



First Parish Church of Berlin Welcomes settled minister

The First Parish Church of Berlin, a federated fellowship of the United Church of Christ and the Unitarian Universalist Association is pleased to announce the calling of our new settled minister Mr. Oscar Wallace.

Oscar brings to First Parish both formal theological training and a lifetime of lay leadership from a multitude of denominations and regions of our country. Along with his experience, Oscar's warm caring personality and his ability to be moderate and empathetic surely helped the congregation to their unanimous decision.

Please join us on Homecoming Sunday Sept, 13, 2009 @ 10am for morning worship led by Oscar as we start our next journey together. A "Welcome Brunch" will follow Please RSVP to 978-838-2575 and leave message if you would like to attend.

A service of Installation and Ordination will follow in the late fall.

We are the "Uncommon Church on the Common" and no matter where you are on your journey you are welcome here.

FPC Sunday School poised to start a New Year!

Sunday school will be starting this year on Sunday, September 13, 2009. The children will start with their families in church, then head to the gym where we will play games together to begin the year. We are very excited about the updates to the facility and look forward to hosting a games night/open house soon to show off the improvements. More information on that to come.

We will be working very hard on increasing our student participation this year. If anyone has a neighbor or friend they think might be interested in learning more about the Sunday School, please let me know. I would be happy to pass on information about the program.

While it has been a fun summer, I am looking forward to seeing all of the children again! We have lots of fun ideas and are ready to go!

-Wendy Rogalinski
RE Director

Clive's Corner *(a letter from the moderator)*

Welcome home Friends & Family of FPC,

I hope you all had ample opportunity to enjoy your summer. Time to relax, refresh and renew with friends and family, possibly travel and take in some of the wonders bestowed on our world. One of the joys of coming home is sharing our experiences with those around us and catching up on what we may have missed.

As we welcome each other back, we especially welcome our new minister Oscar Wallace called as our settled minister by unanimous vote of the congregation on June 28th. I hope you can all join us Sept. 13 for Homecoming Sunday as we welcome Oscar in our service and at our tables for brunch following the service.

To all ups there are a down and this is no exception as we gain a fabulous minister we lose a wonderful clerk, Linda Wallace.

Linda has resigned as clerk and we will surely miss her in that role and we thank her for her time and dedication to the position.

The Property Committee has been very busy over the summer. The congregation voted funds for Sunday School refurbishment and the painting of the meetinghouse. Parish Hall has also received a fresh coat of paint thanks to a joint effort of Property and the Nursery School.

As we return to ten o'clock services there is so much going on and you may all be a part of it's ministry. There is always a place for an extended hand to help, Sox & Sammies, Sunday school, during worship, fellowship hour, outreach projects or in-house chores. The key is to find your ministry, try different aspects until your passion is stirred or if you have a passion bring it forward, share it as you did with those summer adventures.

Ttfn clive



"Be yourself;
everyone else is
already taken."
--Oscar Wilde

Old Friends Need Some Help

Paid position-three days a week-approximately 6-8 hours per day. Duties include meals, errands, laundry, and providing senior care assistance to Andy and Florence Munter, my parents.

Interested parties please respond to Florence (daughter) @ 303-756-7411 or email: florencedave22@earthlink.net.

I think that covers it. I can provide more details to the person(s) who call or respond.

Thank you,
Florence Munter (daughter)

For all Council Members!

There is a special Covenant Workshop with Lynn Thomas on Friday, September 25th and Saturday, September 26th for all Church Council members! Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this very important event.

There are a couple of openings for altar flowers in September.

If you are interested in sponsoring altar flowers, please call the church office 978-838-2575 between 10am and 2pm Monday, Wednesday or Friday to make arrangements.

“...works toward a more just and compassionate community...”

Dear Friends:

As some of you may already know, Nancy Heron, the manager and cook at WHEAT Community Café, will be leaving us to begin a new, exciting venture. She will soon be opening her own café and bakery on Church Street in Clinton. While we will miss her and her generous spirit, we also celebrate with her the realization of her long hoped for dream!

