

NEWS FROM KING'S ✠ CHAPEL

The Society of King's Chapel • 64 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108 • 617/227-2155 • www.kings-chapel.org

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*Picture from Kristin Grassel
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Dear Friends,

The cherry trees are blooming in our Capitol now as I write. This means that in about a month, perhaps a little earlier this year, ours in the Parish House garden and around Boston will be blossoming, too. Even our family's old weeping cheery, with its noticeable textured bark and particular drooped demeanor, will also be pulling itself together. The cherry trees in Washington, D.C., I understand, were given by the Mayor of Tokyo to the United States, as an act of friendship in 1912, ninety-nine years ago. The wife of the Japanese ambassador and Helen Taft, the then first lady, planted the first two Yoshino trees. Today there are now 3,000 of these growing, of which one hundred are from the original stock.

Years ago when I had the opportunity to be in Washington for a church meeting at the end of March, I took the time to take a walk around the Tidal Basin with a friend. As we began to stroll in what became holy silence, the trees seemed to turn into a fragile heavenly sanctuary. When we passed Jefferson's Memorial, we noticed that some of the trees had already started to give up their petals, and the walk before us was strewn with reminders of life's transient beauty.

We all know the Japanese folk song:

"Sakura, sakura are everywhere like a cloud from out of the sky,
Mists of blossoms fill the air, cherries, cherries, blossoming.
Come and see, come and see; let all now see and sing!"

Some of us also know the song's contrasting variation, which was written after World War II:

Sakura, sakura, pink profusions everywhere, like a mist of gossamer rain,
Cherry blossoms fill the air, covering Hiroshima's plain.
Come and see, spring is here, it will not long remain.

This April as we move toward our great festival of Easter, let us take in all the beauty that will be unfolding before our eyes. At the same time, let us remember that it can also be balm for all the suffering that has occurred—Jesus crucifixion and the recent devastating Japanese earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear failures, which have taken more than 11,000 lives and threatened the security of our world. We need so desperately the promise of Resurrection that God is more powerful than death, Christ lives, and love endures.

Easter blessings,

Dianne

ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES, & EVENTS

✦ MINNS LECTURE, APRIL 8-9TH

On Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9, the Minns Committee will hold its annual conference at First Church in Boston. The theme is: Composing Our Unitarian Universalist Future: Where Are We Now? What's Possible? What's Next? Please join us for this opportunity to engage with each other as we seek to "compose" our UU future. We have assembled a panel of UU clergy leaders from around the country who each have experiences and perspectives to offer to the larger questions that will help shape the future of our religion and our religious movement. To register please visit: http://www.minnslecture.org/2011_series.php

✦ SERVICE AND PROGRAM ON APRIL 10TH

On this second Sunday Ms. Laura Everett, Associate Director of the Massachusetts Council of Churches, which King's Chapel supports, will preach on immigration issues in the Commonwealth. At the end of the service Amy Meyer and David Wheeler, members, will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary by renewing their vows and hosting a special hospitality hour.

Following this at 12:45 pm at the Parish House, Jenny Alexander will show her film, "Detained." It documents the lives of two immigrants, who were detained in a raid on a New Bedford factory a couple of years ago. Jenny is the spouse of Juan Pedrazza, who has worshipped us recently. Try not to miss this second Sunday.

✦ NEWLY REVISED BY-LAWS (MARCH 27, 2011)

IV. Membership

Any person may be admitted to membership in the Society who

- (1) shall have given written notice to the Committee on Membership of his or her desire to become a Member, at least three (3) months prior to admittance;
- (2) shall have been recommended by the Committee on Membership in consultation with the Minister, and
- (3) shall subscribe publicly to the Covenant of the Society, all in accordance with procedures established by the Wardens and Vestry.

The Minister, in consultation with the Chair of Membership, may waive the foregoing requirements in case of emergency.

A **Member** must have signed the Book of Intention, participated in a program of orientation, and been formally received into membership. Members will be expected to participate regularly in the Society's worship and activities, and to give generously of their time, energy, talents and resources in support of King's Chapel and its various ministries. Members may serve as a congregational Officer, Vestry member, or Committee Chair, and may vote on all business relating to the Society.

A **Friend** of the Society shall be one who participates in the Society's worship and activities, or who otherwise demonstrates an interest in the ministry of King's Chapel. Friends are encouraged to serve on committees, and support the work of the church, but may not serve as a congregational Officer, Vestry member, or Committee Chair. Friends may attend congregational meetings, but may not vote.

