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APRIL SANDSCRIPT

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF FALMOUTH

From the Pulpit ~ Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman



Special April Events for the Fellowship

April 7, 6 pm -
Spring Fling
Dance & Potluck

April 9 -
New Member Sunday

April 12, 6 pm -
Family Seder Dinner

April 14-21
Youth Service Trip
to Cuba

April 16
Easter Sunday

April 22, 10 - 2
Green Planet Faire

April 28, 6 pm
Forbidden Foods Dinner

I've been asked to make available my list of guidelines from the end of my March 26 sermon, "Being Safe in an Unsafe World." Here it is –

**We can't let fear prevent us from doing the right thing.
Here are a few guidelines:**

Don't scare the children. At the same time don't make them cynical. Demonstrate compassion and teach them compassion. Last week I said it. I'll say it again, "Humor may save us, but sarcasm won't."

Be multi-lingual. Not only religiously multi-lingual, but politically and culturally multi-lingual. Don't cut yourself off from those who use other languages to express their deepest yearnings and affections. When I am in retreat with people from other faith communities, we often preface our remarks with the phrase, "In my tradition we. . . . It helps relativize what we are saying, opening others to us, and at the same time opening us to others.

Last week I reminded us of our place in the family of things — including our duty to be a constituent. To be a participant in the public conversation even if it is just around your table. Be a thoughtful constituent. Keep writing those cards and letters to members of Congress.

This place is a sanctuary. Remember what it is. Cherish it, and make it so. Not as a means of escape but as a place of safety. A cradle of hope. A center for good. Don't underestimate its power to heal and help.

At the same time be tough-minded. What we have here is a precious resource — guard well the faith it represents. Flawed and fragile, our religious perspective has much to offer people who are justifiably afraid right now.

Practice discernment. It requires the capacity to live with anxiety and not be afraid. It doesn't require huge changes in the way you live. Just that you be attentive.

Trust what you know. And be willing to change your mind, when it becomes necessary.

Even though it might seem naïve right now to imagine a future full of hope and possibility — do it anyway. Live into it.

Remember that history isn't an easy, ever upward-moving story of accomplishment. It is often tragic. The path of peace and love and hope and freedom is carved out with people's lived lives. It's our turn.

It's our time. This is our place.

Pray. Not with petitions born of fear and a "God, you do it because we can't prayer," but as a way of articulating our deepest yearnings, especially when we are together. It is a way of holding onto our most cherished hopes. Write prayers, as a way of being truthful with yourself in your quiet times.

In all this, remember that there is, as Wendell Berry has written, a "grace in the world". Notice that grace and the ways you experience it. Take refuge in it. And be free.

UUFF Governing Board 2017-2018

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**Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Falmouth**
840 Sandwich Road
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508-457-0449

Sunday Service ~ 10 am

**Church Office Hours
9 to Noon**

Monday through Friday

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Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman
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Deborah Keller Wood
*Director of
Religious Education*

Frederick Johnson
Choir Director

Nancy Wendlandt
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**Note: Deadline for submitting
articles to Sandscript is the
15th of each month.**

Sunday Services & Sermons in April

Sunday, April 2 ~ “Gender, Ego and the Illusion of Separation . . . ”
Scott A. Fitzmaurice, guest speaker

Many of you know Scott as a UUFF Member and from our annual auction. Two decades ago he founded CIGSYA/Thrive, the Cape and Islands Gay and Straight Youth Alliance, a long running community based non-profit providing LGBTQ Youth and their allies with support, friendships and opportunity. In 1998, Thrive purchased a permanent facility in downtown Hyannis. We look forward to hearing his message.

Sunday, April 9 ~ “Who Needs Us?”
Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman, preaching

I was taught that it is good for congregations, from time to time, to take the view from an imaginary balcony to see themselves and their role in the larger community. On this Sunday when we welcome New Members, I will take this view and suggest possibilities for UUFF, going forward.

Easter Sunday, April 16 ~ “Sing a New Song to the Eternal”
Rev. Hallman, preaching

Join us for this inter-generational service.

