



BROOKFIELD UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

B.U.U.C. News

Volume 17, Issue 8

October 2012



"The Little Stone Church That Rocks"

9 Upper River Street, Brookfield, MA 01506 (508) 867-5145 www.buuc.org

A Welcoming Congregation

OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- **Oct. 7:** "What Kind of Day Will You Have?"
Susan Mallard; BUUC Choir
- **Oct. 14:** "Because We Are, We Can"
Rev. Georganne Greene; Special Presentation
of the BUUC Covenant; BUUC Choir
- **Oct. 21:** "This Is Also Service"
Rev. Georganne Greene; BUUC Choir
- **Oct. 28:** *Speaking on Domestic Violence*
Margo Chevers; Russell Killough-Miller plays
Bach Cello Suite NO. 3



FROM THE MINISTER

I try to remember the best thing I ever learned about how real change happens. It has to do with focus---because we can get so overwhelmed with 'what's wrong'---there are so many lacks, deficits, problems we might identify in any given system. Certainly we could all name what needs to be 'fixed' at Brookfield UU. (And of course if a stone falls off the building, we do have to 'fix it' somehow!)

But solving problems is not generally, I've learned, the best use of our time. Change happens, rather, when we focus on what works---the 'bright spots'---and figure out how to amplify them. And that is why I spent so much time a couple of Sundays ago on welcome. I believe a true 'bright spot' at BUUC is your capacity to make this a genuinely warm and

welcoming place, as you have pledged to do in your newly adopted covenant.

That's why I was thrilled that six people gathered to meet with Executive Team member, Brian Rosetti, when he called a meeting to reinfuse the membership function at BUUC with vitality. Two significant issues were talked about at that first gathering:

1) How do we help each other remember every Sunday that the experience of genuine hospitality is ours to offer---or not. Every member will need to practice reaching out to others so that welcome is experienced as an ongoing reality (and if you're shy and want to hear about an easy 2 step 'practice model', ask someone who was at

services on Sept. 16th to share it with you!).

2) How do we create opportunities and structures for connection outside of our worship experience---ways in which we might get to deepen and broaden relationships---and, of course, have fun, too.

SO, if you have thoughts or creative ideas about either of those two significant issues, speak with Brian Rosetti. Better yet, join he and others on the last Sunday of the month to think together about amplifying the bright spot of warmth and welcome that already burns here---let's turn up this kind of heat as we head into October!

See you in church,

Georganne

ps Don't forget to join me on Saturday, October 13th for 'Choose to Bless'---won't be fun unless you're there! (See event description in newsletter---note that time is 1-4pm



CHOOSE TO BLESS:

**Exploring the Theme of Service ---
Playing with Possibility
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13th, 1-4pm**

**At BUUC, a yearning has been expressed
for greater engagement with the world.
This excerpt from Rebecca Parkers' poem
gives voice to such yearning.**

*Your gifts---whatever you discover them to be---
can be used to bless or curse the world.
The mind's power, the strength of the hands,
the reaches of the heart,
the gift of speaking, listening, imagining, seeing...*

*any of these can serve to feed the hungry,
bind up wounds, welcome the stranger,
praise what is sacred, do the work of justice,
or offer love...*

*You must answer this question:
What will you do with your gifts?
Choose to bless the world.*

**Join with other members of the BUUC
congregation as we look at our individual
and corporate gifts, unleash our imaginations,
and play with the possibilities for service that
emerge. The afternoon will be interactive and
light-hearted---it will be fun to be together and
see what can happen. And we will need YOU!!!**

**Welcome to Unitarian Universalism,
Sunday, October 14 and Sunday, October 21
from 12:00-12:45. If you want to hear some
perspective on the history and spiritual
development of our UU tradition---or hear more
about what it means to belong to a UU
community, join me for a conversation after
services. We'll meet in the sanctuary. I'll share
my thoughts and answer your questions as I can.
Reverend Georganne Greene**

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Fall foliage season everyone! I hope we get both great weather and an excellent turnout for the yard sale and Apple Country Festival on October 6th! Even if you have not signed up for a time slot, just show up Friday evening or the day of the event and your assistance will be welcomed!

