



# FUSN*ews*

## First Unitarian Society in Newton

Unitarian Universalist

September 15 - September 28, 2013

### SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:15 A.M.

#### Upcoming Services

9/15 - Rev. Erin Splaine

9/22 - Rev. Meghan Cefalu, Incoming Assistant Minister

Although she won't be with us until January, Rev. Meghan Cefalu will be visiting and preaching on Sunday Sept. 22.

9/29 - Rev Erin Splaine

10/6 - Rev. Erin Splaine

10/13 - Ferry Beach Weekend - Kye Flannery, guest speaker

### SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

For the last year we, as a community, have been considering how to keep the Sharing of Joys and Concerns as a regular part of our Sunday worship service — most UU congregations of our size have found alternative ways of including them in their services. We will be making a decision as to how best to proceed in the coming months. In the meantime, please keep in mind the following guidelines: 1) The moment of sharing is meant to be a time of personal sharing and not a time to make a political point or a general announcement; 2) sharing and lighting a candle is just the beginning of our chance to share with each other and is best to be as brief as you can — “name but not explain.” As you decide what and how to share know that you will be inviting others to speak with you during coffee hour and other moments during the week; 3) If you have had a chance to share several times over the course of a month or so please give others who maybe a bit more hesitant a chance to share.

### MUSINGS



Rehearsals are beginning for the first Music Sunday, which will be Dec. 8. The choir will be singing the joyful and exuberant *Gloria* by Antonio Vivaldi.

“Antonio Lucio Vivaldi composed this *Gloria* in Venice, probably in 1715, for the choir of the Ospedale della Pietà, an orphanage for girls (or more probably a home, generously endowed by the girls’ “anonymous” fathers, for the illegitimate daughters of Venetian noblemen and their mistresses). The Ospedale prided itself on the quality of its musical education and the excellence of its choir and orchestra. Vivaldi, a priest, music teacher and virtuoso violinist, composed many sacred works for the Ospedale, where he spent most of his career, as well as hundreds of instrumental concertos to be played by the girls’ orchestra. This, his most famous choral piece, presents the traditional *Gloria* from the Latin Mass in twelve varied cantata-like sections.” [Peter Carey, Royal Free Singers]

The writer Charles de Brosses said 1739, “The girls sing like angels, and play the violin, the flute, the organ, the oboe, the cello, the bassoon, in short there is no instrument large enough to frighten them.” Your Sanctuary Choir would be a tad frightened at the thought of playing the bassoon, but they are very excited to sing the *Gloria*. We hope you will join us. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 8:00-8:45 p.m., in the Chapel. There will be some Sunday rehearsals as well. Contact Anne for more information (music@fusn.org)

-Anne Watson Born

**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

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## FROM THE BOARD

A new year has just begun for all of us at FUSN, and for me, it's a New Era as well: I've just begun serving on FUSN's Board of Trustees. I'm honored that you have entrusted me with the responsibility of helping to guide the Society's policies, planning, finances, and governance. Of course, all FUSN members share in those responsibilities – service on the Board is just a more intense three-year focus on them!

For those of you who don't know me, here's a brief recap of my history with FUSN: I first came to FUSN in about 1989 with my family. My daughters both grew up here and experienced the full RE program. Over the years, I've taught RE, helped coordinate Youth Group, done various jobs at the Holiday Fair, served on two search committees, served on several standing committees (currently Music), led summer lay services, and sung with the choir.

So far, I'm still getting my feet wet in this new job. With our new governance model, FUSN's new Leadership Development Committee is charged with recruiting, developing, and training new lay leadership at FUSN. They recruited several "experts" and gave us new Board and Ops Council members a comprehensive orientation to our bylaws, the governance structure, and our finances this past Sunday. One of our hopes is for the Society to do better at preserving and passing on our institutional memory, and this session furthers that goal. This focus is also consistent with one of my own priorities for the Board: to keep communications open, flowing, and effective at FUSN.

As involved as I've been here, I'm painfully aware of how few people I know in a whole new generation of FUSN-ites. One of my personal aspirations for this year is to meet and get to know more of our relative newcomers. So please – look for me and speak to me at Coffee Hour!

*-Bobbie Sproat*

## THE NEW UU

**New to Unitarian Universalism or FUSN?** Got Questions? Want to meet other newcomers? Come to The New UU on Saturday morning, Oct. 19.

Facilitators: The Rev. Erin Splaine, and Director of Lifespan Religious Education Perry Montrose.

## PERRY'S PONDERINGS

Last Thursday, we went to my sister's synagogue in southwestern Connecticut, rather than the usual one we grew up in, so we could all go to the service together. The service was outside in a tent, which created a unique feeling to the worship. There was a different kind of intimacy to all of us being surrounded by the vast outdoors, yet in that small tent together.

The young rabbi happened to grow up in Boston and his sermon started off talking about the Red Sox and Fenway Park. I had come back to Yankee territory but was suddenly comfortably connected back to my new home in Newton. His sermon talked about how some places make us feel more connected and how our physical distance to what is happening affects our experience.

