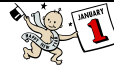


The Bell-Ringer

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



JANUARY 2016



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Jan. 10th -- "Meeting Challenges" -- Catherine will preach on our church-wide theme for January. How will we deal with the various challenges that we will no doubt experience in this new year?

Jan. 17th -- "The Tragedy of Domestic Violence" -- Catherine will be joined by Kathleen Hoffman (Coordinator of Outreach and Education and a Reverend of the First Spiritualist church of Onset Ma) as we consider the difficult topic of domestic violence.

Jan. 24th -- "Escalating Inequality: A Personal and Pastoral Reflection" -- Catherine will be joined by author and activist Chuck Collins, who will discuss the impact of inequality on all that we cherish --and the path forward to an economy that works for everyone. **(SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR HEADSTART)**

Jan. 31st -- "Swapping Pulpits!" -- Catherine will be preaching at the UU Congregation of South County (where she was interim minister before she joined us 12 years ago) as this Rhode Island church celebrates its 25th year. Longtime UU minister Rev. Jan Knost (the current Interim Minister at South County) will preach in our pulpit.

COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY JAN 6

Building & Grounds 9:00a.m.

THURSDAY JAN 7

Book Club 9:00a.m.

Alliance 10:00-2:00p.m.

Worship 7:00p.m.

FRIDAY JAN 8

Committee on Ministry 5:00p.m.

SATURDAY JAN. 9

PETER NOYES MEMORIAL 11:00A.M.

SUNDAY JAN 10

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30a.m.

Worship 10:30a.m.

Social Justice 12:00pm

SGM Facilitators Meeting 12:00pm

HIP 6-7:30p.m.

Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30p.m.

MONDAY JAN 11

Welcome Cong. 7:00p.m.

Finance Meeting 7:00pm

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

TUESDAY JAN 12

Communications Meeting 7:00pm

Memoirs 7:15p.m.

Trustees of Parish Funds 7:30pm

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30pm

WEDNESDAY JAN 13

Kindred Spirits 10:00-11:30a.m.

Cell Tower Task Force 3:00pm

Bylaws Task Force 7:30pm

THURSDAY JAN 14

Book Club 9:00 a.m.

Alliance Sewing Group 10:00-2:00p.m.

FRIDAY JAN. 15

LIFELINE SCREENING 8:30-5:30pm

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER...

*In out of the way places of the heart
Where your thoughts never think to wander
This beginning has been quietly forming
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.*

*For a long time it has watched your desire
Feeling the emptiness grow inside you
Noticing how you willed yourself on
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown....*

*Then the delight, when your courage kindled,
And out you stepped onto new ground,
Your eyes young again with energy and dream
A path of plenitude opening before you.*

*Though your destination is not clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is one with your life's desire.....John O'Donohue*

(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

Alex Pevzner, Jr., Junior Choir Director

Rev. Robert R. Walsh, Minister Emeritus

Jackie Smith-Miller, Director of Religious Education, Emerita

Sunsue Fleming, Director of Religious Education, Emerita

Lenore O'Malley, Church Administrator

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the gift of a brand new year--the grace of a new beginning (and a leap year to boot!).

I'm not one to make New Year's "resolutions," but I do get a clear sense of "beginning anew" at this time of year. I am also mindful that something has to end for something new to begin in our lives.

What needs to end in your life in order to make room for the "beginning that has been quietly forming, waiting until you were ready to emerge?" My New Year's prayer for you is that you do indeed do *whatever you need to do* in your life to unfurl yourself into the grace of this new beginning...

May 2016 be one of the best years of your life!!

Catherine



Ring in the New Year!

Welcome back and so many thanks to everyone who made all our holiday festivities so special. We will be trying some (sort of) new things this January and enjoying some old favorites. On the sort of new side, the children in grades K-6 will spend six weeks (January 10 – Feb. 14) exploring all the meanings of home – comfort, belonging, identity, spiritual and material. This multi-age project is called “The Heart of Home.” They will be building the Church Streetardboard houses, as a part of their exploration. **(If you have any large cardboard boxes, we would appreciate the donation.)** On Feb. 14 we will have an intergenerational service with a presentation by the younger children and also a contribution from the youth and adults who went on the mission trip to West Virginia last year.

