



# First Universalist Society of Salem

211 BRIDGE STREET, SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS • SEPTEMBER 2009

Worship and Religious Education Begins at 10:45 AM • Nursery is available for babies and toddlers • Rally Sunday - September 13th

## RALLY SUNDAY PICNIC

The **Rally Sunday Picnic** will be held at Forrest River Park in Salem from 1PM - 5PM, following the Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday service. Please bring all the refreshments, lawn chairs, and picnic supplies you and your family will need. Charcoal grills are not allowed. The park has swings and slides and if you have any outdoor games you think might be fun for the kids or adults to play please bring them along. Please consider giving a ride to a fellow church member or friend. If you can lend a ride, please make yourself known during the Announcements during the Sunday service.

Directions to Forest River Park: Out of the church parking lot, take a left onto Bridge Street. At the lights, take a left onto Washington Street. At the lights, take a left onto Derby Street. At lights, take right onto Lafayette Street (heading to Marblehead). After about a mile (right before the Lafayette/Loring Ave. split), take a left onto West Avenue - the park is at the end of the street with plenty of parking. Please - no alcohol allowed.



Rev. Marjorie Matty, Minister

### *Where is The Love...*

*"The work begins a new. The hope rises again. And the dream lives on."*

-Senator Edward M. Kennedy

Can one being make a difference in the world? Yes... I am sitting here in a mood of reverence and I wonder about our future as I reflect on one human being's, Ted Kennedy's, journey. A journey filled with day-to-day decisions that were not always good ones, but in review a life that was built and which was very well lived. Senator Kennedy endeavored to make the world a better place through his life's work. It inspires me to carry on his legacy of health care reform, a topic that is near and dear to many of us, although we may not have realized it yet, because some of us are still able-bodied and fairly healthy. We have not had to run the gauntlet of emergency care, or of a significant illness. The gauntlet of testing, diagnosis, therapy and medication - falling to disease or illness can leave one's world in financial ruin and devastation. If you didn't get a

chance to watch the movie "Sicko" directed by Michael Moore (we watched it at the church during one of our movie nights), please take the time to watch it. This movie uncovers the travesty that is our health care, or lack of care I should say, system. Health care isn't just about those who are not covered by an expensive insurance plan; it is about each and every one of us and what we face when we fall ill, and we will all fall victim to sickness or injury at some point in our lives.

Health care is about access, classism, racism, ageism and ableism. It is an intrinsic and insidious way to determine an individual's worth through insurability and level of coverage. We should be outraged and not persuaded by the propaganda

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of the health care companies. I would highly recommend you read the transcript from the Rachel Maddow show on MSN which featured her guest Wendell Potter. Mr. Potter is senior fellow on health care at the Center for Media and Democracy, and he worked at Cigna, a major health insurance company, for fifteen years. Rachel started out the interview sharing a few facts, "SEC filings show that between the year 2000 and the year 2007, profit of the country's 10 largest health insurance companies rose 428 percent. In 2000, they had \$2.4 billion in profit. By 2007, it was \$12.9 billion." Rachel then explains, "Apparently, while they quadrupled their profits between 2000 and 2007, the number of Americans without health insurance grew by 19 percent." I ask

you where is the love in any of that? Later on in the interview Mr. Potter shared, "I think that the health insurance industry deserves a great deal of the blame because they're very much behind the town hall disruptions that you see and a lot of the deception that's going on in terms of disinformation that many Americans apparently are believing."

