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**STAFF**

Interim Minister, Rev, Bert Marshall  
Assistant to the Pastor, Nancy Fowler  
Director of Music, Eric Tuper-Giles  
Bookkeeper, Kathy Adams  
Sexton, Neal Upham



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**Summer Office Hours**

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Rev. Bert Marshall will be in the office:

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesdays

Nancy Fowler will be in the office:

Alternating Tuesdays and Wednesdays

8:30-1:30

Thursdays

8:30-1:30pm

*Rev. Bert or Nancy will be checking the voicemail regularly if you miss us at the office.*

## From Our Interim Pastor, Sometimes in Summer

*Rev. Bert Marshall*



Sometimes, in summer, the mind wanders off to look for distant realms, to seek the outer edges of thought, to tramp about in those vast regions of possibility that exist outside the little boxes in which we all enclose ourselves. I picture myself sitting in a small bookstore and café on the waterfront in Halifax, Nova Scotia – a place I frequented while on sabbatical, and return to every year. I like the way the smells of coffee and books merge in the air inside that café. There are voices, too, in the dark heavy wood of the bookshelves and tables, whispering of revolution. Plotting the next uprising against the system. Planning the downfall of the oppressors. Drawing the new blueprints for a just society, free of poverty and racism and violence.

I know. Revolutionaries are idealists and revolutions are the convulsions that lead to the next encrusted dogmatic system that eventually needs reforming.



**Worship time 9:30 am**

**July 29, Union Service**

**10 am** First Church

Universalist

**August 26, Union Service**

**10 a.m.** Church of the Good

Shepherd Episcopal

### **Special Music this Summer**

**July 8-** Eric Tuper-Giles and  
Maggie Sample

**July 22-** Rev. Bert Marshall

**August 12-** Ritva LaFlower

**If you did not receive a  
directory they are still  
available in the narthex.**

**Can you donate "bars"  
for the Heritage Festival?**



Humanity still searches for the perfect way to organize itself into societies and communities. From the ancient Middle East and the ancient Greeks and Romans, to the feudal societies of medieval Europe; from the ancient (continued on page 2)

tribal and nomadic societies in Asia and Africa, to agricultural communities and religious orders; from indigenous civilizations to monarchies, dictatorships, and democracies – humanity still seeks a basis for communal relationships that will establish peace, justice, fairness, equity, and dignity for all the world's people. Meanwhile, there is always a need, somewhere, for liberation.

During my sabbatical back in 2003 I frequently sat in that subversive little café in Halifax working on my Gospel of Mark project. The gospel always seemed to feel right at home there, revolutionary ferment escaping from each page and mingling with those rich coffee and book aromas in the air. I could picture Jesus and his followers hanging out in a café like that, planning their next move, talking about the previous day's events over a cup of java. A bunch of revolutionaries plotting to spring the kingdom of God on the world by surprise. You gotta watch out for these people. They look suspicious. They hang with all the wrong crowds. And they have this radical idea about community based upon compassion, grace, nonviolence, forgiveness, and love.

The whole thing seems impractical, I know. Idealistic beyond any sensible application in real life. When the going gets tough, the tough start blasting away. And the first thing that gets blown to smithereens is the Sermon on the Mount, along with a few other hopelessly idealistic teachings of Jesus.

Every summer the cafes and underground bookstores fill up with revolutionaries. They are reading the Gospels. They gather around the big table in the corner where the dark wood shelves whisper rebellion and the coffee is flowing like a sweet river. When Jesus walks in they offer him a fresh cup. No one else recognizes him. He sits. Life is good. The kingdom of God has come near.

## **Barre Heritage Festival- July 27-28**

Marjorie and Ernie Wheeler are looking for lots of 3 x 3 bars or chocolate chip cookies to sell at the booth during this year's Heritage Festival. Marjorie has requested that the bars be pre-cut and not to need refrigeration. Cookies will be sold for 3 for \$1.00 and each bar is a \$1.00. They will also need people to sign up for shifts to work in the booth both Friday and Saturday. There are sign ups on the bulletin board in the narthex or you may contact Marjorie at 802.498.5266.