The interim process is largely a matter of sifting through old and new ideas and trying to determine what suits us today. It is always important to keep in mind that the underlying mission of the R.E. program is to provide a spiritual home for our children. The details, shape or size of that program may change with the times – much like your winter coat, that keeps you warm, probably looks different from the one you wore as a kid – but the mission remains the same. Towards the end of January you will be receiving a survey asking you what you think the program should look like going forward. You will be asked to dream, but also to tell us what tradeoffs and compromises you might be willing to make. We live in a world of limited human and financial resources and we must be wise stewards of those resources.

But, we will also have some fun. On January 31 the HIP Youth Group is sponsoring a fun filled night of BINGO! and food. Tickets will be on sale at coffee hour starting January 10. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children to a family max of \$25. (Please note there will be NO cash prizes.) We are looking for donations of new or nearly new items for this popular event. This is a great re-gifting opportunity! Please contact Ruth with any donations.

Ruth Owen
Interim DRE Director





RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

R.E. Calendar:

Sunday, January 10 – Feb. 14

“The Heart of Home” multi-age project and service.

Sunday, January 31

BINGO! 5-7:30 PM

Pageant DVD's are here - see Ruth to get yours.

Adult Religious Education

Bible Workbench, a chance to learn about the Bible from a liberal religious perspective and to see if the stories relate to our own lives. Our next meeting was rescheduled to **Monday, January 11, 7-8:30 PM**, All welcome. Contact Ruth for more information.

1+ A New Group for Widows, Becoming a widow means going from being one of two to being one again. But, it is not quite like being single or divorced. Join us for the organizational meeting for a new group for widows. This is not therapy, bereavement counseling or financial planning. We are hoping to form a group for social activities, conversation and maybe some shared wisdom. Open to all women who have lost a spouse or partner. **Thursday, January 21 at 4 PM**, Contact Ruth for more information.

Memoirs – Our next meeting will be January 12th at 7:15pm and our topic will be an event of one's choosing. Come and join us!

Girl Up Shoe Drive

Maddy Welch, HIP youth group member, and her Marshfield High School Girl Up Club are starting a shoe drive fundraiser! Girl Up is an international club through the United Nations Foundation that strives to provide awareness and funds for women in developing countries and around the world.

New and gently used shoes of any style, gender, and size are welcome!

A GREAT opportunity to get rid of shoes that are too small or you don't wear anymore. Goes to a great cause!

There will be a box for donated shoes in the Church School R.E. Closet which is open from about 10-12:30 every Sunday morning.

With questions or concerns call, email, or text 781-258-7401 or 16mowelch@students.mpsd.org
Shoes are donated and sold in markets in developing nations and \$0.40 of profit per pound of shoes is donated to our club to give to a non-profit organization of our choice that supports our cause.



Ring Out Justice!
News of Social Justice Activities at First Parish Church

Social Justice Committee Members:

Carrie Meier, Carol Nappellio, Peter Nappellio, Callie Brandeis, Andrea Brandeis, Mary Flanagan, Donna Savicki, Cindy Wilson, Bob Hughes, Nancy Nowak, Sally Delisa

Meeting: second Sundays 12 noon to 1 PM

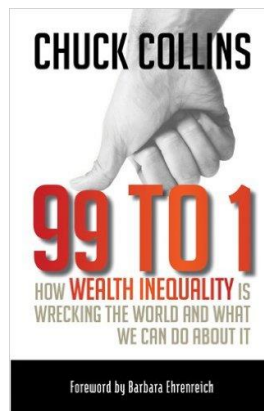
Please Join Us! All Welcome!

Sunday, January 24th

Catherine will be sharing the pulpit with Chuck Collins, Author

99 to 1

How Wealth Inequality is Wrecking the World and What We Can Do About It
followed by book sales and signing in the Harvey Assembly Hall



The focus of the worldwide Occupy protests is creating a world that works for 99% of people and businesses, not just the richest and most powerful 1%. But who are the 99%? Who are the 1%? How extensive and systemic is inequality in different areas of society? What are its causes and consequence? How is inequality changing in our world? And what can be done about it? For many years Chuck Collins has been a top leader in studying, speaking about, and writing about these questions. In this book he brings together in one place, for the first time, information that has been widely scattered in many different articles, reports, and websites.

