

Newsletter - May 2010

Massachusetts Bay District of Unitarian Universalist Congregations



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Join MBD Congregations @ Boston Pride March

If your congregation would like to
march behind the MBD banner at
Boston's 40th annual Gay Pride
Parade on June 12, please be in
touch with [Meck Groot](#).

Events @ Congregations

To see what's coming up at
congregations, check out the
congregation calendar on the MBD
website [here](#).

Announcing the 2010 Woburn Grant Recipients

Woburn Fund grants are awarded each year to MBD congregations engaged in projects supporting growth, leadership development, and multigenerational ministry. This year the Woburn grants panel reviewed 18 proposals totaling \$86,000. The panel recommended nine grants totaling \$29,000. This year's recipients include:

- Arlington Street Church - \$2,300 in support of religious education for pre-school-aged children
- First Parish in Bedford - \$2,500 for driver/van to transport disabled/elderly congregants to church
- Universalist Church of Essex - \$2,000 in salary support for paid youth advisor
- Follen Church Society in Lexington - \$2,850 in salary support for membership coordinator
- UU Church of Haverhill - \$3,000 to improve accessibility of sanctuary through improved sound system
- MBD Young Adult Ministry Program - \$6,150 in salary support for district-wide young adult ministry pilot
- Salem Unitarian - \$2,700 in salary support for paid youth advisor
- First Parish of Watertown - \$5,000 in salary support for paid religious education teachers
- Winchester Unitarian Society - \$2,500 for scholarships for young adult participation in multigenerational service trips/projects

Congratulations to all recipients!

New Director of Leadership Development



Clara Barton and Mass Bay Districts
are very excited to announce that



we have named Doug Zelinski as Director of Leadership Development under the new shared staffing arrangement between the districts. Doug will begin his duties on July 1,

2010.

Doug will develop infrastructure for training and support of key lay leaders in our congregations. He will also share many district staff functions such as leading training programs, assisting in staff and ministerial transitions, responding to congregational requests for assistance, and deepening UU identity.

Doug has served three years as the Leadership Development Consultant for the Metro New York District of the UUA. Prior to that, he honed his skills during 20 years of organizational development work with human service nonprofit agencies as well as city and county government.

His experience ranges from program evaluation, metrics identification and management, to board development and community-wide planning. He is familiar with the challenges of congregational lay leadership roles, occupying many of them during his time with the First UU Church of Columbus, Ohio.

Doug will be relocating to the Clara Barton district over the summer. His partner of seventeen years, Steve Schack, is an elementary school teacher for the Columbus City School system. Doug looks forward to serving both Districts by providing the tools, know-how and inspiration to create healthy vital congregations. Doug may be contacted at dzelinski@uua.org.

Please join us in welcoming Doug to his new position!

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First Parish in Bedford receives Pickett Award!

The First Parish in Bedford has been awarded the Eugene O. Pickett award for their outstanding contribution to the growth of Unitarian Universalism. This congregation, founded in 1729, has grown steadily in numbers in recent years and has been a vital presence in their community and within Unitarian Universalism as a whole. They are regularly featured in Boston area newspapers for their innovative programming. A Welcoming Congregation, they are dedicated to partnership with many others in causes of social justice locally, nationally and internationally. This award will be presented formally at General Assembly and to the congregation in the fall.

Check out their [website](#) for more details about this wonderful congregation. Congratulations!

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[Meck Groot](#), Editor
[Massachusetts Bay District of UU Congregations](#)

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