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# the WINDOW

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Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*

June – August, 2005, Vol. 4, No. 4

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## Vision

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REV. KIM K. CRAWFORD HARVIE, SENIOR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

In a recent interview, the great Oprah Winfrey was asked a frivolous question to which she gave a remarkable answer. The question was whether she and Stedman Graham, her partner of eighteen years, argue. Here's her response:

"Other people might argue about shoes left on the floor, or 'you didn't come home for dinner.' We argue about vision versus no vision. All the time. There's not a day that we don't talk about [imitating Stedman] 'What you need is a greater vision.' Even when we were teaching our [leadership] class together at Northwestern University, he would stand up and tell these graduate students, 'You need to have a vision. There's a process to success,' and I would say, 'Or you don't, 'cause I didn't have one.' ... I live in the moment."

No one would argue that Oprah Winfrey is anything less than visionary ... and spectacularly successful. Her success, though, is apparently not about planning for the future, but opening to now. It may well come to her naturally, but I know this can be learned; there are many people to whom a rich life comes as the fruit of a devoted spiritual practice to release the past and come fully into the present, one breath at a time. In the book of Proverbs, it is written,

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." (29:18) Could that call to life be not only to a wider view, but to a more intimate connection with this very moment? What if both Stedman Graham and Oprah Winfrey are right? I commend to you the practice of presence; let's see where it might take us. The fifth century Indian poet, Kalidasa, wrote

*Look to this day, for it is life!  
The very life of life.*

*For yesterday is but a dream,  
and tomorrow only a vision.*

How's that for an assignment?

You can compare notes during coffee after summer worship! The services have a star-studded cast of Arlington Street luminaries; I hope you will plan to be a part of the wonderful summer congregation (see pages 6 and 7 for details).

Our family is spreading out for most of this vacation! Cory and Kevin are keeping the hearth-fires burning in the city; Jamie is heading out to backpack Vermont's Long Trail for two months; Jessye is going on an "international friendship" trip to Puerto Rico; and Kem and I will be on Cape Cod, leaving only for a swing through the southwest, planned to include backpacking in southwestern Colorado, kayaking and hiking in the Grand Canyon (of course!), and visiting family in New Mexico.



During the only three days I'll be out of phone contact, ASC staff, colleagues on call, and our newly-commissioned ASCares pastoral caregiving team will be available to help. As always, please contact the church office if you or another Arlington Street member needs support.

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ARLINGTON  
STREET CHURCH  
Unitarian Universalist

# The Lessons Have Been Simple and Deep—Thank You!

ART SHIRK, CO-CHAIR, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

I want to extend heartfelt thanks to the community of Arlington Street Church for the opportunity I've had over the past three years to serve on the Prudential Committee, and for the experience of acting as Co-Chair over the past year. As I look back on the past three years I feel great pride in the growth and progress that has happened at ASC and rather humbled—I've been surrounded by smart energetic people with open hearts and great eagerness to contribute. That has made my job rather simple.

My departure from the Prudential Committee has overlapped with my launch into a new labor of love for me, a social change project I have started with several colleagues in Bogota Colombia. Our work is to bring together diverse groups of Colombian citizens who have been impacted by the civil war and terror that plagues the country, and engage them in a deep conflict resolution, community-building, and leadership process. The ultimate aim is to support former guerilla rebels and paramilitary fighters in successfully reintegrating into mainstream society.

While I was there a few weeks ago to raise money for our work, establish connections with government agencies, and meet with members of our audience—I noticed that lessons I've learned at ASC came in handy.

Like taking on a leadership role at ASC, my work in Colombia is deeply meaningful to me—it calls me toward it and says to me “do this...”, and at the same time part of me is quite certain that I have no idea how to proceed! ASC has taught me that when the heart is really committed,

the next step will present itself and the resources and support will most likely show up.

The most intense experience in my recent trip was conducting a focus group session with a small group of former guerilla and paramilitary fighters who have turned in their weapons to rejoin society. As we were driving to meet them, I felt afraid and uncertain. I was sure that I was way out of my league, and was convinced that these people were so different from me that I would not be able to relate

to them. It was not completely unlike the way I sometimes feel when I walk downstairs to coffee hour after ASC service... well, amped-up a bit perhaps, but still quite similar. And, when I met with Enrique, Jovani, and



Art and partner Sonia with Enrique, Jovani, Saraya, and government social worker in Bogota, Colombia.

