

www.fpcberlin.org
October 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



Pizza Night
Friday, Oct. 12
Meeting House
5 – 7 pm
All You Care to
Eat Buffet

Church Fair
Organizational
Meeting
Monday, Oct. 15
Meeting House
7 pm



Pie-making for the Fair
Sunday,
Oct. 21
Meeting
House
Starts at 3



Water Communion, Oct. 7
“Call Me to Come to You on
the Water”

We're hoping to see you this Sunday, October 7 for a special Water Communion ritual. Unlike water communions you may have experienced in the past, for this service you won't need to bring anything other than your appreciation for the various waters in our lives.



From the Minister

Hello, dear church:

This month I'm starting in earnest as your minister. It's been an extra exciting time for me. Last Saturday I was invited into preliminary fellowship as a Unitarian Universalist minister, which means I am now able to be ordained. It was an incredibly rewarding experience. The committee expressed utmost confidence in and excitement for my ministry. I can't express how rewarding it was to receive that support.

Starting next week I will be in Berlin every Tuesday and Wednesday, most Sundays, and occasional Friday evenings and Saturdays. My hope is to connect with all of you during my Berlin visits, so please don't be alarmed if you get a phone call or email from me! I just want to get to know you and learn about your hopes for the church and needs from me and our church community.

If you want to make an appointment for me to come see you at your home, please contact me at minister@fpcberlin.org or call my cell phone at (505) 670-4157. (Please forgive my New Mexico area code! It keeps me connected in some small way to my beloved homeland.)

You can also plan to make an appointment to see me during my office hours on Tuesday from 1-5. I'm also planning to be at 19 Carter occasionally during their Community Coffees on Wednesdays. So: I'm eager to meet you out and about, and to talk with you further one on one and in small groups so that I might learn more about your lives and loves.

Until then, deepest blessings.

Your minister,
Janet

P.S. Please continue to wear your nametags in church – I'm doing my best, but I had to do a lot of study for that fellowship interview and I don't want to accidentally confuse you with some famous Universalist minister from the 1800s.

The Friendship Village Fair Shoppe and GIANT Yard Sale will happen on

Sat. Nov. 3, 8 – 3 & Sun. Nov. 4, 11 – 2

Everyone is invited to participate as they are able.

Are you a baker? Can you knit? Would you like to make cider using our press? Do you have treasures that could be donated? Have you placed a SERV order? Do you have yard sale items? Can you help on Fair Day? Can you help clean up on Sunday?

We are seeking hand crafted items (knitting, sewing, ..), home-made jams, jellies, relishes, used/new jewelry, antique treasures, baked goods, cornstalks, pumpkins and gourds, apples. Please call Peter Wheeler (508.395.2215) if you need yard sale items picked up. Contact Audrey McNickol (508.981.5815) or Joni Bergen (508.380.7168) to volunteer or donate Shoppe items.



There will be an organizational Fair Meeting on Monday, Oct. 15, 7 pm in the Meeting House.

**Pie-making for the Fair
Sunday, Oct. 21 3 - ? all are welcome to come help**



From the Property Committee...FYI



We have several BIG property issues at First Parish. The boiler in Children's Church/Parish Hall must be replaced; the congregation voted on Sunday, Sept. 30 to do so for the cost of \$19,000. We are seeking donations towards that expense.

The Meeting House well water does not meet some drinking water standards. We are supplying safe water to the kitchen, but we must solve the water supply problem. The well piping and casing are being investigated, and we are working with the state DEP.



Noteworthy

The month of September has come and gone, and we have enjoyed singing some new repertoire for the Congregation. Robyn Tarantino and I attended a workshop in Haverhill this past May, where we learned and performed 8 newly composed pieces by the composer/Music Director, Jason Shelton. He has written his first collection of pieces with the smaller choir in mind, and the Choir will be singing a number of these new pieces throughout the year, "We Bid you Welcome" being the first because, of course, all are welcome here at FPC of Berlin!

We've also enjoyed singing with and listening twice to Serge Paul-Emile, our talented flautist, who accompanied us on another new anthem, "Lord, Lead Me, Lord". It's always a joy to be able to hear Serge's dulcet tones adding so much to the overall effect of an anthem!

Now that family schedules have been worked out for the Fall, here's an invitation to join the Choir at rehearsal on any Thursday night at 7:30 PM in the Meetinghouse. We especially will need another soprano now that Lulu Fite will be spending most of her time in her new home up in the Lake District of New Hampshire. All singers, however, are invited to come give it a try!! Remember, just as FPC Berlin is a Welcoming Congregation, we are also a Welcoming Choir!

Bob Specian
Choir Director

A Heartfelt Thank You

With your prayers, cards, thoughts, visits, and the wonderful support from my family, my recovery is improving every day. Hopefully I will be able to return to church late November or December to meet the new Minister and see all of you. I have to learn to how to relax with this new body at 80. It may take some time for me to accomplish this new way of life. Giving up the things I enjoyed doing is hard. Thanks again for all your support and prayers.

Edie Brewer

Ed.: Apologies! Edie is very active in many areas of FPC, especially behind the scenes. I vow to get some good pictures of her soon.



Gentle Reader: We are in the process of updating mailing lists. If you are receiving the Record in your preferred format, you need not contact us. If you aren't getting the Record and would like to, OR if you aren't getting the Record in your preferred format (and yes, you can get both forms, e-Record and paper copy) please let me know...by email to record@fpcberlin.org, by phone (978.838.2104) or by mail (FPC, 24 Central St., Berlin, MA 01503).





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Minster's Office Hours
Tues 1 - 5
or by appointment.

Building Use
Coordinator Email:
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secretary's hours are
flexible, so please call
ahead. 978-838-2575



Sunday worship
10 a.m.

www.fpcberlin.org

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Dare to try Pumpkin Pizza??

Friday, October 12, 5 – 7 pm is Pizza
Night at FPC!

All-you-care-to-eat buffet [which
includes pizza, salad, choice of drink,
dessert] \$9 adult/\$5 kid 12 and
under/under 3 eat free

Take-out (baked or unbaked) 14" rounds

In addition to the two monthly specials (\$15), we always have

- Very Veggie \$14
- Cheese \$13
- Pepperoni \$14

October Specials \$15

- Pumpkin and friends (yes, really)!
- Philly Cheesesteak



Janet Newton, minister
Robert Specian, choir director Robert Cunningham, pianist