



The Parishioner

News of the First Parish in Bedford
Unitarian Universalist
On the Common, Bedford, Massachusetts

*"Forge connections within and across generations
and share our work to change ourselves and the world."*

Volume 45, Issue 2

October 5, 2011

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Upcoming Services

Sunday, October 9 ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 AM

"Blessing of the Animals"

Ministry Team & Lay-led

Please join us for our first ever Blessing of the Animals service! In honor of our Seventh Principle, the Interconnected Web of Life, you are invited to bring your pet to this Inter-generational service. Please note: Animals must be non-stressed and remain under your control. Some seats near the front of the church are reserved for people only, and the balcony will be pet free. At the conclusion of the service, pets and their owners will parade out onto the Common, and we will have coffee hour set up out there (as well as in the Common Room, which will remain for people only.) Please send Lisa Rubin a photo of you and your pet if you'd like it included in our slide show.

Sunday, October 16 at 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

"Why I Wear My Shirt Untucked" - Reflections on the importance of peers

Rev. John Gibbons preaching

Sunday, October 23 at 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

"Amazing Jane: A Story of Addiction and Wholeness"

Rev. Megan Lynes preaching

Temptation affects almost all of us in one way or another. Addiction controls many of us, and tears some of us apart. How do we face ourselves, one another and the challenges of truly hard times? How can truth, forgiveness and love set us free? This service will include dancers from our congregation.

Sunday, October 30 at 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

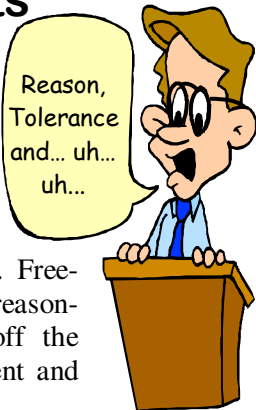
"Balance"

Rev. John Gibbons preaching

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Common Thoughts

There is a Unitarian Universalist trinity: Freedom, Reason and Tolerance. These were articulated by our historian Earl Morse Wilbur: UU's affirm *freedom* of belief, the use of *reason* in religion, and a *tolerance* of diversity. Freedom-reason-tolerance, freedom-reason-tolerance... these trip quickly off the tongue of every theological student and minister.



Welcoming many newcomers in church last Sunday and speaking extemporaneously, I attempted to reiterate this trinity. Somehow, however, I went totally blank. I started with *Reason* (out of the usual order), then remembered *Tolerance* and then, a deer in the headlights, I hadn't the slightest idea of our third (or was it the first?) affirmation. I mumbled something about democracy (a noble sentiment but off point), then plaintively I appealed to the congregation for help. *Reason, Tolerance, and Whaaat?* I pleaded. You who have heard my eloquent articulations of Unitarian Universalism for decades responded with utterly blank stares. Noticing recently-retired minister Gary Smith in the congregation, I asked Gary for help. He shouted, "*Love of money!*" oh so helpfully. At this point I literally put my head down on the pulpit in abject humiliation. I had failed to recite the simplest formula of Unitarian Universalism.

Well, that's the way it goes. And much as I wish that I could have chirped "freedom, reason and tolerance," the truth is that Unitarian Universalism is resistant to sound bytes. We yearn for "elevator speeches" yet our version of religion eludes every routine summation. I do not excuse mumbling or inarticulation, yet every creed falls short, every rote summary is inadequate. The glib chatter called *patter* derives from the Pater Noster, the sound of a congregation mouthing the Lord's Prayer in Latin, quickly and mechanically without meaning or sincerity. Patter is not our practice.

Ours is a religious practice that affirms life as it is experienced and not as it is recited. Repeating no lifeless creed or dogma, we say instead, Aha!

I commend to you Freedom, Reason and Tolerance but the greatest of these is Aha!

