



FUSN News

First Unitarian Society in Newton

Unitarian Universalist

April 21 - May 4, 2013

SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:15 A.M.

April 21 - "In the Midst of a Broken World"

Rev. Erin Splaine and Rebecca Hinds

April 28 - "Repairing the Meander" - Holly Haynes

Lay led service

May 5 - Rev Erin Splaine - Baby Dedication

May 12 - Coming of Age Graduation

Lots of fun music happening this spring – please join the choir for one of these pieces, or sing with the men’s choir, or play with the flute choir or the orchestra. Or join the Family Choir on June 2 – all are welcome! Contact Anne Watson Born at music@fusn.org.

Some of the upcoming music:

"Earth Song" by Frank Ticheli, beautiful and powerful, not difficult; hear it here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aarowtnr-hs>

Return of the Men’s Choir! "You’ve Got to Live So God Can Use You":

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXq_SfH41rQ

FUSN’s Intergenerational Chamber Orchestra (June 2) is playing parts of Grieg’s Holberg Suite:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pqqBNBwW_GA

Flute Choir on May 5: music by the wonderful Baroque composer Domenico Scarlatti.

"Praise Song" by UU composer Hal Walker on May 19. Fun to sing easy to

learn:<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tkz2GyVN8s>

Morten Lauridsen’s setting of the Rilke poem

"Contre qui, Rose?":

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDgEudNrzsY>

A NOTE FROM ERIN

Someone asked me the other day to describe FUSN in one word. An impossible task indeed yet I was not about to be let off the hook. How would I do that? How could one word and only one word describe such a special place full of wonderful people — full of kindness and love — full of tireless efforts to tend to a world that needs our love — full of energy and hope for the future we are creating and re-creating together — full of engagement and care for each other? And there it was — full. In the best sense of the word we are full of love and care and kindness — full of ways in which we connect with each other — full of ways in which we work to make our world more loving and kind and just.

Our Annual Budget Drive is one of the tangible ways in which we ensure our fullness as a community. Our Budget Drive makes possible our ability to continue to be a presence in each other’s lives and the life of our larger community. One of the goals of our Budget Drive this year is to have the right staff in place so that we can preserve what is and has been so sustaining about FUSN for generations. Our staffing plan reflects a current need and a future hope. Hiring an Assistant Minister for Congregational Engagement and Pastoral Care will ensure our ability to engage more deeply while lessening the burden on current staff and all of you who volunteer your time, energy and talent to keep FUSN running.

In order to staff our wonderful congregation to meet our current and future needs of our wonderful congregation a reality has meant we have set an ambitious but necessary goal for our Budget Drive. I

Continued on next page

Staff: Erin Splaine, *Minister*, Cheryl Rubin Lloyd, *Community Minister*, Kristin Cleveland, *Coordinator of Member Services and Development*, Fran Clancy, *Administrator*, Perry Montrose, *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*, Maura Hess Mahan, *Beadle*.

Board of Trustees: Margaret Costello, 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

know that for some it might be a good year to stretch to meet that goal and for others it is not the right time. As I said in a sermon a few weeks ago, “*We are a community where people give according to their means and receive according to their needs,*” regardless of any other factor in our life as a community that will never change. For all the ways in which each and everyone one of you contribute to our Budget Drive and the good works of our congregation — thank you.

MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Member Services Committee has two primary objectives: to welcome newcomers and nurture their relationships within FUSN as they progress towards becoming members, and to provide support and sustenance for members in the long-term. To achieve these goals, the Committee has created a “welcoming” sub-committee and a “sustaining” sub-committee. The Committee has been incredibly fortunate in recent years. First, Erin’s ministry has brought many new people across our threshold. Her reputation as a minister is spreading in Newton and beyond. Second, we have been successful in helping those people who have visited become regular attendees at FUSN, thanks in great part to Kristin’s efforts to contact people soon after their first visit. She helps answer questions and makes suggestions for getting connected at FUSN. Also, Kristin is at the Member Services table each Sunday, and is the familiar face new people get to know. We will miss Kristin when she moves back to upstate New York this summer.

