

**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 XXXI, No. 4

October 23, 2006



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 October 23, 2006**

**CHURCH INFORMATION**

**Church Service and Sunday School: Sunday at 10:30 a.m.**  
Coffee Hour following services.

**Dates and details of church events on the Calendar on page 7 in this newsletter.**

**Church Office:** 978-369-5180; Fax no. 978-369-1891

**Web site:** www.uucarlisle.org **E-mail address:** frs@uucarlisle.org

**Church Mailing Address:** [including minister and all business]  
PO Box 817, Carlisle, MA 01741-0817

**Minister: Tim Jensen** (study and home) 978-369-0284, (cell) 503-816-2859,  
Email: uucleric@mindspring.com

**Minister Emeritus:** Dr. Eugene R. Widrick

**Parish Committee Co-Chair:** Suzanne Whitney Smith, 978-369-0922;  
swsmeslrs@earthlink.net

**Parish Committee Co-Chair:** Lisa Sama, 978-692-6592, Email: lms@bostonbits.com

**Office Administrator:** Kathy Varney, 978-369-5180

**Religious Education Director:** Molly Sorrows, 978-371-2217,  
Email: frs\_re@comcast.net

**Minister of Music:** Marguerite Shaw, 978-501-4220; Email: frsmusic@comcast.net

**Collector of Funds:** Charlie Davis, 978-371-2844; Email: cdavis@modavi.com

**Lay Minister:** Sally Hayen, 978-369-7591

**Membership Contact:** Sue Kirk, 978-371-0176

**Coffee Committee:** Margaret Darling, Gio DiNicola, Anne Ketchen,  
Tom Rourk, Suzanne Whitney Smith, Jack O'Connor, Jenifer Bush

**THE ECLECTIC CLERIC**

"October is Clergy Appreciation Month"

OK, I'll admit it. I was as surprised by this as anyone. Until just a few weeks ago, I had no idea there was any such thing as a "National Clergy Appreciation Month," or that the "Clergy Appreciation National Day of Honoring is always celebrated on the second Sunday in October." But thanks to the Hallmark website, not only do I now know that Clergy Appreciation Month was established in 1992 and that its "mission is to uplift and encourage pastors, missionaries and religious workers by providing physical, emotional and spiritual support," I'm also aware that "Hallmark offers 35 Clergy Appreciation cards," and that "Clergy Appreciation cards may be found wherever Hallmark brands are sold."

I also have to admit though that I kinda like the idea of there being a National Clergy Appreciation Month. Heck, I think it ought to be International Clergy Appreciation Month. Not that I generally go around feeling unappreciated for what I do. In fact, just the opposite -- I generally feel like I am able to accomplish relatively little compared to all the things I WISH I could do, and am always a

little amazed by how much people seem to appreciate my small contribution to the quality of their lives.

But the truth is, I'm not that sure that anyone can really appreciate what clergy do except for other people who have been doing ministry themselves for a significant amount of time. I know this was true for me. I first got involved in this line of work because I thought I'd like it, that I'd be good at it, and that it would provide me with an opportunity to accomplish something important with my life. I also liked the idea of working with both books and people, and that there was only one hour a week when I absolutely had to be in a certain place at a certain time.

Of course now, 25 years later, I've discovered that ministry is easily the most emotionally and intellectually demanding thing I've ever done in MY life, and doubtlessly among the most emotionally and intellectually demanding occupations on the planet. The relentless and unforgiving weekly deadline of Sunday morning can quickly become all-consuming if I let it, and often even when I don't. I still like my job a lot (most days), and like to feel that at least now I do it better than I did when I first

**THE ECLECTIC CLERIC** *(continued)*

started out. But sometimes it's hard to see what tangible good I've been able to accomplish with my life, especially since so much of my work is intangible and highly subjective to begin with.

More to the point, I also have a much greater appreciation at this point in my life for how much ministry is "shared." I try to do my job for the benefit of all of you, but I also can't do my job without your active encouragement and support. A good portion of my job is to help equip people to be of service to others (i.e. to "do ministry") themselves, and in this regard it is sometimes hard to tell where my ministry leaves off and all of yours begins. Ministry is a lifestyle as much as it is a profession or an occupation or a vocation. Or to put it another way, ministry is what we do together when we make up our minds to take the mission of the church seriously.

