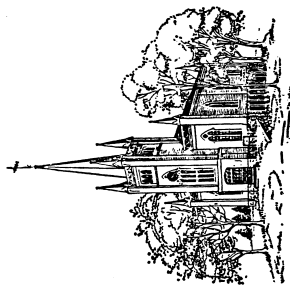


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Unitarian Universalist  
190 Academy Road  
North Andover, MA 01845-4022



# 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

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**The Reverend Jim Sherblom, Interim Minister**  
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Next Copy Deadline: March 25, 2005

**Vol. XXXVIII March 14, 2005 No. 6**  
**Worship and Religious Education**  
**at 8:30am and 10:30am**

**Mar. 20** ~ Rev. Jim Sherblom  
**Mar. 27** ~ Rev. David Blanchard  
**April 3** ~ Rev. Lee Bluemel & Rev. Jim Sherblom

## MEMORIAL FLOWERS & STEEPLELIGHTING

**March 20 ~ Flowers** are given in loving memory of John and Louise Morgan and their son Jack; and Edythe and Walter Perry, by Dr. Calvin and Mary Ann Morgan Perry.

~The **steeple** is lighted in honor of pussy willows.

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

A calendar that anyone can check on-line is available on the North Parish website [www.northparish.org](http://www.northparish.org) or you can go directly to the calendar by typing in [http://calendar.yahoo.com/north\\_parish](http://calendar.yahoo.com/north_parish)

## In the Interim

Despite the continued cold weather and further snow that is forecast, winter is finally on its last legs. Before long the ground will begin to thaw and it will be comfortable again to spend more time out of doors. Now is the time of year for looking over the chaos and accumulation of our wintry days and deciding what we want to take with us into the Spring. Spring is an opportunity for new beginnings and we do well to be thoughtful about how we will engage the warmer days when they finally come.

The capital campaign kick-off was a splendid time last weekend! Now we need to collectively decide how much church we can afford for the next generation. This too is a time of discernment, a time for setting aside that which has been, and deciding collectively what can and will be. I enter this dialog with a sense of anticipation for this community and great expectations that this vibrant congregation can continue to make itself a wonderful home for the spiritual growth of its members for many more years to come.

So welcome in St. Patrick's Day next Thursday, and Spring following merely three days behind, and enter into this new time with joy, with anticipation, and with renewed hopes for our community and the adequacy of our communal space for nurturing and cultivating the spiritual experiences that we seek. This is a time for celebration as Lo the earth awakes again, Alleluia!

In faith,

Reverend Jim Sherblom  
Leave Minister  
781-466-9552 jim@seaflower.com

## RE News

The entire congregation is invited to attend the *Coming of Age Ceremony on Saturday, April 2* at from 6 until 8 pm. A highlight of the church year, this worship service will honor thirteen young people as they stand before the congregation, friends, and family to share what faith means to them. This year's Coming of Age group includes: Lia Arnzen, Katherine Bider, Justine Bowe, Evan Carter, Jack Christoforo, Leila Day Smith, Jessy Harding, Wendy Mellin, Takao Miller, Jake Palatine, Michael Parker, Kayly Tillman, and Drew Williams.

Plans for April and May Sunday morning RE sessions include lots of field trips and lots of time outside as we explore "the interdependent web of life." Details are coming soon, but the plans will include worms, snails, bacteria, bogs, and experiences with nature's recyclers (mold, anyone?) Please feel free to share your ideas and suggestions with me this week and next as the plans take shape.

Upcoming sessions include:

**March 20** The children in grades 3-8 will hear the story of Jesus' last week as well as celebrating communion in remembrance of Jesus of Nazareth. Younger children will explore the mystery of life in a special Easter week session.

**March 27** Easter Sunday. The first part of the service will be intergenerational, followed by special Easter activities for younger children.

Gail Forsyth-Vail  
Director of Religious Education  
978-685-7855 DRE@northparish.org



### Caring Team Concerns:

Healing thoughts to:

...Charlie Chappell, who is back home and in good spirits and good humor from his recent time spent in the hospital.

...Ginny Montella who has had her ankle set in the doctor's office, but still awaits a decision this week after x-rays determine whether that was the best course.

Our thoughts are also with John Van Drie whose nephew has just been shipped to Iraq.

In order to appropriately classify your pledge payments to the church, please mark either Annual Pledge or Capital Pledge on the Memo Line. Thank you.

