

Where Land and Sea Meet

Rev. David M. Horst, Interim Minister

Living on Nantucket is an event-full life! We just enjoyed a delightful Daffodil Festival soon to be followed by the Wine Festival, Figawi, Restaurant Week, Book Festival, and Film Festival—all before the summer gets underway! This summer we look forward to the Independence Day celebration, Garden Festival, Boston Pops performance, Nantucket Race Week, another Restaurant Week, and all of the Fall on Nantucket events and then concluding the year with Christmas Stroll Weekend and the Nantucket New Year's celebration.

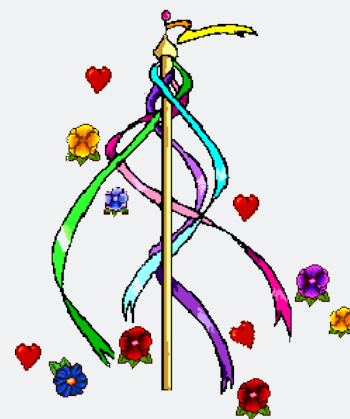
Admittedly most of these events are intended to draw visitors to the island with the economic benefit they bring; but for those of us who live here year-round these occasions draw us into the fun and festivities as well (with Figawi being the exception!). These special events and festivals also have a ritualistic aspect, punctuating our time on this beautiful island and filling our lives with natural beauty, new tastes, fresh ideas, artistic expression, eclectic music, sporting challenges, and the nostalgia of the holidays. Nantucket boasts a unique combination of small-town charm with cosmopolitan extravagance. The Meeting House, in its role as "Nantucket's church," is often a part of the fun and festivities as it should be.

I love a good festival! In my late 20s, I discovered the delight of community festivals and events when I served as the producer and director of an urban summer festival in upstate New York for three years. The festival featured music and food and drew residents from all over the city and region to the downtown. We closed off the street and ate, drank, and listened to music together for five days. I discovered the meaning of such events as well: How people from all walks of life coming together and sharing a common experience builds good will and community solidarity. After my move to Boston I served as manager of the Walk for Hunger, a member of the seasonal staff at First Night, and a Boston Marathon volunteer. These experiences, too, informed my understanding of the power of the people gathered.

I worry a little that in an age of random violence people are becoming fearful of public gatherings and staying away. Bombings and shootings are rare, of course; although even the Daffodil Festival had increased police presence this year. What's more, the instantaneity of Facebook and Twitter make it just as easy to stay home anyway, but substituting a virtual experience for the real.

People will continue to gather, however, because our desire to be with one

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Join us for Sunday
services each week!
Choir practice at 9:30 a.m.
with religious education
and services starting at
10:45 a.m.

Sunday, May 5
'Cinco de Mayo
Celebration'

Sunday, May 12
'Horton Hatches
the Egg'

Sunday, May 19
'Honoring the
Christian Pentecost'

Sunday, May 26
'Memorial Day
Remembered'
(A Fourth Sunday
lay-led service)

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another, to celebrate together, and to learn and grow in community can never be diminished or denied. We need ritual occasions just as our ancient forebears did: To run and play, to drink and dance, to sing and laugh, to mark the seasons, and, most of all, to be reminded of the preciousness of life. We measure time by these special occasions as much as we do by the life passages of birth, coming of age, marriage, parenthood, old age, and death.

The festivals of Nantucket are rich and varied. How fortunate we are to share them together! Each is a sign of hope in a world too often torn by despair.

I'll always love a good festival. See you at the next one!

"Where land and sea meet" is my Nantucket analogy for congregational life. A church lives in a tidal zone where our private and public lives meet and converge like the meeting place of the land and sea.

What's next?

Linda Spery, President, Board of Trustees

Now that the congregation has voted to call Linda Simmons as our settled minister, what lies ahead after the hustle and bustle of our recent successful Candidating Week?

From now until the last Sunday in July, Rev. David Horst will continue his service to our congregation as our interim minister, working with us to achieve goals which he has set with your Board of Trustees for the final months of his interim ministry with us. With the exception of the May 12 service and those weeks when our Fourth Sunday Committee is in charge of the service, Rev. Horst will be in the pulpit as usual. You'll not want to miss any Sunday services as he celebrates and worships with us before moving on to a new opportunity within the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA).