So thanks for all of your expressions of appreciation for my ministry -- not just during National Clergy Appreciation Month, but throughout the year. And know in your heart-of-hearts, more than I can express in words, that the feeling is mutual.....twj

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**Join Us at  
Upcoming Greens Sale Events  
Beginners Welcome!!!**

**Saturday, November 11:**  
Gingerbread House Workshop  
8:30am to 4:00pm in Union Hall

**Sunday, November 12:**  
Small Bow Workshop  
At noon in the conference room

**Saturday, November 18**  
Boxwood Tree Workshop  
8:00am to 5:00pm in Union Hall

**Sunday, November 19**  
Decorate the Sanctuary  
At noon in the Sanctuary

**Wednesday, November 29**  
Christmas Greens Arrangements  
Workshop  
All Day in Union Hall

**Thursday, November 30**  
Wreath Decorating Workshop  
All Day in Union Hall

**Friday, December 1**  
Set up and price items for Greens Sale  
8:00am in Union Hall.

**Friday, December 1**  
Pre-order pick up at 5:00pm in Union  
Hall

**Saturday, December 2**  
Greens Sale  
10:00am to 2:00pm in Union Hall

All are welcome to attend Parish Committee meetings, except in cases of executive sessions

Committee meetings are open to any interested party. To address a committee on a specific issue please contact the committee chair.

Next Newsletter Deadline is October 30, 2006.

If you would like to be added to or removed from the newsletter mailing list please call or email the church office.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**October 29:** "Dia de los Muertos" The Day of the Dead Rev. Jensen

Music by Sarah Darling, viola; Margaret Darling, piano. The Choir will sing, conducted by Alison Plante.

**November 5:** Joan Murray from Cathedral on the Common will be our guest preacher

**November 12:** Charlie Clements of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee will be our guest speaker

**November 19:** Thanksgiving Theme Rev. Jensen

**November 22:** Please join us for our Thanksgiving Service at St. Irene's Catholic Church at 7:30pm.

## STAFF AND OFFICE HOURS

**Church Office Hours:** The church office will be open between the hours of 8:00am and 1:30pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. The office will be closed on Tuesdays.

**Minister Office Hours:** Tim is generally available at church most mornings when the church office is open and other times by appointment. It is always a good idea to call in advance. You can reach him at 978-369-0284 (study or home), 503-816-2859 (cell) or by email at uucleric@mindspring.com.

**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).

### Music Rehearsals Schedule

The Choir  
Wednesdays at 7:30-9:00pm  
Sundays at 9:45am

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.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

by Molly Sorrows

### PUMPKIN DECORATING ON OCTOBER 28

The RE Committee invites you to a Pumpkin Decorating Party! Saturday, October 28, from 3:00-6:00pm in Union Hall. Intergenerational seasonal fun for Halloween revelers of all ages! Please bring your own pumpkin(s) to decorate -- as many as you want, any size. We will provide decorating materials as well as light refreshments. (For reasons of safety and cleanliness, please note that we will be decorating the outsides of the pumpkins, not carving them.) Questions? Contact Nancy West at 978-369-6515 or NancySWest@hughes.net.

### GINGERBREAD HOUSE MAKING ON NOVEMBER 11

Looking for youth help! Join us for the Gingerbread House making workshop on Saturday, November 11 beginning at 8:30am in Union Hall. Junior Youth Group and parents 10:00 to 12:00 at FRS Union Hall. We need kids to measure and bag the candies and other ingredients in the kit, cutting cardboard and covering 50 cardboard bases with foil, etc. We need at least 6-8 kids and 4 parents to help on this. There will be a signup sheet out during coffee hour or you can call the church office, 978-369-5180 or email Linda Myers-Tierney at lindamt@comcast.net.

## EARLY IN THE MORNING

sent to us by Patti Russo

*Early in the Morning  
While the long grain is softening  
in the water, gurgling  
over a low stove flame, before  
the salted Winter Vegetable is sliced  
for breakfast, before the birds,  
my mother glides an ivory comb  
through her hair, heavy  
and black as calligrapher's ink.*

*She sits at the foot of the bed.  
My father watches, listens for  
the music of comb  
against hair.*

*My mother combs,  
pulls her hair back  
tight, rolls it  
around two fingers, pins it  
in a bun to the back of her head.  
For half a hundred years she has done this.  
My father likes to see it like this.  
He says it is kempt.*

*But I know  
it is because of the way  
my mother's hair falls  
when he pulls the pins out.  
Easily, like the curtains  
when they untie them in the evening.*

Reprinted from "Rose," BOA Editions, Ltd., 1986, by permission of the publisher. Copyright (c) 1986 by Li-Young Lee, whose most recent book of poetry is "Book of My Nights," BOA Editions, Ltd., 2001. This weekly column is supported by The Poetry Foundation, The Library of Congress, and the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. This column does not accept unsolicited poetry. American Life in Poetry: Column 077 BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE, 2004-2006. Li-Young Lee, who lives in Chicago, evokes by the use of carefully chosen images a culture, a time of day, and the understanding of love through the quiet observation of gesture.

## JERICO ROAD PROJECT *by Karen Rigg*

Jericho Project is a three-year-old nonprofit organization based in Concord whose mission is to enhance Lowell's economic sustainability by providing free capacity-building experience to nonprofit organizations and small businesses. The services are delivered by corps of volunteers carefully matched to the particular jobs to be filled.

