



The

Belfry

May 21st, 2014

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...

May 25, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Celebrating with Gratitude

Rev. Judith Downing

How we celebrate this Memorial Day holiday and how we feel and show our patriotism is important. Pride is usually the word that comes to mind. But gratitude may be a better way of describing what we feel about our country.

Rev. Judith Downing is retired from parish ministry and living in Fairhaven, MA. She has served congregations in Tennessee and Pennsylvania as a settled minister and as an interim minister on MA and RI. She grew up in PA and NY, graduated from Denison University in Ohio and lived as an adult in NYC and D.C. where she worked in marketing and public opinion research. She studied for the ministry at Harvard Divinity School. In retirement she is the archivist/historian at the Fairhaven UU church, sings in the church choir and community choirs, organizes an annual book sale at the church and coordinates the congregation's work at a local soup kitchen.

June 1, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Rev. Wendy L. Bell

There will be Candles of Joys & Concerns.

June 8, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Last Service of the Year

All-Ages

August 3, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Joint Service with Littleton & Stow-Acton in our sanctuary

September 7, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Ingathering Service

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“From the Hearth”

It is wonderful to be back and to begin to get caught up with many of you! Although it is late in the church year, and many of our activities are beginning to wind down, I will be around the church and available to meet with you for another month, through the week of June 16.

The following week, beginning June 23, I will be in Providence, RI, for this year’s UUMA Ministry Days and the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly, otherwise known simply as “GA.” For those of you who may be unfamiliar with our General Assembly, it is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists for the purpose of learning, worshipping, witnessing, and – for congregational delegates – doing the business of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations of which our congregation is a member.

It can be an amazing and powerful experience to gather with 5000 or more Unitarian Universalists from all over the country – and the world! Those from our congregation who have attended past GA’s have returned inspired and renewed, especially by the worship, the music, the sharing. They have returned enriched by the workshops and lectures they’ve attended on just about every topic related to congregational life that you can imagine. Some of them have returned transformed by the opportunities they had to meet with and learn from other Unitarian Universalist lay-leaders on journeys not so very different from the one we are on together here in Harvard. Many have returned with new vision and new light in their eyes, their horizons broadened, and with new awareness of the possibilities for Unitarian Universalism here in New England and beyond.

General Assembly is held in a different city each June, and as I mentioned, this year we’ll be gathering in Providence, RI, a mere hour’s drive away. The last time GA was this close to home was 2003 in Boston. If you’ve never been to a General Assembly and are interested in going to see what it’s all about, if you want to stick your toe in the water and see how it feels, then this is the year! GA might not return to New England for another decade.

This year’s General Assembly will meet at the Rhode Island Convention Center beginning with orientation sessions on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 25 and Opening Celebration from 7:30-9:00 that evening. Programming will be held all day Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and part of Sunday before concluding with the Closing Celebration at 3:30. Highlights this year will include Friday night’s Service of the Living Tradition at 7:30pm (which is open to the public with no registration required), Saturday evening’s Ware Lecture from 5:00-6:00pm (Sr. Simone Campbell of the “Nuns on the Bus” campaign will be the speaker, registration required), and Sunday Morning Worship from 11:00-12:30 (public welcome, no registration required).

Registration is open to anyone. More information about programming and registration can be found at www.uua.org/ga. If you are interested in attending and/or serving as a delegate, please let me or Rick High or another member of the Board know.

I hope that you’ll come, if only for a day or for a single event. If nothing else, considering joining us for Sunday morning worship on June 29th. It just might change your life!

In peace,
Rev. Wendy



Report from the Board

DRE Search Committee completes its work, Pam Reidy named DRE.

As you are aware, Melinda Green's service to our congregation as an Interim DRE ends on June 30. In order to have a new person timely engaged to lead our Religious Education and Youth Development programs, the Board named a DRE search committee of Tom Daniells, Paige O'Brien, Kate Stamm, Kelley Taylor, and Betsy Williams, with Kate Jones as an alternate.

At the Board meeting of May 14, the search committee, having completed its work, recommended that Pamela Reidy be hired as the church's settled DRE. The Board accepted the committee's recommendation, the offer was extended and Pam has agreed to join us effective July 1.