John Gibbons

(who also believes that the best defense against senior moments is an ardent offense)

The Bedford Lyceum

A Forum on the Arts, Spirituality, Science, and Justice

Sunday mornings from 10:00 – 10:50
in Room 202 at First Parish (*unless otherwise noted*)
coordinated by Meredith McCulloch, Doris Smith, Dave Packer,
Ginni Spencer & Dorothy Africa

October 9: *The Scoop on Magazines.* Come share your favorite magazines, tell why they are special, and where you are reading them – online or in print. Bring copies of those you subscribe to and maybe share a few issues. Once considered a fading, if not dying prose form, magazines may be making a comeback as they show up on computers, tablets, smart phones and even coffee tables.

October 16: *Return of the Double Bass,* Sanctuary 10-11. No Lyceum scheduled today. Instead you are invited to the Sanctuary in between the services to hear the special musical interlude welcoming the double bass home. Guest musician Joseph Holt will play the bass along with Steve Sussman on piano and a small chorus from the adult choir.

October 23: *Immigration Update,* coordinated by Lois and Brown Pulliam. Ms. Laura Rotolo, staff attorney at the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, will talk about the immigration situation in Massachusetts and how it compares with the rest of the country. In 2010 the UU General Assembly adopted the following resolutions: "that immigration is a moral issue, that this should be a 4-year congregational study issue till 2014, and that the assembly approve an Action of Immediate Witness denouncing Arizona S.B. 1070 and similar legislation in other states."

October 30: First Parishioner Merlin Swartz on *Islam and the West.* Merlin is Professor Emeritus of Religion (Islamic Studies) at Boston University. He received a PhD at Harvard University. He taught previously at the American University (Beirut) and Harvard (Center for Middle Eastern Studies). He lived in the Middle East for several years for research and teaching. Merlin received a Fulbright Senior Fellowship for research in Syria, Egypt, and Turkey (1989-1990).

November 6: First Parishioner Kathryn McCafferty, *Canoeing in the Sub-Artic.* Kath canoed more than 600 miles last summer in the Canadian sub-arctic. The group of women she joined flew in by floatplane, dealt with portages and hordes of insects and came wonderfully close to the wildlife. Come hear her story and see pictures.

November 13: *What the Duck?* A reading of a comic one-act play by Paul Turner about unemployment and the ups and downs of the job search. Featuring Dot Ellis, Holly Hosmer, David Lance, D.J. Prowell, Sandra Seitz and Art Smith.

Megan's Corner



Every year at Ingathering our tradition is to create a water communion together. The water symbolizes the separate streams we've each traveled while we were apart. We merge our water to symbolize our ocean of beloved community renewing once again.

This year, our water came from: the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, ponds, lakes, chlorinated pools, a fish pond, a well, a wet backyard after Hurricane Irene, and from a bathtub in Bath, Avon, UK.

From far away – a beach in Hawaii where a son was married, Elk and Thelon rivers of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut Provinces in Sub-arctic Canada, from Hveragerði, Iceland, from Kouka Lake, Swarthcona, British Columbia, from Ouje Bougamousse and Lac St. Maire in Quebec, Canada, and the Tiber River in Rome.

Many people went to Maine this year, including Acadia, Boothbay Harbor, Ferry Beach, Georgetown, Moosehead Lake, Rangeley Lake, Scraggly Lake, and from a first week-long vacation without kids in 17 years in Bar Harbor. Water from New York came from Adirondack Park, Indian Lake, Chautauqua Lake, and the Finger Lakes.

Water was also gathered while playing with grandchildren on Mt. Desert Island, visiting a very ill uncle in Los Angeles, from the Smokey Mountains, from Sprague Lake in Rocky Mountain National Park, Sandbridge Beach in VA, also PA, VT, SC, CO, MI, and from the very wet mountains of NC.

Locally, our water came from the Concord and Assaged rivers, Plum Island, a staycation in Lowell, Springs Brook Park, and very often from our kitchen sink. Home Sweet Home.

May our gathering of waters remind us of the blessed ties that bind each to all.



