



# FUSN News

First Unitarian Society in Newton

Unitarian Universalist

June 15 - June 28, 2014

## SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE

All services at 9:30 a.m., in the FUSN Parish Hall, tea and lemonade after the service

**June 15 - "Dancing in the Spirit"** - Helena Froehlich will show how sacred dance moves her and CreationDance. Nancy Hair, Lois Shapiro and an acapella group from Newton North will bring music. Join us for a unique opportunity and experience this form of moving meditation.

**June 22 - "Decluttering and Spirituality"** - Need to downsize? Decluttering is an ongoing practice -- and letting go is hard, spiritually. Have compassion for yourself. It's practice, not perfect. Storytellers: Kate Carney, Linda Rinearson, Mystery Man. Music: Bobbie Sproat, Jud Leonard.

**June 29 - "Make a Joyful Noise"** - Join us as we celebrate the joy of song! Reconnect with the child-like wonder of singing while reconnecting with ACTUAL children as Neal Klinman and Deborah Bennett welcome children to be at the center of this service. Grab your maracas and make a joyful noise with us!

**July 6 - No Service**

**July 13 - "The New Jim Crow"** - Nancy Wrenn and Andrea James of Families for Justice as Healing lead a discussion of what our criminal justice system has become and what can be done about it.

**July 20 - "The Grandfather's Way"** - Curt Lamb, Jim Emerson and Walter Graham share thoughts on being a grandfather - its joys, challenges, higher and lower purposes, secret techniques. Bring a memory of your own grandfather. Hear a modern perspective on an ancient role. Music by Chris Welles.

## A NOTE FROM ERIN

*"We are a Unitarian Universalist community. Our love for each other is our strength: living our own truth and yet honoring each other's makes that love real."*

I used these words, written by the Rev. Meg Riley, in a sermon last month in which I announced that in the fall we as a community will begin our multi-cultural anti-racism work. The good, tender and hopeful work of anti-racist multiculturalism is central to who we are as a faith community. We each walk a distinct and diverse path as we strive to find meaning and purpose in our lives. Becoming more multi-cultural means that we will intentionally work together to become a more welcoming and inclusive congregation that reflects and celebrates the diversity of our world.

To that end Jacqui James, Meg Holland and I have been meeting over the last few months to begin to craft a plan. In the fall we hope to announce not only the creation of a larger team but also resources and events for the coming year. One event that we are very excited to announce now is a common read and conversation with the author. On Saturday Nov. 1 Debbie Irving will join us for a reading and discussion about her book Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race.

Newly retired Episcopal Bishop of New Hampshire and current Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress Gene Robinson, says that "Irving's personal and moving tale takes us on an adventure to a world utterly new to her as she wakes up to the reality of how, without her knowledge or active pursuit, she

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**Staff:** Erin Splaine, *Minister*, Meghan Cefalu, *Assistant Minister*, Cheryl Rubin Lloyd, *Community Minister*, 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*, Madison Crosby, *Beadle*.

**Board of Trustees:** Gregg Dibiaso, Cathy Morocco, Bobbie Sproat, *Chair*, Jacki Rohan, Lesley Sneddon, Jonathan Reuman, Alison Costello and Becca Lozinsky, *Youth Reps*.

**Operations Council:** Susan Bartlett, *Chair*, Jeannie Chaisson, Judy Curby, Laurel Farnsworth, *Vice Chair*, Anne Hess-Mahan, Andrea Kelley  
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lives in a society which is set up to reward her at the expense of people of color. I cannot imagine a more understandable and compelling invitation to learn about how racism lives on in our homes, communities, and nation.”

We couldn't agree more. Jacqui, Meg and I hope you will add Waking Up White to your summer reading list.