## **Chicken Pie Supper - September 28, 2018**

Marjorie Wheeler has agreed to be the champion of this year's Chicken Pie Supper and she will need lots of help! There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex or you may contact Marjorie at 802.498.5266.

## **Mission and Outreach News**

**Breakfast Ministry-** Remember we serve breakfast every Tuesday and the 2nd-3rd Saturdays. If you are interested in helping out, please call Bev Thomas at 476-6968.

**Laundry Love** July 24, August 28- If you would like to help out with this monthly ministry, please call Darlene Clark, 479-9120.

**Annual Gobble Wobble Turkey Trot- November 22.** We will be looking for sponsors for the t-shirts and volunteers to help out the day of this race. A meeting date will be coming soon.

## **BOUTIQUE BAZAAR- NOVEMBER 10, 2018**

The BCC is having a Boutique Bazaar. We are looking for items to sell and people to help. We need pies, cakes, crafts, jellies, jams, homemade pickles, fudge, candy, good used china or glassware, and books. If you are talented and make something, please make something to donate to this event. A one of a kind item would be wonderful, such as a painting.

If you are cleaning out this summer, we are also looking for used purses, scarves and jewelry in good condition. If you have jewelry that needs to be restrung, we can fix it. Maybe some of you would like get together and make some jewelry.

This fundraiser is for the church and the proceeds will buy a television for the nursery and pay for the cost of lives streaming the worship service to the nursery space downstairs.

If you are willing to help in any way, please see or call Pam Murphy (814-244-5900) or the church office at (476-3065). We need all of us working together for this to be a success.

**PROPOSED TIMELINE for the INTERIM PERIOD  
Barre Congregational Church UCC**

**2018**

- May 20** Interim Minister begins
- Summer** Minister & Congregation getting acquainted  
Assemble a Transition Team (3 or 4 church members) who will help the Interim Minister organize and facilitate activities and projects for the interim process
- September** Begin series of small group conversations  
8 – 10 people in each group  
Gather in someone's home or at the church  
Discuss and reflect on the 3 interim questions:  
*Who are we?*  
*Who are our neighbors?*  
*Who is God calling us to be?*  
Involve as many of the congregation as possible, over a period of several months, through the end of the year (stopping for Advent).  
Each meeting will be facilitated by the Pastor and a member of the Transition Team  
A scribe will take notes at each meeting and notes will be collated

**BREAK for Advent & Christmas**

**2019**

- January** Finish small group conversations if necessary. *Everyone* should have an opportunity to attend one.
- Form the Search Committee (recommend 7 people)

Circulate nomination form and criteria  
Receive nominations  
Council appoints Search Committee according to criteria  
Search Committee is commissioned in worship

February	Search Committee begins its work Search Committee meets with VT Conference staff
March	Transition Team continues its work Create church historical timeline, involve all groups in the Congregation
April	Devote a couple of worship services to specific interim tasks to assist the Search Committee (Interim Minister has resources for this)
June June	Search Committee completes first draft of Church Profile Search Committee revises and finishes Church Profile
July or August	Church Profile approved by Conference office Church Profile is posted on the National UCC website Search Committee vacations in the Bahamas
September	Search Committee receives and reads ministerial profiles Search Committee meets with Conference staff to learn and discuss next steps in the process: reading the profiles, identifying possible candidates, creating interview questions and protocols, mock interview, etc.
Fall	Search Committee schedules and conducts interviews Search Committee identifies a candidate Search Committee goes to hear candidate lead worship and preach at a neutral pulpit Search Committee votes <i>unanimously</i> to recommend candidate for call A candidating Sunday is scheduled, candidate leads worship and preaches, congregation votes

**2020**

January	A candidate is (or has been) called, a start date is set, and the new era begins
February or	The Interim Minister departs just prior to the new settled pastor's start date
March	A service of parting is held in worship for the Interim Minister on his final Sunday

This is an approximate timeline, of course. It depends upon a number of variables and circumstances beyond anyone's control; i.e. unforeseen issues arising during the interim time; the number of ministerial profiles received; the availability of candidates; length of notice your final candidate will have to give (usually 60 – 90 days). The average interim time will take *approximately* two years.

