
the WINDOW

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*

September – November, 2005, Vol. 5, No. 1

An Adventure of the Spirit

REV. KIM K. CRAWFORD HARVIE, SENIOR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

The last full moon of the summer rose over the quiet highway this evening as Jamie (16) and I drove the last of a long day's journey: a bright orange welcome home from her 272 mile backpacking trek on Vermont's Long Trail! Meanwhile, as her sister hiked, Jessye (15) learned to surf. In a word, Kem and I have been out-done.

It's been a wonderful summer for all of us, as I hope it has been for you. And now comes a New Year (I love that we get two—September and January). What will be new about this new year for you? Please plan to join me at ASC in making it an adventure of the spirit!

Last night, our family gathered with all kinds of folks on a little town green on Cape Cod for a candlelight vigil for peace. It felt so important to me that we do this, that we come out from under the rock of our everyday lives, look into the faces of our companions in this dream, and bear witness to the possibilities of peace. Standing up to our own despair is a beginning; kindling the light of hope is the spiritual foundation. And from that emergent sense of yes, we move to now. I appreciate the bumper sticker that says If you're not outraged, you're not paying attention. And I appreciate the

implied imperative: Do something. This fall, I hope that, as a spiritual community, we will express some of that outrage in creative, powerful, and transformational ways.

On a vacation faraway and long ago, Kem and I and two male friends parked ourselves on a deserted beach for the morning. Before long, I noticed two or three big, unsavory looking locals come up over the hill where our rental car was parked; robbing tourists is always great sport. "Guys," I said to our friends, quietly, "we have company." Mike, who is 6'4", barely stirred from his sunbathing. "Shall I stand up?" he asked.

The answer was yes, and stand up he did. Not wanting to appear confrontational, I suppose, he didn't even glance up the hill; he just stood up. The hooligans turned tail and ran.

For hours afterwards, I was mad. I was mad at the men who had disturbed my sense of safety, and unreasonably mad at Mike, for being able to just cavalierly stand up,

and make it safe again. My anger was made of fear. I learned a lot from this experience about how bullying works, and, more importantly, about what has to happen to

stop it: "safety in numbers" is part of it; standing up is a big part of it. I offer you this story as a meditation on how, together, we might begin to address some of what threatens our sense of peace and justice in the world. This fall, with the morass in Iraq deepening and, closer to home, Focus on the Family descending on

Boston, we will have ample opportunity to test our courage and fortitude with, as the Dalai Lama says of the Chinese government, "our friend, the enemy."

But first... please join me on Homecoming Sunday, September 11th, for worship and the Water Service (please bring a small con-



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ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH
Unitarian Universalist

Placing New Steps of Change

BRIAN SOUZA & SHERENE ARAM, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

On this rare, crystal-clear August day, we are reminded of an excerpt from Maya Angelou's poem, written for the first inauguration of President Clinton, entitled "On the Pulse of Morning":

"Lift up your eyes upon this day breaking for you. Give birth again to the dream... Lift up your

hearts. Each new hour holds new chances for new beginnings... The horizon leans forward offering you space to place new steps of change... Here on the pulse of this new day you may have the grace to look up and out and into your sister's eyes, and into your brother's face ... and say simply, very simply, with hope—Good morning."

Let's begin this new day at Arlington Street Church with warm greetings. Please join us in welcoming the newly elected members of the Prudential Committee: Charlene Galarneau, Mark Watanabe, Carol Fisher, and John David McLain.



We are delighted they have chosen to offer up their gifts of leadership and to join the Prudential Committee's returning members, Wendy Ellertson, Emily Dunn, Liz Regan, Brian Souza and Sherene Aram. Together we are looking forward to another year of spiritual and

growth.

