



First Parish Unitarian Church of Hubbardston

The Parish Press

Editor: Cyndy Washburn-Doane

Spring 2013

“Spirit of Life, we come together this Easter morning”

Spirit of life, we confess that too often we have not taken time to search for the beauty of your creation hidden around us. As we allow such beauty to go unnoticed we have deprived ourselves of occasions for joy and delight. On this Easter morning we pray that our senses may come alive, ready to respond to all the beauty, the harmony, the fragrance, taste and texture of life around us.

It is the season of renewal and all around us everything is bursting into bloom or song. The hidden beauty of nature is preparing to unfold. On this Easter morning we would be assured that we too have a hidden inner beauty ready to unfold, reflecting the image of your creative power.

*Passages from
Ruth E. Gibson
A Unitarian Author*

Important Dates:

- 3-24 *Williamsville Chapel
Farmer’s Market
12 – 3 pm*
- 3-27 *Sanctuary Clean-up
6 pm*
- 3-31 *Easter
Coffee to follow
10 am*
- 4-19 *Indoor Yard Sale Set-up
7 -9 pm*
- 4-20 *Spring Indoor Yard Sale
9 am - 2 pm*
- 5-? *Westminster Farmer’s Mkt
Opening Day
3 pm – 6:30 pm*
- 5-5 *Recognition Sunday
Potluck
10 am*
- 6-? *Town Wide Yard Sale
8 am - 2 pm*

Pianist: Lisa Utzig

Church: 10 am

How to contact us:

Church
Phone:



978-928-5822

Mailing Address:
First Parish Unitarian Church

Box 509
Hubbardston, MA 01452

Websites:
hubbardstonunitarian.org
www.uua.org

www.cbd.uua.org
See us on Facebook

CHURCH NEWS

Spring Farmers Market at the Williamsville Chapel

The Hubbardston Historical Society will be holding a Farmers Market at the Williamsville Chapel on Burnshirt Road in Hubbardston on March 24th from 12 – 3 pm. Our Church will be selling Jams & Jellies. Our Jams include: Peach,



Black Raspberry, Strawberry/Rhubarb, Blueberry, Raspberry and Pear. Our Jellies include: Concord Grape, Wild Red Grape, Crabapple, Currant, Blackberry, Pear and Elderberry. We will have samples for you to taste. We will also be selling homemade candy. Please recycle your 8 oz. jelly

jars back to the Church. Special thanks go out to all our neighbors and friends that have let the ladies pick at all their secret patches and to all who donated jars and ingredients.

Let's Get Ready For Easter – Break out the brooms, mops and cleaning gear. Wednesday, March 27th at 6 pm is our Easter Clean-up. We move into spring by cleaning the sanctuary. Hope to see you there. P.S. It is a full moon that evening.

Easter Sunday – Easter services will be held Sunday, March 31st at 10 am, with Rev. Eliza Blanchard delivering the sermon and Lisa Utzig playing the piano. Please join us for coffee in the vestry directly after the service. Does anyone remember way back when we had to go and purchase new Easter hats, coats and white gloves?

Annual Spring Indoor Yard Sale – This year's spring sale will be held on Saturday April 20th from 9 am until 2 pm. Treasures of all sorts will be sold, yard sale items, clothing, toys, puzzles, household & kitchen, collectable and jewelry. Each item must be in good condition. Please, no car seats, cribs, PC's or outdated electronics. Donations will be accepted on Friday night April 19th from 7 – 9 pm. Please consider dividing your perennials and donating these handsome little potted surprises to our plant table. Please do not leave any donations

outside the church prior to Friday night. Disposal of unsold items is a major problem.

The famous Church Lady Luncheon will be served. The menu will include soup, sandwiches and home-baked goodies. The Spice Shop will be open and we will hold a Chinese Auction. We will be selling homemade jams & jellies and knitting. We need donations for the auction table, food table and Volunteers are always needed.

