

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

by Rev. Jennifer Brooks

MIGRATIONS

With June come Nantucket's migratory residents, our beloved community members who spend the winter in warmer places. In June the skies are usually blue and the sun usually beneficent. The summer excitement begins to build: the film festival ushers in a host of visitors. Year-round residents welcome back neighbors who have been away and begin their preparations (mental as well as logistical) for summer visitors. The trees and fields are green. The roses scent the air. With June it's possible to feel with each breath the movement of life, the turning of seasons.

One of the insights that life on Nantucket brings is the endlessness of change. From season-to-season, year-to-year, life's ebb and flow is somehow more noticeable here. Even the weather is more noticeable. In May it seemed to alter every half-hour as the fickle winds blew and hushed across our little glacial moraine, that human-populated remnant of the Laurentide Ice Sheet.

"May we be filled with lovingkindness. May we be well. May we be peaceful and at ease. May we be whole."

— *Buddhist meditation, adapted by Mark W. Hayes*

As I prepare for my own migration at the end of July, I'm comforted by the rhythms of change that pulse vividly at this time of year. There are the known cycles, yes, with their anticipated migratory birds. Yet each year brings changes that will make this summer different from the last; will make the year ahead a new year. It is always so.

At the beach again, I watch the dog romp with the waves, enjoying the way he celebrates his own cleverness as he darts and dodges. I feel a new serenity. The ocean always leads me to peacefulness, but with this particular emerging summer I'm seeing not only the water before me as it is today, but also as it has been on so many different days over the past eight years. That meditative inward eye fills, as well, with the faces of the many who are beloved to me, especially those here on Nantucket and in our UU community.

There is a Buddhist prayer the Dalai Lama teaches: "May you be happy; may you be at peace." Leave-taking is difficult, even when adventure awaits. So much alters during even a short absence. Yet life is change, and my heart is filled with lovingkindness. I sigh and the ocean sighs with me. The wind picks up the exhalation and spins more froth. The dog cavorts. He turns, acknowledging my presence, then dashes away faster than the speed of light. His paws fling a cascade of sand into the air. There is no way to answer but to smile.

May we be well; may we be whole.

JOIN US FOR
SUNDAY
SERVICES AT 10:45 A.M.

Sunday, June 5

"Voices"

Rev. Jennifer Brooks

Sunday, June 12

"Summer Afternoon"

Rev. Jennifer Brooks

Sunday, June 19

"Juneteenth"

Rev. Jennifer Brooks

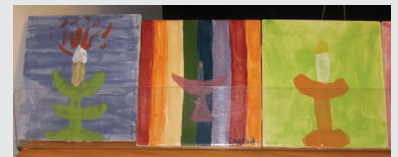
Sunday, June 26

Lay-Led Fourth Sunday

"Forgiveness and
Transformation"

Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford

Families Welcome!
Sunday School
for Children Each Week



Chalice tiles made recently by our children in their LRE classes.



The Horst family (left to right): Alyson Gaylord-Loy, Darly, David and Domnica Horst during their visit to Nantucket May 9-11

DAVID HORST IS NEW INTERIM MINISTER

by Chris Lohmann and Brian Girard, for the Interim Minister Search Committee

It's official now. The Interim Minister Search Committee made its unanimous recommendation to the Board of Trustees on May 5, and the Board voted unanimously to offer the position to the recommended candidate on May 6. Rev. David Horst accepted the Board's offer after visiting the island with his family May 9-11. We have a new interim minister as of August 1, 2011.

It was a smooth and congenial process from start to finish. David quickly emerged as the favored candidate of the search committee, which consisted of Brian Girard (co-chair), Chris Lohmann (co-chair), Patrick Beaugard, Gerry Mack, Jack Reindel, and Marina Sutro. The committee was impressed with David's professional experience (both ministerial and pre-ministerial); they liked the materials he submitted about himself (sermons, reflections, and program initiatives); they had a thorough and very successful interview via Skype as well as a number of phone conversations. The references, checked by the committee, spoke of David in glowing terms as an excellent leader of his congregation, a minister who has been instrumental in growing membership, and regarded as warm, sensitive, and socially committed.

Born and raised in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, David comes to us from the First Parish in Malden, Universalist, north of Boston, where he has been the settled minister since July 2003. He received his M. Div. degree from the Harvard Divinity School in 1999. Prior to that he had an 18-year career in public relations, event management, and arts administration in Utica and Syracuse, New York, following a B.A. degree in journalism from Utica College (1977) and completing advanced graduate courses in the School of Management, Syracuse University.