(<http://videocafe.crooksandliars.com/heather/rachel-maddow-show-wendell-potter-health-c>)

When an industry has as much money, lobbying resources and power as the health insurance industry does citizens need to keep a watchful eye because chances are that economic and social privilege will determine the haves and the have-nots. This is one example of how love, care and the inherent worth and dignity for each one of us is not taken into account in a system that many of us participate in. The time for

radical reform has come. During the month of September we will spend our time looking for the places in our lives where we can find and cultivate love for one another just as the singing group the Black Eyed Peas share in their song, *Where is the Love?*

Sing wit me y'all:

One world, one world  
(We only got)

One world, one world  
(That's all we got)

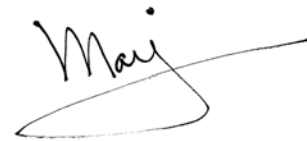
One world, one world  
And something's wrong wit it  
(Yeah)

Something's wrong wit it  
(Yeah)

Something's wrong wit the  
wo-wo-world, yeah

Are you ready to begin anew  
helping hope, faith and love to  
rise again?

See you all on Rally Sunday,



Rev. Marjorie Matty

### Staff

Minister: Rev. Marjorie Matty

Board of Trustees:

Chair: Christine DiSaia

Vice-Chair: Denise Regan

Director of Religious Education: Marlyn Miller

Accompanist: Michael Mazurkiewicz

Nursery Attendant: Mary Radziewicz

Sexton: Samuel Boylston

Church Administrator: Rosa Palomino

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 8 AM to 1 PM. Newsletters go out at the end of the month for the following month. Submissions are always welcome.

**I will be away from September 28th through October 2, arriving back late on October 3rd. I will be visiting my new nephew in Pennsylvania.**

Thank you, Rosa Palomino  
Church Administrator

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

Worship and Religious Education Begins at 10:45 AM - Nursery is available for babies and toddlers.

### Rally Sunday September 13th 10:45 AM

#### September 13th

##### *"Where is the Love?"*

This Sunday marks the beginning of our program year and is what we call our Rally Sunday. This is a time for the community to begin again and to honor these slower summer months with a special ritual, water communion, where you are invited to bring special water from your summer travels or your kitchen tap to represent the more fluid part of the journey we have been on over the last couple of months.

#### September 20th

##### *The Inherent Worth and Dignity*

Unitarian Universalism is a non-dogmatic religion and yet we hold principles that guide us in how we engage with the world. This Sunday we will be thinking about what the UU's who wrote our first principle had in mind and what the implications of this principle are for us today.

#### September 27th

##### *Love in Action*

How do we take an ideal and work together to change our community? This Sunday we will think about the various ideals we hold and how they enrich our lives and help us to uncover more meaning when they are fueled from an altruistic and loving place. This Sunday we will be thinking about ways that we can give and receive from the First Universalist Society through volunteerism.

### THE SECRET TO GETTING TO KNOW EVERYONE AT CHURCH

Are you ready to dip your toe into a bit more involvement at church? Are you ready to get to know other people outside of your pew mates?

Each Sunday, there are at least four jobs which rotate amongst church attendees, whether members or friends. They are: usher, coffee hour helper, classroom assistant and nursery assistant.

Volunteering is one of the significant ways each one of us contributes to the Sunday worship. These volunteers join the deacons, board members, singers, musicians and other behind the scenes folk who put our excellent services together. You can be a part of this team. In return, you will begin to know other people who attend the church. You contribute to the running of the church and assist our strong and caring paid staff.

Volunteer Sunday is September 27<sup>th</sup> which will introduce the volunteer program and let you know how it works. You will have an opportunity to sign up for several Sundays throughout the year to help us keep our worship services humming!

Originally by Sarah Smith and printed in the September 2008 Church Newsletter

The First Universalist Society in Salem is a Welcoming Congregation which celebrates and supports the lives, the relationships and contributions of its lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and heterosexual members and friends. We affirm and promote full participation of all in the life of the congregation and community. We pledge our congregation's commitment to continue to enlighten and educate our members, friends, children and community regarding sexual orientation and gender identification.

We welcome people with disabilities. We are partially accessible and striving to become more so. Please call the church office for specific information.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I can hardly believe that summer is coming to a close. During the first weekend of our Church's summer break, Gene and I packed up the kids and went to the Newport Folk Festival. Newport is special for us. It is a weekend to relax and share our love of music. In the last sixteen years, we have only missed one festival, and that was only for my dad's 60th birthday.

