

Discovery

January 2017

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Exporting The Magic of Ferry Beach: Now More than Ever

On that first Saturday of their conference at Ferry Beach, when children see one another after a year apart, their delight is infectious. The magic that is Ferry Beach is palpable in the hugs of friends, children's faces, in the retreats of church members, in the discovery of something created when voices blend, or children play. Conferences and retreats at Ferry Beach are enchanting.

Carol Lee Flinders wrote in her book [At the Root of This Longing](#): "At any given moment (in life) a great many things can be happening at once, whose connections become clear only much later." Many of you have probably seen the quote that says that you can "live



your life as if everything is a miracle or nothing is."

I'd like to believe that the moments of synchronicity and magic are always there for us to experience; it's just that sometimes we haven't slowed down enough to see them. Mystics remind us that the truth we seek is not outside of ourselves, but inside.

If you have ever experienced a serious crisis in your life, you know how time just seems to slow down. In these moments we experience the wilderness as we have never before. Our senses are on high alert; we have the opportunity to look at everything we have ever seen, with new eyes, but only if we make a conscious choice to do so.

It takes discipline and will to follow what environmentalist, Joanna Macy calls the "work that reconnects." She reminds us that the spiral begins with gratitude for what we have or where we are. In the face of a crisis, "gratitude quiets the frantic mind and brings us back to source."

For Macy and us, to move around the spiral, we acknowledge our pain in the moment: for what is missing or what we have been unable to do. "In owning this pain and daring to experience it, we learn that our capacity to *suffer with* is the true meaning of compassion. We begin to know the immensity of our heart-mind and how it helps us to move beyond fear. What had isolated us in private anguish now opens outward and delivers us into the wider reaches of our world." As President Obama said in his farewell address, "for all our differences, we rise or fall as one. Be vigilant, but not afraid."

Once we acknowledge gratitude and move to compassion, it is easier to eventually see the world, or our situation, with new eyes. Each time, the spiral deepens us to the work that is laid out before us, if we are willing to make the choice to experience the spiral.

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Exporting the Magic..... continued from p. 1.

Crises have a way of taking the wind out of our sails. Many of us felt this on the morning of November 9th, 2016. Catching our collective breath in the next weeks and months has been hard. Many of us have been around the spiral several times already.

Some of us are looking for what to be grateful for and are finding it in the amazing awakenings of others. Everyday misogyny that women have suffered in silence now is seen. We are grateful for the knowledge that we have a long way to go to rid ourselves as a people of the legacy of slavery and racism. We see we are not alone in our beliefs. At Ferry Beach, we are grateful for the opportunity to consider how we can use our physical space, our mission and our resources to target these and other issues.

Ferry Beach will always be a place of respite, and we are becoming clearer about what Ferry Beach means as more than just a place. The magic of Ferry Beach travels in its various forms to families, churches, couples, communities, cities, and towns all over the U.S. and even places around the globe. Can we stitch these threads

together in a quilt of purpose and an active mission? Click [here](#) to join the



conversation.

Our journey around the spiral as an organization, as a people, as a collection of communities, is just awakening. We are beginning to see Ferry Beach and the world we touch upon together with new eyes.

Look into your heart-mind: what brings you gratitude and leads to compassion? Join the [dialogue](#) of how Ferry Beach will use its magic and its 32 acres, 19 buildings, 2000+ members and many more friends in the service of the greater world, our planet and all of its inhabitants. Universal love is no small endeavor; let's go!

Winter Conferences and Retreats

- Interfaith Ministers' Retreat, February 3-4-5
- Quilters Retreat, February 17- 20
- Reiki One and Two, February 25-26
- Deep Ecology, March 11 - 12.
- Writer's Workshop, March 13-15

For more: ferrybeach.org

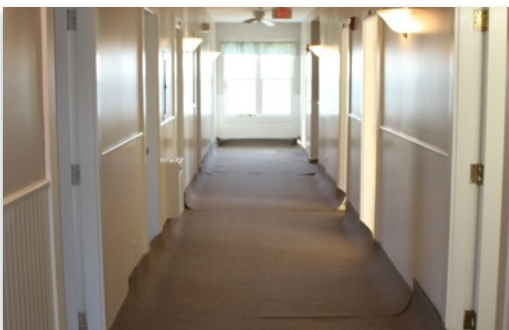


Updates to Our Facilities!

The Grove has received some much needed attention with a new electrical grid, the removal of some weak trees ("widow-makers") and the creation of more space for campers by removing trailers. (One more gray box has gone and we have plans to paint them, as we still need them for summer staff.)

Quillen bedrooms, bathrooms and hallways have gotten a face-lift, with new paint, fixtures and carpet. By the time spring rolls around, Rowland will have some new fire-proof doors, strobe lights, exit signs and other life safety features.

