



The First Unitarian Church in New Bedford

Volume LIII, Issue 3

March 2015

# News & Views

## FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

As I write this, it is 15 degrees outside, there is more snow in the forecast and the sidewalks and parking lots are covered with ice. It has been a brutal winter this year, making spring all the more welcome when it finally arrives. I yearn for the day when I will hear them, among the first leaves, the welcome sound of bird song from the blackbird and the robin and the thrush; for the day when I will again see the flattened brown earth. Even though I know it's covered with the fall leaves, half decomposed, and mud, like a carpet flecked with 50 shades of brown.

I yearn for the day when the crocuses pop their leaves up around the edges of the snow and ice, offering the promise of spring and the warm sun, and longer days; the promise of sailing and swimming and hiking again on solid ground; to see the contour of the back yard- as it really is, not as the drifts of snow have shaped it, forming the hedges into a white capped mountain ridge around the edge of the yard.

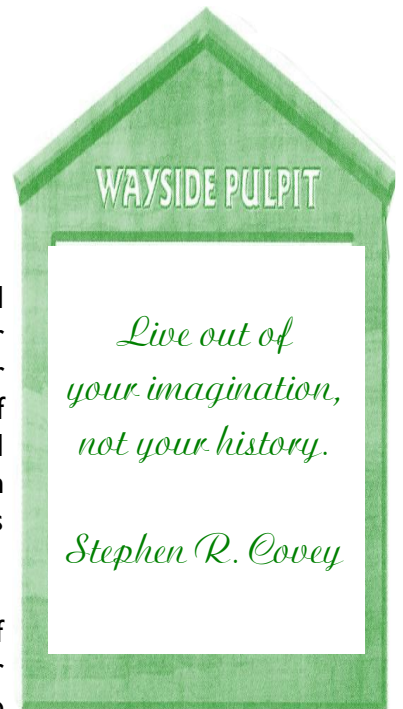
It is sometimes difficult to keep our sense of humor and our sense of decorum when this past month has offered only a few days of sunshine – and even more unfortunately, that sunshine was coupled with single digit temps making it difficult to be outside.

We New Englanders like to consider ourselves a hearty lot, but even this winter has stretched the best of us in maintaining a cool and level demeanor. Having lived for many years in California and Arizona, places where seasons were not so obvious and so volatile, I find myself trying to appreciate such extremes once again. I have had to remember and relearn how to cope with the snow and ice. I have had to remember and relearn the patience that winter extracts from us- willingly or not. Because in truth, even if we are grumpy, angry and frustrated with the snow and ice, we cannot make it go away by any act of our own.

Winter is a lesson in patience.  
And hope.

Spring will come, beginning with mud season- also a test of patience and the need to tie tight knots on shoes and boots.

Be gentle with yourselves and others as the last vestiges of winter hold in their icy grasp. Try to remember that we are all on this same small blue boat together. This is the time to share the fruits of our spiritual practice, if we have



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### 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](mailto:minister@uunewbedford.org).

# RE NEWS-WAY COOL SUNDAY SCHOOL



- March 1 Way Cool Sunday School  
Ancient Mythology  
RE Team Meeting {12:15}
- March 6 UUnited Youth Group  
First Friday Fun Night {7-9pm Taunton}
- March 8 Stella Luna {Inter-generational Service} 11:00am  
Day Light Savings SPRING FORWARD
- March 13 UUnited Youth Group  
Dessert & Discussion {7-9pm Taunton}
- March 15 Way Cool Sunday School  
Mythology Marathon  
NB Half Marathon {Take note of road closures}
- March 22 Way Cool Sunday School  
Goddess Eostar
- March 29 Way Cool Sunday School  
Palm Presence

*“The most influential of all educational factors is the conversation in a child’s home.”William Temple*

Ancient Mythology and Shadow are the themes this month. We will also continue our Chalice Chariots and Animal Advocates projects. This month we have a special inter-generational play based on the story Stella Luna by Janelle Cannon. A time for all to worship, celebrate, sing and be together as one.

