



The First Unitarian Church in New Bedford

Volume LIII, Issue 6

June 2015

News & Views

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

This month the City of New Bedford will vote on whether or not to host a Casino. In general and in principle I oppose casinos. I have never seen any good come from gaming. (With the possible exception of the fact that the Native Nations that have casinos have seen at least some people's fortunes improved.)

The site proposed here in New Bedford is on the Waterfront- near the Waterfront Grill. I hear many, many people saying what a great boon it will be for New Bedford if we could host a casino. I have heard that the casino will "guarantee" \$12.5 million dollars a year in taxes. I have heard the great cry for much needed jobs. I have even heard someone say- even if we don't follow through, at least they will clean up the site.

All of these are the same promises that every city facing this question must fact check. What happens when the casino says- sorry, we can't pay the taxes this year- we didn't make enough profits? What does the contract ACTUALLY say around taxes? I recall that the level of taxation was limited to a certain number of years. What happens at the end of the contract term? I know what we are being told it says, but history, and experience has taught me to be skeptical when something sounds too good to be true.

The jobs are great- *and* the majority will be minimum wage jobs. Janitorial, housekeeping, and food service will likely be the bulk of the jobs and if I am not mistaken Casinos cannot legally hire people who have criminal records because it is a "gaming establishment". This may not be true in Massachusetts, but it has been true in other states in which I have lived and it would surprise me if it were not the case here. These jobs will not have much in the way of upward mobility either. They are dead end minimum wage jobs.

Clean up of the site would certainly be a benefit. But pulling the plug on the deal after the site has been cleaned up feels shady and wrong. Either we accept the casino and all its consequences or we don't.

I don't know if any of you have even been to Las Vegas or to Reno Nevada. Both are known gaming towns. Las Vegas, outside of the Casino strip, is a depressed and devastated city with little more money for schools and infrastructure than New Bedford. Little if any of the money that moves through those casinos see their way into city coffers. The cities where casinos have been built have seen little positive difference in the life of most who live there. In cities where casinos have been built, cost for policing increase as crime increases, and small businesses suffer because people don't leave the casinos. The industry has long been known to be predatory. One academic study from Canada states that more than 50% of their revenue comes from problem gamblers.*

I'd like to see our City officials use their imagination in creating other kinds of revenue opportunities in New Bedford. What about converting the building to a Market?

Continued on page 4

WAYSIDE PULPIT

*Rest is not idleness,
and to lie sometimes
on the grass under the
trees on a summer's
day, is by no means a
waste of time.*

John Lubbock

Inside this issue:

Way Cool Sunday School	2
Upcoming Events	3
Birthdays	4
Calendar	5
Worship Services	6

MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS

Mondays 10-3pm
Wed 10-2pm

As always, I am happy to meet by appointment at a time convenient for you.

I can be reached by text or phone at 508-717-2438 or by email at minister@uunewbedford.org.

RE NEWS-WAY COOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

- June 5 UUnited Youth Group {Taunton Church 7-9pm}
- June 6 Humane Society Animal Shelter Field Trip 12-1pm
{Venture Dr., Dartmouth}
- June 7 Garden Galore & Dedications
RE Team Meeting 12:15/ {Curriculum Review}
- June 11 AHA Latitude & Longitude 5-7pm
Map it out, Labyrinth, Church Tours...
- June 12 UUnited Youth Group {Taunton Church 7-9pm}
Last Session until September!
- June 14 Animal Blessings
{Bring your pet to church!}
Last Day of Way Cool Sunday School
- June 21 Worship Service 11:00am
Father's Day {Childcare Only}
- June 28 Summer Service 11:00am
{Childcare Only}



SAVE THE DATE:

September 13, 2015
WATER COMMUNION

September 20, 2015
Way Cool Sunday School

"If there is ever a tomorrow that we are not together, there is one thing you should always remember. You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think. But the most important thing is: even when we're apart I'll always be with you in the heart." ~Winnie the Pooh

Water Communion, Diwali, Pancake Sunday, Storytelling, Prayers for Peace, Teacher Take Over, Native American Sharing, Strong is What We Make Each Other, Solstice Celebrations, Stella Luna, Mythology, Art, Stories for All Ages, Crafts, Plays, Lending Library, World Religions, Friendships, Chalice Lightings, Seven Promises, Cooking, Mindfulness, Passover, Connections, The Golden Rules, The Interdependent Web of Life, Candles, Planting Peas, The Art of UU Parenting and LOVE. This is just a snapshot of some of the sharing that occurred this year! Thank you to ALL who have contributed to make this a safe and special place for our children, families and community.

Please be thoughtful when bringing your pets to Church for the Animal Blessing on June 14th! Pictures work too in the event the fish can't make it. Thank you again for an amazing year. Be sure to read the Weekly Compass and Monthly Newsletters for updated information and Summer Happenings. Please let Linda or Yasmin know if you need to update your contact information.