Sunday, April 23 ~ “Spiritual but Not Religious”
Rev. Hallman, preaching

I will preach about one of the phrases people sometimes use to describe themselves, when asked about religion. See if you can guess where I’ll land on the topic.

Environmental Justice Sunday, April 30 ~ “Water is Life”
Cheryl Osimo, guest speaker

As Executive Director of the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition and the Co-Founder of the Silent Spring Institute, Cheryl has been a catalyst in raising public awareness of possible environmental links to breast cancer on Cape Cod. She is a strong advocate for the Cape Cod Breast Cancer and the Environment Study.

Share the Plate is Sunday, April 30

Sunday offering will support the Silent Spring Institute

Silent Spring Institute is staffed and led by researchers dedicated to science that serves the public interest. The Institute partners with physicians, public health and community advocates and other scientists to identify and break the links between environmental chemicals and women’s health, especially breast cancer.

The Institute’s pioneering community-based approach to research has transformed the traditional dynamic between “scientist” and “subject” so both are working side-by-side to uncover findings that can help save lives and stop people from getting sick in the first place.

The Social Action Committee introduced the “Share the Plate in January and will continue the program on a trial basis through June.

Religious Education..... page 3



*From Debi Keller Wood
Director of Religious Education and Faith Formation*

Service Trip to Cuba April 14-21

This month we have 15 people going on our service trip to Cuba. We will be helping the young and the elderly, which in turn will help their families. We will work on a pineapple plantation, which supports the town. We will learn about House Churches, Cuban history and economics, and see historic Havana.



This life changing trip will be full of bonding, making new friends, understanding a different culture, serving others, and living our UU values. We will have a gathering at the end of every day for readings, lighting a chalice, reflections and journal writing.

Thank you to all of the supportive people who have helped make this trip happen. We will come back and share our experience and growth with all of you.

Taking part in this adventure are Katrina and Nathan Wilson; Olivia and Heidi Wilson; Ambrosia Ward; Ceci, Julia and Mary Lima; Isabella and Heather DiPaolo; Maria Moniz; Marite Burns; Susan Houghton, and Debi and Peter Wood.

Religious Education Calendar for April

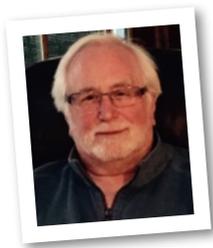
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| Sunday, April 2 | Class 14
Cuba Trip meeting at noon |
| Friday, April 7 | Spring Fling Dance, 6 to 8 pm. Guests and all ages welcome.
(Please see sign up in Meetinghouse foyer) |
| Sunday, April 9 | Class 15. OWL program at 10 am
Youth Choir meets 11:15 am in Choir Room |
| Friday, April 14 | Cuba Service Trip departure; group returns Saturday, April 22 |
| Sunday, April 16 | Inter-generational Easter Service |
| Sunday, April 23 | Multi-age Chapel Sunday in the East Wing
Youth Choir meets 11:15 am in Choir Room |
| Sunday, April 30 | COA Retreat at Meetinghouse |

Spring Fling Dance and Potluck, Friday, April 7

We will have music from over the past 70 years and dance the night away at the Meetinghouse. Young and old are invited to put on your dancing shoes. Sign up to bring a contribution to the pot luck, and join us to have some fun! Bring your friends, too! Free and open to all.



President's Corner.... page 4



*From
Bruce Bell,
Vice President
Governing
Board*

With **Carolyn Powers** happily away visiting family in Fiji, I am filling in during her absence.

On March 16, the Governing Board (GB) convened at the meetinghouse. The Board approved the Consent Agenda items which included: minutes of the February 16 meeting, President's Report, Minister's Report, and naming **Mike Singer** as covenant observer.

Under the Discussion Agenda, a question was raised regarding the use of absentee ballots when the Fellowship votes to call a settled minister on May 14. In answer to a query from the Board Clerk and the Moderator, and upon review of the UUFF bylaws by **Stu Graham**, he reported that he read the bylaws to read: *whether or not absentee ballots may be used is a decision for the Governing Board.* The Ministerial Search Committee had requested that no absentee ballots be allowed, to ensure that those voting on the candidate attend at least one of the two services to be led by the ministerial candidate, before voting as a Fellowship. After an in-depth discussion, the Board decided that absentee ballots **will not** be used for the vote to call a settled minister.

