



The First Unitarian Church in New Bedford

# News & Views

## FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

Our churches are one of the few places left in civic society where we come together in intergenerational gatherings with people not necessarily related to us. Churches create opportunities to develop different kinds of bonds between generations. Churches are a proverbial village that raises children with a moral compass, with compassion, and with love. From generation to generation we sing with our children, engage stories with our children, and provide guidance and support. From generation to generation, our culture changes too and we must decide how to respond to those changes.

Young adults are beginning to find our churches and to see Unitarian Universalism offers a place for theological exploration, especially to those who identify as atheist. They are finding a home in our faith because we are speaking a language of diversity and love with which young adults and youth identify.

As times, and as our culture changes, many churches are struggling to find people to serve on committees and to do the support work necessary to create spaces for the building of beloved community; how we organize ourselves to provide opportunities for social connections, speak out on moral issues of the day and support one another. These activities, in themselves, are opportunities to connect and engage with others and to practice the skills we are learning about living in and building Beloved Community. We just need to start thinking about different ways to structure how we do this.

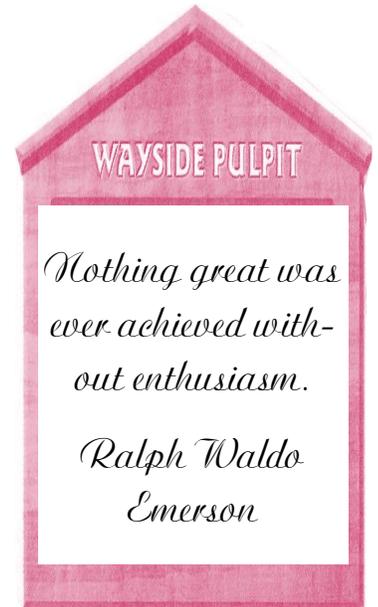
In a recent Blog post on Blue Boat of Youth and Young adult Ministries, Carey McDonald writes:

We UU's aren't truly reaching my generation because we haven't figured how to take the things we love about our churches and translate them into an approach that makes sense for young adults. Far from being an accident, this is a product of our UU congregational model that thrives on members who are culturally similar, economically stable and geographically rooted – all things that are different for the diverse, uncertain and mobile Millennial Generation. No matter how much our UU values match up with those of Millennials, our congregations are institutions in an era that is not very institution-friendly.

- See more at: <http://blueboat.blogs.uua.org/2014/04/10/whats-up-with-millennials-ask-uus/#sthash.k04zEIRF.dpuf>

Volume LIII, Issue 5

May 2014



### WAYSIDE PULPIT

*Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

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### MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS

**Tues 1-5  
Wed 12-2  
Thu 2-4  
or by appointment  
508-717-2438**

# RE NEWS-WAY COOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

- May 2      Fantastic Four Youth Group {Taunton 7pm}  
              "The Blessing Bags"  
              Open Mic in Tryworks {7-10pm}
- May 4      The Jumping Mouse {Inter-generational Service}  
              Calling all mice....Ears and whiskers encouraged!  
              RE Team Meeting @12:15 {Historical Room}
- May 8      AHA City View 5:30-7:30
- May 10     Middle School Con @ Duxbury 1-7pm
- May 11     Spirit Play: Flower Communion  
              Mother's Day Tea
- May 18     Spirit Play: Four Agreements  
              Annual Meeting
- May 25     Spirit Circle

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. {Margaret Mead}*

Over the next several weeks we will begin planning for our Children Rule the Church Sunday on June 8<sup>th</sup>! If you are interested in helping out please see Yasmin or Karen. It will be a Sundae you won't want to miss!

Please take the time to comment on the Way Cool Sunday School for planning purposes by answering the questions located on the poster outside Tryworks. We are working through themes and curriculum for the 2014-2015 Church year and your thoughts, ideas and suggestions are welcomed!

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Our youth group is collecting "blessing bag" items, to help the homeless population acquire materials that are essential for living. Please visit my table to learn more and support the Matthew 25 Mission: "Blessing Bags".