Saraya I discovered what I knew all along—that underneath our surfaces we are really not so different after all. We want to be respected. We want to be seen. We yearn for connection. And, love is ultimately all that matters.

I'm looking forward to learning into our ASC community in the year ahead without a formal role to play. See you at coffee hour.

With love and gratitude,

## Mini Financial Update

Total Pledges To Covenant 2004-2005: **\$254,889**

Payments Received Through May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005: **\$212,641** (83%)

Total Operating Income Through May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005: **\$546,386**

Total Operating Expenses Through May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005: **\$552,375**

# Back to School

LINDA BEREZ, MINISTERIAL INTERN

What's the point?

Here you are again, it's June, and you're about to say goodbye to another ministerial intern. Just when you get one all figured out, get them trained to do things the Arlington Street way, they preach their last sermon, say their good-byes from the pulpit and at meetings and, poof, away they go.

So why bother, what's the point? Well, saying goodbye is never easy but, the time between hello and goodbye, the time from September through June is time very well spent. I am grateful that you have given me the opportunity to serve and I encourage you to keep up the commitment to being a teaching congregation. The point, the reason you would want to continue being a teaching congregation, is that Arlington Street is a unique and well-respected congregation within the Unitarian Universalist Association. Your senior minister, the Reverend Kim K. Crawford Harvie, is an exceptional person in so many ways and has been an awesome supervisor. Your staff is well attuned to the needs of the building and congregation and keeps the doors open, even during the blizzard of January 2005. Your lay leaders, who spend countless unpaid hours, loving and serving this congregation for the greater good of justice

and peace, are incredible.

The point, what I hope you understand, is that not every congregation can be a teaching congregation, and by far not many within the association are willing or able to provide such a valuable service to the intern and the wider association. And, even though you share the internship with the Church of the Larger Fellowship, <http://www.clfuu.org>, it doesn't mean the experiences for Kim, the staff, you, or the intern is lessened by half somehow.

This opportunity has been invaluable. Hopefully you know by now that my primary desire to do these two half time internships was my interest in the CLF and the unique opportunities it affords someone with my technical background. Honestly, I had never set foot in the magnificent sanctuary of ASC until the summer of 2004. I

had never met Kim, although I had heard of her and her outstanding reputation as a minister. Arlington Street was something that I knew I would do because it was part of the package. But, *wow*, what else

can I say, this part of the work has been so rewarding and the richness of the experiences I take away can never be duplicated, nor would I want them to be. I'm not going to tell you that it was easy, because there have been times when I wondered if ministry was the right thing for me. As with all interns, this part of our formation, being a student minister, is an opportunity

to discern whether ministry is something we are truly called to do. Some find it isn't. For me, parish ministry wasn't something I believed I would or could do. I saw myself doing something more "institutional."

This church means so much to me and in so many ways I am sad that I will have to say goodbye...

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# Social Action Bridges the Gap

CHRIS CURTISS, SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

After all the work on the election last fall, and the devastating defeat of so much that we believe in, we in the Social Action Committee directed our attention to defining our moral values, and bridging the gap between us and those with whom we disagree. But how can we bridge the gap between people who feel so strongly? Is it even worth it to try to talk with “those people?” We’re probably not going to change their minds, any more than they are going to change ours. And what exactly are our moral values? We think we know what they are, but often find it hard to articulate them to people who don’t already agree with us.

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sandra Boston from the Conscious Communications Institute came to ASC to teach us “What to Say When You Disagree.” We learned to listen—really listen—to learn why people feel as strongly as they do. What is it in their life experience that brings them to such different conclusions? We learned to search for areas of agreement, to look for that nod that means we have connected. To respond to their opinions with “Oh,” and “I see it differently,” rather than arguing about the “truth”. And to stand our ground, but allow the other

person to stand theirs as well.

And what’s the point, if they still don’t agree? The point is to open a dialog, not to convince them that we are right and they are wrong. That’s not going to happen, at least not as the result of one conversation, and perhaps never. But we’ve opened



a dialog, and perhaps planted some seeds. Who knows what the long-term results will be?