Pam was enthusiastically recommended by the search committee after multiple interviews, which included interviews with representatives from both the Youth and RE Programs and also meetings with Wendy, both in a group session and one-on-one.

Pam comes to us with a deeply varied background. Pam has worked with children and families in religious education and spiritual leadership in parish, school and international settings for more than 40 years. As a teacher, religious education director, and youth minister she brings knowledge and expertise in administration as well as hands-on experiences with young people of all ages.

Pam is a published author and national speaker on religious education and service learning, having led young people and adults in local, national and international service programs of all types.

Most recently she has worked in elder care with a heart devoted to those with memory care and dementia disease. As a mission director she has overseen a large organization's mission statement, as communications director she has been responsible for written publications and social media. In her work she has connected 4th graders with elders in a nursing home, keeping them connected through Skype visits.

Ordained in 2007 as an interfaith minister, she was the chosen by her classmates as their ordination speaker and her first preaching experience was in Riverside Church in NYC to more than 2,000 people.

Pam is most proud of her work for the last 24 years in Haiti. Traveling yearly to volunteer in Haiti, she is devoted to the poor in the most abandoned places. After the 2010 earthquake she founded Spirit of Hope with her former students. This is a non-profit organization that raises funds and distributes money to those who wish to travel to Haiti to work rebuilding this impoverished nation. In four years they have raised more than \$110,000 and funded more than 50 individuals to travel to Haiti. We are delighted that Pam has agreed to join us, and look forward to a long and fruitful experience together.

We extend our gratitude to all at the church who played a role in this process, but especially to Kelley Taylor and Kate Stamm for their leadership and dedication to this process.

For further information or questions, please contact me or any member of the Board.
Rick High, President, (rhigh@charter.net)

Bee Season

Since the Religious Education Sunday worship service “Bee Wow,” thoughts of bees have been buzzing around in my brain. It is no wonder to me that bees have been revered through human history, that they seem inherently interesting and wondrous to many people, that they have served as the poets’ muse. The intricacy of their communal living. How their tiny bodies are sophisticated communication devices. That they leave berries in their wake. The alchemy of honey.

Beekeeper Michael Thiele uses the old German word “Bien” to describe the life of bees. “To call the Honey Bees “Bien” restores the old understanding of the hive as one being: ... the multitude of all individual bees constitutes one being. Through the Bien we can experience the miracle that life is. We may sense the communal, non hierarchical form of life. The concept of “bien” can open our minds and stretch our understanding, because it’s not only what we can see with our eyes, it’s something those 50,000 honeybees are creating together. This beautiful entity, the beehive, is only one-half of an even larger being—the flowering world. Whatever is done to one, can be seen in the other.”

One of the stations at the “Bee Wow” worship was “Bee in Community,” at which participants of all ages were invited to add a thumb-print bee to create a community-made wall hanging. I love the symbolism of community that bee life embodies. Each individual has a role in sustaining the whole. Each bee that travels out in search of sustenance returns with grains of hope for the hive. That every place each bee has landed becomes a source of nourishment and hope for someone else’s life. The healthy hive depends on buds of Good News that lie beyond the safety of its own walls. The healthy hive creates new life both within and beyond its own dwelling. When a scouting bee returns with news of a new food source, others will seek in the new direction. (And how perfect is it that a bee communicates this new direction by “putting her rear in gear” and dancing the waggle dance to show the way?!) As seasons or environments change, the bees adapt, seek new sources of sustenance.

In the cycle of the church year, we find ourselves in the season endings. As the church year wraps up, so does my time as your Interim Director of Religious Education. It has been a period of exploration, experimentation, risk-taking, and discovery for the children’s and youth programs here at HUUC. The congregation has worshipped in new ways. The children have played, created, and asked questions together. The youth have deepened their connections with one another. The Religious Education Team has ventured beyond the familiar, traditional model of children’s programming. The Youth Leadership Development Team has discerned a new clarity of purpose.

And in the cycle of the seasons, endings always circle around to new beginnings. Some of you have been asking what’s next for me. I have accepted a position as Spiritual Sojourner at First Parish Church United in Westford. I will be working with a small crew of young adults from around the US who will move to Westford this summer to participate in the Young Adult Service Community program. These young adults will serve 11-month internships at local organizations including Habitat for Humanity and New England Forestry Foundation, while also entering into congregational life at First Parish Church United. I’m excited to build connections with and among the young adults and the congregation, and to reconnect with the congregation where I served as student minister several years ago.