If volunteering your professional expertise in a well defined, professionally managed and rewarding environment sounds appealing, this is the place for you! For more information contact FRS member Karen Rigg at 978-369-0277, e-mail Dan Holin, Executive Director at [dholin@earthlink.net](mailto:dholin@earthlink.net) or visit the website at <http://www.jerichoroadproject.org/>. A sample of positions includes:

### **Development (both business and fund raising)**

The Lowell Telecommunications Corporation staff has come up with an exciting, market-tested concept based on proprietary, open source-based software that may have revenue-generating potential. They now need a business planner with relevant experience (IT and/or start up) to create a strategy to take this "product" to the nonprofit market place.

The Revolving Museum, a dynamic and chic community art organization in downtown Lowell, has recently remodeled its space and redesigned its offerings. It now needs guidance from a development professional and a marketing person to help the organization plan ahead and continue to thrive.

Lowell's Planning and Economic Development Department is collaborating with Jericho Road to assess the viability of an arts theatre for Lowell!! Revenues from the theater could be reinvested into Lowell's arts sector. We need business planners with marketing knowledge to help carry out our draft plan.

### **Strategic Planning**

The Latin American Health Institute needs a strategic plan and strategic planner so it can better cope with the critical health needs of its

community, including HIV/AIDS, health education and mental health.

The Greater Lowell Community Foundation provides critical annual support to Lowell and area nonprofit organizations. The Foundation is looking for a strategic planner to plan and facilitate a half day November planning session with the Foundation's board.

### **Information Technology and related help**

The Lowell Day Nursery, which offers quality day care to low income residents of Lowell, does not have its own website; it needs a website designer/builder to help get more visibility with clients, funders and the public.

### **Marketing**

Acre Family Day Care promotes social and economic empowerment of women by helping them start up home day care businesses that also provide affordable daycare to others. Acre is looking for a market analysis of potential private paying customers that would use its daycare centers.

The Visiting Nurse Association provides home health care for 4000 people and will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008/9. The VNA needs a planner to help guide their thinking about what this event will look like!

### **Design help**

The Merrimack Valley Food Bank needs a copywriter and graphic designer to develop a marketing brochure that will give it the visibility with funders and the public.

## PROGRAM NEWS

**Knitting for People who are Homeless:** The merry knitters have been preparing for Rev. Joan Murray's November 5 visit from Common Cathedral, when she will be FRS guest preacher. Many beautiful hats and scarves have been completed as Christmas presents for her congregants. There has been so much enthusiasm for the project that the group decided to keep knitting once a month throughout the winter. Feel free to join any time and invite a friend. The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room has been reserved at 7:30 p.m. on the following dates: November 7, December 5, January 9, February 13, and March 13.

**It is almost time for the Greens Sale! Join us for our Gingerbread House making workshop** on Saturday, November 11 beginning at 8:30am in Union Hall. Beginners welcome! **Womenspirit volunteers 8:30 to 12:30 in FRS Kitchen:** we need 6 or 7 women to help bake in the convection ovens, using the iron cast molds for the gingerbread.

**Pastoral Concerns Committee:** We serve as a means of outreach to people in our church who need our special support and friendship. We will arrange rides, visits, childcare, meals or anything else that lends a helping hand during short or long-term crises. If you are or know of anyone in need of this support, please contact Sally Hayen at 978-369-7591 during the month of October and Muggsie Rocco at 978-369-3656 during the month of November.

**Celebration of Day of the Dead and Request for Names of Your Loved Ones:** **On Sunday, October 29, we plan to commemorate those loved ones who have passed away.** The service will include the reading of their names and they will be listed in the Order of Service. To that end, we are asking each of you to email ([frs@uucarlisle.org](mailto:frs@uucarlisle.org)) or call (978-369-5180) the church office the names of your loved ones that they may be remembered in this service. They need NOT have passed away very recently. We also invite you all to attend and join with us in the spirit of celebrating their lives as we learn about the Mexican holiday, Day of the Dead, which celebrates the lives of loved ones rather than mourns their passing. We will be creating a special alter table with small photos and mementoes honoring the deceased so feel free to bring in such tokens on Sunday and place them there.

**Fellowship Potluck Lunch in Union Hall on Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** On Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> we'll have a good old-fashioned potluck lunch in Union Hall after the service. No hidden agendas – no one will ask you to sign up for anything. It's just a chance to break bread together and visit a little while with each other. This will be in place of our regular coffee hour. Bring a dish for eight (main dish, salad, dessert) of your choosing to share and we'll have some nice soups and bread to share as well. Nothing fancy expected. Coffee, tea, lemonade and water will be provided. Any questions, please contact Sue Kirk at 371-0176 or [sukirk@aol.com](mailto:sukirk@aol.com).