

The Bell-Ringer

FIRST PARISH CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
P.O. Box 1764, Duxbury, MA 02331



MAY 2015

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- May 3rd--"RE Appreciation Sunday: Celebrating Sunsue!"** --Join us for this intergenerational celebration of Sunsue's work at First Parish (special music and dance).
- May 10th--"Annual MUSIC SUNDAY Worship Service"** - Please join us for a morning of beautiful music performed by fellow parishioners and *special guest musicians*. Always one of the nicest services of the year - Bring Mom!
- May 17th --"Balloon Sunday"** - A service for the whole family. The service will include recognition, appreciation, and celebration of our Church School year together. Picnic following Worship and Church School picture at 12 p.m. (see RE pg. 3 for details)
- May 24th--"What Appomattox Can Teach Us"**, In honor of Memorial Day, and with the help of our wonderful friends, the Williams College Reunion Jazz Band, we will reflect upon the lessons of one of the last battles of the Civil War.
- May 31st--"Why Pray"** – Catherine will be joined by Michael Gardner in the Pulpit for 9 a.m. Worship Service. The Annual Meeting will follow Worship at 9:30 a.m. in the Harvey Assembly Hall. (Church School Families will be reimbursed for child care expenses for attending Annual Meeting.)
- May 31st (at 4pm) --"The Ordination of Thomas Bozeman"**--join us as we, along with our sister church in Kingston, ordain our student minister Tom Bozeman! The ordination is intergenerational and refreshments will be served after the service.

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY MAY 1

Women's Ritual 7:30pm
Committee on Ministry 5:00pm

SATURDAY MAY 2

DIC – Shrait Hayam at Pilgrim 9:00am
JOHN NASH MEMORIAL 11:00am
SUNSUE'S RETIREMENT PARTY
5:30PM

SUNDAY MAY 3

RE APPRECIATION

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30a.m.
HIP 6:00-7:30pm
Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30p.m.

MONDAY MAY 4

Bible Group 7:00-8:30p.m.

TUESDAY MAY 5

Small Group 10:00-12:00pm
Bell Choir 7:00-8:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY MAY 6

Building & Grounds 9:00a.m.
Safe Congregation 9:30am
R.E. Meeting 7:00p.m.

THURSDAY MAY 7

Book Club 9:00a.m.
Alliance 10:00-2:00p.m.
Worship 7:00p.m.

SATURDAY MAY 9

HIP CON

SUNDAY MAY 10

MUSIC SUNDAY

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30am
Worship 10:30a.m.
Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30p.m.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER...

*Almost heaven, West Virginia
Blue ridge mountains, Shenandoah river
Life is old there, older than the trees
Younger than the mountains, growin' like a breeze

Country roads, take me home----John Denver*

Dear Friend,

Last Friday sixteen FPC'ers returned home from our week-long mission trip to Appalachia---***what an amazing time we had!*** We painted, and trimmed and spackled and "mudded" in several humble homes of these "poorest of the poor" in our nation. Buster and Scottie were our fearless and patient contractor/leaders and Marsha was our warm and friendly hostess/cook at *Big Creek People in Action*, a converted old school building which now houses bunkroom dormitories for volunteers, an after-school program that feeds the young bodies and minds of local children and a "gymnasium turned event hall," now a venue for programming such as the annual "Baby Shower" that was held on the day we were leaving (seventy local young mothers and mothers-to-be were treated to a luncheon and lots of free baby supplies).

We worked with our hands, but it was our hearts that were transformed. As we gathered each evening in the "Chill Room" (picture a giant HIP ROOM) for a check-in, *it was clear that each one of us was falling in love with these simple, kind and happy folks and the natural beauty of the valley they called home.*

(Continued on page 2)

First Parish Church

Unitarian Universalist, Duxbury, Massachusetts

P.O. Box 1764, Duxbury, Massachusetts 02331

842 Tremont St. (Route 3A)

Email: uuduxbury@verizon.net

Telephone: 781-934-6532

Website: www.duxburyuu.org



A liberal religious community dedicated to nurturing individual spiritual development, promoting understanding and working for social justice. We welcome people of all races, backgrounds and sexual orientations.

