



The First Church and Parish in Dedham

www.dedhamuu.org

Volume CXXXIV, No.10

June, July and August 2014

Sundays in the Meeting House and Beyond

June 1st 2014 10:00 AM:
Children's Sunday
Aoife Barrington will preach.

June 8th, 10:00 AM
Flower Communion and a Fond Goodbye!
The Rev Rali Weaver will preach and we will say farewell to our DRE Aoife Barrington-Haber. A picnic on the green will follow.

June 15th , 10:00 AM
First Summer Sunday
Iyabo Obasanjo will start off our summer Sundays by leading the first summer worship, in the dining room.

June 22 Susan Sennott

June 29 Tam Johnson-Hellegers

July 6th NO SERVICE Forth of July

July 13th Judy Barrington

July 20th TBD

July 27th TBD

August 3rd Kevin Carson

August 10th Sharon Lane

August 17th Tyler Carpenter

August 24th Geoff Tegnell

August 31st No Worship Labor Day Weekend

September 7th Homecoming Sunday – Water Communion-Picnic Following Worship Rev. Rali Weaver will Preach

Office Hours

Monday –Friday 9-1 p.m.
Until June 10
Then Wednesdays only from 11-5

Calendar

Sunday, June 1st Children's Sunday
1:00 Softball Game
Memorial Field near the playground

Thursday June 4, New UU Class
Minister's Office 7 pm

Sunday, June 8th Flower Communion and
All Church Picnic
Last Sunday in the Meeting House

June 9th and 10th MCCM Summer Barth Seminar
Parish House

June 9th Parish Committee Meeting

June 14-15 Youth Bridging Con

Sunday June 15th Start of Summer Sundays in
the Dining Room.
Iyabo Obasanjo

June 18th Dedham Farmer's Market Begins

June 20th 6:30 p.m. CAKES

June 28th Private Graduation Party

**Please see our website
for the complete and
up-to-date calendar**

www.dedhamuu.org



← This is the new patio behind the parsonage.

While I don't really want this wonderful church year to end, I am excited to start the summer. I will be sorry to see Aoife go, and I am excited for her, and by the possibilities of who might be joining us in the future. We will be saying a proper goodbye to Aoife on June 8th. This is also our flower communion worship. Please bring a flower to share as part of worship. There will be a picnic on the green following church (weather permitting). Hot dogs and hamburgers and drinks will be provided. Salads and sides would be welcome, but please stay to enjoy the day even if you come to church empty handed. If you can get to church a bit early to help set up or stay and help clean up your effort would be appreciated.

The Personnel Committee will conduct the search to fill Aoife's position. If you have questions or would like to know more please contact Claudia Leone (Chair)
Claudialeone@comcast.net

I also look forward to welcoming the Bay State Learning Center, who will be renting our Religious Education Wing and the Basement room underneath on weekdays. The Bay State Learning Center is an individualized learning program for Middle and High School students who for various reasons benefit from more supportive learning. The Parish Committee worked diligently to negotiate a cooperative plan with BSLC, and I hope you will find this new venture as exciting as I think it is. For more information about BSLC you can find fliers near the community bulletin board in the parish house, or you can go to their website at <http://baystatelearning.org/>

I hope some of you are planning to attend General Assembly. If you would like to serve as a delegate for our congregation, or march in the banner parade as a representative from our church please contact me.

I will be away from July 5th until early August.
Please feel free to contact me by phone or email if you need anything.

Our minister can be reached at raliweaver@dedhamuu.org or by phone at 617-459-5979

“Because I knew you, I have been changed for good.” --- Stephen Schwartz

Five years ago I heard some of the best news of my life; I got the job as the DRE of First Church, Dedham! Though I had no experience in this line of work, this congregation trusted that with my intuition, my UU upbringing, and my directing and drama-teaching skills I would be able to do a good job. The amount I have learned and the ways in which I have grown, professionally and spiritually, cannot be measured.

Now, five years later, I am receiving news that is equally wonderful, but mixed with sadness; I have been offered, and have accepted, a 3/4 time position as DRE at First Universalist Society of Franklin. I had previously envisioned staying in Dedham indefinitely, but to paraphrase Joseph Campbell, sometimes “You must let go of the life you planned to have the life that is waiting for you.” Though I loved the flexibility of my half time schedule, the financial needs of my family have been tipping the scales. Now, at last, I can breathe easy and live fully into my work without worrying about the next round of bills.

I will have said this a hundred times: I would not be at this positive turning point in my life had it not been for the welcome and support I received from this wonderful congregation. So here is my Oscar speech:

Thank you to my Mom, Judy, and to Carol Dixon, who opened this door for me five years ago and have believed in and supported me immeasurably along the way. To everyone who served on the RE Committee, thank you for collaborating, taking risks, and taking notes!

Thank you to every kid who has blessed me with smiles, hugs, ideas, opinions, and energy. You are what this is all about. You are the future of our faith, and you make the world a better place just by being in it.

Thank you to all the parents who have who have shared this work with me. Thank you for challenging me with concerns and suggestions about fairness, safety, and inclusion. These thoughts should never go unspoken.