This year Newport was particularly special for me. It was the 50th anniversary of the Folk Festival. There were many wonderful musicians. But most importantly, one of our hero poet/songwriters and a fellow UU, Pete Seeger and his grandson Tao headlined for both days of the festival.

Pete turned ninety this year and watching him sing was magical. It wasn't the song but the spirit that was truly inspiring. Pete doesn't have the stamina that he once had. He didn't have the breath to always finish a line. His voice would trail and sometimes he would lose track of the lyrics or the tune. But he faced his grandson, Tao, who knew every word and every note and kept his grandfather on track as they sang each song together.

It was amazing to see Pete and his grandson work together, sharing a love of song and performance and for each other. On the big screen next to the stage they often showed a close up of Pete and Tao's faces. You could see the joy of a grandfather who had successfully passed on a love of music and now reveled in relying on his grandson to get him through the set. He didn't get frustrated when he faltered, he just looked to Tao. He was so clearly proud that his grandson was there. You could see the joy of a grandson who had received the gift of music and now loved giving back to his grandfather.

Our children grow and become more independent. They have new discoveries and gifts to offer us each year. Our parents and grandparents grow older and sometimes become more dependent. They continue to have lessons to teach and there is a gift in being able to care for them. It is all a part of the journey we share as families and as a community.

We are returning to Church for Rally Sunday on September 13th. I am so looking forward to seeing you all. New babies have arrived over the summer. Children have grown and had many summer adventures. Families have shared their summer traditions and hopefully forged new ones. I hope that it has been a summer where each of your families have found opportunities to find shared interests, build family bonds and rely on each other.

As we come together on Rally Sunday, I hope we do the same as a community. We will gather outside the Church before services and process into the Church singing and sharing the gift of music. I hope you will all join us for our traditional Rally Sunday picnic after the service. Michael brings his "bop-it." Mark brings the bocce. Sally and Rebecca bring water balloons and games for the kids. I'm sure there will be a new game or toy to start a new tradition. We will all come together to share our summer experiences, our family's adventures and our individual challenges. We will be there to share, to enjoy, to support each other and to accept being loved and needing to rely on others. Sharing the journey of life and building community.

I look forward to seeing you all and am excited about the community we are building.

In Peace,  
Christine DiSaia

## A LETTER FROM THE NEW DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear Members and Friends  
of First Universalist,

Hi! I'd like to introduce myself as your new Director of Religious Education. My name is Marlyn Miller (pronounced Marlin, like the fish), and I'm very excited to meet you and your children and to begin the church year together. I'm coming from the First Religious Society in Newburyport, where I served as assistant to the DRE, and I've been involved in religious education there and at First Parish in Waltham for a number of years. I've also worked with children in other ways - through twenty years of participating in children's theater in the Newburyport area, and through volunteer work in the schools. I'm also a mom - my son Elijah just turned nine. My educational background is actually in history - I just received my PhD from Brandeis University - but I'm also in the process of pursuing credentialing in religious education.

It's an exciting prospect to join the growing program at First Universalist, and to have the opportunity to guide your children, and learn from them, in creating community and growing in our understanding of the richness of our faith tradition and of our own spiritual paths. Within the next month I hope to schedule a Religious Education Open House, which will give parents and other interested members, the opportunity to meet each other and talk about their hopes for the RE program.

Whether or not you can attend, over the

course of the year I hope to hear from you all - whether or not you have children - about your vision for the religious education program and its place in the congregation, and about anything else that may be of concern to you. I hope that all of you will consider contributing your many talents to Religious Education, whether through teaching or sharing your gifts in other ways. You can find me on Sunday mornings before or after worship, or send me an email at marlynmiller@mac.com. Also please feel free to call me [(978) 495-2746] with anything you'd like to share.

I feel very blessed to be starting this new journey with you all - I'll see you on Rally Sunday!

