



# First Universalist Society of Salem

211 BRIDGE STREET, SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS • OCTOBER 2009

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

Rev. Marjorie Matty, Minister

*Be The Change...*

"Be the change you wish to see  
in the world."

-Mohandas Karamchand  
Gandhi

In a month where our focus will be on social justice, I think of these words by Gandhi, for in my opinion no truer words have ever been spoken, "Be the change..." If we want to improve our world, we must begin with us. In my opinion that is what we have been doing as a community for the last two years, re-imagining our future, finding the places of hope and changing the things that have held us back. But to really feel such change each one of us must realize where the "rub" resides within us. The "rub" that gnaws at our souls, that keeps us from realizing our deepest and most expansive and authentic selves. For our community to soar, we as individuals must strive to fly beyond our everyday expectations of self, beyond the mundane. We must be the

change we wish to see in the world. If our "rub" is work, then we need to look at how we could make our work lives better or different, try to better understand what will help us to feel more fulfilled. If it is our relationship or our spiritual practice or our body or some culmination of these things our first step is to realize and then to understand and from there to move forward, to change our lives, to see the "rub" for the opportunity that it is. The "rub" that is motivation towards evolution of self and community.

I invite us to think about our day-to-day living in new ways, our interactions with others in different ways and think of ways that we can work together to make our connections more meaningful and fulfilling. As each of us becomes the epitome of change towards something better, we can then utilize this newly created and fulfilling energy to change our world and this is what social justice is really all about.

During this month when we look at how we can change the world for the better let us endeavor to think outside of the box and find ways to have fun together and invite the larger community to be part of this journey with us. With this in mind we have decided that on October 28th from 5-8 PM First Universalist and NAGLY will be working together to create a fun-loving community that will invite people from Salem to have a meal and enjoy some haunted festivities with us. We will be cooking spaghetti and sauce and we invite you, our members and

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friends, to bring salad, dessert and bread to share with each other. I encourage you to bring your families and friends and anyone you may know as we endeavor to create a place and time where we can dance, play games and engage in community in a big and safe way. If you are

interested in contributing your time to cook and/or clean up, wrangle kids or bring some food to share, please let Rosa Palomino, our Office Administrator, know so that we can make sure we will have enough for all who attend.

Let us together be and create change in our community,

especially during these challenging economic times! I look forward to celebrating this time of harvest with you!



Rev. Marjorie Matty

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

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

### October 4<sup>th</sup>

#### *Blessing of the Animals*

This Sunday you are invited to bring your well-behaved non-human family members to church in their respective carriers or on leashes for the blessing of the animals. Please bring a photograph of your pet to be blessed if they are not able to attend in person. You are also invited to bring a photograph of those non-human family members who have passed over the rainbow bridge and are no longer living. This will be an intergenerational worship service.

### October 11<sup>th</sup>

#### Guest In The Pulpit

#### *Healing the World through Our Gifts*

When Unitarian Universalist theologian Rebecca Parker encourages us to "bless the world" with our gifts, she is not making a pitch for a financial donation. She is speaking of the unique gifts each of us brings to our communities, gifts like "speaking, listening, imagining, seeing, waiting." Come consider how we might discover, develop and share our gifts as we strive to make a difference together.

Rev. Leslie Becknell Marx is a Unitarian Universalist minister who trained at Andover Newton

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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.

### 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

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Theological School. She believes we can create a world with more peace and justice when we authentically express our gifts, compassionately express ourselves, and curiously listen to other people. She and her husband are happy parents of an adorable 6 month old son and are living in North Grafton, MA.

### **October 18<sup>th</sup>**

#### *Complacency As Oppression*

Gandhi charged his followers to be the change they wanted to see in the world, believing and practicing right relations even in the face of adversity. This Sunday we will look at ways that Unitarian Universalists make this world a better place, move beyond complacency and strive towards taking on this work as a community.

### **October 25<sup>th</sup>**

#### *Samhain*

Summer has come to an end and fall is upon us. We once again are entering the dark time of the year. The cycle continues. Let us go into the darkness together so we can rest and then grow and then emerge stronger when the light returns again.

On October 25<sup>th</sup> we will gather for our annual Samhain service. During Samhain, the veils between the living and the dead are believed by many to be at their thinnest. For this reason, we honor loved ones who have passed on into the mystery. To honor them, we ask that you bring pictures and/or items that represent your beloved dead to adorn our altar. We will also be sharing remembrance cookies. Remembrance cookies are traditional Samhain cookies, which are shaped like people. These cookies are traditionally eaten while telling stories of special ancestors, reminding us that they still walk with us.