Gail Donkin presented the Treasurer's Report. She was pleased to report that, with help from **Ellen Todd**, the glitches plaguing the transition to QuickBooks have been resolved. Overall, Income and Expenses are tracking the budget very closely. At two-thirds into the fiscal year, Income is at 66% and Expenses are at 64% of anticipated.

John McWilliam was unable to attend the Board meeting, so I presented the Stewardship Committee Report. The pledge drive is underway and will end April 7. Members of the Board, Finance Committee, and Stewardship Committee were asked to pledge prior to the official start of the pledge drive. We got a great response. Thus, we are able to start the official pledge drive with over \$47,000 in pledges. If by the time you read this, you have not returned your pledge form – please do. We are making every effort to get all pledges as early as possible so that we can inform the ministerial candidate that the Congregation supports UUFF in all ways including financially.

The Board agreed to member Elga O'dell's request for rental of the Meetinghouse for her 80th birthday party in June. Permission was given to serve wine and beer and use of the kitchen as part of the agreement.

The Nominating Committee requested a job description for the

Vice President. The job description in the Bylaws is out of date. The Board recommended the following: Vice President, in the absence of the President, shall assume all the President's duties and authority and shall perform other duties as assigned by the President, with the expectation of taking on the role of President at the end of the term. This recommendation will be sent to the task force revising our bylaws.

The Board recognized that a volunteer coordinator is needed to help committees find and recruit volunteers. This will be discussed further with the Minister, the Leadership Council, and other members/friends who are interested. Any volunteers?

The Board spent considerable time discussing budget priorities. All discussions were preliminary, pending the results of the pledge drive and May auction. The Board agreed that funding a reserve for all costs that can be anticipated for the facility and other expected costs, such as costs during the minister's sabbatical, computers, hymnals, etc. should be a priority.

**Best to All,
Bruce**



Sunday, April 2, 9:00 am, Nature Walk:

Nathan Wilson will lead a walk around the grounds of the meetinghouse to look for early signs of spring. Join us before the service.

Wednesday, April 5, 7:00 pm, Forum:

“Crisis and the Opportunity for the American Health Care System”

Congressional and public debate on the ACA is rapidly moving on, perhaps to a legislative and health system crisis. This may open up a historic opportunity (perhaps not this year, but soon) for real change in the way America does health care. This forum aims to prepare us to think about such a change. Here are two ways to look at the issues.

First: We seem to agree that our health care system should cover everyone at affordable prices, contain overall costs, provide superior health outcomes, and be consistent with our core values. Our legacy system didn't do all that.

Conservative think tanks claim that a market-based health system can lower costs, increase choice and return control to the states. Progressives claim that only a single-payer system run by the Federal Government can be both affordable and fair. Democrats, in 2010, with the ACA (and related legislation), tried to tweak our flawed legacy system, using tools proposed by Conservatives, but under Federal Government leadership, to provide affordable health care coverage, a Progressive aim. Can the ACA be tweaked to do the job? If not, can a Conservative or Progressive solution be devised that can do so?

Second: Conservative and Progressive arguments are mostly about how to collect, administer and distribute payments for health care delivery, not directly about how to improve hospitals, doctors, and the other parts of the delivery system. But these two, payments and delivery, cannot be separated. Why? How are they related?

Our forum format will be two brief, 5-10 minute presentations, each followed by a moderated discussion. Contact Win Munro, winthrop.munro@comcast.net, 508 548-4695, for questions and a short bibliography.



FAMILY SEDER DINNER IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 6:00 PM

UUFF will hold our forth family Seder, celebrating freedom for people here and around the world.

This *family-focused event* includes reading the story of the Jewish people's exodus from slavery in Egypt as a metaphor for all who strive for freedom and the important role of women.

At the Seder we will eat a wonderful dinner filled with symbolism and tradition, sing songs, and end with dessert and the children hunting for a prize. This dinner has a set symbolic menu where each food represents part of the story.

