



The

# Belfry

June 17th 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...*

**August 3, 2014**

10:00 a.m.

**Summer Joint Worship Service at the Harvard UU Church**

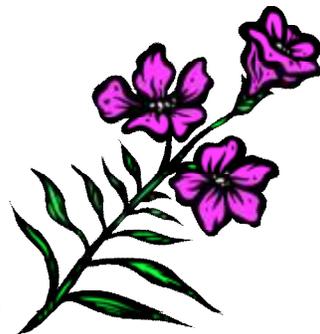
**Sermon Title - Radical Welcome**

The Harvard UU Church is hosting the 11th Annual Joint Worship Service on August 3 in our Sanctuary. Aaron Stockwell will lead worship and Ted Johnson will lead the choir. Children are welcome, although there will not be any childcare available.

Please consider singing with the "pickup choir" that will include voices from all 3 churches. The anthems will be: *For the Beauty of the Earth* and *Here I am Lord* with flute. Choir practice begins at 8:30am.

Contributions to the refreshment table will be most welcome!

For more information please contact Cary Browse, Dorothy or Otto Solbrig



**September 7, 2014**

10:00 a.m.

**Ingathering Service**

## Mindfulness Meditation

**Sundays: July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17  
9:00 -10:00 AM**

Join us Sunday mornings this summer in the Fellowship Building, Sutherland Hall for an hour of mindfulness meditation. Mindfulness meditation is the practice of relaxing and stilling the mind, being present to what is, and returning to the present moment, breath by breath.

The sittings begin with a 5-minute session of introduction to the day's practice. There is a 15-20 minute sitting (guided) meditation, followed by a 10-minute walking meditation. After returning to our seats, there is a short reading relevant to mindfulness and meditation. That is followed by another 10-15 minute meditation.

Newcomers to meditation will be introduced to mindfulness meditation techniques. You can sit on a floor cushion or a chair. All are welcome.

Todd Lainhart & Sharon Briggs,  
[slbriggs@charter.net](mailto:slbriggs@charter.net)

## Contents

From the Hearth/Rev. Wendy's Summer Plans .....	2
Report from the Board.....	3
Hello from the Pam Reidy, new DRE .....	4
Sunday Morning Volunteers, Summer Events .....	4
Transitions Thank You/Loaves & Fishes Help .....	5
Treasurer & Admin notes .....	5
Summer Birthdays/Our Thoughts Are With.....	6
MemDay Bfast/Other Events .....	7
<b>Contact Information &amp; Office Hours .....</b>	<b>back page</b>

**The Belfry is published once a month: the third Wednesday.**

**Deadline for copy is 9:00 a.m. the day before.**

Telephone: 978-456-8752

P.O. Box 217, #9 Ayer Rd. Harvard, MA 01451.

e-mail (church) [admin@uuharvard.org](mailto:admin@uuharvard.org) ; [minister@uuharvard.org](mailto:minister@uuharvard.org) (DRE) [DRE@uuharvard.org](mailto:DRE@uuharvard.org).

Minister: 978-456-9021. Director of Religious Education: 978-456-7788. Web site: <http://uuharvard.org/>

**“From the Hearth”**

Recently I’ve begun going through books and papers at home – getting rid of some and packing up others – in preparation for a construction project that Cathy and I have going on at our house this summer. There will be some work done in the basement and a more significant piece done on our second floor, so we have to empty out and reconfigure parts of our living space. Anyone who has been through a home renovation project of their own, no matter how small, has some idea of how disruptive this sort of thing can be.

Yesterday I went through a bag of papers that I’ve apparently carried with me through many moves. Inside I found old bank statements, tax documents, pay stubs, even financial aid forms from the mid-1990’s when I was just starting my Masters of Divinity program at Harvard Divinity School. Why on earth have I been keeping those papers, which having been discovered, are now destined for the shredder?

As I worked, I was thinking about how the headquarters of the Unitarian Universalist Association recently made a big move from its historic location at 25 Beacon Street, next to the Statehouse, to 24 Farnsworth Street, in the “Innovation District” near the Convention Center. I can only imagine how much stuff someone had to sort through – to pack up or to discard – in preparation for that move, which hopefully will prove a very positive move forward for the Association.

