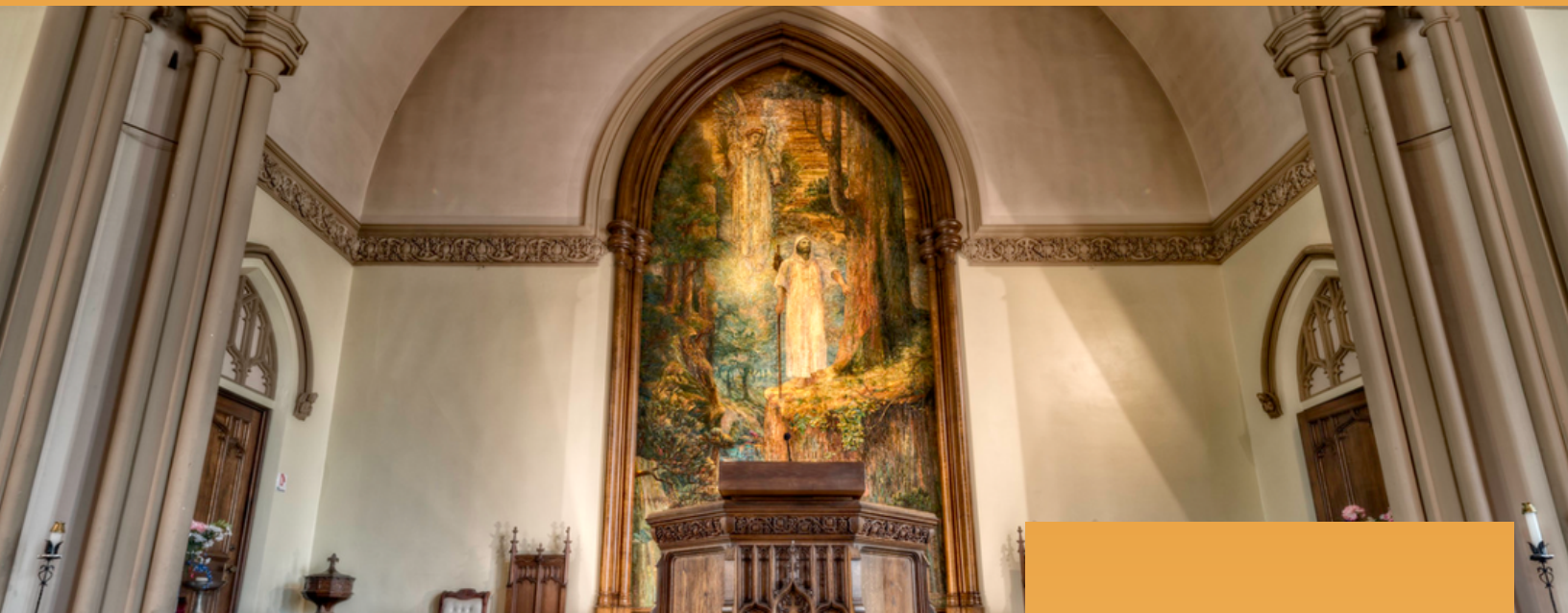


First Unitarian Church in New Bedford

News & Views



“

Until we can receive with an open heart, we're never really giving with an open heart. When we attach judgment to receiving help, we knowingly or unknowingly attach judgment to giving help.

Brené Brown

”

WELCOME

We are looking forward to another year of gratitude.

This year's Soul Matters Themes are:

November: Generosity
December: Mystery
January: Liberating Love
February: Justice & Equity
March: Transformation
April: Interdependence
May: Pluralism
June: Renewal



FROM THE MINISTER'S STUDIO

REV. KAREN LEBLANC
MINISTER@UUNEWBEDFORD.ORG

First, an apology to all our friends and members who view our services online. Randy and I (and some of our more knowledgeable tech nerd friends) have been working hard to rectify the technical issues but, as things often go with computers, there isn't one obvious answer. I'm especially sad that last week's service, "Holding Space for Our Ancestors," didn't end up getting streamed because it was a good one. This is a service I've been doing since 2015 (except last year, as I was getting ordained that week) and it's one of my favorites.