Because it is a set menu, it requires us to register ahead. Cost is \$10/person; children are free, with a family maximum of \$20. The cut off date to register is Monday, April 10. Please register by signing up on the sheet in the foyer. Your donations will be accepted at the dinner.

**Come to the UUFF Green Planet Fair on Earth Day
Saturday, April 22 from 10 am to 2 pm**



Do you know . . . ?

*That goats eat brush and poison ivy? Or, how composting toilets work?
Or, what the Waquoit Bay Estuary Reserve does, and how to attend their
programs?*

Even if you do know all of these things – please join us for our 2nd Green Planet Faire.

Earth Day is April 22, and this Earth Day is the 47th year of acknowledging the interdependence of all living things on our planet. Here at UUFF we are inviting the public, friends and families to come and learn, meet local farmers, enjoy environmentally friendly products and hear about farms that supply locally grown foods for us.

Come to learn from others about healthy soil, solar power, the production of maple syrup from trees in Falmouth – and the local growing of chilis as a model for sustainable, small farms. We will have speakers from the EPA talking about Brownfields.

There will be food for sale, door prizes, and a kid and adult friendly display of the Zephyr Education Foundation's Augmented Reality Sandbox (an interactive, topographic modeling system that allows users to create coastal-scapes to better understand coastal processes).

The Sierra Club, the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition, Silent Spring Institute, and others will have information to share. We will also have spring plants, jams, Shaklee products, candles and environmentally friendly cleaning materials for sale. ***Don't miss this fun day!! Bring friends and neighbors.***

For more information, please contact Joanne Treistman, 508-540-1476.



Ministerial Search Update

Our three pre-candidating weekends with interested applicants went very well. All three of these ministers are wonderful people with great strengths. We think we made a good impression on behalf of our congregation and our community.

The Search Committee is now deliberating, as of press time for this issue of *Sandscript*. If we make a successful match, we will be trumpeting it from the rooftops in early April, once the contract is agreed upon and final background checks are complete. The candidate will visit UUFF from May 5 (Friday) through May 14 (Sunday), with the vote of the congregation after the service on May 14.

Note that the day of the vote is Mother's Day; we are sorry for any difficulties this causes. Also, the Governing Board has decided, on the recommendation of the Search Committee, *that you must be present to vote (no absentee ballots).*

To vote, you must be a member of UUFF as of Friday, April 14. If you wish to sign the Membership Book during the week, please contact the church office, 508-457-0449 to make arrangements.

The Search committee is striving to represent our congregation with discernment, honesty, and joy, and we are grateful for the trust and confidence you have placed in us.

*Barbara Clements, Heather DiPaolo, Charlotte Harris,
Jessica Mark Welch, Peggy Sabin, Lew Stern, Steve Treistman*



Choir Festival and Hymn Sing April 1, 7:30 pm

We hope that you can join us on Saturday at First Parish Brewster UU, 1969 Main St., (Rt. 6A).

Our UUFF choir will be singing with choirs from UU churches from Barnstable, Brewster, Falmouth and Provincetown, plus the Cotuit Federated Church.

We will sing two selections *en masse*: "Why We Sing" by Greg Gilpin and "Omnia Sol" (Let Your Heart Be Staid) by Z. Randall Stroope. Each choir will also sing pieces of their own, and those attending will have the opportunity to sing along on some additional hymns and songs. A freewill offering will benefit the Housing Assistance Corporation on Cape Cod.

Music Committee Notes . . .

~ The Choir is now preparing for our annual **Music Sunday** on June 25. Please put the date on your calendar, and be sure to invite family and friends to this popular, annual event.

~ **Youth Choir**, new this year, is progressing well. We are gaining members steadily, and the children have been responsive to the carefully selected music chosen for them by Fred Johnson. He makes it fun and easy going. The Youth Choir meets every other Sunday, from 11:15 to 11:45 am in the Music Room. All ages are welcome to participate!

~ As always, we encourage new singers to join the Adult choir.

~ Our Choir has song in our hearts and a "spring in our steps" as we work together to bring music into this corner of our world.

