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DUXBURY, MA
PERMIT #12

The Bell-Ringer

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



SEPTEMBER 2015



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

September 13th -- Our Annual Intergenerational Ingathering Service: Remember to bring a small vial of water from some place special to you. Children will remain for the entire service. Childcare for toddlers. **INGATHERING BREAKFAST at 9 a.m.** – Come join us!

September 20th -- "What Does It Mean to be Human" This year we will explore some of "The Big Questions" in a monthly sermon series. **If you would like to suggest some big questions to be considered as sermon topics, you can submit them to Catherine at TheRevCatherine@aol.com (or leave your Big Question in her mailbox in the church office).** Let's kick off the series with the question about our humanity!

September 27th -- "Living a Complaint-free life" This sermon will challenge us to stop complaining for 21 consecutive days (you'll get a bracelet to help you) **Are you up to the challenge??**
(After church budget discussion)

COMING EVENTS

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1

Yoga 8:30am

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30pm

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 2

Building & Grounds 9:00am

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 3

Worship/Music 7:00p.m.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6

Fisherman's Service 8:00am

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 7

LABOR DAY

OFFICE IS CLOSED

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8

Yoga 8:30am

Bell Choir 7-8:30pm

Communications 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9

Kindred Spirits 9:30-11:00am

Agenda Setting Meeting 7:00pm

Teacher Training 7:00pm

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12

DIC First Church of Christ Scientist 9:00

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13

Breakfast 9:00am

INGATHERING 10:30am

Sr. Choir 9:30am

Social Justice 12:00 noon

HIP Grades 10-12 6:00-7:30pm

Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30pm

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER...

Prayer, meditation, reflection on what you have heard and what is in your heart – that is how discernment uncovers decision. It is that space where the words are sent away for a while, to allow the working of the spirit. It is the space we try to fill with love even for people with whom we may have just vigorously disagreed. The goal is not what we want or what they want, but what is right.... How will you recognize it? It is simple enough. "Right for the community" is the place where you feel you can leave the room having been heard and honored – even if you did not get everything you wanted, or anything except that affirmation. It is the gift of genuine community. You have to be quiet and open yourself to give and receive it. --- Rev. David Chandler

"Discernment" is a word that comes from a Greek root meaning "to sift through." Discernment as a spiritual practice is part of almost every religious tradition. In the Christian tradition, discernment means listening to find God's voice speaking among all the other voices and aligning one's actions with that voice. In non-theistic traditions, like Buddhism, discernment is stilling the chatter of the mind in order to get clarity. Lao Tzu referred to it as "waiting for the mud to settle."

(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

Ruth Owen, Interim Director of Religious Education

Edwin Swanborn, Music Director

Elaine Stephansky, Bell Choir Director

Rev. Robert R. Walsh, Minister Emeritus

Jackie Smith-Miller, Director of Religious Education, Emerita

Lenore O'Malley, Church Administrator

Alex Pevzner, Jr., Junior Choir Director

Minister's Message continued from page 1 . . .

We here at FPC are entering an exciting moment in our long history! The next two years will be a time of discernment as we sort and sift through dreams and possibilities for religious education in our beloved community. Our discernment will involve not only children and youth religious education, but adult faith formation, our shared worship life possibilities for small group ministry, even our work for social justice --just about every aspect of our congregational life.

As we "discern" what a twenty-first century church needs to be in order to best serve those among us and those whom we hope will make their way to our doors, we will gather data and weigh pros and cons. But we will also call upon our intuition and imaginations. We will ask questions, try answers on and see how they feel---we will sort and sift ...lots! We welcome Ruth Owen, our new Interim DRE, who will help shepherd this process, along with our Transition Team and our governing board. A few years ago we all created our Mission Statement.

We told the world that this is who we are:

The mission of First Parish Church is to be a vital, loving community guided by our Unitarian Universalist principles and traditions. We nurture individual spiritual journeys as we learn, grow, and serve, putting our faith into action.

Now we just have to figure out how to live into that mission. I'm excited and ready for this adventure---are you??

Blessings on this journey!!

