
the WINDOW

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*

March – May 2007, Vol. 6, No. 3

Pay it Forward

REV. KIM K. CRAWFORD HARVIE, SENIOR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

My daughters cannot remember a time when we did not make an annual wintry pilgrimage to a secret location at the edge of the city. Tucked away in plain view is Renewal House, the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry's shelter for women and children escaping violence. I always call ahead to say we're coming; understandably, the guests are wary of unexpected visitors. They have disappeared, as it were, on purpose.

I try to imagine having to disappear, and my mind goes white. I try to imagine not being able to tell a soul where I'm headed, since it might well put them in harm's way to know, and I'm flooded with despair. Perhaps that is why I am especially gratified by the wad of checks written to Renewal House that is tucked into my

pocket. Perhaps that is why I feel an unparalleled joy at the loading-up of every square inch of my truck, including my daughters' laps, with bag after bag of groceries, two huge



bags of hand-knit scarves, and an enormous card dotted with glued-on chocolate kisses and inscribed with beautiful, hopeful messages to the children of Renewal House from the children of Arlington Street.

What a relief to be able to do something! As we make trip after trip to carry in armload after armload of juice boxes, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, ramen soup, and so many things kids love to eat, we are greeted exuberantly. Yes,

our presence says, you have disappeared, and you are safe now, and you are not forgotten.

For just a few dollars apiece (and in some cases, significantly

more, thank you!), once again, the beloved community at Arlington Street has stocked the pantry of Renewal House, as well as the pantry of the hearts of its guests. By comparison, as individuals, our reach would have been infinitesimal. And would we have even thought to do it, found a way to make this kind of difference, on our own? Together, we can make an extraordinary difference. Together, we do.

When I was ten years old, my father left, and there were many ways in which I felt that my mother, sister, and I disappeared in his wake. One lifetime will not be enough to repay the unforgettable kindness of our Unitarian Universalist church, which stepped into the breach with food and money, cards and chocolate kisses. Thanks so much for helping me with payback ... and with paying it "forward." Thank you for your generosity and your unforgettable kindness. ⊕

Faithfully yours, with love,


Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,
Senior Minister



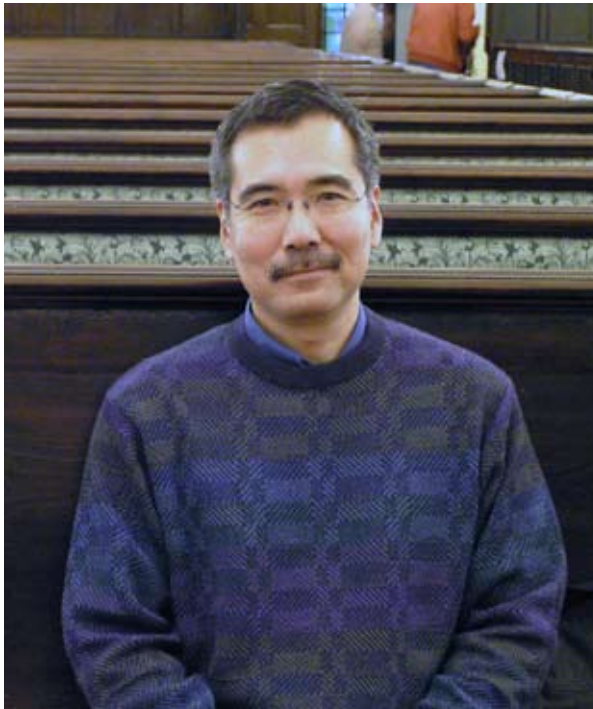
ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH
Unitarian Universalist

Reflections, Resources, and Renewal

MARK WATANABE, CO-CHAIR, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

There are many joys that our Arlington Street Church community offers, and among them are providing a safe space for self-reflection and opportunities for renewal. This is not only true for individual members, but for the collective bodies of lay leadership and staff as well. With this understanding in mind, the Prudential Committee has embarked on an intentional process this year to examine and evaluate what our actual governing practices are, how they might be improved, how we relate to the congregation and staff, and how we might best define “leadership” in a Unitarian Universalist context.

We have enlisted the services of the Rev. Dr. Teresa Cooley, the District Executive for the Massachusetts Bay District of Unitarian Universalist Churches, as our consultant in the organizational development of faith communities. She first met with the Prudential Committee last November and helped us to discern what some of our current issues are. What came out of this initial discussion was an emphasized realization that a critical task is to clarify the roles and relationships among leadership, staff, and the congregation as a whole.



Several of us attended a “Learning Congregation” workshop offered by the district in January entitled “Who’s in Charge?” While

it focused on reviewing church staff models and dynamics, it provided a working framework for lay leadership to grasp the underpinnings of project planning and implementation as a team. It also was a reminder to the Prudential Committee that we need to explore more fully ways in which

we can better interact with and support our dedicated staff.

We have initiated a new series of forums called “Among Us,” which were intentionally established to foster conversations regarding topics of interest or debate in congregational life at Arlington Street Church. Presentations are usually followed by an invitation to open dialogue with all participants. Previous sessions have covered the vision of the Music Program, the New Orleans Partner Church initiatives, and the Membership Publicity and Outreach campaign; an upcoming one will raise up the exciting work of Jubilee. Suggestions for future topics are welcome.

