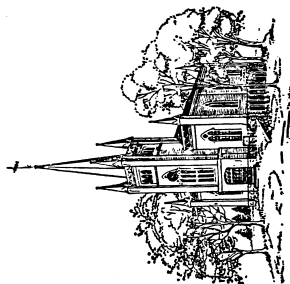


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The North Parish of North Andover
Unitarian Universalist
190 Academy Road
North Andover, MA 01845-4022



The Messenger

The Newsletter of
**THE NORTH PARISH OF NORTH ANDOVER
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**

A Welcoming Congregation
190 Academy Road, North Andover, MA 01845-4022
www.northparish.org
Founded 1645

The Reverend Lee A. Bluemel, Minister
The Reverend Jim Sherblom, Interim Minister
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Next Copy Deadline: January 28, 2005
March Calendar Deadline: Monday, February 9, 2005

Vol. XXXVIII January 18, 2005 No. 2

WORSHIP AT THE NORTH PARISH **Worship and Religious Education** **at 8:30am and 10:30am**

Jan. 23 ~ Rev. David Blanchard
Jan. 30 ~ Ralph Bakkensen
Feb. 06 ~ Rev. Jim Sherblom
Feb. 13 ~ Rev. Jim Sherblom
Feb. 20 ~ Rev. Joel Baehr
Feb. 27 ~ Dr. Charles Clements

MEMORIAL FLOWERS & STEEPLELIGHTING

Flowers donated:

01-16~ in loving memory of Chloe Jarrell Cooper from the Cooper family
01-23~ in loving memory of James T. Myers from Brenda Myers and Laura Landy
01-30~ in loving memory of Creighton E. Gatchell by his wife Lucy and their children Kate and Phil.

Steeple Lighting:

01-16~ In celebration of the birth of Andrew Paul Bluemel Buchanan
01-23~ In loving memory of Walter L. Grimm Jr. from Pat Grimm and Tina Klein
01-30~ In remembrance of Gene by Kim, Jack, Lucas and Priscilla Adami.

*If you are interested in memorial flowers
and/or steeple lighting at \$25 each,
call Claire McCarron, 978-689-2858.*

STANDARD MEETINGS & EVENTS

*To avoid scheduling conflicts, you must check with
the church office before booking meetings/events!*

Standard Meetings:

AA: Every Monday, 7:30-9:30 pm, parish hall
Pantry Set-up: Alternate Mondays, 7:30-8:30 pm,
1/3, 1/17, 1/31; 2/14, 2/28; 3/14, 3/28; 4/11, 4/25
People's Pantry: Alternate Tuesdays, 9:30-11 am,
OCH 1/4, 1/18; 2/1, 2/15; 3/1, 3/15, 3/29; 4/12, 4/29
AI-Anon: Every Thursday, 10 am-noon, parlor & hall
Yoga: Call for days and times. OCH, Upper floor.

Please refer to the enclosed Calendar for all events

~ IN THE INTERIM ~

I have jumped into life here at North Parish with both feet and I am enjoying it tremendously! I have agreed with the Worship Committee to offer a workshop on Saturday morning 7:30-9:30 February 5th on reading from the pulpit, and would love to have as many people come out and join me that morning as possible. If you have ever thought it might be useful to be trained to read in public (with true joy), call Pam Guerrieo and reserve yourself a spot that morning.

I am also gearing up to help John Van Drie to offer the next series of New UU classes beginning Wednesday, so if you are curious about Unitarian Universalism, how this church works, or what membership involves, please call Pam and join in this interesting series of three Wednesday evening classes.

The Jericho Road project seems to be lifting off nicely, and it is a wonderful way to use your skills and talents on behalf of those who desperately need them. If you can be of help to others, please talk to Dee Riemer and I am certain she can put your skills to good use helping a not for profit agency in Lawrence. Gary Adams describes North

Parish as an activist church, and I am delighted with the way that you all work together, both within this church community, and beyond to make an impact on the world.

I want you to know that I am here to be of help wherever and however I can. Please wear your name tags whenever you are at the church, for it will help me and many others here quickly learn each other's names. In addition to the two Sundays a month that I am leading worship, I am generally also here two or three days during the week, and would love to drop into as many committee meetings and other activities as my schedule allows. I am available for pastoral consultations, either at church in my office or I can come to visit with you in your home, and you need only contact me by e-mail at jim@seaflower.com or by phone at 781-466-9552 to arrange a time. Let's use this interim time to good effect. I am looking to get to know all of you a whole lot better.

