



BROOKFIELD UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

B.U.U.C. News

Volume 17, Issue 7

September 2012



"The Little Stone Church That Rocks"

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

A Welcoming Congregation

*Don't forget to bring a STONE
on Sunday, September 9th*



SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- **Sept. 9:** "Welcome to the House of Hope"
Rev. Georganne Greene,
Laurel Burdon, Director of Religious Education,
Lila M. Farrar, Music Director; BUUC Choir
- **Sept. 16:** "The Hat Thing"
Rev. Georganne Greene; Violin solo
- **Sept. 23:** "On Assignments and Practice"
Rev. Georganne Greene; BUUC Choir
- **Sept. 30:** "Why Be Religious"
John Kennison; Flute solo

FROM THE MINISTER

Hello Brookfield Congregation
--- I so look forward to seeing your bright and (often) smiling faces soon! Summer has provided much joy and richness, along with a few bumps and bruises, but that seems to be the way of it no matter what time of year. I do hope each of you has experienced a good share of the joys with a minimum of bruises.

And now September arrives. Off we go to begin a new year together. And this will be an important one in the life of your congregation (actually they are all important). I am excited for you and for the gift of accompanying you in this time. I do hope to see all of you at our ingathering service on Sept. 9th. Don't forget to bring your stone--- that symbol of your ongoing connection to this "little stone church that rocks"; we will gather them together again to represent the true foundation of this congregation---which is to say each of you. (And of course, if you forget,

never fear---more stones will undoubtedly appear!).

Your Search Committee has been busy over the summer and will be keeping you posted as the fall unfolds. Another important early feature of the autumn season is our **All Congregation Event on Saturday, October 13th from 1-5pm** Please put that in your calendar NOW AS YOUR PARTICIPATION IS KEY!!! I'm calling this event "**Choose to Bless**" and you will see more details about it later in the newsletter. We will explore the theme of service that you have consistently said is important to you as Unitarian Universalists---discerning what creative possibilities may exist at both individual and corporate levels for meaningful engagement with our community.

October will also feature the formal presentation of the Congregational Covenant that was created and accepted by you at the May Congregational meeting. It is a wonderful document that provides a strong framework for this

congregation to live into its best self. Your covenant and your investment in exploring service will no doubt speak volumes about your identity and potential to the ministers who will be exploring future connection with you.

So off we go into a new autumn with lots of excitement on tap--- not to mention national elections which should provide us all with a dose or two of adrenaline. We'll no doubt need each other more than ever. So hang on to your hats and see you in church!

Georganne



CHOOSE TO BLESS:

Exploring the Theme of Service ---

Playing with Possibility

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13th, 1- 5pm

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!!!**

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!"

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome back to the start of another church year! I am looking forward to a year of being present and active in our community, whether simply enjoying our choir, contemplating one of Rev. Georganne's wonderful sermons, teaching our children about UU philosophy, and even tackling some of our more pressing challenges. Our covenant, adopted at the May 2012 meeting, is a remarkable document - I encourage all committees to begin the church year by reading it at their first meeting. Make no mistake, there are significant challenges (and opportunities!) ahead for our community, and I am confident that we will meet the challenges together and our community will become even stronger. But before we look ahead - I'd like to look back and acknowledge and thank four individuals who have contributed greatly to our congregation, but who have or are planning to move on. They are: Diane Oliver-Jenson, Dave and Jodi Howe, and Emily Jeffrey. These individuals' contributions are far too numerous to list, but suffice it to say that they are a large part of what has made us who we are the past several years, and their good works and positive attitudes have not gone unnoticed.

It is my pleasure to announce that Joyce Lofgren has agreed to join the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy left by Emily's departure. Joyce joins a very strong team consisting of Treasurer Donna Boyea, Clerk Alan Hyde, Laurie Magnuson, Brian Rossetti, Roxanne Smith, and yours truly. I am honored to serve with this group! This church year we plan to complete our search and ultimately call a new minister next spring. The work of the Search Committee is extremely important, and we owe the team our gratitude for their many hours of service as well as their continued work this year. It is my pleasure to announce that Donna Sullivan has agreed to join the search committee, filling Dave Howe's position. Search is clearly a strategic priority for BUUC this year, and one that also presents some related opportunities for congregational growth. Some of the other priorities for the Executive Committee this year are to rebuild the Membership Committee and strengthen the Maintenance Committee. We also need to tackle the very real and very serious issue of our building's condition, particularly our tower situation. You will hear more about this in the coming months. Together we can make sure that the BUUC remains a vital and relevant congregation for ourselves as well as the greater community!

Now, let's all enjoy the rest of the summer - I hope to see you on September 9!