And then I got to thinking about all of the “stuff” we each have to go through at some time or another in our lives in order to move forward to a new phase in our lives – either actual, physical “stuff” or emotional “stuff...”

What are those things we’ve been holding onto, which we no longer really need, and which, in fact, may be slowing us down or holding us back? What is our emotional or spiritual “baggage,” the kind of stuff we mostly ignore or forget we even carry? Are there old dreams that cannot possibly come true, but which are still entangling us with their enchantment? Are there old expectations that cannot possibly be met?

Is there old fear? Are there ancient worries? Is there some old-accounting of rights and wrongs, successes and failures, that has become burdensome to our souls? Maybe it’s time to take another look and decide what we really must keep and what we can throw away. Maybe it’s time to free ourselves from the old in order to make room for the new and forthcoming.

I move forward with my own sorting, I wish you all the best with yours!

\*\*\*\*\*

I will be heading to Providence next Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> for UUMA Ministry Days followed by the UUA General Assembly. It should be an exhilarating week and I am looking forward to bumping into quite a few of you there!

As in past years, I will be away from my office for 8 weeks in July and August. Four weeks of that time will be vacation with family and during the other four, I will be on Study Leave, reading and planning for the coming church year. When I am on vacation, another minister or ministers will be providing emergency pastoral coverage. When I am on study leave, I will be providing emergency pastoral coverage for Harvard and some of the surrounding churches, as well.

If you need a minister from July 1 through August 25, please call the church office (the minister’s study number is 978-456-9021) and listen to my voicemail greeting to learn who will be on-call in case of an emergency and how to reach that minister. The out-going message will be updated regularly throughout the summer. Our Parish Administrator, Elinor Stapleton, and Rick High, our President, will also know how to reach the minister on-call.

The first Sunday of our new church year will be September 7<sup>th</sup>, and I look forward to seeing you then if not before! In the meantime, blessings for a safe and healthy summer, whether this is for you a time for rest or growth or change...

In faith, Rev. Wendy

## **Report from the Board**

### **A quick retrospective**

While the Board didn't accomplish everything it set out to do this year, there are three major accomplishments to crow about: 1) a successful sabbatical year for both Wendy and the church; 2) January's congregational vote to adopt an Action Plan to guide us all in realizing our vision as a church community and 3) the recent hiring of Pam Reidy as our settled Director of Religious Education. Each of the achievements cited above had, in addition to a Board member or two involved, a separate team of dedicated volunteers providing leadership, coming to meetings, and otherwise just doing the work needed to get the job done. It takes a community to run a church and once again we've proved this community is up to the job. Many thanks to all.

### **Changing of the Guard**

Don't expect the fanfare of Buckingham Palace, but on June 30 at midnight, this Board goes out of business and a new one takes its place. Susie Macrae and I are stepping off. Going forward for the upcoming year are returning members Tom Daniells (who will now serve as President), Rebecca Wright (who continues as Vice-President), Kate Stamm, and George Babich. Rounding out the membership are new members William Kellogg and Ginger Kendall. Carolyn Howe replaces Sharlotte Eiland as Clerk. Barbara Kemp will continue to serve as Treasurer.

### **Summer plans**

And so we part ways as a congregation for the summer, gathering again on September 7.

But don't forget General Assembly in Providence from June 25-29. If you can't make the sessions, the worship service on Sunday morning is open to the public and comes highly recommended.

And on August 3 at 10 a.m., the joint summer service with the Littleton and Stow-Acton UU Churches will be held in our sanctuary.

### **Gratitude**

As my term as President comes to an end, I want to express my personal gratitude to the church's staff and to my fellow Board members and officers with whom I have worked over the last two years. From hiring an interim DRE to finding a Settled DRE, from Sewership Sunday to Sabbatical, from Vision Statement to Action Plan, we've covered a lot of territory together. And I want to express a special thanks to my fellow congregants. I called on many of you over the last two years to take on this or that assignment, to agree to lead this or that project. You smiled, perhaps even groaned good naturedly, maybe even waffled a bit, but then, in spite of already busy schedules, you rose to the occasion, and carried us all forward. You make it a joy to serve.

