



FUSN News

First Unitarian Society in Newton

Unitarian Universalist

October 13 - October 26, 2013

SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:15 A.M.

Upcoming Services

10/13 - "Throwing our Pebble in the Pond: The Practice of Radical Relationship" - Kye Flannery, guest speaker

Kye Flannery is in seminary at Harvard Divinity School, where she studies religion and social movements. She's worked in several settings with people experiencing homelessness and is currently working with youth and volunteers at the UU Urban Ministry. This month, she's moving into a co-op in Dorchester called Seedpod, where she's excited to learn more about the practice of radical relationship.

10/20 - "Truthiness" - Rev. Erin Splaine - Special collection

10/27 - Wheel of Life - Layled service

UPCOMING EVENTS

10/15 & 29 - 9:30 a.m. - Certainty in Changing Times

10/15 & 29 - 7:30 p.m. - Divorce-A General Overview

10/19 - 8:30 a.m. - New UU class

4:00 p.m. - Book Discussion

She Walked For All of Us

10/21 - 7:30 p.m. - FUSN Tai Chi

10/22 - 7:30 p.m. - Poetry by Heart

7:30 p.m. - Bible class

7:30 p.m. - British Channing Singers

10/24 - 7:30 p.m. - Ghosts of JeJu

10/25 - 7:00 p.m. - Environmental Film Series

10/26 - 2:00 p.m. - Noreen Kimball Memorial Service

10/27 - 4:00 p.m. - FUSN Halloween Party

10/28 - 7:30 p.m. - FUSN Tai Chi

6:00 p.m. - Insulation Panel

10/31 - 7:30 p.m. - Green Sanctuary

MUSINGS

We are fortunate to have two professional soloists who are accomplished musicians and wonderful collaborators – Deborah Selig and Jorgeandres ("Jac") Camargo. Deborah is currently singing Pamina in Boston Lyric Opera's production of *The Magic Flute* and Jac is a graduate student at Boston University, where he is a member of the Opera Institute. Here are some of his upcoming performances at BU:

Jac plays two roles, the Prophet and Larry King, in *Dark Sisters*, an opera by Nico Muhly, which runs from October 11-13 at BU. "Premiered in 2011, *Dark Sisters* conjures an atmosphere of stifling oppression. The work focuses on five "sister-wives" in a polygamous Mormon compound, all married to a stern "Prophet" who uses the language of righteousness to hold them in fearful bondage. An alumnus of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, Muhly is enjoying a moment in the New York City spotlight as a contemporary classical composer and arranger. Muhly's opera *Two Boys* is making its Metropolitan Opera debut this fall." [www.bu.edu/cfa]

On Dec. 7, Jac will play Balthazar in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and in February (20-22), he will sing the *Captain in Florencia en el Amazonas* by Daniel Catàn. "A work of great beauty and power, Daniel Catàn's *Florencia en el Amazonas* is the composer's second opera. Loosely inspired by Gabriel García Márquez's *Love in the Time of Cholera*, the opera follows the story of Florencia Grimaldi, an aging opera singer who embarks upon a steamboat journey down the Amazon River. As the journey progresses, the boat is beset by pink rain, foul waters, and the

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Staff: Erin Splaine, *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*, Maura Hess-Mahan, *Beadle*.

Board of Trustees: Cathy Morocco, Jonathan Reuman, Bobbie Sproat, *Vice Chair*, Strom Thacker, Charlie Watts, *Chair*, Ann Woodbury, Michael Costello and Maura Hess-Mahan, *Youth Reps*.

Operations Council: Susan Bartlett, *Chair*, Jeannie Chaisson, Alan Cody, Laurel Farnsworth, *Vice Chair*, Anne Hess-Mahan, Andrea Kelley

threat of a cholera epidemic. As Florencia and her fellow travelers are carried deeper into the jungle, they experience various revelations, until finally the diva's spirit is transformed into a vast, emerald butterfly." [www.bu.edu] And lastly, Jac will sing the marvelous role of Leperello in the BU production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, which runs April 17-20, 2014.