Yours in faith,  
Marlyn Miller



## WORK PARTY

Saturday, September 19th  
at 9:00 am- 12:00 noon

All hands on deck for our first work party of the church season. Weather permitting, we'll clean and resurface the parking lot, preparing it for a clean coat of fresh lines to help facilitate more parking. We have indoor tasks as well. Questions may be directed to Bill Smith or Steve Brown.

Building Committee Meeting  
Wed. Oct. 7 at 6:00 pm

Thank you,  
Sally Millice

## SALEM MISSION UPDATE

First, thanks to the volunteers who donated their time this Summer to help serve at the Salem Mission – Nancy Bacigalupo, Donna Blume, Agnes, Jo, Ryan and Tatiana Buchanan, Thomas Costagliola, Ruth Dougherty, Carlos Huaman, Janet Madsen, Joyce Prior, Michelle Rust, Bill Smith, Karen Snow, Tom Wickers and Calvin Young. Thanks to this dedicated group, we were able to staff two additional nights during the summer season when the Mission needs the extra help.



Now that September is here, I'll be contacting the current volunteers in hopes they will sign up for some evenings during Q4 (Oct-Dec). I'll be recruiting for the usual 2nd and 4th Wednesdays nights of the month.

We now have a Salem Mission page on our church's website.

[http://www.salemuu.org/html/salem\\_mission.html](http://www.salemuu.org/html/salem_mission.html)

Check it out. You'll find a brief description of what we do and how it helps the community, some pictures of our volunteers in action and some goals for the future.

If you have any questions or would like add your name to the list of volunteers, please do contact me.

Chris Weis  
(617) 407-6767  
tizweis@yahoo.com

## HEARTH-SIDE CUUPS

FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

Wow! This summer has flown by! I hope that everyone has been using this nice weather as an opportunity to get out and get some much needed fresh air and sunshine.

HearthSide CUUPS has been fairly quiet over the summer but we do indeed have some wonderful events planned!

There will be the return of open classes for those interested in attending Pagan 101 classes. They will be held twice monthly at the church on Sundays after services. A tentative schedule has not been determined yet but the first class will be held September 13th at 1 PM in the Meditation Room downstairs, located off of the Dickson Room. Please contact me if you wish to attend.

September 20th is Eastern Mass Pagan Pride located in North Andover at Harold National Park and we will be in attendance there all day long, so pack a picnic and come enjoy the vendors, the music and the speakers. This is a yearly event that always has a lot going on. <http://www.easternmasspaganpride.org/>



Finally and most importantly, Wendy Rule will be returning on September 5th at 5 PM for a return engagement here at the church! She enjoyed herself so much in May when she was here she emailed and asked if we could have her back! Come show your support of CUUPS and enjoy yourself listening to her beautiful voice up in Bolles Hall.

For any of information regarding these upcoming events please email me or call me.

Blessings,  
Donna Day  
nehani36@hotmail.com  
(978) 375-2583

## FROM THE UUA

### Rev. Peter Morales Elected as Eighth President of Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations - June 27, 2009

Rev. Peter Morales, senior minister of Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, CO, was elected today to be the eighth president of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA) at the Association's General Assembly (GA) in Salt Lake City.

Morales received a total of 2061 votes, 1020 of which were cast as absentee ballots. His opponent, Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman, formerly senior minister of the First Unitarian Church of Dallas, TX, received a total of 1481 votes, 827 of which were absentee ballots. Morales' margin of victory was 580 votes.

Moderator Gini Courter and Financial Advisor Dan Brody, both incumbents running unchallenged, were re-elected to four-year terms. The congregational delegates to General Assembly also elected two Trustees-at-Large and members of several Association committees and commissions.

Speaking of his aspirations for Unitarian Universalism, Rev. Morales said, "I want to grow our faith, to reach all those people who are looking for non-dogmatic, liberal religious community. I look forward to working with partners in many other progressive and justice-seeking religious groups. There are tremendous issues that we'll be facing in the coming years and we're going to need one another."