As a Pagan-Unitarian, I celebrate the festival of Samhain (pronounced Sow-en), which most people call Halloween. This is an ancient Celtic tradition which marks the beginning of the new year, after the final harvest, and it is believed that this is the time of year when the veil between worlds are thinnest and our beloved dead are closest to us. That's why it's very important to me that, at this time of year, our loved ones are remembered in this church with such a long history and memory. It's one of the many benefits of being part of a beloved community like ours. I want everyone who is a member or friend of this church to know that they will not be forgotten, their names will be spoken in our sanctuary for years to come, their contributions will be celebrated, their stories will be told, and they will be held in our sanctuary with love and gratitude.

NOVEMBER SERVICES

November 5: Rev. Karen LeBlanc, Generosity

November 12: TBA

November 19: Rev. Karen LeBlanc, Thanksgiving

November 26: Social Justice Committee



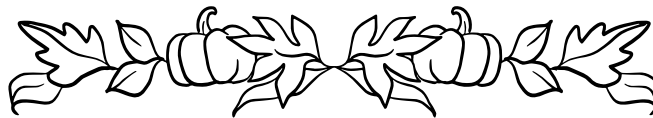
FROM THE MINISTER'S STUDIO, CONT.

Since our last ancestor's service we've lost 5 people from our congregation: Susan Mohl Powers, Jean Kellaway, Ned Lund, Essjay Foulkrod (a former member), and Bob McCabe. Each of them were honored, thanked, and remembered dearly. We went on to speak the names of our own beloved dead, one after another. It was a moving ritual, and perhaps the Gods decided to keep it within that sacred space, not letting it escape into the mundane world. I will, however, ask Jess to post my sermon on our website if you would like to read it.

As All Souls Day is upon us November 1, may all the souls we remember with love rest in the peace beyond understanding. And as we go through this month of thanks giving, may we hold the ancestors of our church with gratitude for their lives and good works. May they watch over us and guide us into the next generation, until we become the ancestors.

Amen and So May It Be.

Bright Blessings- Karen



Memorial Plaques can be ordered to be installed in the sanctuary for a cost of 175.00. Please let the office know if you are interested.

Memorial service dates for Jean Kellaway and Susan Mohl Powers have yet to be set. We will send out an email as soon as that information is available.

It's with sadness that we announce the passing of Rev. Pamela Cole on Oct. 30, after a long illness. Pam served as minister to several congregations including the Smith Neck Friends Meeting and the Congregational Church at Lunds Corner in New Bedford. Pam also was an adjunct professor of history at BCC and you could often hear her as "The Church Lady" on WBSM. She was a powerhouse who tackled many local issues like social justice, immigrants rights, and organizing vaccine clinics during the pandemic. Pam will be greatly missed in our community and our prayers are with her family and loved ones at this difficult time. We will share memorial service information when we have it.



Generosity

WAY COOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

YASMIN FLEFLEH-VINCENT,
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
 flefleh@gmail.com

What does it mean to be a people of **Generosity**?

November 5: The Gift of Widening Our Love

November 9: Art, History, Architecture {AHA} Made in New Bedford, New Bedford's Art Mart Custom House Square 4:00-8:00 pm

November 12: The Gift of Connection

November 19: The Gift of Gratitude, Thanksgiving Potluck following Service

November 26: The Gift of Hope

“Generosity. We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope. We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.”
 {Article 2}

Way Cool Sunday School Sample Schedule

- Sanctuary First Fifteen 11:00 am
- Sunday School Tryworks 11:15-11:45
- Closing Circle 11:45-12:00
- Coffee Hour 12:00 {Parent/Guardian Responsible}

BOOKS FOR NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

FOR ADULTS:

