



The Belfry

August 26th, 2015

Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church

Love is the spirit of our church, where ...

...we gather to worship...

...we create a welcoming, nurturing religious community for all...

Sundays in September

September 13, 2015

10:00 a.m.

“Fear Not!”

Rev. J. Mark Worth

Welcome home to our first worship service of the new church year! Meet our new interim minister, Rev. Mark Worth, and join with Music Director Ted Johnson, the Senior Choir, and your friends, for a multi-generational celebration of life. In this time of change and new beginnings, Mark's message will be “Fear Not!”

September 20, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Are You a Saint?

Rev. Nannene Gowdy, guest preacher

No? Are you sure? Philosopher William James might beg to differ.

September 27, 2015

10:00 a.m.

“Why I'm a Unitarian”

Rev. J. Mark Worth

When he was an eighth-grader and in Methodist Sunday school, a question about the biblical strong-man Samson converted Mark to Unitarianism -- although he didn't know that word yet. Come hear how Mark became a Unitarian, and why it stuck. This is the first in a two-part sermon: the follow-up, “Why I'm a Universalist” will be in October.

Adult Faith Formation: “The Bible As They Never Taught It In Sunday School”

Who wrote the Bible? Did Adam have two wives? Was Eve a hero? Did Moses write about his own death and burial? Why are there two different stories about Noah's Ark? Did Solomon really have 700 wives and 300 concubines? In that patriarchal era, did a woman command generals and armies?

Rev. Mark Worth will lead an adult class on the Hebrew Bible (or Old Testament) after church on five Sundays: Sept. 27, Oct. 4, Oct. 11, Oct. 18, and Nov. 1 (skipping Oct. 25). We'll meet in the Fellowship Building beginning at 11:45 a.m. and end each session at 1:00 p.m. All are invited, anyone can attend, and there is no fee.

Contents

Minister's Column	2
Pig Roast Invitation	3
September Building Use Calendar.....	4
In Memory of Joanne Edwards Kronauer.....	insert
Loaves & Fishes/Fair Trade Faire/Thanks	5
Glean Team/UUA Congregational Bulletin link	5
In the Hot Zone/ Sept. Birthdays	6
Oct. 6th potluck & conversation with Rev. Mark.....	6
Pot Lucks/From the Admin	6
Upcoming Church Events/Other Events.....	7
Music Notes	7
Office Hours	back page

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*Here we are inspired to explore, reflect and grow spiritually ...
Here we are safe to share our deeply held thoughts and values ...*

From Rev. Mark

Buddhism teaches us that everything changes. None of us are the same today as we were when we were young. In fact, none of us are exactly the same as we were yesterday. Everything is impermanent, transient. The only guarantee is that things will change.

This is actually good news! It means that we don't have to be tied to the mistakes of yesterday. We always have the chance for a new beginning, the opportunity to grow and improve.

The departure of a settled Minister, along with the departure of a Director of Faith Formation, can bring uncertainty and a mixture of emotions – whether the departures were good departures or difficult ones. I have no doubt that this time of transition for Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church might feel like a time of anxiety. It need not be. This can be a time of new opportunities. As we heal, celebrate, and re-vision the future of the congregation, this transition is a time to see the possibilities for the future.

As I begin to get to know you, and you begin to get to know me, I will sometimes be asking a few simple questions: What first brought you to HUUC? What keeps you coming back? And – if HUUC could win a prize five years from now, what would you like that prize to be for?

I see great potential here. I know that you are already doing many things well. This is a basically well-functioning church with a lively congregation full of good people.

As we work with one another, one of my goals is to be mindful of all of the different ways we humans are in the world. We have different styles and different talents. Together, we build community. I want to keep in mind that it's okay if we sometimes see the same situation differently, or see it from a different angle. We need a variety of talents and viewpoints.

So as I begin as your interim minister, I think there's good news, and there's good news. The good news is that if you like me, I'll be here with you for the next two years. And the other good news is, if you don't like me I'll be gone in two years!

My job, over the next two years, is to help you look toward the future so that you, working together, can find your next settled minister. I will fall in love with you, and then when the time comes to say goodbye, I will say goodbye.

Everything is impermanent, transient. And every minister is, in a sense, an interim. No one stays forever. That's okay. In fact, when we are mindful of the present, understanding the impermanence of everything is a key to the future.

~ Mark

Sharing Our Plate: September: Loaves & Fishes

Checks made out to **Loaves & Fishes** and 50% of the cash from the collection plate go to our local food pantry, which provides food, clothing, camper-ships and after-school enrichment scholarships, emergency shelter, resource referral, and other temporary services. Volunteer stewards and a trained mental health worker listen with understanding and empathy to the complex situations of clients and suggest actions to promote independence and increased self-reliance. Loaves & Fishes serves over 600 families in Ayer, Devens, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley.