A hearty welcome to the new staff members who have joined us this fall. We're happy to report that Alison Green Will has begun in her role as the new membership and leadership coordinator and Vera O'Brien as our Lifespan religious educator. In addition, we look forward to

the many contributions of our new ministerial intern, Paul Sprecher. You'll be hearing a great deal from these remarkable individuals as we continue our work to create a vital and vibrant spiritual community.

You'll also notice some amazing building improvements at Arlington Street Church this fall. Thanks to the generous contributions of Tammy Arcuri, Liz Regan, Miguel Felipe, the work party team members, the staff and those who contributed to the 275th fund, we have a newly painted and carpeted church office, a new minister's study, intern's office and sitting room in the church balcony, enhanced office space for our new staff, new choral and classroom risers in the Clarke Room, a repaired and repainted Boylston Street entrance, and a nearly-completed, new roof on the Parish House. Our thanks to all those who have been part of designing, building, or funding

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Mini Financial Update

Total Pledges To Covenant 2005-2006: **\$265,066**

Payments Received Through August 23rd, 2005: **\$29,233** (11%)

Total Operating Income Through August 23rd, 2005: **\$60,977**

Total Operating Expenses Through August 23rd, 2005: **\$66,574**

From Joan Goodwin

Unfortunately I was not able to get to Fort Worth until mid-day on Friday and had to leave on Sunday morning, so my report will be short. I did get to the Friday afternoon plenary in time to hear the Study Action Issues presented. By way of delegate action, I was able to raise my yellow voting card several times and to sign a petition for our ASC-sponsored "right to vote" action for immediate witness. I found the delegate sessions extremely well conducted by Moderator Gini Courter with the cooperation of delegates in making their presentations—always well thought-out and often quite moving.

Plenary sessions were held in the huge sports arena of the convention center, where it was well nigh impossible to spot fellow ASC delegates. It was only by running into one another while galloping through mile-long hallways that we met at all. I got to several interesting workshops but had to miss some of the great events, including the presentation of the Distinguished Service Award to our own Gene Navias, because of obligations back here in Boston.

On Saturday morning I enjoyed the presentation of awards and a report from the congregation where I grew up, The First Unitarian Church of Dallas. It was great to see the photographic history of the congregation, including many people I remember, and to hear their spectacular choir. Back in the 1930s and early '40s, the Dallas music program began with soloists like my mother and a small junior

choir in which I sang. The beautiful Dallas building began with pennies from our church school collection. The congregation then met in rented space, with church school in what we called "the barn," really a carriage house behind the old Victorian mansion with its attached auditorium. A nice reminiscence!

From Don Rickter

The General Assembly of June 2005 was gathered in Fort Worth, Texas. There were about 3700 UUs present. We delegates attended the same plenary sessions to hear news of our denomination and deal with major issues. Each of us went to different workshops, lectures, music events, and social events.

The new Study/Action Issue voted for 2005 – 2006 is "Moral Values for a Pluralistic Society". See <http://www.uua.org/csw/> for the full story.

Phyllis and I saw many people like our former ministers Farley Wheelwright, Jack Mendelsohn, and Carol Strecker, as well as a multitude of other friends who are not seen between GA's.

GA began with an impressive banner parade on Thursday evening, June 24th. David Butka carried the banner for ASC—a beautiful quilted work of art created for the 2003 GA by the ASC quilt group (Liz Balcom, Carol Brown, Cathy Collins, Helen

Voices from General Assembly

BY MEMBERS OF ASC'S DELEGATION

Ewer, Joan Goodwin, Carmen Griggs, Diana Miller, and Chloe the Cat).

Paul Rickter was elected Secretary of the UUA, starting at the end of GA. He will continue to represent the Mass Bay District on the Board.

There was a dazzling array of outstanding workshops, lectures, and exhibits. For example, Jim Hightower spoke to a huge crowd of activists.

Elaine Pagels of Princeton did a dynamic Ware Lecture on the Gospel of Thomas. Her 2003 best-seller, *Beyond Belief*, lays out her brilliant understanding of the early Christian church. She wrote *The Gnostic Gospels* in 1979 to explain many manuscripts that were crucial but not included in the New Testament.

