



Unitarian Universalist
Meeting House
11 Orange Street - P. O. Box 1023
Nantucket, MA 02554
(508) 228-5466

Nantucket Unitarian Universalist Newsletter - May 2017

COMMON PATHWAYS *

By Reverend Linda Simmons

Spring Time

The Unitarian Universalist Meeting House church bell has not been ringing for almost a month now and Nantucket has noticed, in its own rhythm and time. One neighbor said she doesn't know when to eat lunch anymore without the noon 52 gongs of the bell. Another announced that he can't seem to get out of bed since the 7:00 am 52 ringing has ceased. Yet another told me that his day is completely off balance without the bell that measures each passing of an hour. One neighbor didn't notice until Good Friday that the bell had stopped and thought that perhaps the Unitarians had developed some kind of Christian solemnity that encouraged us to turn the bell off for the day.

The bell is rung by an automatic mechanism housed in a small box located in the belfry that controls the banging of a hammer that's right next to the bell itself. Americlock is the company we call to repair this when something goes wrong, so we called them when the bell stopped chiming. They told us to go up by the bell and take the box apart and push the button inside and the bell should ring again, and oh, they said, bring your ear plugs! Paul Stewart, trusty and faithful as ever, braved the narrow stairs and found he could not really fit into the place one had to be to get to that little box, plus it's scary up there. It's open air in the belfry.

We found someone else to make the journey who has experience with maneuvering around the belfry because he has equipment up there. He got into the right place and got the cover off the little box that contains the control mechanism for the hammer that strikes our steadfast bell and water came pouring out of it. The water had corroded the circuit board that handles the electricity and that's what put an end to our sonorous time keeper. Americlock is sending us a new box. Our Portuguese bell should be back to keeping us all going soon.

You'd be surprised how many people complain about the bell in a summer season: it keeps their babies awake, causes their dogs to go mad, sets their nerves on end, and generally increases the regularity of various undesirable symptoms.

For the rest of us, seems that without our bell ringing, we become unhinged. For me, I've just not known when to go to bed without the 9pm 52, and have slept poorly this whole month through. What used to keep me up when I first arrived, now allows me to rest with ease knowing the world is going on, and that our bell is keeping it all in good order.

*Nantucket is full of common pathways, some known by many, others known only by a few. Our Meeting House brings us together, traveling over many pathways, some common, some not, as we learn to walk with each other even when the ways are unfamiliar and unmarked



JOIN US AT
10:45 A.M.
EVERY SUNDAY

Sunday, May 7
"Uplifting Each Other"
Rev. Linda Simmons
Hendrix Hall

Sunday, May 14
"Mothers, Heroes and Saviors"
Rev. Linda Simmons
Hendrix Hall

Sunday, May 21
"Mental Health Awareness Month"
Lay Led Service
Hendrix Hall

Sunday, May 28
"Abraham Lincoln and Memorial Day"
Rev. Linda Simmons
Historic Sanctuary

Families Welcome!
Religious Exploration
for Children Every
Sunday

Board of Trustees Monthly Report— May 2017

During the Board's April 18 meeting, Rev. Linda announced that she has accepted a position on the Membership Consulting Team with the International Committee for Unitarians and Universalists. Very exciting to be engaged on an international level. She has also been busy meeting with the recent Immigrant population in the Immigration Task Force, whose latest action has been to create an Immigration Information Center. The Board voted to approve that this Center could meet at the UU Meeting House once a month.

Linda is also working on a Wedding Website that will attract more weddings to our church. Linda's upcoming two-month Sabbatical Leave (Feb-April, 2018) was discussed, including the best way to recruit a Sabbatical minister. Linda is preparing an advertisement for that position.

Gary Langley updated the Board on Food Rescue Nantucket, another exciting and successful aspect of our Seventh Principle Project. Linda, Val Hall, and Paul Stewart have been meeting to prepare contracts renewals for Rev. Linda and Shirat Ha Yam. Christine Sanford, our liaison to the parsonage garden project, reported that she met with a landscaper who will present a plan for us to examine.

Due to lack of preparation time, the Volunteer Fair scheduled for May 7 is postponed until June 4. We will need volunteers to "person" tables providing information about all the wonderful ways in which congregants can become more involved in church governance and other activities. This will occur during Coffee Hour.