## LAY MINISTERS THANK UUS

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The lay ministers wish to thank the following care crew members who offered rides and visits to FUSNites who needed help in May: Barbara Bates, Dick Bail, Lynn Bail, and Eileen Kurkoski. We also acknowledge other people in our congregation who regularly offer help to others in so many ways and may not formally be on the care crew. If anyone is interested in being a part of our care crew to offer rides, meals, visits, etc., please contact any of the 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. See directory for contact information

Jay Flynn  
 Judy Friedman  
 Cris Goldsmith  
 Kathy Hearn  
 Jud Leonard  
 Cindy Orrell  
 Thom Theara

## STAFF SUMMER SCHEDULE

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Anne - July and August - Out of the office

Meghan - Study Leave in July  
 Out of the office 3 weeks in August

Fran - July 6-20 - Out of the office  
 August 3 -18 - Out of the office

Beth - July and August - Out of the office

Erin - July 7 - 28 - Out of the office  
 Study leave in August

During Study leave Meghan and Erin are on call.

## FROM THE BOARD

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It is abundantly clear that the FUSN community is extremely pleased with the work of senior minister, Erin Splaine and that the congregation is flourishing at this time. In the words of committee member Jud Leonard, in providing his own summary, “By far, the predominant response to our survey questions was praise for Erin with delight about the general state of the society.” Congregants gave high marks to Erin’s sermons, the organization of Sunday services, her sensitivity with pastoral care, her strong administrative skills, and the assets of her personality including humor, authenticity, and warmth. Many felt that FUSN is enjoying a period of exceptional vitality and potential and that this can, in large part, be credited to the leadership of our senior minister. Erin was lauded for her ability to connect with youth as well as actively reaching out to senior citizens in the community. Several comments spoke to the fact that this minister was able to personally connect to everyone in their family across generations. The apparent cohesion of the staff was recognized and applauded in addition to the overall governance of the society. There was a level of excitement and relief discerned in the feedback received, as well as high expectations for the future.

In terms of areas for potential growth for the minister, these included more transparent communication, responsiveness (particularly to e-mails), and expanded support for social action and outreach beyond the church congregation.

*-Cathy Morocco*

## SUMMER CHIME CONCERTS....

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a FUSN tradition. Mark your calendar for 2014:

Thursday, July 11  
 Tuesday, August 21  
 Friday, August 29

Old fashioned summer concerts suitable for all ages. All are invited to bring lawn chairs and blankets for a relaxing summer evening. Indoor seating will be provided in case of rain. Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. Free.

## NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

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There will be one more Newsletter going out in June. Deadline for the June newsletter is June 24. Our next newsletter deadline will be August 19. We return to our regular two week schedule in September Deadline for the first newsletter is Sept. 9.

## SUMMER SERVICES (continued)

**July 27 - "Gardening as a Spiritual Practice"** - Not only do we harvest veggies and fruits when we garden, but also we harvest our selves in connection to, and communion with, nature, the spiritual in our lives, and each other. We cultivate our gratitude, our sense of wonder, our capacity to think like plants, and we develop our flexibility to cope with the evanescence of our lives. Join Paul Antonucci and Lois Shapiro as we explore and revel in the lessons that we learn from working in the FUSN garden this summer.

**August 3 - "The Gerry Krick Years: FUSN in the 80's and 90's"** - Gerry was our minister for almost 18 years. During his tenure outreach activities increased, retreats and community events became more frequent and services more inspirational, while at the same time, new controversies arose as costs grew and building needs increased. In this service, Allan Hartman will lead us in sharing memories, thoughts and feelings about these times.

**August 10 - "Bringing GA Home"** - FUSN sends delegates every year to General Assembly, the UUA National Conference. Carolyn Mapes, a seminarian, and several other delegates will bring it home to you.

**August 17 - "Seeing Again for the First Time"** - When we create or view art, it helps us to see with fresh eyes - a sort of meditation. Lynn Holbein and Betsy Leavitt will help us explore this idea, try a little sketching, and share about art as a way of taking a short "mental vacation".