As David's career path turned toward UU ministry, he served as a staff member at the Church of the Larger Fellowship, Unitarian Universalist, in Boston; as Director of Religious Education, Theodore Parker Church, Unitarian Universalist, West Roxbury; and as Minister of Religious Education and Assistant Minister, First Church in Boston, Unitarian Universalist. He is currently a member of the Editorial Board of Skinner House Books, an imprint of the UUA that publishes books for Unitarian Universalists and their congregations, a position he has been invited to continue after the relocation. He was a founding Board Member of the Boston Children's Chorus and served on its board from 2003 to 2009, with an ongoing passion for music both as part of religious services and children's development. He loves to lead congregational singing and playing his guitar; he's also a pretty good cook and enjoys gardening.

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The move from their home in Medford to our parsonage on Fair Street was something to be carefully considered by David, his wife Alyson Gaylord-Loy, and their two young children, Domnica (10) and Darly (6). However, their two-day visit to the island (the return trip delayed for a day by a spring nor'easter!) exposed the family to the potential inconveniences of life 30 miles out to sea but reassured them about our warm, welcoming congregation,

Alyson earned a B.F.A. degree in drama from Syracuse University (1988) and a M. Ed. degree from Lesley University (1994). She taught in public and private schools in Cambridge and Watertown for 12 years and is now a Seasonal Park Ranger at the Longfellow House – Washington Headquarters National Historic Site in Cambridge. Domnica and Darly will attend the Nantucket Lighthouse School. David's eldest daughter, Rachel Klein (26), an animal hospital administrator, lives in Salt Lake City with her spouse, Mark; his second daughter, Katherine Horst (24), a critical care nurse, lives in Louisville, Kentucky.

Looking forward to this new professional challenge, David put his feelings in these words: "My family and I are excited about our upcoming two-year stay on Nantucket, what we're calling our 'island adventure.' We appreciate the warm welcome we're receiving and look forward to getting to know members of the congregation..."

David's plans include some challenging ideas for themes, music, spiritual and intellectual growth. Our hopes and expectations are just as high as David's; we all believe that working together in the spirit of his vision will fill us with new energy and enthusiasm for our growth as a congregation.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

by Jack Weinhold, Treasurer

At the April meeting of the committee, (third Wednesdays of each month) the financial reports of the congregation for the period January 1 through April 30, 2011 were reviewed.

The committee is pleased to report that expenses for the period are tracking budget projections very closely. We offer the reminder that expenses associated with the transition of ministers (moving expenses, parsonage repairs and maintenance, etc.) are considered outside the yearly budget and were voted to be paid for with money from our reserve funds.

Income is a bit lower than ideal. Partially this is a timing issue with some of our revenue sources, and we expect a change by next month. There is a long term concern though, that contributions, (collection plate, miscellaneous gifts, etc.) and rent are running behind the pattern of previous years and they may even fall short for the year. Stay tuned.

Although pledges are up this year compared to last year at this time, pledge payments are lower than would be expected. This variation has not swayed our belief that everyone will fulfill their pledge by year's end. But please, consider accelerating your pledge payments as a way of helping our cash flow.

MUSIC NOTES

by Marcia Hempel, Music Director

News and Announcements

The Saturday Children's Choir sang to an enthusiastic crowd in church on May 15, and rehearsals will start again in the fall for that choir, which has been meeting on Saturday afternoons. I may try a time that is a little later on Saturday afternoons, so that other children can attend who do sports.

The Women's Chorus of Nantucket will perform at the Unitarian Church on Sunday, June 12 at 4 p.m. On Saturday, June 11, there will be an all-church concert upstairs at our church, where all of the churches on the island will join together for a concert called "The Community of One." New Life Ministries is hosting it, and it will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Our choir will be participating.

Noonday Volunteers Needed

Please let me know if you are willing and able to help set up for the Noonday Concerts and help with taking money at the door and greeting people. The concerts are during July and August.

Hymnal Donations

We are working on a plan to raise \$1,000 to buy supplementary hymnals. If you would like to donate money, or help with this effort, please contact Jack Reindel, chairman of the Music Committee.

fyi....