I gathered signatures to call for a Constitutional Right to Vote, a proposed AIW (Action of Immediate Witness). The General Assembly did not vote this one of the 6 Actions of Immediate Witness. Nevertheless, I will continue working and gathering support for a Study/Action Issue (SAI) in 2006.

There was a great intergenerational barbecue lunch on Friday. Those who give to the UUA were entertained at the Petroleum Club, on the 39th floor, overlooking beautiful downtown Cowtown.

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The UUA Distinguished Service Award

AS PRESENTED TO GENE NAVIAS AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY, FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JUNE 26TH, 2005

It's hard to imagine how any one person could possibly have done more to serve the Unitarian Universalist movement than Eugene B. Navias. As minister, teacher, mentor, administrator, historian, generous contributor, and friend, his lively presence has energized and guided us in countless ways.

Born into a Unitarian family in Schenectady, New York, Gene moved on from Sunday School to become president of the local chapter of the Young People's Religious Union, as Unitarian youths were then called. On to St. Lawrence University and Theological School, he first ministered as a student in Richville, New York, then served for six years as Director of Religious Education [DRE] and Associate Minister at the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland, and as minister of the Unitarian Church in Concord, New Hampshire, for six more years.

In 1963 Gene's career took a decisive turn toward religious education, beginning a stretch of 29 years with the Unitarian Universalist Association [UUA], first as Education Field Consultant and finally as Director of the Department of Religious Education. A longtime member of the Liberal Religious Education Directors Association [LREDA], he joined the

first group to become Certified Directors of Religious Education in 1967 and later added Ministry of Religious Education [MRE] to his Parish Ministry status.

During his tenure at the UUA, Gene was involved in the creation and production of the multi-medium curriculum kits,

MRE colleagues in their struggle for equal status in the denomination and in their local congregations. He helped to create the Modified Residency Program at Meadville/Lombard and serves as an advisor to students there. He also chairs the LREDA Endowment Committee.



most notable the pioneering "About Your Sexuality." More recently he initiated the development of the new sexuality program, "Our Whole Lives," with [the] United Church of Christ. He also created the popular "Singing Our History" program and became an expert in UU hymnody. Meadville/Lombard Theological School awarded Gene its Doctorate of Divinity upon his retirement from the UUA in 1992.

As an active member of LREDA through its emergence as a fully recognized professional organization, Gene fully supported his DRE and, later,

Throughout his years in Boston, Gene has been actively involved as a member of Arlington Street Church. It was there that he helped to found Boston Unitarian Universalist Gays and Lesbians, one of the earliest gay and lesbian support groups, which met at the church during the 1970s. Serving as Associate Minister after his retirement from the UUA, he was granted emeritus status in 1999. In his second retirement, as he

and his partner travel the world, sharing their taste for opera, the unstoppable Dr. Navias serves on the Mass Bay District Board and chairs the Religious Education History Group.

An essential part of his ministry has been Gene's gift of song, humor, and drama wherever he has gone, from LREDA Fall Conferences to curriculum development to General Assemblies. Lifting our hearts as well as our voices to match your encouraging example, we love you, Gene, for all you are and all you bring to us. ⊕

Worship Notes

FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Seasons Past/ Seasons to Come

SHEA MULLANEY, COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

Serving on the Worship Committee has taught me that all parts of ASC, including the Service, belong to the people who walk through the doors. As members, friends, volunteers, and staff, we all make the Service. We light a physical Chalice as part of our Service, but we are the living light of Unitarian Universalism.

Another year of ASC services is starting up, and I'd like to take a moment to thank everyone for enriching this past summer season. Especially: our summer guest preachers, members & friends who took time to fill out our survey, Mary Mae's birthday cake committee, the parish concerns committee, all those who participated in our lay-led services, and most of all our sexton, Brad Nobles.

