

**FIRST RELIGIOUS SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 817  
Carlisle, MA 01741

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**NEIGHBOURS & FELLOW CREATURES**

The First Religious Society in Carlisle  
Unitarian Universalist  
A Welcoming Congregation

Volume XXXII No. 21

August 25, 2008



WE ARE LOCATED IN CARLISLE CENTER OPPOSITE THE COMMON, JUST OFF ROUTE 225 AROUND THE CORNER FROM THE ONLY ROTARY IN TOWN. A CLASSIC NEW ENGLAND MEETING HOUSE WITH THE TOWN CLOCK IN THE STEEPLE. COME AS YOU ARE. "LOVE IS THE DOCTRINE OF THIS CHURCH, THE QUEST FOR TRUTH IS OUR SACRAMENT AND SERVICE IS OUR PRAYER."

**Newsletter for August 25, 2008**

**Church Service and Sunday School: Sunday at 10:00 a.m.** Coffee Hour following services.  
**Church Office:** 978-369-5180; Fax no. 978-369-1891, www.uucarlisle.org, frs@uucarlisle.org  
**Church Mailing Address:** PO Box 817, Carlisle, MA 01741-0817  
**Minister:** Diane Miller (study) 978-369-0284, Diane\_Miller@comcast.net  
**Office Administrator:** Kathy Varney, 978-369-5180  
**Religious Education Director:** Molly Sorrows, 978-371-2217, frs\_re@comcast.net  
**Minister of Music:** Marguerite Shaw, 978-501-4220; frsmusic@comcast.net

**Minister Emeritus:** Dr. Eugene R. Widrick  
**Parish Committee Co-Chair:** Suzanne Whitney Smith, 978-369-0922; Suzanne\_w-s@comcast.net  
**Parish Committee Co-Chair:** Lisa Sama, 978-692-6592, LMSama@comcast.net  
**Collector of Funds:** Charlie Davis, 978-371-2844; cdavis@modavi.com  
**Lay Minister:** Sally Hayen, 978-369-7591  
**Membership Contact:** Sue Kirk, 978-371-0176  
**Coffee Committee:** Gio DiNicola, Anne Ketchen, Richard Ketchen, Tom Rourk, Suzanne Whitney Smith  
**Union Hall Coffee House:** Dian Cuccinello 978-287-5745, dianfrancesca@comcast.net

**Getting Settled...**

In the earlier period of Carlisle’s history, ministers were said to be “settled over” a parish. In our more pluralistic era, ministers “settle into” a ministry and a community. That’s what August is about this year. I’m making the move transition and getting acquainted with the community

When I walked into Union Hall for the lay-led service on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, I was welcomed by a spontaneous round of applause from the parishioners gathered around the oak table. It is good to be appreciated for simply showing up! Would that we could convey to everyone such a clear-cut welcome and invitation to enter the circle of community. That sense of acceptance and appreciation is at the heart of our faith. No doubt at times we miss opportunities to express that value, but having it before us is a worthy guide for how we live and the ways we are a congregation.

My own sense of appreciation is deep for all that has been done to get me here. John Lyons and Pam Fox were in touch with me to advise on health insurance and moving arrangements. Music and Worship coordinated people to lead the summer services. Mary Hult has worked on the quirky compensation questions that arise with ministers. The Parish Committee has welcomed me with a basket of fruit and a barbeque at the first monthly meeting. The staff have met and are

planning the church year. My family pitched in as well – sisters from San Diego and Seattle came to help me pack and move on the Pacific end of the project, and I stayed at the home of my Waltham sister until moving day.

Many people helped to prepare 109 Church Street. (What a great address for a parson!) The project was coordinated by Lenny Johnson, and launched by a three-generation Johnson family team. Lenny, his father Walter, and son Eric stripped wallpaper, prepared the walls, primed, and painted. Other painters working on the project included Max Barber, Ann James, Marjorie Johnson, Joe Jancek, and Helen Lyons. George Bishop and Alison Saylor weeded the front yard, Lenny mowed, and Bryan Sorrows made several repairs. Preparation actually began last summer, with work projects led by Bryan Sorrows, with Mary Zoll, Bob Zielinski, Betsy Fell, Bob Wallhagen, Molly Sorrows, and Susan and Don Emmons. Fontaine and Judy Richardson are thanking all the parsonage crew with an invitation to dinner at their home.

So I have now moved in and will be unpacking and setting up my new home. I love being in this beautiful spot. There is so much to see – and to hear! I was asked if I could sleep with the church bell tolling the hour through the night. Having had an office that shuddered every hour due to its location directly underneath a bell tower, I know how quickly one becomes accustomed to the

## GETTING SETTLED... *continued*

sound, even failing to notice it entirely. The sound that does amaze me is the night silence, the natural sounds of leaves, rain, birds, insects. I'm adjusting to this pleasant change after being in a high density neighborhood and dwelling diagonally across from a busy fire station!