Pig Roast flyer is attached pdf.

Electronic Version: pdf of Sept.—Dec. weekly building use calendar is a separate file.

Social Action Committee Suggests Loaves and Fishes

Loaves and Fishes food pantry in Devens is very grateful for all of the fresh produce they receive this time of year. **If you have extra produce from your garden and would like to donate some of it to Loaves and Fishes, they will happily receive it during their pantry and donation hours. These times are: every Monday and Wednesday from 9:00am to 12:00pm, the first and third Saturdays of the month from 8:00am to 11:00am and the second Tuesday of the month from 5:15pm-8:00pm.** We will resume donating non-perishable food and toiletry items to Loaves and Fishes on the first Sunday in October. If you have questions, please contact Risa Goldman at risajan@aol.com.



HUUC Fair Trade Faire is Sunday, November 22!

Planning is underway for this celebrated event now in its 6th year of production. We are seeking assistance with the final stages of coordination as well as help with setting up and breaking down the event. If you have any interest in working "behind the scenes", please contact Paige, paigeob21@gmail.com, (978) 456-7980.

Paige O'Brien
for the Women's Alliance and Social Action
Committee

Our Thanks Go To ...

We hope you will appreciate the new drapes in the Sanctuary which were made possible with the significant help of the Women's Alliance and a number of contributors to the Flash item at this year's Auction.

-Thanks, Glen Frederick

Join the Glean Team!

The Glean Team is a group of more than 60 volunteers whose mission it is to reduce food waste, combat local hunger, raise community awareness and increase the availability of local produce at food pantries. Five days each week we pick up food from Roche Brother's in Acton that would otherwise be thrown away and donate it to Loaves and Fishes food pantry, WHEAT's food pantry in Clinton and Transitions at Devens (a temporary shelter for women and their children). In addition, during the harvest season, we pick up food weekly from Applefield Farm in Stow. We also glean food from fields and orchards whenever we are invited by the local farmers to do so. Gleaning is fun and gives folks a tremendous sense of satisfaction from making a simple yet concrete difference in people's lives. If you would like to join us, go to the church's website (uuharvard.org) and click on Roche Bros. Pick-up to sign up for a shift. If you'd like to get on the Glean Team's email list, contact Risa Goldman at risajan@aol.com and she will make sure you receive notices of all Glean Team activities, including last-minute field gleaning opportunities. Thanks so much!



Something for everyone in the UUA's monthly congregational bulletin.

Go to this link
<http://www.uua.org/communications/bulletin>
and then click on "Check out the latest edition."

Thanks.

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS FOR 2015-2016

Information to come in September

“In the Hot Zone” Patty Ruze

Please read “In the Hot Zone” an article in the latest edition of *UU World* magazine (pages 10-11) about fellow church member Patty Ruze. She worked in Sierra Leon fighting Ebola as a doctor with Partners in Health.

Mark your calendar for October 6

Join us for an informal conversation with Rev. J. Mark Worth -- "Mark" -- , who will be our interim minister for the next two years. He is the son of a Methodist minister, and became a Unitarian Universalist in 1970 when the UU Church in Pittsfield, MA, was running a draft counseling center. Mark wanted to know more about a church that cared about peace, so he started attending and felt at home right away. He owned a natural food store in the '70s and was a high school history teacher in the '80s. He has been a UU minister since 1991, and recently completed a 2-year interim ministry in Westborough. Mark has an apartment in Shrewsbury where he spends the church year. But because his wife lives and works in Maine, he makes sure that he gets home to Maine a few days every month. His wife, "Mickey" (Michelle), is a social worker. They've been married since 1979.

All are welcome to attend the potluck at 6:30 and/or the program at 7:00
Janice Goodell

September Birthday Wishes Go To ...

Jamie	Aciukewicz
Dave	Andrew
Heidi	Bachmann
Susan	Brooks
Shane	Browse
Matt	Colony
Anthony	Culmone
Glen	Frederick
Harrison	Graffam
Sarah	Graffam
April	Lambert
Gary	Madison
Arthur	Niell
Kian	Oldham
Mac	Perkins-High
Mason	Smith
Ann	Whitney
Willie	Wickman



Welcome Back Potluck

The Welcome Team will be hosting the first potluck of the church year on Sunday, September 13, in the Fellowship Building immediately after service. We hope you can join us for this chance to casually check-in with friends; meet Reverend Mark Worth, our interim minister; and kick-off another inspired year at HUUC. Potluck contributions can be dropped off in the FB kitchen to be kept warm before service. If you'd like to assist with set-up or break-down, please contact Paige, paigeob21@gmail.com, (978) 456-7980.