Rev. Catherine Cullen, Minister

Sunsue Fleming, Director of Religious Education

Dawn MacKechnie, Youth Advisor

Lenore O'Malley, Church Administrator

Rev. Robert R. Walsh, Minister Emeritus

Alex Pevzner, Jr., Junior Choir Director

Jackie Smith-Miller, Director of Religious Education, Emerita

Edwin Swanborn, Music Director

Elaine Stephansky, Bell Choir Director

Minister's Message continued from page 1 . . .

A wall mural painted by our wonderful youth shows a map of the eastern seaboard with Massachusetts and West Virginia set apart in a special color. The dotted line the youth made connecting the two states is a lovely way to symbolize the heart-connection we all made with our new friends in West Virginia. *"We will be back,"* we promised as we left---and I believe we will!

Next to the map, our youth painted a beautiful flaming chalice--the flaming chalice is, of course, the symbol of our Unitarian Universalist tradition. As a special tribute to our retiring Director of Religious Education, our youth painted "Sunsue" at the base of the flame. How appropriate! *For the past sixteen years, Sunsue has indeed provided energy, passion and love for the hundreds and hundreds of young people who've attended our church school.* Sunsue's influence on our shared congregational life has been substantial. And Sunsue and I have met each week for the past eleven years; **her wisdom and collegiality have been a true gift for me.**

Now it is time to celebrate with Sunsue, as she looks forward to the next chapter of her life and we move through the search process for an Interim DRE. **Sunsue's Retirement Party is Saturday, May 2nd---have you RSVP'd ??** At next Sunday's worship, our annual RE Appreciation Sunday will celebrate Sunsue (**a very unique service--plan to attend!!**) And last Thursday our Governing Board voted to recommend that our congregation confer upon Sunsue the status of "Emerita"--we will vote on this at our Annual Program Meeting later this month.

This month of May will be "merry"---and very busy here at FPC! In addition to Sunsue's celebrations, we (along with our Kingston sister church) will be **ordaining Tom Bozeman, our student minister for the past three years.** And then there's the "Summer Fair"---**please note the Fair will be the second Saturday of June** (a change to accommodate the Bay Players).

I am very grateful that I enter this month after a week in the Appalachian Mountains, where the people lived simply, the pace of life was slower than ours, and cell service was non-existent (except for one tiny spot at the top of the mountain). West Virginia was indeed "almost heaven,"----**but I'm also very grateful that the country roads (and a plane ride) brought me back home--to FPC!!**

HAPPY MAY!

Catherine



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



"RE Appreciation Sunday: Celebrating Sunsue!"

Join us for this intergenerational celebration of Sunsue's work at First Parish (special music and dance).

Church School Registration 2015 - 2016

We are already preparing for next year and ask that you register your children toddlers through grade 12 into next year's program even if they are currently enrolled. We will have a table set up during coffee hour during the month of May, so please stop by the table and register your children for next year.

Sunday, May 17th, 2015 - Balloon Sunday



Each year, at the end of May, our Sunday school program, which runs on an academic schedule, comes to a close. We set aside one Sunday service to celebrate our accomplishments, milestones, and our community.

We call this event Balloon Sunday, because at the end of the service, everyone is given a balloon to take home or let go. We plan to end our service in our Harvey Assembly Hall and anyone who wants to release a balloon will do so in that hall. No balloons can be released in the church sanctuary for fear of setting off our alarm... and we don't release balloons into the sky for environmental reasons.

Everyone is invited to attend church together for the special celebration of our lifespan religious education program. During the service the following groups will receive special recognition. We hope all children and youth will attend to receive their awards!