The transformation of leadership culture at Arlington Street Church remains a long-term work in progress, on which many devoted members have labored before us, and on which many will continue to shape in the future. This work is indeed a spiritual practice writ large, one that reflects our ongoing commitment to taking stock of where we are, adjusting our course when needed, and moving forward with a more spirited mission of governing in right relationship. ⊕

Mini Financial Update

Total Pledges to Covenant Renewal 2006 – 2007: **\$296,785**

Payments Received Through February 15th, 2007: **\$164,625** (55%)

Total Operating Income Through January 31st, 2007: **\$394,774**

Total Operating Expenses Through January 31st, 2007: **\$334,460**

Covenant Renewal 2007: April 1st

PAUL DAKIN, CHAIR, COVENANT RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Spring is coming... mark your calendars for Covenant Renewal Sunday on April 1st! This annual ritual of faith and commitment is a vital part of our Church year. Placing our pledges together into the Arlington Street Church Ark of the Covenant, and celebrating afterward over brunch, we have raised more than two-thirds of Arlington Street Church's total pledge goal on Covenant Sunday alone. As you can see on page 5, pledges and their payment make up about 47-percent of our annual budget for staff, building expenses, music, children's programming,

and all the rest. Read on to learn about the Church's goals for Covenant Renewal 2007.

For those new to Arlington Street Church, Covenant Renewal is our annual process in which all Arlington Street members and friends make financial pledges and offer volunteer service for the next upcoming church year (July 2007 to June 2008). By pledging,

members also renew their Arlington Street Church membership each year. The success of Covenant Renewal on April 1st tells us whether next year at Arlington Street will be a strong one.

2006's Covenant Renewal was another strong step upward for our congregation. Our pledges, in total, increased 6.5% to \$288,000

as a major tenant (some of that income has since been replaced by new, smaller-scale tenants). Despite this, we've managed to maintain fair compensation even as we had to trim several other ASC budget areas this year. "Fair comp" has been a cherished goal and principle of many Arlington Street-ers for a long time, and

we are deeply pleased to be able to uphold it through thick and thin. We now hold two major goals as we look forward to Covenant 2007.

The first goal of this year's pledges is simply to anchor and make permanent

our commitment to 100% Fair Compensation for our beloved staff, and to protect it with more budgetary stability. This current year, we used some delightfully unexpected grant funding to maintain "fair comp" despite a reduced operating budget due to the above-mentioned drop in rental income. It will be much healthier for Arlington Street

Covenant Renewal 2007 - 2008



ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH
Unitarian Universalist

So now may we take up the mandate to restore hope, with courage, and live out its promise.

REV. KIM K. CRAWFORD HARVIE
NOVEMBER 12TH, 2006

Church, going forward, if we can rely entirely on pledges, gifts and rentals to fund “fair comp.” This will enable us to use any future blessings from grantmakers or surprise-donors to fund newer, exciting initiatives and projects that fall outside the scope of the annual budget.

The second goal is to continue to roll out Jubilee, Arlington Street Church’s emerging program of congregationally-focused volunteer service and philanthropy. Last year on Covenant Sunday, Rev. Kim called us to take this step of Jubilee, to commit a real part of Arlington Street Church’s volunteer energy, love, financial and human capital in a focused way to the outside world around us. Many members of our congregation are already doing Jubilee in many ways—Friday Night Supper, New Orleans relief work, Project Only a Child, local social justice work, and so much more already in place—and we’ve established a 7-member Jubilee Committee that is working closely across ASC’s lay leadership to bring stronger focus to it all, and to roll out our inaugural Arlington Street Church Jubilee initiatives in 2007. More exciting news on

Jubilee, coming soon... thanks in large part to your generosity this past year and this coming year!

So please begin thinking now about your pledge for July 2007 to June 2008

at Arlington Street, and help us make Covenant Renewal 2007 the best it can be for our congregation. Take a look at these charts and consider your own part in helping to build the coming year. The Covenant pledge forms will also feature a brochure giving more detail on volunteer opportunities across the church community. Last year, more than 80% of us pledged volunteer service on our cards in addition to our financial pledges! As you read through this issue of THE WIN-

dow, the forthcoming Covenant 2007 Brochure, and upcoming issues of *InsideASC*, consider what parts of Arlington Street Church most interest you, and where you’d like to be involved in the year ahead.

Please plan now to be a part of Covenant Renewal Sunday on April 1st. Also, we are excited to announce that this year’s Covenant Brunch on that day will be generously hosted and served by the Friday Night Supper Program!

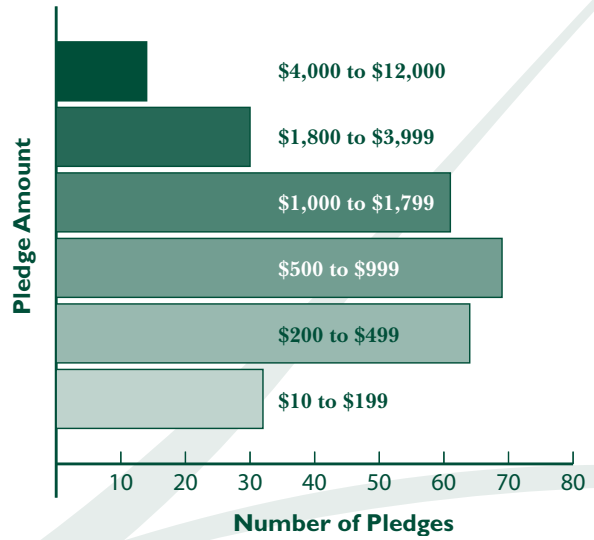
If you have any questions about Covenant Renewal, please speak with Covenant Renewal chair, Paul Dakin at Covenant@ASCBoston.org; our senior minister, Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie; our membership and leadership coordinator, Alison Green Will; or any member of Arlington Street’s staff. Our generous support, both volunteer and financial, is what re-creates Arlington Street Church each year. Many, many thanks to each of you! ☺