Doug Smith, President



MUSIC NOTES



Although I do enjoy and appreciate the summer break from the weekly deadlines of the church year, I do spend part of the summer planning for the next year. A big part of that is attending the annual UU Musicians Network conference, held this year in Tulsa (yes it was hot there, but yes, they have effective air conditioning). I also attended the Professional Development Day lead by Rev Susan M. Smith, District Executive of the Southwestern Region. While the course description sounded a little dry, she was a delightful presenter of the historic and practical considerations of leadership roles. I can also recommend the readings----especially the introduction by Alice Blair Wesley to the Contemporary Reader's Edition of The Cambridge Platform, and Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times by Peter L. Steinke---to anyone interested in church leadership. I have decided to buy the latter and make it available to anyone at BUUC to borrow. Just ask. (It will be one way to know that someone read this part of the newsletter!)

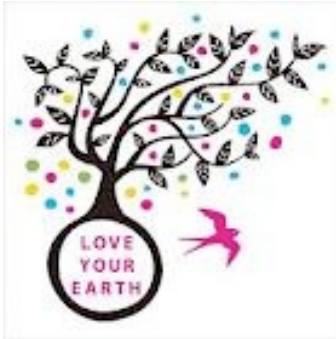
During the conference itself, there was meaningful worship, difficult choices among many interesting workshops, valuable networking with my UUMN colleagues, and the sheer joy of singing together with nearly 200 other musicians. I enjoyed and learned a lot from Dr. Timothy Seelig, the choral clinician, both from singing under his direction every day, and in the conducting masterclasses. I heard details including the challenges and joys of our host church, Tulsa's All Soul's. You may remember reading in the UU World Magazine about what happened when an African-American Pentecostal bishop embraced Universalism, shook up the largest congregation in our denomination, and created the most diverse one. If you want to hear more about that, just ask! Another workshop I attended was a read-through of an Earth Day Cantata presented by composer, Mary Lou Prince. Though we won't be doing the work in its entirety, I came home with several pieces we will use. You will hear one of them on Sept 9.

Now I am excited to begin a new church year. Choir rehearsal as well as

rehearsals with some of the other musicians began mid-August. As usual, we will have as much diversity as possible in our music, with every effort made for it to be part of an entire, good, meaningful worship experience. Since we rely on the members and friends of our BUUC community to make this happen, if you have some music interests and skills that I don't know about, please talk to me, or a member of the Music Committee. There is the possibility for everything from singing in the choir (a bigger commitment) to solo performances, to playing or singing in a group once (a smaller commitment) or more, to suggesting a type of music you'd like to hear, or letting us know about a musical skill someone else has. All comments are welcome, even if we can't make all suggestions happen this year.

I am looking forward to another exciting, inspiring and challenging church year, and I hope you are too. See you in September!

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



GREEN TIPS

My friend Wendy sent me three pages of cucumber tips which I never knew were so versatile. Remember how you are always being told that the dark vegetables are better for you than the light ones. You can forget that when you read this.

(Pears and cabbage are great for you too.)

- "Cucumbers contain most of the vitamins you need every day. Just one cucumber contains Vitamin B1, B2, B3, B5, B6, Folic Acid, Vitamin C, Calcium, Iron, Magnesium, Phosphorus, Potassium, and Zinc."
 - Here's a gardening tip if you are plagued with grubs and slugs. Place a few cucumber slices in a small aluminum pie tin and those creepy bugs will disappear for the summer because "the chemicals in the cucumber react with the aluminum to give off a scent undetectable to us but drive garden pests crazy and make them flee the area".
 - One slice will eliminate the need for WD40.
 - Cucumber will eliminate bad breath and bacteria in your mouth. Press one slice on the roof of your mouth, holding it in place with your tongue for 30 seconds. The phytochemicals will kill the bacteria.
- My garden cucumber is ready for tonight's salad.

-Daphne Stevens

In celebration of Constitution Day, Sept 20, there will be two performances of The Bill of Rights: Ten Amendments in Eight Motets on Sept 16, at 4:00 and at 5:00. I have written about this piece in the newsletter before. Composer Neely Bruce, in an effort to help people be more familiar with this important document, set it to music verbatim, in the style of early American Composer, William Billings. Our choir has sung the first movement--The First Amendment (Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...) These performances will be in historic Faneuil Hall, where Bostonians debated whether to adopt the Bill of Rights. If you would like to carpool, please let me know. I will be leaving right after church.

~Lila Farrar 508 867 8806

lilamfarrar@gmail.com

Committee for Ecology and Social Action



(formerly known as The Green Sanctuary Committee)

Green Sanctuary Committee changed its name and focus. At the last meeting of the Green Sanctuary Committee, the members of the Green Sanctuary Committee voted to change our name to the **Committee for Ecology & Social Action (CESA)**. With that name change, we are hoping to encompass a broader range of social action, enveloping our efforts at the Dismas House, for example, as well as continuing our efforts to support Fair Trade and more. We would like your input.

The first meeting of CESA for the 2012-13 church year will be held on Wednesday, September 12 at 7:00 pm at the church. If you have any questions about this meeting or if you can't make the meeting but would like to be involved, please contact Barbara Hale at [\(508\) 347-7821](tel:5083477821) or at barbstur@gmail.com. Hope to see you there.