On April 24<sup>th</sup>, a panel discussion helped us to better define and articulate our moral values as they relate to families. Our own Mary Ann Hardenbergh described George Lakoff’s take on “framing the debate”, with an emphasis on nurturing family values. Read his books, *Don’t Think of an Elephant* and *Moral Values!* ASC member Charlene Galarneau, Rev. Susan Criscione from the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, and Charles Martell from the Religious Coalition for the Freedom

to Marry then led a very helpful discussion. Economic and social pressures on mothers. Ways to minimize abortion, such as providing more support for mothers. Changing meanings of marriage over the centuries. Diversity, justice, equity and compassion as moral values.

The idea that some families are abusive or exploitative and should not be supported. We came away from discussion with a lot to think about!

We are now trying out our new skills in “Bridging the Gap.” We’ve come up with lots of ideas of gaps to bridge on an individual basis, from re-connecting with old friends to joining internet chat rooms.

Come by the Social Action table to pick up an idea, if you don’t have one already in mind. Let us know what happens! Next, we’ll be looking for ways to connect on a larger basis, perhaps with another church or organization. Our next Social Action Committee meeting, on June 5<sup>th</sup> (9:30 AM in the Clarke Room) will be dedicated to exploring where to go from here. We are inviting everyone who is interested in Bridging the Gap to come to the meeting and join us in exploring ideas.

We hope you’ll join us in broadening our attempts to speak our truths in love! ⊕

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Homecoming is Sunday morning, September 11<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 AM. Please remember to gather water from your summer travels for the Water Service that day! As you'll hear around the church in coming weeks, there will be three new staff members to meet, and, I'm sure, stories to tell!

My friend Steve just handed me this poem, from Rilke's *Love Poems to God*, translated by Joanna Macy and Anita Barrows. I encourage you to make your own translation; there's something magical here.

**Gott spricht zu jedem nur,  
eh er ihn macht**  
(God Speaks to Each of Us)

God speaks to each of us as he  
makes us,  
then walks with us silently out of  
the night.

These are the words we dimly hear:  
You, sent out beyond your recall,  
go to the limits of your longing.  
Embody me.

Flare up like flame  
and make big shadows I can move in.

Let everything happen to you:  
beauty and terror.  
Just keep going. No feeling is final.  
Don't let yourself lose me.

Nearby is the country they call life.  
You will know it by its seriousness.

Give me your hand.

*Enjoy these sweet summer days!* ☺

Faithfully yours, with much love,

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,  
Senior Minister

## Worship Notes

FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

### Worship for the Other Six Days of the Week

GINNY MERRIT, COMMITTEE MEMBER

Growing up in the Midwest, church was a chore checked off on a to-do list. We went to church once a month whether we wanted to or not; it was just what people did. It's fascinating to me that people want to go to church, and that I want to go to church here. What a revelation to renew myself on Sundays at ASC's well of spiritual sustenance. However, it creates in me a craving for more church. What do you do when church isn't in session?

The freedom (and challenge) of our liberal faith is that we are charged with creating our own worship experience on the other days of the week. Our Spiritual Passions series this past year demonstrated ways our congregation members worship on a day-to-day, moment-to-moment basis—meditation, Tarot, stream-of-consciousness writing, spiritual friendship, the spirituality of money, etc. Vietnamese Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh writes that even washing dishes can be a spiritual experience.

These spiritual passions insist that we create a time of quiet within ourselves on a regular basis. They create and refine a special lens that improves our ways of spiritual seeing, and help us align ourselves more closely to what is true and right in the world: for some, a divine, beneficent power; for others our humanity and ways we can free ourselves and others from suffering.

Someone I know has a wonderful, quirky spiritual passion: she watches birds. Out in the woods

with her binoculars, she connects to God by training herself to see the colors and patterns of life that she would miss without this



spiritual practice. Have you ever looked at the feather patterns of a brown sparrow in the grass? Eamon Grennan wrote: "...and I began to understand/how a poem can happen: you have your eye on a small/elusive detail, pursuing its music, when a terrible truth/strikes and your heart cries out, being carried off."

Looking at that sparrow, I begin to understand how church can happen on all the other, ordinary, days of the week.