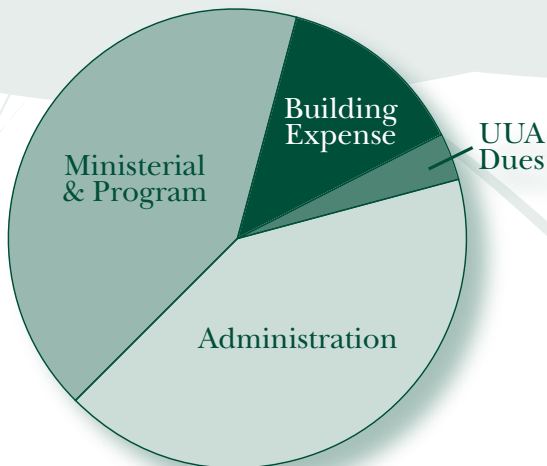
FY2007 Income Sources



FY2007 Pledge Amount Distribution



FY2007 Expenses



Find Yourself!

INCOME	2.5%	5%	10%
\$10,000	\$250	\$500	\$1,000
\$20,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000
\$30,000	\$750	\$1,500	\$3,000
\$40,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
\$50,000	\$1,250	\$2,500	\$5,000
\$60,000	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$6,000
\$70,000	\$1,750	\$3,500	\$7,000
\$80,000	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$8,000
\$90,000	\$2,250	\$4,500	\$9,000
\$100,000	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$10,000

Note: The guideline of a quarter-tithe (2.5%) assumes we are also sharing our financial resources with Uncle Sam and worthy charities in addition to Arlington Street Church.

General Assembly: One Delegate's Journey

JIM TICE, ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH
REPRESENTATIVE AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2006

Questions.

Questions.

Questions.

I had so many before accepting my nomination as a delegate to represent Arlington Street Church at last June's General Assembly (GA) in St. Louis. What exactly is GA? Why are so many well-connected Unitarian Universalists so excited about going to GA every year? Will I fit in? What are we going to do for five days at the America's Center in St. Louis? Would this red state welcome us with open arms or will they even know who we are? What are my responsibilities as a delegate? Should I take notes? Do I get a toaster for having my first GA experience? Inquiring minds want to know!

So, for all you newbies that aren't up on Unitarian Universalist (UU) lingo—"GA", aka General Assembly, is a yearly conference/convention for affiliated UU churches from around the country (in addition to a handful of congregations from Canada, United Kingdom, and Transylvania as I found out at one session). During the five days of workshops, ple-

naries, gatherings, worship, and entertainment from 7:00 AM to midnight, Unitarian Universalists from New Mexico to Maine to Nebraska to Michigan gathered to re-connect, share their experiences, and create a direction for the larger denomination.

My initial focus was to attend as many sessions on membership growth and to fulfill my responsibilities as a delegate by attending all the business meetings. As I studied the program guide on the airplane to St. Louis, I realized there was so much more to experience. Workshops on diversity, marketing, globalization, economic justice, green sanctuary and more. Here are some of the workshops I attended:



UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
ASSOCIATION OF
CONGREGATIONS

- "How our faith matters in the world"—challenges that congregations outside of the US face and how they are adapting and building community in sometimes difficult environments.
- "Getting on Message: Challenging the Christian Right"—presented by Rev. Peter Laarman and Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) President, Rev. William Sinkford, this session discussed a new book out from Beacon Press called *Getting on Message*, a call for reclaiming the good in Christian teachings from the Religious Right's grasp by offering new ways of framing progressive liberal responses to war and peace, marriage, economic justice and globalization.
- "Mama's Boy/Preacher's Son"—an evening with Kevin Jennings, director and co-founder of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), read and discussed his latest book about growing up with a fundamentalist

see GA on p. 12

Why Arlington Street Worship is Like a Toyota... and an iPod

GINNY MERRITT, CO-CHAIR, WORSHIP COMMITTEE

I've been at many committee meetings here lately where members talked about "bottom up" vs. "top down" leadership. The Unitarian Universalist denomination functions through congregational polity: unlike Catholics and some other Protestant denominations, we get to choose our own ministers and spend our money the way we want to.

It also means that how we worship is in our hands. Kim serves as our guide, our coach, but she doesn't tell us what to believe or how to worship.

Toyota, a Japanese company, has now outsold most American car companies in the United States. How? In the 1970s and 80s, it perfected a "bottom up" style of management. Who best would know how to make an assembly line more efficient? Who best would know how to minimize mistakes, or include the small amenities that made Toyotas so reliable and attractive to Americans? Toyota's answer: the people who actually built the cars, not the desk jockeys.

At Arlington Street Church, we worship many ways. The Sunday morning service is like watching a movie in a theatre—the large scope, shared by lots of people, provides a more intense experience than watching a DVD at

home. However, Sunday morning worship includes active lay participation, from singing in the choir, to being a lay worship coordinator, to being a candles coordinator, to being an usher, to contributing ideas for songs and readings. The March 11th Service on Service was driven by this belief in lay participation in worship at many levels. Revamping Candles of Joy and Sorrow came from the Worship Committee's attempt to synthesize the intense love candles/hate candles feedback we have received over the years.