In the spirit of change/renewal, the committee thanks our outgoing co-chair, Kate Starr, who finished her term in June. Kate's selflessness, devotion, and good humor have been an inspiration. We're glad she'll still be serving on the committee. We welcome Marilyn Castriotta as our new co-chair for 2005-06! Please take a moment to wish her well in her new commit-

ment to ASC when you see her this fall.

Highlights of this coming year will include the results of last year's Worship Survey in September, our Spiritual Passions series in the winter, and more lay-led worship services throughout the year. We're looking forward to being and working with each of you. Thanks for you.

One Person's Struggle Over Intelligent Design

GINNY MERRIT, COMMITTEE MEMBER

I've been ignoring the conflict between the theories of Evolution and Intelligent Design. It seemed a distant menace, like bird flu in Thailand, or just another thing from the "Red" states. Recently, I gave in and read about Intelligent Design. Simply, the belief is that life is too complicated to be explained by evolution alone, that a higher form of intelligence must be playing a role in how the world was designed. I was caught off guard; I might actually believe that.

I am perpetually caught between the science of life and the mystery, like rational Scully and mystic Mulder of *The X-Files* in the same mind. Mulder's theme was "I want to believe." Here I am, pushing up against my doubting, scientific mind that

says: the things we don't understand, we will come to understand through science, through creative problem-solving. Everything will be explainable in the end.

But most days I want to believe that there is a force out there that watches over me. (After all, scientific Scully's theories on a case were never right.) After loss: "God only gives you what you can carry." After setback: "There are lessons there for you to learn." After a broken heart: "God has a different plan for me." After finding an inspirational person: "When the student is ready, the teacher appears." I want to believe that I am being held in cupped hands, that life has a safety net, that the world will carry me.

I admire people with unshakable faith. Right now, I just have suspension of disbelief. I am sure that government should not tell us how science should be taught in our schools. Nor does science eliminate my need to believe in a greater mystery.

It is enough right now to be surprised by joy and stunned by beauty—"Intelligently" designed or not. I embrace mystery with my questions, doubts, and skepticism in my hands. (Maybe an Intelligent Designer gave me those things, too.)

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Worship Highlights – Autumn 2005

September 4th, 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.

September 11th, 2005

Homecoming Sunday

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

Vela! Asambeni Siyekhaya!, *trad.*
Zulu, *arr. André van der Merwe*

September 18th, 2005

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

Quiet Place, *Jean Baptiset Lully*,
arr. Roy Ringwald

September 25th, 2005

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

Canticle of Love, *Hal Hopson*

October 2nd, 2005

Blessing of the Animals

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

Fun **animal** selections!

October 9th, 2005

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

Special music from Beth
Gentner and Stephanie McGuire

October 16th, 2005

Preaching

TBD

Music

Jesu, dulcis memoria, *Victoria*

October 23rd, 2005

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

Who Will Remember?, *David*
York/Judith Barrington

October 30th, 2005

Dia de los Muertos: Day of the
Dead, All Saints, All Souls, Samhain

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

They are at rest, *Edward Elgar*

November 6th, 2005

Bring a Friend Sunday

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

How Can I Keep from Singing?,
trad. Quaker Hymn, arr. Alice Parker

November 13th, 2005

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

Special music

November 20th, 2005

Thanksgiving Sunday

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

Music

The Road Home, *Stephen*
Paulus/Michael Dennis Browne

November 27th, 2005

Preaching

TBD

Music

Matt Meyer, handdrummer



Here, and in the next several editions of *THE WINDOW*, this page offers the voices of ASC's choir. As one of the most active areas of the church community, our group of 30-40 dedicated musicians—non-music-reading amateurs to conservatory-trained professionals—gathers every Thursday and Sunday for hard work and lots of fun. We are always open to new members and hope, over the coming year, to welcome even more folks interested in having lots of fun while learning and serving the ASC community!