You may also have heard that we at WHEAT are in the process of planning a relocation of the Community Cafe, away from its present address at the Clinton Presbyterian Church. The Church has offered to let us stay in their space through the Summer and early Fall, as we make decisions about the new location and accomplish the move. This is a kind offer.

In the meantime, please know that we continue to rely on your generous contributions of food, time and heart to this very important program. You who prepare and bring in food for our guests, you who serve the meals and you who help us with the preparation and clean up each day are a critical part of this

service. Without your kindness, we would not be able to continue. As we move through this transition, which will include a search for new, permanent Café staffing, we hope to continue to partner with you to provide food and a sense of “family” to our neighbors who join us everyday for what is always a happy, relaxing time, topped off by a nutritious meal, created and served by you. The importance of your kindness and its impact on the community at large can not be overstated!

I look forward to continuing to work with you as we move ahead with new plans and a new home for the Café. Thank you for your ongoing kindness and commitment. Please feel free to contact me at if you have any questions or thoughts to share. I can be reached at 978 365 6349, ex 21, or at jsheehan@wheatcommunity.net.

Gratefully,

Jim Sheehan, M.A., M.Div.
Executive Director
WHEAT Community Services

*When you live your
dreams, you are
answering your soul's
request to be heard.*

Image Is Everything

What's in a logo? In a world is full of symbols, what would best say all there is to say about FPC Berlin at glance? We would like to know. Create a logo you feel best describes FPC and submit it to the church office. We will be featuring the submissions on our order-of-service covers, and will seek feedback from the congregation.

All ages can contribute!

Have an idea and need help with graphic execution of your great idea? Email this editor and she will be happy to assist: secretary@fpcberlin.org and put “Record Editor” in the subject line.

September Calendar MH=Meetinghouse, Ch=Children's Church, PH=Parish Hall

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| Sun. Sept. 6th | Communion Worship with Thomas Andrew, 9:30am, MH |
| Mon. Sept. 7th | Labor Day |
| Wed. Sept.9th | Evening Guild 6:30pm, MH Stewardship, 7:30pm, Ch |
| Thurs. Sept10th | Senior Citizens, 9am-1pm Nursery School Board of Directors, 7:30pm, Ch |
| Sun. Sept.13th | Deacons, 8:30am, MH Homecoming Sunday, 10am, MH Welcome Brunch following worship Sox & Sammies |
| Wed. Sept.16th | Music Committee, 7pm, Ch |
| Thurs. Sept.17th | Day Guild, 9am, MH |
| Sun. Sept. 20th | Sunday Worship, 10am, MH Outreach Committee, 11:30am, MH Meetinghouse Spruce Up |
| Mon. Sept. 21st | Council, 7:30pm, Ch |
| Wed. Sept 23rd | Trustees, 7:30pm, Ch |
| Fri. Sept. 25th | Council Covenant Workshop with Lynn Thomas—all council members plan to attend! |
| Sat. Sept. 26 th | Council Covenant Workshop con't. |
| Sun. Sept. 27th | Sunday Worship, 10am, MH |

Record Deadline:
Sept. 20
Email to
record@fpchberlin.org



Evening Guild Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 9

Evening Guild Covered Dish Supper @ 6:30 pm in the Meetinghouse. Welcome back from summer as we start another year of meetings and programs. Our program will be presented by Sharon Santello yoga instructor. A relaxing evening will take place. Questions? Please call Karen Hill @ 978.838.2438.

This is the way we wash the lectern, wash the lectern....

You've heard of "Christmas in July" now how about "Spring Cleaning in September". On Sept. 20 following fellowship hour, the Property Committee and Church Council will engage in an interior buff, polish general refreshing of the meeting house...and you are invited to join the fun!



Summer is a promissory note signed in June, its long days spent and gone before you know it, and due to be repaid next January. --Hal Borland

Special Offering Sunday

Imagine...
Another World Is Possible

As a witness for justice, the Institute for Peace Studies in Billings, Montana seeks through education to examine and promote alternatives to violence in the behavior of individuals, groups, organizations, communities, and nations. "We visit large city high schools, one-room libraries in rural towns, preschools at the zoo and churches. We can sense within minutes children who are alarmed, prejudiced or nervous. Students learn about other countries and cultures of Kenya, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Brazil, China, Rwanda, and Sweden from our participating

students. We know we are making a difference because educators vie for our visits and the impact on discrimination is two-fold. Montana children and youth begin to see citizens of the world in a new positive light while at the same time learning impulse control and valuable conflict resolution skills." It's a win/win situation, and because the Institute for Peace Studies is a 2008 Neighbors in Need recipient, your gift to this special UCC offering helped make it possible.