When professional religious educators leave a position, part of a healthy leave-taking is establishing clear expectations about what’s next. To support the formation of healthy new relationships between Pam and the congregation, I will be following the code of professional practice of LREDA (the professional organization of Liberal Religious Educators), which says that out-going Religious Educators will refrain from engaging in the life of the congregation they served for at least two years.

Here we are safe to share our deeply held thoughts and values ...

And now I wonder: what is next for you? I hope everyone will take the opportunities that come with Pam's arrival to enter a season of creating new connections and relationships between participants of all ages, needs, abilities, status, and blessings. I hope you will continue on the path of discovery and innovation begun in Religious Education. I hope you will to commit to being changed by new relationships, new connections, new ideas, new vision, new ways of doing things. Of the Bien, Thiele continues: "I think bees can inform our practice, and become an encouragement to leave home. That's what swarming of the bees in the spring is about: leaving home, leaving their precisely-defined nest location and taking the risk to fly into the unknown. It is amazing to witness this event and to be exposed to this faith and trust of the process of moving through the unknown!"

In Sue Monk Kidd's novel, "The Secret Life of Bees," one character gives another a lesson in "bee yard etiquette," saying, "Above all, send the bees love. Every little thing wants to be loved." Philosopher Rudolph Steiner wrote, "The whole hive is in reality permeated with love. The individual bees renounce love in manifold ways, and thus develop love throughout the whole hive. One only begins to understand the life of the bees when one knows that the bee lives in an atmosphere completely pervaded by love." Our Universalist heritage assures us that every little thing, every little being, *is* a beloved member of Creation, and calls us to embody that love throughout all the ages and stages of our lives.

In parting, I wish you the many blessings of the honeybee and the hive:

*The love of the hive
The nectar in the bloom
The daring of the swarm
The fruit on the bough
The sweetness in the comb
The candle in the chalice
The whole of the flowering world*

Amen and blessed be.

-Melinda Green, Interim DRE



SHARING OUR PLATE:

Each month 50% of the cash contributions in the collection plate, plus checks made out to them, go to a designated charity. (The balance of the cash and checks made out to the church go to the church.)

May 25 Abby's House

Abby's House, a multi-service, non-profit organization in Worcester serves homeless and battered women and children. Abby's House is committed to ending homelessness, and in this spirit, in addition to the emergency shelter, they also manage service-enriched affordable housing. Abby's House collaborates with many organizations in the community that provide specific services, such as housing, legal services, mental and physical health services, and education.

June 1 and 8: NEADS (Trains Dogs for Disabled Veterans)

NEADS, based in West Boylston, MA, provides assistance dogs to people who are deaf or hearing impaired; people with balance and stability issues; people with a variety of physical disabilities; wounded combat veterans; teachers, ministers and therapists; children on the autism spectrum; and children with physical disabilities. Nearly all of the Hearing Dogs are rescued from animal shelters and 95% of the dogs are trained by inmates through a prison program partnership with approximately 11 New England Prisons. The typical cost to train a dog for an individual is \$25,000 or more. The clients are asked to fundraise or contribute \$9,500 of this amount if possible. In 2011, NEADS locally raised and trained 33 dogs for needy individuals and they would like to continue to increase that number in the years to come. Leslie Neville volunteers for NEADS; contact her for more info, or visit their web site at <http://www.neads.org/>

The members of the Social Action Committee are Georgia Sassen, Dave Andrew, Chris Ready, Pat Westwater-Jong, Ibby Chiquoine. We meet once a month and welcome new members. Please contact any one of us for more information.

Bargains in the Belfry

Yikes! It seems that spring only just started, and we are already in the home stretch for buying and selling spring and summer clothes at Bargains. Only three more weeks and Bargains will close for the summer on June 10th. **This Sunday, May 25, Bargains will be open after church, 11:30 - 12:30, with everything with a sticker at 20% off.**

Weekday hours are 10 am to 4 pm on Tuesdays, May 27, June 3, and June 10. Starting Sunday, June 1st and continuing until the 10th, everything will be on sale at half price. Come on up and see what you can find.