Your Board of Trustees will also be continuing our twice a month meeting schedule with the Executive Committee—Rev. Horst, Board Vice President Brian Girard and myself—meeting every Friday as we have been doing since the first part of the 2013. You are welcomed to attend Board of Trustees meetings; they are open to all members of the congregation. We meet at 4:15 p.m. every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. If you have an agenda item to suggest for the Board of Trustees meeting, please contact me in advance of the meeting at 508-228-7892 or lindaspery@gmail.com.

The work of our committees will continue as usual between now and the arrival of our settled minister Linda Simmons. Want to serve on a committee or as a coordinator for a finite period of time? Your volunteer time and talents are needed in all aspects of the congregation's work. Just let Rev. Horst or myself know of your interest. If you're a new member or have never been involved in any church activity outside of Sunday services, you will find this commitment to be one which provides you an opportunity to meet new people with common interests.

Of course, we will be lending our full support to Diane Lehman's new Thursday@ 5 series of performances beginning Thursday, June 13. What an exciting new program!

On Saturday evening, June 15 and during the coffee hour on Sunday, June 16 our biggest fundraising event of the year—the second annual Meeting House Auction—will take place with the goal of raising \$13,000 for our operational budget. This represents an increase of \$1,000 over the amount raised at last year's auction.

In order for us to meet our 2013, we need the commitment of each and every member and friend of the congregation to step up and offer a live or silent auction item between now and June 15 AND to plan on bidding on auction items the weekend of Jun 15-16. Now that Candidating Week is over, Jack Weinhold and I will be starting our official campaign to solicit auction items and will be reaching out to you for your participation. Rev. Ted Anderson wins this year's recognition for offering the first auction items, which we'll share with you at the service on May 5th. At each Sunday service, we'll be sharing other items—both goods and services—to pique your interest, leading up to the auction weekend. Contact Jack at jack@nantucket.net or myself to tell us what you want to offer.

See you in church!

Our New Settled Minister

Rev. Linda Simmons

The Search Committee is pleased to announce that Sunday April 28th, at the conclusion of Candidating Week, Linda Simmons was enthusiastically called by the congregation to be the next settled minister of our Society. We eagerly look forward to her successful ministry and the beginning of a new chapter in the history of our congregation.



Mission Accomplished

Craig Spery, Search Committee Chair

The Search Committee is deeply appreciative to everyone who helped with this important process of selecting a candidate. Special Thanks to: David Horst and Alyson for having the parsonage in tip top condition for viewing by the four prospective candidates; Reverend Horst, District Executive Bill Zelazny and our Ministerial Settlement Representative Rev. Judith Campbell for advice and guidance; the UUA Transitions Office director Rev. Keith Kron for traveling to Nantucket and conducting the *Beyond Categorical Thinking* workshop; and the congregations of Falmouth, Chatham, Brewster, and Malden for providing neutral pulpit settings in which we were able to experience the candidates in action.

The committee is very thankful for the special donations of: Housing for four separate candidates, some with spouses; Vehicles donated for candidate's use while on island; Homes donated for meetings and dinners; Numerous potluck dinners and other meals and drinks.

And finally the committee is especially thankful to the congregation for: providing the support and encouragement that carried us through the many months; fully participating in candidating week; and turning out in a record number for the vote.

Despite a shortened deadline and four weekends traveling through some tough wintry conditions, the Search Committee accomplished our goal of finding the right settled minister for our church, and we have high hopes for Linda's successful ministry.

It has been my privilege to serve on this committee with seven dedicated wonderful people. Casey Boukus, Sissy Girard, Barbara Elder, Peter Richards, Abby Slosek, Nancy Rappaport, and Yve Shevalier.

Our work as a committee has one last duty; by church bylaw we will serve as the Committee on Ministry for six months, and following that congregation members will be selected for the committee as set forth in the Congregational Handbook.



May 2013 Sunday Services

Sunday, May 5 - 10:45 a.m. - Hendrix Hall 'Cinco de Mayo Celebration'

Today we honor Cinco de Mayo (the "fifth of May"), a Mexican-American holiday celebrating Mexican heritage and pride. The holiday, not to be confused with Mexican Independence Day, has its roots in the defeat of the 8,000-strong French army by the much smaller and poorly equipped Mexican army of 4,500 on May 5, 1862. The American Cinco de Mayo celebration originated in the Mexican-American communities of the American West, Southwest, and Northwest in the 1860s. The Cinco de Mayo celebration grew in popularity and evolved in Los Angeles, Chicago, and Houston, eventually expanding across the U.S. Rev. Horst's sermon is entitled, "Crossing the Border." Music with Diane Lehman, Director of Music, and the Meeting House Choir. Bring your favorite taco fillings for the fiesta following the service. Tortillas provided!