First Parish will be accepting our special **UCC** sponsored **Neighbors in Need** offering on Sunday, October 4th, World Communion Sunday. Please watch for an insert and envelope in your bulletin on September 30th.

Outreach Committee

Souper Bowl Sundays

The Outreach Committee has decided to try a new experiment this fall.

We will be organizing a simple Souper Sunday lunch to be served during Fellowship Time on the first Sunday of each month, beginning in October. This will be in addition to our customary refreshments. The Souper Sunday meals will consist of homemade soups, perhaps an egg dish such as strata, or some other dish that a member chooses to make. We will not be sure how many people are likely to want to make this their mid-day meal until we try it.

If you are willing to provide a simple meal on the first Sunday of a month, please speak to Beezy Bentzen (978.838.2302) or another member of Outreach.

Still Serving Sox, Sammies & Skivvies

Thank you to all for your cash donations and help over the summer months to keep the Sox, Sammies & Skivvies program running. The Worcester Fellowship Ministry has grown to approximately 100 people each Sunday, and we have been asked if it would be possible to increase our monthly sandwich and juice box offering from 40 to 50 (a companion church provides the other 50). To do this we will need an additional loaf of bread, pound of sandwich meat/cheese and another

10-count juice box pkg. each month. The Outreach Committee feels this is an important ministry in our neighboring community that we would like to continue to support with the help of FPC members and friends. Please watch for a revamped sign-up sheet on September 6th that will include these additions, as well as a "new" requested (and very popular) item. Sox & Skivvies are still a welcomed addition to the sammies!

Thank you for your continued support.
Outreach Committee



**First Parish
Church**

*United Church of Christ
Unitarian Universalist*

24 Central St.
Berlin, MA 01503
Office 978.838.2575

Building Use Coordinator
Email: secretary@fpcberlin.org

Office Hours:
M, W, F 10 - 2

*Sunday School &
Sunday worship @
10 a.m.
childcare provided*



See us at:
www.fpcberlin.org

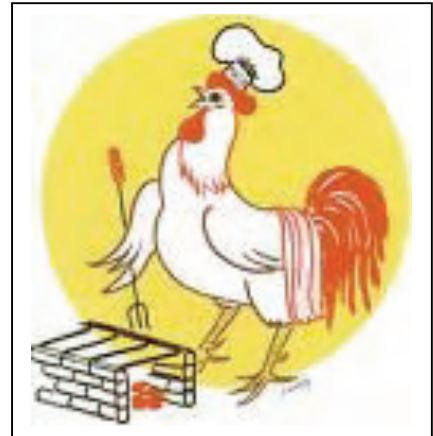
FIRST PARISH CHURCH

United Church of Christ/Unitarian Universalist Association
24 Central St.
Berlin, MA 01503

Chicken BBQ, re-scheduled

September 28, 5-7 pm. We had a dinner planned in August which was, sadly, cancelled, but here's your last chance this year to try FPC's barbequed chicken, with a choice of two sides (pasta salad, baked beans, cole slaw), watermelon, and a drink. \$8/adult, \$5/ 12 and under...eat in or take out.

Want to help out? Call Stan: 508.400.0202 to volunteer to help in the kitchen, or donate groceries.



Summer
Hours are
almost over!
Sunday,
September 13
worship will start
at 10 am

**Welcome Oscar, Welcome back all
All are Welcome, Welcome Brunch
Please join us
Homecoming Sunday
Sept. 13th following
morning worship for
"Welcome Brunch"
RSVP sign-up sheet in church or
978-838-2575**

Oscar Wallace, pastor@fpcberlin.org, Barbara Krackhardt, choir director
Liane Leahy, secretary@fpcberlin.org, Jean-Paul Page, organist
Wendy Rogalinski, webmaster@fpc.org