Because the new Assistant Minister for Congregational Engagement will be taking over many of Kristin’s duties, two members of our committee, Judy Zacek and Bill Dusett, have graciously agreed to serve on the Assistant Minister search committee. After establishing a relationship with that new Assistant Minister through the search process, Judy and Bill will take over as co-chairs of the Member Services Committee starting next year.

We have been privileged to serve as co-chairs of the Member Services Committee for the past three years. We are moving on to serve FUSN in other ways, and are pleased to leave the Committee in superb hands with Judy and Bill.

While only a small percentage of FUSN members serve on the Committee, we are all responsible for welcoming new people and helping to support our members. With your assistance, FUSN will continue to be a thriving spiritual community.

-Jacqui James & Tom Bean

DEAR FUSN FRIENDS

On behalf of the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry, I want to thank Anne Watson Born, your Director of Music Ministry, for her Herculean efforts to accomplish the **Hope Out Loud 2 Concert** this past Sunday, April 7, here in Roxbury. Anne was tenacious in her commitment to bringing together musicians, singers, dancers and spoken word from a variety of communities to honor and celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.’s vision of a united World House. Her efforts to cross the boundaries that often get in the way of our loftier goals was inspiring. I only wish more of you had been here to witness it!

Many thanks to Jud Leonard, Bobbie Sproat, Meg and Bill Holland, Brian Hicks, and Judy Friedman for joining us to raise your voices in song and celebration. And, to Fran Clancy for providing the technical assistance that provided us a beautiful program!

The UU Urban Ministry is grateful for the continued support of the FUSN community. I look forward to seeing any of you who may be visiting soon.

-Warmly, Anne

SOCIAL ACTION

What are the main reasons you came to FUSN? Many of us give answers like “joining a community that puts my values in action.”

How often are you actually able to participate in social action? For many of us it’s “Not as much as I’d like, because my life is so busy.”

The FUSN social action folks are trying to help, by launching a new monthly calendar -- offering bite-sized chances for you to live your values, perhaps with your kids, in a couple of hours.

Watch for this Monthly Calendar of Social Action in three places: on the Business email list; on the bulletin board across from Fran’s office; and on the Social Action table at coffee hour.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

It’s my turn to express some aspect of the Board’s spirit. But after this Patriots’ Day, I’m at a loss for words. Only this: We are in awe of the strength and resilience of our communities – both FUSN and Boston. -

Bruce Henderson, FUSN Trustee

DO YOU KNOW JACKIE?

JJackie and Charles Colby discovered Unitarianism through friends while living in Columbia, Missouri. Upon returning to their native New England in 1956, they opened the yellow pages to find the closest Unitarian congregation. They began attending FUSN immediately, and a year later became members. Over the decades they served on just about every FUSN committee, and also were members of the board of trustees. This involvement fostered deep relationships; Jackie observes, "All of my friends are here!"

Jackie first got involved in helping with the Sunday School. "Back then it was a two-hour program, with classes during the first hour and a movie or other activity in the Children's Chapel for the second. I would sometimes play hymns there, on a pump organ."

Jackie and Charles were also active in FUSN's Couples Club, where a lot of young couples gathered to host speakers, dinners and dances. "I got to know many people that way," explains Jackie. During the 1950s and '60s, FUSN also hosted several church suppers a year, and Jackie was one of 8 – 10 women who would spend a day or two cooking together in the new FUSN kitchen. "I still have Janice Bachrach's chicken recipe. It's very good! Another favorite was a sponge cake layered with whipped cream and fruit."

Jackie also participated in the Women's Alliance, which took on a variety of social action efforts. Then, during the late '60s and 1970s, FUSN people participated in discussions and offered education about the Vietnam War and conscientious objection. "I remember taking my daughter Valerie to a rally when she was still a young girl." After Jackie retired from library work in 1987, she became increasingly involved in FUSN social action programs, and was soon asked to take the lead in running the five-year-old Newton Food Pantry. Since then the Pantry has grown from a small operation to what local journalist Melanie Graham describes as "one of the busiest places in the city on a Wednesday afternoon" (Newton Patch 4/17/11). In 2011 Jackie was awarded the Newton Mayor's Lifetime Service Award in recognition of her decades of leadership at the Newton Food Pantry and for her years of service in other local arenas as well.