In response to a set of questions asked in June of 2005, choir members have shared their thoughts on the choir experience so you can get an idea of the variety of backgrounds and experiences.

What made you join the choir?

"I hadn't sung in 15 years and had missed it. I saw it as a way to connect to the greater church community, to meet people, and to get my singing fix."

"I joined the choir because the members I met seemed very welcoming, because Miguel seemed like a fun person and conductor to work with, and because for a couple of years I had been curious about the UU church and joining the choir seemed like the perfect way for me to have another outlet for singing and to simultaneously see what ASC is all about."

"I joined the choir because I had been thinking about finding a way to sing regularly again, and I also was interested in trying a Unitarian church."

"I've sung in choirs most of my life and I needed something familiar to ground me because [I] didn't know anyone in town. I thought it would be a good op-

portunity to meet people in the church."

"Initially I joined because of how much I love to sing and didn't know very many people at Arlington Street. I've never been someone who can read music very well at all, but I could see that being in the choir was more about having a positive experience with the joy of music and with one another than about showing off years of musical training. (Though there are definitely people who do have years of training!) I found the nicest people in the choir, and felt completely at home with Miguel. My insecurities about my own musical abilities were washed away because there was such a loving feeling among us."

"I've sung in choirs my whole life but I don't read music and have difficulty maintaining a harmony line all by myself. I'm a dreadful auditioner. So I thought being a choir member was something I'd have to give up when I moved to Boston. There are so many talented musicians in this town—why would they take me?!?!"

One Sunday, I looked up and realized that the choir needed more altos. I thought this would

be my best opportunity to pass the audition. You can imagine my surprise when I nervously approached the director and discovered there was no audition to pass and I could have joined the choir anytime!"

"I joined the choir because singing makes me happy. You can't sing in a group and worry about your life at the same time. Choir practice is the one time during the week when I know I will breathe deeply and focus completely on something other than my fears and concerns. The result is often beautiful music and, just as often, joyful laughter."

"I joined ASC because of the choir. I needed some music in my life and I have been in several other UU choirs, so I was looking forward to joining this choir."

In the next edition of *THE WINDOW*, choir members share the impressions of the choir before and after joining. It's really not so scary after all!

If you have any questions about music at ASC, contact Miguel Felipe, director of music, at MFelipe@ASCBoston.org, or show up to choir at 7:00 PM in the Clarke Room on a Thursday night! ☺

Why I Joined the Choir

VOICES OF ASC CHOIR MEMBERS

EDITED BY MIGUEL FELIPE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

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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 successful. E-mail 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
- 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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From Phyllis Rickter

General Assembly is always such a rich variety of business, programs, and people that each attendee has a different experience. We dealt with the business of our Association of Congregations at the Plenary Sessions, beginning on Thursday evening, June 22nd, with the parade of church banners and a concert by the legendary folk singer, Pete Seeger.

GA business consists of reports from various UUA officials and departments, honors to special congregations and individuals, and actions on social justice issues. I am always especially interested in the report of the Financial Advisor to the UUA Board. Larry Ladd reported that our official adult membership is 150,735, up less than 1/2 of 1% over 2004. (We can do better!) Children's religious education participants dropped 2%, the second year of loss. Growth is indeed an imperative in our UU movement!

President Bill Sinkford was elected for a second four-year term. Moderator Gini Courter was also re-elected. We at Arlington Street Church were especially delighted to see our own Rev. Gene Navias named as Distinguished UU for 2005. Gene has served our religious movement at every level - from parish minister, to head of UUA's Religious Education Department, and still serves at the district level. His acceptance speech was one of the highlights of the meeting.

My particular interest is in the area of women's issues. Two years ago I served on a small

task force which re-structured the UU Women's Federation, and I was pleased at the "coming out" party for the new way of doing our mission. After 140 years as a membership organization serving women's groups in our churches, our members told us they wanted our current efforts to focus on advocacy for women and girls by becoming a membership grants-making organization.