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# Worship Highlights – Summer 2005

**June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

**Preaching**

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

**Music**

As torrents in summer, *Edward Elgar*

**June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

**Preaching**

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

**Music**

Circus Band, *Charles Ives*

**June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

**Preaching**

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

**Music**

Beth Gentner, special music

**June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

“Midsummer’s Service”  
ASC Earth-Spirit Circle

**About the Speaker**

Join members of ASC’s Earth-Spirit circle in this drumming ceremony to celebrate the Midsummer’s Holiday.

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2005**

“Chained to Freedom”  
Aaron White

**About the Speaker**

Aaron has just finished his first year in the M. Div. program at Harvard, and a year working as the Coordinator of Children’s Religious Education here at ASC. He’s pursuing his UU ordination, as well as a future Ph.D. in comparative religious ethics.

**July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

“Love/Poetry Service”  
Ginny Merritt, Shea Mullaney,  
and Friends

This service will explore poetry—both reading it and writing it—as a spiritual practice. Join us!

**About the Speakers**

Ginny works in the Boston juvenile court system and writes poetry occasionally published in unknown magazines and obscure anthologies. Shea is releasing his first full-length book of poetry and wishes poetry were his day job. Both serve on ASC’s Worship Committee.

**July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

“Exploration”  
Dave Ebert

**About the Speaker**

Dave is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and a member of ASC’s Worship Committee.

**July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

“Finding Faith:  
*A force stronger than you and me*”  
Adam Sutton

Explore personally-experienced, life-affirming faith: the belief that something stronger and larger than all of us exists that holds us in love.

**About the Speaker**

Adam is a lay worship leader and long-time ASC member. Humbly stumbling along the spiritual path, he discovers more each day the joy and peace a deep faith can manifest.



**July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005**

“Generosity:  
*The Art of Leaving Space*”  
Shea Mullaney and Megan Lynes

When we give a man on the street a dollar, do we connect or do we just make ourselves feel better? Explore the nature of generosity.

**About the Speakers**

Shea is active member of ASC’s community including the Worship Committee, Young Adults, Earth-Spirit Circle, and Buddha’s Belly reading group.

Megan has been an active Young Adult here at ASC. She is a divinity student at Andover Newton Theological School and serving her internship in Canton, Massachusetts. ASC welcomes Megan’s return to lead this service!

**August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

“Kevin Bacon and the Interdependent Web of All Things”  
Kate Wilkinson

**About the Speaker**

Kate is a leader of ASC’s Young Adult group and a member of the ASC Prudential Committee. She begins Divinity School at Boston University this fall.

**August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

“Practical Volunteerism”  
Sara Davis

Explore ways to put your UU principles to work as a volunteer.

**About the Speaker**

Sara is an active Young Adult at ASC and has volunteered for organizations such as Big Sister, NARAL, and Boys and Girls Club.

**August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005**

“In This Moment”  
Marjorie Matty

**About the Speaker**

Marjorie Matty has lived several life times within this one, traveling the world having varied experiences along the way. She’s just finished her third year at Andover Newton Theological School while working at the UUA as the Assistant to the President and serving as the intern minister at the UU Society of Wellesley Hills.

Marjorie makes her spiritual home here at ASC and we welcome her return to lead this service!

**August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

“Shadow Work”  
Darrick Jackson

**About the Speaker**

Darrick Jackson is a ministerial student at Andover Newton Theological School. Last year he began a two-year internship at First Parish of Watertown. Darrick is developing a ministry that empowers youth and young adults to find their spiritual center and affect change in their lives. ASC welcomes Darrick’s return to lead this service!

**September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

“The Fruit of our Labor”  
Marilyn Castriotta

**About the Speaker**

Marilyn has been a member of ASC since 2002. She serves on the Worship and Green Sanctuary Committees and enjoys an occasional Arlington Street Outdoors Club event.

# A Year of Rituals

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR  
OF ASC, AUTUMN 2005

One of many things we learned from the long range planning process is that many of us love tradition, and some of us even love ritual; over the years, we have, indeed, committed to a cycle of observances and holidays. Here’s an opening bid on the fall at Arlington Street. If it inspires thoughts, please share them with Kim or a member of the Worship Committee. ☺

- **Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Homecoming and Water Service (Please bring a small container of water from your summer travels.)
- **Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Feast Day of St. Francis and Blessing of the Animals
- **Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Day of the Dead, All Saints, All Souls, Samhain
- **Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**  
Bring a Friend Sunday
- **Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Thanksgiving Sunday, UU Service Committee *Guest at Your Table* Sunday
- **Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**  
World AIDS Day service (in conjunction with Boston Living Center)
- **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Intergenerational Worship
- **Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**  
A Service of Lessons and Carols
- **Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Eve by Candlelight

# Worship Notes

CONTINUED FROM P. 5

## News/Updates:

### We can clap!

SHEA MULLANEY, COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

I'm thrilled by the success of our two recent lay-led services.