The 99 to 1 How Wealth Inequality is Wrecking the World and What We Can Do About It Service is sponsored by the Social Justice Committee.

Chuck Collins' book, 99 to 1, is our First Parish Church "All Church Read".

A special collection will be taken for our local Head Start Schools that serve our community's poorest and most vulnerable children ages 2.9 to 6 years.

Special Collection for Head Start on Jan. 24th

Chuck Collins, author of 99 to One, will speak about the inequality that causes so many families to have both parents working at low paying jobs, anxious about meeting the daily needs of their family. For them Head Start is the answer to childcare and to a pre-school experience that helps them learn how to learn. Head Start's commitment is to give every vulnerable child an opportunity to succeed.

However, federal funding for Head Start has been lowered over the years. Students enrolled at Head Start are the poorest and most vulnerable children ages 2.9 to 6 years old. The students have social, emotional and behavioral skill development needs on top of academic school readiness skills. Our local Head Start schools have an annual budget of \$50 per classroom for field trips. Children stay inside in the winter due to lack of proper winter outerwear and/or the inaccessible playground and when the children do go outside, they play in small playground with plastic toys.

Children do not have a chance to learn about the outside world of nature. There is not enough money to bus a class to a zoo, a farm, a park, or a museum. There is not enough money to have experts in nature or history come to a class.

We will have a special collection for our local Head Start school to provide materials, field trips, and teacher training. Head Start will use the funds to help develop the social, emotional, behavioral and school readiness skills that our community's most vulnerable children require. Our collection will be on Jan 24th. Checks should be made out to First Parish with Head Start in the memo.

The Social Justice Committee

Father Bill's Community Table - Saturday, January 23rd

Thank you for supporting Father Bill's Community Table. Our special collection on Sunday, November 22nd raised [\\$1787.02](#) Father Bill's Community Program. Thank you for your generosity.

We will be serving the guests of Father Bill's on Saturday, January 23rd. Please stop by the Social Justice table during coffee hour to learn more about our relationship with Father Bill's Community Table and/or to sign up for a dessert, salad fixing, and casserole or to serve.

Please save the dates for our Father Bill's luncheons:

January 23rd
February 27th
March 26th
April 23rd
May 28th

Thank you.

Callie Brandeis

Coordinator of Father Bill's Community Table and Social Justice Committee Member



Overnights of Hospitality – Want to Help?

The **Plymouth Task Force to End Homelessness** provides permanent housing coupled with supportive services to homeless individuals in our area. But there is often need for short-term emergency sheltering for individuals before they can find housing that will meet their long term needs. The **Overnights of Hospitality** program provides that emergency sheltering for homeless men in the winter. We at First Parish support **Overnights of Hospitality** by cooking and serving meals for about 20 men twice monthly. It is a great way to lend a hand to those in acute need in our community.

Upcoming opportunities to help: Cooks and servers are needed for the following dates: 1/7, 2/4, 2/14, 3/3. We will pair you with someone who knows the ropes and provide you with all the information you need. Nothing fancy is required! Mark your calendars and contact Mary Flanagan: mcflanagan46@comcast.net or 781-934-8125. Or stop by to get your questions answered and sign up at the Social Justice table after church.



Guest At Your Table Thank You!

Thank you for your generous contributions to UUSC through our Guest At Your Table initiative during this past holiday season. \$1,166 was collected in boxes and from the plate. A final tally, which will include contributions sent directly to UUSC, will be available soon. If you missed the GAYT opportunity to give to UUSC, you can donate on line at uusc.org/donate. Gifts of \$125 or more are eligible to be matched dollar for dollar by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, N.Y. We hope that UUSC and its human rights work was a part of the meaning of this season for you and your family. In our country and around the world, oppressed, marginalized people thank you.

SUNDAY JAN. 17

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Membership 9:00a.m.
 HIP 6:00-7:30p.m.
 Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30 p.m.

