



SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2009



THIS SUNDAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

**SUNDAY, MAY 17, 10AM
"WOMEN'S WORK"
REV. KATIE LEE CRANE**

It might surprise you to learn that women ministers are nothing new to First Parish of Sudbury. Although the Rev. Katie Lee Crane has served First Parish as its settled minister for 10 years, the congregation's first female minister, Ida Hultin, served from 1904 to 1915. This Sunday, May 17, Crane will reflect on the roles Hultin and other women have played in Unitarian Universalist history. There are many firsts and milestones. For example, Olympia Brown was the first woman to be sanctioned by a national denomination for ordination to the Universalist ministry in the US in 1863.

"Today there are more women than men serving as Unitarian Universalist ministers," Crane says. "Many of us stand on the shoulders of women of the 18th and 19th centuries who bucked convention to live out a call to liberal religious ministry. Some were ordained; others were not. But sanctioned or not, they would not be stopped. They were itinerant preachers and settled ministers. They were abolitionists, suffragists and social reformers. They were, like Elizabeth Peabody and Margaret Fuller, often a primary influence behind the more famous male voices of the Transcendentalist movement."

In addition to highlighting the remarkable history of women in the Universalist, Unitarian and, since 1961, the Unitarian Universalist (UU) denomination, Crane asks this provocative question: Where are the men? She fears that, in the UU denomination at least, we've reached a tipping point and ministry (like nursing, clerical work and social work) is becoming "woman's work."

The Bulletin Board

**Discuss the Candidates
For UU President**

Laurel Hallman and Peter Morales

- **Tuesday, May 26 at noon in The Commons during Tuesday BYO-lunch**
- **Sunday, May 31 in the Library at 11:45am**

Summer Services—lay-led worship from June 21-Sept 6
Signup board in Parish Hall (looking for musicians, breakfast providers, speakers)

For more information, contact Fran Sharp

**Connecticut River Valley Great Spring
Water Event**

with UU Mass Action, the UUSC and the Clara Barton District in Bernardston, MA Sat. May 30 from 10am-10pm

For more information [Click here](#)

**Annual Congregational
Meeting**

June 7 11:30am



In the Spotlight:
**Religious Exploration
 Committee**

WHAT THE REC IS ALL ABOUT:

The mission of the REC is to, working with the Director of Religious Exploration and Youth Advisor (DRE), Roberta Altamari, to oversee the RE program for people of all ages. Much of their work focuses on RE for children from birth through 8th grade, the Coming of Age program and Our Whole Lives sexuality education program. (Youth programming for high-schoolers is overseen by the Youth Adult Committee.)

A subcommittee of the REC is the Spirit Play Task Force focusing on children ages 4-10 using the curriculum "Spirit Play" a Montessori-based exploration program, a unique and exploration-based curriculum. Curriculum includes age-appropriate lessons on UUism and its principles and sources "rainbow promises", teachings from the world's religions, themes of compassion, peace, justice, the individual's search for truth and meaning-making, and interdependence.

The REC is made up of members who attend meetings, discuss policies and procedures and serve as a "brain trust" to the DRE, and manage the many and varied initiatives of the REC, which vary from year to year.

PLEASE STOP BY THE RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION COMMITTEE TABLE during Social Hour on May 17 to hear more, straight from the members of the committee, about why they choose to share their gifts with the REC at First Parish.

FELISA T ELECTED TO UUSC BOARD

Felisa T has been elected to serve on the Board of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)! She writes that she is thrilled to serve in this way and adds: "I feel that I am representing First Parish in this two-year appointment. I see it as an honor shared by all of us in the congregation."

First Parish of Sudbury's Pas

Annmarie A, Audrey K, Polly M, Bruce P

In the event of a pastoral need, please call any

KATIE LEE AWAY MONDAY 5/18

Our minister, Katie Lee Crane, will be away from the First Parish office on Monday, May 18 so that she may attend Aimee's graduation from Boston College and celebrate her achievement with the extended family.

She will return to the office on Tuesday, May 19.

BOSTON PRIDE PARADE, SAT. JUNE 13

Come be a part of First Parish's contingent as we march on Saturday, June 13 in Boston's Pride Parade for Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) awareness, dignity, and understanding. You'll have a fun and meaningful day. For more information, contact Peg E or Donna S for details about the day.

Boston hosts the largest Pride celebration in New England (12,000 marchers last year and over 750,000 in attendance). Come proudly carry our First Parish banner and get energized by the cheering crowds, the music and costumes, the floats and marching bands, and the Pride Festival at the end of the Parade. All ages and diversities welcome!

Carpools will leave the FPS parking lot at 10am on June 13, and anyone interested in driving in together should coordinate with Peg E.