Our smaller worship services provide intimacy, but also other ways to participate actively in worship. In the First Wednesday service each month, a church member is invited to serve as a minister, sharing his or her individual means of spiritual connection. The 2/4/6 Sunday service was created by an intern minister, Mr. Kelly Weisman Asprooth-Jackson and a lay person, Shea Mullaney, in response to congregation requests for more contemporary forms of worship—varying formats, leaderless worship, "outside the box" forms of worship. If you are interested in participating in either a First Wednesday or a 2/4/6 Sunday service, or if you have ideas about someone from

the congregation you would like to hear at one of those services, please contact Worship @ASCBoston.org.

The first time I attended the Wednesday Worship, led by our other intern minister, Mr. Barb Greve, I was frankly surprised by the modesty of the setting. It was in a corner of the Clarke room, not a room conducive to worship. The "chalice" was a votive candle set on an upside down wastebasket. I teased Barb about it later, suggesting that he was going for the "urban grunge" worship look, and suggested that he use some of the nicer items the Worship Committee purchased for the other small services. His response, however, was that he wanted the modesty of the setting to remind us all that we can each create our own worship setting, without special equipment, anywhere in the world, in any circumstance. Wow. (And by the way, if you could use a "spiritual massage" in the middle of the week, I highly recommend this service!)

So, worship at Arlington Street Church is like a Toyota, built by us, the people who worship.

And what does the iPod have to do with worship? Well, Apple built the iPod before we even knew we needed it. That's where Kim comes in, right? ☺

Worship Calendar: Spring 2007

Sunday, March 4th, 2007

Open House Sunday

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,
Senior Minister

Music

Down to the River to Pray,
traditional, arr. Sheldon Curry

Wednesday, March 7th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

First Wednesday

“The Music in Our Hearts” with
Arlington Street member, Karl
Paulnack

Sunday, March 11th, 2007

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,
Senior Minister

Music

Hope, Ysaye M. Barnwell

2/4/6 Service, 6:00 PM

led by Mr. Kelly Weisman Asp-
rooth-Jackson, Intern Minister

Wednesday, March 14th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. Barb Greve, Intern
Minister

Sunday, March 18th, 2007

Preaching

Mr. Barb Greve, Intern Minister

Music

I Would be True, Herbert Howells

Wednesday, March 21st, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. Barb Greve, Intern
Minister

Sunday, March 25th, 2007

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,
Senior Minister

Music

Rodger Vine, Artist in Residence

2/4/6 Service, 6:00 PM

led by Mr. Kelly Weisman Asp-
rooth-Jackson, Intern Minister

Wednesday, March 28th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. Barb Greve, Intern
Minister

Sunday, April 1st, 2007

Covenant Renewal Sunday

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,
Senior Minister

Music

Soon Ah Will Be Done, traditional,
arr. William L. Dawson

Amazing Grace, Virginia Harmony/
J. Newton, arr. Keith McCutchen

Wednesday, April 4th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering:

First Wednesday

“Greening” with Arlington Street
member Marilyn Castriotta

Sunday, April 8th, 2007

Easter Sunday

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,
Senior Minister

Music

In His Care-o, traditional, arr.
William L. Dawson

Praise His Holy Name, Keith
Hampton

2/4/6 Service, 6:00 PM

led by Mr. Kelly Weisman Asp-
rooth-Jackson, Intern Minister

Wednesday, April 11th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. B. Greve, Intern Min.

Sunday, April 15th, 2007

Preaching

Mr. Kelly Weisman Aspooth-
Jackson, Intern Minister

Music

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need,
Virgil Thomson

Wednesday, April 18th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. B. Greve, Intern Min.

Sunday, April 22nd, 2007

Earth Day

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,
Senior Minister

Music

Mercy and Truth are Met, Ned
Rorem

2/4/6 Service, 6:00 PM

led by Mr. Kelly Weisman Asp-
rooth-Jackson, Intern Minister

Wednesday, April 25th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. Barb Greve, Intern
Minister

Sunday, April 29th, 2007

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie,
Senior Minister

Music

The Boston Choral Ensemble,
Artists in Residence

Wednesday, May 2nd, 2007

Wednesday Gathering:

First Wednesday

“Seeing the Truth” with Arling-
ton Street member Susie Nacco

Sunday, May 6th, 2007

Preaching

Mr. Barb Greve, Intern Minister

Music

Sanctification & Benediction from *Sacred Service* (Avodath Hakodesh), Ernst Bloch

Wednesday, May 9th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. B. Greve, Intern Min.

Sunday, May 13th, 2007

Mother's Day Sunday

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, Senior Minister

2/4/6 Service, 6:00 PM

led by Mr. Kelly Weisman Asprooth-Jackson, Intern Minister

Wednesday, May 16th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. B. Greve, Intern Min.

Sunday, May 20th, 2007

Choir Sunday

Preaching

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, Senior Minister

Music

A special service of music featuring Matt Meyer, handdrummer, and our Choir

Wednesday, May 23rd, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. B. Greve, Intern Min.

Sunday, May 27th, 2007

Preaching

Mr. Barb Greve and Mr. Kelly Weisman Asprooth-Jackson, Intern Ministers

Music

Rodger Vine, Artist in Residence

Wednesday, May 30th, 2007

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

led by Mr. B. Greve, Intern Min.

Spiritual Passions

A SERIES OF SUNDAY AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS
ONGOING THROUGH APRIL, 2007

Each Sunday afternoon, from January through April, from 1:00 – 3:00 PM, different members of the church community will introduce you to their spiritual passions. This year's offerings are listed below and will be listed both on www.ASCBoston.org and in *Inside ASC*. The series is well underway and many members and friends have enjoyed the ten workshops already past. Be sure you don't miss this year's series!