The Society, acting through the Wardens and Vestry in consultation with the Committee on Membership, shall have the right to terminate or suspend the membership of any person(s) whose conduct is inimical to the best interests of the Society, or whose lack of support or participation indicates the absence of a commitment to the life of the Society. The Wardens and Vestry shall give such person(s) sufficient opportunity to be heard. Membership of a suspended member may be reinstated by the Wardens and Vestry on the recommendation of the Committee on Membership.

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

On March 27, following Morning Prayer, the Society of Kings Chapel met for its Annual Meeting. More than 50 members gathered in the sanctuary to hear brief reports from the minister, Senior Warden, trustees, fiscal affairs, treasurer, and the chair of Parish Council. Several agenda items called for votes from the Society, including the approval of a six month budget (July 1-December 31). In 2012 the church's fiscal year will once again be realigned with the calendar year.

The Society also approved the slate of officers and committee chairs for the 2011/12 church year. Finally, several amendments to the by-laws, including increasing the terms for wardens (three years) and committee chairs (two years), and requiring a 90% approval for the calling of a new settled minister were also approved by the Society.

More than one presenter pointed out to those attending the meeting that we are a much smaller church today than we have been in the past. This became most dramatically evident when several important standing committees were unable to secure committee chairs. The issue was also raised in relation to the church's ability to match current income with current expenses. This issue of dealing with shrinking membership and diminished resources while at the same time having to confront increased expenses will be a church priority as the year continues.

Time constraints for inclusion within the newsletter limit my ability to provide greater detail or expand upon some of the issues raised at the Annual Meeting. Future issues of the newsletter will provide more information.

-Dean K. Denniston, Jr.

✦ INVITATION TO WALK A LABYRINTH

Cynthia and Dick Perkins invite members of the congregation to walk the labyrinth, which they have created on their property in Stow, MA, on Saturday, May 7th from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm.

At 9:30 we will gather for coffee and tea, and learn about the labyrinth—its nature, history, and recommendations for how to walk it. About 10:15 we will actually walk the labyrinth (or walk in the woods, if you prefer), then write our reflections. About 11:30 we will take a break, then share what was our experience, to the extent that we wish. At 12:30 we will end our time together by sharing in a pot-luck.

This invitation grew out of an Epiphany sermon that our Interim Minister delivered, which described the Labyrinth at Chartres Cathedral in France. Cynthia and Dick, as it turns out, had recently created their own and wish to share it with our members,

If interested please RSVP directly to Cynthia by Easter at cbhperkins@earthlink.net.

✦ NEW PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

We are pleased to announce that Elizabeth Sloane has been selected to serve as our next Parish Administrator. She will begin working with us on Tuesday, April 29th, and will maintain Tuesday through Friday hours. The Parish House will be closed on Mondays.

Elizabeth will assume all regular PA responsibilities, including the running of the office, production of publications, and the supervision of the Financial Administrator, administrative assistant, vergers, guides and sexton.

Elizabeth has worked in development for non-profits, including the Harvard and U. of Hawaii, as an officer in higher education, and taught history. She holds degrees from Wheaton College in MA and Yale Divinity School. Please welcome her.

- *Personal Committee*

FROM THE CHURCH SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Greetings from the Church School!

Here we are, looking forward to another Easter in which young and old alike come to Morning Prayer in their Easter Sunday best. And here we are, looking forward to another Easter Egg Hunt in the pews and aisles of the church.

This year, the Church School will be doing things a little differently with respect to the Easter Egg Hunt. We recognize that families typically have brunch or other activities scheduled after the service; thus, we have arranged to have a small breakfast offering and the Easter Egg Hunt *before* the service. Families wanting to participate should come to King's Chapel at 9:45 am on Easter Sunday.

I want to thank the Muscats and the Tranters in advance for coordinating this year's Easter Egg Hunt. This is an annual tradition that all who participate thoroughly enjoy. I share the kids' excitement as they spread throughout the church to find the many strategically placed chocolate- and toy-filled plastic eggs and that ever-elusive chocolate bunny!

Of course, in the Sundays leading up to Easter Sunday and the Easter Egg Hunt, the Church School will be busy with education, music, and art classes; collecting food for the Greater Boston Food Bank; implementing the Coming of Age/confirmation program; and preparing for Children's Sunday.