Thanks to everyone who said they appreciated what I wrote in these newsletters or said in my sermons. That feedback always means a lot!

And thank you to Rali, who has believed in me, had my back in times of trouble, and held me accountable to deadlines so I could improve my work habits. You are an inspiration to me, a wonderful collaborator, and true friend. I wouldn't want your job in a million years, but I'm so glad you have it so we could work together!

Though changes are ahead, I know you will all give the next DRE as much support as I received.

Blessings,
Aoife

RE Calendar

June 1st: Children's Sunday! Come and celebrate our kids, the important messages they are learning, and the wonderful teachers who have guided them throughout the year.

June 8th: Flower Communion, Intergenerational end-of-year Service

* Interested in volunteering for next year *

We are “casting the next big production” and want you to be a part!

Please fill out and return the enclosed form to indicate your interests in helping run the RE program.

“Auditioner’s name: _____ Casting agent’s initials: _____
Phone: _____ email: _____

Casting Call 2014-15: The Sound of RE II; The RE-Turn!

Have you always wanted to play a starring role in a child’s spiritual development? Volunteer teachers are the lifeblood of our RE program, and we think you have what it takes!

Do you enjoy::

- Hanging out with kids Coloring/Playing with Playdough
- Getting hugs Watching children grow as individuals
- Smiling Making meaningful connections with kids and adults
- Growing your spirit by helping and learning?

If you checked off one or more of the above questions, then you have **Star Potential!** By giving *less than one hour a week*, you can make an important difference in the lives of children. Every parent with a child registered in RE is asked to contribute to the program by volunteering, either in the classroom or sharing some other special talent. Other adults from the congregation are welcome to get involved as well. *

Please indicate your preference:

Fall 2014 Spring 2015 Both Substitute or help with special activities

Tell us about yourself:

Every volunteer is different and unique, just like every child. What special skills and talents will you bring with you ? (ie, leading songs/ playing an instrument, sewing, storytelling, teaching kids with special needs...)

What is your teaching style?

I prefer...

- To teach an active group of kids Or... To teach a quiet group of kids
- To follow a set curriculum Or... To have a lot of creative input in my class
- To lead discussions Or... To teach a craft activity
- To teach my own child’s class Or... To *not* teach my own child’s class
- To take the lead Or... To assist a more experienced teacher

Preferred age group for teaching:

Preschool/K Elementary Middle School Senior High Youth Group

I am *most* interested in teaching and learning about (pick two):

UU principles, values and history Hebrew and Christian sources of wisdom
 Social Justice and Peace Many different religions
 Youth (teen) empowerment and worship

Available roles for 2014/15

Spirit Play, Prek-K: Montessori-based curriculum with a wide range of stories on UU sources and principles. Teachers present the week’s story with manipulative materials and “wonder” about them with the children, followed by a child-centered time of art, yoga or other choices. (Fall and Spring, teacher orientation in September)

Wonderful Welcome: 1st Grade: From the UUA’s online curricula “Tapestry of Faith,” this class explores the idea of welcoming, and the intangible gifts we use when we welcome, such as Love, Forgiveness, Helping, Celebration. Each gift is introduced through an object, such as a “golden ruler,” to help illustrate the week’s theme.

Timeless Themes: Grades 2-4: Stories from the Hebrew and Christian bibles provide a platform for questions of right and wrong. Through storytelling, drama, craft activities and a lot of laughter, this class

Sing to the Power: Grades 5-6: affirms our Unitarian Universalist heritage of confronting "powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love." Participants experience their own power, and understand how it can help them to be leaders.

Teaching roles are filled for:

- OWL grades 5-6 (Fall)
- Neighboring Faiths, grades 7-8 (Fall)
- OWL grades 7-8 (Spring)

* For the safety and well-being of our children, you must have been attending First Church for at least one semester to be eligible to teach. At no time will an adult be permitted to be alone with a child not their own. All classroom teachers will sign a standard Ethical Behavior Agreement and whenever possible are paired with at least one other adult. Please speak with the DRE if you have questions or concerns.

Aoife Barrington-Haber is our Director of Religious Education until June 30th.

June 8

Flower Communion service (Bring a flower to exchange as part of worship)
End of year picnic (bring a salad or dessert to share- grilled items and drinks will be provided)
Come early to help set up or stay and help clean up or watch the grill your hands are needed.

June 25th –June 29th

General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association
Providence Rhode Island
<http://www.uua.org/ga/>

ANNUAL MEETING WOMENS' ALLIANCE

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2014

FOLLOWING COFFEE HOUR (ABOUT 11:45 AM)

PARISH HOUSE DINING ROOM

Please plan to attend. We will have a Treasurer's Report, update on Parish House Kitchen, election of 2014-2015 officers and board. Old business and new business.

Last New UU Class of the Church Year

Thursday, June 5th

7:30 p.m. in the Minister's Office

raliweaver@dedhamuu.org or 617 459 5979

We need people to sign up to be on a Social Hour Committee.
If you are interested in helping to plan and support coffee hour in the coming church year please contact Judy Barrington judys_house@hotmail.com or 781-762-2742

Homecoming Sunday September 7th

This is our Water Communion Service

Please remember to collect some water from your summer travels to bring to share as part of worship. We use this water for our child dedications each year.