Of course you can hear Deborah and Jac every Sunday at FUSN, and if you want to sing with them, please join the Sanctuary Choir or the Men's Choir. Here is some of our upcoming music:

Oct. 20: 10:00 a.m. pre-service hymn sing. In the service the choir will sing Hal Walker's "Praise Song" November 3: Brahms "Schaffe in mir, Gott", the sublime first movement of his Op. 29.

Nov. 10: the Men's Choir will sing "Find the Cost of Freedom" and Solomon Burke's "None of Us Are Free"

Nov. 17: the women of the choir will sing music from the Sacred Harp tradition.

Nov. 24: at our annual intergenerational Thanksgiving service, we'll have a rousing Instant Choir anthem.

Channing SCHOOL

On Tuesday Oct. 22 from 7:30-8:30 p.m. the Channing School (UK) Chamber Choir and Orchestra will present a free concert in our Sanctuary. Channing School, originally called Channing House, first opened in 1885 in Sutherland House under the Rev. Robert Spears and was endowed by the Misses Matilda and Emily Sharpe, the daughters of Samuel Sharpe, primarily for the daughters of Unitarian ministers, and named after William Ellery Channing. Robert Spears later became the first minister of Highgate Unitarian Church. The Channing School from North London is well-known for its music program, and their advanced ensembles of girls ages 14-18 will be performing music of Benjamin Britten (in honor of the centenary of his birth), Bach, and others.

Please join us for this hour-long concert presented by British Unitarian students. The Music and Membership Committees are organizing a reception for the performers and they welcome any donations of cookies, etc. Anne Watson Born, music@fusn.org

PERRY'S PONDERINGS

The origin of the word "retreat" comes from the French and Latin words meaning "to draw back or withdraw." Retreating is often taking a step back, or away, in order to move forward. A retreat gives us the opportunity to see more clearly where we are and re-draw the picture of where we would like to go.

The FUSN high school youth started the year with a camp retreat where friends reconnected and newcomers were welcomed into the group. They used the time to envision a full picture of youth programming that includes Sunday Youth Group topic programs and worship, social activities like hikes and laser tag, and social action projects focused on the theme they chose - education. The youth formed the first steps of this year's experience, with Rebecca Hinds, our Youth Programs Director, and dedicated youth advisors as guides.

During a break from activities on the Thompson Island retreat, the Coming of Age youth decided to walk to the beach together. It was an expression of how much these unique individuals see themselves as a group. Thompson Island was a time for bonding, when the 8th grade youth got to know their mentors, each other, and themselves more deeply. Away from their familiar surroundings on a tiny island in Boston Harbor, they got up on the sixty-foot tower to do the high ropes course, headed out in groups to map the island, and listened closely to each other in the fish bowl discussion. This retreat created the path forward into a year of amazing discovery.

Ferry Beach is a special place to step away from our fast-paced daily routines and be together as a multi-generational community. This "re-treat" gives us a moment of pause to reimagine how we are going to treat ourselves and the other people in our lives. I look forward to leading the Sunday morning worship service in the pines, where we will fill each other's buckets with good feelings to carry back into our daily lives. In stepping back to take in an array of natural surroundings and have fun together, we have a chance to feel where we are and how we will carry ourselves forward.

-Perry Montrose

FROM THE BOARD

This past weekend I had the honor of attending the bat mitzvah of a friend's daughter down in southern Connecticut. Having been to a number of these services – in which the candidate crosses that threshold into young adulthood in the eyes of the congregation – I was prepared to feel stunned by the beauty of the chanting, delighted for my friends and their fantastic child, and also completely lost and overwhelmed by the intensity of the form and ritual. All of these things happened.

What also happened – and Erin's fantastic sermon today about the nature of trust and the need to embrace vulnerability helped me think about this a little differently – was that a young woman put herself out there. She chanted in Hebrew for something like 45 minutes. She offered her own interpretation of the Noah flood story, wrestling with the fact that God, in that story, brings about an awful lot of destruction. And, she opened her reception by doing a solo dance routine (One, Singular Sensation...) with a golden top hat! And what happened? A congregation, family and friends surrounded her with tremendous love and affection. She made herself vulnerable in so many ways and she trusted that her community would hold her no matter how it turned out.

