



THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBOROUGH

25 South Main Street, Middleborough, MA 02346

www.uumiddleboro.org

October, 2013

The theme for the month of October is Forgiveness.

Sunday, October 6, at 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Sarah K. Person preaching
Reap of Faith

Sometimes we have to cultivate abundant hearts to cope with the world around us. Join us for a Unitarian Universalist communion with cranberry juice and cornbread. In this church, all are invited to partake in communion. Our service is grounded in the meaning of the word itself; it is an act of sharing. This is what we celebrate: the sharing of memories, the sharing of gratitude, the sharing of hope, the sharing of reconciliation. The Chalice Choir is singing today.

Sunday, October 13, at 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Sarah K. Person preaching
End The Unkind

“Forgiveness,” says Dr. Fred Luskin of Stanford University, “means that unkindness stops with you.” Explore with us what it means in mind, body and spirit to become, not a pushover, but a peacemaker.

Sunday, October 20, at 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Sarah K. Person preaching
Make A New Deal

Revolutionize your outlook on life and transform your woundedness by finding a new way to understand your story. We have the capacity for healing when we reinterpret the hurtful events of our lives. The Chalice Choir will be singing this morning.

Sunday, October 27, at 10:30 a.m.

Susan Curnan preaching
In Our Own Backyards

This morning’s service honors the memory of two of Susan Curnan’s heroes - her father, Charlie Curnan, and former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, who both challenged us to set our own corner of the world on fire.

Susan is the author of several articles on growing up with Eleanor Roosevelt, including “Memories and Lessons from ER’s Kitchen Cabinet” published by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She recently completed an oral history project with the National Park Service and Roosevelt Presidential Library Archives in Hyde Park, New York. Susan is Professor of Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University, Director of the Heller School’s Center for Youth and Communities, and also an active member at First Parish of Sudbury.

Minister’s Meditation

Dreaming Together:

The August 2013 Leadership Retreat

“What will you commit to do to lead the congregation to grow?”

What will you keep doing to create a culture in the congregation of leadership and growth?

What will you do differently to create a culture in the congregation of leadership and growth?”

These were the questions posed by consultant Della Hughes at our leadership retreat on August 31.

Looking back on the day, one participant summarized, “It helps to redefine what excites me about the church, what connects me to the bigger vision; how great is the service that we provide to the greater community, and why it’s important for us to grow.”

Your leaders want to share their enthusiasm for everything we do and everything we hope to be as a community of faith. We ask you to come forward and share your observations and ideas with us. What is it that you look for here? What do you find most enriching and rewarding? What would you like to see us do more?

We are: Barbara Bancroft, Cindy Benard, Doris Coombes, Valerie Fontaine, Chris Korben, Pam Levine, Kelly Lownds, Marc MacQueen, Rev. Sarah Person, Gene Phillips, Andrea Priest, JR Pucillo-Dunphy, Sue St. Germain, Jeff Stevens, and Bob Waterman.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Rev. Sarah

NEW UU CLASS

Sunday, October 6 Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Lunch and child care provided

Unitarian Universalism is not for the faint of heart! It is first and foremost a way of thinking and being in the world. Second, it is a faith discipline, enriched by faith traditions, that forms the foundation for a way to live this life. It matters how we conduct our lives and work to make the world a better place.

Unitarian Universalism wants each and every one of us to know why. It asks us, challenges us, to deepen our own faith principles and practices in response to our own experience. In essence, we value authenticity over authority and, whenever possible, stand on the side of love.

Find out more about Unitarian Universalism, and about this church, at our next *New UU* class. We’ll assemble after a special Fellowship Hour featuring our *All About Us Fair*.



THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBOROUGH

The church administrative offices are located at 40 North Main Street, Middleborough.

The phone number is 508-923-7757.

Chris's Comments

I have the good fortune to be joining with others to participate in *Transitions* - an Adult Religious Education offering right here at First UU Middleboro.

Susan Curtiss has been teaching us about how transitions vary from change. We are facing both transitions - things that happen internally to move us forward and change - things that happen more externally to move us.

She has been teaching us about healthy response to transitions and to change.

One thing she continues to stress and which I find extremely useful is that transitions or change always begin with an ending. Today I am thinking of some of the endings that have created this amazing place which I call my church home. I would start with the end of the church having a parsonage which moved us to having a paid minister. The ending of being willing to ignore the social justice issues of not having an elevator brought us more attention to social justice and an elevator. The ending of Rev. Elizabeth Tarbox's time with us brought us 12 wonderful years with **Rev. Tricia Tummino** (our newly installed Minister Emerita), and the ending of Tricia's called time with us has brought us Rev. Sarah Person, who is leading us in the direction of other changes and transitions.