Thanks to all,
- Shannon Lee

❖ LENTEN PROJECT ON VIOLENCE AGAINST YOUTH

Last year in our church, we highlighted endangered species around our world and what we can do to protect them. This year we sharpen our gaze to violence in our city. We would like to add our voices of support to the Mothers for Justice and Equality (MJE), which provides children and their families with a restored sense of hope and purpose by reclaiming the identity of our city through collaboration and positive policy change.

To this end, we will place six pairs of sneakers in our church to remember the six youth under the age of seventeen, who were killed in 2010. They were *Deyquan Gomez of Mattapan, Andrew Tavares of Roxbury, Jaevon Martin of Dorchester, Ivol Brown of Mattapan, Amani Smith of Mattapan, and Emmanuel Loissaint of Dorchester.*

In addition, we are in conversation with the Rev. June Cooper of the CMS, who preached for us last summer. We invite you to join our Ministers in the annual Mother's Day March to support the Mothers for Justice and Equality; ph. 617-742-6830.

FROM THE ASSISTANT MINISTER

During the last two weeks have I observed with fascination as Christians the nation over have responded to Rob Bell's new book, *Love Wins: A Book about Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived*. The author, founding pastor of the Mars Hill Bible Church in Grand Rapids, MI, is one of a growing number of contemporary evangelical Christian leaders exploring universalist theology and its social implications. As a Christian and as a Unitarian Universalist minister, I find this increasing interest both disappointing and exciting. It is exciting that Bell and others are questioning orthodox Christian notions of Hell, but disappointing because the questions they are asking and the arguments they are making are hardly original.

Centuries before Rob Bell rearticulated the question, Hosea Ballou asked how a loving God could allow any part of the creation God had originally deemed "good" to suffer eternal damnation. Decades before Bell's congregation wrote its mission to work for "measurable change among the oppressed," Clarence Skinner articulated that a belief in humanity's worthiness of ultimate salvation shapes our response to human suffering and oppression in this world. And yet, Bell has an intriguing knack for reengaging these classic questions and assertions in ways relevant to people here and now.

Whether we are universalist in our theology or not, or even if we aren't sure, this is an important dialogue for us to consider during our Lenten journey toward Easter. For what we believe or don't believe about Heaven and Hell, about the scope of salvation, and about the earth and human nature, impacts how we understand who and what God is and isn't. As Easter nears, may we each come to know anew the Love from which we were created, in which we are sustained, and by which we are saved for better lives than we had once imagined possible.

In Christ,
-Kristin

❖ FROM THE ORDINATION OF OUR ASSISTANT MINISTER HELD ON MARCH 20, 2011 AT CEDAR LANE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH IN BETHESDA, MD



Thanks to Amy Meyer for representing King's Chapel and for taking this photo.

KING'S CHAPEL SERVICES

SUNDAY

King's Chapel is at the corner of School & Tremont Streets in downtown Boston. Sunday services begin at 11 a.m. and last for approximately one hour.

3 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Rev. Dianne Arakawa, preacher
Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt co-officiant
Carol Kemp, lector
*The lessons are 1 Samuel 16:1-13,
and John 9:1-41*

10 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Laura Everett, guest preacher
Associate Director of the Massachusetts
Council of Churches
Rev. Dianne Arakawa, co-officiant
Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt co-officiant
Pamela and Caroline Bergeron, lectors
*The lessons are Ezekiel 37:1-14,
and John 11:17-45*

17 Palm Sunday with Passion Narrative

Members, lay readers
Rev. Dianne Arakawa, co-officiant
Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt co-officiant
*Passion Narrative according to the Gospel of
Matthew*

24 Easter Sunday

Rev. Dianne Arakawa, preacher
Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt co-officiant
Dean Denniston, lector
*The lessons are Jeremiah 31:1-6,
and John 20:1-18*

TUESDAY RECITALS

Tuesday Recitals at King's Chapel present a variety of programs, featuring local and visiting musicians. Admission is by suggested donation of \$3; the donations are given to the performers. Programs begin at 12:15 p.m. and last approximately 35 minutes. For more information, please call 617/227-2155, or visit www.kings-chapel.org.

- 5 Bridgewater State University Chamber Singers— Steve Young, Director
Works by Victoria, Hassler, Busto, and more
- 12 Paris National Opera Children's Choir
Works by Bach, Franck, Fauré, and more
- 19 Noah Getz, Saxophone
Jacqueline Pollauf, harp
"Picture of Silence"
- 26 Rosewood Chamber Ensemble: Barbara Hopkins, flute; Judy Handler, guitar.
Songs and Dances of Early America

CHURCH SCHOOL & EVENTS

Every other Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the Little Chapel at the Parish House, 64 Beacon Street, from September to May.