A bridging ceremony for two special groups who are celebrating important milestones:

1. High School Seniors will be recognized and welcomed into the Adult Life of the church.

4

2. Grade 8 will be recognized and welcomed into our High School HIP (Happy Interesting People) Group.

We will also have special recognition and awards:

1. H.S. Youth who took responsibility to plan, coordinate and actively participate in their varied programs will be recognized.
2. 7th-8th Grade Owl Class
3. K-1 Owl Class

Please note Balloon Sunday marks the end of our church school year. After May 17th our church school space is used to organize and sort items for our summer fair. We encourage families with older children to stay in the service. Peter Lillys our church school assistant will be available in the parlor to help with you and your younger child who may need to leave the service. The classrooms will not be available however for childcare.

Sun., May 17th, 12 p.m. - Church School Picture

On **Sun., May 17**, we will be taking a picture of the entire Church School (Toddlers - Gr. 12) on the front steps of the church. We hope all our young people will be here that day for this photo. We also invite all adults who have been group leaders this year to be in the photo. We'll meet on the front steps at noon.

Infant and Child Dedication Sunday

A Dedication Ceremony will be held during the Worship Service on **Sunday, June 14th**. Sunsue and Catherine will co-officiate. Parents, the church school and congregation will welcome the children and dedicate themselves to the important work of supporting parents in raising their child. Please contact either Catherine or Sunsue if you would like your child dedicated at this service.



Our Labyrinth

Plans are underway to dedicate our Labyrinth after church on Sunday June 14th. There is still time to bring a rock or two before we set the stones. This has been a wonderful project so many have participated in. What a wonderful way to end the year together.

MEMOIRS

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, May 12th – Library Memories** - If you are interested, but have never participated, feel free to come and just listen. **Leader: Jackie Smith-Miller.**



May Birthdays, Happy Birthday to All!

Callie Brandeis
Clara Bulman
Thomas Clifford
Justin Connor
Charlie Crowley

Josephine Cunningham
Austin Gaenicke
Ceilidh Mackechnie
Katherine Parent
Madeline Welch



Ringing Out Justice!

News of social justice activities at First Parish Church



UU Urban Ministry News—

Roxbury Youth dinner was served to young people and UUUM staff by a team of South Shore UUs— 3 from Kingston, including Rev Dan King, and 10 from Duxbury. We prepared our dinner party at FPC, car-pooled to Roxbury, toured the 1801 UU church and UUUM facility, served a delicious dinner and dined with the youth, mentors and staff. We all then enjoyed a nature program presented by an AMC educator. A great time was had by all and we plan to do this again, and again! If you might be interested, please stop by the Social Justice table at coffee hour.

“Spirit and Action”—Moving Forward on Race and Justice

Three of us from church travelled to UUUM for three evenings, attending a program focused on Race and Justice.

We heard State Representative Byron Rushing speak (D-Roxbury / 30 years; UUUM board member). His insights about race and justice in our current culture were illuminating and memorable.

We met and listened to eight leaders of ‘Mothers for Justice and Equality’ share their reflections about violence against their sons, nephews, brothers.

Their stories were heart-rending, and yet the women, working together to address the violence, were steadfast and hopeful.

The last evening we discussed in small groups ways we can confront spoken and unspoken racism, while striving to support justice and keep a respectful relationship with others. Visit uuum.org.

UU URBAN MINISTRY’S 180TH ANNUAL MEETING Thursday May 21th, 10:30—1:45

First Parish Roxbury, 10 Putman St, Roxbury

The morning begins with a devotional service followed by lunch and a business meeting which included a program review and update. Renewal House will be featured. This is a great way to learn a lot about UUUM! You can hitch a ride with Nancy Nowak to Roxbury. To register online, please go to: uuum.org/registration. Questions? Contact the Rev. Rebecca Hinds at rhinds@uuum.org or Nancy nowakdux@gmail.com.