It was sad to face the end of Rev. Tricia's called time with us and especially her and her husband Larry's absence from the church. The end of their time away is a new beginning. We are facing many other transitions and changes. Susan has reminded us during the *Transitions* workshop that endings are difficult but necessary. What are the endings that frighten you at this time? How are they keeping us from the change we say we want?

I think for many of us there is a fear that we will lose the loving, caring community which has been built if too many new people come in. Is that your concern? Is your concern that there will be people you don't know, and it will be uncomfortable? Is there fear that a role you have long played at the church will end?

Every day we face endings that bring us beginnings. We are at the end of summer and the beginning of my favorite time of year. I encourage you to take the time to think about what other endings have brought to you. Think about endings in all of your life and here at First UU Middleboro. Think what some endings might bring us to. I'd love to hear about it.

In Faith,

Chris Korben, President

MUSIC NOTES



We've all heard the expression that music is a balm for the soul. What about the concept of music as an emotional engine? How about music as a unique voice for a congregation, or even a denomination? I'm struck by the comment of a recent newcomer to our church: "I don't know these songs. I like them!" Or another comment about the Christmas carols in our hymnals: "Where did they get these words?"

Hymnody is ripe fodder for words in ALL denominations. In both of our hymnals (*Singing the Living Tradition* and *Singing the Journey*), there are many time-honored tunes that are set with updated words, expressing the UU theology or sentiments at the time of publication. Looking at one hymn tune, "Hyfrydol" is set to three texts in SLT and one text in STJ. The music was composed by Rowland Prichard (1811-1887) and sung by UUs as "Hail the Glorious Golden City," "Years Are Coming," "Earth Was Given as a Garden," and "Blue Boat Home." Our congregation gravitates to the last one with its rolling syncopated piano arrangement of the tune, thanks to UU composers Peter Meyer and Jason Shelton.

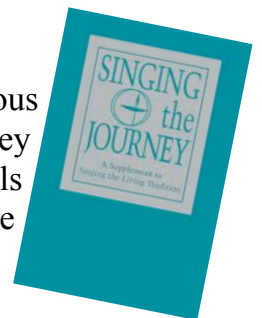
Not only are UU composers creating great arrangements of old tunes, but they are giving us a rich body of unique songs, many of which you will only hear in a UU setting. Shelley Jackson Denham contributed five hymns into SLT: "Dark of Winter," "Blessed Spirit of My Life," "Faith Is a Forest," "Winter Night," and "We Laugh, We Cry." Shelley passed away suddenly last month, and although I miss her like fire as a sweet friend, her voice lives on through her music. All of this hymnody, old and new, is a touchstone for our denomination and for our church.

We have a unique choir within the "pastoral care" of our church, called Caring Choir. Any singer who has been a part of our Chalice Choir & Alumni or our IG Choir can be a member of CARING CHOIR by signing up with **Valerie Fontaine**, who is chair of the Music Committee and coordinator of Caring Choir. The purpose of this choir is to visit (upon request) homebound members and friends, and to bring our hymnody into their homes. Exactly how many singers visit depends on the request and the availability of singers. **Andrea Priest**, **Dody Adkins-Perry**, and I serve as song leaders, and I will tell you that the nourishment of singing for one another is gratifying all around. If you're going through a rough patch and would like some musical TLC brought into your life, please let us know by talking to Rev. Sarah – and we'll be there!

Susan Hotchkiss, Director of Music

NEW HYMNALS ON THE WAY!

The hymnal drive was a great success, and we appreciate the generous donations from friends and members. We will now have 23 additional grey hymnals (*Singing The Living Tradition*) and 32 more teal hymnals (*Singing The Journey*). Kudos to **Linda Thompson** for her fine fundraising efforts.





RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

What do I believe? What do people I care about believe? Why does it matter what I believe? How does a religious education program help children address these questions in meaningful ways?

This year we do this from two directions: We look at Unitarian-Universalist principles through actions and stories and hands-on activities. We study world religions and other faiths, to help our children draw out important wisdoms. These are the sources from which many of us draw.

Our goal is to help children find their own way to divinity and wonder and belief.

Our 3 to 5 year olds are focusing on our church and the Chalice and basic UU values of inclusivity, friendship and community.

Our children in grades 1 - 4 understand the 5th UU Principle, that every person has a say in things that concern them, when they help to decide the rules in a game. "Spirit of Adventure - UU Identity" puts UU values into real life situations and introduces famous people who were also Unitarian-Universalists. The world religions segment introduces Hinduism and how this religion addresses the questions: Where did I come from? How should I live my life? What happens to me when I die?

Children in grades 5 - 8 discuss UU principles, and will study the Quaker faith. In preparation for a field trip to the Allen's Neck Quaker Meeting House in Dartmouth, the children will learn about the teachings of Jesus - a foundation for many Quakers. At the end of October, guest speaker **Norm Grenier** will talk about his experience in the priesthood and rituals of the Catholic church.

