

the chalice

July 2010

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From the Interim Minister

I love my new stole! And it means so much to me that you all wove and inscribed it. I still don't know how you managed to do that under my very nose! It truly is a beautiful piece of artisan work that I will treasure always and wear with pride. I won't need it to remind me of you- there are memories aplenty for that- but it is a visual representation of your generosity, creativity and cooperative spirit.

Thanks too for the delicious goodbye cake that we all enjoyed at the final Sunday annual Father Day potluck picnic. Big beautiful and chocolate- it doesn't get much better than that!

A number of you asked at the picnic where I was heading so I realized that I hadn't done as good a job as I thought letting you know of my future plans. I start August 15, 2010 as the Interim Minister at the Westminster Unitarian Church in East Greenwich, R.I. This is Youth

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Rev. Tricia Brennan wearing the stole made and given to her by the congregation, under the leadership of Susan Edinger and Kate Parker-O'Toole

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Association

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NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE

FRIDAY

JULY 23RD

5PM

Submit EMail to
newsletter@uusharon.org

Pastoral Coverage in July

While Rev. Brennan in on vacation, these are the local ministers who will provide emergency pastoral care coverage:

July 1-7 Rev. Rali Weaver, minister of the First Parish in Dedham. Her cell phone number is 617-459-5979 and her email is raliweaver@yahoo.com.

July 18-27th Rev. Art Lavoie, minister of the First Parish in Dorchester. Art's cell number is 617-413-8791 and his email is fathaatha@verizon.net

Office Summer Schedule

The Administrative Assistant, Janet Mayo, will be working limited summer hours. She will be in the office once a week. Please leave her messages either by email at admin@uusharon.org or by phone at 781-784-3652 and she will respond to you as soon as she is able. Thank you.

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee of the Unitarian Church of Sharon, working closely with the minister, exists to provide thoughtful attention and assistance to our members and friends with the understanding that we all need support at some time in our lives. If you or a friend is in need of caring support, please contact the interim minister, Rev. Tricia Brennan (revbrennan@uusharon.org or by phone 617-645-9681) or a member of the Caring Committee; Louise Chereski, Pat McDougal, Melissa Mills, Joyce Bramhall or Mary Nelson. Our email is caring@uusharon.org. or 781-784-1032.

Confidentiality will always be respected and will not be shared with our committee unless requested.

Caregiver Support Group

The Caring Committee recognized that there are a number of us in the congregation who are heading down that difficult road of caring for parents in declining health. Because it can help to share and support each other in this journey, the Caring Committee started a caregiver support group. This is an open group led by Susan Edinger who is a licensed geriatric social worker.

Our next meeting is scheduled for July 12 at 7:30 in the Vestry. For more information please contact Pat McDougal at 781-784-1032 or Susan Edinger.

Gardening for the Soul; Watering for the Plants

Landscaping is an investment: Stone pines, Ginkos, River Birch, Hollies, Witchhazel, Blueberries, Western Red Cedar, Maple, even the grasses all must get watered all summer to become established. The bigger the watering team, the less Jack has to do (just kidding, Jack!). We need to water weekly or more in several areas: new lawns and even the old since much of this is new seed; the rain garden; the corner roses, the Meetinghouse Memorial garden, all the new trees /shrubs at the back of the property; the planters at the courtyard entrance.

There is much to keep us busy, much to feed our souls. Take a close look. Each plant is different in so many ways. Many are natives and provide habitat, nectar, berries, homes for insects which bring in birds to our delight. We built a beautiful building and our gardens decorate our success.

Sign up for watering/weeding/mowing/deadheading. Become a garden watcher, looking for changes in the diversity of greenness. It's good for you!

See Ellen Schoenfeld-Beeks or Jim Mullin.

The Wildflower Circle is History

Some liked it. Some didn't. But, it served its purpose as a parking lot for two-ton trucks during construction. So now what? Are you interested in designing? Come join us this summer as we stir around ideas.