The first service on "Friendship," was a long time coming. Lisa Nichols, Paul Rivenberg, and Rob Cuddi shared how different friends helped them along their journey: a Mexican sweatshop worker whom Lisa hadn't even met, a friend who came to Rob's door asking "what can I do for you today?", and Paul's built-in friend—his identical twin. Linda Berez tied it all together, leading us to reflect on friendship in our community and lives.

The following week, our Young Adult group pulled off a rousing service that got us stomping and clapping (who knew we had it in us) and made us think about how social privilege is given and taken for granted in America today.

Both services illustrate the rich variety of our community here at ASC. Everyone's voice is distinctive, important, and valued. We are blessed not only to have a great minister, but also the wisdom, compassion, and calling to minister to one another.

We have two lay-led services this summer: Midsummer Service on June 26<sup>th</sup>, and the Love/Poetry Service on July 10<sup>th</sup>. For Midsummer we're looking for readers & drummers to participate. For Love/Poetry we're looking for you to share

poems that have moved you (ones you've written or ones you've read.)

If you're interested in participating in either of these services, or if you or your group would like to plan a future lay-led service, please contact me at seag-da@yahoo.com or Ginny Merritt at vemerritt@earthlink.net.

## Get Involved

We're always looking for volunteers! And while we are on the lookout for new committee members, we're also currently looking for:

- nominations for candidates to deliver a *One Member's Journey* (a description of the personal journey that's led someone to ASC)
- suggested texts and volunteers to read Chalice Lightings
- suggested readings and meditations (songs, quotes, poems, etc.)
- Pulpit Editorials (a particular opinion on a subject close—or should be—to UU hearts and sensibilities)

We will work with you to make sure that the experience is suc-

cessful. E-mail [Worship@ASC-Boston.org](mailto:Worship@ASC-Boston.org) to volunteer or send a submission!

## Feedback

We welcome the feedback of all our ASC friends and members! Tell us what works, what doesn't, and what else might work. You can:

- E-mail [Worship@ASCBoston.org](mailto:Worship@ASCBoston.org)
- Leave a written note in the Worship Committee mailbox (near the rear entrance to Hunnewell Chapel)
- Speak to a Worship Committee member (listing on ASC website) one-on-one

We prefer signed feedback so that we can follow up. However, if you are more comfortable leaving anonymous feedback, we accept that as well.

## Meeting Time

Please join us at our monthly meeting, the first Tuesday of every month from 6:00 - 7:30 PM in the Senior Minister's Study. ☺



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By that I mean something more administrative, maybe with the UUA, or as a consultant. Yet, this experience has shown me that I can and probably will serve



a church in future. Serving a congregation, being able to be with you, here at this church, at this time, and in this way, has transformed my outlook and attitude about parish ministry. This church means so much to me and in so many ways I am sad that I will have to say goodbye June 19<sup>th</sup>. My plan—if you are wondering—is to return to Chicago, Illinois, and Meadville Lombard Theological school where I will finish up my Masters of Divinity next year. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of ASC. I am confident that you will welcome next year's intern as warmly as you welcomed me. But remember, poof, June comes too soon. Make the best of the time you will have together and remember that your contribution to the future of Unitarian Universalism is vital and important. ☉

## What Does SAI at GA Mean, Anyway?

DON RICKTER

SAI means a Study/Action Issue. It is a social action statement that is worked at the General Assembly (GA) of the UUA. After discussion and revision, it is endorsed by a democratic vote of the delegates that represent the UU churches and fellowships of the US.

Why do we do this? It combines the thinking and consciences of UU's across the continent. Our church is part of movements for change. When we state our positions on vital

issues and educate ourselves about them, we become more effective locally and globally. We also empower the UU staff in the Washington office to influence Congress in our behalf.