My schedule here will be the typically varied ministerial calendar. In general, I will be in the office weekdays on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday will be my day off, and Friday and Saturday are usually my time for service preparation. I will be at church evenings by appointment or for meetings. My schedule is flexible and I'm usually able to see you at a time that will work for you. Please call if you want to be sure to find me, since I will be out of the office for the usual things. The minister's study line is 978-369-0284. I am getting a new cell phone number, to be published next newsletter.

I look forward to the opening of the church year, and to connecting and reconnecting with you.

Diane

### Inside this issue:

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## OUR PEOPLE

**Donna Cantrill is coming along well.** She would like to tell everyone how much she appreciates all that has been done for her and her family--all the cards, meals, phone calls, visits and thoughtfulness.

**Dot Clark is continuing to recover** from her month and a half in the hospital this summer. She's currently at Robbins Brook in Acton, but hopes to be back at the farm around Labor Day. She welcomes visitors at both places.

### Upcoming Services

September 7<sup>th</sup>  
"A Wedding in the Family"  
Rev. Diane Miller

This past July brought your minister a new wedding role—Mother of the Groom. This perspective led to reflections on the ritual of weddings and what they have to do with church.

September 14<sup>th</sup>  
"Unthinkable, Unsettling, and Undeniable"  
Rev. Diane Miller

On Sunday morning, July 27<sup>th</sup>, in Knoxville, a gunman entered the Tennessee Valley UU Church service and began firing. Two people were killed, others were injured. The sermon will address this tragic event, and our responses to it.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

September 6	6:00pm	All church potluck in Union Hall. (see page 3 in the newsletter)
September 7	10:00am	First service of the church year. (see page 2 in the newsletter)
September 16	7:30pm	Knitting in the conference room.
September 19	7:00pm	Womenspirit potluck in Union Hall.
September 20	7:30pm	Union Hall Coffeehouse
September 26	5:30pm	Locally Grown Potluck in Union Hall.
September 28		Neighborhood Sunday
October 3	6:00pm	Environmental Action Committee in Union Hall.

## STAFF AND OFFICE SCHEDULE

**Church Office Hours: Beginning September 8 the church office will be open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 8:00am and 2:00pm.** During the summer months the church office is open Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Email and phone messages are checked regularly. Email: frs@uucarlisle.org or phone: 978-369-5180.

**Minister:** Rev. Diane Miller is available weekdays in the office on Monday, Wednesday & Thursday. Tuesday is her day off and Friday and Saturday are usually blocked out as service preparation time. Call the study at 978-369-0284 to set an appointment or to confirm that the minister is in.

**Director of Religious Education:** Molly Sorrows, DRE and Youth Advisor, can be reached by email (frs\_re@comcast.net) or phone (church, 978-369-5180; home, 978-371-2217).

**Minister of Music:** Marguerite Shaw is usually available at the church weekdays 10:00 - 3:00. Telephone 978-369-5180 or cell 978-501-4220; email [frsmusic@comcast.net](mailto:frsmusic@comcast.net).

Next Newsletter Deadline is September 8. If you would like to be added to or removed from the newsletter mailing list please call or email the church office.

For a complete calendar of meetings and activities here at The First Religious Society please go to the church calendar on the website: <http://www.uucarlisle.org/calendar.html>

All are welcome to attend Parish Committee meetings, except in cases of executive sessions. FRS Committee meetings are open to any interested party. To address a committee on a specific issue please contact the committee chair.

**NEWSLETTER DATES 2008-2009**

Material Due Date	Mail Date
September 8	September 15
September 22	September 29
October 6	October 13
October 20	October 27
November 3	November 10
November 17	November 24
December 1	December 8
December 15	December 22
January 5	January 12
January 19	January 26
February 2	February 9
(a three week issue)	
February 23	March 2
March 9	March 16
March 23	March 30
April 6	April 13
(a three week issue)	
April 27	May 4
May 11	May 18
May 25	June 1

**Fall in Love with Vermont**

Here is your invitation to B & B with UUs in the Brattleboro area for a weekend this October. Enjoy the highlights of Southern Vermont's Foliage Season: the Vermont Jazz Center, Farmer's Market, Dummerston Apple Pie Festival, Newfane Heritage Festival (craft fair), Brattleboro Museum and Art Center Exhibits and so very much more. Join us for our Sunday Service at 10 A.M. This Bed and Breakfast "Fun-Raiser" will benefit All Souls Church Unitarian Universalist, West Brattleboro, Vermont.

Weekends available are: Oct. 3-4 and Columbus Day weekend Oct. 10-12th. We expect peak colors around this time. Foliage B & B rates, per night: \$50 single, \$75 double, and \$25 child. Check our web site [www.allsouls.brattleboro.uua.org](http://www.allsouls.brattleboro.uua.org). For information E-mail Kathy Squires at [solanasq@together.net](mailto:solanasq@together.net) or leave her a message at 802-365-7388.

