



FUSN News

First Unitarian Society in Newton

Unitarian Universalist

September 25 - October 9, 2016

SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:15 A.M.

Sept. 25 - Rev. John Nichols

The theme for October is Prayer

Oct. 2 - Rev. John Nichols - Special Collection

Oct. 9 - Mandy Beal

Oct. 16 - Rev. John Nichols

Oct. 23 - Rev. Mary Margaret Earl

Oct. 30 - Wheel of Life

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Memorial Service for Ruth Boyd will be held on Saturday, Sept. 24 at 2:00 p.m. A reception will follow the service. Ruth was an active FUSN member as well as a longtime member of the choir who passed away on July 15.

COLUMBUS DAY WEEKEND

Columbus Day Weekend, Oct. 7-10, at Ferry Beach is the best start for the FUSN year! Meet new friends, greet old friends, connect and get into the spirit of the new FUSN year! Who should go? Families, singles, couples, empty-nesters, parents of adolescents wanting a weekend away, parents of young children wanting someone to take a turn holding the baby—the group seems to blend in a sweet, amicable, pleasant way. Many important friendships begin at Ferry Beach. Applications are available in the latest newsletter, on the web and from Fran. Learn more on the Ferry Beach Info page and then sign up. Mail it ASAP, space is limited! Questions? Contact Vern Ellis at 617-686-9123 or email him at vellis@ellisdesign.net.

WELCOME REVEREND NICHOLS

This Sunday, Sept. 25, John Nichols will step into our pulpit as Sabbatical Minister. John is familiar to many of us from his time as an Interim Minister before we called Erin. He will be in the building three mornings a week and Sundays after services. He'll attend Board, Operations, and Steering Committee meetings and assist with memorials and counseling. Here's an excerpt of our conversation.

Cathy: John, why did you accept our invitation to return?

John: Of all my interim churches over 15 years, FUSN is my favorite. You have fun. And I love the staff and your great music.

C: How is this job different from your earlier role as Interim Minister?

J: I'm here to help you do your business, not to change things.

C: Who has been important to you?

J: My wife, and Gerry Krick was my best friend.

C: What are you currently reading?

J: *The Immortal Irishman*, a biography of Timothy Egan. This guy went through the 1840 Troubles, the potato famine and membership in the IRA. He came to the US and wound up an officer in the Union Army, leading an Irish brigade. Later he was the Governor of Montana. A great story!

C: What is a good Board of Trustees?

J: A visioning Board. If a congregation has a sense of where it wants to go in two years, they're better able to handle individual decisions. What would a more welcoming congregation look like? How would we know we're more welcoming? The Board would have a short list of goals, rather than a bit of everything.

Midwesterners would call John "straight-talking." In 2010, John challenged us: "You're an outstanding

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Staff: Erin Splaine, *Minister*, Fran Clancy, *Administrator*, Rowan Van Ness, *Director of Religious Education*, Beth Walton, *Assistant Director of Religious Education*, Dani Lindstrom, *Youth Programs Coordinator*, Anne Watson Born, *Director of Music*, Carson Cooman, *Organist*, Roberta Humez, *Minister of Music Emerita*, Ruslan Crosby, *Beadle*.

Board of Trustees: Gregg DiBiao, Brian Burba, Josie Greene, Eric Haas, Cathy Morocco, *Chair*, Lesley Sneddon, Sarah Fazli and Julianna Lakomski, *Youth Reps*.

Operations Council: Susan Bartlett, *Chair*, John Brennan, Judy Curby, *Treasurer*, Laurel Farnsworth, *Vice Chair*, Andrea Kelley, Kate Mason.

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church and deserve one of the vital ministers who are out there. But they won't come, unless you show that you can finance yourselves." Well, we do, and Erin joined us. John, we're happy to see you again!

-Cathy Morocco, Board Chair

JOHN NICHOLS OFFICE HOURS

John will be in his office on:

Sunday, from 9:00-1:00

Tuesday, 9:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Thursday. 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.