Cooking for the Soul

Sunday, March 4th, 2007

Preparing food in community is a sacred act. Join together with other Arlington Street Church members and intern minister, Mr. Barb Greve, as we prepare, cook, and enjoy a meal together. Come ready to share great kitchen tricks and stories. No cooking expertise necessary!

The Art of Craft

Sunday, March 11th, 2007

It used to be said that "Idle hands are the devil's workshop." The converse is also true! Experienced knitters Ginny Merritt and Joan Yates will explore the meditative and soul-nurturing aspects of working with your hands. If you already knit, crochet, tat, embroider, quilt, or do needlepoint, cross stitch, beading, woodworking, scrapbooking, etc., bring your own handwork and join us. If you don't do handwork, but you've thought about learning, here is your chance to be inspired and begin learning a new skill.

Books of the People

Sunday, March 18th, 2007

As Unitarian Universalists, the living tradition we share draws from many sources, including "wisdom from the world's religions." And as people of the 21st century we are challenged by moral and spiritual dilemmas with regard to war, human rights, and stewardship of the earth. This workshop—presented

by lifelong Unitarian Universalist and intern minister Mr. Kelly Weisman Asprooth-Jackson—will provide a sampling of wisdom from the Jewish, Christian and Muslim traditions on these issues.

Corporation Meeting

Sunday, March 25th, 2007

Voicing your opinion about this church's future is a spiritual passion! Come practice a different form of spirituality.

Dhikrullah (ذکر)

for Beginners

Sunday, April 1st, 2007

To engage in Dhikr (pronounced zick-er) is to have an awareness of Allah (G*d). Observed by practitioners of Islam, Dhikr is often ritualized through chant, song, and movement by many Sufi orders. Join intern minister, Mr. Barb Greve, in this **Dhikrullah for Beginners**, where we will learn how to prepare for Dhikr (Wudu) and engage in the ritual itself. No experience necessary. All ages and abilities welcome. Wear comfortable clothing.

Inside Out

April 15th, 2007

By listening to music imaginatively—from the "inside out"—concert goers can easily tune into thoughtful and emotional levels of musical expression at these free, one-hour concerts.

In this final workshop of the four-performance series attendees will explore themes related to the creative process in all aspects of life. Boston Conservatory Chamber Players with Eli Epstein, conductor, perform Darius Milhaud's *Creation of the World*, inspired by music in Harlem jazz clubs and African creation myths.

See www.ASCBoston.org for the most up-to-date Spiritual Passions information. ⊕

Behind the Scenes: Making Music at Arlington Street

MIGUEL FELIPE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Music in worship is a tradition that stretches back millennia. In fact, scholars think that the earliest forms of Greek and modern Western music were conceived for use in worship and prayer—not MP3 players! While many years have passed, and Western musical traditions have evolved dramatically, music still remains at the core of worship across many lands and faiths. Indeed, music is able to evoke and capture feelings that words often cannot. It allows us to worship beyond the words and shows that our community supports art and beauty that so many crave in our world.

For these reasons, the leadership and staff of Arlington Street have long supported the growth and maintenance of the finest music program possible. In so doing, a high-quality, worshipful music is provided for our services and the music program is able to support the work of our church as a whole. Further, it's no secret that good music is a central part of church growth and such growth is a crucial topic for our church. The part many don't see, however, is what goes on in the background. What does it take to prepare music for worship? Who's involved? How much work and money does it take? The answers are all staggering!

At the very core of it all are the volunteers. The 30, or so, choristers who show up to rehearsals and services each week will contribute nearly 4,000 volunteer hours during this church year. These

volunteers bring a range of skills and talents to our music program and, in exchange, they are part of one of the most active and tightly-knit communities in our church. We meet twice weekly and, though our shared dedication to music, we learn, work, and laugh together in an educational and artful environment.

To support the dedication of our volunteers, the church funds a slew of contracted musicians—all of whom are professionally trained—to help me, the music director. Much like our church hires accountants, ministers, sextons, and administrators, our contractors' time spent at church supports the musical ministry of the congregation and helps steer volunteers to a higher level of music making—and, thusly, worship—each year.

Branden Grimmett, our organist, is a trained choral accompanist, organist, and hymn specialist. His time at St. Olaf College and Harvard Divinity School, as well as at several churches before Arlington Street Church, serve him well as he leads our congregation and choir in song each week. In addition to Branden, we have four professional singers, one in each section. As with many other churches of Arlington Street's size, these professional singers help to lead our volunteers in more difficult and rewarding repertoire, offer practical support in singing, and help to cover when a large number of singers in any one section are missing (it happens more than you'd think!).

Also included in the music program are our artists in residence and Wednesday Gathering musician. Rodger Vine, the Boston Choral Ensemble, and Joe Della Penna all contribute to worship and the life of the church through their contributions: Joe can be heard supporting our First Wednesday services, the Boston Choral Ensemble joins us in Sunday morning worship three times each year, and Rodger Vine frequently plays on Sundays and—see page 11—will offer two concerts for the congregation! Finally, as the worship and programmatic plans of the church change, we continue to engage guest musicians for special events and new worship services.

In addition to the volunteers and our contractors, other expenses play a significant role. We spend, for example, money to support our Music@ASC series and nearly \$1,000 on our library each year. When you add it all up, the music program will spend about \$25,000 this year, over three and a half percent of the church's annual budget. (Note: this figure does not include the employee costs of Arlington Street's music director.)

