Welcome to Arlington Street Church

TODAY - DECEMBER 15, 2013

Please take a moment to complete this card so that we may welcome you more fully to our congregation. Simply drop it into the offering plate, or hand it to an usher after the service.

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone numbers
E-mail
Spouse/Partner
Children's Name(s) & Age(s)
\Box I/we are visiting for the first time.
□ I/we have been attending ASC for
☐ I/we would like a permanent name tag(s) for Sunday worship. (Name tags are placed on a rack in the vestibule.)
☐ How did you hear about Arlington Street?
I prefer to be contacted by:
□ Mail □ Phone □ E-mail □ No preference
I would like to know more about:
☐ Membership Classes/Joining ASC ☐ Choir/Music
□ Social Action □ Children's Religious Education
☐ Adult Religious Education & Connections (ASC's small group ministry)
□ Young Adult Group □ Other

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE. THANK YOU!

At Your Service:

- * If you would like a large print order of service and hymns, or Brailled hymns
- * If you are having trouble hearing the service and would appreciate an assistive listening device
- * If you have mobility challenges and would like assistance

Service is Our Gift

Candles Coordinator, *Liz Weber*Lead Greeter, *Queen Cheryl*Lead Usher, *Ellen Spencer*Worship Coordinator, *Desmond Ravenstone*Assistant Treasurers, *Ellen Spencer and Carol Fisher*

OUR UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FAITH

Arlington Street Church is an historic congregation (1729) with a progressive faith. Long on the cutting edge of movements for social justice, we affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every being. All are welcome!

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Prudential Committee is the elected governing board of Arlington Street Church.

THE MEMBERS ARE:

Shane McBride (chair) / Harlow Robinson (vice-chair) / Christine Curtiss / Alex Frost Greg Haig / Kerry Marshall / Dan Moon Ellen Payzant / Thomas Simers

OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION ARE:

Samuel Gloyd and Desmond Ravenstone (co-moderators) / David McClain (clerk) Susie Nacco (treasurer)

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

FM amplification headsets are available from the ushers. Please do not remove them from the sanctuary. **Accessible** entry is via the ramp on the Arlington Street alley at the right-hand side of the front doors to the Church. **Braille** hymnals are available!

Please ask an usher for assistance.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

Children's Religious Education begins every Sunday in the sanctuary. Children are sung out near the beginning of the service and gather downstairs in the Perkins Room for CRE. Children rejoin their families in the sanctuary to end the service. Just off the Hunnewell Chapel is a nursery for fussy babies and their caregivers. The service is piped in, and a rocker, changing table and supplies are available.

For information about our CRE program, please contact the church office or see our religious educator.

ALLELUIA!

At Arlington Street Church, we raise a hand and circle two fingers above our heads to signal joyous affirmation.

PARKING AT ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

Parking on Sundays is available at the Back Bay Garage for a discount. Discount coupons are available at the Welcome Table after worship. Additional parking may be available on Arlington Street past "The Castle."

Staff Directory

Ministers

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, Sr. Minister
Office@ASCBoston.org, ext. 10
Rev. George G. Whitehouse, Minister at Large
GWhitehouse@ASCBoston.org, ext. 10
Rev. Eugene B. Navias, Assoc. Min. Emeritus

Catie Scudera, Intern Minister
CScudera@ASCBoston.org

Ann Clarke, post-doctoral Intern Minister
AClarke@ASCBoston.org

Music

Mark David Buckles, Director of Music
MBuckles@ASCBoston.org
Nick Place, Collaborative Pianist
Office@ASCBoston.org, ext 10

Choir Section Leaders

Julie Gregorio, soprano Glorivy Arroyo, mezzo soprano Marco A. Jordao, tenor Zachary Ballard, Assistant Conductor and baritone

Children's Religious Education (CRE)

Laura Evonne Steinman, Religious Educator &Artist in Residence, LES@ASCBoston.org Erica Long, CRE Assistant/Field Education Student ELong@ASCBoston.org

Administration

Phyllis Guiliano, Business Administrator
PG@ASCBoston.org, ext. 16
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Jeffrey Bouchard, Facilities Manager & Administrative Assistant

JBouchard@ASCBoston.org, ext. 14 **Brad Nobles**, Sexton

[Bouchard@ASCBoston.org, ext. 17

NB: To reach any staff member by phone,

dial 617-536-7050. When prompted, enter *8 and then the extension.