MONDAY JAN. 18**MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**

OFFICE CLOSED

DIC Breakfast at FPC 8:15a.m.
 MLK Service at 9:00a.m.

TUESDAY JAN. 19

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30pm

THURSDAY JAN. 21

Historical Meeting 9:00a.m.
 Book Club 9:00 a.m.
 Alliance 10-2:00 p.m.
 1+ Group – 4:00p.m.
 Governing Board Meeting 7:00pm

FRIDAY JAN. 22

SGM Steering 4:30pm

SATURDAY JAN. 23

Community Table 9:00a.m.

BLACK TIE BINGO 6:00-10:00p.m.

SUNDAY JAN. 24

Bell Ringer Due Date

Box Project Due Date

Special Collection

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Buddhist Group 5-6:30 p.m.

MONDAY JAN. 25

Building Use Mtg. 9:30a.m.

Jr. High Parents Small Group

7:00pm

PFLAG 7:30p.m.

TUESDAY JAN. 26

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30pm

THURSDAY JAN. 28

Book Club 9:00 a.m.

Alliance 10-2:00 p.m.

FRIDAY JAN. 29

ALL COMMITTEE CHAIR MTG.

AT CEDAR HILL 7:00-9:30pm

SUNDAY JAN. 31

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30a.m.

Worship 10:30a.m.

HIP BINGO 5:00-7:30p.m.

Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30p.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 **JAN.**, please contact **CALEEN ALEXANDERSON** at 781-264-3668 or email at caleena@verizon.net. For **FEB.**, please contact **KATHY BRAY** at 339-793-0073 or email kbray8832@aol.com.

Start Your New Year Off With 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. 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 (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!

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.

People News

Condolences go out to **SHERRI WYMAN** on the passing of her mother, **Barbara Jean Morse**. Cards can be sent to Sherri at: 101 Meadowview Street, Marshfield, MA 02050

PETER NOYES MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held at FPC Saturday, January 9th at 11:00a.m. If you can bring finger foods, please bring them by the church or call Polly Lanman at 781-934-5412.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JUSTIN CONNOR!

Congressman Bill Keating has recommended Justin to both West Point and the Naval Academy. Good Luck Justin!

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 9:30 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 Committee7 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 Ministry5 p.m. (1st Fri. each month)**SATURDAYS** - Brockton Soup Kitchen9:15 a.m. (4th Sat. each month)**Organ Restoration Fund Drive Nears Goal**

Thanks to the generosity of church members and friends and the community at large, our organ restoration fund drive has raised more than \$34,000 in the past month. The public appeal's goal was \$40,000, to match \$40,000 pledged from cell funds by the church's Governing Board. With one major gift promised but not yet received, it is expected that the drive will reach or surpass its goal this month.

With the success of the drive in sight, the Organ Restoration Task Force is working to develop a contract with the Andover Organ Company to rebuild the tracker-action organ, which was built in 1853 by Boston organ builder William B.D. Simmons. The actual restoration work will begin a year from now and is expected to take about ten months. The organ will be removed from the choir loft after next Christmas and taken to the company's workshop. It is expected to be reinstalled before Thanksgiving of 2017.

The total cost of the project, which will include a slight expansion of the instrument, is estimated at \$465,000. Before launching the public appeal, we had raised \$382,000. Although the goal has nearly been met, donations are still being accepted. They may be one-time gifts or pledges to be paid by September 2017. If the drive exceeds its goal, we will be able to reduce our use of cell funds, leaving those funds available for other church projects. For information on how to contribute, please contact the church office.

President's Letter

Welcome to 2016!

Congratulations to the Organ Restoration Task Force Team on the drive to complete the Organ Restoration Fund! They have reached their goal so in a few days we will sign a contract with Andover Organ to restore our organ, with the work scheduled to begin after this year's Christmas Eve Service. Thanks to everyone who participated.

There are a couple of concerns that have been brought up recently that I will pass on here.

The shed is used by the Social Justice Committee as a gathering place for donations to the Box Project. We need to keep the tables empty and the space open. Therefore we cannot accept items for the Summer Fair until we call for donations. People have also placed items in the shed without protection; crowding in the shed requires moving these items around which is difficult and can cause damage.