I started the morning feeling very much like a stranger in a strange land. By the afternoon and the end of the reception, I felt like I was a member of the family – ready to go on to the next meal with them! Driving home, however, I had the odd sensation that this experience – what I witnessed and what I felt – was somehow familiar. But I couldn't quite place it. Then, this morning, I listened to Erin's sermon and the pieces began to fit together: this is something FUSN does especially well – catching people at their most vulnerable moments and surrounding them with tremendous love and affection.

It's no simple trick to be vulnerable. But, in the end, it sure seems like it's worth the effort.

-Charlie Watts, Board of Trustees Chair

CONNECTIONS

Sunday, Oct. 27, in the Alliance room at 11:50 a.m., there will be a meeting for all people interested in learning more about or being a member of an Eco-Team. Eco-Teams meet 4 times and work with a booklet that helps you better winterize your living space. If

CONNECTIONS (continued)

you want to join an Eco-Team, but cannot come to the meeting, please email or call Lucy Boyle, "jugg" directory for contact info.]

Our congregation's next trip to the Greater Boston Food Bank is Saturday Oct. 19. Newcomers and old hands alike are encouraged to volunteer. Please let me know if you are planning to come. Generally we spend a few hours sorting donations in a very large industrial warehouse. Our group is usually a part of a larger turnout of volunteers for the morning shift. The work is active, but not especially strenuous, and the mood is usually cheerful and exhilarating. It's a good morning. We meet up to carpool from the FUSN lot by 8:45 sharp. Back by 12:30-1:00 p.m. No flipflops or sandals. Anyone 14 and over welcome. For those who can't come this time, but might give it try if they can plan ahead, here is our schedule for the rest of the year: Nov. 16, Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 15, Apr. 12, May 10, June 14. Eric Haas, jugg'HWUP 'f k'gevt{ " hqt'eqpcev'lpht_.

The Memorial service for Noreen Kimball will be held in the Sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. on Oct. 26.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

Oct. 13 – No Youth Group

Oct. 20 – FALL HIKE, 12:00-4:00 p.m.

We will meet at FUSN at noon for lunch and car pool out to Middlesex Fells for an afternoon adventure on the trail! Please RSVP to Rebecca so we can plan for food and rides. No evening Youth Group



Oct. 27 - FUSN Halloween Party
This year the Youth Group will be hosting the haunted house. Come early for setup (time TBD) and spooky props will be provided, but feel free to bring your favorite Halloween decorations and ideas!

The set-up of the haunted house has plenty of room for creativity and design. Or come be an "actor" during the party. Dress up as a favorite (slightly) spooky character and help ensure FUSN kids of all ages have a spooktacular Halloween!

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Join us on Nov. 3 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.

Upcoming Community Breakfast dates: Dec. 15, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 23, April 13, and May 18.

VESPER SERVICE

The monthly Vespers service with the Vermilion Quartet, Amelia LeClair, director, will be Sunday, Oct. 13 at 7:30 p.m. in our sanctuary. The service is designed for diversity of spirit and thoughtful meditation. This is a unique monthly service of music led by the Vermilion Quartet and poetry — written or chosen — read by FUSN’s poets. Vespers will last just half an hour—a way to set aside the noise and stress of daily life and to spend some time in stillness and mystery.

STAFF OFFICE HOURS

Erin Splaine, Minister

Erin is usually in and around FUSN Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for daytime and evening appointments/meetings. She tries to keep Friday and Saturday reserved for sermon writing and preparation for Sunday service. Monday is her day-off. Please let Fran know if you would like to make an appointment.

Perry Montrose, Director of Lifespan Religious Education Ministries is typically off on Mondays.

Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

He is happy to speak or meet with you anytime, please call or email to make an appointment.

Beth Walton, R.E. Assistant

Monday, Tuesday and Sunday, call for appointment

Rebecca Hinds, Youth Coordinator

Sundays 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m

Fran Clancy, Administrator

Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Anne Watson Born, Music Director

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 11:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 12:00-7:00 p.m.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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First Unitarian Society in Newton



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