I am happy to report that Peter Ringo has joined Judy Savage as a co-administrator for BUUC. Like Judy, Peter hails from the UU Church of Worcester but has been seen at BUUC enjoying Rev. Georganne's sermons on occasion. I am looking forward to working with Peter and Judy this year, and I hope you have a chance to introduce yourself if you see either of them at coffee hour. One project we hope to complete as a team over the month of October is an updated church directory. You will likely be hearing from one of us or another volunteer to confirm your contact info in the next few weeks.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Sue Bartlett for her excellent work as co-administrator over the past year plus. Sue is stepping down from the position due to her other responsibilities, but in her time she really took the newsletter to a new level. Thank you Sue!

May your October be full of color, and maybe a little intrigue,

Doug Smith, President

Flowers...

Flowers are a lovely part of worship each week. Everyone is invited to help provide flowers. Here is how it works. There is a sign-up sheet in the parlor (no, it wasn't there at the beginning of the church year, but it will be in place by the time you are reading this). Please place your name on the line indicating what Sunday you wish to provide the flowers. You can bring flowers from your own yard and garden or the roadside, or buy them at a flower shop or grocery store, or provide money and a member of the flower committee will do the rest. Likewise you can arrange the flowers yourself, in your own vase or one of the church's, use a professional, or ask a member of the Flower Committee to help. (The only criteria is to please be mindful of allergies and avoid strongly fragranced flowers.) The Flower Committee also sees that there are flowers when no one else has signed up. In December, Donna Sullivan heads up a committee which does holiday decorating of the church. Watch the newsletter for details. During that time, no additional flowers are needed. If you have any questions about any of this, just ask.

--The Flower Committee; Lila Farrar, Donna Sullivan and Judy Trifone.





MUSIC NOTES



It is my policy to include a translation in the order of service, any time the choir sings something that is in a language other than English. On Sunday, September 23, that didn't happen and by the time I realized it, it was too late to add. I sincerely apologize. However, it is interesting that no one mentioned it. Of course, that could be out of politeness, but I think it points to the fact that the music conveys something to us without our actually knowing what the words are. And sometimes maybe knowing what the words are, doesn't matter, and isn't really necessary in order to experience the music in a profound way. I can imagine that could be true for the pieces we did on Sept 23. But a promise is a promise,

so I will give you the words now. Both pieces were in Hebrew, to go with Rev Georganne Greene's sermon challenging us to take inspiration from some of the traditions of the Jewish High Holy days.

Bashana Haba'ah -lyrics by Ehud Manor. Here is an English paraphrase: "Next year, when peace will come, we shall return to the simple pleasures of life so long denied us. You will see, you will see. O how good it will be, next year."

Ose Shallom -traditional Hebrew text-- "The One who makes peace in the heavens, (may) He make peace for us, and for all Israel, and let us say, let us say Amen."

They definitely point up the fact that many texts we sing must be taken metaphorically. Alludin Mathieu says all language is metaphor, as I have quoted in this space before. However there are also times that we happily sing a text that can be taken quite literally. I think you can look forward to all kinds in October and the rest of the year, and beyond, here at BUUC. Enjoy! And if I fail to provide a translation in the future, and you care, just ask!

Lila M Farrar, Music Director
Music Committee: Rob Adams,
Cynthia Kennison, Wendy Newhall

.....FREE ORGAN!.....
Wurlitzer Californian, (small-- doesn't take up much room) has percussion stops. It needs to find a new home before the end of Oct. Please help! Call Dennis and Denise Lindell [508 867 5639](tel:5088675639)

Interested in hand drumming?



Come learn African rhythms on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 6:00pm in the BUUC basement. The class is welcoming, supportive, and, most importantly, fun! The first session is free.

If interested, contact Sue Demers at voiceofmydrum@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!"



GREEN TIPS

Fall Planting Pointers

Though many people gear up to work on their yards and gardens in the spring, fall is actually an ideal time for yard work. Here are a few ideas for bringing your garden to life in the fall:

Compost the leaves. Falling leaves are beautiful to look at but may seem like an inconvenience when planning your garden. Instead of bagging the leaves and leaving them out with the trash, consider collecting them and composting them to create nutrient-rich, organic soil that will be ready for use by the spring. [Check out our tips on collecting leaves](#) and [how to compost](#) here.

Fertilize organically. When preparing your soil for next year, add organic, slow-release fertilizers that will help enhance your soil over time. These fertilizers are made of natural materials, contain vital nutrients to help your plants grow, and prevent plants from getting nitrogen. [Most garden stores today carry a wide variety of organic](#)

fertilizers; many catalog companies also sell organic products.

