

www.fpcberlin.org
June 2018



The Record

Newsletter

First Parish Church in Berlin

A federated church, gathered 1779

United Church of Christ and Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
24 Central St. Berlin, Massachusetts 01503



Saturday, June 2
Big Sale Day
Plant sale, bake
sale,
Many Hands
Thrift Shoppe

Friday, June 8
First Parish
Pizza
Meeting House
5 – 7 pm
Eat in or take home



Sunday, June 10
Children's Sunday
Music Sunday
Meeting House
10 am



Happy Summer!
June 21 Summer Solstice

Sunday worship 9:30 am
July & August

From the Minister

This month our transition work at FPC will come to a close. Although the work of improving your way of doing things at FPC will be an on-going effort, still you've accomplished quite a lot. Here are some highlights:

1. A leadership retreat was held off site with the Council, Transition Team, and Search Committee. Goals were established for the year and there was a new recognition of the importance of Council leadership.
2. A major gathering of old and new members was held and attendees got to learn new things about each other.
3. You inducted six new members
4. You had the church driveway repaved.
5. You had memorial services for seven members:
Alan Wheeler
Eleanor Zwicker
Florence Munter
John Nietzel
Nancy Dominici
Roger Wheeler
William Beauchaine
6. The Council is revitalizing the RE Committee
7. Workshop to share thoughts on the identity of the church (cereal box collages)
8. Workshops (3) to create a mission statement for the church
9. Two baby dedications

Not to mention all of the great services that have happened during my tenure, including the memorable Blessing of the Animals, "Me Too", Black Lives Matter, two Passover Seders, two Winter Solstice services, hosting the Baccalaureate, numerous communion services.

I predict a great future for this church. In the two years I've served you, I have come to love you and admire your willingness to work hard and keep going no matter what. I am not the same minister I was when I arrived. How could I be? I like what I've learned from you and I will think of you often.

--Frieda

Gathering in Spiritual
Community....
Many paths,
Many beliefs,
Stronger together.

First Parish Church of Berlin

Services for June:

June 3 rd	Communion Sunday
June 10 th	Children's & Music Sunday
June 17	TBD
June 24	TBD



Yes, You Can!

I recently attended a workshop at the UU Church in Haverhill given by Jason Shelton on his new publication *"Cycle of Song"* which features music for small choirs. Robyn Tarantino and I represented First Parish Church of Berlin in a massed choir of over 150 participants who joined their voices to learn, rehearse, and finally present 8 new anthems that Jason composed to meet the needs of UU churches that have small choirs, often with few male voices. You may hear some of this new music in the next Choir season beginning in September.

Music Sunday this year will be on June 10th, and the Choir will present a number of anthems that we have sung earlier this year, as well as a new anthem recommended by Joni Bergen. Evy Dueck, and perhaps one of her daughters, will join us that day to celebrate with their instrumental talents as well.

The choir season is coming to a close soon, with our last choir Sunday on Father's Day, June 17th. There are no rehearsals during the Summer, but we begin again just after Labor Day in September. If your schedule allows it, why not consider lending your talent to the Senior Choir. Remember: it will help keep you both physically and mentally fit!

Bob Specian
Choir Director

Beezy's Journal installment #1 An Account of Her Most Recent Trip

As many of you know, Beezy Bentzen has a special relationship with Jhamtse Gatsal., which is a community, a school, and a home for about 90 children ranging in age from toddler to adolescent. Jhamtse Gatsal lies in the district of Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh, India, and the children come from nearby villages. The name is Tibetan for "garden of love and compassion," and strives to serve the neediest.

May 22.

I left Boston in the evening for my 16th visit to Jhamtse Gatsal. Because I had been suffering with some knee pain in recent weeks, I ordered a wheelchair at the London, Amsterdam and Delhi airports. Unfortunately, the wheelchair service in London took me to the wrong terminal, and by the time I then walked slowly, with my walking stick, to the correct terminal, I'd missed my flight to Amsterdam. Fortunately, there was another flight quite soon, and I managed to make my flight from Amsterdam to Delhi. But my luggage, carrying precious and eagerly awaited messages and small gifts from sponsors to their sponsored children did not arrive in Delhi with me at 1:45 am on May 24.