~Rev. Jim Sherblom

Guest At Your Table

If you have not yet returned your Guest at Your Table Box, please do so by January 19 so we can send it to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee to support their work for justice in our nation and in the wider world (including in India, where they are engaged in work on behalf of tsunami survivors). Thank you!

*Congratulations to Lee and Terry on the
birth of Andrew Paul Bluemel Buchanan
January 4, 2005!*

Catered Dinner and Game Night
Friday January 21

Why cook on a Friday night? Come join your North Parish friends for a fun evening of dinner and games. Dinner is catered by "Raspberries" eatery and will be Chicken Plicate (not a typo! It means "folded") with toasted orzo pilaf, salad and dessert. A hearty main dish pasta will be offered for vegetarians. Bring games to share and make a night of it. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under. Please provide your own beer/wine/soda. Reservations can be made after service on Sunday January 16 with Wally Anderson and Keith Wentzel or by email by January 19th at spartanfans@comcast.net. Prepayment is required. Checks made by left in the program mailbox.

Spring cleaning?

Depending on where you live there are two groups that would love to have your household goods: linens, computers, furniture and other useful items to be given to fire victims, domestic abuse victims and other needy people. All are given free to clients. For Lawrence, call Nancy at Project Home Again, 978-470-1356 or email www.projecthomeagain@bravehost.com. Lowell is served by the Wish Project, Donna Hunnewell 978-375-3572 or visit www.hungerhomeless.org "Donate Goods". Through this site you can also join the "Urgent Needs/service project" email tree for a weekly e-newsletter. These agencies work together to share goods and resources, so either way your goods will find a good home.

Feb 16. 7PM. Meet Dr. Jim Manganiello. Jim is a psychologist with more than thirty years of dedicated work and practice in the world's leading spiritual, healing and well being traditions. He is an author, meditation instructor, and host of an online radio show, Uncommon Knowledge Radio, www.wukr.com. He is also a former university professor and former director of both the New England Mindbody Institute and the Center for East-West Psychology and Contemplative Studies. Jim's work features a base of "Uncommon Knowledge" and the powerful tools to put that knowledge to work so we can better live our lives as an adventure of love, wisdom, courage, and well being. Dick Wilson, masshog@aol.com or 978-681-5083

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Children in grades 3-8 continue this month with the "Great Debates about God" series, seeking to understand our UU heritage and tradition by exploring some of the great crossroads in our religious history. Still to come: the evolution/creation debate at the Scopes trial and the contemporary debate about same-sex marriage.

There are two "milestone" celebrations coming up in the near future. On February 6, our kindergartners will give chalices to their families. On March 6, our second graders will receive hymnals. Both celebrations are part of our program goal to help children, youth, and their families build a spiritual toolkit to help say "yes!" to all that life has to offer.

P.S. If you are the parent of a kindergartner, please be sure that they wear "painting clothes" to church on **January 23 and January 30** so that they can create their chalices without worry about ruining their clothing!

~ Gail Forsyth-Vail dre@northparish.org

Try Yoga!

In honor of National Yoga Day, Saturday, January 29, there will be a free yoga class from 9:30-11am in the Old Center Hall upstairs. Contact Connie Glore; email connie@yogaforyou.biz or call 978-352-2862 or check out the website at <http://www.yogaforyou.biz/>

Winter Seasonal Supper

Saturday, January 29th is the date of the next Seasonal Supper. This is a time to enjoy food and fellowship with folks from North Parish. The dinner is a potluck (you're typically asked to bring a salad, appetizer, or dessert). The time is set by the host &/or hostess... it's a relaxing evening with 8-10 others! Dotti Anderson and Lora Stewart are around during coffee hours with their clipboards... SIGN UP!

HELP!

Do you have a projection system for DVDs that you would be willing to loan to the Partner Church program for one evening (March 13)? If so, contact Pam Amiralian at 978-688-3611 or pbadesigns@aol.com

UU Hikes

Come join us for an hour of easy hiking/snowshoeing, or XC skiing in area conservation properties. We can accommodate a mixed group of hikers, snowshoers, and skiers. Meet at the Peace Pole after the 10:30 am service, leaving at 10:45 am. Bring hiking boots, snowshoes, or skis, a calorie-dense snack or light lunch, and water. If you wish to paddle the Essex River Basin, sign up with Kevin or Alison by Sunday, June 5th. Call Kevin and Alison Sparks if you have any questions (978-682-8736).