Reminder - We hope you join us on Sunday, October 27 - RE Halloween Bonfire and supper at Juli Gould's home. 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Thank you to all our teachers, helpers and babysitters during the months of September and October.

Cindy Benard - Chair, Religious Education Committee

GREETERS FOR OCTOBER

- 6: Linda Thompson & Helen Casoli**
- 13: Nancy Backus & Marc MacQueen**
- 20: Rob Dragunas & Valerie Fontaine**
- 27: Marese & Mark Belanger**

Child care for the littlest children begins at 10:15 a.m. in the Nursery Room on Sunday.

Large-print hymnals and hearing assistive headsets are available.

Our worship services are videotaped and broadcast over local cable television on Comcast channel 9 and Verizon channel 34, usually at 4:00 p.m., on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.



ADULT EDUCATION SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Encountering The Bible

With Rev. Dan Hotchkiss

Saturday, October 12 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

FUUSM Parish Hall

This workshop offers a broad overview of the Bible and an opportunity to read short passages, experience art and music, and share our own responses with a supportive, non-dogmatic group. Whether the Bible is an important part of your life, a rejected part of your past, or just a book you hear about from time to time, this one-day experience may be for you.

A simple lunch will be provided for \$5. Participants should bring a Bible if you have one (we will have a few to lend). Pre-register by emailing Dan at dan @ danhotchkiss.com, and he will respond with a short introductory reading assignment.

ADULT EDUCATION CREATIVITY AND WELLNESS SESSIONS

Join us in “community–building” sessions as you create and learn new ways of self-expression. A team of creative teachers offers a 4-week series of classes for your enjoyment and learning experiences. Each course has its own enrollment sheet. Please sign up for the classes that interest you. We welcome you to try them all. Because materials and planning are involved, it is NECESSARY to preregister at least two weeks prior to the class. Contact **Sue St. Germain**, or sign up on the registration sheets on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. **Each session runs on a Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:00 in the Parish Hall.**

October 23: *Herbal Remedies* with Tanya Trzeciak

Tanya is a certified herbalist who has offered very enjoyable courses for us before. Attendees learn about the natural health benefits of herbs and will create therapeutic products to bring home. A nominal fee may be charged for materials that Tanya needs to purchase. Tanya will provide more information as the date nears.

Minimum class size 4; Maximum 10.

October 30: *Jewelry Design* with Sue St. Germain

Sue has been teaching jewelry-making techniques for several years. She taught a 6-day course at Ferry Beach and has done several workshops for community groups. This course is designed for beginners who want to learn basic beading and wire-wrapping skills. Sue will demonstrate use of tools and basic findings (elements used to create jewelry, such as crimp beads, toggles, ear wires and hooks). A \$10 materials fee will help offset some of the expenses. Experienced beaders who bring their own tools and materials are welcome to join us in community. Just let Sue know.

Minimum class size 3; Maximum 8.

November 6: *Sea Shell Designs* with Pam Levine

Create holiday ornaments or small decorations using sea shells and natural offerings of the sea. Pam is a professional craft person who is well-known in New England craft fairs, including the Boston and Providence Flower Shows, for her beautiful decorations made from shells and natural materials.

Maximum class size 10.

November 13: *Collage* with Susie Sherman

Susie has many creative ideas for self-expression through the medium of collage. The collage class will be applying creative construction using scrounged, recycled and used items. Susie will bring several materials and make it optional for people to bring items they might use to make into a collage. Collage is a trendy art experience now and a means to explore your ideas in a creative, interactive way.

Maximum class size 10.



FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

If you would like to provide flowers for the altar on a Sunday morning, let Maria Pucillo-Dunphy know, or use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

If you would like to donate flowers in memory or recognition of a special person or event, let Valarie know how you would like that announced in the Sunday Order of Service by the preceding Wednesday, or use the sign-up sheet. Thank you.

WISH LIST



Can you help? These are the items church needs:

- recycled paper napkins
- “green” dishwashing liquid
- boxed non-perishable milk
- snacks for coffee hour
- plastic storage bags – sandwich size and larger
- herbal teas wrapped individually.

See **Andrea Priest** if you are able to help. Thank you.



CRANBERRY CLUSTER

The Cranberry Cluster of seven churches will have their fall gathering at the First Parish in Plymouth on Monday, October 21, at 6:30 p.m. The Tarboxes will be hosts, and we will be entertained with a piano concert by Niles Brandon, a graduate of Berklee School of Music. It should be a good program. Niles has a special way of involving the audience with his music.

Our winter Cluster will be held at the UU Society of Fairhaven. *Bud Soule*

ADULT SQUARE DANCING



The Cupid Squares had their first dance of the fall at the Masonic Hall in Bridgewater on Sunday, September 8. There was one square present, so they will go with what they have and hope for the best.