On the day before (Saturday, May 6), a UU group from Barnstable will be visiting us. Anyone who would like to meet this lively group for lunch and/or other activities during that day please contact Paul Stewart or Val Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Val Hall
President Board of Trustees
scallop lady@gmail.com

May Calendar of Events

Monday, May 1, 12:30 pm—1:30 pm
Food Rescue Meeting—Activities Room

Monday, May 1, 3:15 pm—5 pm
Shirat Ha 'Yam Hebrew School—Activities Room

Thursday, May 4, 5 pm—6 pm
Nantucket Immigration Community Alliance Meeting—Activities Room

Friday, May 5, 5 pm—7 pm
Art Show and Sale featuring ACK-spress Junior Youth Group—Activities Room

Saturday, May 6, 11 am—4 pm
Barnstable UUs Visit (see article on page 3)

Monday, May 8, 3:15 pm—5 pm
Shirat Ha 'Yam Hebrew School—Activities Room

Thursday, May 11, 5 pm—7:30 pm
State Representative Dylan Fernandes (sponsored by Make It Stop) - Hendrix Hall

Sunday, May 14 during service
New Member Ceremony (see Rev. Linda for details)

Monday, May 15, 3:15 pm—5 pm
Shirat Ha 'Yam Hebrew School—Activities Room

Monday, May 15, 5:30 pm—7:30 pm
Nantucket Democratic Committee Meeting—Hendrix Hall

Friday, May 19, 5 pm—7 pm
ACK-spress (Junior Youth Group) - Activities Room

Monday, May 22, 3:15 pm—5 pm
Shirat Ha 'Yam Hebrew School—Activities Room

Thursday, May 25, 11 am—12 pm
Food Rescue Meeting—Activities Room

Friday, May 26, 5 pm—9:30 pm
Shirat Ha 'Yam summer services begin

**JOIN US FOR A PARTY/POTLUCK
HOSTED BY DIVERSITY AND LEADERSHIP GROUP and the
NANTUCKET IMMIGRATION COMMUNITY ALLIANCE (formerly Immigration Task Force)
SATURDAY, MAY 13TH FROM 5pm -11pm
VFW, 22 New South Road**

How wonderful to share food, dance and bingo together and raise funds for high school youth to participate in leadership trainings throughout the country. Let's rock the house and show the island what real Nantuckers look like when having fun, supporting our youth and building community! All are welcome!

UNITARIAN CHURCH OF BARNSTABLE
A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

MORE LOVE. LESS HATE.

MISSION STATEMENT:
A welcoming congregation
of and for all ages
Working for justice and
compassion in our world
Encouraging spiritual journeys
and thoughtful dialogue.

HOME ABOUT US WORSHIP CHILDREN & YOUTH SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CALENDAR EVENTS

OUR NEXT SERVICES
March 19, 2017, 10:30am
The Influence of UU Women
Rev. Kristen Harper

Rev. Dr. Kristen L. Harper
I welcome you to join this vibrant,
intergenerational community.
Letter to Gov. Baker

Upcoming Events
■ Step By Step
The Green Sanctuary Committee has led the way
for UICB to be the first faith community to join

The Unitarian Church of Barnstable has contacted us to ask about coming to Nantucket for a visit and a tour. We have arranged that we will host them on a day trip on May 6, 2017. About 30 people will arrive on a morning boat and a few Nantucket UUs will greet them and walk with them to the Meeting House. We will provide tours of our Meeting House, a talk by Rev. Linda on 'current congregational goings-on (and we've got lots!)', and lunch in the AR (for which they will pay us). Then a walk back through town, with some commentary on "Nantucket past and present", to the boat dock.

The timing depends on what boats they choose, but no more than 11ish to 1ish.

We are looking for a few guides to do the two tours (docents for the Meeting House, and informal town walking tours). We are also looking for everyone who would like to meet some parishioners from our closest UU neighbors. Lunch will be \$20 (or equivalent in donated food). Anyone who can join us for even part of the day is welcome.

Paul Stewart—Paul@PLPDD.com

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DYLAN FERNANDES**

is coming to the UU Meeting House to answer any questions we may have.

Please join us on **Thursday May 11 at 5:30 pm in Hendrix Hall** and let your voice be heard!