The First Religious Society in Carlisle is an inclusive community bound together in the Unitarian Universalist tradition of friendship, free inquiry and service to humanity.

We recognize our commonality as spiritual seekers, and welcome and celebrate the participation of all people, without regard to age, race, religious heritage, political opinion, gender identity, sexual or affectional orientation, socio-economic status, disability or ethnicity.

We are committed to continual learning and growth toward affirmation of the enriching diversity of humankind, and to working to create a more just, sustainable and loving world.




**Welcome Back Potluck Supper**  
**Saturday, September 6th - 6:00pm**

Please join us for a potluck supper to kickoff the new church year on Saturday, September 6th at 6:00pm in Union Hall.

Bring an appetizer, salad, entree or dessert to share. Please call (978-369-5180) or email ([frs@uucarlisle.org](mailto:frs@uucarlisle.org)) the church office so we'll know how many tables to set up. See you then!




**Pot Luck with Concord and Transylvanian Unitarians**

On Tuesday evening, September 23, there will be a pot luck supper at the church. The purpose of this supper, to be co-sponsored by the FRS and the First Parish of Concord, is to share a meal with the nine Unitarian Transylvanians whom Concord will bring here. They will give a brief presentation of their life and religion. All are invited. More information coming.

## PARISH COMMITTEE NEWS

The Parish Committee is looking forward to the new church year and the beginning of Diane Miller's ministry at FRS. We will have our first meeting with Diane on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Parish Committee meetings are open meetings and are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7pm, usually in the Conference Room. Each month there will be a brief note of the previous meeting in the newsletter and minutes (once approved) will be posted in Union Hall and on the website. Parish Committee will also facilitate meetings of Church Council where each committee sends a representative, usually the chair, to share news and needs with other committee chairs and the PC. A schedule for those meetings will be forthcoming. If you have any questions regarding church business please contact any member of the committee. We look forward to this exciting year with all of you and our newly settled minister, Diane Miller.

Eric Darling  
Michael Dundorf  
Tim Hult  
John Lyons  
Marge Stickler  
Lisa Sama, Co-Chair  
Suzanne Whitney Smith, Co-Chair

## RE NEWS

**Junior Youth Group end of summer party** is Monday, August 25 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at Jackie Schaefer's house, 8 Lambda Lane, Chelmsford. Swimming, games and build your own sundae. Bring a topping to share. RSVP to Jackie at 978-256-6770.

### Tracing the Transcendentalists in Italy with the Reverend Jenny Rankin

We want to extend an invitation to our fellow UU's to join with First Parish in Concord in an exciting adventure to Italy in March of 2009.

The trip dates are March 19-29<sup>th</sup> and the deadline for deposit is September 10, 2008. There will be an informational meeting on Thursday, September 4, 2008 at 7:30pm for anyone interested in the tour. If you are interested in attending contact Lillian.

Our detailed itinerary follows and is also available on our web-site [www.firstparish.org](http://www.firstparish.org). Go to the section on the homepage marked "New Events" and download the brochure entitled "Tracing the Transcendentalists in Italy" For more information contact: Lillian Anderson at [Lillianand@comcast.net](mailto:Lillianand@comcast.net) or call (978)369-1468.

## MUSIC NOTES

### Letter of Thanks for Children with AIDS Benefit Concert:

*To The First Religious Society,*

*On behalf of Boston Medical Center, I would like to thank you for The First Religious Society's generous gift of \$539 in support of the \*SPARK Center. Your commitment to helping make a difference in the lives of the most compromised children in our community is sincerely appreciated.*

*Each year, the SPARK Center continues to advance its mission of promoting health, academic achievement, and positive social and emotional growth among children, while encouraging the entire family to reach for bright tomorrows, all within a community of safety and acceptance. Through our programs we have seen many lives changed for the better.*

*SPARK is the only program of its kind in New England and is a national model for specialized, comprehensive support for HIV-involved youth during the infant/toddler/preschool years and, later, during out-of-school hours.*

*Without your support, we would not be able to continue to grow and evolve, or meet our goals, one of which is to continue to build confidence and hope for the future in the lives of our fragile youth and their families. You are truly changing lives!*

*Sincerely,*

*Norman Stein*

\*Supporting Parents and Resilient Kids  
(formerly the Children's AIDS Program)

### Message from Knoxville:

The following message was received in response to a note and music Marguerite Shaw sent to the Music Director, Vicki Masters, at The Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church.

*The TVUUC community thanks you for your gift of music. Thank you on behalf of Vicki. Your demonstrated acts of caring and concern surely will help us heal.*

*In gratitude, TVUUC*

### Sing! Sing! Sing!

The FRS choir will begin rehearsals on Sept. 3 at 7:30pm, and the choir will sing at our opening service on Sept. 7. The One Hour Choir is scheduled for Sept. 14.

Please contact Marguerite Shaw at [frsmusic@comcast.net](mailto:frsmusic@comcast.net) for information about the church's music program.