Celebrate Peg! Sunday October 23rd, 2PM

Whether you knew Peg Schwerin or not, this remarkable long-time member of First Parish who died this past spring was a true "pillar of the church" – well worth total strangers hearing about. Wife of Charlie Schwerin (who died in 2007) and mother of six, Peg served as choir director, organist, small group leader, town community chorus director, piano teacher and in countless other ways in Bedford.

Come hear more about her as First Parish celebrates Peg, her favorite music (mostly Bach!) and her lasting contribution as the origin of the "Creative Worship Service" which incorporated music, art, and drama. There will be choral and instrumental music, some snippets of drama, and lots of memories to share. A reception will follow.

We have decided to plant a tree – a Princeton Elm – on the Town Common in Peg's memory and honor. We are asking for donations to help pay for the tree and the celebration. If you would like to contribute, please make checks payable to First Parish and put Schwerin Celebration on the memo line.



Fall Parish Council Meeting

The first of this year's three Parish Council meetings will be held on **Sunday, October 30 from 1-3PM** in Room 202. Committee chairs and fundraiser chairs (or designee) should plan to attend

to represent their respective committee. The Parish Board president will share highlights from the board retreat. Committees are encouraged to review their charters and goals for the year, and to review the Strategic Planning Frameworks with a view to coming up with initiatives in the context of the framework. If you will need childcare during the meeting, please notify me by October 23.

To facilitate communications, I also ask each committee to provide me with an updated list of members and contact information for the current chairs.

Mike Boczenowski, Parish Council Chair
boczenowski@comcast.net

Calling All Artists!

Are you an artist? (However you define that is fine!)

There is movement afoot to gather as many of us as possible for a potluck dinner and discuss what type of creativity we'd like to bring to FPB. For instance, our focal point need not always be flowers, it can just as well be something artistic and relevant. Or would we like an evening art workshop, or an outing together to a local art museum? Can we have a one-day art show in our Common Room, or go on a painting expedition? What ideas do you have? Send an email to Megan if you would like to join our artist email list, and we'll go from there.





BOARD MATTERS

The First Parish is governed by its membership at meetings during the program year. Our by-laws require two meetings, one in

November and the second in June. The by-laws also provide the option for the calling of special meetings either by the Parish Board or by a petition of seven members.

During the coming year, we will hold three parish meetings. The Semi-Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for November 13 (see Warrant on page 9). At this meeting we will hear a number of reports, some which are standard at every meeting but others that are in response to questions that have been raised by parishioners.

- ◆ Is our staff compensation in compliance with our obligations as a Fair Compensation Congregation?
- ◆ To what extent are we under-funding the maintenance and capital needs of our church building and parsonage?

There will also be information on the development of a Safe Congregations Policy.

The Board will be calling a special meeting for January 29 for the primary purpose of determining whether or not to continue the practice of two-service Sundays. Also, we anticipate that there will be some additional reporting and potential decisions to be made based on the work of the Personnel and Physical Plant Committees. We will close the year with our Annual Meeting on June 10. All meetings are planned to follow the second or sole service of the day. Childcare will be provided.

The Board also plans to offer multiple opportunities for informal discussion of the issues under consideration. These forums are organized so that all of us have the opportunity to ask questions, to state opinions and to work together to develop plans that will support our First Parish community. All members are invited and urged to be part of the decision-making process. The Board considers participation part of the responsibility of being a member.

Joan Bowen, Parish Board President
Members: *Mike Boczenowski, Sandy Ferreira,*
Margaret Jackson, Bob Johnson,
Diane Martin and Dave Packer

Interested in Joining a Small Group? New Groups are Forming!

We have groups of 6-10 people who meet for companionship, meaningful discussions, and inspiration on weekdays, weeknights, and weekends. Some of our groups meet by affinity. Laurie Groves facilitates a Caregivers group for people who take care of an aging parent. "The group is very supportive and feels like respite and kindness." We also have a group for parents of college bound teens. "It's good to get practical help as well as share the journey."