Recognition Sunday – Please join us for this celebration of community and its accomplishments. This year our graduates are: Jake Hakala and Hannah Woodward from Monty Tech. Jake is planning to attend college for construction management and Hannah is planning on finding a job in Cosmetology. Rob Ward received an Associate Degree from Mt. Wachusett Community College. Caroline Doane will graduate from the University of Hartford, Hartt School of Music with a Bachelor's Degree in Music. Rebecca Green will receive a BS from the University of Mass.

Town Wide Yard Sale – The Church will be having an Indoor Yard Sale during Hubbardston's Town Wide Yard Sale on a Saturday in June, from 8 am – 2 pm. We will have yard sale items; a bake sale, coffee & pastry and our famous Church Lady Luncheon all day; homemade sandwiches, pickles & chips, beverage & dessert for eat-in or take-out will be available. We need volunteers to set up, sell, bake and clean up. Please make us one of your stops during your treasure hunt around town. Please refer to the Gardner News Yard Sale section, our Church Face Book page or the Hubbardston web site for the exact date



Remaining Services:

March 17
Sherry Thomas

March 24 – Palm Sunday
Rev. Phyllis Pomerleau

March 31 - Easter

Rev. Eliza Blanchard
Coffee Hour

April 7
Elizabeth Siwo Okundi

April 21
Rev Eliza Blanchard

April 28
Rev. Phyllis Pomerleau

May 5 - Recognition Lay Service
Potluck

May 12 - Mother's Day
TBA

The 2012 Gingerbread Fair was a huge success!!!! – The Gingerbread Fair Committee would like to extend a sincere thanks to all our Members and Friends and volunteers for their months and months, days and days and hours upon hours of hard work that made 2012 fair a huge success. The list of jobs is too long to list, but here are a few: picking of greens, meatball making, serving the lunch, decorating the vestry, making the quilt, knitting, setting up tables, preparing the raffles and baking the bread. The list goes on and on. The generous support of businesses, near and far was amazing and we applaud all of you for your generosity and understanding of our missions and goals. The fair would not be what it is, without all of our happy attendees that came out on that slippery December 1st. We thank all of you again and again for your kindness and charity.

Knitting Club – This club meets most Wednesdays at 7 pm in the Church and is loads of fun. Please join Nancy Hubbard, knitter extraordinaire, to knit one pearl one, or was that knit two, pearl two. Bring along some yarn and your favorite pattern. You may reach Nancy at 978-928-5964 with any questions.

Spring 2013 Round of 1-20 TICKETS AVAILABLE – The Spring 1-20 Club tickets are available for sale now. Each ticket is \$20. There will be 12 drawings for \$50 each. The drawings are held on Sunday at the Church. In addition to the 12 drawings, there are 4 drawings done the final Sunday of Church on May 12th. Prizes are: 1st - \$150, 2nd – \$100, 3rd - \$100 and 4th - \$50. Thank you all for your continued support. Contact Barbara (978-928-4475) to purchase a ticket. This money benefits our Restoration and Renovation fund.

NCMUUC – The North Central Massachusetts Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NCMUUC) is a growing group of small church congregations that include Ashby, Athol, Fitchburg, Gardner, Leominster, Orange, Petersham, Winchendon and our Church. This group holds meetings regularly. Our church hosted a meeting in January about lay services. The NCMUUC is currently planning the 2013 summer activities, speakers, trips and meetings. Please let a Parish Committee member know if you would like to attend a meeting and for further information.

Got News? – Our Fall 2013 Parish Press will be going out at the end of August. Submissions for this issue are due by August 23rd.

Jams & Jellies – Church ladies: Barbara Hubbard, Carol Hubbard-Kelley June Hubbard-Ward and Mary Taylor are back at Jam & Jelly production and fruit picking. Last year was another successful year. This year we are looking for peppers for Hot Pepper Jelly, and any other fruit anyone may want to donate. If you have any fruit that the ladies can use give Mary a call at 978-928-4289. Please recycle your 8 oz. jelly jars by returning them to the Church. See you all every Friday afternoon at the Westminster Farmers Market beginning in May – October, 3 – 6 pm and at all of our regular sales. Thank you to all who have donated to this cause in the past. Watch the local papers for exact times and dates of the sales.