OPERATIONS COUNCIL

Parking around FUSN. The start of the new church year seems like a good time to make sure everyone knows about parking available around FUSN. The good news is that we have permission to park at the Santander Bank on Sunday mornings and other times when the bank is closed. Please be aware of the following restrictions: No parking along the bank wall; No parking in the 5 spaces on Highland Ave, closest to the bank and across the street from FUSN (these 5 spaces are clearly marked with signs indicating that they are for ATM use only at all times); and No parking in the 5 spaces near the dumpster (these 5 spaces are marked with red signs clearly stating they are for ATM use).

There are also a number of other parking options within a 5 minute walk from FUSN.

These include:

- Family ACCESS of Newton (formerly Newton Community Service Center) at 492 Waltham Street. You can park here Monday-Friday after 6:30 and all day Saturday and Sunday. If you use Family ACCESS on Saturday evening, please do not park in the reserved spaces in the front of the building.
- Public lot off Cherry Street to the west behind the stores that front on Washington Street.
- MBTA lot across from Blue Ribbon BBQ (requires payment even on Sundays).
- Small lot at the end of the block with Blue Ribbon and the Local (reserved for jury members when court is in session).

- Parking is allowed only on certain parts of Highland Street and Davis Street; carefully read any parking restriction signs.

- Chestnut Street on the side across from Second Church

There is a small staff parking lot at the rear of the building. On Sunday mornings, the staff make these spaces available for those with mobility issues.

Feel free to contact any member of the Operations Council if you have questions.

-Susan Bartlett, Operations Council

YOUTH MINISTRY BROADCAST

Thank you for tuning into the kick off week of the Youth Ministry Broadcast. Saturday, Sept. 18 was the youth ministry kick-off meeting. We have a lot of excitement and energy going into this new year. One big change to kick off the year has been a time change to youth group meetings. Youth group will be meeting in the newly redone youth group room from 11:45-1:30 pm on Sunday afternoons.

We are excited to have fifteen youth involved as youth teachers and substitutes in the Religious Education classrooms this year. The youth teachers will continue to meet monthly to discuss their time in the classroom with one another.

Saturday, Sept. 24-25 will be the youth overnight retreat. We will be spending the evening with s'mores and worship at Cedar Hill Girl Scout Camp in Waltham. It will be a great opportunity for food, fellowship, and fun!

Thank You - I would like to give a huge thanks to Laurel Farnsworth for all of her work on making the youth group room a beautiful and functional space! The walls have been painted, there is a new rug, a .v., a new white board, the furniture has been cleaned, the room is shining. Thank you to Kim Shanks and Fran Clancy for cleaning the space and preparing for all of the work that has been done. Thank you to Rowan, Dana, and Theo for their help in envisioning the space, moving furniture, and getting it ready for the new year. Thank you all for your work on creating a space that is functional and fun!

-Dani Lindstrom

MUSINGS

Join us on Oct. 22 for Vorspeisen, Hauptgericht und Nachtisch (appetizers, main courses and dessert), followed by dancing! Please support our musicians as they prepare to travel to Germany for the first-ever Assembly of Unitarians in Europe (Europäischer Unitariertag). Only \$35/person – RSVP to Fran Clancy or via Eventbrite.

Speaking of Germany, if you are interested in joining the trip (May 26 – June 6, 2017), there is still time. We are having an **informational meeting** on Sunday September 25, 12pm in the Chapel (mit Brezeln!). Come and see what we're planning!

Our fabulous musical ensembles are up and running, and as always, new members are welcome. The **Sanctuary Choir** is open to all – we sing most Sundays and are also preparing some gorgeous music for the November 13 Music Sunday. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m., in the Chapel.

Sing with your children – the **Family Choir**, under the direction of the amazing Ellie Foster, meets from 11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., on Sundays in the Chapel.

Play (instruments) with your children – **FUSN's Intergenerational Chamber Orchestra** begins practicing on September 25, 11.45am in the Sanctuary. The music is arranged for whatever playing level is comfortable for you or your child, and the members of the orchestra mentor our young musicians. We are fortunate to have Lois Shapiro leading the ensemble.