May 24

I was quite tired when I arrived in Delhi, and was truly grateful that a friend met me at

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the international terminal and transported me to the domestic terminal, where I left at 7:40 am for the two-hour flight to Guwahati, the principal city of Assam, on the Brahmaputra River. In Guwahati I was met by Kesang and Sonam, Jhamtse Gatsal staff members who are staying in an apartment in Guwahati during the time that Jhamtse graduates are taking exams for admission into various universities. Some of the exams are given in Guwahati, but some of the students travel from here to other locations in India. Exam scores are the principal factor determining where students get to go for their post-secondary studies.

Pema is here now. She has already taken the exam for one medical college, and will be taking two more. As I write, she's studying physics (optics) for her exam on May 26. She just asked me to explain "subtend." Phurpa is here studying for her second exam for a college where she wants to study social work.

These amazing, loving girls gave me a luxurious leg and foot massage before I collapsed for a nap.

May 25

I expected to get up early and go to the airport, where Vasudha had arranged my journey to Tawang by chopper (helicopter). My luggage was to have been delivered to the apartment, but it hadn't come when we left. The plan was that Sonam would bring it to Jhamtse Gatsal with her when she left this afternoon by road. As we drove across the city to the airport, I noticed the very dark skies, so I wasn't surprised to learn that the chopper would not be flying today, so we returned to the apartment.

I enjoyed a head massage from Pema while waiting for the new driver, Milan, to arrive from Jhamtse Gatsal. She used an oil that was advertised to strengthen the brain as well as the hair. The thought of strengthening both was very appealing—but I didn't enjoy the thought of washing my hair in cold water for a second time today.

While I was relaxing under Pema's massage, we received word that my luggage was now in Mumbai, and wouldn't be delivered until tomorrow! In Mumbai, where there are only two direct flights to Guwahati each day, while there are multiple flights from Delhi to Guwahati....

Milan arrived, together with Tenzin, the geography teacher for older students at Jhamtse Gatsal, who had been vacationing at home in Ladakh, and was now returning to Jhamtse. We enjoyed a meal of rice, dal and mixed vegetables, and then received news that my luggage would arrive at 10:30 am tomorrow. Should I believe it? It surely hope it's not in never-never land, with all the correspondence to the kids lost.

May 26

Milan, Sonam and I, whiled away a few hours at a KFC near Guwahati airport. The chopper was canceled again today, but my luggage finally arrived about noon. All's well if I expect nothing.

I had to use the toilet, which was in an outdoor toilet block back at the airport, about 200 meters away. An Asian toilet, of course, but my squatters are OK. Not so my leg. Despite a good sit-down rest along the way, I was in excruciating pain for some time when I got back to the vehicle, an Indian Scorpio, a Jeep-like vehicle which is good for the rugged journey to Jhamtse Gatsal.

Reunited with my luggage, Sonam and I were finally ready to head for Jhamtse Gatsal, with Milan at the wheel. The next stop would be Tezpur, about 5 hours east, on a road on the south side of the mighty, broad, Brahmaputra River which was rarely in sight until we crossed it on bridge near Tezpur that I expect is about a mile wide.

I was remembering the first time I crossed this river, near Lhasa in Tibet in 1998. I was with a group of trekkers from the Appalachian Mountain Club. We had finished our trek in the mountains and were back on the 12,000 foot high Tibetan plateau, ready to return to the airport, across the river. In Tibet, this river is the Yarlung Tsangpo. Its source is Mt. Kailash in western Tibet. From there it flows east for probably a thousand miles, and then makes a big bend in a deep gorge with a huge waterfall, flowing south, then east again, in

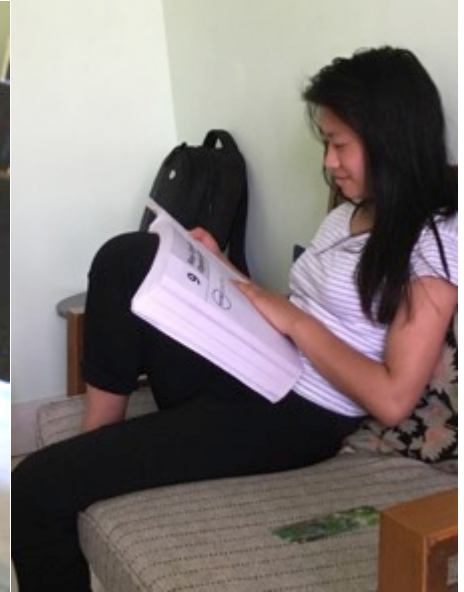
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in the Indian states of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, and finally south again, through Bangladesh and into the Bay of Bengal. In its annual springtime flooding, many people are displaced, but the silt increases the fertility of the broad delta where it empties into the Bay of Bengal. We crossed that time on a small wooden barge, which carried only our vehicle, a small bus, and ourselves. The crossing took about an hour, propelled by what seemed little more than a whirlygig at the end of a long stick which was a tiller wielded by the boatman. Today I was conscious that I was also crossing water contributed by the two powerful rivers that formed the Jhamtse ridge, the Tawang Chu and the Namjang Chu.

