



THE UNITARIAN CHURCH

IN FALL RIVER.

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Summer in New England... and we plan to work in the yard but it is either too nice not to go to the beach or somewhere like that, or it's too hot to work outside, or we have too many other things on the to-do list that we can't do the fun summer things we'd rather do. Or we get underway and find the traffic unbelievable, or it could be any of a hundred other reasons to have to change our plans, for the better or otherwise.

New Englanders know better than to expect summer to be easy and for all our plans to work out the way we planned them, assuming we did make plans rather than just a vague set of goals or options regarding what we might do on a given day.

Still, while we may not look forward to some of the tasks and obligations that the season puts on us, we do enjoy the at least occasional chances we have in the summer to do things that we can't do at other times of the year. Like going to the beach on a Sunday morning, perhaps? Or sitting in the yard reading a book or the paper, and watching the clouds and the birds. Or planting and growing things, partly just for the feelings that doing projects like that can bring forth.

To see the Summer Sky
Is Poetry, though
never in a Book it
lie —
True Poems flee.

— *Emily Dickinson*

Summer is a time when we can, at least sometimes, relax without feeling guilty that we aren't working on something important on the to do list, when we may take a vacation or at least a break from our usual routine, and when we can be, we hope, a little more open to the unexpected and unplanned. Not that it always works out quite as well as we might have hoped, but that is still part of our hope and our attitude, part of what sets summer apart from the rest of our year.

Can we at least think about keeping that attitude alive during the rest of the year? Worth a try?

— *C.F. Flagg*

Service every Sunday at 10:30 Followed by Coffee and Fellowship (and something more the first Sunday of the month)

August 30th Keeping Our Cool

September 19th Religion, Faith, and Reality

September 5th Labor Day in Today's
World

September 26th In Autumn's Colors

September 12th What Do You Want from
the Church?

October 3rd Looking to the Future



MUSINGS

Lets see if anyone reads and responds to the newsletter. Kit Tunney, thank you for your contributions to the newsletter. Without your help it would be a joyless task. Thank you to the Pettenati's for their help in cleaning out the play ground. It is starting to look a lot better. Our neighbors are holding their Annual Greek Festival on September 18th and 19th in our parking lot. Remember to help them out with your support. The "Even Start" program with the YMCA, which was housed in our building, has ended. Now would be the time to do a thorough cleaning of the building and bring it back to a good state. Anyone interested? With Labor Day fast approaching, what do you think about trying to organize a field trip to the October 9th Waterfire in Providence? We could all meet at a restaurant, for a pre-fire dinner; or a pot luck at church beforehand. It will be too chilly for a picnic, although that would have been nice. What follows on the next page, is the evening's overview. Check out their web site if you haven't already done that. You can also follow or click on the links in this newsletter (if you are receiving it electronically) for lots of information. And let us know what you think. The next meeting of the Standing Committee will be held on September 13th at 7 pm at the church. Greeters each week would be a nice addition

LABOR DAY

Labor Day is a [United States federal holiday](#) observed on the first Monday in September (September 6 in 2010). The first Labor Day in the United States was celebrated on September 5, 1882 in New York City.^[1] In the aftermath of the deaths of a number of workers at the hands of [the US military](#) and [US Marshals](#) during the 1894 [Pullman Strike](#), President [Grover Cleveland](#) put reconciliation with Labor as a top political priority. Fearing further conflict, legislation making Labor Day a national holiday was rushed through [Congress](#) unanimously and signed into law a mere six days after the end of the strike.^[2] [All U.S. states](#) have made Labor Day a [state holiday](#).

The form for the celebration of Labor Day was outlined in the first proposal of the holiday: A street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit corps of the trade and labor organizations," followed by a festival for the workers and their families. This became the pattern for Labor Day celebrations. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civil significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday proceeding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the [labor movement](#).

Traditionally, Labor Day is celebrated by most Americans as the symbolic end of the [summer](#). The holiday is often regarded as a day of rest and parades. Speeches or political demonstrations are more low-key although events held by labor organizations often feature political themes and appearances by candidates for office, especially in election years. Forms of celebration include picnics, barbecues, fireworks displays, water sports, and public art events. Families with school-age children take it as the last chance to travel before the end of summer recess. Similarly, some teenagers and young adults view it as the last weekend before returning to school. However, start dates for schools vary widely, beginning as early as July 24 in urban districts such as Atlanta, Miami, and Los Angeles.

In U.S. sports, Labor Day marks the beginning of the [NFL](#) and [college football](#) seasons. NCAA teams usually plays their first games the week before Labor Day, with the NFL traditionally playing their [first game](#) the Thursday following Labor Day. The [Southern 500 NASCAR](#) auto race was held that day from 1950 to 2004.



Saturday, October 9th, 2010

This page is updated continuously with new information.
Please check back frequently!

"Flames of Hope" WaterFire

Full Fire

Tonight's fire sponsor is [Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation](#)

TIME OF FIRE: The fires will be lit shortly after sunset at 6:14 p.m. and remain lit until midnight.

WEATHER UPDATES: (Updated: Please check back for updates as the date gets closer.)

WaterFire Events	Location and Time	Details
Luminaria	Luminaria Stations are placed throughout the park and are in place at sunset until 11:00 p.m.	Come light a candle to celebrate or remember!
NEW The WaterFire Store on Steeple Street	Located on the corner of Steeple and Washington Streets, the tent will be up from sunset until 11:00 p.m.	Come stop by our new merchandise and information tent. We have fantastic new designs on t-shirts, bags, sweatshirts and more.
Ribbons of Light	Ribbons of Light Stations are placed throughout the park marked by illuminated blue columns and are in place at sunset until 11:00 p.m.	Celebrate your support of WaterFire Providence & become a part of the magic!
Starry Starry Night	One hundred luminous blue stars are suspended in the triangular grove of trees in Memorial Park right next to Hemmingway's restaurant.	Beneath the beautiful blue stars are hundreds of Luminaria candle lanterns flickering on the lawn. Please join us by making a wish and adding your light to the night. **The installation is weather dependent and the Star Field will not be on display if the forecast calls for rain.

**Be A Friend**

Edgar Guest

Be a friend. You don't need money;
Just a disposition sunny;
Just the wish to help another
Get along some way or other;
Just a kindly hand extended
Out to one who's unbefriended;
Just the will to give or lend,
This will make you someone's friend.

Be a friend. You don't need glory.
Friendship is a simple story.
Pass by trifling errors blindly,
Gaze on honest effort kindly,
Cheer the youth who's bravely trying,
Pity him who's sadly sighing;
Just a little labor spend
On the duties of a friend.

Be a friend. The pay is bigger
(Though not written by a figure)
Than is earned by people clever
In what's merely self-endeavor.
You'll have friends instead of neighbors
For the profits of your labors;
You'll be richer in the end
Than a prince, if you're a friend.