Selected **sermons** are available on our website, www.unitarianchurchnantucket.org or get in touch with Rev. Jennifer Brooks, 508-228-7597 or nantucketminister@comcast.net. Copies of readings used in a Sunday service are available upon request.

The deadline for the monthly **Weathervane** newsletter is noon on the fourth Sunday of each month (for the following month's publication date). Please e-mail newsletter items as a Word document to Linda Spery, linda@sonnpr.com and put *Weathervane* on the subject line. For an announcement for the **website**, send it to Georgen Charnes at curiositykeeper@gmail.com or provide it as an announcement for the Sunday Bulletin or the Weathervane newsletter.

To put an announcement in the **Sunday bulletin**, please call Patti Demarest in the Church Office at 508-228-5466 by noon Thursday, or e-mail nantucketminister@comcast.net no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday. **Office hours** are Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - noon. To **reserve space for an event**, call the Church Office.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

by Craig Spery, Board President

There is a sense of excitement at 11 Orange Street with the restored historic sanctuary being celebrated and reopened. The hard work and dedication of many people have contributed to a magnificent result, the interior of the sanctuary looks absolutely stunning. We should all be proud and thank everyone who played a role in this remarkable achievement.

Welcome back to our seasonal members and friends! We're glad to have you back on the island and hope you'll get involved in the many programs and activities offered by the church while you're here. If you're looking for a way to participate, in addition to attending Sunday services, here are some opportunities to consider.

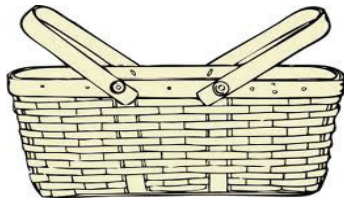
We always have a need for persons to provide refreshments after the Sunday service. There is a sign up sheet on the kitchen door in the activity room, select the date of your choice and write down your name. Consider teaming up with other people and make it a fun shared experience. For more information about what needs to be done, feel free to contact me at 508-228-7892. Also, if you'd like to usher one or two Sundays this summer, we need you! To serve as an usher or to find out what this entails, contact board member David Hall at 508-257-9898.

We need docents! The summer docent program begins soon and is an important outreach to the community, especially this year, as we provide tours of the historic Meeting House. To volunteer to be a docent, please call Jack Reindel at 508-257-6209. No experience is necessary and training is cheerfully provided. We also need someone to coordinate our "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" event in June. It involves scheduling participants to share a fun-filled potluck dinner at member's homes. We've discovered an email-based scheduling program that makes the process much easier. Interested? Let me know.

Looking ahead to August, we'll be assembling a volunteer crew to prepare the parsonage for the arrival of the Interim Minister and his family. We hope to have it ready for occupation by September 1. Details to follow. This September, we're hoping to revive the tradition of having a church-wide picnic on Tuckernuck Island. More information will be forthcoming as the summer progresses.

Some other upcoming events deserve to be mentioned. We are planning to give members and friends the opportunity to attend General Assembly, held in Charlotte, North Carolina from June 22 to 26, without leaving the island. We will set up "live streaming" internet coverage projected on the big screen in the activities room that allows us to view the opening and closing ceremonies and all the programs in between. The viewing schedule will be made available shortly. All are invited to attend.

The mid-year Congregational Meeting is on the schedule for 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 17, following a light lunch in the activities room. There will be a year-to-date review of the operating budget. A Farewell Ceremony for Jennifer is being planned for Sunday, July 31. Further details are to come as we prepare to say goodbye to Jennifer and wish her well as her ministry here draws to a close.



EVERYONE'S INVITED TO THE CHURCH PICNIC!

Saturday, June 18 • 5 to 7 p.m.

Sally Ure's house • 165 Hummock Pond Road (behind Sandole's Fish Market)
It's a picnic but it's like a regular potluck. Bring a side dish or something to grill to feed 6-8 persons including your family. Plates and utensils provided; bring your own drinks.
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SETUP AND CLEANUP. SEE SALLY URE.