Tonie Garcia & Fantastic Four Youth Group



## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

House and Grounds  
Richard Pline

Religious Services  
Karen Andersen

Membership  
Development

### **Comm. Chair Needed**

Endowment  
Carlton Dasent

Soup Kitchen Coordinator  
Dave Thoen

Food Pantry  
Maggi Kerr Peirce

Thrift Shop  
Bill Bennett

Social Justice  
Wendy Wiggins

Women's Alliance  
Pam Sherman

**GNB CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT**

The Choral Society will present it's Spring Concert 7:30 PM May 11 in our Sanctuary. Come hear 30 singers and 10 professional musicians perform Purcell, newly discovered 19th century American Hymns, and premiers of Gerry Dyck's Lines from Milton's Allegro and new songs from Alice in Wonderland. Tickets \$15 (children 12 and under, free) at the door or from Ned Lund.

**FIRST FRIDAY OPEN MIC NIGHT  
THIS FRIDAY!!  
MAY 2ND!!**

Don't forget this fun monthly event at 7pm on the first Friday of each month! Bring your songs/poems/dances and come join the fun!

**SPIRIT OF ART**

Spirit Of Art will meet every Thursday from 9-11am, members and friends of the congregation are always welcome, please RSVP to Victoria Capon at vcapon@icloud.com if you plan on joining us.Thanks!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

The Annual Budget Hearing will take place in the Sanctuary at 12:15 this Sunday, May 4th. This is a good opportunity for members to ask questions about where your pledge money goes and how the budget process works.

The Annual Congressional Meeting will take place on Sunday, May 18th after service. All members should have already received notice of the Annual Meeting in the mail and should plan to attend this important meeting.

**WOMEN'S ALLIANCE MEETING**

The Women's Alliance program for their meeting on May 13th at 1 pm will be the history of Nye Oil Company presented by Peggi Medeiros. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend! As usual, we'll have a brown bag lunch at noon with a dessert by hostess, Yasmin Flefleh-Vincent.



**COALITION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE  
ANNUAL BANQUET  
LAST CALL!!**

Is anyone interested in going to the annual dinner & ceremony on May 15th to benefit the Coalition for Social Justice? Tickets are \$30 each. We are reserving a table of 10 so please call the office if you'd like to attend.

**AHA! NIGHT**  
Thursday May 8th  
City View 5:30-7:30

# CHURCH NEWS

## RIDES TO CHURCH NEEDED

Lately, we have had many requests for rides to church on Sundays, more than we can accommodate. If anyone is available to provide rides to newcomers and others in need, please speak to Social Justice Chair, Wendy Wiggins or call the office for more information. Thank you.

## NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

Recently, there was a major security breach at AOL. As a result, many servers are blocking emails from any AOL account, including ours. Several people have not received emails sent from the office, including the "Weekly Compass" we send out through the MailChimp server. With so many problems arising from the AOL network, we have decided to phase out our nbu718@aol.com email address over the next few months and we'll be using our website addresses instead. Please add our website addresses to your contact lists. They are: minister@uunewbedford.org for Rev. Paul and admin@uunewbedford.org for the office.

## 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":  
May 27, 2014**

## FUNDRAISER FOR THE MARION INSTITUTE

We are excited to share with you that Grow Education has been selected as the cause of the month at Not Your Average Joe's restaurant! When you come for a meal at the Dartmouth, MA location and show the attached flyer (even on your phone) to your server, 15% of the bill helps fund Grow! Join us each Tuesday night during the month of May to show your support!

Respectfully,  
Zoe Hansen-DiBello  
Grow Education Program Coordinator  
zoe@marioninstitute.org



We serve creative cuisine. And worthy causes.

Present this certificate to your server and your cause will receive 15% of your total purchase\* every Tuesday during May 2014 at the Dartmouth, MA location.

Name of Organization:



GROW Education

Envisioning, cultivating and supporting edible school gardens in New Bedford Public Schools.