Winners 120 Club Fall 2012 – The following people won \$50 in the fall round of the 120 Club: Betty & Bill Bumpus, Joe Sama, Todd Marean, Pam McHugh, Lodia Dembek, Fern Dorval, Fred Flood, Gwen Bertrand, Alfred Kenda, Donnie & Bob Cohn, Diane Watkins, Ruth Sherman Strong

Final Drawing winners were:
\$50 – Diane Watkins
\$100 – Joan & Walter Ducharme, Mariann Ward
\$150 – Dot Suojanen

Thanks to all our ticket holders for your continued support.

Change Your Address – If you change your address, either U.S. Mail or email, please let us know. You may email Cyndy at cwdoane@charter.net or send a written note to the Church at: P.O. Box 509, Hubbardston MA 01452. Thanks!

Visiting Clergy – The idea that to be a church there must be a settled Minister within that church does not necessarily hold true. It has not been so for our congregation for the past three years. This does not make the church any less of a church or any less of a church community. It is quite unusual for Quaker churches to have a Minister at any time. Our First Parish Unitarian church has chosen to use a variety of speakers to fill the pulpit on Sundays.

The variety of speakers is made up of some Ordained Ministers, Andover Newton & Harvard divinity students, inspirational speakers, and lay persons. They say that variety is the spice of life. We have a fresh perspective in the pulpit most Sundays. Unitarians are not set in a calendar of readings or series of sermons. We are allowed to explore just about anything from the pulpit. With our diverse speakers we have had just as many topics for sermons. We even have some not quite sermons where we let the music be the topic of the morning.

Some may ask why don't we go with the standard and have a settled minister? Many small churches find themselves in this same place, too small to support a full time minister. Some use part time ministers, laypersons, and pulpit supply. We have tried the part time ministers in the past. For us we have found some refreshing views in using a variety of people to fill the pulpit.

Join us on any Sunday that we hold a service. We set a list of speakers for half a year at a time. So we do know who will be with us, there is the unexpected surprise of the talents of the people who come speak to us. A church is made up of the people within the community. We choose to have a little variety in the people who speak from the pulpit.

All Church Trip – Remember last year's trip to the zoo? Great fun. It is now time to plan another trip. Put on your thinking caps and call any member of the Parish Committee with your idea ASAP.

Food Collection – We are happy to report that the Church collected food to fill six baskets, each one with a turkey given to Hubbardston families in need in time for the Thanksgiving meal. Thank you to all who donated.

Local Food Pantries:

St. Patrick's Church (basement) 285 Main St. Rutland, MA 01543 508-886-2206	Gardner CAC 294 Pleasant St. Gardner, MA 01440 978-632-8700
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Always call ahead to confirm services, hours, etc. You may also contact them directly by phone to donate and/or volunteer.

2012 Gingerbread Fair Raffle Winners – The winner of the quilt, hand made by Carol Whitney, was Carolyn Leonard of Hubbardston. How excited she was!!! Arlene Lessur of Templeton won the cord of wood, donated by Sawyers' Trucking & Logging. We are happy she is staying very warm this winter. The winner of the Gingerbread House, made by Mary Taylor, was Kia Streb. Her beautiful blue eyes were as big as saucers as she reached up to receive her prize.

Parish Committee – The Parish Committee meets every Wednesday at 4 pm. We schedule services and ministers, bring interesting programs to the community, plan fairs and continue our building maintenance. We continue to work with the Town to complete the land division and undertake the day by day business of the church. All are welcome and encouraged to attend our meetings.

Carol Whitney: Pres.	978-928-3748
Barbara Hubbard: Treas.	978-928-4475
Cyndy Washburn-Doane: VP	978-928-4866
Mary Taylor: Clerk	978-928-4289

WE, AS UNITARIANS, COVENANT TO AFFIRM AND PROMOTE:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process with our congregations and in society at large;

The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.