SUMMER 2011 CALENDAR OF CONCERTS

Thursday Noonday Concerts at the Unitarian Church

Half-hour concerts every Thursday at noon during July and August (\$5 at the door)

- July 7 **UU Choir** sings "Music with a Beat" featuring calypso, jazz and country.
- July 14 **Bob and Diane Lehman**, vocal and piano, perform jazz with a French theme in honor of Bastille Day.
- July 21 **Robert Behrman**, piano, plays music of Philip Glass.
- July 28 **Matt Hutchinson**, piano, plays jazz.
- August 4 **Junyi Fitzgibbon**, classical piano (young artist), plays classical masterworks.
- August 11 **Women's Chorus of Nantucket** directed by Marcia Hempel sing jazz, pop and country.
- August 18 **Meghan Trainor**, singer/songwriter (young artist), plays original music.
- August 25 **Andy Bullington and Cary Hazlegrove**, guitar and vocal, play rhythm and blues.

Friday Organ Concerts at the Unitarian Church

Organ concerts every Friday during the summer from 12:30 to 1 p.m. on the historic 1831 Goodrich organ, which was recently renovated and improved. Played by Marcia Hempel, Music Director at the Unitarian Church, beginning July 1. Guest organists will be featured on Friday, July 29 (Bernadette Nadeau) and Friday, August 19 (Carson Cooman). Classical, jazz and ragtime included in every week's concert. The series begins Friday, July 1 and ends on Friday, August 26. FREE.

FOURTH SUNDAY UPDATE

by Sissy Girard and Linda Spery, committee co-chairs

We're pleased to announce that there is a growing list of persons interested in being part of a new UU Buddhist practice group (*sangha*) being formed at our church, thanks to the inspiring and informative Fourth Sunday lay-led service in May. Susan Cary and Cris O'Reilly sparked interest in the idea of the service focusing on Buddhism when they returned from a UU Buddhist Fellowship convocation in April in upstate New York. Our committee contacted Dan Ross, who agreed to be our main speaker, to share his experiences as a UU Buddhist and the "Demystifying Zen Buddhism" service became a reality. Our thanks to fellow committee members Christine Sanford and Mary Beth Splaine for their contributions in word and cuisine, to Susan Cary for her presentation and to Marcia Hempel and the adult choir for the inspiring music. If you are interested in finding out more about the *sangha*, contact Susan at sycary@comcast.net.

Our Fourth Sunday speaker for June is Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, who will address the topic "Forgiveness and Transformation." The service date is June 26. Rev. Stapleford entered the Claremont School of Theology in Claremont, California, in September of 1995 after 28 years as a high school English and theatre teacher in Delaware. She graduated and was ordained in 1998 and began serving at the Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Thousand Oaks, California. Rev. Stapleford retired from CVUUF after serving that congregation for 12 years and was honored to be named their Minister Emerita. She received her Doctor of Ministry degree at Claremont in the areas of pastoral care and counseling and ethics in 2005. She is now serving as the three-quarter time consulting minister at the UU Church of the Verdugo Hills in La Crescenta, California. Rev. Stapleford will be coming to Nantucket with her husband, Tom, who is a former president of the UUA Pacific Southwest District and an active UU. They are both members of the UUA President's Council. They are looking forward to their first trip to Nantucket.

JUNE EVENTS

June 1	5:15 p.m.	Building & Grounds Committee (Activities Room) The June issue of the <i>Weathervane</i> is posted on the church website on or before today in full color at www.unitarianchurchnantucket.org .
June 2	5:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice (Hendrix Hall) Youth Group (Activities Room)
June 5	10:45 a.m.	Sunday Service "Voices" Rev. Jennifer Brooks (Upstairs Sanctuary)
June 8	6:15 p.m.	Welcoming Committee (Activities Room)
June 9	3 p.m. 4:15 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Personnel Committee (Activities Room) Fundraising Committee (Activities Room) Choir Practice (Hendrix Hall) Youth Group (Activities Room)
June 11	9 a.m.-3p.m. 6-7:30 p.m.	Creating & Leading Dynamic Lay-Led Worship , First Church Unitarian, Littleton, MA "The Community of One" Concert (Upstairs Sanctuary)
June 12	10:45 a.m. 4 p.m.	Sunday Service "Summer Afternoon" Rev. Jennifer Brooks (Sanctuary) Women's Chorus Concert (Upstairs Sanctuary)
June 14	5:15 p.m.	Board Meeting - Open to all members of the congregation who wish to attend (Activities Room)
June 18	5 - 7 p.m.	Church Picnic (at home of Sally Ure, 165 Hummock Pond Road)
June 19	10:45 a.m.	Sunday Service "Juneteenth" Rev. Jennifer Brooks (Sanctuary)
June 22	5 p.m. 6:15 p.m.	LRE Committee (Activities Room) Welcoming Committee (Activities Room)
June 22-26		UUA General Assembly in Charlotte, North Carolina (Rev. Brooks will be attending GA.)
June 23	5:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice (Hendrix Hall) Youth Group (Activities Room)
June 26	10:45 a.m.	Fourth Sunday Lay-Led Service "Forgiveness and Transformation" Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford (Upstairs Sanctuary)
	Noon	Newsletter deadline for July <i>Weathervane</i>
June 28	5:30 p.m.	Board Meeting - Open to all members of the congregation who wish to attend (Activities Room)
June 30	5:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice (Hendrix Hall) Youth Group (Activities Room)