Sun Jan 23rd Andover
XC ski or hike in Cochran Wildlife Sanctuary
Sun Feb 13th Andover
XC ski or hike in Gold Smith Reservation

Sun Mar 13th Boxford
Hike in Baldpate Pond Reservation

Sun Apr 10th Andover
Hike in Baker's Meadow

Sun May 22nd Walk through Boxford
Historic Village Center

Sun June 12th Kayak the Essex
River Basin (sign up by 6/5)

The Building Committee plans to hold informational meetings after both services on February 6th, and have a voting Special Parish Meeting after the 10:30 service on February 13th. More to come... ~ Nancy Lennhoff

Adult Spirituality Groups

For information about Adult Spirituality Groups, contact Dick Wilson at masshog@aol.com or 978-681-5083

20-30 Something's get together.
Bridget Rawding 978-686-1968

Books/movies discussion group.
Donna Cooper djcooper@comcast.net or 978-470-2717

Cakes for the Queen of Heaven.
Feb 18 Fri 5-9pm, **Feb 19** Sat 9-5 all day and each Wednesday evening at 7pm for 8 weeks starting **Feb 23**. "Cakes" is an 8-week seminar in Feminist Theology, examining ancient roots of civilization where the divine was seen as female, as well as mainstream religions views on women's roles today. Contact Dee Riemer at 978-470-2042, or email riemers@comcast.net or Diane Hanscom 978-470-4716 or Rodihan@juno.com

Great Pond Sangra Buddhist Meditation. First and third Wednesdays (guided) and second and fourth Wednesdays (peer-led) OCH, 7:30pm and last Sat each month 4-7pm. Laura Howell 978-685-8323.

Lunch Bunch. Every third Tuesday. Noon to 1:30 PM. Rev. Jim Sherblom, Rev. David Blanchard, Phila Slade. Come and join us!

Men's Group. Dave Amiralian.
advadpromo@aol.com or 978-688-3611

Soup Night, every third Thursday. Call Pam Pappalardo at 978-247-8942

Small Group Ministries. Jeri Bayer, coordinator. 978-475-4717

Spiritual Companionship.
A contemplative group which provides the space for each participant to reflect on his/her spiritual journey with the support from other members. Meetings begin with a centering meditation and reading, followed by structured periods of silence, speaking, and listening as each participant gives voice to his/her experience and takes in that of others. Beginning January on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 PM. Existing group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays from 10am until noon; a couple of openings are available. Susan Van Drie 978-470-0107 or susanvandrie@verizon.net. Meetings are held at her home in Andover.

Coming Attractions

These are things that are on the "potential" list. Watch the Messenger or an order of service for more information.

Not Just Another Resolution. Why resolutions are not met, how goals get achieved and how to maintain lasting results. Lisa Martelli 978-685-3312 or Lisa_martelli@yahoo.com.

The Quest for Sustainability.
A spiritual view of issues facing our planet and how can we in our day to day lives become more aware and more "green" in our communities. Tina Klein, 978-686-7056 or tinaklein@comcast.net.

Are You Interested?

The Program Committee was brainstorming the other night and came up with several activities/interests: crocheting, knitting, tatting, quilting OR games like bridge, canasta, or poker... if you're interested in being in a small group -- learning or participating in these or other activities (especially if you could TEACH or LEAD the group), please contact Lora Stewart at 978-683-8966, or email Lora@plpdd.com or contact Dotti Anderson at 978-887-3099 or email dotti.anderson@comcast.net.

Calendar Notice:

There will no longer be a large calendar outside the church office. Instead, there will be the current month and the following month -posted as it changes daily. For confirmation of future dates, you will need to contact the church office, either by email (always the best route) or by phone: Office@northparish.org or 978-687-7948

For the ability to check any future dates, the Office Support Team will be working on a "read-only" calendar that anyone can check on-line. This should be available soon.

This will be the best way of viewing whether YOUR group or event has made it to the calendar, and there will no longer be 3 or 4 calendars that are constantly out of sync.

~Cynthia J. Sulesky
Congregational Administrator