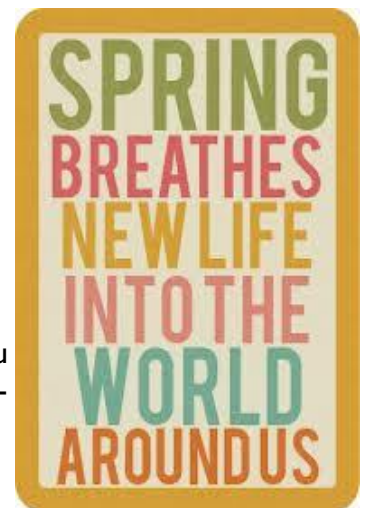
As mud season approaches I leave you with a few fun facts:

- 25 Days until March Equinox
- 36 Days until April Fools
- 40 Days until Easter
- 57 Days until Earth Day
- 75 Days until Mother’s Day
- 90 Days until Memorial Day
- 118 Days until SUMMER

Until then, be safe, help your neighbors, come out to church and smile! Thank you for all the donations of snacks, pet food and chocolate auction items. We appreciate your generosity!

## 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
- Social Justice  
Wendy Wiggins
- Women’s Alliance  
Pam Sherman



## CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

### THE GARDEN COMMITTEE

is looking for donations of small rhododendrons for the corner of Union & County Streets where the sign will be placed. The shrubs are approximately \$40-50 each. For more details about the Garden plan, please speak with Mary Rapoza.



### UPDATE ON ARTHUR GREEN

Our wonderful Sunday Sexton, Arthur, is on the mend!! He is home now and doing so much better! We can't wait to see him! He said that he will come by the church for a visit as soon as he is up to it.

### 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.



### CHOIR REHEARSAL

The choir will meet weekly on Sunday at 12:20 in Tryworks for rehearsal. Anyone wishing to participate is welcome to join. You need not have sung in a choir previously as this is a learning group. We realize that there are often several events happening after church, and that it is sometimes difficult to do everything, and we ask that if you want to be part of the choir, you make a commitment to attend as many rehearsals as possible. This makes for a stronger choir and helps our new director plan more effectively. Thank you.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE MEETING

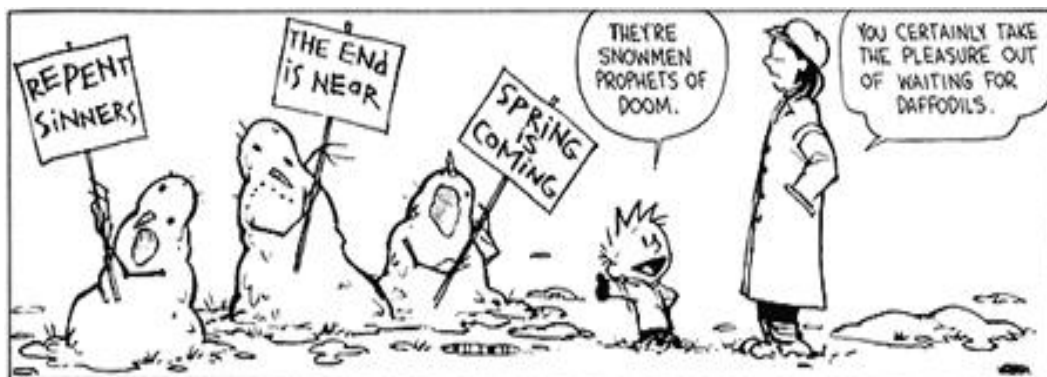
The Social Justice team meets on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30. Please join us!

### WINTRY WEATHER

Due to the amount of snow we've had this winter, and the problems it has caused with parking and safety, we need to keep activities at the church to a minimum. We appreciate everyone's understanding if we must ask that you postpone certain meetings until we can remove the snow. Safety first!

### BOOK CLUB

The Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Please join us in the History Room at 6:30pm on Tuesday, March 3rd.



From the Minister (continued from page 1)

one, and to remind others to be gentle with one another too.