Sponsored by Make It Stop

NEW MEMBER CEREMONY

There will be a **new member ceremony during service on May 14th**. If you would like to become a new member, please see Rev. Linda, call her at 508-680-6498, or email her at revlindasimmons@gmail.com. Don't you think it's time to become a more committed part of this vibrant, engaged, loving congregation? We think so!

Nantucket Immigration Community Alliance, NICA (formerly Immigration Task Force)

We have been working hard on the Nantucket Immigration Community Alliance, NICA. We meet once every 2 weeks in Hendrix Hall at the UU Meeting House. We have had from 30-95 people join us each time.

At our last two meetings, attended by Anglos and recent immigrants alike, we have been asking, "How can we work together to create trust and a feeling of safety on Nantucket." What has been resounding is that recent immigrants would like to have an ***Immigration Resource Center*** housed in one of our churches where they could come and receive referrals and information about issues that concern them.

I asked the UU Board if this could be housed in our Meeting House once a month and the answer was a unanimous yes! We are in the process of building this Center now. Working together, NICA has defined some resources that we wish to gather. They are as follows:

- Referrals to legal services
- Information on how to follow up if someone is taken by ICE
- Contacts for lawyers
- Food Assistance information
- Rental Assistance information
- Filling out paperwork for green cards, etc.
- Provide info on services available at Fair Winds, Cottage Hospital, Safe Place, etc
- Have a job board
- Provide information on U Visas, T Visas, VAWA
- Hand out: Know Your Rights cards that Chief Pittman has approved
- General Referrals as they arise

We will have a business card and an email address through which I will answer or redirect emails. We have been asked not to advertise this site through the INKY or other local media as recent immigrants wish to feel confident that this is a place that is trustworthy and reliable.

There is much to be done. Join us! Contribute! Help make our island one island for one people!

- Rev. Linda Simmons

NANTUCKET IMMIGRATION COMMUNITY ALLIANCE (NICA) MEETING (formerly Immigration Task Force)

Our next meeting is Thursday May 4th at 5pm in the Hendrix Hall. Please join us as we work on building an ***Immigration Resource Center*** that will be housed in the UU Meeting House once a month and work on ways to nurture fellowship between us all as islanders and neighbors.

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION HAPPENINGS!

MAY SUNDAYS: Dreaming A Perfect World

May is for blooming! Come play in full-color, outdoor fun as we explore ways of nurturing the Earth. We'll start with the end in mind: what would a world healed of problems look like? Big questions often become less overwhelming when you start small. That's why in week one we'll start from the vantage point of fairies, building a series of

"homes" from the beauty we find at ground level. At the end of the month we'll install them outdoors for the public to enjoy, along with "fairy slogans" of how

to be good stewards of nature. And speaking of Mother Earth--for week two we'll make the most extravagant Mother's Day cards the women in our congregation ever received! Thanks to pop-up techniques and recycled vintage artwork. Next we'll get a special visitor in week three to help us start our brand-new garden. Finally Memorial Day remembers those who have died, leaving their mark on our lives--and the world--for the better.

- Leyah Jensen



To Our Wonderful Volunteers and Kindhearted Donors of Supplies:

One Enormous
Thanks

from the Kids of UU Nantucket for
your incredible generosity.

**ACK-spress could not have
happened without you!**

ART SHOW AND SALE: ACK-SPRESS!

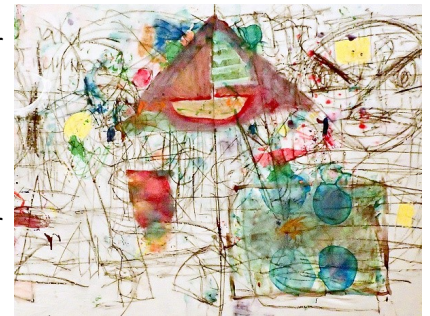
**Friday, May 5
5pm in the Activities Room**

**A Production by 9-12 Youth
Proceeds to benefit a
local non-profit**

See you there!

ART SHOW: ACK-SPRESS! GRAND FINALE IS FINALLY HERE

YOU'RE INVITED! Nantucket's brightest stars have something to share with you. For 8 weeks they've been elbows-deep in clay, paint, paper and fabric to inspire you through their own unbound creativity. They have rolled up their sleeves; opened their hearts; and shared their minds.



And now, you'll have your chance to buy a "Nantucket's own" masterpiece, as these brilliant up-and-comers offer their art-work for purchase.