It's time for a master plan for our most public face. This includes: the circle, the fence areas along Main St. and the corner; and the lawns. Signs need moving/reconstructing. Trees need trimming up. We need to decide how we want to use our most public spaces and what they should look like. We have lost at least half of our Green. Do we need to be able to use the circle for gathering for any number of things? Bake sales? Street theatre? Gigantic yard sales? How do you see us using the circle? Do we want grass under the fence? How much area do we want to mow? Do we want a wildflower meadow somewhere else? Do we want spring and summer color? Perennials? Annuals? Do we want to line trim around the granite posts for neatness? Do we want a labyrinth somewhere? Is the circle a meditative spot or is it too noisy and public; is it large enough? How do you see our front? Peaceful and serene? Dynamic and colorful? Open like it is? Hedged again? Treed?

If you are interested in serving or sharing ideas, contact Philip Conover or Ellen Schoenfeld-Beeks or Jim Mullin.

Let's Build a New Website

Much has changed recently at church. With a new minister on board and new physical space available, we can anticipate more changes: growth in membership, new programs, new ideas. Our website needs to reflect these changes and needs to be ready to accommodate our changing and diverse communications needs.

Streaming video, adult education opportunities, user-supplied content, and social networking are just some of the ways we can use our website to meet these needs. Do you have other ideas how we should use our website? Do you have skills that would help in this effort or have you ever wanted to learn? Now is your chance to get involved.

A group is forming to brainstorm changes to our website and all are invited. We will be surveying the entire congregation at some point but if you want to get in on the ground floor, contact Rick Dumont at rmddub@igc.org to express your interest.

Summer volunteer needed

If you like putting things in boxes or making labels, if you take pleasure in using space efficiently, please check in with the RE Closet Organizing Team, Kate Parker-O'Toole and Louise Marcoux (kate.parker.otoole@gmail.com, 617-543-3592 or dre@uusharon.org). Your talents may be needed in August. As specific tasks arise, we will contact you.

**Mansfield Music and Art Society presents****"1776"**

at the Unitarian Church, North Main Street, Sharon, MA

July 3-11, 2010

Directed by Judi Burns Kotta

Music Direction by Dave Coccia

There are still tickets left and may be purchased by calling the box office at 508-339-2822 or online at MMAS.org. Our church is responsible for refreshments during intermission for each of the shows and the church will retain those proceeds as well as half the money raised from ticket sales. We need members to contribute drinks, cookies and brownies. Please contact Pat McDougal at mcdougal.pat@gmail.com (781-784-1032) or Janet Schmidt at j.claire@comcast.net if you can help.

"1776" is a funny, insightful and compelling musical drama that puts a human face on the pages of American History. Book and music are by Sherman Edwards and Peter Stone. It's the summer of 1776 and the nation is ready to declare independence... if only the founding fathers could agree! "1776" follows John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Richard Henry Lee and Thomas Jefferson as they attempt to convince the members of the second Continental Congress to vote to free their fledgling nation from the chains of the British Monarchy by signing the Declaration of Independence.

Register now and SAVE!

Now is the time to register your children for next year's religious education program. All registrations received before June 30 are eligible for a \$10 discount!

Why register? So we know to expect you in the fall! We want to be able to contact you by phone or e-mail about special programs and activities. Your child's teachers need to be aware of food allergies or other special needs.

Who should register? All children and youth who participate in Sunday morning RE classes, youth groups, and/or Our Whole Lives sexuality education programs should register. Youth who teach or assist in the Sunday morning RE program should register, but their fees are waived.

How do I register? Blank forms are available in the Religious Education office (between the vestry and Program C). Customized forms (already filled in with your information from the church database) are available for those who registered last year. Glenn Rivard will be distributing customized registration forms during coffee hour all month long.