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

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

*Here we celebrate our traditions and our lives ...*

**Hello:**

I am very excited to begin my days as the settled Director of Religious Education at HUUC. My experiences thus far have shown me a community that is warm and welcoming. I enjoyed getting to know people at the Pot Luck after the service a few weeks ago where the bridging of our young people was celebrated, Melinda was given a loving farewell, and I crossed the bridge to join your Religious Education efforts.

I will be attending the GA June 25-29<sup>th</sup> and will formally begin working in the Religious Education office July 7<sup>th</sup>. My plan is to use the summer to become acquainted with the programs and to personally meet each family and volunteer involved with Religious Education.

I will be contacting everyone involved with Religious Education in hopes that I can schedule a phone call, Skype visit, office visit at the church, or I am happy to visit you and your family in your home. There may even be the possibility of a couple of families gathering for a play date where I could come and introduce myself. Whatever the method, the slower pace of the summer will give me the chance to contact each of you personally. I am anxious to meet you and will happily accommodate what works best for each family or individual. You can contact me through email at [dre@uuharvard.org](mailto:dre@uuharvard.org) or by leaving a voicemail on the religious education telephone line.

Wishing each of you the summer joys of reflection, relaxation and re-connecting with Mother Earth.

Pamela Reidy, Director of Religious Education  
Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church  
[dre@uuharvard.org](mailto:dre@uuharvard.org)  
978-456-7788



**SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS FOR 2014-2015**

Thank you for your help this past year and in advance for the year to come! With a little bit of time and effort from each of us Sunday mornings run smoothly and we all enjoy a peaceful worship experience at the Harvard UU Church.

This summer I will be putting together the list of volunteers for Ushering, Greeting and Hospitality. Most people will have 2-3 slots assigned for the church year. If you have any strong preferences or concerns, please let me know before August 1 so that I can adjust the schedule accordingly.

If you would like to go ahead and sign yourself up, the link is already available on the church website home page: [www.uuharvard.org](http://www.uuharvard.org)

Cary Browse, [cbrowse@earthlink.net](mailto:cbrowse@earthlink.net)

**What's Coming Up, Church Events**

- Sun. July 13  
9-10:00 a.m. Meditation
- Sun. July 20  
9-10:00 a.m. Meditation
- Sun. July 27  
9-10:00 a.m. Meditation
- Sun. Aug. 3  
8:30-9:30 a.m. Meditation  
**10:00 a.m. Joint Summer Service  
here with Littleton & Stow-Acton**
- Sun. Aug. 10  
9-10:00 a.m. Meditation
- Sun. Aug. 17  
9-10:00 a.m. Meditation
- Tue. Aug. 26  
Regular Office hours resume  
Belfry Deadline
- Mon. Sept. 1  
Labor Day, Office Closed
- Sun. Sept. 7  
**10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Ingathering**

### Help Loaves and Fishes Clients This Summer

Summer is often a time when food inventory is low on pantry shelves. So while you are enjoying the beautiful summer weather, please keep Loaves and Fishes in your hearts by:

Continuing to purchase food and other necessities for Loaves and Fishes, just as you always do on the first Sunday of each month. You may leave your donation in the collections box at the Harvard post office or deliver them directly.

Joining the HUUC's Glean Team to help rescue food from farms, orchards, and grocery stores.

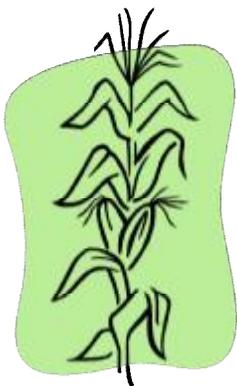
Volunteering at Loaves and Fishes by stocking shelves, sorting clothing donations, escorting clients through the pantry to choose their groceries or helping out in the office.

Participating in the Loaves and Fishes annual backpack drive by filling a new backpack full of school supplies for a child returning to school in the fall.

Planting an extra row of food in your vegetable garden and donating the results during any open pantry session.

For more information about volunteering with Loaves and Fishes, contact them directly at [tohelp@loavesfishespantry.org](mailto:tohelp@loavesfishespantry.org).

For more information about the HUUC's Glean Team, contact Risa Goldman at [risajan@aol.com](mailto:risajan@aol.com). Thanks!