In addition to honoring those who have passed on into the great mystery, we will be doing something different; we will be marking

time by honoring the wise women and the wise men of our congregation. The wise woman and wise man are people who have lived many days and have gathered knowledge from their experiences. They are now our elders to whom we look for wisdom and guidance. Mature age is not a time in our lives to be ashamed of or feared. It is time that is to be honored. If you feel as though you are a wise woman or wise man or know one who is interested in being blessed and honored please see me after service or email me at [merrymana@lynnschools.org](mailto:merrymana@lynnschools.org).

Samhain service will be intergenerational. During Samhain, many witches envision what they would like to be or have happen in the coming year. In this spirit, we encourage the children to dress up as something they wish to be, even if it is a fairy, superhero or millionaire! And by children, we mean any one from 0-100 who feels like a child!

I hope to see all of you at the Samhain service!

Blessings,  
Andrea Ogles

## **HALLOWEEN PARTY!!!**

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming Halloween party on **October 28 from 5 – 8 PM**. We're hoping to make it a big and exciting event for all ages, with a spaghetti potluck, traditional Halloween games, mask-decorating, and lots of creative and fun surprises. Come and bring your friends - it will be open to the public and widely publicized in and around Salem. If you happen to have Halloween decorations you no longer use - plastic spiders, webs, skeletons, lights, CDs - just about anything, really - we'd be grateful if you could lend or donate them. Please drop them off with the DRE (Marlyn Miller) or email her at [marlynmiller@mac.com](mailto:marlynmiller@mac.com) to arrange for her to pick them up.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

### BRAD MERCIER

Profile by Sally Millice

Brad Mercier was born in Presque Isle, Maine but spent his childhood in California. As a teen in San Diego, he explored new age spirituality and born again Christianity. "None of it felt genuine to me," he said. On a car trip across the country, Brad visited Indian reservations. "Being exposed to earth-centered traditions was eye opening to me and I wanted to learn more." Returning to New England, he was introduced to Unitarian Universalism by fiancée Tabitha Carty. They attended the Danvers UU church initially, but a move to Salem prompted a visit to First Universalist. "I found this church very welcoming and more open-minded," he said.

Brad works in the computer security department of Peabody Essex Museum in Salem. They monitor fire and theft protection systems. One of his hobbies is biking and he loves to take long rides along the water. Video games, making beaded jewelry, drumming and abstract and electronic music are other interests.

Brad completed the membership classes last winter and joined the church in February 2009. He looks forward to using his talents and hobbies to help the church, which he says has a great sense of community.

We welcome Brad to our church family.

## FACILITIES USE

Symphony by the Sea is returning for their second year with us. Their performance dates are November 14, 2009, January 23, 2010 and April 24, 2010.

They have asked us to put out a church-wide request for volunteers to help. The bonus is free admission to the concert for volunteers. If you can help out or would like more information, please contact Roberta Neuman with Symphony by the Sea at (978) 922-1248 or [neuman26@comcast.net](mailto:neuman26@comcast.net).

## MUSIC COMMITTEE

This year the music of church will be accomplished by committee. Not just the Music Committee; rather the congregation as a whole. Music is a very important piece of our spiritual practice here. It provides us with the opportunity to interlace our voices within the order of service to sing our favorite hymn, learn a new one, listen to an individual performer or group or be soothed by a quiet, meditative musical interlude.

This year we are working without the safety net of a Choir Director so our music program will be one done by group effort. The current Music Committee consists of Brenda Lunn, Helen Jacoby, Michael Mazurkiewicz, Julie Pottier-Brown, Bill Smith and Becky Christie. Becky functions as the chair of this committee and point person for delegation of musical duties for particular services.

So far this year our services have been complimented by the talents of Bill & Sarah Smith, Michael Mazurkiewicz and our Deacons. We are blessed to have many people who can contribute on a musical level. However, we have a long church year before us and need your help and active participation. Musical volunteers can provide special music for the service or work with Michael and Marjorie to provide music for the entire service. We welcome small ensembles; we welcome instrumentalists; we welcome song leaders who will teach us new hymns; we welcome sing-alongs; in fact, we are very open to your ideas. If you need musical support, we certainly have plenty of helpers.

The Committee is also open to accepting new members at this time. We meet once monthly on a Tuesday evening at 7 PM at the church and try to be finished by 8:30 PM.

If you would like to become a member of the committee, please see any of us during coffee hour or email Becky Christie at [andantebc1@aol.com](mailto:andantebc1@aol.com).

## HALLOWEEN PARKING LOT FUNDRAISER

Starts October 10th!