-Audrey Ball

Alliance Notice

The Harvard Alliance will meet on Tuesday, June 3. Pot Luck supper is at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Building. The meeting will be a planning session for next year's programs. Come and bring your ideas for interesting topics. There will be no meeting during the Summer. The first Fall meeting will be October 7th.

-Carol MacLennan

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.

Belfry Deadlines: all Tuesdays: June 17, Aug. 26

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.

HUUC is now registered with **AmazonSmile**, a program where Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to charitable organizations. Use this link when you shop: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2514282>

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

June Birthday Wishes Go To ...

Eliza	Agosta
Bailey	Bourgeois
Max	Chadran
Cate	Corbett
Piali	De
Thomas	Hill
Barbara	Kemp
Julie Anne	Medjanis
Andy	Perkins
Nancy	Reifenstein
Lois	Suarez
Sue	Tokay
Imre	Toth
Marc	Vilain



If you missed the opportunity to give us your birthday month please contact the church office: 978-456-8752, admin@uuharvard.org



Sunday Morning Ushers, Greeters , Hospitality

The schedule of Sunday morning tasks is now available on SignUp Genius. You can easily access this from the home page of the church website: www.uuharvard.org . If the dates assigned to you are inconvenient, please arrange to swap with someone else for a Sunday that fits your schedule. You can make the swap yourselves on the SignUp Genius list, or you can let me know what the changes are and I will update the system. Thanks to all for your help. Cary Browse, cbrowse@earthlink.net

May 25

Welcome: Kate Stamm

Hospitality: Alice Rennie, Chuck McCormack, Carol Barnes

Ushers: Cassandra Werthmann

Greeters: Teddy Coffin

Chancel:

June 1

Welcome: Rick High

Hospitality: Alicia McHugh, Sarah Graffam

Ushers: Julie Anne & Gus Medjanis

Greeters: Kirsti & Chuck Gamage

Chancel:

June 8

Welcome: Kate Stamm

Hospitality: Pot Luck

Ushers: Barbara & Warren Henderson

Greeters: Anthony Cassatt & Natalie Toth

Chancel:

18th Annual Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast - Monday, May 26, 2014

The annual Memorial Day pancake breakfast is fast approaching - just a few days to go. Please set aside the morning to attend with your families or to help serve the estimated 120 people who will attend that morning, and then to attend the brief Memorial Day parade on the common. Breakfast is served from 8 to 9:30 AM in our Fellowship Building; the parade starts at 10.

We'll need plenty of help from the men and women of the church to help with the setup and cleanup, and especially to work in the kitchen that morning. From its first event, suggested and organized by Ed Pieters on behalf of the Men's Forum, the pancake breakfast was a great place for the men of the church to reconnect and have a great time doing so. In the last few years, many women have enjoyed helping to make this a fun culinary experience, a welcome addition to the event.

Please mark your calendars to attend, tell your friends and neighbors about it, and sign up to help with Dave Andrew (daveandrew@charter.net or call 978-456-3858 or see Dave after Sunday service) if you can help with this event sponsored by our church. We'll need some help for the setup and decorating activities today from 2 to 4 PM. We'll also need lots of help for the event itself on Monday morning. We have again asked the Middle School RE youth to help. Their assistance as hosts and servers has been greatly enjoyed and appreciated over the last few years.

All proceeds will be donated to the Loaves and Fishes food pantry at Devens. The church will again match our net proceeds from our Social Action Endowment, as they have for several years. Last year we were pleased to send more than \$1,000 to Loaves and Fishes. We hope to do at least the same again this year.

Loaves & Fishes



Fixing our Broken Democracy Workshop

Harvard's UU Church is hosting a **Move to Amend Workshop** tracing the evolution of corporate power and the erosion of democracy in this US.

We will discuss why we need to build a "Democracy Movement" and Move to Amend's strategy for a constitutional amendment.

Please join us at:

Harvard UU Church Fellowship Building, On the Common, Harvard MA.

12:30 pm, Sunday June 1, 2014.