Two more groups are in the works. Are you interested in a *women in mid-life* small group led by Terri SooHoo? Or are you *someone in your 20's or 30's*? Megan Lynes is gathering this group. Speak to Megan for more info on any of these groups, or if you have an idea of an affinity group to start!



Meet Middlesex County Sheriff Peter Koutoujian

Peter Koutoujian will speak in our First Parish sanctuary on October 16 from 3-5PM. The public is invited to hear our new Sheriff talk about his background, the work of the Sheriff's office, as well as what

is happening at the Billerica House of Correction and the Cambridge Jail. There will be a question and answer period, followed by light refreshments and conversation in the Common Room.

This event is sponsored by First Parish Bedford, Middlesex County Prison Coordinating Committee (MCPCC), First Church of Christ Congregational Bedford, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Central Middlesex (NAMI).

Please come and invite other interested people. Thank you for your interest and support.

Joanne Glover

Join the Short Stories Group This Season!

The First Parish Short Stories Group will begin a new season on October 20. We meet most Thursday mornings in the Common Room from 9:30 to 11. The new book is the *Best American Short Stories*, edited by John Updike. The book is available on amazon.com. Use the church website (uubedford.org.) Click on "Shop to Support First Parish." We will start with "Zelig" by Benjamin Rosenlatt. The discussions are lively and mostly relevant and we welcome all who care to join us!

Emily King

Music Notes



*"Words make you think a thought.
Music makes you feel a feeling.
A song makes you feel a thought."*

– E.Y. ("Yip") Harburg, lyricist
most famous for songs from "The Wizard of Oz"
including "Over the Rainbow"

Here is the music coming up for the Sundays in October:

October 9: The adult choir will join in the Blessing of the Animals by singing two anthems: "I Bought Me a Cat" (with Joe Cleveland on banjo) and J. S. Bach's "Sheep May Safely Graze" (accompanied by flutists Carol Epple and Pamela Nichols as well as cellist Robert Bethel). Since it is a service about animals, Carol Epple will be playing a transcription of Camille Saint-Saëns *über* famous "The Swan" from Saint-Saëns's work "The Carnival of the Animals" and Robert Bethel will be playing a transcription of Claude Debussy's "Jimbo's Lullaby" (about an elephant) from Debussy's ever popular "Children's Corner Suite".

On the afternoon of October 9, the Music Committee is sponsoring an organ concert with a phenomenal organist. (See article on this page.)

October 16: Have you wondered why the Prescott double bass has been missing lately? Not only is it being fully restored (step 2 of a long process), but it's also being converted from 3 to 4 strings in order to make it more playable. To celebrate its return Joseph Holt, one of the best double bass players in Boston, will be playing the instrument at both services. Joseph is on the faculty of the New England Conservatory, the Principal Bass of Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra, and a frequent sub for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. (In fact, it's rumored that he may actually do a test of the bass in Symphony Hall before playing it at First Parish!) Also he will be playing a short program in between the services along with Steve Sussman and a small semi-chorus from the adult choir.

October 23: Carol Hamilton will be playing for both services. At the 11, the adult choir will be singing an arrangement of Aaron Copland's setting of the Shaker tune, "Simple Gifts." The choir will be joined by resident flutist Carol Epple, and resident clarinetist Liz Connors. Cynthia Mork, soprano, will be joined by Carol and Liz in a performance of a true Copland rarity, "As It Fell Upon a Day." And if that's not enough, Carol and Liz will be playing a ragtime bagatelle by British composer John Rutter. "As It Fell" and the Rutter will be presented at both the 9 & 11 services.

Also on Oct. 23 there will be a service celebrating First Parish musician extraordinaire, Peg Schwerin. Peg admired Bach, so the choir will be singing three pieces by J.S. Bach: "Sheep May Safely Graze" accompanied by flutes, cello and organ, "Air on the G String" accompanied by cello, and a Bach chorus with new text by First Parish's own wordsmith, Lois Pulliam.