Ruth Pearce for the Music Committee

Brown Bag Book Bunch is back

We will resume meeting on the third Wednesday of the month. Our next gathering is April 19 at the home of Judy Alden, 46 Fox Run Lane, East Falmouth -- just a few minutes from our meetinghouse. Please bring your own sandwich and Judy will generously supply the rest of our lunch. If you have a book you've read and it's sitting on your shelf, bring it along and pass it on to another reader. Everyone is welcome. For directions call Judy at 508-540-2899.

Ladies Lunch is April 13

All women in the Fellowship are invited to lunch at noon at Anejo Mexican Bistro, 188 Main Street Falmouth. Please RSVP with Joann Grinnell at 508-564-4816.

Men's Breakfast Thursdays at 8

Start your day with fellowship, coffee, bagels and good conversation. Call Bob Sabin (508) 563-7685 for information.



Fair Trade Chocolate & Coffee Sale April 2 & 9

Look for Julia Withers after the Sunday service. Please pay by cash or check.

Sign-up now for new Fellowship Groups

Starting mid-May and continuing through summer, these groups of 10-12 people will meet every two weeks, probably on Wednesday afternoons. We will get to know each other -- while talking about a variety of UU related topics. To sign up, contact Mead Sommers, at capemead@comcast.net (There will be an option to continue from September through December.)

2017 UUFF
Goods & Services Auction
Let's all go to the Prom!

Save the Date: May 20th

April Birthdays



- 2 Rudolf Oldenbourg
- 5 Dorene Sykes
- 6 Mia DiPaolo
- 9 Rolf Kluever
- 12 Molly Powers
- 17 David Mark Welch
- 19 Mary Sellers
- 19 Andrew Mark Welch
- 19 Barbara Fitzmaurice
- 22 Pat Thatcher
- 26 Adele Francis
- 27 Reed Walsh
- 29 Bill Reznikoff

Would you like to be added to our birthday/ anniversary list? Send to: admin@uuffm.org

UUFF Events for April 2017

• SUNDAY	• MONDAY	• TUESDAY	• WEDNESDAY	• THURSDAY	• FRIDAY	• SATURDAY
						•1
•2 9 am: Nature Walk 10 am: Service & Rel. Education Noon: Cuba Trip planning meeting	•3 7 pm: Choir Rehearsal	•4 1 pm: Mah Jongg 7 pm: Adult RE Committee	•5 3 pm: Fellowship Group 7 pm: Adult RE Forum	•6 8 am: Men's Breakfast 9:45: Membership Committee	•7 6 pm: Spring Fling Dance & Potluck	•8
•9 <i>New Member Sunday</i> 10 am: Service & Rel. Education 11:15 am: Youth Choir meets	•10 7 pm: Choir Rehearsal	•11 1 pm: Caring Committee 1 pm: Mah Jongg 1:30 pm: Fellowship Group 7 pm: Fellowship Group	•12 6 pm: Family Seder & Dinner	•13 8 am: Men's Breakfast Noon: Ladies Lunch (at Anejo) 3:00 pm: Fellowship Group	•14 Youth Service Trip to Cuba (return on April 21)	•15
•16 Easter Sunday 10 am: Service (all ages)	•17 7 pm: Choir Rehearsal	•18 1 pm: Mah Jongg 2 pm: Communications Committee 4 pm: Social Action Committee	•19 Noon: Brown Bag Book Bunch at Aldens 3 pm: Fellowship Group	•20 8 am: Men's Breakfast 9:45 am: B & G Committee 7 pm: Governing Board meets 7:15 pm: Music Committee	•21	•22 Green Planet Faire & Earth Day 10-2 pm
•23/30 10 am: Service & Rel. Education <i>April 23:</i> 11:15 am: Youth Choir meets 4 pm: Living by Heart	•24 7 pm: Choir Rehearsal	•25 1 pm: Mah Jongg 1:30 pm: Fellowship Group 7 pm: Fellowship Group	•26	•27 8 am: Men's Breakfast 3:00 pm: Fellowship Group	•28 6 pm: Forbidden Food Dinner	•29