The Governing Board is looking to create policy about the requests the church makes for monetary and other donations, such as special collections. The goal is to coordinate these collections and communicate about their scheduling and frequency. If you have questions or insights into this issue, please share them with me or anyone on the Governing Board.

Nancy Landgren



Service Auction, Saturday February 27th

Saturday, February 27th there will be a service auction and dinner.

Tickets Available:

After Church, In the church Office, or by calling Sharon at 781-826-6887.

Listed below are some suggestions of services to guide you as you decide how you can contribute.

1. For those without easily identifiable time or talent donate a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant, nail salon, dog groomer, etc.
2. Design a logo
3. Detail a car
4. Give some music lessons
5. Teach a group how to make baskets, quilts, knit, etc
6. Saturday morning mister fix-it
7. Bake a pie , cake or cookies each month for a family
8. Tour of historic Duxbury
9. Clean out a garage or basement
10. Haul junk to the dump
11. Edit an original manuscript or poems
12. Help write a resume
13. Computer services
14. Electronic services for the technology challenged
15. Dog walking or sitting
16. Wine tasting party
17. Singing telegram
18. Drive to the airport
19. Knitting lessons

Committee Chairs

Friday, January 29th, 7:00-9:30pm

Committee Chairs Social at Cedar Hill!

Please let your vice/co-chairs know, and also your significant others are invited to the event.



Bell Ringer Deadline
January 24th, 2016

New Year's Bell Ringing Group



Including the Connors family from Dar Es Salaam joining local Connors family and Jackie Smith-Miller family, and sorry we missed 4 who left before photo. HAPPY NEW YEAR and this year be blessed around the world. PEACE – **Judi & Terry Vose**



Worship and Music Committee

Worship & Music Committee Report on Actions Taken as a Result of the Spring 2015 Worship & Music Survey

Our thanks again to the Congregation for their efforts to complete our most recent survey and to provide thoughtful feedback on our worship practices. With nearly 180 responses we believe this survey had among the broadest participation of any recent survey done by the church.

The survey results have been used by the Committee to both reaffirm some practices and to initiate small changes in others.

Among the areas where our analysis of the survey results indicated that some adjustment in our practices, or emphases in our practices might be appropriate included the following: (1) making more use of a variety of prayer practices during our worship services; (2) planning for more intergenerational worship services as part of our worship calendar; (3) planning for including more musical styles as part of our worship practice; and (4) improving the sound system. (Note in regard to this last point: We are making progress, including advanced discussions with potential vendors, in plans for a further upgrading of our sound system.) The committee is working hard to implement these adjustments in ways that are supportive of the diversity of views within the congregation.

In other areas the worship survey results supported continuation of a number of our practices. For example, there was broad support for the quality and variety or range of Catherine's sermons. That was certainly reassuring and very valuable information to have. Similarly, the congregation was supportive of entrusting Catherine and the Worship & Music Committee with the broad discretion to select themes for worship services, including the focusing of particular Sundays on the work of various groups or committees in the church, (e.g. Youth, Alliance, Welcoming Congregation, Social Justice, etc.) Thus no major changes are likely there, except as individual circumstances might make appropriate. The manner in which Joys & Concerns and Announcements are recognized also received broad support, thus reaffirming continuation of our current practices.

The Worship & Music Committee strives to help make the worship experience at the church as meaningful and as supportive of the spiritual needs of the congregation as we possibly can. If you have any comments or concerns, please bring them to the attention of our Chair, Jim Hamilton, or any of the other members of the Committee.



Partner Church News

We received this e-mail on Dec. 23rd from Lorant Barabas who is on the Board of Trustees of our partner church in Nyaradszereda, Transylvania. We are in touch with Lorant on a regular basis and are fortunate that he is a good friend whose English is a whole lot better than our Hungarian. He cares deeply about his church, and worked tirelessly to help get it built. It is important to understand that the bells in the church are a symbol of the congregation's religion. The Unitarian church stands in the town of Nyaradszereda surrounded by three churches who have bells.