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist* 351 Boylston Street Boston, Massachusetts 02116-3303

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Phone: 617-536-7050 • Fax: 617-536-7051 E-mail: office@ASCBoston.org • Web: www.ASCBoston.org



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2013

ADVENT 3 ~ JOY HAPPY SOLSTICE!

Unitarian Universalism Draws from Many Sources

OUR SIXTH SOURCE

Spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature

Arlington Street Church Boston, Massachusetts Founded in 1729

Gathered in love and service for justice and peace

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2013

PRELUDE

WELCOME, CHALICE LIGHTING, AND GREETINGS

In celebration of the life of Herb Gleason The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel Kelly, violin; Mark David Buckles, guitar & vocals

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH ~ ADVENT 3

Joy Catie Scudera

On the four Sundays before Christmas, we light a candle on the Advent wreath in recognition of the eternal cycle of the seasons, and in honor of the birth of prophets old and new.

*HYMN 241

In the Bleak Midwinter

STORIES IN THE SANCTUARY Laura Evonne Steinman

The (Urban) Mitten Tree (Carol Fisher playing herself)

author: Candace Christiansen; adapted: Laura Evonne Steinman

DECORATING THE MITTEN TREE

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree Johnny Marks (1909-1985) Nick Place, piano

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Children's Benediction text: Barbara Pescan music: Bart Bradfield



At this time, all children are welcome to join the Children's Religious Education program!

COMMUNITY CANDLES OF SORROW & JOY

You are invited to share your sorrows and joys with the congregation by filling out a Candle Card in the back pew on the right-hand side of the sanctuary. Candle Cards are collected until the beginning of the first hymn. After the service, Candle Cards are posted downstairs during coffee hour. You may also submit a candle by Saturday night at the church website, ASCBoston.org, by clicking on "Worship."

Some of us pray with words, some of us pray through action, and some of us use words other than prayer to describe our connection to the divine and to one another. As you feel called, please join us in singing the chorus of *Healing Prayer*.

Healing Prayer music: Nick Page (b. 1952) text: African American Spiritual "Balm in Gilead" and Nick Page Glorivy Arroyo, mezzo soprano; Julie Gregorio, soprano



AFFIRMATION AND COVENANT

Love is the spirit

of this congregation,

And service is our gift.

This is our great covenant:

To dwell together in peace,

To speak our truths in love,

And to help one another.

El amor es el espíritu

de nuestra congregación

Y el servicio es nuestro regalo.

Esto es a lo que nos comprometemos:

Convivir en paz,

Hablar nuestras verdades con amor,

Y ayudarnos los unos a los otros.

*HYMN 55

Dark of Winter

SERMON

The Fruitful Darkness Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

from "Plaintes de Cybèle" from Le Sang d'Atys

A line of sand, the dune's upswelling rise,
A lip of foam and seaweed fringe: the sea...
The soft traces of lashes on your brown eyes
And by your vacant brow, the thick dark trees:
So like your eyes whose fire lights your face,
Stars in my night whose twin flames burn in space
Blaze on another world when you're asleep.

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Over 300 pledging members and friends support the work of Arlington Street Church with commitments averaging \$20 a week plus volunteer service. Whatever you give is greatly appreciated. Please consider a generous donation today! Contributions placed in an envelope will be credited toward your pledge or gift.

OFFERTORY

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

*Hymn 118

This Little Light of Mine

*BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

*CHORAL BENEDICTION (sung twice; please join in!)

When You Walk From Here text: Linnea Good

music: Tom Witt, arr. Buckles

When you walk from here, When you walk from here, Walk with justice, Walk with mercy, And with God's humble care.

POSTLUDE

Menuet 1 from Partita No. 1 in Bb Major, BWV 825 Nick Place, piano J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*You are invited to stand as you are willing and able.

Today in Children's Religious Education (CRE)

It's Mitten Tree Sunday! We'll remain upstairs a little longer than usual so the children can add mittens, scarves, and other gifts to the Mitten Tree. Then, we'll meet in our age-based groups to make holiday decorations for the Dec. 20th Friday Night Supper, when the Mitten Tree gifts will be presented to the guests.

- Kindergarten-2nd graders and Grady are making scarves.
- 2nd-5th graders and Kate are making snowflakes and paper chains.
- 5th-8th graders and Vickie are making holiday signs.

If you are interested in getting involved with CRE, please email Erica at elong@ascboston.org.

We thank David Schumann and Jimmy from Lotus Designs for the beautiful songbird Christmas wreath on the pulpit!