A program of the



Marion Institute

Valid:  
May 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> 2014

\*Excludes Alcohol, Tax and Gratuity



61 State Road • Dartmouth • 508-992-5637



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to:

Susan Kyle 5/27



I'm missing lots of birthdays in my databank. Could everyone please take just a minute to send me an email with your name and birthdate? (admin@uunewbedford.org) I don't need the year, just the month and day.

Thanks for your cooperation! ~Linda

## CHURCH NEWS

### SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM

Drivers needed **this Saturday, May 5**, to provide transportation from New Bedford to the Mattapoisett Meeting House, where a forum will be held with State Rep. William Straus to support passage of the Safe Drivers Act. This event is sponsored by The Boston New Sanctuary Movement, Arlington Street Church, Boston. Rep. Straus represents Mattapoisett as well as parts of New Bedford, and is co-chair of the state Transportation Committee. The Safe Drivers Act would enable people regardless of immigration status to have a license to drive. Eleven other states including California, Illinois, Connecticut and Vermont have recently passed similar bills. Transportation is needed from a location in New Bedford at 11:00 a.m. If you can help, call Wendy (508-992-1948) for details and directions.

### LABYRINTH PROJECT AT UMASS

UMass Dartmouth Labyrinth Memorial/Dedication Brick Drive. Help us make the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Labyrinth a reality. This will be a place of peace and open reflection installed on campus that will mimic the labyrinth found within the Chartres Cathedral in France. Nearly half of the amount needed has been raised, but we need your help! Consider purchasing a personalized brick that will be installed around the labyrinth! Contact: Dr. Crystal Lubinsky, History Dept./Religious Studies Program, clubinsky@umassd.edu or Frank Lucca, The Center for Religious and Spiritual Life, flucca@umassd.edu, 508-999-8872. University of Massachusetts Labyrinth Project, c/o The Center for Religious and Spiritual Life Room 202, Campus Center, 285 Old Westport Road, North Dartmouth, Ma 02747.

## JOYS & CONCERNS

*Bob Piper has returned home after recuperating at the Oaks in North New Bedford following surgery.*

*He is doing well and looking forward to seeing everyone on Sunday.*

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## FROM THE MINISTER (continued from page 1)

For a while now I have been considering how we historically have done church and how we might do things differently. The “diverse, uncertain and mobile Millennial Generation” doesn’t have the same framework that their parents and grandparents grew up with. Millennials generally have less time to commit to committee work because life has become far more complicated.

As our elders retire from leadership, we need to re-imagine how the work of the church is to be done. For some churches that means moving toward increasing staff to cover positions that were once held by volunteers. It may also mean changing to a model that is less committee oriented or taking advantage of social media and technology.

As an Association of Congregations we are maturing. We are beginning to see ourselves not as isolated congregations, but as a larger faith movement. When we train leaders here in this church, they may go on to lead other congregations across the nation. What we learn in our churches we seek to share with others, to spread the good news of our progressive values in a culture that has embraced corporate values.

Adapting to the times is not just wise, it is essential if we are to remain strong. The challenge comes in finding ways to balance our history, our experience and our experimentation as we go forward. There will likely be false starts, things we try that don’t work for one reason or another and we can learn from all of our experiences. The challenge of building the Beloved Community is not just in how we talk with each other and treat each other, but also in how we organize ourselves to provide opportunities for social connections, speak out on moral issues of the day and support one another. This is the work of the beloved community, and we do it together.

Shanti, Paul



## CONTINUING EVENTS

**Mondays** at 9am: Waldorf Playgroup — Meets in the Green Room. Free. See Victoria Capon for details.

**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.

**Second Monday of month** at 7:30pm: Workshop That Reconnects—meets in Parish House.

**First Tuesday of the month** at 6:30pm. Social Justice Committee — Meets in the Sanctuary.

**Second Tuesday of the month** at 11:30am: Women’s Alliance Meeting in the Parish House (unless otherwise stated). (No meeting in January, February, and March.)