Are you curious to learn more about how our music program operates? Perhaps you just want to get involved on our music committee or in the choir! Let us know by e-mailing the Music Committee at Music@ASCBoston.org or by contacting our music director, Miguel Felipe, directly at MFelipe@ASCBoston.org. ☺

MUSIC@ASC

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist, Boston, Massachusetts
Concerts for All Ears • 6th Season • 2006 – 2007

TERESA TAM, SOPRANO

A SOLO VOICE RECITAL

When Saturday, March 24th, 2:30 PM

Where Arlington Street Church's Sanctuary

Tickets Free Will, \$10 Suggested Donation at the Door

Soprano Teresa Tam of Arlington Street's choir is proud to present her graduate voice recital in Arlington Street Church's historic sanctuary. Come enjoy an afternoon of beautiful and diverse vocal music by Bach, Grieg, Poulenc, and Britten. She will be accompanied by a small baroque chamber ensemble and pianist Jodi Gobel.



RODGER VINE, PIANIST

FROM BACH TO BROADWAY, PARTS I AND II

When Sundays, April 22nd, 1:30 PM, and May 20th, 1:30 PM

Where Arlington Street Church's Hunnewell Chapel

Tickets Free Will, \$10 Suggested Donation at the Door

Arlington Street Church's artist in residence, Rodger Vine, is known to many for his organ playing on Sunday mornings. He's also a pianist, though, and in this series of recitals, Rodger will show off his talents in two intimate programs. Repertoire will range widely and include Baroque and Romantic works, piano Rags, song transcriptions, gospel selections, movie themes and Broadway tunes. The performance will finish with a small reception! Don't miss these lovely afternoon recitals.



DRAKENSBERG BOYS' CHOIR

SOUTH AFRICA'S WORLD FAMOUS CHOIR

When Wednesday, March 28th, 7:00 PM

Where Arlington Street Church's Sanctuary

Tickets \$20 Available at the Door

The Drakensberg Boys' Choir of South Africa is widely considered among the very elite of choral groups from around the world. In March 2007 US audiences in fifteen eastern cities will find out for themselves why no other Boy-choir in the world can thrill audiences the way the "Drakies" do with their unique style of diversity. Whether singing classical, rock, pop, jazz, African, or folk, they never fail to bring audiences to their feet.



Arlington Street Church is thrilled to welcome back the "Drakies" after their wildly-successful performance here in September 2003. Don't miss this performance—one of only three in the Northeast.

MUSIC@ASC is committed to supporting young talent as well as providing a wide range of quality musical experiences for Arlington Street Church's community and guests. If you know someone who would like to perform in the Music@ASC concert series, please contact series producer, Barbara Seidl, at Series@ASCBoston.org.

MUSIC@ASC is sponsored by:



ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH
Unitarian Universalist

GA, continued from p. 6

father, coming out at Harvard—and again as a teacher, and the need for fighting homophobia in schools and making our communities safe for all youth. His energetic and inspiring message of “get involved” resonated with all in attendance.

My first real experience of the size of GA came as the Arlington Street-designated “banner-bearer” at the Opening Ceremonies on Wednesday night. I was selected to carry in the Arlington Street Church banner (the very banner that hangs every week from the pulpit—hand crafted by our talented quilt group). As I waited outside the enormous convention hall for the ceremony to begin, I felt like some kind of rock star as many ASC admirers from around the country not only commented on the beautiful banner but also shared many stories of their visits to ASC, mostly with youth groups. Carrying the banner throughout the hall was also a little overwhelming as shouts of “YEA! ASC—we love you!” posing for many pictures was the norm. Yes, we still do retain our reputation as the UU “Mother Church”.

The business of the UUA is conducted during GA at plenary sessions where reports are given, awards are... awarded, and votes are taken on “actions of immediate witness” as well as “statements

of conscience”. These are directives to the UUA by the member congregations on how our values are to be promoted to the general public—our message to the world about who we are. These sessions provided a great learning experience about all that the UUA does for us—so many different commit-



tees and task forces all doing the good work of our denomination.

The proudest moment came during the Sunday morning worship service where the packed America’s Center Hall 3 was rocking with music, inspirational words, and a larger sense of community. Our own Matt Meyer led rhythmic meditation for the 4500 worshipers that morning that had three sections clapping different patterns that sounded like one. There was an address by Rev.

Sinkford that ended with a tagline that we can all use: “People ask us what we stand for and we should respond ‘we don’t stand for anything, we move!’”. The Rev. Gail Geisenhainer delivered the sermon with gusto and bravado recalling her “conversion” to Unitarian Universalism from a little town in Maine—she now is the minister of the UU Fellowship of Vero Beach, Florida. The service was capped off with a rousing “We Are Marching”. It was the closest thing to a “revival” as our religion will ever see.

So, are my questions answered? Not exactly. But isn’t that what it is to be a UU? Lots of questions... few answers? If anything, GA generated more questions for me: How do I take the enthusiasm and the sense of a larger UU community exhibited at GA back to ASC? Could we New Englanders host a UU Revival right here in Boston to rekindle the energy of 4,500 believers of progressive religious values? (I’m envisioning

an overflowing Hynes Convention Center bustling with UU “evangelists” spreading the word of tolerance, justice, and peace). And, lastly, where’s my toaster?

Stay tuned to further issues of **THE WINDOW** when our other delegates report back on their General Assembly experience. And just as the series finishes, General Assembly 2007 will be here! ☺

Inside Social Action

LAURA PATTISON, SOCIAL ACTION CMTE.