Catherine



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



INGATHERING – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2015

A Message from Your Interim Director of Religious Education

Welcome back and hello. I am Ruth Owen, your new (two year) interim director of religious education. I am so looking forward to meeting everyone and getting the year started. Many of you may have questions about how an interim DRE is different from a “regular” DRE. Some of you may wonder why bother with an interim at all. An interim is hired for a specific, limited period of time, in my case two years. Then the church will hire a new, permanent DRE. During the interim time we will have a chance to work together to dream, plan, experiment, and imagine how the church would like the religious education program to be in the future. Whatever the future may hold, it will probably not be exactly like the past and that can make some folks a little anxious or sad. Change can be hard. It can also be creative and exciting. Sometimes it can be all those things on the same day. A big part of my job as the interim DRE is to help support you, the church, through the coming changes. My regular office hours will be Monday –Thursday 9:30 – 3:00. Please drop by anytime to talk. You are also welcome to make an appointment anytime. My cellphone number is 617-755-9559 (texting is good too) and my email is ruthowendre@gmail.com. I will be taking Friday and Saturday as my regular days off. I keep Friday as a Sabbath and do not look at email, texts etc. until Saturday.

This fall marks the beginning of my 25th year as a professional religious educator. This is my fourth congregation and my first experience of interim work. I am excited about the possibilities. I recently moved to Sandwich, MA and plan to retire from church work after my time with you. When I am not working I enjoy spending time with my children and step-children (all grown), reading, knitting, hiking with my dog and watching baseball. I welcome friend requests on Facebook (as long as you are over 16, if you are younger than 18 I will check with your parent or guardian before accepting a friend request), but, in order not to interfere with the new, settled RE director, I will “unfriend” everyone when my time with the church is done. Please say “Hello” at Ingathering!

Church School Leader Training, Wednesday, Sept. 9, 7 PM

If you will be teaching in the fall, please plan to attend our Leader Training. If you are unable to attend, please call or email Ruth Owen, Interim DRE.

HIP Group Parents

There will be a meeting for parents of youth in grades 9-12 on Wednesday, September 30 at 7 PM. Come and meet other parents of high school youth, hear about plans for the upcoming year and get answers to any questions you may have. Please call or email Ruth Owen, Interim DRE if you cannot make this meeting.

Coming Events

Wednesday, Sept. 9	RE Leaders' Training, 7 PM
Sunday, Sept. 13	RE Registration 11:30-12:00 (after church) Visit RE Classrooms, 11:30-12:00 (after church) HIP Meeting (10-12 graders), 6:00 -7:30 PM
Sunday, Sept. 20	Church School begins
Wednesday, Sept. 30	HIP Parents' meeting, 7 PM

1. **Church Family Breakfast – Sun., Sept. 13th, 9 a.m.**: Thanks to the Hospitality/Fellowship Committee for organizing this special event.
2. **Church School Registration:** 11:30 - 12 p.m. (after church). Thanks to all of you who filled out a Registration Form last Spring. For those who have not yet done so, we will have a Registration table after church (11:30 a.m.)
3. **Family Worship:** (Childcare for toddlers to 3 yrs. - infants stay with their parents in church). Young people 3 yrs. & older will attend the **service** with their families. Children who leave the service are welcome downstairs in the classrooms, but must be with an adult at all times.
4. **Candle Collection:** ...Bring a Candle ... Bring a Candle ... Bring a Candle ... Everyone is invited to bring **one candle stub** for the creation of our 2015-2016 church candle. The large, colorful church candle we create will symbolize our large, colorful Church Family.
5. **Sharing Our Water Communion:** In our Ingathering, we will have a chance to share in our Water Communion. So bring a small amount of water your family has collected over the summer. There will be a symbolic pitcher of water to use for those who forget.
6. **Classrooms Will Be Set Up for Church School:** Parents are encouraged to bring your child down to find their classroom after church. This is a great opportunity to meet your teachers and see the curriculum.

