fusn.org>

office tel: 617-527-3203 • fax:617-964-5409 • Religious Education: 617-332-3438 • e-mail address: office@fusn.org

MEMBER SERVICES

Although the 2011-12 church year is wrapping up, my arrival in Phoenix for GA and a meeting of the UU Association of Membership Professionals is already getting me excited about the start of the 2012-13 year. I've been hearing about efforts to create deeply cooperative congregations, places where everyone in the congregation helps with the logistics of at least one Sunday morning worship service per year. This "church as co-op" model can enhance feelings of ownership among congregants, and creates more opportunities to get to know people. FUSN's Member Services Committee is making plans to encourage all members and friends to participate directly in at least one of FUSN's services during the upcoming year. There are opportunities to be a greeter, an usher, a chalice lighter, or a chancel decorator.

CONNECTIONS

The FUSN community sends their condolences to Suzanne DiCarlo whose mother, Gertrude DiCarlo, passed away on June 8 after a long illness. She died peacefully surrounded by her family.

"Inciting Happiness: A Spiritual Renegade's Revolutionary Manifesto" August 14, 7:30-10:00 p.m., at FUSN. A talk on Lama Marut's new book, "A Spiritual Renegade's Guide to the Good Life". With fearless candor and disarming humor, Lama Marut offers the key to creating and sustaining happiness in a modern age. This honest, brave, and yet playful guide offers a practical and achievable—if not radical and revolutionary—blueprint for creating and sustaining happiness in a modern age of consumerism, self-absorption, and stress. (Sneak Peek: "The Manifesto" Book Preface – Download Now!) Contact Larry Wolf for more information.

THANK UUS

Special thanks to Dwight Golan for continually fixing so many small but needy projects from holes in the sidewalks to door knobs and door stops.

BARB'S BANTERING

With deep gratitude for your generous gifts I bid you farewell. I already treasure my beautiful pictures of the congregation and your fabulous notes. You are a wonderful group of people who care deeply for each other and the health of this congregation. It has been a privilege to serve you these past three years.

Before I take my final leave of you, I have a few pieces of business to bring to your attention:

1. Enrollment for next year's children and youth Religious Education classes is at about 50% of what we expected. If you haven't yet registered your child/ren (babies through 12th grade), please do so immediately! Registration is free, easy, quick and available online:
<http://form.jotform.us/form/20894225155151>
2. Throughout the month of July there will be no RE staff in the office. Your new Director of Lifespan Religious Education Ministries, Perry Montrose, will begin on 1 August. Both Beth Walton (temporary Assistant Director of Religious Education) and Rebecca Hinds (Youth Programs Coordinator) will return to their offices mid-August.
3. You will be able to reach Perry via email at dlre@fusn.org once he begins in August.
4. The Children's Religious Education program is still seeking committed teachers for the Fall and Spring semesters. This is a wonderful way to get to know youngsters in the congregation. All teachers teach in teams of 2 or more and an easy-to-follow curriculum is provided, along with support from the ADRE and Children's RE Council. Email RE Council Chair, Kim Shanks, if you are interested in teaching.

I fare thee well and bestow blessings upon you. May your connections continue to deepen, your hunger for knowledge be fed, your hands be put to meaningful work, your sorrows be soothed by this community and your hearts find more love.

In faith,
Barb

MUSINGS

The end of the worship year is a time to look back at what worked, to think about what music touched people and what pieces were merely wallpaper in a service. Of course, the great thing about what we do and the context in which we do it is that each piece of music can be both of those things at the same time. 4'33" comes to mind – it annoyed some of us, and it profoundly moved some of us. And one could say the same of “Total Praise,” Richard Smallwood’s famous gospel setting of Psalm 121. Okay, actually, I don’t know anyone who doesn’t love “Total Praise.” But does it belong in our UU worship service? Does Duruflé’s “Ubi Caritas”? Or our annual joyful and raucous “Hallelujah Chorus”? (I say “Yes!” to all of ‘em.)

This summer also marks the conclusion of my music leadership credentialing process, during which I spent three years learning to think about those and other questions, and listening to well-established UU musicians wrestle with them as well. One of the goals of our music ministry here at FUSN is to affirm fellowship by promoting tolerance and respect for different backgrounds and traditions. We are working to find the commonality in the music we perform, even when it’s outside of our comfort zones. The goal is for us all to see beauty and worth in a variety of music.

As a result of crafting and continually revising a philosophy of music ministry statement over the three year course, I formulated two other goals, which are: to create opportunities for everyone to participate musically in our services, and to provide a safe and nurturing space for people to work together. These were not concepts easily formulated and certainly they are not completed tasks I can check off. The courses I took helped me by teaching me how to lead hymns, manage our program, think about our UU principles, and listen to people.

I was able to spend time working and thinking about all of this because the FUSN community supported me in it - financially and by letting me practice on you! Special thanks are due to my congregational sponsor, Judy Ryde, who patiently guided and nudged me along. I will be thinking of all of you as I participate in the Service of the Living Tradition this week. Thank you.

-Anne Watson Born

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

This is the last newsletter until August. The following is a list of Deadline dates for the upcoming Newsletters. All notices need to be in the office by 9:00 a.m. Our regular schedule for the Newsletter will begin on September 11.

Deadline Date - The next Newsletter deadline date is August 20 at 9:00 a.m.

LAY MINISTERS

The FUSN lay ministers are available to help members and friends who are experiencing difficulties and could use a listening ear, help with meals in case of illness, rides to the doctor, and the like. If you would like to reach a lay minister, here is the list below. If you would like to be one of those who make up our Care Crew—the cadre of people the lay ministers call on to help—just e-mail Greg Sullivan for more information or to sign up to be in the Care Crew database.

FUSN Lay Ministers

Name

Jay Flynn

Judy Friedman

Cris Goldsmith

Kathy Hearn

Jud Leonard

Greg Sullivan

Gail Yeo

FUSN’S 2012 CHIMING SCHEDULE

Back by popular demand! Mark your calendars for three exciting chiming concerts at FUSN this summer: Tuesday, July 17; Tuesday, July 31, and Thursday, August 16. All hour-long concerts will begin at 7:00 p.m. Bring your blankets and picnics, and enjoy the breezes as they waft the remarkably sonorous, timeless music of chimes far and wide. Listeners will be able to enjoy the music throughout West Newton Square. Indoor seating will be provided in case of rain

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Join us on September 9 for our first FUSN Community Breakfast at 9:00 a.m., in the Parish Hall. Toddlers welcome, we have high chairs available for them. The menu (eggs, eggbeater omelets, fried potatoes, pancakes, biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee) is great and the price (\$4) is unbeatable. Clean-up help appreciated. Upcoming Community Breakfast dates: Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March 17, Apr. 7 and May 5.

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Newton
1326 Washington Street

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