UU MASS ACTION NETWORK News—

The 10th Annual UU Mass Action Advocacy Day began at beautiful and historic Arlington St UU Church on 4/14. Senator William Brownsberger spoke about the great challenges to End Mass Incarceration and his hope for the many bills introduced to address this issue. He praised UUMAN for their active working groups and their collaboration with partners. Bill McKibben, national leader of 350.org, spoke via the internet about the great urgency and difficulty of working for Clean-Energy right here in MA. Participants discussed the bills for UUMAN’s four priority areas: Prison Reform, Economic Justice, Clean- Energy, and Immigration Justice. After lunch and a lot of networking, UUs went to the State House to speak with their legislators. I was able to speak about clean-energy bills with Rep Josh Cutler and Senator Bob Hedlund and their assistants, and also visited the offices of Duxbury-Kingston’s Rep. Tom Calter and FPC’s own, Rep Jim Cantwell from Marshfield. To finish off the day, Laura Wagner, UU Mass Action’s talented new director, and I went to Northeastern U where several hundred workers rallied for an increase in the minimum wage. UUMA’s Advocacy Day was fun, energizing, educational and productive—as we lifted up our UU voices for Justice—Together! Visit uumassaction.org; Nancy nowakdux@gmail.com

UU Mass Action, Story Slam! When: Saturday, May 16th, 7:00-9:00 PM Where: All Souls Church UU, 196 Elm St, Braintree

Have you ever listened to NPR's the Moth? This event is like this, only it's live and you get to participate! Six story tellers will share a tale describing a turning point in their life. (You might even know one of them). The audience participates by collectively voting on the stories (it's really fun!).

If you've ever been to a poetry slam, it's like that - only with stories. Our MC for the evening will be the multi-talent Rev Steve Wilson. Get to know a few people a little better, make some new friends and have an all around good time - all while supporting UU Mass Action! What could be better? Light refreshments will be available. Tickets: <http://tinyurl.com/k24at67> \$30 each or \$25 each when two or more tickets are purchased - bring a friend!

UUSC News—

A Huge THANK YOU to ALL who helped make our UNION SERVICE with Rev Dr Bill Schulz a MEMORABLE UU and UUSC CELEBRATION!

We had quite a joyful crowd! UUs from our Union Churches -- Kingston, Plymouth and Duxbury -- heard an inspirational and dynamic sermon by UUSC President Bill Schulz about UU values and the import and success of UUSC's human rights work. Our Ministers gave us such a beautiful service, including congratulating Tom Bozeman on his passage to Ordination! We warmly commissioned the HIP youth as they ventured to work with people in W.Va!

Many thanks to all those who contributed their time, food, and talents for this spiritual service. Very special thanks go to the Social Justice Committee / UUSC team—Karen Sankey, Cindy Wilson, Donna Savicki, and Judi and Terry Vose for all their efforts. Lois Wood developed our flyers to herald the event; Ruth Oakland helped advertise the service in *The Clipper*. The kitchen crew, under the can-do leadership of Sally Delisa, beautifully executed our Union coffee hour. Much appreciation to all of YOU who helped out in the kitchen. To you who brought food for this celebration, our heartfelt gratitude!

That Sunday afternoon, Bill delivered Norwell UU's annual Helen Fogg Lecture: "Do Human Rights Have a Future?" Bill's lecture spanned the ages of human violence, and offered evidence that people are learning and slowly refining systems to increase human rights for all. With hope and working together for Justice, Bill looks positively to the Future.

We have both of Bill's speeches on video thanks to Dustin Fleming, President and Director of ColorCycle Video Productions, 339-225-0062, www.ColorCycleVideo.com. If you would like to view the video, please contact Nancy nowakdux@gmail.com.

EURABIA—Thursday, May 7th, at the Duxbury Senior Center, 12:30—2:00 pm

Duxbury resident Michael Quinlan will speak about radical Muslims and explain what the shift in demographics could mean to Americans. Free. Registration is required. Call Carol: 781-934-5774 (Ext. 5711)

MONDAY MAY 11

Welcome Cong. 7:00p.m.
 Intern Meeting 7:00-8:30p.m.
 Finance Meeting 7:00p.m.
 Bible Group 7:00-8:30p.m.

TUESDAY MAY 12

Memoirs 7:15p.m.
 Bell Choir 7:00-8:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY MAY 13

Kindred Spirits 10:00-11:30a.m.
 Growth Team 1:00pm
 Cell Fund Task Force 3:00pm

THURSDAY MAY 14

Book Club 9:00 a.m.
 Alliance 10-2:00 p.m.
 Agenda Setting Meeting 7:00p.m.
 Communications 7:00p.m.