Notes About Our Church School Routines

1. Church School begins at 10:30 a.m. and ends at 11:50 a.m.
2. Toddlers (1-3 yrs) should be picked up at 11:30 a.m. in Rm. 4. Children (3 yrs to Gr. 1) should be picked up **promptly at 11:50 a.m.** in their classrooms. Older children will be dismissed on their own at 11:50 a.m.
3. The first Sunday of each month is Family Sunday. Young people (3 yrs. through Gr. 8) attend church with their families for the beginning of the service. They then leave for their regular church school classes.
4. Parents are urged to keep their infants with them in church or in the Parlor, which has a speaker system that allows you to hear the service.

Chapel Times:

Grades 2-6 have Chapel at 11:30a.m.

Three years through Grade 1 have Chapel at 10:35 a.m.

Parents are welcome at our Chapel Services at any time.

Message from the Junior Choir Director

Our Jr. Choir is starting up again along with the church school! Last year was great! As the director, I was honored to be showered with so many compliments. Our small group of singers worked really hard and got many chances to experience presenting a fun assortment of songs and arrangements to the congregation in addition to the classic pageant music. I hope and pray everyone from last year is planning to return AND that we are joined by more children with an interest in singing. Please consider giving your child the chance to be a star performer! It is definitely a fun and rewarding experience. We meet each Sunday at 9:30 (an hour before church, but, later than the school bus)! Thank You -- Alex Pevzner'



Happy Birthday to All!!

August Birthdays

Kristian Cunningham	Freddie Clifford
Sage Pevzner	Hunter Gaenicke
Cole Alexanderson	Abigail Egan
Lula Graves	Angela Connors

September Birthdays

Caitlyn Egan	Grace Bogan
Marin Lloyd	Aimee Parent
Nicole Parent	Liam Sullivan



Church School Snacks Needed

Our church school is in need of snacks. If you have a young person registered in our church school we ask you bring snacks to share. They can be dropped off in the supply closet. Remember, no food with nuts.



DID YOU GET YOUR CHILDCARE COUPONS?

At FPC we care about young families and we want to do what we can to facilitate families' participation in the life of the church! ***So take advantage of reimbursement for childcare for church events!*** Simply fill out a "Childcare Coupon," put in Catherine's church mailbox and you will be reimbursed for childcare expenses you incurred for any church-related event. Coupons can be found on the RE Bulletin Board in the hall.





Ring Out Justice!

News of social justice activities at First Parish Church



Cell Tower Fund Social Justice Grant Applications

Applications for Social Justice Outreach grants are due November 1st. Grant forms are available at the First Parish Church website and at the office at First Parish Church in Duxbury. These grants can be applied for by members of First Parish Church and must be for social justice programs or projects. If you have any questions, please email or call Carrie Meier at 781-934-6657 or carriemeier@comcast.net.

Box Project Sign-Ups

The Box Project is a First Parish program that provides each month food, clothing, and household supplies to nine families chosen by South Shore Head Start which considers financial need due to a crisis such as health and employment conditions. They are considered to be the families that will most benefit from this support.

Usually six contributing families help one family. The requests are divided among the six families by a coordinator. The time and cost are shared. We also advertise in the Bellringer and UU News for good used clothing in the correct sizes that are needed.

Sign-ups will be at the church after the service on September 20th. If you have any questions, you can speak to Carrie Meier after the service on the 13th and 20th or email her at carriemeier@comcast.net.

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered in the past years and continues to do so. Sixty families have contributed to this program each year!

Carrie Meier and the Social Justice Committee

Thanks to All who helped with the UU Urban Ministry Renewal House Summer Picnic

The July picnic in Plymouth for Renewal House families, domestic violence survivors, was a heartwarming experience for all who participated. Many thanks to Carol and Peter Nappellio, Carrie Meier, Donna Savicki, Louise Balboni, Regina Mortland, and Len Nowak for their contributions. Kingston UU has conducted the annual picnic for 20 years —now with the welcome partnership of UUs from Duxbury and Plymouth.

Nancy Nowak

Continued Calendar:**(from page 1)****MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14**

Finance 7:00pm

Welcome Congregation 7:00pm

DRE Transition Team 7:00pm

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 15

Yoga 8:30am (last one)

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30pm

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17

Historical Committee 9:00am

First Alliance Sewing Grp.