### Fund Raiser/ Wine Tasting/Art Show

Saturday, **March 19**, 2005, from 4-6:30 in the parish hall. This popular event is back for a second year. The Andovers Artists Guild and Shawsheen Village Liquors are working together to cosponsor this event here at North Parish for North Parish! Delicious Hors d'oeuvres, music and art for sale. Non guild artists (amateur or pro) welcome. For more information on Art details: Phila Slade 978-683-9282. The fundraising committee needs your help for finger food and cleanup. Call Mary Ann Perry at 978-475-5924 or Donna Hunnewell at 978-375-3572. \$12 prepaid -- \$15.00 at the door.

### Friends of the Youth

The Junior and Senior Youth Groups are looking for adults who would be willing to help the youth. We are creating a "Friends of

the Youth" list which, would circulate throughout both youth groups, and serve as a contacts list when the youth need adults. The adult would only be needed for a one-time commitment such as filling in for a youth advisor when they cannot make it, or being a chaperone during a sleepover. Also, someone could be contacted to help with fundraisers such as the Fancy Dinner, or to help with community service.

There will be no mandatory meetings or obligatory time-consuming activities, this would be a great opportunity for anyone who wants to get involved with the youth, but doesn't have a lot of time to commit.

Contacts for this group will take place via the Internet. To find out more or sign up, talk to Dan Brosnan during coffee hour or e-mail him at [DanBrosnan@aol.com](mailto:DanBrosnan@aol.com). Thanks!

### Childcare Needed

The Interweave GLBT parents group is looking for volunteers to help with childcare. We are hoping to build a pool of people who are willing to be called occasionally to provide childcare downstairs in the RE wing while the parents meet in the Parlor. Two to three adults are needed for each meeting. Meetings are the first Friday of each month at the church from 6:30 to 8:30pm. If you are willing to help out, please contact Brenda Myers [brendajyers@comcast.net](mailto:brendajyers@comcast.net) or 603-893-4392

Child care needed: North Parish family in West Boxford in need of child care help from 7:00-9:00 am on weekdays. Get children (9 and 10 years old) on the bus and walk the dog. Good pay and the exercise is free. Contact Karen Careri at 978-352-1757 or [kcareri@comcast.net](mailto:kcareri@comcast.net).

**Flowers and Steeple Memorials**  
Claire McCarron will be available on March 20 at Coffee Hour for sign-ups for Easter Lilies

### Walking Towards Walden

A guided walk with readings and conversation at Walden Pond, Concord, MA Sunday, June 12, 1-5 p.m. ; \$22 per person  
Rev. Robin L. Zucker, facilitator

Register on line at  
[http://www.flowingforce.com/walking\\_walden.htm](http://www.flowingforce.com/walking_walden.htm)  
or call 978-369-0260

Come to Walden Woods to "walk deliberately". We will explore the environs of Concord's beautiful Walden Pond, stopping along the way to quietly experience the surroundings and to share and reflect upon readings from Walden, Henry David Thoreau's famous spiritual autobiography. We will meet at Walden Pond (Rte 126 S, off Rte 2 in Concord), across the street from the main parking lot entrance at the top of the path leading down to the pond. Wear clothes and footwear for light hiking and bring a snack and a small towel to sit on.

### Come Sing with Us!

Sing for Earth and Spirit

### The Merrimack Valley Peace Chorus

(newly forming) presents

### The Missa Gaia - Earth Mass

composed by the Paul Winter Consort conducted by co-composer Jim Scott  
Performance 8 pm Saturday May 7th

Raise your voice with the Merrimack Valley Peace Chorus in this monumental choral work with co-composer and former Consort

guitarist Jim Scott. The Missa Gaia has become a modern classic performed annually since its creation at the Cathedral of St. John in New York.

On the May 7th weekend we'll celebrate "Mothers Day for Mother Earth." The Andover Town Hall will resound with choir and soloists, African Brazilian percussion and a jazz/world music band, mixed with the recorded sounds of wolf, whale and exotic birds. The audience is invited to participate as well, and the program will include other songs by Jim Scott celebrating peace and honoring our amazing, beautiful planet earth.

The choir will meet Wednesdays at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover, at Six Locke Street. 7:30 to 9:30 PM, beginning March 2nd for ten rehearsals leading up to the May 7th concert at the Andover Town Hall. A membership fee of \$25 will cover purchase of the score and a demo CD of the music. Please contact Rev. Ralph Galen or Jim Scott to register.

Dress Rehearsal Sat. May 7th, 2-4:30 PM - dinner break -  
Choir call 7 PM, Concert 8 PM, Sat. May 7, 2005

For further info contact: Rev. Ralph Galen - [Minister@uuandover.org](mailto:Minister@uuandover.org), 978 475-4454, or Jim Scott - [Jim@jimscottmusic.com](mailto:Jim@jimscottmusic.com)

Andovers Artists Guild will meet at the North Parish on Sunday, March 20 at 2: PM. Phila Slade will demonstrate watercolor technique. Admission for church people is free.