SATURDAY MAY 16

Jim Queeny Memorial 11:00am

SUNDAY MAY 17**BALLOON SUNDAY**

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Membership 9:00a.m.
 Picnic Lunch 12:00 noon
 NO HIP
 Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30 p.m.

MONDAY MAY 18

Building Use 10:30am
 Bible Group 7:00p.m.

TUESDAY MAY 19

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30p.m.

THURSDAY MAY 21


Book Club 9:00 a.m.
 Historical Committee 9:30a.m.
 Alliance 10-2:00 p.m.
 Governing Board 7:00p.m.

SATURDAY MAY 23

Community Table 9:00am

SUNDAY MAY 24**BELL RINGER DEADLINE**

Sr. Choir 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Buddhist Group 5-6:30 p.m.

MONDAY MAY 25**MEMORIAL DAY** 
OFFICE CLOSED

Town Wide Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Bible Group 7:00p.m.
 PFLAG 7:30p.m.

TUESDAY MAY 26

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30p.m.

THURSDAY MAY 28

Book Club 9:00 a.m.
 Alliance 10-2:00 p.m.
 Capital Projects 7:00p.m.

SUNDAY MAY 31**ANNUAL MEETING! 9:30a.m.****Worship 9:00a.m.**

Sr. Choir
 Tom Bozeman Ordination
 Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30 p.m.

**CARING CONNECTION:**

There are many caring members of our church community who are willing to lend a hand to those having a difficult time! The Caring Connection can coordinate meals, transportation, babysitting or visits to shut-ins. For the month of **MAY**, please contact **GEORGE ANDERSON** at 1-617-416-5000 or email at ganderson1951@gmail.com.

**Minister's Office Hours:**

Catherine's regular office hours are **Mon., Wed., and Thur.** from **11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Tuesdays are her days off and Friday's are her sermon writing days. She may be contacted by cell at (781) 635-5906. If you need to schedule an appointment during office hours or any time after office hours, please feel free to contact Catherine at TheRevCatherine@aol.com, at her cell number, or by leaving a message at the church.

Church Office Hours

The FPC church office is open **Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Our email address is uuduxbury@verizon.net. If you need anything, please call Lenore and I will be happy to help you.

People News

John Nash's Memorial is this **Saturday, May 2nd at 11:00am.** We are still in need of food for the memorial. If you can donate, please call Polly Lanman at 781-934-5412, or email Lenore at the church office, uuduxbury@verizon.net.



ON-GOING CHURCH MEETINGS

SUNDAYS - Family/Child Sunday (1st Sun. each month)
 Joys & Concerns (2nd Sun. each month)
 Announcement Sunday (1st & 3rd Sun. each month)
 Silent Joys & Concerns (4th Sun. each month)
 Membership 9:00am (3rd Sun. each month)
 Social Justice 9 a.m. (2nd Sun. each month)
 Welcoming Congregation 9:30 a.m. (3rd Sun. each month)
 Denominational Affairs 12:00 (3rd Sun.)
 Buddhist Meditation 5-6:30p.m. (weekly)

MONDAYS – Building Use 10:30 a.m. (4th Mon. each month)
 Finance Committee 7 p.m. (2nd Mon. each month)
 Bible Group every Monday 7:00pm
 Welcoming Congregation 7 p.m. (2nd Monday of each month)

TUESDAYS - Hand Bells 7 p.m.
 Memoirs 7:00p.m. (2nd Tues. each month)

WEDNESDAYS – RE Committee 7 p.m. (1st Wed. of each month)
 Staff meeting 11:30 a.m. (weekly)
 Buildings & Grounds 9-11 a.m. (1st Wed. each month)
 “Kindred Spirits” 10-11:30 p.m. (2nd Wed. each month)