Dear Friends. In occasion of this Christmas season we the Board of Trustees from Nyaradszereda think with love to you and we wish you all the best in this holy season of years! We are happy to be partner church with you. We started this journey at 2004 when we started our building project. Meanwhile we visited you and you visited us, too. Right now in our church building we have electric heating on our benches and also thermo-motive system for heating the air inside the building. We are not going to heat outside the building with this thermo-motive system ... you may understand why :) . But we do have other thing to do in outside the building: in tower we are working to have bells. We thank you for your donations for this purpose, and we also donate for this goal and we wrote applications for financial helps we also gained. We are closed to have financial base for a bell and now we hope to work with this in this coming year. We hope to have two bells, at list because this is important in our tradition and this is what the pragmatic present asking for. When we thank your donations for bells I am letting you know the results of this work we inform you about possibilities of donating in continuation for this second bell. Please donate for this project to see how we finish our church building project. We hope to hear in our bells your beating of hearts as we experience in power of walls and on warm air in Church inside. And we hope to have more visits from you and to have more visits from us visiting you sometime in future! Yours from who visited us and I am writing in the name of Board of Trustees: Lorant

The Partner Church Committee will meet this month to discuss what we can do to help with the funds we have available.

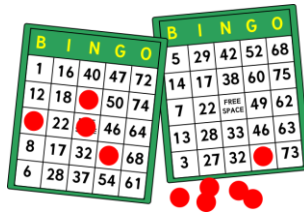


Volunteer Needed to Edit and Post Worship Service Recordings

The Worship-Music Committee is looking for a volunteer with computer/web skills to take over the role of editing and posting the audio recordings of our worship services on the church web site. This is an important task that helps the church broaden its reach and bring the worship experience to those who can't attend on any given Sunday. If this opportunity is of interest to you, please contact me or any member of the Worship-Music Committee. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Jon Lehman who has dedicated his time and efforts to this task for many years. Thank you, Jon!

Jim Hamilton

Chair, Worship-Music Committee



**THE DUXBURY SENIOR CENTER AND THE DUXBURY INTERFAITH
COUNCIL TEAM UP FOR "BLACK TIE BINGO"
TO RAISE REVENUE FOR THOSE WHO NEED FUEL ASSISTANCE
JANUARY 23, 2016**

Black Tie Bingo is not your average Bingo game at the Duxbury Senior Center. This time, it has a higher purpose, raising money for those in need of fuel assistance. In partnership with the Duxbury Interfaith Council, this fundraiser is for people of all ages and backgrounds who are without heat, in what is typically a very long and cold winter. Our own, Rev. Catherine Cullen is the Chair!!

Not paying for medications, or not paying rent or the monthly mortgage as a replacement for fuel, can cause unbearable strain. Both organizations see this on a daily basis, as we help the record number of families applying for assistance in 2015-2016. The cutbacks in the program have created additional strain, and we hope to fill some gaps.

Black Tie Bingo offers hope to everyone struggling with these problems without giving up other of life's necessities, and will do so by holding this unique fundraiser that includes people, young and old, in Duxbury. Local business have generously contributed \$250 to be bingo game sponsors or by offering gift certificates for game winners. From door prizes to appetizers and desserts, January 24th can change the lives of your friends, neighbors and relatives.

Tickets can be purchased for \$50 a person at the Senior Center or at Westwinds Bookstore. The event takes place on January 23 from 6-10 PM at the Senior Center. All are welcome to help support this very important cause!

Membership

Does First Parish Church Feel Like Your Church Home

To those committed friends who are part of our wonderful congregation but haven't signed the membership book yet, we would like to point out some benefits of membership to you, your families and our church including:

- furthering your spiritual commitment
- voting at congregational meetings
- receiving the UU World Magazine
- participating on lay leadership committees
- reduced fees for weddings, funerals, and/or rental of church space

Please contact Rev. Catherine Cullen at 781-934-6532 ext. 3 or send her an e-mail at therevcatherine@aol.com to set up your appointment!

Yes, we think you fit here. Yes, we need you. Yes, there are advantages to joining. Yes, it's a great new year's resolution. Yes, by signing the book you help keep our congregation vital and growing, together with all the other members!