Contact 781-894-1179 www.movetoamend.org

Other Events in our Buildings

Fellowship Building

Mon. & Tue. 7-8:30 p.m. Yoga with Marylu Hildreth, 978-456-8168

Sat. 9-10:45 a.m. Yoga with Joyce Vassallo, 617-201-3532

Tue., Thu., Fri. 9-10 a.m. Council on Aging Tai Chi & Exercise classes, 978-456-4120

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

Sanctuary

June 7 student recital 1:00 p.m. (Valerie Ritter, Bolton Community Music School)

June 8 student recital 9:00 a.m. (Nikolaus Hunt, piano teacher)

June 14 student recital 2:00 p.m. (Eleanor Toth, piano teacher)

UUA Congregational Bulletin Monthly Announcements

Go to this link and scroll down to find many articles of interest to you: <http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=2fa3b98f-eccf-47e2-b90f-c7f493b327f9&c=569a95c0-9313-11e3-b20d-d4ae5292c4dd&ch=5756e0e0-9313-11e3-b2bd-d4ae5292c4dd>

What's Coming Up, Church Events

Sun. May 23

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Celebrating with Gratitude
Rev. Judith Downing
@2:00-4:00 p.m. Set up FB
for Pancake Breakfast

Mon. May 26

Office Closed
8-9:30 a.m. Memorial Day
Pancake Breakfast

Tue. May 27

10-4 Bargains in the Belfry open

Wed. May 28

7:30 p.m. Caring Network mtg.

Sun. June 1

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Rev. Wendy L. Bell
Candles of Joys & Concerns
Bargains in the Belfry open
11:30-12:30 OWL Information Session
Bigelow Rm, in the Sanctuary
12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Bldg
"Fixing Our Broken Democracy
Workshop"

Tue. June 3

10-4 Bargains in the Belfry open
6:30 & 7:30 p.m. Pot Luck & Program
Alliance Planning for 2014-2015
Carol MacLennan & Barbara Henderson

Fri. June 6

R.E. Volunteers, Event

Sun. June 8

10:00 Worship Service
Last Service of the Year
All Ages
Pot Luck
2:00-4:00 p.m. Summer Planning mtg.

Wed. June 11

7:30 p.m. Board mtg.

Tue. June 17

Belfry Deadline

Admin Office Summer Hours begin

Tue. & Thu. 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Sun. Aug. 3

10:00 a.m. Joint Summer Service
here with Littleton & Stow-Acton

MUSIC NOTES



Musicians:

May 4- Thank you Bill Corder for your songs on
homelessness

May 25- Choir

June 1- John Chapman, jazz pianist with Helen
Batchelder, vocalist

June 8- Choir-Final Church Sunday

Jr. Choir:

Thank you for buzzing around with your bee song this
past Sunday. The morning was a little chaotic, but fun.
We are close to the end of the church year and are not
scheduled for any more singing events. Should we
have a party to celebrate the coming of summer? I'll
be in touch with you.

Chimers:

I'm sure you're enjoying your break!!!!

Sr. Choir:

As it turns out, the Choir Festival in Hartford was can-
celled, because 3 choirs had to back out due to time
conflicts for choir members. Hopefully next year we
can find a date that works better for most.

Rehearsal is scheduled for this June 5, and
we participate in the service on May 25, and June 8.
I'm sure there will be a party/ rehearsal on June 5. Can
you believe that Ted has been our Music Director for
10 years?!!!!

-Eleanor Toth

**Looking for an educational UU summer vacation
experience?**

Come to Star Island, an amazing island
where you can relax and rediscover the beauty of the
earth. This year's Natural History Week theme is
"Bird Study of the 21st Century" led by expert natural-
ists, and includes a whale/bird watch, contra dancing,
art workshops, and more. Star Island, off the coast of
NH, is the place to go!! Check out [http://
nhcstar.org/](http://nhcstar.org/) and <http://starisland.org/>
to learn more about this "not to be missed" week--June 21 to 28--and
to register. Bring your friends and your whole family!

Minister's Office Hours

I am 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 (RevWLBell@aol.com) to schedule an appointment during those times or to find another time that might work.

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

Aaron Stockwell
Melinda Green
Elinor Stapleton
Ted Johnson
Louise Potter

Sabbatical Minister
Interim Religious Education Director
Parish Administrator
Organist and Choir Director
Bookkeeper

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