An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer

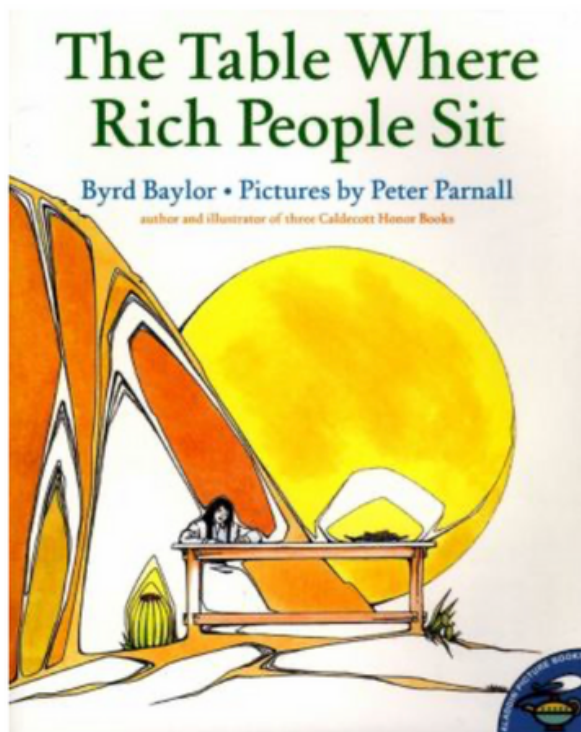
FOR CHILDREN:

Fry Bread by Kevin Noble Maillard (Author) and Juana Martinez-Neal (Illustrator)

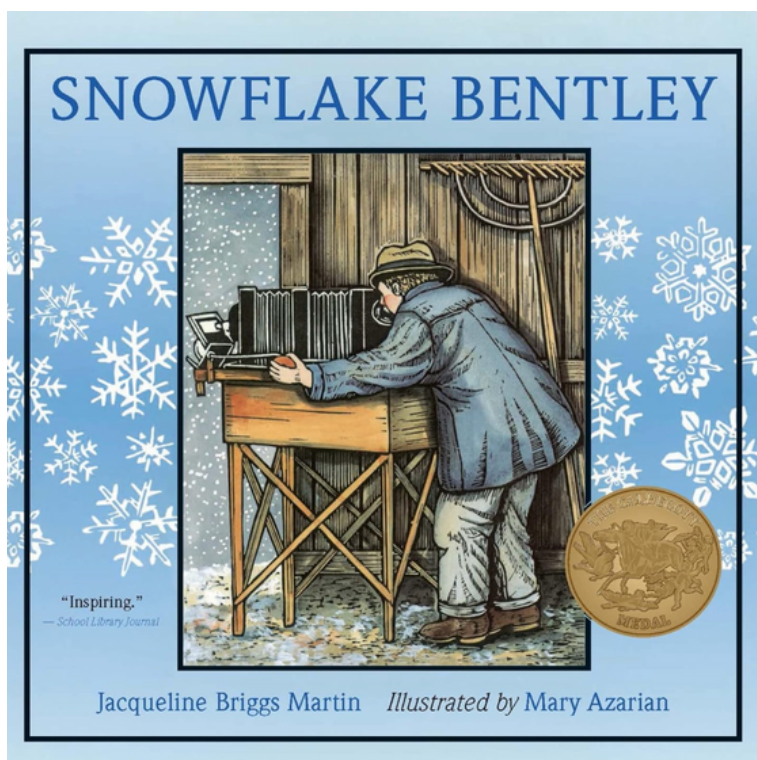
When We Were Alone by David A. Robertson (Author) and Julie Flett (Illustrator)

THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY

WAY COOL SUNDAY SCHOOL, CONTINUED



A young girl discovers that her impoverished family is rich in things that matter in life, especially being outdoors and experiencing nature. Mountain Girl knows her family doesn't have enough money. But as the family sits around their scratched-up kitchen table and discusses the subject, her parents say they're rich. Don't her parents see her worn-out shoes or the patches on her little brother's pants? They begin to count up the value of the things they have. How much is it worth to be able to see the sky all day and feel the wind and smell the coming rain? Or to watch a cactus bloom or to sleep outside under the stars? After a while, Mountain Girl begins to realize money may not be as important as she thought. Could her family really be rich after all?