The current process is handled by the CSW (Commission on Social Witness) of the UUA. Each year the CSW receives proposals for SAI's from UU Churches. This year Arlington Street Church submitted one on

The Right to Vote, and it was accepted as one of the six proposed. The next step, completed in April, was to hold a

Parish Poll among the churches of the UUA. This poll winnowed the six down to five. Ours was the one eliminated. The GA in Fort Worth (June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>) will debate the five and select one to be the official SAI.

The five subjects are: Women's Rights, Safety of Children, Peacemaking, Affordable Housing, and Moral Values. One of these will be studied next year, replacing the SAI on Prison Reform and Criminal Justice. The SAI of the current year is



Global Warming.

The website telling all about General Assembly is <http://www.uua.org/ga/> while the Study/Action Issues are outlined at <http://www.uua.org/csw/>.

There are also Actions of Immediate Witness. Last year at the Long Beach GA our David Butka was instrumental in getting acceptance for a call for a paper trail for electronic voting. This year there will be an effort to call for a constitutional right to vote. ☉

## Covenant Renewal: Thank you!

PAUL DAKIN, COVENANT RENEWAL CHAIR

I'm deeply pleased to write with early results for Covenant 2005. We set out to raise at least \$240,000 in pledges by June 1<sup>st</sup>. As of May 1<sup>st</sup>, we've already pledged over \$235,000 with more than sixty ASCers still yet to pledge... which means that by now, as you read this, we have surely met and surpassed our 2005 Covenant goal!

Our generous support in pledging for next year means ASC can make further progress on fair staff compensation—a longtime goal and social justice value for our congregation. We'll be able to announce more details in the autumn, based on how much more is pledged between now and September.

Thanks also for the outpouring of volunteer-interest pledges! We are now relaying everyone's volunteer service pledges to the various lay leaders and point persons. If you have any questions about either the volunteer or the financial side of your Covenant pledge, please e-mail me at [Covenant@ASC-Boston.org](mailto:Covenant@ASC-Boston.org) or call me at 978-388-7667. Thank you so much for your wonderful support! ☺

## ASC Exhibit at the BPL

JOAN GOODWIN

The 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee highlighted the celebration of ASC's anniversary year with an extensive exhibit of historical materials in the Boston Room at the central library this spring. A gala opening of the exhibit on March 6<sup>th</sup> brought

together a crowd of ASCers to admire the portraits of past ministers brought together in one place for the first time, peer into cases filled with historic books, photographs, and newspaper clippings, marvel at the huge keys to the Federal Street church and the embroidered detail on Channing's robe, and enjoy coffee, tea, and delicious sweets provided by Sebastian's, the BPL caterer.

If you had entered the Boston Room just prior to the grand opening, however, you might have found George Whitehouse and Dan Hardenbergh balancing huge portraits from the tops of ladders, Sarah Black sitting on the floor mounting photographs, Mary Ann Hardenbergh on her knees cutting caption placards to the correct size, Tori Bell typing out captions on the computer, Joan Goodwin placing items in cases, and Holly Hendricks buzzing about supervising the entire enterprise. Some of these valiant workers labored up to the last minute on Sunday morning just before the opening.

"It was worth it!" the exhibit team agreed as they watched the faces and heard the comments of the crowd milling around them that afternoon.

The exhibit was open to the public throughout the month, and a number of visitors signed the guest book. Staff members at the library told Dan Hardenbergh that they thought ours was "the best organized" and "best presented" of

any Boston Room exhibits.

Something in reverse of the setting up took place on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, when a similar crew dismantled the exhibit and transported it back to the church. Some items now appear in the chapel display cases, and the committee plans to keep a rotating exhibit there on a more or less permanent basis. ☺

## Different Journeys: Bringing our Spirit to the Sea

JOEL LIGHT

GAYLA is a week-long annual conference on the coast of Maine. During this week, about 100 gay men create an affirming and fun-filled community with a rich menu of workshops and activities, evening parties and an unforgettable talent show, and plenty of free time & beach time as well. Meals are shared, and mornings offer a UU chapel service outdoors in a pine grove.

Newcomers to GAYLA are especially welcomed... great care is made to foster community among all GAYLA participants. Three ASCers are already going, please join us! Come spend this magical summer week with your brothers by the sea.