**August 24 - "Moving from Mind to Heart"** - Based on a lifetime of musical experience, Amy Tai will reflect on moving from mind to heart through music and share some exercises that encourage connection through music.

**August 31 - No Service**

## MUSINGS

"When ["Bravo!"] was originally called out in the English theater, it was called out in recognition of great courage. When a performer took a chance, even if it weren't completely pulled off, the act of consequence that deserved to be recognized was going for something extraordinary in a public, high-risk opportunity." (Eric Booth, 2012 New England Conservatory commencement) We are so fortunate to have so many talented and hard-working FUSN members who take chances every week to bring something profound to our worship services. And while we generally do not call out "Bravo!", we do thank them:

All of the members of the **Sanctuary Choir**

**Carson Cooman**

**FUSN's Intergenerational Chamber Orchestra** and its leaders and arrangers: Lois Shapiro, Jenny Duvall, Geoff Wadsworth, Jim Cook

The members of **CreationDance**, led by Helena Froehlich

**The Flute Choir:** Rena Baer, Mandy Bass, Jenny Duvall, Andra Hotchkiss, Lynne Kraye-Luke, Meghan Lotz, Mindy Scharlin, Geoff Wadsworth

**The FUSN Band:** George Batchelor, Paul Batchelor, Jim Cook, Adam Epstein, Jim Frances, Ted Hess-Mahan, Brian Hicks, Juliana Lakomski, Bob MacWilliams, Pamela McA'Nulty, Geoff Wadsworth

The children of the **Family Choir:** Owen Butler; Iselle, Sawyer Cohen; Gracen Delamar; Skye Larson; Stella Kerwin-Derrick, Ben, Charlotte, Joe Klinman; Finn, Myles Konary; Sienna Lerner-Gill; Summer Montgomery; Meejee Sarvey; Naomi Wolfe; Solace, Truman Yee

**The Men's Choir:** George Batchelor, Thomas Bean, Jim Cook, Paul Estin, Walter Graham, Brian Hicks, Jud Leonard, Neil MacGaffey, Jon Reusser, Pat Rohan, Bill Saunders, David Stockton, Thom Theara, Norm Thibeault, Tim Wells

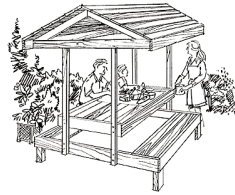
**Chamber Musicians and Soloists:** Luca Antonucci, Paul Antonucci, Jac Camargo, Michael Costello, Catie Curtis, Olivia Duvall, Jimmy Frances, Nancy Hair, Ted Hess-Mahan, Lynne Kraye-Luke, Becca Lozinsky, Maya Lozinsky, Bob MacWilliams, Carolyn Mapes, Cindy Mapes, Debra Minard, Mindy Scharlin, Deborah Selig

Our amazing **Tech Crew:** George Batchelor, Jimmy Frances, Nick Hollander, Jud Leonard, Bob Persons, Norman Thibeault

## COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Join us for our first Community Breakfast of the year on Sept. 7. 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. 5; Nov. 9; Dec. 14; Jan. 11; Feb. 8; March 8; April 12, May 17

## SUMMERTIME IS PICNIC TIME!



The FUSN Member Services Committee is hosting two picnics this summer, one on Wednesday, July 16 and one on Saturday, August 2. Both of these family-friendly get-togethers will take place at Auburndale Cove park from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The park has great picnic facilities (including grills), playground equipment, playing fields and a large parking lot. We'll supply the charcoal (and we'll get the coals started) along with paper plates, cutlery and condiments. You should bring whatever you'd like to grill (burgers, hot dogs, steak, fish, etc.) as well as a dish to share (salad, potato salad, cole slaw, fruit, desserts) and your own non-alcoholic beverages. And don't forget sports equipment, games, and musical instruments. Questions? Contact Judy Zacek (617-969-7992 or [jczacek@comcast.net](mailto:jczacek@comcast.net)).

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