Here are some things we're talking about in the Social Action committee. Two of our members went to Washington, DC, for the anti-Iraq war demonstration, as did several other people from Arlington Street Church. We discussed follow-up possibilities when we showed the film *Iraq for Sale* on February 9th. If you missed the film, contact SocialAction@ASCBoston.org to ask about borrowing it and about opportunities for action. The rest of our Second Sunday films are listed at www.ASCBoston.org/films.

Another thing we have been exploring is participation in interfaith or race dialogues. We know of one upcoming interfaith dialogue that may be open to Unitarians with strong backgrounds in Christian, Jewish, or Muslim faiths. Again, please e-mail SocialAction@ASCBoston.org if you're interested.

We're keeping an eye on the fight for equal marriage and the need for activism. And we're also following the January 2007 introduction of legislation for transgender non-discrimination in Massachusetts, by lead sponsors Representative Carl Sciortino and Representative Byron Rushing.

We are very interested in hearing how Jubilee (Arlington Street's generosity initiative) planning is coming and get regular reports from our two committee members involved in the planning process. We are encouraged by Governor Crist's support for paper ballots in Florida. We still have a committee member who is working with Only a Child (a program, started by our own George

Leger, to support street youth in Guatemala). Two of us will travel to New Orleans in April with a local chorus and do more cleanup work there too, not with our Arlington Street Church group, but in solidarity.

Some of the things above change, while work on others continues for quite awhile. You can add your concerns to the list above by getting involved in Social Action, in whatever way works for you. To be added to our committee or announcement list, please e-mail SocialAction@ASCBoston.org or just drop by our monthly meeting (first Sunday, 9:30 AM, Clarke Room, except March, when we'll meet on the 11th). ☉

Jazz & Jambalaya; Put the FUN in Fundraising!

SARAH RICHARDS, PARTNER CHURCH
COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Saturday night, January 27th at Arlington Street Church was **Jazz & Jambalaya**: a feast for the senses: art, music, poetry and food that fed hundreds of souls and bellies. It also fed the coffers for our partner church in New Orleans, First Unitarian Universalist Church, to the tune of over \$5,000. This money will go toward the green rebuilding activities of First Church. Along with the main organizers of the event, the Partner Church Coordinating Committee (Rob Cuddi, Elizabeth Lindholm, Susie Nacco, Sarah Richards, Kate Wilkinson) plus Peter Lowber and Shea Mullaney, there were many, many others whose contribution



**Saturday.
January 27, 2007**
4:30 - 10p.m.
Arlington Street Church

Tickets:
\$35 adults;
\$25 students/seniors;
children under 10 free

617-536-7050, ext 10,
or neworleans@ascboston.org
to buy your tickets.
Don't miss this hot night!

Jazz & Jambalaya
a benefit for First Church New Orleans

Featuring:
Carolyn Wilkins & Spirit Jazz
Joe Della Penna
The Boston Jazz Trio
The Rusty Scott Quartet
The Manny Santos Quintet featuring Vocalist Candida Rose
Rico Barr and The Jump N' Jive Review
The Stay at Home Ramblers

Plus:
Poetry readings, Art Exhibit & Sale, and of course,
fully catered New Orleans-style cookin'!

was critical to its success. We want to take this opportunity to recognize all of the Jazz & Jambalaya angels who worked like devils to make this happen.

Great appreciation for those who prepared the incredible food: especially Thalia Large, chef at The Big Table at Toscanini's Ice Cream who gave many hours of her time and expertise. Donald Wilkinson brought coleslaw for the masses. Many businesses donated food and/or service for the endeavor: Gus and Mimi Rancatore at Toscanini's Ice Cream, Blue Ribbon BBQ, Petsi Pies, Bliss, Sampson's Nuts, Redbones, Iggy's bread of the world, Emma's Pizza, Whole Foods Market, and Russo's Produce. Please make a point to patronize these businesses and thank them for their generosity! Not only was there enough food to feed the crowd, there were leftovers for sandwich board the next day and

several trays were delivered to Rosie's Place—so nothing went to waste.

To the visual artists, organized by Lindsay Piper, who donated portions of their proceeds to First Unitarian Universalist: Sarah Carroll, August Dalrymple, Rachel Distler, Heather McElroy, Kate Moss, and Bethany Schlegel. Plus Ginny Merritt knitted up a storm—she deserves her own ASC Partner Church Merritt Badge of honor!

To poet Tichaona Chinyelu for her words and to these artists for their music: Arlington Street's own Joe Della Penna, Rico Barr and The Jump N' Jive Review, Carolyn Wilkins & Spirit Jazz, The Boston Jazz Trio and The Manny Santos Quintet, featuring Vocalist Candida Rose (and Joe sat in brilliantly on piano!)

To all the volunteers who pitched in to help in myriad ways from set up to clean up: Bill Allen, Jacob Barela, Tori Bell, Chris Bergstrom,

Megan Chipman, Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, Eric Eliacin, Linda Evans, Carol Flinn-Roberts, Robin Flinn-Roberts, Charlene Galarneau, Paul Gregory, Mary Ann Hardenbergh, Lois Hartsough, Holly Hendricks, Arnie Katz, Erica Kenny, Eve Lauria, Christopher Lyons, Anna Martin, Charlo Maurer, Kem Morehead, Erin O'Fallon, Laura Pattison, Nancy Perua, Bev Reiss, Carli Russell, Mike Ryan, Allison Schmidt, Jeremiah Thompson, Kate Toomey, Chris Willard, Kathianne Williams and all unnamed angels (if we missed any of you, we apologize!), **and** to all of you who came with your warm hearts and cold cash, Thank you—*merci beaucoup!*

And now, on to our next activity: Arlington Street volunteers are traveling to First Church the second week of March. If you are interested in learning more about this or future trips, please contact Peter Lowber at NewOrleans@ASCBoston.org. ☺

Who's in Charge Here?