Are scholarships available? Yes. Scholarships are available confidentially through the minister, Rev. Tricia Brennan; the RE director, Louise Marcoux; or the RE Committee Chair, Christine Cavallaro.

Among UUs

Congratulations, mazel tov and best wishes to Melissa Leonard and Sara Winthrop who were married by Rev. Brennan at the church on June 26, 2010.

*From the Interim Minister (Cont.)*

(Continued from page 1)

Coordinator Sue Bollens' church, a happy coincidence. No doubt the fact that I served you while you were engaged in a building project made me an attractive candidate to them, as they too are embarking on a similar enterprise. Expect calls of advice to be coming your way!

A happy and peaceful summer to you, one and all, and I look forward to hearing news of wonderful Unitarian Church of Sharon.

Love,

Tricia

From the Ballou Channing District

The Ballou Channing District board and staff wishes all congregation leaders a restful and restorative summer. Congratulations to all newly elected officers and board/parish committee members. We look forward to working with you in the new church year. Please be sure the District office has e-mail addresses for all new officers, staff and ministers so everyone can receive the August issue of BCD In Brief and other mailings.

The BCD office will be closed between June 18 and August 17 for summer vacation. The District Administrator will check mail, email and phone messages generally one day a week.

District Executive, Bill Zelazny, will be working from his home office and can be contacted at zelaz@aol.com or 401-353-5334. He will be away attending General Assembly, June 20 - 28, the New England district staff meeting July 26 - 28 and will be on vacation August 8 - 17.

BCD Calendar

Jun 17 BCD Office closes for summer vacation*

Jun 23-27 General Assembly
Minneapolis, MN

Jul 18-24 Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute
Radford University, Radford, Virginia

July 23 Handbell Choir Concert 7:30pm
First Parish in Plymouth

Aug 17 BCD Office reopens*

Aug 27 Poetry Reading by Everett Hoagland 7:30pm
First Parish in Plymouth

Aug 29 Cranberry Cluster Summer Gathering* 11:00am - 2:00pm
Cedar Hill Retreat Center

Sep 18 BCD Congregation Presidents Council 9:00am - 12:30n
Location TBD

Oct 8 -10 Unitarian Universalist History & Heritage Convocation
Espousal Center, Waltham, MA

Nov 24-25 BCD Office Closed - Thanksgiving*

Dec 22-Jan 3 BCD Office Closed - Christmas*

Social Justice Update

Thank you to the UCS volunteer marchers in this year's **Boston Gay Pride Parade** on Saturday, June 12th. We had a total of 29 people which was our largest group to date. We joined several other UU churches as a UU contingent to promote our support of gay rights. Many thanks to: Susan Allison, Liz Moore, Mia Joiner-Moore, Valerie White, Rory and Beth McGregor, Joe, Licia, Halie, Alora, and Juliette Rando, Gare, Alison, Rebecca and Gare Reid, Louise and Yvonne Marcoux, Jon and Naomi Slavin, Janet Schmidt and John Schumacher, David Schoenfeld, Melissa Leonard with Sara, Ian and Olivia, and Amy, Lori and Lili Taylor.

The Social Justice Committee is grateful to report that as of June 1st a total of \$6,313.78 was donated to the following organizations and causes through the "**Brown Envelope**" offerings received and supplemented with Equal Exchange sales profits:

\$695.17	MainSpring House Lunch Supplies
\$265.00	UUA Association Sunday
\$570.84	New Hope, Inc. (Attleboro, MA)
\$392.80	UU Urban Ministry – Explorers Club
\$794.80	ATRAVES
\$120.00	Stoughton-Sharon Food Pantry
\$120.00	Foxboro Food Pantry
\$120.00	Canton Food Pantry
\$120.00	Norwood Food Pantry
\$120.00	Walpole Food Pantry
\$600.00	Partners in Health (Haiti relief effort)
\$600.00	UUSC/UUA Joint Haiti Earthquake Relief
\$695.17	Father Bill's & MainSpring / Rosie's Place
\$350.00	ACE
\$350.00	IMEC
\$350.00	Central Asia Institute
\$350.00	School on Wheels
June BE	GLSEN

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped with lunch-making for **MainSpring House** for this church year. Your service to the homeless was greatly appreciated!