Sunday, May 12th; 10:45 a.m. - Hendrix Hall 'Horton Hatches the Egg'

Amanda Torchia and Susan Richards co-lead this Mother's Day service honoring those who have mothered us and dedicated to the mother in each of us. We invite members of the congregation to share stories of the "mother figures" in your lives. We hope you join us to discover (or re-discover) what Horton the Elephant has to teach us about finding our "inner mother"! Music with Music Director, Diane Lehman and the Meeting House Choir.

Sunday, May 19 - 10:45 a.m. - Hendrix Hall 'Honoring the Christian Pentecost'

On this Pentecost Sunday, Christians commemorate the "pouring out" of the Holy Spirit 50 days after Easter as recounted in Acts, the only book in the Christian Testament that contains stories of the early church: "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.... All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit...." Rev. Horst explores this text, Pentecost beliefs, and the Pentecostal religious movement that originated in the U.S. in a sermon entitled "Filled with the Holy Spirit." Music with Diane Lehman, Director of Music, and the Meeting House Choir.

Sunday, May 26 - 10:45 a.m. - Hendrix Hall 'Memorial Day Remembered'

The 4th Sunday Lay-Led Service Committee will present A Memorial Day Remembrance again this year. The service will feature memorable music, poetry, reflections and recollections. Rev. David Horst will be a presenter in this service to honor and thank our veterans for their dedication.

The Unitarian Universalist Meeting House is the home of Nantucket's Second Congregational Meeting House Society, Nantucket's liberal religious community. Sunday morning worship, music, and religious education begin at 10:45. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided at no charge from 10:30 - noon on Sunday mornings. Children begin the morning with the adult congregation in Hendrix Hall then depart for circle time, a story or activity, and a snack as part of the cooperative Religious Exploration Program. Enjoy coffee and conversation following the programs in the Activities Room at 11:45. Bring brunch food to share. The Meeting House Choir rehearses on Saturday afternoons at 3 and Sunday mornings at 9:30 in Hendrix Hall. Singers of all abilities are welcome!

Lending a Hand

Linda Simmons and her husband, professional photographer Gary Langley, have plans to move from the Boston area to Nantucket in late July for Linda to begin serving as our settled minister beginning August 1.

We'll be assisting them with the move and will help pack the truck in Medford and assemble a crew at the parsonage to help unpack the truck when it arrives on July 22. [Plan on helping out that day, the more people the better and easier.](#)



Diane Lehman named Director of Music!

The Board of Trustees is delighted to announce the appointment of Diane Lehman as Director of Music, effective May 1, following one year as Acting Director.

Diane conducts the Meeting House Choir, co-leads Sunday morning services and provides piano accompaniment, directs the new "Sunday Open Rehearsal" program, and coordinates the summer "Music at the Meeting House" program.

Diane is supported by the newly reorganized and re-energized Music Committee. She is the island's most prominent and beloved pianist, teacher, and music director. We are delighted she now also serves as Director of Music, devoting her talent and energy to our congregation.



'Thursdays@5' New Concert Series debuts on June 13

We are proud to announce this new summer music series! Each Thursday evening at 5 o'clock from June 13 through September 12 we are host to an hour-long performance in the historic sanctuary of the Meeting House. "Thursdays@5" features local bands and musicians from around the sound. Formerly the Noon Day Concerts, Thursdays@5 continues our tradition of bringing excellent music to music lovers on Nantucket.

An eclectic mix of ensemble acts is offered weekly through the summer in the early evening and should be appealing to people looking to set the tone for the evening and anyone wanting to make a transition after work. Thursdays@5

concerts are made possible by a grant from ReMain Nantucket, whose focus is to bring business to the downtown area. Additionally, there has been generous funding from The Worthington Foundation, whose endeavors to boost our musical profile have made the Open Rehearsals (See this page, below) so successful.

Our goal to honor these two funders and their wishes for a musical revitalization has been at the core of the series' development and preparation over the fall and winter. Our desire is to make the sounds of island musicians more accessible to working Nantucketers and increase their appreciation by their island peers.

The Thursdays@5 concerts, directed by Diane Lehman, will cover a wide range of styles from classical to folk, jazz, blues, theatre, and pop music. The series leads off with local favorite, the group Coq Au Vin! Other artists include our very own Meeting House Choir, jazz from the Bart Weismann Trio, The Timbukblues, the Nantucket Women's Chorus, Soprano Jessie Ann Lambrecht, singer-songwriter Daniel Charness, and the Bob Lehman Trio.