~Barbara Hale, Chair
CESA

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.



The Search Committee is collecting pictures of church events for the packet we will be sharing with prospective ministers. If any one has pictures they would like to share, please email them to laurelsquilts@msn.com. Thank you!



RE RAMBLING

Summer is slipping away but it doesn't feel that way and fall will follow fast but who can believe that when it's so, so hot and all we can think about is icy lemonade and swimming or c o o l showering and really, can you even imagine cool weather and beautiful foliage and fireplace fires and cozy sweaters when it's still this hot and muggy?

Sure can! because our experience informs us and experiential learning is what we'll be experiencing in RE this new church year. Huh. We will be thinking and brainstorming, planning and developing, collecting and working together and we'll be delivering too. Children and adult volunteers will be experiencing service and stewardship to our faith community, the greater local community and the world community, hands-on, and we'll even figure out how to do it together.

Well, sure. I do have some ideas to start with but what fun would be to tell you all that now because really don't we all like some small unknown to look forward to and experience together and I mean really personally together, not electronically together...right? Right.

And. Who will be helping to get all this done? You! Well, you I hope! Because, just like everything that happens at the BUUC, the more the merrier! and lots of people will only need to do a little; but just a few people will have to do a real lot. Volunteer now! Give me a call, e-mail, facebook, snail mail, Morse code, drum message, smoke...

Welcome back to this most special place, this holy place; this place of light and love, hope and sharing, of aspirations and dreams and a little silliness too.

Big Blessings,

Laurel

Laurel A. Burdon, DRE



~~Wood Stock~~
Socks

A family friendly
music & culture festival
at
Hyland Orchard
Sturbridge, MA

September 2
12-8 PM



Admission \$10
Kids 12 & under FREE!
Music, Food, FUN!

FEATURING:
Blues for Jesus
Indian Oven
Jamie Kent & the Options
Lux Deluxe
Missing Faculties
Secret Sage
The Raft
To Benefit:
socksforsiberia.org
508•637•1248
socksforsiberia@charter.net

**8 HOURS
of CHARITY
& MUSIC**

Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church
9 Upper River St ~ P.O. Box 386
Brookfield, MA 01506
www.buuc.org
buuc01506@gmail.com

BUUC Staff

Interim Minister.....Rev. Georganne Greene
Religious Education Director.....Laurel Burdon
Music Director.....Lila M. Farrar
Co-Administrator.....Sue Bartlett
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".

PEACE CONCERT

On September 21st at 7PM, please join singer / songwriter,
GARY BLANCHARD for a concert of songs of peace and hope to
celebrate International Peace Day. Be ready have fun singing along
as Gary plays 12-string guitar and 5-string banjo.



The concert will be held at the
Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church,
9 Upper River Street, On the Common,
Brookfield, Mass.

A free will donation will be requested to
benefit **The Center for Nonviolent Solutions,**
an organization that provides education and
resources for people in the Worcester Area to increase understanding
of nonviolence as a way of life and encourages rejection
of the use of violence in resolving conflict.

Help Wanted

Position of Church Co-Administrator

We are looking to hire a Co-Administrator. This is
currently a part time, shared staff position. Reliability
and good communication skills are key. Computer skills
are essential.

The following is an outline of the basic duties for the
position. If you are interested, please contact Doug
Smith at (508) 868-9961 or by email at
mecodoug@charter.net, or speak to any member of the
Executive Committee.

- Check and respond to or forward E-mail daily.
- Send out E-blasts, and cross-post to the BUUC Facebook page.
- Manage the Church Calendar.
- Compile, publish and E-blast the BUUC Newsletter.
- Manage contact information of BUUC members, friends, and those interested in events.

BROOKFIELD UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

**P. O. Box 386
9 Upper River Street
Brookfield, MA 01506**

Judy Savage as co-administrator
Joyce Lofgren, not Emily Jeffrey as exec member
Building Comm ?
and Brian Rossetti as Membership chair.

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.
Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church
A Welcoming Congregation
"The Little Stone Church That Rocks"
Telephone (508) 867-5145
www.buuc.org

TO:

BUUC CALENDAR OF EVENTS
September 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
						1	
2 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Meditation Group 6 pm	3	4 Dismas Family 6 p.m. Drum Workshop 6 p.m.	5	6 Choir Practice, 6:55-8:30 p.m	7	8	
9 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.	10	11	12 CESA 7 p.m.	13 Choir Practice, 6:55-8:30 p.m	14 Newsletter Deadline	15	
16 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Meditation Group 6 pm	17	18 Womens Alliance 7 p.m. Drum Workshop 6pm	19	20 Choir Practice, 6:55-8:30 p.m	21 Peace Concert 7pm	22	
23 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.	24	25	26	27 Choir Practice, 6:55-8:30 p.m	28	29	
30 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.							