The proceeds of all sales will go towards a local community service project that the kids will be completing on-site. So please join us **on Friday, May 5 at 5 p.m. in the Activities**

Room for a festive evening of snacks and great art, to celebrate our youth. From abstract to realism and sculpture to painting, something is sure to tickle your fancy! At the very least, we promise there's no way you won't leave here more uplifted.



- Leyah Jensen

First Quarter Treasurer's Report – 2017

The first quarter of our budget year is January, February, and March. Below is a report of our finances for that period. **In summary, all is going according to plan (or better).**

	A	B	C	D	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	
1	Treasurer's Report: Pledges, Funds, and General Operating Budget											
2	My goal is to put this information in the May, August, November, and February Weathervanes. Paul P. Stewart, Treasurer, Paul@PLPDD.com											
3	2017 Pledges			1/1/2017	Net Change	3/31/2017	2017 General Operating Fund			Budget		Actual
4	Amount Pledged			\$ 88,003	\$ 6,500	\$ 94,503	Income less related expenses			Annual	YTD	YTD
5	Number of Pledges			56	6	62	<= Pledge Payments Received			\$ 88,282	\$ 22,070	\$ 37,619
6							Sunday Plate and Gifts			\$ 12,800	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,462
7	Funds ('R'estricted, by 'D'onor)			1/1/2017	Net Change	3/31/2017	Rentals (Pars, FdLuz, CSHY, wed, HH ...			\$ 77,424	\$ 17,231	\$ 14,885
8	General Operating monies	CapeCod5		\$ 5,006	\$ 1	\$ 5,006	FUNdraising (Auction, 4thJuly, etc.)			\$ 21,223	\$ 550	\$ 396
9	General Operating monies	NanBank		\$ 51,924	\$ (32,779)	\$ 19,145	Income from Endowment and Banks			\$ 40,327	\$ 10,082	\$ 4,672
10	Subtotal General Operating	Rows 8:9		\$ 56,930	\$ (32,779)	\$ 24,151	Income from Sanford Fund			\$ 10,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
11	R Parsonage Capital Maint.	NanBank		\$ 3,377	\$ 1,008	\$ 4,385	Principal taken from Endowment			\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
12	R Minister's Discretionary	NanBank		\$ 2,048	\$ -	\$ 2,048	total income less related expenses			\$ 250,056	\$ 55,633	\$ 63,534
13	R Sabbatical Provision	NanBank		\$ 4,000	\$ 500	\$ 4,500						
14	R RE Committee	NanBank		\$ 389	\$ -	\$ 389						
15	R Social Action	NanBank		\$ 28	\$ 20	\$ 48	Operating Expenses		Budget		Actual	
16	R Membership Committee	NanBank		\$ 150	\$ 38	\$ 188	Ministry + Guest Speakers		\$ 102,162	\$ 25,540	\$ 26,350	
17	R Caring Team	NanBank		\$ 150	\$ 38	\$ 188	Building & Grounds		\$ 65,340	\$ 16,335	\$ 17,865	
18	R Lay Led Committee	NanBank		\$ 150	\$ 38	\$ 188	Operations (office, postage, etc.)		\$ 36,432	\$ 9,108	\$ 9,156	
19	R Sanctuary Sound System	NanBank		\$ (2,299)	\$ 2,299	\$ -	Religious Exploration (RE)		\$ 13,574	\$ 3,393	\$ 3,860	
20	R Activities Room Reno.	NanBank		\$ 1,147	\$ 5,707	\$ 6,855	Music Program		\$ 23,913	\$ 5,978	\$ 5,905	
21	R Coffee Hour Supplies	NanBank		\$ 112	\$ (24)	\$ 87	Denominational Affairs (UUA, etc.)		\$ 5,106	\$ 5,106	\$ 5,056	
22	R Special Entertainment	NanBank		\$ 1,072	\$ -	\$ 1,072	Committee Budgets		\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600	
23	RD Honoring Ministry	NanBank		\$ -	\$ 4,510	\$ 4,510	Congregational Leadership/Training		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
24	RD Organ Playing	NanBank		\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	Contingency/Slack		\$ 2,929	732	0	
25	RD Organ Maint. +	NanBank		\$ 783	\$ -	\$ 783	total Operating Expenses		\$ 250,056	\$ 66,794	\$ 68,792	
26	Subtotal Nantucket Bank	Rows 9:25		\$ 63,031	\$ (17,647)	\$ 45,384						
27	Subtotal All Bank Accounts	Rows 8:25		\$ 68,036	\$ (17,646)	\$ 50,390	Income - Expenses		\$ 0	\$ (11,160)	\$ (5,258)	
28	R Capital Reserves	Vanguard		\$ 890,397	\$ 37,560	\$ 927,957						
29	R Working Reserves	Vanguard		\$ 407,794	\$ 17,202	\$ 424,996						
30	Subtotal Vanguard	Rows 28:29		\$ 1,298,191	\$ 54,762	\$ 1,352,953						
31	R Capital Reserves	\$100K 5/2015 UU CEF		\$ 97,458	\$ 6,226	\$ 103,684						
32	Subtotal Reserves	Rows 28:31		\$ 1,395,649	\$ 60,988	\$ 1,456,637						
33	RD Organ Maint. + (est. 2011)	TIAA-CREF		\$ 71,760	\$ 2,523	\$ 74,283						
34	Subtotal all 'Endowment'	Rows 28:33		\$ 1,467,409	\$ 63,511	\$ 1,530,920						
35	Total all Funds above	Rows 8:34		\$ 1,535,446	\$ 45,864	\$ 1,581,310						
36												
37	RDP Sanford Trust (est. 1910)	BNY-Mellon		\$ 225,329	\$ 4,529	\$ 229,858						
38	Sanford Trust is a 'right to income' but we don't 'own' the principal.											