Plant trees. By the time autumn rolls around, summer heat waves are long past, rainfall is usually more plentiful, and new trees, bushes and flowers have a greater chance of surviving than they would if they were planted during a hotter season. Choose species native to your area as well as those that are drought and pest resistant and can grow in the kind of soil and amount of sunlight available on your property.

Other ideas. If you have a vegetable or fruit garden that you want to maintain throughout the winter, consider planting root bulbs and leafcrops that will continue to produce despite the colder weather. This will work in many regions of the country, but some places might still be too cold. Building a greenhouse or a hot beds to cultivate your veggies could keep the fresh food coming throughout the winter!

Can't sustain your crops through the winter? Find local farms that do. There are Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs and farmer's markets in many cities and towns that allow farmers to sell their locally grown, fresh food all year long!

Committee for Ecology and Social Action



(formerly known as The Green Sanctuary Committee)

The Committee for Ecology & Social Action (CESA) has been busy at the start of this church year. We would like to invite you to join us on **Friday, October 19 from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.** for an evening of crafting. We will be decorating wrapping paper and making catnip toys to sell at this year's Fair Trade Sale. No skill or supplies are necessary. Everyone is welcome.

Please hold open either **Friday, November 16** from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. or **Saturday, November 17** from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for our sixth annual Fair Trade Sale. Fair trade coffees, teas and chocolates will be available from Equal Exchange, as well as a variety of handcrafted items from Latin America including textiles, beaded ornaments, tote bags, purses and bracelets, to name a few. And maybe some surprises.

We have purchased a copy of *Genetic Roulette – The Gamble of our Lives* and will be airing it when we are able to determine the best date. A synopsis of the movie is as follows: "When the US government ignored repeated warnings by its own scientists and allowed untested genetically modified (GM) crops into our environment and food supply, it was a gamble of unprecedented proportions. The health of all living things and all future generations were put at risk by an infant technology. After two decades, physicians and scientists have uncovered a grave trend. The same serious health problems found in lab animals, livestock, and pets that have been fed GM foods are now on the rise in the US population. And when people and animals stop eating genetically modified organisms (GMOs), their health improves. This seminal documentary provides compelling evidence to help explain the deteriorating health of Americans, especially among children, and offers a recipe for protecting ourselves and our future." Please keep your eyes open for further announcements.

Barbara Hale, Chair

The Committee for Ecology & Social Action

In 1959, several members of the UU Society of Greater Springfield (MA) were instrumental in forming what is now the Funeral Consumers Alliance of

Western MA. The FCA is sponsoring a talk on "Laughing In The Face of Death: Funny Films for Funeral Planning" by Gail Rubin on Sunday, Oct. 21, 2-4 pm, Clarion Hotel, Exit 18 off Rt. 91, Northampton, MA. Free.

Info at www.FuneralConsumersWMAss.org or [413-774-2320](tel:413-774-2320).

Dismas Family Farm

First Tuesday of every month, 6PM

Come join us as we provide a monthly meal to former prisoners who are in the process of reintegration to society. Each volunteer is only responsible for a small portion of the meal. If you would like to contribute please contact Wendy Newhall at

circle_dancers@yahoo.com.



RE RAMBLING

"We find delight in the beauty and happiness of children that makes the heart too big for the body."

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Fall has come so suddenly and it's back to RE for me! Being out of RE for six months, even if it wasn't a vacation, has freshened my vision, renewed my enthusiasm and brought some new ideas. I am delighted by the thoughtful and humorous and sometimes very serious sharings of our young BUUCsters. And, wow. Did they get tall!

And it's back to RE for the children too! We have started the year with discussion of the UU Principles and the story of the Flaming Chalice. Children, in pairs, will be designing and building our Chalice table throughout the year. They will be thinking about what belongs on our Chalice table and why. We will discuss making personal, at home Chalice tables and why we'd want one, and what we might use to build a Chalice and table. What might be different about a Chalice table during a time of sadness or a time of merriment or celebration? Quieting ourselves and meditation will go along with our Chalice work and shortly, RE children will be working on a service project.

RE Structure this year will depend on attendance. We have begun our sessions in one group, breaking into two for different age appropriate stories and further discussion. Our younger group PreK through grade 2 will experience some Spirit Play sessions.

Of course, I need some helpers! I've asked the children what they'd like to do in RE and they responded with; games, singing, trips, cooking, building, stories, art, cook for coffee hour, go outside, collect food, animals! Surely you could help out with something on that list!!