October 30: Janet Welby and the youth choirs will be making their debut for this church year at the 11AM service. Carol Hamilton will be playing at both services.

Have you thought about joining the choir? Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7:30-9PM and we sing a couple of times a month. We've got some terrific plans for this coming year including an "Italian" Christmas Eve service and a Music Sunday that will be a salute to music of the Beatles.

Brad Conner, Music Director



Pull Out the Stops!

This Sunday, Oct. 9 at 3pm is the first in a 2-concert celebration of our own Hook and Hastings pipe organ! Organist William Haller will perform works of Bruhns, Mendelssohn, Hebble, Schmidt and others. Hailing from West Virginia, Haller recently reconnected with long-time friend Eleanor Merz, who writes:

"It is over 50 years ago that Spence and I came to know Bill Haller. At the time, he was a student at the Eastman School of Music. We became close friends. Recently, I heard from him because he was interested in Unitarianism. There followed many emails, which eventually resulted in our inviting him to visit and give a recital. We were delighted that he was eager to do this, and began to plan. I mentioned it to Brad Conner, who said "Bill Haller! I know him." Brad was a student at West Virginia University and had nothing but high praise for Bill. I hope you will be able to come and hear our friend play."

Visit the church website music page to learn more about Bill, and watch for details about our second organ concert coming up on Dec. 11 at 4pm, a holiday-themed program featuring Terry Halco.

Suggested donations for each concert: Adults \$10, Seniors/Students \$5, Age 12 and under free. Proceeds to benefit First Parish.

Note: A special collection will be taken at the Haller concert to benefit Habitat for Humanity.

*Cynthia Mork and Donna Cole
Co-chairs, Music Committee*



Order your "Best Of First Parish Choir" CD's!

Our intrepid Music Director Brad Conner and a crack committee have sifted through five years of recordings from special services and events (from 2006-2010) and selected the finest offerings of the Adult Choir for you to enjoy at home! Included are highlights from Mozart's Mass in c minor, Haydn's "Creation," and Handel's "Messiah," as well as Spirituals, Shakespeare and Roma-inspired music, and more! All selections were professionally recorded and engineered, resulting in a high quality CD suitable for gift giving for the upcoming holidays! Share a little of the musical magic that is such a special part of First Parish! CD's are \$17 each, with proceeds to benefit First Parish.



Place your order at the MuComm table during coffee hour (10-10:45AM) on Oct. 9 & 23 and Nov. 6 & 20 OR contact the Church office with your name, email/phone and # of CD's you want.

Cynthia Mork and Donna Cole
(Co-chairs, Music Committee)

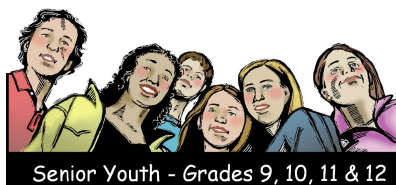
Peace & Justice Group Meets October 12

The Peace & Justice meeting is on October 12th at 7PM at First Parish. It will include follow-up on the Concord Prison Outreach discussion at the Bedford Lyceum last Sunday. Persons not able to attend the meeting, and who are interested in getting further information regarding Prison Outreach programming and volunteer opportunities, should feel free to contact Joe Pompei at 978-667-4543 or by email at joepompei@comcast.net.

Joe Pompei

Save the Date – November 5th Dinner at First Parish

The Senior Youth Group is excited that Mark Bailey, the newest member of our Youth Group Advisors Team, is also an amazing chef! After having delighted pallets at this summer's cookouts, Mark has agreed to teach us how to prepare a gourmet meal for folks at First Parish. Please watch for more details about this fundraising dinner that will be held on Saturday night, November 5th. You won't want to miss it!