The Women's Federation gave its first grant to the Spiritual Youth for Reproductive Freedom, a program of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC.) Our annual Ministry to Women Award went to attorney Sarah Weddington and the women of our Dallas Church for their support of reproductive choice in the days before the Supreme Court ruled on *Roe v. Wade*. Linda Coffey, the other lawyer at the table in the Supreme Court, was at our reception at Etta's Place, an elegant Victorian house. These two lawyers were 25 years old when they changed history. Many Dallas women were there to receive this honor.

The Exhibit Hall at GA is always a lively place. The UUWF booth, featuring our new logo and colorful materials, was a center of attention. A popcorn machine turned out bags of hot corn for those who filled out our interest survey. We got over five hundred names to our mailing list.

It is always a honor to represent our church as a delegate to General Assembly. Please give some serious thought now to attending General Assembly next June in St. Louis. ☉

ASC Named an *Anchor Congregation*

This past summer, six UU congregations were announced as recipients of the **Anchor Congregation for Young Adult and/or Campus Ministry in 2005** award. The categories were “Campus Ministry,” “Young Adult Ministry,” and “Young Adult and Campus Ministry.” The *only* congregation recognized for “Young Adult Ministry” was Arlington Street Church! Congratulations to our young adults!

The Recipients

For Campus Ministry

Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis, California

First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington, Vermont

First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor, Michigan

Unitarian Universalist Church of Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, and the Channing-Murray Foundation

For Young Adult Ministry

Arlington Street Church, Boston, Massachusetts

For Young Adult & Campus Ministry

The Unitarian Church of All Souls Church, New York City, New York

About the *Anchor Congregation Program*

EXCERPTED FROM WWW.UUA.ORG

The Anchor Congregation program, introduced in 2004, recognizes congregations that have made a significant commitment to young adult and/or campus ministry. This award is aimed at institutionalizing strong, congregationally-based young adult and campus ministry programs across the continent. The *Anchor Congregation* designation recognizes congregations that have made a substantive commitment to young adult and campus ministry, and which serve as a model to other

Unitarian Universalist congregations seeking to do young adult and campus ministry.

It is the intention of the UUA that the *Anchor Congregation* designation will help congregations seeking to expand their ministry to young adults and college students.

Anchor Congregations demonstrate competence in three areas in their young adult and/or campus ministry programming. Those areas are:

- Institutionalized support for young adult and/or campus ministry (staff support, lay leadership involvement, budget, etc)
- Regular, balanced young adult and/or campus ministry programming (at least 12 meetings per year, including worship, social and social justice components)
- Outreach (working to grow their ministry, leadership at district/regional/national/continental levels, helping other congregations, etc)

In addition, Anchor Congregations have a wide variety of other program features, including such things as small group ministry, resource libraries, intentional outreach to youth, bridging programs, and support for young adults to attend district/regional/national/continental conferences.

The Anchor Congregation designation is a five-year designation. ☉



Taking Action Against Breast Cancer

LAURA PATTISON, SAC

On Sunday, October 23rd, 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 (lbpattison@earthlink.net). ☉

Social Action Committee Supports "Only a Child"

CHRIS CURTISS, SAC

The story of ASC member George Leger and "Only a Child" is a familiar one to most of us who have been around ASC for a while. Inspired by a Boston Globe story of the life and death of Giovanni, a homeless Guatemalan child, George left his comfortable life to try and connect with and provide opportunities for the "throw-away" youth who live on the streets of Guatemala City. His efforts, which began with organizing a soccer team, led to the provision of shelter, education, a carpentry shop, and, most importantly, a surrogate family within which young people are respected and cared for, so that they can grow and develop an identity complete with confidence and self-esteem.

