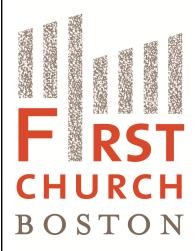
October 2014 Volume 7, Issue 7



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Finding Yourself at First Church

Welcome! Whether you are looking for a spiritual home, programs for your children, or a community in which you can explore, learn, grow, and serve, we hope you will find it here. On Sunday, October 26th following the service, Rev. Stephen Kendrick and Rev. Amy Freedman will offer an introductory session in the Auditorium. This is a good opportunity to meet our ministers, ask questions, and learn more about our community. A light lunch will be served.

First Edition

Sermons

Sunday, October 12, "Ghost Stories", Sam Teitel

Sam writes... "Columbus Day is a holiday that is likely to stir up complicated emotions in many people--how can we celebrate a national holiday that is tied so closely tied to the systematic oppression of so many people? This Sunday we will look back at moments in the Bible and in our own history, as Americans and as Unitarian Universalists, that are similarly difficult and see not only what we can learn from them, but also how we can move forward in a way that is constructive and hopeful."

Sunday, October 19, "Active Hope", Rev. Amy Freedman

Amy writes... "During seminary, I was fortunate to take a class with Dr. Joanna Macy, a scholar of Buddhism, general systems theory, and deep ecology. "Spiritual Ground for World Engagement" was a transformative experience for me. Her teachings and spiritual exercises were powerful lessons in the importance of spiritual grounding in order to work for change of any kind.

Hope is not a passive desire but an ongoing practice. This service will explore how we face life's challenges without going crazy. There are steps that we can take to experience both the joy and pain of living in more sustainable ways. Joanna Macy calls this "The Work that Reconnects."

Sunday, October 26, "Let There Be Peace on Earth, and Let It Begin with...Religion?", Rev. Stephen Kendrick

Stephen writes... "You might think that the biggest player in world peace would be religion, yet you probably aren't thinking that is true. I had the chance to reflect on this when I attended an international conference sponsored by the International Association of Religious Freedom in Birmingham, England, this August. Not only was it stimulating to be among leaders from so many religions (at least the liberal wing of them), but our theme speaker was Karen Armstrong, whose new book directly confronts the issue of whether religion creates or subdues violence around the world. This is a tough, and tormenting, topic, but people of all faiths around the globe are being forced to confront it now. And so I will, too."

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First Edition

An Evening with Sherlock Holmes: Saturday, 10/18 at 6 PM

Join us for a mysteriously fun evening with Rev. Stephen Kendrick, author of "Holy Clues" & "Night Watch", as we explore the character of Sherlock Holmes. Clips and audio will help us delve into the fascinating stories and films depicting the great detective. Dinner and the presentation will cost \$15.00. Contact zach@firstchurchboston.org or visit the table in the narthex to sign up. Come on out! It promises to be a great night—Hope to see you there!

World of Wonder

Our new program for children and families at First Church in Boston is off to a good start! Rebecca Hsieh (Religious Educator) and Jasmine Baetz (Childcare Provider) are delightful additions to our staff. Special thanks to Rebecca Connell and Ann Murray for helping out in WOW Kids!

WOW Kids' September's theme was "Celebrating Creativity". Children ages four to seven enjoyed planting seeds, making artwork, and using drama games for creative expression. During our Welcome Family Breakfast, all ages celebrated "Dot Day" inspired by *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds. Adults and children created a painting together as well as their own dot artwork. Please check out the Dot Exhibit now on display in the hallway leading down to our classrooms.



The WOW Kids theme for October is "Meditation and Mindfulness". For more information, please contact Rev. Amy Freedman, amy@firstchurchboston.org

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С	Connecting with Nature	Meditation	Web of Life	Fun Yoga Poses
Т	Planting bulbs	Finding Inner Peace	Exploring our awe-	Stretching our bodies
0			some and intercon-	
В	Rebecca Hsieh	Rebecca Hsieh	nected world!	Rebecca Hsieh
E	Doug Miller	Ann Murray	Peter Bowden	Rebecca Connell
R			Doug Miller	

Handbells in October



During the month of October, Peter Banos will be leading a handbell ensemble in weekly Sunday morning rehearsals. For more information on the schedule and joining the group, please contact Paul Cienniwa: pcienniwa@gmail.com.