3 Family Service & Church School

Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt will preach.

17 Holy Communion, & Church School

Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt will preach.
Rev. Dianne Arakawa will co-officiate

WEDNESDAY

Midweek prayer services begin at 12:15 p.m. and last approximately 35 minutes.

6 Midweek Prayer

Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt
Charles Dimino, lector

13 Midweek Prayer

TBA, preacher
Amy Meyer, lector

20 Holy Communion

Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt, preacher
Charles Dimino, lector

27 Midweek Prayer

Chaplain Dr. Arthur Judge, preacher
Cliff Allen, lector

FLOWERS

If you wish to donate flowers, please contact Louise Perkins, Chancel Committee Co-chair.

- 3 The flowers on the Communion table are given in loving memory of Katherine Whitney Thompson by her family.
- 10 The flowers on the Communion table are given in loving memory of Dierdre Barz, by her husband Edward and her daughters Jennifer and Pamela.
- 17 The flowers on the Communion table are given in loving memory of Elizabeth Livermore Forbes and F. Murray Forbes, Jr., in the month of Murry's birthday, Elizabeth's deathday and Lorna's birthday, from Lorna Forbes and Richard Holt.
- 24 Easter Lilies are given in memory of loved ones.

SECOND SUNDAY OFFERING

April's second Sunday offering will go to the Salvation Army for Japanese emergency relief. The Salvation Army has been in Japan since the 1890's.

NEWS FROM KING'S CHAPEL

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Aaron Stockwell, editor

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News from King's Chapel
64 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108

WITHIN THE PARISH

DEEP CONDOLENCES to the family and friends of the Rev. Dr. Peter Gomes, Chaplain of Harvard University, who died in March. A Memorial Service will be held on April 6th at 11am at Harvard's Memorial Church.

BEST WISHES to Shannon Lee and Jason Clark, who were married on March 26th at King's Chapel. Shannon is our Church School Director, and Kristin Grassel Schmidt performed the wedding.

CONGRATULATIONS to Aaron Stockwell who will serve as the Student Minister at the First Parish in Lincoln, MA beginning in the Fall of 2011.

HOLY WEEK 2011

APRIL 17-24

Palm Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday service of Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Good Friday at 12:15 p.m., including the Rev. Dr. Nick Carter,
Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, MA

Good Friday Tenebrae at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, East Vigil at 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday morning prayer 11:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt for children at 9:45 a.m.

APRIL 2011 EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Family Service & Church School 9:45 a.m. Morning Prayer 11:00a.m.		Midweek Recital 12:15 p.m. Church School Committee 6:00 p.m.	Midweek Prayer 12:15 p.m.	Music Committee 6:00 p.m.		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Morning Prayer 11:00a.m. <i>Detained</i> Documentary 1:00 pm.	Vestry Meeting 5:45 p.m.	Midweek Recital 12:15 p.m.	Holy Communion 12:15 p.m.		<i>May Newsletter Submission Dead- line</i>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Family Service & Church School 9:45 a.m. Palm Sunday 11:00a.m.		Midweek Recital 12:15 p.m.	Midweek Prayer 12:15 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion 5:30 p.m.	Good Friday Midweek Prayer 12:15 p.m. The Office of Tenebrae 8:00 p.m.	Holy Saturday Easter Vigil 8:00pm
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Easter Egg Hunt 9:45 a.m. Easter Sunday Morning Prayer 11:00a.m.	<i>Office Closed</i>	Midweek Recital 12:15 p.m. Parish Council 6:00 p.m.	Midweek Prayer 12:15 p.m.			

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Rev. Dianne E. Arakawa, Interim Senior Minister
The Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt, Assistant Minister
The Rev. Carl R. Scovel, Minister Emeritus
Heinrich Christensen, Director of Music
Pei-Chun Lin, Children's Music Director
Shannon Lee, Church School Director
Elizabeth Sloane, Parish Administrator

**POSTMASTER:
THIS CONTAINS TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL;
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY.**



Easter Flower Memorials

If you would like to contribute flowers for the Easter Service as a memorial to a loved one, please complete the information below or email it to frontdesk@kings-chapel.org.

Name of the person(s) being remembered (Print clearly)

Your Name, Address, Phone #, and email

Mail or email this information to Aaron Stockwell, King's Chapel Parish House, 64 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108 (frontdesk@kings-chapel.org). Please send a check for \$40 for each flower memorial and write "Easter Flowers" in the memo line.

Deadline for information is April 10, 2011