Paige O'Brien
for the Welcome Team

Pot Lucks Planned for 2015-2016

- September 13 (Welcoming Team)
 - November 8 (Glean Team)
 - February 14 (Hungarian Brunch)
 - April 10 (Walk For Hunger)
 - June 12 (The Board)
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From the Admin Office

If you have updates to your address, phone, email or the way you want to receive church communication, please let me know.

Next Belfry deadline: Sept. 15.

If you want an **updated Church Directory**, please send me an email and I will send you the pdf file, or I can print a paper copy for you. Or if you want a list of committee chairs and membership, let me know.

Elinor Stapleton admin@uuharvard.org
978-456-8752

Here we celebrate together our traditions and our lives, with all their sorrows and joys...

What's Coming Up, Church Events

- Mon. Sept. 7
Labor Day, Office Closed
- Tue. Sept. 8
7:30pm Board mtg
- Thu. Sept. 10
7:30 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal
- Sun. Sept. 13
10:00am Worship Service
"Fear Not!"
Rev. J. Mark Worth
Welcome Back Pot Luck
Hosted by the Welcoming Team
- Tue. Sept. 15
Belfry Deadline
- Sun. Sept. 20
10:00am Worship Service
Are You a Saint?
Rev. Nannene Gowdy, guest preacher
- Thu. Sept. 24
7:30pm Sr. Choir rehearsal
- Sun. Sept. 27
10:00am Worship Service
"Why I'm a Unitarian"
Rev. J. Mark Worth
11:20-11:50 Jr. Choir
11:45-1:00 Adult Faith Formation
"The Bible As They Never Taught It In Sunday School" Mark Worth

MUSIC NOTES



Musicians:

Sept. 12- Choir
Sept. 20- Eleanor Toth, piano
Sept. 27- Choir

Jr. Choir:

All interested singers from Grades 1 through 6 are invited to be part of the Jr. Choir. Our first gathering this Fall will be Sunday, Sept. 27 from 11:20- 11:50 in the eecummings room in the Fellowship Building. Rehearsals will continue through October, except for Oct. 11 (Columbus Day weekend). Bring your tales of summer!

Chime Choir:

I hope your summer was a pleasant break from usual activities. Our rehearsals will begin on October 4, with October 11 off for the Columbus Day holiday. I'll be in touch. Twelve noon in the balcony!

Senior Choir:

Welcome back to long time choir members and any new singers interested. Our first rehearsal will be Thursday, Sept. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Ted promises familiar music to ease into preparation for the service on Sept. 13, the first service of the new church year. Our next rehearsal will be Sept. 24th, to prepare for the Sept. 27th service.

-Eleanor Toth

Other Regular Events in our Buildings

Fellowship Building

Yoga in Sutherland Hall with Joyce Vassallo: Tue. 7-8:30pm and Sat. 9-10:45am, 617-201-3532.

Council on Aging: Tai Chi Tue. & Thur. 9-10am & *Zumba* Fri. 9-9:45am, 978-456-4120

Women's Wellness, Sat. once a month, Penny Rosenzweig 508-667-8800

Fitness class, during the cold months, Theresa Hoberman, Mon. & Wed. 8:30-9:30am, 978-875-0829.

Sanctuary

Harvard Pro Musica community chorus, Tue. evenings Sept.-May, contact Kathy Hewett 978-456-8692 or Eleanor Toth 978-779-2876.

Concerts

Worcester Chamber Music, Sept. 17, 2015 and April 15, 2016
Harvard Pro Musica, Dec. 5, 2015

Recitals

Bolton Community Music School, Dec. & June, contact Valerie Ritter 978-779-2896
Nikolaus Hunt's piano students, Mar. & June, contact 978-368-7759
Eleanor Toth's piano students, June, contact 978-779-2876

Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church
On the Harvard Common
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If you no longer wish to receive this mailing, please return it and we will take you off our mailing list.

Rev. Mark Worth
Elinor Stapleton
Ted Johnson
Lori Daniels

Interim Minister
Parish Administrator
Organist and Choir Director
Bookkeeper

Admin Office Hours
Mon. 9:00 a.m.-Noon
Tue. 10:00-3:00
Wed. Noon-3:00
Thu. 10:00-3:00
Fri. 9:00 a.m.-Noon
Please call first: 978-456-8752.
-Elinor Stapleton
admin@uuharvard.org

I expect to be in the office most Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons, sometimes into the early evening hours. You may call (office: 978-456-9021) or e-mail minister@uuharvard.org to schedule an appointment during those times or to find another time that might work.

Minister's Office Hours