Maypole Fun!



COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

by Dr. Leslie Ottinger (compiled from various sources)

The Committee on Ministry is one of only two committees required by the congregation's Constitution (the other is the nominating committee). The CoM is responsible for monitoring the congregation's ministry work. One aspect of this role is to assist when members have concerns about the minister that they are uncomfortable bringing directly to the minister (or one another). The usual approach is to one member of the committee, who reports to the committee as a whole, which then appoints one or two members to discuss the concern with the person who raised it.

The UUA's recommendation is that a Committee on Ministry work to create opportunities for supportive, facilitated conversations that can restore relationships. Many congregations, including ours, have struggled with the difficulty of using a committee for this purpose, especially when that committee's role is not well understood. In discussions over the last nine months, one area of agreement has been that concerns (especially concerns about the minister) should be raised and addressed by a healthy process that encourages direct discussion and early resolution. During the coming two years of interim ministry, members and leadership will have the opportunity to discuss the role a Committee on Ministry might have in our Nantucket congregation—not only in receiving concerns, but in reviewing congregational ministry work and making recommendations to the Board. This is an opportunity to clarify the tasks of the CoM and help members understand its utility. It's also a time to consider whether there might be an alternative approach.

Beginning August 1, the functions of a Committee on Ministry will be taken over by a Transition Team that works directly with the Interim Minister on creating an effective transition to a new settled minister. The Transition Team is to consist of five to seven members who have not been members of, or the spouse of members of, the current Board of Trustees or the Committee on Ministry. This "transition team" is UUA-recommended for the interim period. During the two-year period, a ministerial search committee will be seeking a new settled minister. Once the congregation has called a settled minister, the ministerial search committee serves as a Committee on Ministry for six months, and then a new CoM is formed. Under the Constitution, the Minister and Board President jointly nominate six CoM members who must be approved by the Board.

During the last nine months, two members of the current CoM resigned. Replacements were not found. After considering the outlook for the immediate future and also taking into account the recommendations of both Rev. Brooks and consultant Rev. Beth Miller, three of the remaining members decided in April to cease meeting for the three months remaining before the arrival of an interim minister. The CoM Members at that time were Mary Jane Halliday, Tamzin Hutchinson, Debby Merritt, and Leslie Ottinger.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY EVENT! CONTACT BOB HALL.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

by Pam Lohmann, chair

According to the Congregational Handbook, "It is the task of the Personnel Committee to advise the Minister and the Board of Trustees on matters of employee relations, salary levels, benefits, employment practices, record keeping, performance reviews, and to act as a resource in the maintenance of a positive work environment."

The Personnel Committee holds regular monthly meetings. In addition to conducting regular staff reviews, we have interviewed and hired a maintenance sexton. We have reviewed and, together with the board and other committee members, worked on refining, clarifying, and codifying policies and procedures. The Committee has responsibility for advising in cases of disciplinary actions, although there has been little need for this.

An important function is to provide a forum for staff to bring up issues of concern, and to endeavor to resolve them in order to maintain a "positive work environment." This includes acting as a channel to communicate these concerns to the Board or relevant Committee, and making recommendations. Ideally, the Personnel Committee would also act as a communications channel from the Board to staff regarding policies, changes under consideration, and any questions the Board may have.

This year members of the Personnel Committee have been: Theresa Droz, Maryjane Halliday, Pamela Lohmann, and Debby Merritt. Craig Sperry and Jennifer Brooks are members ex officio.

IF YOU HAVE A COTTAGE OR ROOM THAT YOU'D LIKE TO OFFER FOR THE BED & BREAKFAST FUNDRAISING PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE, (508) 228-5466. THANK YOU!



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