**Second Tuesday of the month** at 6:00pm: 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.

**Thursdays** at 9am: Spirit of Art—meets in the Parish House. Free.

**First Friday of each month** at 7:00pm: Open Mic Night in Tryworks Auditorium

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

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# May 2014



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 11:00am Worship Service (S) 12:00pm Social Hour (P) 12:30pm New UU Class	28 9am Playgroup (P) 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 6pm Endowment Comm Mtg (Gr)	29 7pm GNBCChoral Society (P)	30 9:30am Quilting Group( P) 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 6:30pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	MAY 1 9am Spirit of Art (P) 7pm CUUPS Beltaine	2 7pm First Friday Open Mic Night (T)  	3 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
4 11:00am Worship Service (S) 12:15pm Budget Hearing (S) 12:00pm Social Hour (P)	5 9am Playgroup (P) 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 7pm Pride Café (P) 	6 6:30pm Social Justice Meeting (S) 7pm GNBCChoral Society (P)	7 9:30am Quilting Group( P) 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 6pm NBSO (T) 6:30pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	8 9am Spirit of Art (P) 5:30pm AHA Night:	9	10 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
11 <i>Mother's Day</i> 11:00am Worship Service (S) 12:00pm Social Hour (P) 7pm GNBCS Concert (S)	12 9am Playgroup (P) 5:30 Tai Chi (D) 7pm The Work That Reconnects (P)	13 12:00pm Women's Alliance Meeting (P) 6:30pm Board of Trustees Mtg (H)	14 9:30am Quilting Group( P) 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 6:30pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	15 9am Spirit of Art (P) 6pm Arnold St Meeting (P)	16 	17 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open 6pm Private Function (P)
18 11:00am Worship Service (S) 12:15pm Annual Meeting (S) 12:30pm Social Hour (P)	19 9am Playgroup (P) 7pm Pride Café (P) 	20 7pm GNBCChoral Society (P)	21 9:30am Quilting Group( P) 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 6:30pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	22 9am Spirit of Art (P) 7pm CUUPS Waning Moon (Gr)	23	24 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
25 11:00am Worship Service (S) 12:00pm Social Hour (P)	26 <i>Memorial Day</i> 9am Playgroup (P) 5:30 Tai Chi (D)	27 7pm GNBCChoral Society (P)	28 <b>SOUP KITCHEN DAY</b> 9:30am Quilting Group( P) 9am-1pm Thrift Shop Open 6:30pm Sea Chantey Choir (Gr)	29 9am Spirit of Art (P)	30	31 10am-2pm Thrift Shop Open
<b>Green Room(Gr), Dining Room(D), Kitchen(K), Sanctuary(S), Parish House(P), Tryworks Auditorium(T), History Room(H), Ladies Parlor (LP), Office (O)</b>						



STANDING ON THE SIDE OF

LOVE

NEWS AND VIEWS  
Volume LIII, No. 5  
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FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH  
IN NEW BEDFORD  
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Web: [www.uunewbedford.org](http://www.uunewbedford.org)

Church Office

508-994-9686

Fax 508-994-9687

Check out our new website at [www.uunewbedford.org](http://www.uunewbedford.org) and let us know what you think!

## WORSHIP THEMES FOR THE YEAR

### May Worship Theme: Patience

*“Inner peace is impossible without patience. Wisdom requires patience. Spiritual growth implies the mastery of patience. Patience allows the unfolding of destiny to proceed at its won unhurried pace.”*

— Brian L. Weiss, *Muchas Vidas, Muchos Maestros*

When my son was young, there were plenty of opportunities for me to practice patience and no matter how hard I tried I often wished I'd had more. Parenting is the greatest test of patience, but there are plenty of tests large and small that invite us to practice. It is a challenge and a test of our deepest convictions to practice with perseverance and determination to extend our patience.

And it only takes a moment to engage in the practice of patience:

Taking at least one deep breath

Using the kirtan 'Sa Ta Na Ma',

Sitting meditation

The use of a mantra or phrase to focus attention- (e.g. May all beings be at peace)

Counting to 10

Patience is what allows us to step back and learn. It is what allows us to be curious and to notice the world from a different perspective. We are given the opportunity to consider options before we react from our amygdala or base self. We have the tools, all that is required is for us to breathe space into the moment, allowing it to expand so we might be granted insight or wisdom, or simply the illusion of time.