10:00-2:00pm

Governing Board Mtg. 7:00pm

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20

.Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

UNIT 1 Begins

HIP 6:00-7:30pm

Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30pm

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21

Woman's Ritual 7:00pm

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30pm

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24

Book Club 9:00am (first one)

Alliance Sewing Grp. 10:00-2:00pm

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27**AFTER CHURCH MEETING TO****DISCUSS BUDGET – 12:00 NOON**

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

HIP 6:00-7:30pm

Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30pm

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 28

PFLAG 7:30-9:00pm

**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 **SEPTEMBER**, please call Rejeana Parker, 781-837-9102, rejeana102@gmail.com, and for **OCTOBER**, please call George Anderson, 617-416-5000, ganderson1951@gmail.com.
(more information on the Caring Connection on page 12)

**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.

Spiritual Direction Opportunities at First Parish

Church: The still, small voice is with you whether you are racing through your busy days or sitting in meditative silence or contemplative prayer. Spiritual direction is for anyone who is searching for deeper spiritual insights and for spiritual growth in the events of our hectic daily lives. You can use your time in spiritual direction to slow down, to learn how to listen, to explore life's deeper issues and to make progress toward achieving greater consistency between your deeply held values and your actions. This fall Catherine is offering Individual Spiritual Direction (participants meet with Catherine once a month for an hour or so). Contact Catherine via email at TheRevCatherine@aol.com or call her here at the church (781)934-6532 ext 3, to learn more about this unique ancient spiritual practice. May this be the year you explore more deeply the spiritual meaning of your life!

Church Office Hours

The FPC church office is open **Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Please call Lenore, **781-934-6532** or email at uuduxbury@verizon.net if you need anything.

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)
 Music Committee (1st Sun. each month) 12 p.m.
 Social Justice 9 a.m. (2nd Sun. each month)
 Buddhist Meditation 5-6:30p.m. (weekly)

MONDAYS - Building Use 11 a.m. (4th Mon. each month)
 Finance Committee 7 p.m. (2nd Mon. each month)
 Welcoming Congregation 7:00pm (2nd Monday of each month)
 PFLAG - 7:30-9:00pm (4th Monday of each month)

TUESDAYS - Hand Bells 7 p.m.
 Memoirs 7:15p.m. (2nd Tues. each month)
 Communications 7:00pm (2nd Tuesday of every 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" 9:30-11:00 a.m. (2nd Wed. each month)

THURSDAYS - Book Group 9 a.m.
 Sewing Group 10 a.m.
 Worship Committee 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)
 Historical Committee 9:00a.m. (3rd Thurs. of 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)



Sunday, Sept. 13th, 9:00-10:15 a.m.
Ingathering Breakfast

We hope everyone can attend First Parish Church's traditional Ingathering breakfast. Come to enjoy the company of old friends and meet new members and friends too as we begin a new year of friendship and worship. We will offer bagels, pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage and fresh fruit. This breakfast will be held in the Assembly Hall. The suggested donation is \$4 per person, \$15 for a family. We look forward to seeing you there. *The Hospitality/Fellowship Committee*

Save The Date!!
Annual Committee Chair Meeting
Thursday, October 8th, 7:00pm



BELLRINGER DATES FOR 2015-2016 CHURCH YEAR

Here is the BellRinger Deadline Schedule:

Again, this year we are going to try to stay with the 24th of each month except for the the November & December Bellringers.

October 24th
 November 20th (Tweaked with the holidays)
 December 30th (Tweaked with the holidays)
 January 24th
 February 24th
 March 24th
 April 24th
 May 24th

President's Letter

Welcome Back! You will find many improvements and changes at First Parish.

1. We welcome Ruth Owen as the Interim Director of Religious Education. Ruth officially starts work on September 1, but she has already participated in an RE Retreat and is very excited about First Parish. There is a Transition Team in place to help all of us understand this two-year interim journey we are beginning.
2. The Meetinghouse is beautiful, with new carpeting and fresh paint. It looks great. Polly Nash would be so pleased and proud.
3. The space rented to the Duxbury Day School is also freshly painted, has new windows and windows in the doors. We are so fortunate to have this new revenue source and wish them the best of luck. I would like to thank everyone who made this possible for the Day School and the church, but especially Jon Lehman and Sharon Nabreski. Thank you.
4. Lenore's husband Tommy is continuing to recuperate from his stroke and doing very well. He is a "miracle" according to his doctor. Tommy has much more rehab ahead, which at this time requires Lenore to drive him. So in order to help her, we have agreed to change Lenore's hours for the near future. She will be working from home on Tuesday and taking vacation on Thursday. If you would like to help by volunteering to sit in the office, please call Lenore. Thanks.
5. **Ingathering is September 13.** Look for your new name tag, courtesy of the Membership Committee. And soon the new website will be launched.