THURSDAYS - Book Group 9 a.m.
 Sewing Group 10 a.m.
 Worship Committee/Music 7:00 p.m. (1st Thurs. each month)
 Agenda Setting 7-8 p.m. (2nd Thurs. each month)
 Governing Board 7 p.m. (3rd Thurs. each month)
 Capital Projects 7 p.m.
 Historical Committee 9:30a.m. (3rd Thurs. of each month)
 Communications (2nd Thurs. each month)

FRIDAYS - Committee On Ministry 5 p.m. (1st Fri. each month)

SATURDAYS - Brockton Soup Kitchen 9:15 a.m. (4th Sat. each month)

“Interning Grace”**By Intern Minister Tom Bozeman****Interning Grace****“My Ordination: Sunday, May 31, 2015 at 4pm”**

I'm glad to be able to announce that I have received Preliminary Fellowship from the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC) of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)!

After my first interview with them (in December 2013), I received a Category III (which means that, while they saw that I had promise, they did not think that I was quite ready to be fellowshipped). They asked that I come back for another interview after I had done some work in a few specific areas, such as Religious Education with children.

I had my second interview with them on Saturday, April 11 – after which I received a Category I. A Category I means that they consider me to have “basic competency” to be a UU minister. They very much appreciated that I had worked on the areas about which they were concerned.

I would like to thank the people of the First Parish Church in Duxbury and the First Congregational Parish in Kingston for their forbearance for those many months when I mostly disappeared into the RE spaces. And I would also like to thank both Duxbury DRE Sunsue Fleming and Kingston DRE Kate Sullivan for their time and attention and mentoring, which has been invaluable – as well as, of course, my Teaching Ministers, Revs. Cullen and King, who have blessed me with helpful reflection and counsel along the way.

In light of the outcome of my recent MFC appointment, then, I joyfully invite you to celebrate my ordination into the Unitarian Universalist ministry. The service will be led by UU musician and worship leader Matt Meyer and will take place in the Assembly Hall of the First Parish Church in Duxbury at 4pm on Sunday, May 31, 2015. I hope to see you both there and at the reception following!



Next Bell-Ringer Deadline:
Saturday, May 24th, 2015

ANNUAL MEETING

ATTENTION ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS!! MAY 31 ANNUAL MEETING

Your reports must be submitted by **May 1st** to be included in the Annual Meeting package!!

Tom Bozeman Ordination **May 31, 2015 4:00pm**

The UU Churches of Duxbury and Kingston are honored and thrilled to be hosting the ordination service for our Intern Minister, Tom Bozeman. Tom will be ordained as a UU Minister at a service held here at FPC Duxbury on Sunday, May 31, 2015 at 4:00PM. Ordination is a very special event in the life of any minister and we are pleased to have been able to participate in Tom's growth and development as a Minister. Please join us for this very special service. Child care will be available. The Joint Kingston-Duxbury Intern Committee

Cell Fund Outreach

Using funds from the cell tower income the Social Justice Outreach Committee recently voted to award the following grants for this half of the 2015 fiscal year.

Heating assistance in Marshfield and Pembroke \$250 each

There was a grant of \$300 given to each town in November. Duxbury has sufficient funds for the need in their community.

ESL Program in Marshfield \$300

This will be used to buy needed additional written materials that can be used by participants in the program.

UU Mass Action \$500

The funds will be used in a program to inform Mass lawmakers about the problems with mass incarceration and the work being done to deal with the present situation.

Wellspring \$2000

Wellspring is an independent, community-based social service organization. Our donation will be used by an established fund to help needy residents of Hull repair homes damaged by this winter's severe weather.

South Shore Women's Resource Center \$500

This organization provides services to women and children experiencing domestic abuse. A grant of \$950 was also provided for the Resource Center in the fall.

UU Urban Ministry' Summer Activities Program \$2150

This grant will pay for five children from Roxbury to attend a summer camp program.

Video of Service with Rev. Bill Schulz \$110

The money will be used to make three recordings of the service and the afternoon lecture by Rev Schulz who is the director of the UUSC.