Continuing with Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Hitch your wagon to the stars" and let's make this a great BUUC year!

Big Blessings,

Laurel

Laurel Burdon, DRE





As an ad hoc to Membership Committee, I've volunteered to be coordinating the Circle Suppers at the church this year! We'll be kicking off the series with a circle supper on November 10th in member's homes! Please save the date. We can individually start to plan on whether we're hosting, joining others, bringing children to the supper, and what we'll cook up as our contribution. I personally love these events and can't wait to start them up again! There will be a sign up sheet in the parlor. Please join me in introducing this lovely time together with others in our church circle!

In peace, Mary Ann

Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church
9 Upper River St ~ P.O. Box 386
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BUUC Staff

Interim Minister.....Rev. Georganne Greene
 Religious Education Director.....Laurel Burdon
 Music Director..... Lila M. Farrar
 Co-Administrator.....Peter Ringo
 Co-Administrator.....Judy Savage

Executive Committee

President.....Doug Smith
 Treasurer.....Donna Boyea
 Clerk.....Alan Hyde
 Member-at-Large.....Laurie Magnuson
 Member-at-Large.....Joyce Lofgren
 Member-at-Large.....Brian Rosetti
 Member-at-Large.....Roxann Smith
 Collector.....Debbie Ennis

Committees, Groups, and Chairs

Flower Committee.....Lila Farrar, Donna Sullivan
 Committee for Ecology & Social Action.....Barb Hale
 Membership Committee.....Brian Rosetti
 Ministerial Search Committee.....Kevin Snyder
 Music Committee.....Rob A., Cynthia K., Wendy N.
 Women's Alliance.....Judy Trifone, President
 Worship Committee.....John Kennison
 Ultimate Team.....R. King, D. Mossa, J. Trifone



Stone Soup Community Luncheon

Will resume on Wednesdays beginning in October. The dates for this year are as follows:

October 17 (third Wed)
 November 7
 December 5
 January 9 (second Wed)



The UUA website: Standingonthesideoflove.org is available to all of us as a resource for thinking and action around the larger issues that may concern us. It is our denomination's public advocacy site to "harness love's power to stop oppression".

Classical Guitarist Stanley Alexandrowicz Returns to BUUC on October 21st at 3:00 p.m.



Internationally acclaimed guitarist Stanley Alexandrowicz's concert,

Romantic and Contemporary Virtuoso Guitar Music, is a return engagement by request. Alexandrowicz gave an enthusiastically received concert at BUUC in 2009.

A specialist in romantic music as well as music of our time, he will perform the first half of the program on a 10-string double-neck period instrument, as used by great guitar virtuosi of the 19th century, featuring 19th century works by Robert de Visee, Napoleon Coste, Ivan Padovec, J. K. Mertz, and John Dubez. Then, on a familiar classical guitar he will play contemporary music by Brian Fennelly, Valclav Kucera, Kendall Kennison and Astor Piazzolla.

Alexandrowicz has commissioned and premiered works by composers in Europe, Asia, North America, Cuba, and South America. The BUUC concert will introduce the world premier of Kendall Kennison's *Guitar Sonata No. 1*. Other works by Kennison, who grew up in New Braintree and attended BUUC, appear on Alexandrowicz's recordings for Albany Records.

Donation \$10. Seniors and students \$8. 12 and under, free.

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P. O. Box 386

9 Upper River Street

Brookfield, MA 01506

The Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church
is a fellowship of seekers after truth,
bound by no dogma, restricted by no creed.



Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m.
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A Welcoming Congregation
"The Little Stone Church That Rocks"
Telephone (508) 867-5145
www.buuc.org

TO:

BUUC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	1	2 Dismas Family 6 p.m. Drum Workshop 6 p.m.	3	4 Choir Practice, 6:55-8:30 p.m	5	6	
7 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Meditation Group 6 pm	8	9	10	11 Choir Practice, 6:55-8:30 p.m	12	13 "Choose to Bless" 1-4pm	
14 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. "Welcome to UU" 12:00	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 Drum Workshop 6 p.m. Womens Alliance 7 p.m.	17 Stone Soup Luncheon 12 noon	18 Choir Practice, 6:55-8:30 p.m	19 Crafting Night 5:30pm	20	
21 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. "Welcome to UU" 12:00 Classical Guitar Concert 3pm Meditation Group 6 pm	22	23	24	25 Choir Practice, 6:55-8:30 p.m	26	27	
28 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.	29	30	31				