The **Low But Not Slow Choir** (low-voiced singers) will begin rehearsals soon – we'll sing "Find the Cost of Freedom" and some other great tunes. The **Higher Ground Singers** (high-voiced singers) will also begin practicing. Email me for information: music@fusn.org

And FUSN's **Flute Choir** will be practicing at 9:00 a.m., on Sunday mornings, in the Chapel.

-Anne Watson Born

CHALICE CIRCLES!

We are pleased to announce that new chalice circles will begin this fall.

Chalice Circles offer a structure for spiritual growth and the deepening of relationships within our beloved community. Together with a facilitator, small groups meet once a month from October to May to go deeper into the monthly worship themes, with a covenant to speak and listen from the heart.

A dedicated group of people are busy setting up circles to begin in October. We have heard many people express enthusiasm for the opportunity to be part of small group at FUSN. Please watch for more information and sign ups in the coming weeks. You can learn more about Chalice Circles and sign up for a group after the service on Oct. 2. Additional questions? Please contact Ann Woodbury ann@sulliwood.org or 617-852-9499 or Cindy Orrell – cindy.orrell@gmail.com or 617.901.6848.

CELEBRATION

Please join us as we ring in the New (Jewish) Year!



Where: FUSN Parish Hall
When: Sunday, Oct. 2 from 5:00-8:30
What: Celebration of Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah

How You Can Help!

This is a DIY event so please come bearing food and helping hands!

Food Suggestions: Chicken, Apples, Challah, Salad, Drinks. Main dishes are especially welcome! Help Options: Please come early to set up tables, stay late to clean! Any other suggestions? Feel free to let Rowan know how you can help! Contact contact Rowan Van Ness with questions/suggestions: rowan@fusn.org

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Join us for our next Community Breakfast, the best way to start your Sunday, on Oct. 16, at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The extensive menu includes scrambled eggs, scrambled eggs with vegetables, pancakes, French toast, bacon, sausage, gluten-free corn bread, home fried potatoes, white and whole wheat biscuits, vegetarian sausage gravy, fruit, yogurt, jams and jellies, juices, coffee and tea, and the occasional special treat. It's only \$4 for adults and \$3 for kids. Newcomers eat free. We have high chairs, too. Upcoming breakfasts – Nov. 13, Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 12, March 12, April 9, May 7

EVENING SONG

Join Vermilion once again this coming season for Evening Song services beginning Sunday, Oct. 2 at 7:00 p.m. Evening Song at FUSN is a half hour candlelight service of music, poetry, and meditation planned around FUSN's monthly themes. Let the sanctuary welcome you into meditative music, poetry, and silence - even at the end of a full weekend at FUSN - for a bit of quiet music, reflection, and silence to ease into the week ahead, and into our always too busy lives.

Next Newsletter Deadline Oct. 4 at 9:00 a.m.

LAY MINISTRY AT FUSN

The Lay Ministers at FUSN provide a web of caring within the FUSN community. In light of Erin's sabbatical this year, we want the FUSN community to be aware of the work and mission of the Lay Ministers. The Lay Ministers can offer support and be sensitive listeners should one wish to discuss personal or family issues, and often they can suggest referrals to professional service providers. The Lay Ministers also maintain the Care Crew list, which is made up of over 50 members of the congregation who have offered to help occasionally with meals, rides, and other short-term needs. The Lay Minister on call each month may ask the Care Crew for volunteers to help out as appropriate. The Lay Ministers are a diverse group who are very sensitive to confidentiality and discuss specifics only with each other and the ordained clergy. If you need support or assistance, want to share news of a life transition, know of a FUSN individual that might need assistance, or would like to be added to the Care Crew list, please call the FUSN Lay Ministry number, 617-340-9299, which will forward to the on-call Lay Minister – Margaret Costello, Cris Goldsmith, Kathy Hearn, Shawn Konary, Jud Leonard, Erin O'Donnell, Cindy Orrell, or Ann Woodbury.

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