Catherine



SMALL GROUP SIGN-UPS IN FEBRUARY!!!

During the month of February, everyone who is interested will have the opportunity to sign up to participate in Small Groups. Look for us during coffee hour at a table or give us a shout. If you know about the program, great, but if not, here is a little information!

Small Groups are designed to foster connection and caring, to provide an avenue for personal and spiritual growth and ultimately to strengthen the fabric of our church community. Small Groups are open to anyone who might wish to participate. The groups are guided by facilitators, gather either once or twice a month, meet in people's homes, or at church, and follow prepared session plans. Groups are always open to new members. They provide opportunities to serve either the church community or the larger community outside the church in a group setting. Back when the program started, in Unitarian Universalist churches, the Rev. Glenn Turner said: "people come to us seeking intimacy and spiritual growth, and that too often all we have to offer are committee meetings." Now committee meetings are very important to the work of the church, but so are opportunities for more personal connections.

Are you interested in joining a small group or would you like to talk to someone more about it? We have a specific NEED now for a FEW GOOD MEN for a Wednesday evening group that meets monthly on the first Wednesday of the month. There are openings in other groups as well.

Please contact any member of the Small Group Steering Committee for more information.

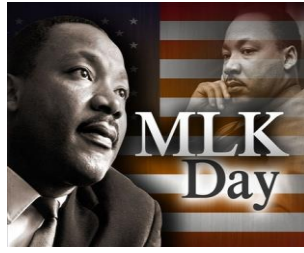
We are: Cindy Ladd Fiorini, claddfiorini@gmail.com 617-921-6224; David Murphy, dmurphy541@gmail.com 781-934-7845; Mary Langner marylangner77@gmail.com 781-837-2968; or Catherine Cullen therevcatherine@aol.com 781-635-5906.



Nature Outings

Snowy Owls: We are planning a Snowy Owl outing for January 31 immediately following coffee hour. Four wheel drive vehicles may be needed. Therefore, it will be important for you to sign up for this event in advance. Also, let us know if you have a four wheel drive and can drive that day. Contact either Cindy Ladd Fiorini(claddfiorini@gmail.com) or Sally Delisa (delisasally@yahoo.com).

1623 Green Harbor Trail: In February or early March there will be a walk behind FPC on a portion of this historic trail. Watch for more information.



MLK Jr Prayer Breakfast

The Duxbury Diversity Committee and the Interfaith Council will once again sponsor the annual MLK Jr. Prayer Breakfast on Monday, January 18. The event will take place at St. John's Church, 410 Washington St., Duxbury. Breakfast will begin at 8:15 AM and the service will begin at 9 AM. Tribute to the life and legacy of Reverend King will be made and Robert Trestan will be the featured speaker.

Robert Trestan is Executive Director of Anti-Defamation League's Boston office where he oversees the League's program delivery, advocacy initiatives and leadership development. He is an experienced Jewish professional dedicated to developing community partnerships and initiatives that provide justice, equality and fair treatment for everyone. Most recently he represented the League at the White House Summit on Countering Violent Extremism where he raised concerns that anti-Semitism remains at the core of extremist ideology. Before taking the helm of the Boston office, he served as ADL's Civil Rights Counsel for 8 years where he led the League's Cyberhate Response Team and played a key leadership role in developing an industry response to cyberhate. In Massachusetts, he built a state wide coalition which was responsible for drafting one of the most comprehensive anti-bullying laws in the country. Internationally, he has consulted and provided expertise on hate crimes to NGO's and civil society groups in Austria, Israel, Poland and Turkey.

Commit to combating prejudice by joining us in prayer. There will be a requested donation of \$5 per person or \$10 per family. For more information please contact the Interfaith Council at 781-934-8388.



Alliance Sewing Group

We will be starting up our sewing group again this **Thursday, January 7th** at 10:30a.m.! We will be starting to prepare our crafts for the Summer Fair. Everyone is welcome!!



SNOW CANCELLATIONS



If we have to cancel church for our Sunday service, please check the message that is on the church's phone or in the local media outlets. We will try to use WATD Marshfield, WBZ Channel 4, WCVB Channel 5, and also Channel 7NEWS.