We will have a picnic on September 7th following worship. Please plan to stay.
Hot dogs and hamburgers and drinks will be on hand for everyone. Feel free to bring a salad or dessert to share if you wish.

Have a Great Summer!

Minutes of the Parish Committee Meeting

Present:

Virginia Hickey-Ferentinos, Henry Keene, Judy Barrington, Andrea Gilmore, Geoff Tegnell, Sharon Lane, Debbie Harrison, Natalie Jensen, Diane Cullen-Moore, Betsy Hetzler, Cindy Jones, Rali Weaver

Meeting called to order: 7:05 p.m.

Minutes of March 10, 2014

--Motion to approve minutes--seconded—approved

Minister's Report—Rali Weaver

--Parish Record produced by office (Pat) went smoothly

--Parish House keys to be collected; people to sign agreement and receive keys as needed

--Sermons: request for Keven to preach more often for more opportunities/experiences and to provide Rali with more time for PhD studies. To be discussed.

--Annual Report: Steve Davey and Pat to prepare

--Holly Fair” Meeting April 27 to debrief and plan

--Norfolk Inn sale: positive aspects—new fence, boundaries defined, new and more neighbors

--July wedding: Rali and Jenny notify way to contribute funds for patio; may use Facebook

Motion to accept report—seconded—approved

Treasurer's Report—Sharon Lane

--75% of pledges are paid

--Various areas over, under, and at budget

--Overall \$24,352.72 under budget

-- Motion to accept report--seconded—approved

--UUA Retirement plan: UUA recommends %10 to retirement plan (already done for minister); now available for part time employees. Employees to discuss with Sharon individually.

Religious Education: written report of Acting Director Aoife Barrington-Haber

Building and Grounds—Andrea Gilmore

--Roof work needed for Re wing and church

--Steeple/louvres work this summer

--Parish House entry floor is sanded

Old business

--Bay State Learning Cooperative

--Thanks to Sharon and Ollie Ames for work on agreement

--Rali to discuss agreement with Coop's leader

--Be aware: cost increases, need for larger dumpster?

Motion to offer contract to BSLC to use First Church space for one (1) year.

Seconded—approved

Motion to accept draft agreement with change regarding town's recycling plan.

Seconded—approved

--Committee to oversee BSLC: Rali, Geoff, Andrea, Sharon

--Rali to arrange meeting with deacons and Sharon

--Building Use Form to be modified for BSLC for their meetings, etc.

--Parish Players:

--Alice in Wonderland successful

--Good outreach to community

--New people involved; new things tried

--Nominating Committee

--Group met

--Possible nominees in process of being contacted; some have already agreed, some not

--Clerk and Treasurer agreed to continue

--Holly Fair: Meeting on April 27 to debrief and plan

--Office Hours:

--Goal to open every day is working

--Challenging for Rali and Pat since both not in office same days

--Sabbatical Hours:

--Challenge to juggle hours among various ministerial tasks and studies

--Decrease in sermons for 1 year would help

--Council on Committees: To meet before Annual Meeting

New Business

--Retirement Plan:

Motion (as composed by UUA) to approve the UUA retirement plan--Seconded--Approved

“Whereas the First Church and Parish Dedham is committed to assisting its employees prepare for their retirement years, and

Whereas the Unitarian Universalist Organizations Retirement Plan (the “Plan”) is the retirement plan sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Association, therefore

Be is resolved that the First Church and Parish Dedham hereby adopts the 2014 Restatement of the Unitarian Universalist Organizations Retirement Plan and commits

to complying with all the provisions of the Plan and the elections made by our congregation in the 2014 Employer Participation Agreement until such time as we submit an updated Employer Participation Agreement to the UUA Retirement Plan Committee and they acknowledge receipt of same.

Be it Further Resolved that the intended implementation date of the Restate Plan is the first day of the month of May 1, 2014 following submissions of our 2014 Employer Participation Agreement to the UUA Retirement Plan Committee and receipt of an acknowledgment from said Committee.”

--Dedham Open Studios (May 18): foodstand OK; craft beer tent: certificate of liability needed

--Farmers' Market:

--Green to be seeded spring, fall, both?

--Market in parking lot during fall seeding?

--Fire lane: Trucks to park on High Street

--Membership: 5 new people in New U class

--Stewardship: pledges low; need adjust budget; need \$13,000 more than 2013 pledges

--Annual Meeting: Sunday, May 18

--June Parish Committee meeting: Monday, June 2—Pot luck at Geoff's house

--Easter Coffee Hour—April 20—Parish Committee to host

Next Meeting: Monday, May 5 at 7:00p.m.

--Motion to adjourn to executive session—seconded--approved

Meeting adjourned: 8:34p.m.

Executive session:

Meeting adjourned: 9:25p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Harrison



**Thanks to Steve Davey for organizing the
first ever First Church vs.
Allin Congregation Softball Game
Thanks to everyone who came out to play!!**