The Governing Board met Sunday August 30th for a Retreat and Business meeting. During the Retreat portion we talked about the RE Transition we are working on. We looked at the Long Range Plan from 2008 and were pleased to note how many of the items on the list have been, or are soon to be completed. The Board chose to review several items to determine if we can complete them and possibly prepare for a new Long Range Plan. We will be asking for volunteers to help with some of these goals, so please be thinking how you can serve the church community in this work.

Many will remember the Boy Scout Task Force. Some time ago, a number of parishioners worked on a Building Use Policy that asked anyone who rents our facilities to sign a non-discrimination policy. This was a specific response to the BSA policy banning gays and atheists from participating in scouting. In the past few months, the Boy Scouts of America have changed their policy: the BSA will accept gay scouts and local chapters are able to accept gay leaders. This represents significant movement and forward progress on the part of the BSA. While there remain areas of disagreement with BSA policy, the Building Use Committee has proposed a new policy which would allow Scouts to use the Sanctuary for Eagle Scout Ceremonies and to allow an Eagle Scout candidate to complete his project at the church.

On Wednesday September 16th at 7PM Catherine and I invite you to join us to ask questions or express concerns or support about this policy.

A regular note, the **Annual Financial Meeting** will be held Sunday Oct. 4th at 12:00. During this meeting we will be approving a budget for this fiscal year and considering some changes to the way we

handle cell funds. There will be an informational meeting on Sunday Sept 27th at noon to present the budget and answer questions.

Also coming up very soon is the Committee Chairs Meeting to be held October 8th at 7PM.

A goal of the new Governing Board is to continue the effort to be transparent and available to the Parish. If you have any concerns or questions, please call me or send me an email.

Nancy Landgren
President 781-934-6006 clarkland@verizon.net

SAVE THE DATE **COMMITTEE CHAIRS MEETING**

The fall Committee Chairs meeting will be held Thursday October 8th at 7PM. We hope to have all committees represented, so if you are a Chair and can't attend, please make sure someone else from your committee can come.

VOLUNTEER FOR THE OFFICE

If you wish to help answer phones at the church office from 9-11 or 11-1 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, please call Lenore to sign up. Not only will this help the church, but you will also receive an invitation to the Staff Cruise in the spring – a not to be missed event.

BOY SCOUT POLICY

Catherine and Nancy Landgren will be available to answer questions, to listen to concerns, or anything else you want to say on Wednesday September 16th at 7pm in the Parlor.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL MEETING

September 27th at noon there will be an informational meeting on the budget. The next Sunday, October 4th will be our Annual Financial Meeting.



THANK YOU FROM JACKIE SMITH-MILLER

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for your calls, cards and caring for the recent loss of my sister. Your generous support at this time has meant a lot and I thank you for being the loving congregation that you are.

Hugs,

Jackie Smith-Miller

MEMOIRS: WRITING YOUR LIFE STORY

The Memoirs group will meet on Tuesday, October 13th at 7:15pm in the Marion Fletcher Room to share stories of our **“Garden Memories”**. Please note that this is **third** Tuesday of September. In the future, we will be meeting on the **second** Tuesday of each month. Everyone Welcome.

Leader: Jackie Smith-Miller.