The Social Action Commit-

tee would like to find ways to support George in his work. To begin, we are inviting him to tell the story of "Only a Child" to anyone, especially newer ASC members, who would like to hear it. Look for announcements of the time and place, probably in November, when George is back in town.

"Only a Child" is an inspiring example of the dedication of one ASC member, who felt so strongly about a tragic situation that he gave up his comfortable life and threw his entire self into doing something about it. If you are new to ASC, or if for any other reason, are not familiar with the story, we're sure you will want to come and hear it. ☉

Social Action Continues

LAURA PATTISON, SAC

The Social Action Committee will have its first meeting of the year on Sunday, September 11th at 9:30 AM in the Clarke Room. Other autumn meetings will be held the first Sunday of the month—look for the notice in *Inside!* All are welcome.

On September 11th, we will talk about upcoming autumn events and programs including: **Taking Action against Breast Cancer** (October 23rd, see above), the **Blue Sweater campaign**, and **Environmental Justice: Water and Privatization as a**

Human Rights Issue (film and discussion). We invite you to come with your energy and ideas about social justice issues which you would like Arlington Street Church to address or to tell us of ways the Social Action Committee can support your advocacy efforts.

Last year, members of the committee worked on voter registration and on September 11th, we will hear a report about ongoing election reform and protection efforts. We held a "Moral Values" series last Winter/Spring and will talk about possibilities for extending what we learned in our efforts to articulate our values and dialogue with others about these. To read more about the committee, visit the ASC web site at www.ASC-Boston.org/programs/cmtes-grps/socialaction/. Bring your talents and passions to help us keep Social Action the important part of ASC that it has historically been. ☉



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these much-needed improvements.

Finally, we want to raise up a major milestone that you may have heard a bit about last spring. Thanks to generosity of our pledging members and friends, for the first time, we have reached 100% of fair compensation for all Arlington Street Church staff members. Fair compensation guidelines are produced by the Unitarian Universalist Association as a set of recommendations to assist congregations in their compensation practices. The guidelines take into consideration years of experience, congregation size, and geographic location. For many years, we have set the goal of getting all staff members to 100% of fair compensation. Because of your continued generosity, we're delighted and honored to report that we have achieved this important goal. But, let's not rest on our laurels. There's much work to be done, and many financial and human resources are needed to keep this community alive and well. If you haven't yet pledged for the coming year, please contact the church office to make your commitment. And, if you haven't found a volunteer opportunity, get connected with Alison and let her know of your interests.

We look forward to seeing you and to being with you at Arlington Street Church this fall. As we begin the 276th year of this remarkable congregation, let us set out boldly toward the horizon before us, envisioning, building and sustaining a community of grace. ⊕



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tainer of water from someplace you love). I look forward to introducing you to our new staff members, Vera O'Brien, Paul Sprecher, and Alison Green Will, and know that you will welcome them warmly to their service among us. And in the midst of our joyful reunion, we will remember the devastation of four years ago, as we reaffirm our mission: *gathered in love and service for justice and peace.*

Finally and always, if you have not yet joined Arlington Street, I hope that you will search your soul for a really good reason why not ... and then join. Now. Now, more than ever, we need you. Think safety in numbers. Think standing up ... together. Think adventure of the spirit! Here's to summer's end, and to the beginning of the best that is to come:

Sowing the seed,
my hand is one with the earth.
Wanting the seed to grow,
my mind is one with the light.
Hoeing the crop,
my hands are one with the rain.
Having cared for the plants,
my mind is one with the air
Hungry and trusting,
my mind is one with the earth.
Eating the fruit,
my body is one with the earth. ⊕

—Wendell Berry

Faithfully yours, with love. →

↙
Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,
Senior Minister

the WINDOW



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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.

Submission Deadline and Method

Entries should be sent as Word® documents to Window@ASCBoston.org by **5:00 PM, Friday, November 4th, 2005** for inclusions in Vol. 5, No. 2, December 2005 – February 2006.

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