Senior Youth - Grades 9, 10, 11 & 12

The Senior Youth



October 18 - 6:00PM

Third Tuesday Dinner is a catered meal held each month. It is a time to forge connections within and across generations. The meal is vegetarian and the cost is \$9 for adults/\$5 for kids under 14. Please sign up on the

orange sheets at church on Sunday, Oct. 16 or RSVP to Joan in the office (office@uubedford.org) by 9AM on Monday, October 17 and let her know the number attending and whether the adult members of your party will be on set-up or clean-up crew. (We are always short of clean-up crew – please pick that one!)

If you don't like being surprised by the catered meal and/or have food allergies, please feel free to bring your own meal (including dessert, if you wish), but still contact Joan to make sure our headcount is accurate for chairs.

Christine Jesensky Bennett

A Note about Joys and Concerns



Time is set aside each Sunday for parishioners to share our joys and sorrows. This tradition is an integral part of many Unitarian Universalist worship services. It is a time for members and friends of our congregation to share the significant milestones of their lives – births and deaths, reunions and farewells, love and grief, fear and delight, the personal and the universal. Candles can also be lit after the service, and members of our Lay Pastoral Care Team will be present should you wish to talk more. Please remember that in sharing aloud your joys and sorrows with the congregation, you are doing more than making an announcement, you are asking each person here for their spiritual and emotional support. Heartfelt social concerns can be appropriate, but our candlestand is not a soapbox. Routine announcements of any sort should be printed not spoken. Speak to the worship leader if you're uncertain. Please be mindful of this sacred time.

Megan

Karlisle – Our Friend in the Philippines

With your help, the UU Kids at First Parish are sponsoring Karlisle Piera to attend school. Karlisle lives in Dumaguete City and attends the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Philippines. Through her minister, Rev. Nihal Attanayake, we send and receive letters and photos with Karlisle. We invite you to visit the bulletin board on the second floor to see some of the photos and letters, which we have recently received from Karlisle. We have also posted her school report card, which she was very proud to share with us.

Lisa Rubin

Sunday Morning Tasks

Below are the assignments for the next four weeks. Tasks through January 22, 2012 are now posted on the rolling bulletin board. Please note below that subs should step in on October 16 and October 23. Sharing in the tasks of ushering and/or providing coffee and tea is very much appreciated; thank-you! Please notify the church office (office@uubedford.org) if someone is stepping in to take your place.

Date	Ushers	Coffee	Subs for Either Service
Oct. 9 one service only at 10:00AM	Peter Cho Stephanie Owen Maureen Oates Chris Tohline	Sandy Ferreira David Lance Gina Cook Emma Valentine Bailey D.	Abbie Seibert Mike Seibert
Oct. 16 9:00 AM	Mary Flatley Charlie Freat Karen Frederick Renu Bostwick	Bea Brunkhorst Kath McCafferty Norm Heckman	Ron Green Sam Gravina Andrea Cleghorn Bruce Kemperman
Oct. 16 11:00 AM	Ginny Packer Diana Archibald Gaye Carpenter Dan Smythe	Dane Netherton 2 OPEN Slots	
Oct. 23 9:00 AM	Ann Williams Alan Bragg Colin Valentine OPEN	Connie Woskov Paul Woskov Luana Read	Sarah Lance Brown Pulliam Chris Cook Diane Brown King
Oct. 23 11:00 AM	Ilona Johnson Bob Johnson Jean Balfour OPEN	Kevin Baer Terri SooHoo Julie Turner	
Oct. 30 9:00 AM	Diana Finer Judi Curcio Zach Zacharakis Michael Nosal	Diane Martin Amy Signorello Amy Lloyd D.J. Prowell	Judith Lustig Chris Rabinowitz Sue McCombs Martin Klein
Oct. 30 11:00 AM	Véronique Meyer Rich Rosenberry Joan Levinsohn OPEN	Kati Oates Margaret Jackson Betty Hefner	

BEDFORD TV
Bedford Community Access Television

Our Sunday Service is broadcast each week on Bedford Cable TV:
Comcast Channel 10
Verizon Channel 40
On Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
and on Sundays at 12:00 pm

Finding Yourself at First Parish

If you're new or wondering what Unitarian Universalism or First Parish is all about, come to an orientation on Wednesday, October 26 at 7:30PM and/or another session on November 1, also at 7:30. We'll consider history, theology and questions sublime and mundane. Our ministers will be present to hear your religious story and to talk about UUism and First Parish.