Summer Services: Sarah Dufort will provide Childcare from 10:45am-12:15pm during the Summer! Registration/Sign-up is required.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- House and Grounds
Richard Pline
- Religious Services
Karen Andersen
- Endowment
Carlton Dasant
- Soup Kitchen Coordinator
Dave Thoen
- Food Pantry
Maggi Kerr Peirce
- Thrift Shop
Bill Bennett
- Choir
Katie Driscoll
- Social Justice
Rick Finneran
- Music
Carol Kolek
- Women's Alliance
Pam Sherman



CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

The next Women's Alliance meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9th at 11:30am. This will be the Alliance's Annual Meeting. The Hostess for this month's meeting will be Aurore Chace. All women in the congregation are welcome to join us.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

The choir will meet weekly on Monday evenings at 7:15pm for rehearsal. Anyone wishing to participate is welcome to join. Please speak with Katie Driscoll or email her at klbrenle@gmail.com for more information.

GARDEN COMMITTEE



A great big THANK YOU goes out to all the amazing volunteers who showed up to work in the Garden on Saturday!! 45 bags of leaves and yard debris were cleaned out and the garden is looking terrific. The next **Garden Work Day** will be **Saturday May 30th**. Weather permitting we will meet at 10am and work to clean up the garden debris until noon. Light refreshments will be provided. Bring a bag lunch if you'd like to stay and enjoy lunch in the garden. We'll have a few tools available, but feel free to bring your favorite garden tool and gloves. **Please join us!**

OFFICE HOURS

If you need to come to the church office, please be sure to call first to make sure someone is in the office. At this time of year, we tend to have more sporadic hours and we don't want anyone to make a special trip to the church only to find no one here. Thanks!

Please note: the office will be closed on **Tuesday, May 26th** as well as **Friday, May 29th**.

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN

We will continue the successful program led by Carol, Mary Beth and Marsha entitled: What's Your Plan? A Discussion About End of Life Choices following the service at 12:30 on Sunday, June 7th in the Tryworks Auditorium. Please join us!

~SAVE THE DATE~ ORGAN RECITAL

To celebrate the refurbishing of our beloved Flen-trop Organ, our music director, Randy Fayan, will give an Organ Recital at 3pm on November 8, 2015. Mark your calendars and plan to be here for this joyous occasion!

DINNERS FOR EIGHT

Dinners for Eight is held on the 3rd weekend each month. For you old-timers who know how it works, please think about when you might be able to host. Ideally, we should have at least one new member invited to each dinner. Our Dinners are a great way to get better acquainted. Anyone interested in participating or for more information, please call Jean Kellaway at 508 992-0838.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Please continue to give as generously as you can. Each week, the Shepherd's Pantry serves roughly 150 families...and that's just ONE of the many area food pantries. Most needed items include: cereal/oatmeal, canned tuna/meat, canned fruit, peanut butter, pasta, pasta sauce (no glass jars), cooking oil & cake mixes. Also needed are personal care items such as razors, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner.

QUILTING GROUP



The last Quilting Group session of the season will be held **Tuesday May 26th** from 9:30-11:30 in the Parish House. Please feel free to join us! The Quilting Group will resume their sessions on Tuesday, September 8, 2015. Have a terrific summer!

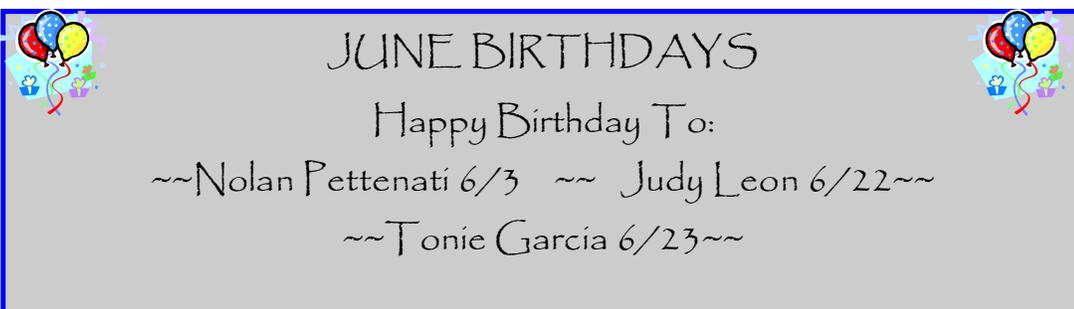
FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK (continued from page 1)

Supporting local artists, farmers markets, food stalls, bakeries and crafters and trades people to open storefronts or booths that cater to tourists. Encouraging youth and young adults to create handcrafted items- clothing, art, etc. Many communities have this kind of market area and these commercial downtown areas are mostly small local business. This kind of thing has greater involvement and investment of local community members and keeps the money in the city rather than siphoning it all off to the pockets of the casino owners who have no loyalty to this city and its people.

Please consider attending the public **Casino Forum on June 10 at 6:00pm at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center** downtown. This is an important issue and your informed vote matters. I don't believe that casinos are a panacea- they never have been, they never will be. But your opinion may differ- or maybe you don't have an opinion yet. This forum is an opportunity to participate in the civic life of the city, to learn more and form your own opinion about whether or not a casino will be good for New Bedford. I encourage those who live in the city to attend the forum and to vote. **The vote on the Casino referendum will be held on June 23rd.** (The last day for New Bedford residents to register to vote in the election is June 3.)