Commenting on Rev. Hallman's campaign, Morales said, "The campaign is over. It's time to come together as we always do as a faith community. To get to where we want to go requires all of us, and we need their commitment, their enthusiasm, their passion, and their vision. I also particularly want to say that I fully appreciate Laurel's consistent emphasis on spiritual depth, on the creation of profound covenant in communities, and also her deep passion for retaining our youth and young adults."

Rev. Morales, the first Latino leader of the UUA, will be installed in a ceremony which concludes the General Assembly, at 6:30 p.m. (MDT) on Sunday, June 28. Rev. Morales will succeed Rev. William G. Sinkford who has served two four-year terms as President of the UUA.

### The Salem Farmers' Market

<http://www.salemfarmersmarket.org/>

Thursdays, 4-7 PM - Rain or Shine  
at Derby Square on Front Street in Salem  
June 25th through October 29th, 2009

Note from Rosa: I've been a few times and everything I've gotten is tasty.



### The Mass Bay District

Upcoming Workshops  
and Trainings  
and Meetings in the District

#### Starting Off the Church Year

- September 3: Church Staff Startup
- September 26: Presidents and Ministers Convocation

#### The Learning Congregation (LC) Series of Saturday Workshops

- October 17: Leading Through Change: Steering the Rollercoaster
- November 7: Escaping the Evaluation Trap: Assessing Professional Staff and Lay Contributions to Your Congregation's Shared Ministry
- January 23, 2010: Appreciative Inquiry & Decision Making
- February 27: Ministry Across the Generations: Creating Multigenerational Communities
- March 13: Claiming our Joy: Spiritual Leadership for Social Change
- April 10: Through the Looking Glass: Strategic Planning in Congregations

#### Our Whole Lives (OWL) Facilitator Training

- September 11-13 --- Class is full.
- September 25-27 --- Class is full.
- January 8-10, 2010 (registration deadline Dec. 14)
- January 22-24 (registration deadline Dec. 23)

<http://www.mbduua.org/>

[mbd@mbduua.org](mailto:mbd@mbduua.org)

(617) 393-4216

# The First Universalist Society

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Established in 1805

211 Bridge Street

Salem, MA 01970-3951

(978) 744-3224

www.salemuu.org

firstunivsalem@verizon.net

September 2009

Newsletter

# SEPTEMBER 2009

AH= Anna Hill Room, ARE= Adult RE Room  
 DK(k)= Dickson Room (kitchen), SN= Sanctuary  
 MO=Minister's Office, BH=Bolles Hall  
 LB=Library, TR= Treasurer's Office  
 CL = Classroom

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

		1 NAGLY 7P DK	2 Food Summit 7P LB House Comm Mtng 6P AH	3 Wedding Rehearsal & decoration 1-7P SN Board 7P LB Scot Danc 7:30P BH	4 Wedding 3-7P SN	5 Wendy Rule Concert 4-9P BH
6	7 ALANON 7:30P DK	8 NAGLY 7P DK	9 Pantry Mtng 7P LB Salem Mission 4:30P	10 Deacons 7P AH Scot Danc 7:30P BH	11	12 Craft Circle 10A AH Scot Danc BH all day
13 Rally Sunday 10:45 A SN	14 ALANON 7:30P DK	15 NAGLY 7P DK	16	17 Scot Danc 7:30P BH	18	19
20 Meditation 10A ARE Worship 10:45A SN	21 Red Tent 5-9P AH ALANON 7:30P DK	22 NAGLY 7P DK	23 Salem Mission 4:30P Pantry Bagnn 6P DK	24 Scot Danc 7:30P BH	25 Wedding Rehearsal 6P SN	26 Pantry 9:30A DK Wedding 11A SN Hearthside 5-9P DK
27 Meditation 10A ARE Worship 10:45A SN	28 ALANON 7:30P DK <b>Rosa Away til Oct 3</b>	29 NAGLY 7P DK	30			