### The Movie / Book Discussion Group

The next meeting will be on April 14<sup>th</sup> and we will discuss *Pushing Hands* (movie). It is hard to get from video stores, but is available in the Chinese collection on the third floor of the Andover Memorial Hall Library. That may mean other libraries have it, or can get it from Andover.

On May 12<sup>th</sup> we will discuss F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.

We decided to go into June with a shorter novel and will meet on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The book will be *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon. It is available in paperback.

From Amazon.com:

"Mark Haddon's bitterly funny debut novel, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, is a murder mystery of sorts--one told by an autistic version of Adrian Mole. Fifteen-year-old Christopher John Francis Boone is mathematically gifted and socially hopeless, raised in a working-class home by parents who can barely cope with their child's quirks. He takes everything that he sees (or is told) at face value, and is unable to sort out the strange behavior of his elders and peers.

Late one night, Christopher comes across his neighbor's poodle, Wellington, impaled on a garden fork. Wellington's owner finds him cradling her dead dog in his arms, and has him arrested. After spending a night in jail, Christopher resolves--against the objection of his father and neighbors--to discover just who has murdered Wellington. He is encouraged by

Siobhan, a social worker at his school, to write a book about his investigations, and the result--quirkily illustrated, with each chapter given its own prime number--is *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*."

Hope to see you all in April -- maybe spring will have arrived by then!

Donna Cooper  
[donna.j.cooper@comcast.net](mailto:donna.j.cooper@comcast.net)

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Dear Friends,

We're pleased to announce that we are now accepting nominations for the 2005 UUSC social activist awards. Your response is needed by April 15, 2005!

UUSC is now accepting nominations for the Social Action Leadership Award, the Mary-Ella Holst Youth Activist Award and the Vision of Justice Sermon Award.

The Social Action Leadership Award honors creative, inspiring and effective leadership by an individual or group working for justice.

The Mary-Ella Holst Youth Activist Award recognizes and honors the achievement of an individual or group of youth and young adults who are advancing human rights and social justice through activism and leadership.

The Vision of Justice Sermon Award honors a sermon that reflects upon a combination of social action and spirituality by clearly expressing Unitarian Universalist principles as they are put into practice through current UUSC programs.

To nominate yourself or another candidate, you may submit the nomination by e-mail to [awards@uusc.org](mailto:awards@uusc.org) or by regular mail to 130 Prospect Street, Cambridge, MA 02139. The deadline for nominations is April 15, 2005. For more information, visit our website, [www.uusc.org/info/article01275.html](http://www.uusc.org/info/article01275.html).

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The NORTH ANDOVER MUSIC ASSOCIATION is **PROUD** to present....  
a **BENEFIT CONCERT** being provided by

## **RUST NEVER SLEEPS**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>**

**8:00 p.m. at the North Andover High School Auditorium**  
**All tickets \$10 available at the door (no reserve seating) or through Pat Cotter at the High School.**

**RUST NEVER SLEEPS is a regionally known Neil Young tribute band. Their music spans the lengthy career of this incredible musician.** (Visit their web site @ [www.rustneversleeps.net](http://www.rustneversleeps.net) for more info. on Rust Never Sleeps)

RUST's band members include our very own **Mike Garron** (father of Tom and Rob---NAHS band members!!)

**This is an incredibly GENEROUS offer made by Mike and his group (all proceeds benefit North Andover Music) and a wonderful opportunity for old (& young) rockers to attend a LIVE concert in our own backyard. Bring your friends and neighbors, bring your family.....Let's FILL THE HOUSE!!!!**

Questions or more info, call Candy Eberle at 978-681-4150 or Ann Gattis at 978-699-1552.

## Crossroads Coffeehouse Presents:

### Aztec Two-Step

The music that Tex Fowler and Neal Shulman make together is beautiful and timeless. Their vocal harmonies and twin guitar sound with its shimmering, intricate texture are landmarks in the development of modern acoustic music. This talented duo has appeared with such notable artists as Bruce Springsteen, Jim Croce, Judy Collins and Harry Chapin.

Tickets are \$16.00

Doors open at 7:15pm  
Showtime is 8:00 pm

Home-baked desserts and specialty coffees and teas are for sale before the show and during intermission.

For more information, call 978-687-3960

Email [info@crossroads-coffeehouse.org](mailto:info@crossroads-coffeehouse.org)

Or log onto  
[www.crossroads-coffeehouse.org](http://www.crossroads-coffeehouse.org)  
for more information

Crossroads Coffeehouse is held on the second Saturday night of each month September-May at North Parish UU 190 Academy Rd. North Andover, MA

**May 14 features Ellis Paul**