I also recommend holding at least two church retreats during the interim time – spiritual retreats devoted to prayer, silence, singing, scripture, being together in a location other than the church as the people of God. These can be planned by the Pastor and the Transition Team.

I will be asking the church committees and teams to devote at least one (or more) of their regular meetings to discuss the five focus areas of the church relevant to the Profile categories: heritage, mission, connections, leadership, and your future. More details about those categories will be made available when we get to that point.

In addition, the Search Committee will be surveying members of the congregation concerning information needed in the Church Profile.

I will be preaching periodically on aspects of the interim time.

Perhaps most importantly, it is absolutely essential that we all pray for our church and for each other during this time. We are seeking to discern God's will and purpose for this congregation going forward. We are seeking to grow into a future that is faithful, true to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and a beacon of light to all with whom we minister, in the community and around the world.

I'm feeling blessed and grateful to be walking with you on this journey. Rev. Bert

The Ordination to Ministry

of

Laura J. Cadmus

Sunday, July 22, 2018

3:00 pm

Barre Congregational Church

All are invited and to wear some red.

Pride Sunday



On Sunday, July 15, we will celebrate a belated Pride Sunday, with Jeffrey Tuper-Giles bringing the message. June is normally Pride month but it was difficult to schedule this year, with Rev. Bert having just arrived and the final Sunday being an ecumenical union service. Please plan to be here, as we are an Open & Affirming congregation and this is one way to bear witness to that part of our identity and mission.

**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

Janice Aldrich	Jul 1
Edwin Locke	Jul 1
Lynn Anne Lajeunesse	Jul 1
Nancy Comolli	Jul 1
Donald Allen	Jul 3
Hallie Bellavance	Jul 7
Patricia MacDonald	Jul 8
Hollie Friot	Jul 10
Kyle Wheeler	Jul 10
Karin Morrow	Jul 13
Fred Grubb	Jul 13
Larry Wade	Jul 16
Howard Martel	Jul 17
Cindy Hooker	Jul 18
Avery Bellavance	Jul 20
Adam Tosi	Jul 20
Carol Ellison	Jul 21
Ralph Brown	Jul 22
Elaine Boyce	Jul 24
Don Heuerman	Jul 26
Anita Friot	Jul 31

**August Birthdays**

Nancy O'Leary	Aug 1
Stacy Anderson	Aug 4
Jean Andreson	Aug 6
Robert Pope	Aug 6
Linda West	Aug 7
Lindsey Benton	Aug 9
Polly Boothe	Aug 15
Andrea Wasson	Aug 15
Chuck Boothe	Aug 15
Rylee Bellavance	Aug 15
Katherine Blakely	Aug 18
Anna Coon	Aug 22
Angela Bisson	Aug 22
Chris Donahue	Aug 23
Kerrick Johnson	Aug 24
Jackie Johnson	Aug 25
Wendell Rose	Aug 28
Christine Rousseau	Aug 28
Cheryl Zanleoni	Aug 29
Linda Comstock	Aug 29
Lucinda Bellavance	Aug 31
Jay Copping	Aug 31

## Prayer of Awareness



The peace of morning's stillness  
the peace of new beginnings  
the peace of heaven's kiss  
to welcome us to this day  
to root us in this day  
to free us for this day  
that we may grow with the greening earth  
that we may grow in grateful wonder of You  
Gracious Giver of this day  
Great Giver of this new day.

-John Philip Newell

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Barre Congregational Church  
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[www.barrecongregational.org](http://www.barrecongregational.org)