There are many ways to participate at FUSN, from attending the Sunday morning service to finding an array of activities, groups, and committees. In each of these, how closely we engage determines our connection. In Religious Education, we have classes for all ages, social events, topic presentations, social action opportunities, spiritual gatherings, holiday celebrations, and support groups.

You might attend an informative lecture but then take a step closer by getting involved in the follow-up discussion group. This year Adult RE is presenting four Tuesday Topics - Divorce Support and Care for the Caregiver in the fall, then Loss of a Loved One and Downsizing in the spring semester. Each will have a presentation one week and then an opportunity for deeper discussion two weeks later. Look for these and many other offerings in the Adult RE catalog that will be coming out this Sunday.

Our Sunday morning classes for children and youth explore Unitarian Universalist identity, values and ethics, world religions, social action issues, and creating healthy relationships and a sense of community. You can see the excitement from the pew when we commission teachers on Sunday, Sept. 22 and see the results of our journey together next June during the RE Celebration Service, or you can actually step closer to the experience of how we grow together by getting involved.

It might mean participating in a one-time event like our RE Music Sunday or a Justice Sunday. For others it might be joining an RE Support Circle that creates fun social events or programs that foster intergenerational connections. For greater connection, it could be a once a month commitment to teaching in the classroom, which is more of an exploration with children and adults than traditional teaching. The materials are provided and they are a springboard to learning, but the deeper transformation comes from being present to each other, in our "tent" together.

*-Perry Montrose*

## CONNECTIONS

**The FUSN community** extends their sympathy to Signe and Audrey Langsetmo on the death of Knut Langsetmo.

**Decorate FUSN's Chancel** in honor of a special event or memory, or as a way to contribute to the beauty of our worship experience. Sign up for a Sunday by going to [fusnsignups.ivolunteer.com/shiphelp](http://fusnsignups.ivolunteer.com/shiphelp) or by signing up on the list in the hallway across from Fran Clancy's office.

**Volunteers** are needed for a morning of work at The Greater Boston Food Bank on Saturday, Sept. 21. This is a great way to do something concrete to help the ever-growing number of people who are hungry or malnourished in eastern Massachusetts. Carpool from the FUSN parking lot at 8:45 a.m. back by 1:00 p.m. Youth are encouraged to join us, minimum age is 14. If you plan to join us, let Judy Zacek know, 617-969-7992.

**Bridge Group** - Come help us liven up this group! It's a friendly/fun activity for all levels of play---we meet once a month on a Friday evening in each other's homes from about 7:30-10:00 p.m. If you don't have a partner, we try to find one for you. This group has been around about 40 years not with the original players though. Let's keep this great tradition going, it's a welcome relaxation to end a busy week. For more information contact Marylou McArdle at [maryloum89@yahoo.com](mailto:maryloum89@yahoo.com)

**FUSN Chalice Circles** are being organized for this fall. Sign ups will happen after Erin Splaine introduces Chalice Circles in her October sermon. Groups of 6 – 8 people will meet once a month for 1 ½ to 2 hours with a facilitator to engage in the theme of the month.

**The Holly Near concert** to benefit Americans United for Separation of Church and State is less than a month away, on Friday night Oct. 4! I hope many of you will want to join me in welcoming the legendary folk singer (who wrote "Singing for Our Lives") to FUSN. Reservations can be made at: <https://www.au.org/VU-holly-near>.

## 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 for more information or to sign up to be in the Care Crew database.

### FUSN Lay Ministers

Name	Home #	E-mail
Jay Flynn	243-0633	<a href="mailto:jaywflynn@verizon.net">jaywflynn@verizon.net</a>
Judy Friedman	325-9886	<a href="mailto:judyfried@verizon.net">judyfried@verizon.net</a>
Cris Goldsmith	969-1638	<a href="mailto:crisgoldsmith@gmail.com">crisgoldsmith@gmail.com</a>
Kathy Hearn	965-0938	<a href="mailto:kathyhearn@rcn.com">kathyhearn@rcn.com</a>
Jud Leonard	969-2623	<a href="mailto:jud.leonard@gmail.com">jud.leonard@gmail.com</a>
Cindy Orrell	901-6848	<a href="mailto:cindy_orrell@hotmail.com">cindy_orrell@hotmail.com</a>
Gail Yeo	630-8180	<a href="mailto:gailyeo84@gmail.com">gailyeo84@gmail.com</a>

## 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, 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.

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

## COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

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Join us on Oct. 6 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: Nov. 3, Dec. 15, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 23, April 13, and May 18.

## VESPER SERVICE

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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.

## RE INFORMATION SESSION

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**Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About RE**  
RE information session on: Sundays, Sept. 15 & 29 - 11:45am-12:15am in the Alliance Room. Whether you are new to FUSN or have been here a while and have questions about what we do in RE, please join us for a quick overview and time for Q & A.

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