Congregational polity "...is important because it defines the way in which we believe human beings should be related to one another for ecclesiastical purposes, and it may be a guide or model for human relationships of other kinds."

--Conrad Wright, *Congregational Polity* (<http://www.uua.org/cde/congpolicy.pdf>)

Democracy is fundamental to Unitarian Universalism. In fact, the fifth principle of Unitarian Universalism is, ".....the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large." What does that mean for the members of Arlington Street Church?

First, it means that we are in charge. And we are ultimately responsible. No denominational hierarchy determines what we must believe, how we should worship, whom we should call as our minister, or what that minister may preach. At the same time, no one else maintains our building, provides health benefits or retirement income to our clergy and staff. It's all up to us and what an awesome privilege and responsibility!

At Arlington Street Church, our bylaws provide that the entire membership vote on certain key actions at regular corporation meetings. Of course, we can't all be consulted for every decision that needs to be made. To make the daily operation of our church possible and to contribute to the work of the several associations to which we belong, we elect representatives and empower them to speak or make some decisions on our behalf.



Each year—usually in the spring—we elect members to represent us in the following capacities:

- Members of the Prudential Committee (“The Pru”), which is the governing board. The Pru has fiduciary responsibility and is charged by the bylaws with establishing the policies that govern day to day operation of Arlington Street Church. (see <http://www.ASCBoston.org/about/governance.html>).
- Officers of the church, who serve as Clerk, Treasurer, Moderator, and Vice Moderator.
- Delegates to the UUA’s General Assembly (GA), which is an annual meeting of all UUA congregations (see <http://www.uua.org/ga/>). Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) delegates vote on our behalf for resolutions that are presented at General Assembly.
- Representatives to the UUA’s Massachusetts Bay District, which is the organization of 55 Unitarian Universalist congregations in the Greater Boston area (see <http://www.mbdoua.org/about-us/>).
- Representatives for the UU Urban Ministry, which works social justice in the inner city of Boston (see <http://www.uuum.org/>).
- Two at-large members of the Jubilee Committee, which focuses on the work of Arlington Street Church in the world (see <http://www.ASCBoston.org/jubilee/>).

The Nominating Committee works throughout the year to put together a slate of nominees for these positions. We start the process by talking to the various committees to understand the skills and experience that they need to do their work. Next, we consider all of the church members who

match the committee’s criteria and who represent a cross-section of the church membership. Then, we talk with these members to see if they might be willing to serve. We also make sure that they are willing and able to be active members for the entire term. Finally, two weeks before the election, we publish our candidates in *Inside ASC*. Of course, any Arlington Street Church member may also be nominated during the corporation meeting, in accordance with our bylaws.

If you are interested in being considered by the Nominating Committee for inclusion in our slate of candidates, contact us by talking to one of us or Alison Green Will, membership and Leadership coordinator. We publish our meeting dates in *Inside ASC*. The members of the Nominating Committee for 2006 – 2007 are: Darren Carlton (co-chair), Paul Dakin, Ginny Merritt, Sheila Murphy, and George O’Keefe (co-chair).

Democracy is a great thing for a church. But its effectiveness and power are always proportional to the level of participation by the members. Let’s make it really mean something at Arlington Street! ☺

Climate Crisis

MARILYN CASTRIOTTA

Our global warming crisis may at times appear to be happening slowly, but, in fact, it is happening very quickly. While ignoring the warnings may be more convenient, we are faced with a moral imperative to act and to become part of the solution.

Following the release of his must-see Oscar-nominated docu-



Marilyn and Al Gore at The Climate Project training in Nashville.

mentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*, Al Gore trained 1,000 people to deliver his compelling global warming slide show to help spread the message and broaden the movement in towns and cities across America to deal with this looming threat to our planet. Arlington Street Church member and Green Sanctuary co-chair, Marilyn Castriotta was among those selected to attend this 2-day training in Nashville. Trainees, representing every state in the US, agree to return to their communities and give at least ten presentations, free of charge, within a year of the training. The computer-based presentation reviews the science of global warming: its causes, its most observable signs in recent years, and how it is predicted to affect the planet, as well as what we can do about it.

Marilyn will include the short 20-minute version of this presentation in Arlington Street’s **First Wednesday** service on April 4th at 6:30 PM in the Chapel. She will also give the presentation during one of the workshop sessions at the Massachusetts Bay District of Unitarian Universalist Churches annual meeting at Andover Newton Theological School in Newton on Saturday, April 14th. ☺

the WINDOW



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Editorial Staff of THE WINDOW

Miguel Felipe, editor & design; Don Rickter, proofreader; Corey Spence, production & assistant proofreader

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 Arlington Street Church events or the wider Unitarian Universalist Association community.

Submission Deadline and Method

Entries should be sent as Word® documents to Window@ASCBoston.org by **5:00 PM, Friday, May 4th, 2007** for inclusions in Vol. 6, No. 4, March – May, 2007.

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.

Disclaimer

The views represented in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Corporation or staff of Arlington Street Church.

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