I have to learn that I control absolutely nothing on this journey.

But I am unfailingly provided for with greatest kindness. Sonam massaged my legs again before I went to sleep.



Update From the Ministerial Search Committee

The search committee has gone through two neutral pulpit exercises this last month and is focused on a promising potential candidate. We should have news of this by the end of June...either success or next steps!

-Thomas Andrew, Audrey McNickol, Jean Valchuis, Wendy Rogalinski, Barry Eager

Big Day Sale at FPC! June 2, 2018

How can you participate? I'm so glad you asked! You could plan to help set up on Friday....or plan to bake for the bake sale.....or plan to shop at the plant sale or Many Hands Thrift Shoppe....or bring a friend so they can shop....or plan to help clean up.

Call Jim McNickol (508-981-5969) to volunteer.



Congratulations, Cindy!

The daughter of Alfred and Edith Brewer, Dr. Cynthia A. Bautista, PhD, RN, CNRN, SCRNP, CCNS, ACNS-BC, FNCS, associate professor in the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies has been named the 2018 Alpha Sigma Nu undergraduate Teacher of the Year. This award is bestowed yearly upon one graduate and one undergraduate teacher, as a result of student feedback. Alpha Sigma Nu is the only honor society permitted to bear the name Jesuit. It recognizes those who distinguish themselves in scholarship, loyalty, and service. The society encourages its members to a lifetime pursuit of intellectual development, deepening ignatian spirituality, service to others, and a commitment to the core principles of Jesuit education.

She is also a Neuroscience Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) at Yale New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Conn, and owns Nursing Brains, LLC, which provides continuing education seminars for hospitals, universities, and conferences on a variety of neuroscience nursing topics.

Dr. Bautista currently teaches courses and clinics on medical surgical nursing, DNP seminars, and fundamentals of nursing care, in which she says she's able to share her passion for caring for the most vulnerable and critically ill without forgetting one of the most important medications: a little dose of humor.

"What an honor to be recognized by my students for my ability to provide them with inspiration, passion, and to be a role model as they venture to become the next generation of nurses. With support from the University and the values of the Jesuit Mission, I can facilitate the students in becoming leaders for their community." she said.

Bautista is a graduate of Assabet Valley Vocational High School, earned her BSN from Salem State College in Salem, MA., her MSN in Adult Health from Louisiana State University Medical Center, in New Orleans, La., her PhD from the University of Rhode Island's College of Nursing in Kingston, RI. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, MuChi Chapter; the American Association of Critical Care Nurses; American Association of Neuroscience Nursing; World Federation of Neuroscience Nursing; Neurocritical Care Society; Eastern Nursing Research Society; Society of Critical Care Medicine, and American Nurses Association – Connecticut State Nurses Association.





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Tues, Thurs 10 - 2
or by appointment.
Administrator's hours
are flexible, so please
call ahead. 978-838-
2575

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



www.fpcberlin.org

First Parish Pizza on Friday, June 8

Last pizza night...until
September! Remember that
you can take home a First
Parish pizza wrapped for your
freezer.

Pizza buffet 5 – 7 pm in the
Meeting House or take home
14" rounds

Cheese, Veggie, Pepperoni
all home-made
Call 978.838.2964 after 3 pm
on Friday to place your order.



June Specials:

- Make-a-wish Meat (ask what's available when you order—we are emptying the freezer...)
- Mashed Potato

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Summer Solstice June 21

Rev. Frieda Gillespie, minister Joyce Andrews, secretary
Robert Specian, choir director Robert Cunningham, pianist