### Transitions at Devens Thanks You!

A great big thank you goes out to everyone who donated Donelan's Supermarket stickers to the Glean Team so we could purchase high quality Cake Boss bakeware. We were able to take the donated stickers and exchange them for five loaf pans, two muffin tins, one cookie sheet and three large cake pans. That added up to \$171 worth of bakeware for the families at Transitions at Devens. Thank you again!  
– Risa, Cary, Ellen and Lisa, Glean Team Co-chairs

---

### From the Treasurer

As we look ahead to the summer months, remember that the bulk of our expenses continue, even when church is not in session. We depend on your pledge payments, even though there's no plate to put them in. Please continue sending those payments to PO Box 217. Thanks!

-Barbara Kemp

---

### 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 deadlines: Tue. Aug. 26 & Sept. 16.

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](mailto:admin@uuharvard.org)  
978-456-8752

### July & August Birthday Wishes Go To ...

Lisa	Aciukewicz
Nellie	Agosta
Olivia	Alfano
Beth Blutt	Anders
Jane	Andrew
George	Babich
Ross	Brown-Cullinane
Daniel	Colony
Jim	Colony
Cheryl	Coonahan
William	Cordner
Colby	Day-Newsham
Mary	Donald
Eric	Dyer
Thea	Eiland
Janice	Goodell
Claudia	Jarratt
Erik	Johnson
Helena	Justicz
Geoff	Koetsch
Nikko	Koetsch
George C.	Krusen
Sawyer	Madison
Tucker	Madison
Chris	Payne
Ethan	Payne
Hannah	Payne
Kate	Sobalvarro
Brenton	Stoddart
Alec	Vilain
Becca	Weast



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

### Our Thoughts Are With ...

**Donnalisa and Ted Johnson:** A candle of patience and hope for their granddaughter Hazel Jane.

**Ted Johnson:** A candle of hope that talking paid off in the release of an American soldier by the Taliban.

**Michaele McGinnis & George Babich:** A candle of joy that Michaele is now cancer-free and for the community support, compassion, and reassurance while she went through treatment.

**Susie Macrae:** Two candles of concern for aunt and uncle who are making some tough decisions. A candle of joy for the news that her baby brother is returning to the East Coast.

**Patty & John Chapman:** A candle of joy that John's younger sister Susan, who has had a double mastectomy, is cancer-free. A candle of joy and sorrow for a friend and neighbor who has gotten the best news possible after brain cancer surgery.

**Kristine Tomlinson:** A candle of sorrow that her aunt has passed away after dementia and for her cousin who took such good care of her mother.

**Naomi Newell:** A candle of joy for attending her 65th college reunion.

**Mark Villian:** A candle of joy for daughter who has graduated from college and for a wonderful few weeks with family.

**Carol Barnes:** A candle of sorrow for the passing of Maya Angelou.

**Cary Browse:** A candle of joy at the request of her oldest child Shane who has begun his journey to becoming a man.

**Alice Rennie:** A candle of immense joy that the community-owned Harvard Solar Garden project is nearing completion.



Contact Information for Summer 2014

Rev. Wendy, 978-456-9021  
Tom Daniells, President, 978-456-7361  
Rebecca Wright, Vice President, 978-456-8034  
Glen Frederick, Buildings & Grounds, 978-456-3312  
Caring Network: [caring@uuharvard.org](mailto:caring@uuharvard.org)  
Building Use Managers: Deb & Jeff Levering, 978-456-1299  
Kate Stamm, Board, 978-456-3431  
George Babich, Board, 978-835-8777  
William Kellogg, Board, 978-456-9673  
Ginger Kendall:, Board, 978-456-3747

**Admin Office Hours in Summer  
Starting Week of June 16th**

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

Please call first: 978-456-8752.

-Elinor Stapleton  
[admin@uuharvard.org](mailto:admin@uuharvard.org)

Rev. Wendy L. Bell  
Pam Reidy  
Elinor Stapleton  
Ted Johnson  
Louise Potter

Minister  
Director of Religious Education  
Parish Administrator  
Organist and Choir Director  
Bookkeeper

Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church  
On the Harvard Common  
P.O. Box 217  
Harvard, MA 01451  
978-456-8752

If you no longer wish to receive this mailing, please return it and we will take you off our mailing list.