



SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2009

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Seeking Trustees and General Assembly 2009 Delegates

Want to get involved in this vibrant community? The FPS Nominating Committee is currently seeking names for two people to serve on the Board of Trustees and also for four people who would like to attend General Assembly being held this year in Salt Lake City! If you are interested in hearing more about either of these opportunities open to members of the congregation, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee - Sara H, Jan H , or Annmarie A

Bring Your Questions to workshop March 21, 9am-1pm with free brunch

Whether you are considering membership or are already a member but missed this workshop previously, plan to join us. Learn about how this congregation is organized, financed and governed; learn about how it came to be Unitarian (and then UU); learn some history about Unitarianism and Universalism; learn what brings individuals here and what diversity we now encompass. Come on Saturday, March 21, from 9-1, for an orientation workshop – with a free brunch. Please contact Ginny S for more information or to sign up. Childcare will be provided if it is requested in advance.

Summer Service Planning in the Works

Spring is coming soon, and so is summer! The Worship Associates Group is planning the Sunday services for this summer—June 21 through Sept 7. These are lay-led services on topics dear to the speaker's heart. If you come throughout the summer, you will experience a rich variety of topics, speakers, and styles. Each Sunday there is a light breakfast at 9:30 and the service begins at 10:00.

They say that "everyone has at least one sermon in them". Are you ready to offer yours to our community? (There is support for you—a Spring Training workshop and an experienced Worship Host to assist you.) Or maybe you could provide music one Sunday? Or, make breakfast?

It's easy to sign up—the poster is in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings. Or call Fran Sharp. You can have a look at the schedule as it develops on our First Parish website: www.fpsudbury.org.

This Sunday's Worship Service

March 15, 2009

"AFFIRMING AND CELEBRATING OUR YOUTH"

Roberta Altamari and the FPS Youth

On Sunday, March 15, 2009 the Worship Service at the First Parish of Sudbury will include offerings by First Parish senior youth of worshipful music and readings. This service, led by First Parish's Director of Religious Exploration and Youth Ministry, Ms. Roberta Altamari, will also include rites-of-passage for 8-year-olds and 11-year-olds in our religious community. This promises to be a heartwarming and inspiring service.

We will celebrate our 8-year-olds by presenting them with a personal-sized chalice, the symbol of their freedom to explore their own spiritual path and be their unique selves. We will also affirm our growing 11-year-olds in our "First Mentor" ceremony that gives us the opportunity as a community through the representation of one adult to let them know the significance of their presence at First Parish.

Ms. Altamari brings these new rites-of-passage to our community. "We affirm our 9th graders in a Coming-of-Age service in May. Today we recognize the transitions from one developmental stage to the next that happen around ages eight and eleven, when there is a change in the way they view and interact with their world" says Ms. Altamari. We hope you will join us for this celebrative and poignant service. All are welcome.

FPS Auction Donations: What creative ideas do you have?

Treat yourself, and also your friends at First Parish, to a social evening of dinner and conversation and perhaps one of your favorite activities for a group of six or eight people, like a game, a walk in your garden, a swim in your pool - - the possibilities are endless. Ethnic dinners are always fun and are a special treat for those of us who don't know how to cook in Mexican, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Afghan, Greek or Indian - - and we would like to offer a gastronomic world tour in our Auction so that bidders can choose from any continent!

But most of all, offer to do something that you will enjoy! The Auction Web Site is open now and waiting for your offering of an Auction Item, or you can call Ted or Elaine J at to discuss your donation, and Thank You!

***The 2nd Annual Kids' Party
at 6pm on Auction Night in The Commons.
all kids welcome!***

***Fun, music (with a DJ), snacks, craft, quiet space
\$10 per child; \$20 family maximum
All profits go to First Parish.
Contact Roberta Altamari to sign up, or for information.***

The Bulletin Board

Heard from your
FPS Canvasser yet?

*If not, please contact
Susan I*

Signed up yet for the
Women's Alliance Spring Retreat?

April 3-5
See brochure in FPS lobby

First Parish of Sudbury's Pastoral Associates

Anmarie Allen	Fred Pryor
Audrey Kipp	Paul Reising
Polly Meltzer	Dawn Shilts
Bruce Porter	

*In the event of a pastoral need, please call
any of these Pastoral Associates.*

FPS Shares the Plate on Sunday, March 22

As we do about once each month, on March 22 we will give half of what is collected during the morning offering with the Sudbury-Wayland-Lincoln Domestic Violence Roundtable. The Roundtable was organized in 1998 by members of the Sudbury League of Women Voters after participating in a state-wide study of domestic violence. Members from Lincoln and Wayland were recruited to join also. The Roundtable membership includes clergy, agency heads, police officers, educators, attorneys in family law and individuals.

The Roundtable is all volunteer, not-for-profit and works to eliminate all forms of abusive behaviors in the communities including violence between partners in marriage and committed relationships, sexual violence in teen dating, bullying in the schools and on the internet, child abuse and elder abuse. Unfortunately, all of these problems exist in our communities and are at risk of becoming more aggravated as the economy worsens.

The Roundtable conducts public awareness programs, collects clothing and personal necessities for victims residing in shelters, encourages and supports local clergy in their denunciation of domestic violence, and provides trained volunteer advocates in the courts for victims of abusive behavior.

Your generous donation supports all of these programs. For more information, the website is:
<http://www.domesticviolenceroundtable.org/index.html>

Please note that any person in danger should call 911, SafeLink at 877-785-2020, REACH at 800-899-4000, or Voices Against Violence at 800-593-1125. The Roundtable is not an emergency services provider. For non-emergency help and having an advocate call you back, call 888-399-6111, the Domestic Violence Services Network.