The opportunity to attend the Kitchen Shower continues...

Some of you were unable to attend the eventless Kitchen Shower September 8-30 so we are extending the date to October 9. No choices to make, no wrapping to do, no foods to prepare. Simply send a donation of up to \$25 to help us purchase the items on our "Wish List" for the new kitchenette – cups, plates, etc.– along with needed items for our Common Room kitchen. The Hospitality Committee will purchase what is needed. (We are asking for monetary donations only to purchase new equipment. Please do not drop off any types of kitchen ware.)

We hope you can "make it" either by mailing your "gift" to the church or dropping it in next Sunday's offering. Please indicate on the check that the funds are designated as a gift for the Kitchen Shower.

WISH LIST

The Hospitality Committee thanks you!

The Qur'an Study Group Begins!

Bring your copy of Muhammad Asad's The Message of the Qur'an to class. Also, Google and print a copy of the "chronological order of the surahs." The first meeting is Sunday Oct. 9 from 7 - 9 p.m. in Room 204 at First Parish. All other October classes meet on Fridays from 7-9. A native Arabic speaker will join us Oct. 14 and Oct. 28, so be sure to bring your bookmark with the Arabic alphabet.

On Nov. 4 we will meet from 5-7 p.m. BEFORE the Pot Luck supper. On Nov. 11 & 18 (our last meeting) we will go back to meeting from 7-9. A special guest will speak about Women and Islam in November and we will plan a trip to a mosque after the holidays.

Holly Hosmer

Life Wheel of

Our thoughts are with Jon Land and his family following the death of his father, Harvey Land. John Gibbons officiated at a memorial service.

Also in our hearts are Bob Parkhurst and his family, following the death of Bob's mother Barbara Parkhurst. Barbara was a regular participant in our UU discussion group at Carleton-Willard Village. Her memorial service was held at her home church, the First Parish in Chelmsford.

Likewise, we think of Eric Hon-Anderson and his family after the death on Sep. 10 of Eric's mother, Eleanor Anderson. And also with Sandy Ferreira, whose mother, Maria Ferreira, died on Sep. 11 at the age of 95.

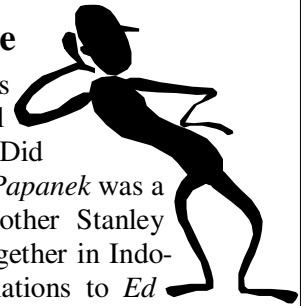
Becky Bedwell and Deniz Ferendeci were married by Megan Lynes in the Goddard Chapel at Tufts University on Sep. 10. Their reception was held at Fenway Park!

Congratulations to Deborah Holmes and Neil McKenna who were married on October 1 with Joe Cleveland officiating.

There was a huge cheerleading section when Michael Charles Souza, son of Michael and Cheryl, was recently welcomed to the world in a ceremony of child dedication last Sunday. On our Ingathering Sunday, Olivia Lee Daugherty was likewise welcomed. Congratulations!

News from the Parish Nose

John Huenefeld continues his rehabilitation following small strokes at Concord Health Care....Did you know that parishioner *Hanna Papanek* was a colleague of Barack Obama's mother Stanley Ann Dunham Soetoro, working together in Indonesia in the 1980's?... Congratulations to *Ed and Judith Gray* whose son *Nathan* was married over Labor Day weekend at Saratoga Springs, NY....Scout leader *Allan Tate*, with Coming of Age leader *Sarah Dorer* and our ministers, are ready to work with Scouts pursuing the Religion in Life Award.... *Ron Cordes'* latest film *Long Strange Trip: 2000 Years of UU History* was shown at Harvard Divinity School to an enthusiastic audience, in honor of Servetus' 500th birthday on Sept 27th... *Deb Bodeau* received a good report back from her three month ultrasound following surgery which removed half her liver and gall bladder in June... *Diane Martin and Ron Moulton's* foster son, *William Aleer Mabil*, underwent emergency abdominal surgery recently and we send him healing wishes... *Jack Regan* is now at Parementer Hospice care in Wayland... *Eleanor Merz* continues chemo treatments but is happy to be back in her own home again... *Sally Wishovich* and her grandson *Ash* have moved to Florida, are working hard to adjust to their new location, and send their greetings. —tpn