Full details online at [www.ferrybeach.org](http://www.ferrybeach.org) or call Ferry



Beach at 207-284-8612. Also feel free to contact ASC members Joel Light (piikoi@comcast.net, 617-354-1123), Philip Roberts, or Paul Dakin. ☺

## Save the Date:

### TAKING ACTION AGAINST BREAST CANCER

Laura Pattison

On Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005 from 1:00 – 3:30 PM, the Social Action Committee will host **Taking Action against Breast Cancer** in the sanctuary and chapel. The event will include a screening of the documentary *One in Eight: Janice's Journey* followed by a discussion and reception with representatives from breast advocacy and environmental activist organizations. For more information, or to participate in the planning of the event, please contact Laura Pattison (lbattison@earthlink.net). ☺

### UU Verifiable Voting

Heleni Thayer

Several important verifiable voting issues are on the table right now for the Voting Committee of the SAC:

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) mandates accessibility for people with disabilities for January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006. Decisions are now being made by the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth about voting equipment to comply with this HAVA deadline. Voting activists are working to be sure that DRE (direct recording electronic)



devices not be purchased for this purpose in Massachusetts and that alternatives such as ballot markers and templates are chosen instead.

Massachusetts presently has a Secretary of State who is a supporter of paper ballots but a future Secretary of State could be less good. It is imperative to codify these policies into law. Therefore the Voting Committee will be pursuing Massachusetts legislation in the coming months to require paper ballots that are 100% recorded and counted in a verifiable manner.

Progressives have proposed a Platform Plank for the Democratic Party to make hand-marked, hand counted paper ballots the ballots and count of record and to make Massachusetts a model for verifiable legislation. We hope Republicans will also support this. For information on how to get involved call Heleni Thayer at 617-232-8180 or e-mail her at heleni@UUVV.org. ☺

## Who Is Our New Ministerial Intern?

THE INTERN COMMITTEE

Paul Sprecher will be our new Ministerial Intern for the 2005 – 2006 church year. Paul grew up on a farm in Wisconsin, went to Harvard, and became an IT specialist (Information Technology). He is now VP of a subsidiary of the American Stock Exchange—while studying at New York Theological Seminary's night school! He graduated in May 2005 with a Master of Divinity degree.

Paul will be at ASC half-time and at the Church of the Larger Fellowship, at 25 Beacon Street, half-time. His supervisors will be our minister here and Rev. Jane Rzepka there. This pattern has worked well for both churches with both Linda Berez and Eliza Blanchard (now the minister in Upton/Grafton, Mass.), and with Amber Beland (now in the Washington, DC, area).

He is married to Deedee Agee, an artist and writer and teacher. They have two sons. David is a junior at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore. Sean is a jazz double-bass player who transferred to the Berklee College of Music in Boston in January.

The Intern Committee—Don Rickter, Rev. George Whitehouse, and Diana Miller—is happy with the opportunity to work with Paul. We trust that all will welcome him and appreciate his ministerial skills. ☺

# the WINDOW



Arlington Street Church  
Unitarian Universalist  
351 Boylston Street  
Boston, MA 02116-3399

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#### **Editorial Staff of THE WINDOW**

Peter Johnston, editor; Miguel Felipe, design; Don Rickter, grammarian

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#### **Policy for Submission**

**Calendar items** may be submitted with title, date/time, and 50 word description. **Open submissions** of no more than 400 words may be submitted on any topic. **Committee reports** are encouraged. No submission will be accepted by telephone. Materials must be legible, signed, and *fully composed* and may be edited. Please note that we only publish submissions related to ASC events or the wider UUA community.

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#### **Submission Deadline and Method**

Entries should be sent as Word® documents to [Window@ASCBoston.org](mailto:Window@ASCBoston.org) by **5:00 PM, Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005** for inclusions in Vol. 5, No. 1, September – November 2005.

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#### **Subscriptions**

To add/remove your name from **THE WINDOW** mailing list, please contact Corey Spence, administrative assistant, in the Church Office at [office@ASCBoston.org](mailto:office@ASCBoston.org).

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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Phone: 617-536-7050 • Fax: 617-536-7051

E-mail: [office@ASCBoston.org](mailto:office@ASCBoston.org) • Web: [www.ASCBoston.org](http://www.ASCBoston.org)