We have a few other projects that are still in the works: a new heating-cooling system for DeWolfe Dining Hall that will



include air-conditioning in the kitchen and the dining room and a new air handler system for the exhaust in the kitchen. We are also taking bids for redoing the floor in the dining room with something more easily cleanable and bright.

We collected \$25,000 from membership dues last year — all of which went back into our facilities. Thank you, Members!!



Please consider becoming a sustaining donor! Contact us at 207-282-4489 or ferrybeach.org

Join us for our (musical)
Summer of Love!



Musician Stephanie Ortalono joins Family and Friends this year along with Kevin Munroe as minister of the week.

July 29-August 5, 2017



Midwestern Bluesy-jazz singer-songwriter, Kelley Hunt joins Circle of Music and the Power of Words Conferences this August! 12th-18th COM; Power of Words, 17-20th

Catie Curtis, folk singer and Saco native, (UUr!) in her farewell tour ("The Final Outing") joins Reggie Harris for our Summer Concert, August 12, 8pm

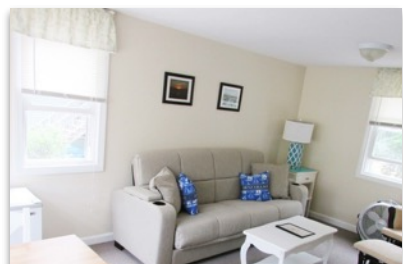


Youth Camp includes revamped curriculum, three KFTE weeks (one during Eco Spirit week for those 4-6th graders staying away from home for the first time! Youth Camps June 25-July 8th & July 22-29.

A Young Adult Work Week is a 3 day work and play conference during Work and Play week. June 13-16. For these and others: ferrybeach.org



Choralfest celebrating its 10th year! Drew Collins returns as Choral Director, July 15-22.



Want to get away for a personal retreat?

- **Cross:** 4 separate private bedrooms with private bathrooms. Linens included.
- **Metz Cabins:** 2 private cabins with private bathrooms.
- **Morris:** 4 bedrooms, full kitchen, fire place and private bathrooms.
- **Kelley:** 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room with sleep couch and kitchen.

Book one night during the week and get a second one free. C'mon, you know you want to get away!
expires 4-1-17

Call to reserve your spot today! 207-282-4489

Summer Jobs!

We have many jobs available at Ferry Beach: Youth Counselor to Lifeguard as well as Art & Hospitality Internship.

tidings@ferrybeach.org

207-282-4489

Education

Our working mission statement is: Ferry Beach awakens hearts to explore, grow and renew the spirit of universal love. One of the six “buckets” through which we will achieve our mission is Education. Through conferences, workshops, newsletters, blogs, social media and other activities, we will educate to awaken hearts and renew the spirit of universal love!

Summer 2017 conference registration is open!

Visit www.ferrybeach.org for more information and to register.

(Call 207.282.4489 to register.)

JUNE

- Boston Pride Parade
- Annual Meeting
- Work & Play Week
- Young Adult Work Week
- Profound Treasury: Buddhist Conference
- Youth Camps

- Saturday June 10
- Sunday, June 11, 1pm
- Saturday June 10- Friday June 16
- June 12-16
- Friday June 16- Sunday June 25
- Sunday June 25- Saturday July 1

JULY

- Youth Camps
- Religious Education Week–Friends Gathering on the Sand
- Choral Fest
- GAYLA
- Getaway Weekend
- EcoSpirit (includes Intro to Permaculture)& KFTE Lite
- Yoga Retreat
- Kayaking/Paddle board
- Slow Fashion (Sew Your Own Clothes)
- Family and Friends

- Saturday July 1- Saturday July 8
- Saturday July 8- Friday July 14
- Saturday July 15- Friday, July 21
- Saturday July 15- Saturday July 22
- Saturday July 22- Monday July 24
- Saturday July 22- Saturday July 29
- Saturday July 22- Saturday July 29
- Saturday July 22- Saturday July 29
- Sunday July 23- Friday July 28
- Saturday July 29- Saturday Aug 5

AUGUST

- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship & Fun (UUF&F)
- Motivational Interviewing
- Concert: Reggie Harris Returns, New this year! Catie Curtis
- Company of Women
- Circle of Music
- Women’s Healing Retreat
- Power of Words (Pre conference August 17-18)
- Soul Path
- Transformational Leadership
- When You Want Only Love
- Quilting by the Bay
- 12-Step Intensive

- Saturday August 5- Saturday August 12
- Monday August 7- Friday August 11
- Saturday, August 12
- Saturday August 12- Friday August 18
- Saturday August 12- Friday August 18
- Sunday August 13- Thursday August 17
- Friday August 18- Sunday August 20
- Sunday August 20- Wednesday August 23
- Thursday August 24- Saturday, August 26
- Saturday August 26- Tuesday August 29
- Saturday August 26- Friday September 1
- Saturday August 26- Friday September 1

SEPTEMBER

- Labor Day Weekend

- Friday September 1- Monday September 4