For anyone who is new to the church or unfamiliar with Caring Connection, our mission is to connect people in the church going through a stressful time and needing some support with church friends willing to help out. Some of the things we do are to coordinate meals, find rides to appointments, assist with errands and sometimes simply to give a call offering support and a listening ear. If you or someone in the church is in need of assistance, let us know! Also, if you are not on our helper list and would like to be, please contact us so we can add you to it. For those of you already on the list we thank you!! We take good care of each other at First Parish! For any needs that arise in Sept. contact Rejeana Parker, rejeanaparker@gmail.com, 781-837-9102. Committee members: Gina Angell, George Anderson, Michael Gardner, Deb Worsh, Kim Wyman, Kathy Bray (Chair)



Generous Support from the Norwell Church for South Shore Duxbury **PFLAG**

First Parish Church of Norwell Unitarian Universalist has made a donation in the amount of \$665 to Greater Boston PFLAG to support the work of South Shore Duxbury PFLAG, which was founded last fall by Welcoming Congregation committee members at First Parish Duxbury. The donation will be

used to spread the word and buy educational materials. South Shore Duxbury PFLAG meetings take place at First Parish Church Unitarian Universalist Duxbury every fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 pm. South Shore Duxbury PFLAG is a support group for families and friends of asexual, bisexual, gay, intersexual, lesbian, queer, questioning, and transgender people. For additional information on South Shore Duxbury PFLAG, e-mail us at DuxburyPFLAG@gmail.com or simply attend one of our meetings. All are welcome!

More on the Worship/Music Survey

Remember the survey we asked you to fill out last spring? We received a large number of responses (179 in all) and would like to thank everyone who participated. The Worship/Music committee began reviewing the responses at the end of the church year and will continue to do so through the fall. We are assessing whether the results warrant any changes in our worship or music. For sure we will be trying out some new ideas based on the survey (but don't worry, nothing drastic), and we will continue to ask for your feedback through the church year.

If you missed seeing the survey results that were published in the May Bell Ringer, you can find a PDF containing an overview of the questions and responses on the First Parish Church web site at: http://www.duxburyuu.org/images/uu_church/pdfs/Worship-Music-survey-2015-compact.pdf Don't want to type in the link? If you go to the main page of the church web site (www.duxburyuu.org) you will see a link posted at the upper right hand corner. If you prefer a printed copy, Lenore can print one out for you.

Some interesting things to note as you look at the results:

- People are happy with the early start time of the summer Fisherman's services
- There is strong support for intergenerational services as well as those services organized by groups or committees
- The current schedule for Spoken versus silent Joys and Concerns has broad support
- When viewing the results as broken out by age, the difference in music preferences is remarkable with younger respondents leaning heavily toward alternative (non-classical music) while older respondents prefer the current hymn selection and mostly classical music

If you have any questions or comments on the survey, please feel free to contact me.

Jim Hamilton, Chair, Worship/Music Committee



THURSDAY SEWING CIRCLE

The Thursday Sewing Circle will re-gather on Thursday, September 17th at 10:30am to begin work on articles for the upcoming Christmas Fair. We welcome everyone whether or not you are a seamstress or knitter, etc. Every project involves steps that require cutting, tracing, stuffing, etc. & we welcome your help. Join us for a morning of coffee, conversation and creativity.



The Eco-Challenge is Coming!!

For two weeks in October, the Growth Team will be leading FPC in an Eco-Challenge sponsored by the Northwest Earth Institute. We will join together in intergenerational teams based on a topic we are interested in trying out. The teams will then come together at the end to share their successes and their challenges. Look for more information in the weeks ahead. If you want to learn more about the project, go to nwei.org Click on Eco-Challenge!! I'm thinking of leading a group who spends two weeks trying to buy NOTHING that has plastic. Other ideas will be forthcoming! If you have something you would like to try, let me or any other member of the Growth Team know! Thanks, Cindy Ladd Fi

Father Bill's Community Table

The great First Parish tradition of providing lunch and serving the guests (women, children, men, seniors,) at Father Bill's Community Table in Brockton on the following dates (fourth Saturday of the month):

September 26
 October 24
 November 28
 December 26
 January 23
 February 27
 March 26
 April 23
 May 28

Please visit the Social Justice table during coffee hour after church to learn about our relationship with Father Bill's Community Table and how you can make a difference locally (22 miles from our church but a world away). We will need donations of casseroles (American Chop Suey recipe and pan provided at SJ table), salad fixings, desserts and volunteers (young and old) to serve the guests. Lets make this a great year of service.