SMART Recovery

A SMART Recovery meeting is available at First Parish every Monday evening from 7 to 8:30. No RSVP necessary – new people show up on a regular basis. Self Management and Recovery Training (SMART) is a weekly, mutual self-help group meeting offering cognitive-behavioral tools to assist individuals in gaining independence from self defeating behaviors. SMART defines self defeating behaviors as repeated problems with substances (alcohol, drugs, food, cigarettes, etc.) and/or activities (gambling and other obsessive behaviors). SMART Recovery is NOT psychotherapy, however many members of the group believe the group supports and supplements their individual counseling.

The members of the SMART Recovery group seek to support each other's self-help goals with a 4-point program:

- 1-Strengthen motivation to change
- 2-Cope with urges
- 3-Manage thoughts, feelings and behaviors
- 4-Develop a balanced lifestyle

SMART Recovery meetings are free and open to the public. Online meetings and Internet resource information are available to supplement the weekly self-help group discussions. Go to www.smartrecovery.org for more information. For further information about the Bedford SMART Recovery meeting contact Tom Larkin at 781-275-8175 (tomlarkin75@gmail.com)

UUUM's Renewal House to Host Innovative Performance Event



October 29th, 7-9PM
at The First Church in Boston
66 Marlborough St, Roxbury
 Tickets are \$30 for 1; \$100 for 4

For over 30 years, Renewal House has helped people fleeing domestic violence find shelter, support, and the courage to continue a life path free from violence. Now they invite you to an original performance piece with music, dance and drama highlighting the reality of intimate partner abuse in all its complexities.

For more information about "Spark: The Fire Within" and to order tickets, please contact Ruth Crocker at rcrocker@uum.org or call 617-318-6010, ext. 204.

THE WARRANT

THE FIRST PARISH IN BEDFORD, UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
BEDFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MIDDLESEX SS:

To the Clerk, First Parish in Bedford

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby authorized and instructed to notify the legal voters of said First Parish in Bedford in the County of Middlesex to meet at the Meeting House of said Parish on Sunday, the thirteenth day of November, 2011, at twelve-forty-five o'clock in the afternoon and then and there to act on the following articles, viz:

- I. To appoint a Minutes Committee. This group of three people will be responsible for reviewing the Clerk's minutes of the meeting in a timely manner, prior to being presented for a vote by the parish.
- II. To hear and act upon the minutes of the Parish Meeting held on June 12, 2011.
- III. To hear the reports of the Ministers, Parish Board President, Treasurer, and the Director of Religious Education.
- IV. To hear a report from the Endowment Committee.
- V. To hear a report from the Personnel Committee.
- VI. To hear a report from the Physical Plant Committee.
- VII. To decide whether First Parish will be a teaching church, hosting a ministerial intern, in the 2012-2013 church year.
- VIII. To hear a report on the Safe Congregation Policy.
- IX. To act upon such other matters as shall be deemed appropriate by the Moderator under the provisions of the by-laws.

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting an attested copy thereof at the Meeting House eight days, including two Sundays, before the thirteenth day of November, 2011 and to return this warrant with your doings thereon at said meeting.

Witness our hands this 13th day of September in the year 2011.

The Parish Board:

Joan Bowen, President
Mike Boczenowski, Bob Johnson, Sandra Ferriera
Diane Martin, Margaret Jackson, Dave Packer