Stewardship**Are you wondering where you stand on your pledge for this church year?**

Our current fiscal or "pledge" year (FY15) runs until June 30, 2015. If you have a balance on your pledge, you will be receiving a letter in the mail with a summary of your pledge activity - including your pledge balance. You will not get a letter if your pledge has already been paid in full. If you have any questions, contact Amy Hamilton (781-834-4779) or Linda Pelham (781-934-0185).

Have you made your pledge for next year?

The Stewardship committee is winding up the pledge drive ("The Ripple Effect") for our new fiscal year (FY16), which begins on July 1. If you have not had a chance to make a pledge for FY16, please let any member of the Stewardship team know! We have made a strong attempt to contact as many church members and friends as possible to talk about the church and to ask for your pledge. Pledges comprise over half of the operating budget income and so we count on these funds to maintain the financial health of our church. **The total pledged so far is still below that of last year and about \$25,000 short of our goal of a modest increase!!! We need your pledge!** Are you able to increase your pledge by \$8/month? That small increase would really help us to maintain our programs and cover our ever increasing expenses. If you would like more information about having your pledge automatically withdrawn from your checking account or if you would like to pay by credit card, please contact Amy Hamilton (thehamiltonfamily@verizon.net).

Thank you for financially supporting our church!

Bob Clark, Amy Hamilton, Mary Ann Kaufmann, Cindy Ladd Fiorini, Sharon Nabreski

CHURCH SHED

The church shed is currently being used by the Social Justice Committee to store Box Project Donations. Please DO NOT place donations for the church fair into the shed. If you have donations that cannot wait until Haul Day, June 6th, please contact Fair Chairs Ruth Phillips Oakland or Tracy Wagner. Thank you!



SUMMER FAIR NEWS!!

The **165th First Parish Church Summer Fair** will be held on **Saturday, June 13th from 8:30am to 2pm**. Volunteers and Donations are greatly needed.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed to help sort donations, set up/break down the fair, and help sell goods and food on fair day. The Summer Fair is a great place to get to know your fellow UUs, help our church raise money, and become a part of our church history. To volunteer just a few hours or an entire day, please see/contact any of the people mentioned in this flyer or see our sign up table at coffee hour. WE NEED YOU!

Donations Needed!

*Donations can be dropped off at the church during business hours and Sundays before and after church beginning May 26th. To schedule a pick-up of large items or furniture on **Haul Day, Saturday, June 6th**, please call Lenore at the church office. **DO NOT** place your donations in the church shed as it is currently being used for the Box Project. Please contact Summer Fair Chairs **Ruth Phillips Oakland - rpoakland@gmail.com (339) 933-3460 and Tracy Wagner - wagnertracy@comcast.net (781) 829-9670**, with any questions or if you have a donation that cannot wait.*

PLANTS: When thinning out your perennials, please consider donating extra plants to the Fair. Day lilies and Irises do not sell well, but all other perennials are welcome. If you have questions, need pots, or help dividing please contact Liz Christmann, alil2@comcast.net or [781-585-6107](tel:781-585-6107).

JEWELRY: Women's, men's, and children's jewelry including Gold, sterling silver, and precious gems, costume jewelry, watches, clean hair accessories, broken or single earrings, gold or sterling pieces and broken strings of beads, Jewelry boxes- all sizes, scarves (not winter scarves), pocketbooks and wallets in good condition, and small boxes for display of fine jewelry. Please, no winter scarves or other clothing items. Questions, contact Karen Sankey at kfsankey@gmail.com.

BOOKS: All books, both hardcover & paperback in good condition. Please, no textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, mildewed or damaged books. For more information please contact Woodie & Elaine Lakey at asio525@gmail.com.

WHITE ELEPHANT: Household & Decorative goods that are clean and in good condition. Small kitchen appliances should be in working condition. No clothing or shoes. Please no TVs or computers. No coffee mugs with logos of any kind. Please - only clean linens in good condition. For more information, please contact Marilyn Christmann at mcwc@comcast.net.

AUCTION: Furniture in good, saleable condition. Please, no appliances of any type, television or television stands, treadmills, mattresses or heavy exercise equipment, couches of any type, and no stuffed or upholstered furniture of any kind unless in new condition. For more information, please contact Peter Nappello at petercarol@comcast.net.