Shanti, Paul

*<http://www.cmaj.ca/content/175/10/1191.full>



CONTINUING EVENTS

Mondays at 5:30pm: Tai Chi — Meets in the Green Room. Free. No meetings on Monday holidays.

Mondays at 7:15pm: Choir Rehearsal—meets in the music room.

First & Third Mondays of each month at 7:00pm: Pride Café—Meets in the Parish House.

First Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm: Book Club (starting in November)—meets in the History Room.

Second Tuesday of the month at 12:00pm: Women's Alliance Meeting in the Parish House (unless otherwise stated). (No meeting in January, February, and March.)

Second Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm: Board of Trustees meeting. Meets in the Historic Room.

Tuesdays (September-December & January to May—weather permitting) at 9:30am: Quilting Group—Meets in the Parish House. Come and join the fun, even if you're not a quilter.

Third Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. Social Justice Committee — Meets in the Sanctuary.

Third Saturday and/or Sunday of the month: Dinners for Eight.

BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

President
Terry Goyer

Vice President
Judy Lund

Cora Peirce
Kerri Cummins
Crystal Lubinsky
Cecelia Weeks
Jorge Pereira

Clerk—Richard Pline

Treasurer—Ned Lund

First Unitarian Thrift

71 Eighth Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

hours:

Wednesdays 9:00am-1pm

Saturdays 10am-2pm

"Come and find what you didn't know you needed!"

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Paul Langston-Daley,
Minister

Yasmin Flefleh-Vincent, DRE

Randy Fayan,
Music Director

Linda Fredette,
Church Administrator

Tony Gonsalves, Sexton

Vikki McMaster,
Bookkeeper

Arthur Green,
Sunday Sexton

Karen Andersen,
Sunday School Teacher



June 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 11am Religious Ed Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	June 1 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 7pm Pride Café (P) 7:15 Choir Practice (S)	2	3 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	4 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 5:30 Wedding Rehearsal (S) 7pm CUUPS Reiki/Healing (P)	5 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	6 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 2pm Wedding (S)
7 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 12:30 What's Your Plan? (T)	8 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 7:15 Choir Practice (S)	9 11:30am Women's Alliance Annual Meeting (P) 6:30 Board of Trustees mtg (H)	10 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	11 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 5-7pm AHA! Night Tours(S) 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal	12 	13 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
14 11am Worship Service –Blessing of the Animals(S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	15 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 7:15 Choir Practice (S) 7pm Pride Café (P) 	16	17 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	18 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open 6:30 Social Justice (S) 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	19	20 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 2pm Wedding (S)
21 11am Worship Service (S) 12:00pm Social Hour (P) Happy Father's Day 	22 5:30pm Tai Chi (D) 7:15 Choir Practice (S)	23	24 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	25 1-4pm Thrift Shop 7pm CUUPS Summer Solstice (Gr)	26 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Gr) July Newsletter Submission Deadline	27 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
28 11am Summer Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	29 7:15 Choir Practice (S)	30 	July 1 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	2 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open	3 4pm Wedding (S)	4 6pm Private Function (P)  <i>Happy 4th of July</i>
5 11am Annual Jazz Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	6 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 7pm Pride Café (Gr)		8 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	9 1-4pm Thrift Shop Open	10	11 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open

Green Room(Gr), Dining Room(D), Kitchen(K), Sanctuary(S), Parish House(P), Tryworks Auditorium(T), History Room(H), Ladies Parlor (LP), Office (O)



STANDING ON THE SIDE OF

LOVE

NEWS AND VIEWS
Volume LIII, No. 6
June 2015

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH
IN NEW BEDFORD
71 Eighth Street
New Bedford, MA
02740-6025
Email:
admin@uunewbedford.org
Web: www.uunewbedford.org
Church Office
Phone 508-994-9686
Fax 508-994-9687

SUNDAYS IN JUNE

Services this month include:

June 7- The Power of Covenant- We gather each week not around a specific belief or set of beliefs, but around a covenant. This has been the core of our faith since the early days of the pilgrims. What does it mean to gather in covenant? How does our covenant strengthen our faith? Today we also dedicate the Santos/Souza children into our church family.

June 14- Blessing of the Animals- Very often our focus is on the humans in our lives and we don't always take into account the animals with whom we share the natural world. The animals around us give us comfort, make us laugh and help bring joy to our lives. Today we invite you to bring your pets, (or stuffed animals) to be blessed as we acknowledge and embrace the critters in our lives.

June 21- Celebrating Fathers- Today we will hear from members of the congregation about how their fathers influenced them, shaped them and help them become the people they are today.

June 28-Summer service begin

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The "News & Views" goes to print on the third or fourth Tuesday of each month. **The deadline to submit articles into the newsletter is the Friday before it goes to print.** All submissions are reviewed by the editor for content and grammar. **Next "News and Views": June 30, 2015.**