Wilson Bentley was always fascinated by snow. In childhood and adulthood, he saw each tiny crystal of a snowflake as a little miracle and wanted to understand them. His parents supported his curiosity and saved until they could give him his own camera and microscope. At the time, his enthusiasm was misunderstood. But with patience and determination, Wilson catalogued hundreds of snowflake photographs, gave slideshows of his findings and, when he was 66, published a book of his photos. His work became the basis for all we know about beautiful, unique snowflakes today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thrift Shop, Pamela Sherman

- Women's Sweaters, 50% off
- Thrift Shop coupons now available! Visit us during regular hours to get \$5 off a purchase of \$25
- Men's suits, blazers, dress pants, \$1 each
- All Halloween is 50% off



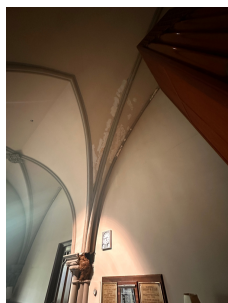
We Need Your Help!

Our Flentrop organ, the musical centerpiece of our Sunday service, is facing an urgent need for plaster repairs directly above it. The cracks and damages, if left unattended, pose a serious threat to the performance of this beautiful instrument.

We are reaching out to you, our generous community, seeking support for these essential repairs. The organ holds not just musical notes but also a history of shared moments and connection. Without prompt attention, the damage could escalate, potentially causing permanent harm to the organ we hold so dear.

Your donation, no matter the size, will contribute to the restoration of this vital piece of our Sunday services. Let's ensure that the organ continues to resonate with joyous sounds for generations to come!

Donate by check or online: <https://givebutter.com/plaster>. If donating by check, please include "plaster" in the memo line. Thank you for your continued generosity!



Our donation platform, GiveButter, accepts all major credit cards, PayPal, and Venmo. It's the easiest and fastest way to give.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

Holiday Market

The vendors have been confirmed for the Holiday Market taking place on December 2, from 11 am - 4 pm. Please tell your family and friends to shop local this holiday season!

The list of vendors are:

Jackie's Knits & Knots - knitted and crocheted items

WeHa Co. - handmade, crocheted stuffed animals, hats, bags, and up cycled sweaters

Sharon Russo - tote bags, wallets, quilts,

Sandhill Farm - honey and beeswax

Finneran Carpentry - rocking chairs

New Bedford Department of Children & Families

Stone That Flows - kiln-formed glass jewelry

Caribe Creations - Caribbean inspired designs

Jack & Stones - handmade sterling silver jewelry




The Thrift Shop will be open from 10 - 1.

More vendors may be added when payment for space has been received.

We will also be having a plant sale in honor of Jean Kellaway. If you have rooted plant clippings or small pots to donate, they can be dropped off during office hours or at Sunday service. All funds raised will benefit the plaster repair above the organ. If you don't have plants or pots to donate and still want to help with the fundraiser, you can donate here: www.givebutter.com/plaster. Every little bit helps no matter the amount.

BLUE: Sanctuary
 GREEN: Tryworks
 PINK: Maja Capek Room

The Thrift Shop is open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10 AM - 1 PM.

NOVEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1 Social Justice Zoom 6:30	2 SouthCoast Lessons	3	4 
5 Sunday Service 11 AM Daylight Savings Ends	6	7  GNBCS	8 Social Justice Zoom 6:30	9 SouthCoast Lessons	10	11 
12 Sunday Service 11 AM Drum Circle	13	14 Board of Trustees Meeting 6 PM  GNBCS	15 Social Justice Zoom 6:30	16 SouthCoast Lessons	17	18 
19 Sunday Service 11 AM - Potluck	20	21  GNBCS	22 Social Justice Zoom 6:30	23 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed SouthCoast Lessons	24 Office Closed	25 
26 Sunday Service 11 AM	27	28  GNBCS	29 Social Justice Zoom 6:30	30 SouthCoast Lessons		

November is:

- Indigenous Peoples' Heritage Month
- Alzheimer's Awareness Month
- National Adoption Month

Unitarian Universalist:

- James Luther Adams birthday - Nov. 12 (1901)
- Francis David died in prison on Nov. 15 (1579)

Check out the calendar on our website to see real-time updates by visiting:
www.uunewbedford.org/calendar



MINDFULNESS COLORING