The Halloween Parking Lot Fundraiser is upon us once again. It is the time of year we round up people who would like to volunteer a few hours of their time and raise money for our wonderful church. This is a great opportunity to contribute, meet and spend some time with other members of our congregation. Come as you are or in costume!!! Pick a partner you would like to share a shift with or we can find you one. We have one and a half hour to two and a half hour shifts available. All you have to do is collect money from customers who would like to park in our lot during the busy Halloween weekends in October.

Michael Mazurkiewicz is running the event this year and needs volunteers. If you are interested and need more info, contact Michael. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Anna Hill Room. We look forward to seeing you all at one of the greatest, funnest fundraisers of the year !!!

Scheduled Dates:

Saturday, October 10, 10 AM-7 PM  
 Sunday, October 11, 11:45 AM - 6 PM  
 Saturday, October 17, 10 AM-7 PM  
 Sunday, October 18, 11:45 AM - 6 PM  
 Saturday, October 24, 10 AM-7 PM  
 Sunday, October 25, 11:45 AM - 6 PM  
 Friday, October 30, 6 PM - TBA  
 Saturday, October 31, 11:45 AM-Midnight

There are plenty of spots available - see the sign-up sheet in the Anna Hill Room.

## PERMANENT FUNDS REPORT

By Sally Millice,  
 Chairperson, Trustees of Permanent Funds

The Trustees have met several times during the summer to stay on top of a volatile market situation and be in contact with our two investment vendors, Cabot Management and Wells Fargo Advisors. The following comments are from Greg Stevens, Certified Financial Planner with Cabot Management, about the current investment climate:

"We're hopeful that this market advance can continue, but we feel like we're more than likely in the midst of a 'trading range' (advances followed by declines) market right now. The biggest catalyst for this rally has been the fact that the economy no longer appears to be worsening. The financial markets have stabilized, the auto makers are restructuring (with the help of the government, of course) and a bottom appears to be forming in the housing market. There's also more money sitting on the sidelines right now than ever before. By many accounts, over \$3 TRILLION is sitting in cash and money

markets earning less than 1%. This pile of cash is slowly moving back into stocks as economic conditions improve (albeit very slowly) and as investors fear 'missing the boat' on the current market rally. We feel like this huge cash pile can sustain a market recovery and put limit the 'downside' in stocks, to some extent."

The market value of our Cabot Management invested funds on August 31, 2009 was \$662,533. The current allocation is 50% stocks, 30% bonds, 20% cash.

The restricted accounts, held at Wells Fargo Investors, were valued as follows on August 31, 2009:

Lendall/Brown Building Fund	\$228,099
Organ Concert Fund	\$3,423
Flowers and Guest Ministers	\$42,513
Organ Restoration Fund	\$ 756

Questions about the invested funds may be directed to the Trustees. Sally Millice, Chairperson, Tom Gifford and Chris Weis.

# 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

October 2009

Newsletter

# OCTOBER 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**

As schedules change or events are omitted due to space, please refer to the online calendar or the one posted on the church office door for last minute updates.				1	2	3 Spiral Scouts 10A ARE
4 Worship 10:45A SN New Mem Class 12:30P LB Hearthside 1P ARE	5 Private Group 7:30P DK	6 NAGLY 7P DK	7 Board 7P LB ? House Mtng 6P LB	8 Deacons 7:15P AH Scot Danc 7:30P BH	9	10 Parking Lot Fund- raiser - all day BellyDance Per- formance 3-10P SN
11 Worship 10:45A Parking Lot Fund- raiser - after 11:45	12 Private Group 7:30P DK	13 NAGLY 7P DK	14 11A Staff Mtng LB Salem Mission 4:30P Pantry Board 7P LB	15 Scot Danc 7:30P BH	16	17 Parking Lot Fund- raiser - all day Spiral Scouts 10A ARE
18 Worship 10:45A Parking Lot Fundraiser - after 11:45 New Mem Class 12:30P LB	19 Private Group 7:30P DK	20 NAGLY 7P DK	21 Pantry Mtng 7:30P LB	22 Office Closed Scot Danc 7:30P BH	23	24 Parking Lot Fund- raiser - all day
25 Worship 10:45A Parking Lot Fund- raiser - after 11:45	26 Private Group 7:30P DK Red Tent Group 5P AH ?	27 NAGLY 7P DK	28	29 Scot Danc 7:30P BH	30 Parking Lot Fund- raiser - after 6P	31 Pantry 9:30P DK Parking Lot Fundraiser - starting 11am Hearthside All day BH Spiral Scouts 10A ARE