Thank you, *Callie Brandeis, Coordinator of Father Bill's Community Table and Social Justice Outreach Committee Member*, calbrandeis@gmail.com, 781-715-5139



THANK YOU FROM BOB HUGHES

To my friends at First Parish Church:

This past summer Father Bill's Main Spring House purchased a new commercial stove for use at The Table. On behalf of the staff and board of directors, please accept this note as thanks for

a wonderful contribution of US\$ 3000.00 that was raised from last year's Thanksgiving collection. I am so proud and honored to represent such a caring congregation that extends a warm welcoming hand to the people who are in need of daily nutrition, as well as a roof to sleep under and a voice to be heard.

Thanks ever so much, with warm wishes and peace to all,

Bob Hughes

Reminder of the First Parish Bulletin Board Policy

Top of the Stairs:

Sept.	Social Justice
Oct.	RE
Nov.	Membership
Dec.	Christmas Gift tags (Box Project)/ Christmas Season Events
Jan.	Partner Church/ Welcoming Committee
Feb.	Small Group Ministry
Mar.	Stewardship
Apr.	Membership
May	RE

Harvey Assembly Hall:

Board 1 (3 sections)

RE

Adult Programming

Social Justice

Board 2 (3 sections)

Welcoming Congregation/ Partner Church

Rotating Section* beginning with Governing Board

Membership

*Open to other committees or events. Please schedule with Lenore.

Important: Use only push pins on the boards. Thumbtacks cause damage over time. If your event needs the Hall Boards contact the committees and ask them to remove their displays.

National Brain Tumor Foundation Benefit Yard Sale!!!

The fifth annual brain tumor benefit yard sale is Saturday, September 12th. The day before In-Gathering! We are still accepting donations of good quality items so if you have something you would like to donate, please contact Cindy Ladd Fiorini at 617-921-6224 or claddfiorini@gmail.com. ALSO and just as importantly - please put the sale on your calendar and stop by between 9-2. We are located at 9 Keenes Brook Lane in Duxbury. You won't believe all the awesome stuff we have. Halloween decorations galore to antiques to jewelry to the usual stuff. Also if you've read all those books you bought at the Summer Fair we have lots to get you through the winter! Thanks so much for your help.

Life Line Screening at FPC!

First Parish Church Unitarian Universalist is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on 9/28/2015. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.**

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP IN PLYMOUTH

Beacon Hospice is offering a Caregiver Support Group at "The Nook" (Plymouth Council on Aging) 44 Nook Road, on the first Tuesday of each month from 12:00-1:30pm. This group is open to anyone in the community who is a caregiver for a family member or friend and will provide a time for support and education with others who are in a similar situation. Respite care provided for loved ones of those who attend the meeting. Bring your loved one to enjoy socialization and activities provided by the Plymouth Technical Studies Health Assistance Program. No previous association to hospice is required to attend. For more information and to pre-register for the group, please call Beacon Hospice at 508-747-7222.

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
DUXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS**

Sunday, October 4th, 2015

Annual Parish Financial Meeting

W A R R A N T

The annual Parish Financial Meeting of the First Parish Church of Duxbury, Massachusetts, is hereby called for 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 4th, 2015 in the Harvey Assembly Hall.

1. Call to Order – Moderator
2. Invocation – Rev. Catherine Cullen, Minister
3. Reading of Minutes of September 2014 Parish Financial Meeting
4. Review reports of the following committees: Capital Projects Planning Committee, Trustees of Parish Funds, Finance Committee, Audit Committee.
5. Treasurer's report and review of church finances for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015.
6. Presentation of and vote on the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 – Finance Committee Chair.
7. To act on the recommendations of the Cell Fund Task Force.
8. To act upon any bequests.
9. To take any action on allocation of endowment income.
10. Closing words and benediction – Minister
11. Adjournment



Cynthia Ladd Fiorini, Clerk

NOTE: An informational after-church meeting to present and discuss the proposed budget will be held on 12 p.m., Sept. 27th in the Parlor. Please see the budget on the church website (www.uuduxbury.org) or request a copy from the church office (both will be available after September 15th), and come with your questions.