Our hope is to include Meeting House members and friends in our effort to bring people to the Meeting House for these Thursdays@5 concerts. Please speak to Diane or members of the Music Committee to see how you can help. The face of our Meeting House is yours, and this is a great opportunity to volunteer for an hour, hear some great music, and be a part of our growing family.



Open Rehearsals

From 12 noon–2pm each Sunday in April through September the main sanctuary of the Meeting House is the place to be for music lovers.

Diane Lehman, Acting Music Director of Music at the Meeting House invites you to an open rehearsal of groups and individuals as they prepare for island performances throughout the summer. Immerse yourself in the progress of musical presentations as Diane blends her experience and talented direction with the skills of the performers to make memorable music.

Do you know someone who would like rehearsal time? Contact Diane - musicdirector@unitarianchurchnantucket.org.

Be a Sunday Morning Greeter!

Greeters welcome members, friends, and guests; hand out name badges, bulletins, and hymnals; and answer visitors' questions. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in Hendrix Hall next Sunday morning!

Youth Group Meets every Thursday

The high school Youth Group meets every Thursday evening at 6 in the Activities Room.

Participating youth enjoy a potluck supper, check in and sharing time, games, and conversation. See youth advisors Christine Sanford, Henry Sanford, David Horst, or Yve Shevalier to get involved.

Join us for Boston Gay Pride, June 8th

Nantucket Meeting House members and friends are going to Boston to march in the annual Pride Parade on Saturday, June 8. Join us! Children and families are welcome. We'll take the 7:45 a.m. Hy-Line to Hyannis and car-pool to Boston in time for the 11 o'clock Pride Service at Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist, followed by the parade at noon. Unitarian Universalists from across Massachusetts are participating. We'll return on the 6 or 8:45 Hy-Line. This will be our second year of participation. Please see Rev. Horst if you'd like to participate. Visit BostonPride.org for all of the Boston Pride Week events.

We return to the sanctuary, May 26!

Following the May 19 service in Hendrix Hall, we process upstairs with hymnals and the chalice in preparation for the beginning Sunday services in the historic sanctuary commencing on May 26, Memorial Day weekend. We look forward to returning to our beautiful, large, light-filled sanctuary for summer services, programs, and concerts.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*Katie Hemingway
Jessie Lambrecht
Cynthia Lenhart
Clay Twombly*

We are an open, diverse, loving and respectful, compassionate and supportive congregation. Building on the foundation of Sunday worship services with uplifting music and inspiring and challenging sermons, we are a place where there are exciting, provocative, interesting, and fun year-round youth and adult programs that motivate involvement of the congregation in the direction of community outreach and social justice."

A work-in-progress, congregation vision statement, drafted at the annual trustees retreat 2/18/2012, and revised during the retreat of 3/16/2013.)

What can I add to the Meeting House Auction?

Look around your house for treasures to recycle.
Plan a dinner party around your favorite dish.
Think of giving lessons in your skill.
Have a boat? Offer a picnic on Muskeget.
Throw a home-made pizza party.
Donate a piece of your art or craft.
Offer Baby Sitting.
Give a "Pie of the Month".
And Lend a Hand...

Auction

at the
Meeting House

June 15th
Live Auction 7-8 pm
Silent Auction begins at 6 pm
Refreshments Served

Lend a Hand

Donate Items and Services
Collect Donated Items
Help Set Up the Auction
Assist During the Auction

Join the fun of working with other
members while you make our biggest
fun(d)raiser of the year happen.

Contact 508-228-5242, or jack@nantucket.net today
to choose a job that suits you.



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Nantucket, MA 02554

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Church Staff

David M. Horst, *Interim Minister* - **Edward B. Anderson**, *Minister Emeritus*
Diane T. Lehman, *Acting Music Director* - **Kaitlyn Burke**, *Office Assistant*
Mimi Jones and Dennis Santangelo, *Sextons*

Board of Trustees

Linda Sperry (President), Brian Girard (Vice President), Susan Richards (Clerk),
Bob Hall (Treasurer), David Hall, John Rivera, Jim Sulzer, Marina Sutro, Jack Weinhold

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday ~ 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Minister's Office Hours

Tuesday (10 a.m. - noon) and Friday (noon - 2 p.m.)