Thank you also for your **Equal Exchange** purchases.

The SJC would like to ask you to continue to support the **Stoughton-Sharon Food Pantry** or your local food pantry during the summer months. Their need for can donations actually increases during the summer months when children no longer have access to meals provided at schools. We will continue to collect can foods at the church during the summer and deliver them to the food pantry. But most local libraries are collection spots as well. Please find your town's collection location and continue to give. Thank you!

If you have any suggestions or questions for the Social Justice Committee, please email justicecommittee@uusharon.org. Have a great summer!

CALENDAR

Thu 7/1	6:00pm	1776 Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Fri 7/2	6:00pm	1776 Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Sat 7/3	5:30pm	1776 Show (Sanctuary & Vestry, A)
Sun 7/4	12:00pm	1776 Show (Sanctuary & Vestry)
Mon 7/5	7:30pm	Women's Group I (Library)
Wed 7/7	5:30pm	1776 Show (Sanctuary & Vestry, A)
Thu 7/8	5:30pm 8:00pm	1776 Show (Sanctuary & Vestry, A) Men's Group (Library)
Fri 7/9	5:30pm	1776 Show (Sanctuary & Vestry, A)
Sat 7/10	5:30pm	1776 Show (Sanctuary & Vestry, A)
Sun 7/11	12:00pm	1776 Show (Sanctuary & Vestry)
Mon 7/12	6:30pm 7:30pm 7:30pm	2nd Women's Support Group (Library) Building and Grounds (A) Care Givers Support Group (Vestry)
Thu 7/15	7:30pm	Membership Committee (library)
Sun 7/18	10:15am	Summer Service
Mon 7/19	7:30pm	Woman's Group I (Library)
Thu 7/22	8:00pm	Men's Group (Library)
Fri 7/23	5:00pm	Newsletter Deadline
Sun 7/25	10:15am	Summer Service
Mon 7/26	6:30pm	2nd Women's Support Group (Library)

Online calendar

.The Unitarian Church of Sharon Calendar is now found online.

The online calendar is now the only calendar used to reserve meeting space and is always up to date.

You can view all of the meetings scheduled.

And, you can input your own meeting space requests directly to the calendar.

Go to www.uusharon.org/calendars to view the calendar and for more information.

Coffee, Flowers, Greeting Volunteers

Thank you to all who have volunteered to host coffee hour, provide flowers and be greeters this year. We appreciate your help.



Sunday, July 18 Leader: Colleen Tuck
 Sunday, July 25 Leader: Louise Chereski
 Sunday, August 8 Leader: Tom D'Avanzo
 Sunday, August 22 Leader: Valerie White

Please join us.

Tom D'Avanzo or Chris Raskin.

This summer the Worship Committee is offering some informal, lay-lead worship services. All services will be held in the church Sanctuary at 10:15 am. We will not be able to provide child care, but we will have pipe cleaners, crayons, paper and books on hand. For more information, contact

SUMMER SERVICES INFORMATION

**UNITARIAN CHURCH
 OF SHARON
 4 NORTH MAIN STREET
 SHARON, MA 02067**

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT
 WORSHIP AND ACTIVITIES
 CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT
781/784-3652

SEND AN EMAIL TO
ADMIN@UUSHARON.ORG
 OR VISIT US ON THE WEB AT
www.uusharon.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



A Welcoming Congregation of the UUA

Mailing
 Label
 Goes
 Here

**1776
 NEW WEBSITE
 GARDENING**

**SUMMER SERVICES
 SUMMER SCHEDULE
 SOCIAL JUSTICE UPDATE**