Jackie's husband Charles passed away in 2002, but he is remembered for his many contributions to FUSN, including his musical gifts. He played piano during FUSN's annual Wheel of Life service and summer Hymn Sing, as well as at other gatherings. "We had

DO YOU KNOW JACKIE? (continued)

some New Year's Eve parties where people would stay late and sing around the piano for hours." He played popular music of the 30s and 40s, and also played classical.

Jackie recently donated Charlie's piano to FUSN. It will be used in the Children's Chapel for choir rehearsals, children's programs, and special events. There will be a concert to dedicate the piano on Sunday, May 5, at 1:00 p.m. Jackie and her three children (Peter, Dan, and Valerie) have been invited as special guests. Come hear musicians Deborah Selig, Jorgeandres Camargo, and Carson Cooman perform, and share in the celebration with Jackie's family.

CONNECTIONS

Potluck & Game Night, Friday, April 26. Come between 5:30 and 7 for food & socialization. At 7 p.m. we'll start interactive and creative Games for Grown-Ups in one room, and have movies and Games for Kids in another. We'll order pizza and have beverages available; people can chip in for the pizza or bring a potluck item to share. RSVPs appreciated but not required. Contact: Kristin Cleveland, member_services@fusn.org

Special Event to Benefit FUSN, Sunday, April 28. New FUSN members Valerie Miller and Gregg DiBiasio, owners of the Artitudes gallery right down the street (next to West Newton Cinema), are offering a private shopping event immediately following services on April 28 until 1:30 p.m. They will then remain open until 5:00 p.m.—and 20% of sales that day will be contributed to FUSN! Please mark your calendar and join us for refreshments and fun. <http://fusn.org/>

Spring cleanup - Save Saturday, May 4 for our annual spring cleanup. We'll start at 8:30 a.m., and work as long as we have mulch to spread and welcome any time you can give us from an hour to a morning.

Save the Date - Eight FUSN Poets will read their own poems on Tuesday evening, May 14. 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Celebration and refreshments will follow.

THANK UU'S

Thank you to the following Care Crew members who helped in March: Barbara Bates, Marion Bullitt, Margaret Costello, Faith Kreider, Eileen Kurkoski, Betsy Leavitt, Amy LeClair, Marylou McArdle, Brenda Roberts, Nancy Wrenn and Margaret Zaleski.

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Join us on May 5 for our 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.

VESPERS

Join us for a **Vespers service** Sunday May 12 on this month's theme of mercy. FUSN members will read poems they've selected. Vespers offers quiet music and reflection to ease us into the week ahead, and into our ever busier lives.

BOSTON PRIDE PARADE

Save the Date: Saturday, June 8, FUSN Marches in the Boston Pride Parade. Parade begins at Noon (finishes by 3:00). Marchers often attend the worship service at the Arlington Street Church at 11:00 a.m., and then meet the rest of the FUSN marchers by noon at the start of the parade. Kristin Cleveland can also answer questions, member_services@fusun.org).

MONTHLY LUNCH WITH ERIN

April 19 noon in the Alliance Room. Yes there is such a thing as a free lunch! Any and all are invited to join Erin for soup and conversation at noon on the 19th in the Alliance Room. Long-time members of the community and those who are retired are especially invited. Please let Fran know if you plan to attend or you need a ride so we will know how much soup to prepare.

FUSN.ORG

Where Do Newcomers Start/ Do you know someone who might be considering visiting FUSN? You can encourage them to visit FUSN.ORG and read the New to FUSN pages first. On the home page, fusn.org, they can see upcoming sermons and events and click to the newsletter, FUSNews, browse the religious education options for children and adults, and more.

-Communications team

Deadline for next newsletter is April 30, 9:00 a.m.

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First Unitarian Society in Newton
1326 Washington Street
Newton, MA 02465