COLLECTABLES: All collectables in good, clean and saleable condition. Please, no broken or chipped dishes and or glass, no sharp objects such as razors, knives, or garden tools etc., and no linen pieces items which are ripped, or torn. For more information please contact Gail Murphy, gsmurphy541@gmail.com .

SPORTING GOODS/TOOLS: All sporting goods and tools, pet items and gardening items. All items must be clean and in good condition. Please, no outdated electronics, computers, computer monitors, outdated televisions or heavy exercise equipment. For more information contact Karl Schweitzer at wyoral-schweitzer@att.net .

CHILDREN'S WHITE ELEPHANT: Toys, games and puzzles in good, clean and saleable condition. Please, no car seats, cribs or videotapes. For more information, please contact Kathy Bray, kbray8832@aol.com , or Sharon Nabreski, snabreski@comcast.net .

BAKE TABLE: If you can bake items for fair day, please contact Heidi Connor at heidiconner@hotmail.com.

Violin Concert Raised \$1,500 for Ukrainian Prosthetics Project

The violin concert held at FPC on March 22 raised a total of \$1,500 to support the Ukraine Prosthetic Assistance Project. The humanitarian project aims to help Ukrainian doctors and prosthetics specialists provide advanced prosthetics for Ukrainian civilians and soldiers who have lost limbs in the war there. A check was sent last week to the World Rehabilitation Fund, which is coordinating the project.

A team of prosthetics specialists from the U.S. and Canada are traveling to Ukraine this week to deliver \$20,000 worth of prosthetic appliances and to train Ukrainian prosthetists to fit them to injured patients. This is intended as the first stage of an ongoing effort to help repair the ravages of this terrible war.

The concert by violinist Zachary Ebin, formerly of South Shore Conservatory, and pianist Maria Dolnycky of Toronto, Canada, was attended by nearly 100 people from the church and the wider community, including Ukrainian-Americans from the Boston area. The music was recently rediscovered pieces by Ukrainian composers who were repressed during the Soviet era. The musicians also performed during the worship service on March 22 and delivered a moving message about current conditions in Ukraine as well as the lives of the composers.

The concert was sponsored by the church through a \$500 grant from cell funds for enrichment of church life. Many members and friends of FPC donated generously, both as patrons and sponsors of the concert and in direct donations to the prosthetics project. Our thanks to all who aided in this effort.

Thank You Message from Maria Dolnycky **Ukrainian Prosthetics Project**

*Here is our joint thank you message to your congregation - short, but from the heart.
With appreciation, Maria Dolnycky*

Last week, your congregation opened its door to us, our music, and our message. We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to each and every one of you for your warm reception and extraordinary kindness. Your beautiful sanctuary was an inspiration to play in, and your spirit of generosity was very moving. We feel blessed to have met so many good people who made our stay here unforgettable. We wish you and your congregation all the very best on your future path.



Ladyslipper Walk

There will be a tentative Ladyslipper walk on May 31st behind FPC. Meet at 12:15pm for a 12:30pm departure. To be placed on email list for weather re-schedule: delisasally@yahoo.com.



Attention Gardeners!

Spring is in the air and your perennials would love to be dug up and divided. Please consider potting up some of those plants and donating them to the plant offerings at the Church Fair. Even one or two plants is a big help! If you have any questions, need pots, or would like to volunteer to help with the plants at the Fair please contact Liz Christmann alil2@comcast.net, Linda Pelham, or Lois Wood. Orange Day lillies and Iris don't sell well so just add those to your compost pile. Thank you!

Helper Available

Hello First Parish, I am again looking for odd jobs this spring and summer! No job is too large or small—raking, lawn mowing, weeding, planting, painting, babysitting, driving, help moving, etc. I have my own transportation and some of my own equipment, and I can provide references on request (and even some from First Parish!). I have a fairly flexible schedule, let me know what you need help with! Thank you! Oliver Worsh Farnum, oliverwfarnum@gmail.com, 781.635.8071.