Their regular meeting dates are the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 7:00 p.m. *Bud Soule*

PR TIPS

SO, YOU’VE GOT A GREAT IDEA

Ask yourself the following questions:

Why – How does it connect with our vision and mission? Will it interest the communities we serve? An example of a successful program that attracted our members and the public was a seminar on “How to Talk to your Teens.”

Who – Will it attract our members? An underserved part of our communities? People who might like to get to know us better?

When – Will it fit in our church calendar? Ask Valarie Ortelt, our church administrator. The town calendar? Setting a program for junior youth at the same time as soccer tryouts won’t work.

What, Where, How – Participants are going to want to know how to dress, what to bring, if there are refreshments or child care.

If you need help in outlining your plans, feel free to consult with experienced members of our Planning Committee (Andrea Priest) and our Religious Education Committees for kids (Cindy Benard) and adults (Sue St. Germain).

CUUPS

OCTOBER SCHEDULE

On October 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall, the CUUPS group will be discussing the meaning of Circles. Circles are not just geometric shapes; they are symbols of sacredness and the unending path. Everyone is welcome to join this discussion to learn many of the symbolic meanings of a simple circle.

On October 28 at 7:00 p.m., CUUPS will be celebrating the Pagan New Year or Samhain. This is the most sacred of all the pagan Sabbats, and the idea has inspired Halloween, All Souls Day, All Hallows Eve, etc., which has been adopted by many other religions and cultures. All are welcome to join in the celebration.

Tanya Trzeciak



OCTOBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline 7:00 p.m. Music Committee, Parish Hall	5:00 p.m. Soup Making, Kitchen 7:30 p.m. Spirituality Group, Parlor	5:00 p.m. Prep Night, Kitchen 7:00 p.m. Knitting Group, J. Gould's Home	Lakeville Arts & Music Festival, Lakeville
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Education 11:45 a.m. All About Us Fair 12:00 noon The New UU, Parish Hall	7:00 p.m. CUUPS, Parish Hall	6:00 p.m. PR Committee, Parish Hall 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline	7:00 p.m. Satsang, Suite C 7:30 p.m. Spirituality Group, Parlor		Encountering The Bible Seminar, Parish Hall
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Education 7:00 p.m. Square Dancing, Bridgewater	 6:00 p.m. Expansion Committee, Suite C	7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline 6:00 p.m. Parish Committee, Parish Hall	7:30 p.m. Spirituality Group, Parlor		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Education November Newsletter Deadline 11:45 a.m. Minister's Q & A, Parlor	6:30 p.m. Cranberry Cluster, Plymouth	7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline 6:00 p.m. R.E. Committee, Suite C 6:30 p.m. Herbal Remedies, Parish Hall	7:00 p.m. Satsang, Suite C 7:30 p.m. Spirituality Group, Parlor		
27	28	29	30	31		
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Education 4:00 p.m. R.E. Halloween Bonfire, J. Gould's Home 7:00 p.m. Square Dancing, Bridgewater	6:00 p.m. Expansion Committee, Suite C 7:00 p.m. CUUPS	7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline 6:30 p.m. Jewelry Design, Parish Hall	 7:30 p.m. Spirituality Group, Parlor		



The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough
25 South Main Street
Middleborough, MA 02346



LAKEVILLE ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 5



The Lakeville Arts & Music Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 5. Middleboro UU has been a participant for several years. We sell yummy soups, chicken salad, and this year meatball subs as well as drinks, goodies and ECO apples. We also sell dry-picked cranberries. It serves as a good fundraiser for our church and a great way to be involved in the community.



We need many hands to create a successful fundraiser. We need soup makers, chicken salad and meatball makers, bakers of tea breads and cookies and others who prepare and clean up. We need people Thursday and Friday nights, October 3 and 4, to prep and, of course, many hands the day of the event to set up, sell and clean up. If you do not cook or bake, we will accept cash donations to allow us to purchase the needed items, but we do need lots of yummy food to sell. We are hoping that you can let us know how you can help. To volunteer for work shifts, contact **Pam Rocharz**; and to volunteer to provide food, contact **Andrea Priest**, shine.coa.mboro@verizon.net.

We also invite new people to be involved in the Planning Committee of this event to learn the ropes. contact Andrea if you are able to help.



The menu is Portuguese Kale Soup and Veggie Vegetarian Soup with breads; chicken salad and artisan breads; meatball subs; pumpkin, date nut, cranberry and zucchini breads; cookies and brownies; cold bottled water in addition to the ECO apples and bags of cranberries.

Let's start the year off with a successful and fun fundraiser. Make our jobs easier by contacting Andrea and Pam today. Thank you!