Our pledges are doing well this year (thanks to all!)

Our Funds are also doing well. Note the Nantucket Bank is our main checking account, hence the fact that lots of money comes in and goes out (either spent or moved on our books to other Funds by votes of Annual Meeting). In addition, a generally rising market has helped our Reserves to grow.

On the budget side, there are minor fluctuations but these are mostly related to differences in the seasons (for example, heating costs are higher in the Winter (first quarter) and lower in the Summer). All in all, things are right on track for the year.

The Finance Committee met on Sunday, April 23, 2017, and reviewed these figures and our investments. It will continue meeting throughout the year to review results and to prepare the budget for next year.

Respectfully, Paul P. Stewart – Treasurer

Sermons for May

May 7: “Uplifting Each Other” - Rev. Linda Simmons

What are the conditions of accountability and happiness and how might a commitment to them be beneficial not only for us but for others? How can we learn to carry them both so that one need not erase the other? This sermon will argue that cultivating accountability and happiness side by side is good for us all.

May 14: “Mothers, Heroes and Saviors” - Rev. Linda Simmons

In his book, No More Heroes: Grassroots Challenges to the Savior Mentality, Jordan Flaherty writes that it's time to meet people where they are and take the guidance of the most vulnerable in their work to attain dignity. On this Mother's Day, we will look at the work of mothering and heroes and consider how we can all participate in loving each other with more presence.

May 21: “Mental Health Awareness Month” - Lay Led Service

May 28 (first service this year in the Sanctuary): “Abraham Lincoln and Memorial Day” - Rev. Linda Simmons

Abraham Lincoln is a noble and complex historical figure. The story of Lincoln's career and life hold many lessons that are relevant to Memorial Day, a time that we pause to pay homage to those who have given their lives in battle and consider what is worthy of our lives today.

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, 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 within 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.

Unitarian Universalist Meeting House

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Nantucket, MA 02554

(508) 228-5466 (Office)

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On Facebook: www.facebook.com/Nantucket-Unitarian-Universalists-75824801619/

Church Staff

Rev. Linda Simmons, Minister ~ **Edward B. Anderson, Minister Emeritus**
Diane T. Lehman, Music Director ~ **Leyah Jensen, Youth Programs Coordinator**
Lucretia Voigt, Office Manager ~ **Ed Sullivan, Sexton** ~ **Chuck Gieg, Bookkeeper**

Board of Trustees

Val Hall (*President*), Clay Twombly (*Vice President*), Paul Stewart (*Treasurer*), Peter Richards (*Clerk*)
Cynthia Csabay, Joanna Greenfield, Christine Sanford, Michelle Whelan, Lora Stewart
Rev. Linda Simmons (*Minister*)

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - noon

Minister's Office Hours: Tuesday, 10 a.m. – noon and by appointment