May spring come soon, and may mud season be short.  
May our spirits rise as the sun's light brightens and the days lengthen.  
May our hearts fill with joy as spring returns and the season of rebirth  
Brings the promise of renewal to us all.





# MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday to:

Chandler Cummins 3/7 ~ Louise Sawyer 3/8

Judy Harrison 3/16 ~ Diana Taber 3/16

Victoria Capon 3/21 ~ Adam Kettle 3/21

Lucinda McClurkin 3/27 ~ Donovan Sylvia 3/30

## BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Lynn Whitney, President  
Judy Lund, Vice Pres.  
Niko Tarini  
Carlton Dasent  
Terry Goyer  
Cora Peirce  
Kerri Cummins

**Clerk**—Richard Pline

**Treasurer**—Ned Lund

## FLOWERS FOR PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

Wording of Dedication: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Large Lily (\$22.00)    \_\_\_ Daffodils (\$12.00)

\_\_\_ Tulips (\$12.00)    \_\_\_ Hyacinths (\$12.00)

Flower Distribution:    \_\_\_ I will pick up    \_\_\_ Discretion of Church

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: The First Unitarian Church AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING: Monday, March 23, 2015**

## 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!"*

## CONTINUING EVENTS

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

**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.

**Wednesdays** (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.

## 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





# March 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 1 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	2 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 7pm Pride Café (P)	3 6:30pm Book Club (H) 7pm GNBChoral Society (Gr)	4 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 6pm Stewardship Training (T)	5 7pm CUUPS New Moon Ritual(Gr)	6 7pm Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	7 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 2pm Wedding (S)
8 <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS</b> 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	9 5:30 Tai Chi (D)	10 6:30pm Board of Trustees Mtg (H) 7pm GNBChoral Society (Gr)	11 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	12 6pm Criminal Justice System Program (Gr)	13 7pm Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	14 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 11am-2pm Private Party (P)
15 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	16 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 7pm Pride Café (P)	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>  7pm GNBChoral Society (Gr)	18 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	19 6:30pm Social Justice Meeting (H)	20 7pm Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	21 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 
22 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	23 5:30pm Tai Chi (D)	24 7pm GNBChoral Society (Gr)	25 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	26 7pm CUUPS Ostara Potluck (P)	27 7pm Choir Rehearsal (Gr) March Newsletter Submission Deadline	28 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
29 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P) 2pm Martha Briggs Lenten Tea (P)	30 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 	31 7pm GNBChoral Society (Gr)	April 1 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	2 7pm CUUPS Elders (Gr)	3 7pm Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	4 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
5 <i>Easter</i> 11am Worship Service (S) 12pm Social Hour (P)	6 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 7pm Pride Café (P)	7 7pm GNBChoral Society (Gr)	8 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 9:30am Quilting Group (P) 7pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	9 	10 7pm Choir Rehearsal (Gr)	11 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 2pm Wedding (S)

**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  
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FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH  
IN NEW BEDFORD  
71 Eighth Street  
New Bedford, MA  
02740-6025  
Email:  
[admin@uunewbedford.org](mailto:admin@uunewbedford.org)  
Web: [www.uunewbedford.org](http://www.uunewbedford.org)  
Church Office  
508-994-9686  
Fax 508-994-9687

## WORSHIP SERVICES

March theme: *Shadow*

*"One does not become enlightened by imagining figures of light, but by making the [shadow] conscious. The latter procedure, however, is disagreeable and therefore not popular."*

— C.G. Jung

March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Indeed it seems the theme of shadow fits nicely in this month as we explore the role of shadow in our lives and in the world. We know human beings are capable of great evil, yet we consistently deny this in ourselves, at least in public. The tabloids and TV are filled with people's failings and trials and as we read their stories we distance ourselves- judging and labeling others in the process.

And there is the banality of evil, made famous by Hannah Arent, the human willingness to be a cog in the wheel of great evil- denying our role by saying its only what we were asked (or made) to do.

This month we explore the role of shadow, personally and systemically, and how by opening ourselves to the truth of our vulnerability we can grow stronger and healthier.

### 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": March 27, 2015.**