

# The Bell-Ringer

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



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Theme for April is **"AWAKENING"**.

**Sunday, April 3rd -- "Pledge Sunday: Generosity Speaks"** – The theme for our 2022 Stewardship Pledge Drive says it all: "Generosity Is the Foundation of Our Community." As part of this service, we'll hear voices of gratitude for all that our generosity makes possible at First Parish.

**Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> -- "Wakening the World"** – Palm Sunday remembers the day the people of Jerusalem hailed Jesus as a king. He had awakened their world but was then condemned for it. Can we rouse our world to greater good but emerge triumphant?

**Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> -- "Maundy Thursday Communion Service, (UU Style) Live and On-Zoom 7:00pm"**

**Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> -- "Sunrise Service on Duxbury Beach @ 6:05 am (sunrise is at 6:20 a.m.)"** - The hardy among us will join Catherine as we gather on the beach to the right of the handicap ramp to share a beautiful sunrise service!

**Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>-- "It's Always Darkest Before the Dawn"**-- Catherine returns from sabbatical for our Annual Easter Service (zoom and in-person).. **BRING AN EASTER EGG THAT YOU HAVE DECORATED FOR OUR EGG TREE. BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES! THE CHILDREN WILL START IN THE SANCTUARY, THEN GO OUTSIDE FOR AN EASTER EGG HUNT.**

**Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> -- "Earth Day 2022 -- Responsibility, Restoration and the Limits to Resilience"**- In the midst of everything else that's going on in our world, the work of Climate Action/Climate Justice must continue.

## COMING EVENTS

### SATURDAY APRIL 2

**South Shore Folk Concert 7:00pm**

### SUNDAY APRIL 3

#### **PLEDGE SUNDAY**

Worship 10:00am

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 6

Bell Choir 4:00pm

### FRIDAY APRIL 8

Set-up Service Auction

### SATURDAY APRIL 9

**SERVICE AUCTION! 5:00pm**

### SUNDAY APRIL 10

Social Justice Mtg. 9:00am

Worship 10:00am

### MONDAY APRIL 11

SSHAGLY 7:00pm

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 13

Bell Choir 4:00pm



From the Staff at First Parish Church!

Rev. Dr. Catherine Cullen

Ed Swanborn

Dr. Kate Sullivan

Lenore O'Malley

Elaine Stephansky

John Russo

Richard Roquemore

Damian Purro

## First Parish Church

*Unitarian Universalist, Duxbury, Massachusetts*

P.O. Box 1764, Duxbury, Massachusetts 02331

842 Tremont St. (Route 3A)

Email: [uuduxbury@verizon.net](mailto:uuduxbury@verizon.net)

Telephone: 781-934-6532

Website: [www.duxburyuu.org](http://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. Dr. Catherine Cullen, Minister**

**Dr. Kate Sullivan, Dir. of Community Life & Learning**

**Lenore O'Malley, Church Administrator**

**Elaine Stephansky, Bell Choir Director**

**Edwin Swanborn, Music Director**

**Jackie Smith-Miller, Dir. of Religious Education, Emerita**

**Sunsue Fleming, Director of Religious Education, Emerita**



### **The Service Auction is Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>!**

The Service Auction and Dinner is always a fun evening with an amazing gourmet meal prepared by our renowned First Parish Church chefs, led by the incomparable Ian Campbell. Dinner is followed by marvelous desserts supplied by our celebrated First Parish Church bakers. After dinner we will auction off services, vacation stays, dinners, adventures, and many more items, all donated by First Parish Church members and friends. We'll also have childcare and fun activities downstairs for the kids.

And this year for the first time we will have a virtual component for those folks who wish to participate in the auction, but don't wish to attend the dinner. We are just in the process of setting up the auction web site but you can check it out as it develops at <https://www.32auctions.com/uudux2022>. You can start bidding on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

You can sign up for tickets now. The price (a steal) is \$15 per person. You can get tickets after church at coffee hour or you can reserve them by calling Lenore in the office at 781-934-6532 or contacting Sharon Nabreski, [snabreski@me.com](mailto:snabreski@me.com). Seating is limited so don't dawdle. Tickets have sold out in the past.

And of course we need your donations of fabulous service ideas for the auction. Do you have a skill or service or other item that you would like to offer in the auction? Send your idea with a short description to Sharon Nabreski ([snabreski@me.com](mailto:snabreski@me.com)) or Jim Hamilton ([jim@greenharbor.com](mailto:jim@greenharbor.com)).

*Generosity is the Foundation  
of our Community!*

**First Parish Pledge Drive 2022  
Kickoff April 3rd!**



**Join us for brunch on Sunday, April 3rd after worship  
to celebrate your generosity!!**

The Stewardship team would like to thank everyone who financially supported FPC during the dark ages of Covid. Honestly we were not sure how Covid and not meeting in person would effect pledging. Our hearts were bursting with gratitude when we witnessed new people stepping up to pledge for the first time and so many of you generously increasing your pledges. You made a difference and sustained our operations and outreach during a time when our staff had to quickly adapt to doing everything differently. Thank you, Thank you Thank you!

**Our 2023 pledge theme is "Generosity is the Foundation of our Community"**. This is true in so many ways, but stewardship's focus is of course on financial generosity.

There are many ways to pledge, including online by clicking the button below, mailing or dropping of your pledge card at church, or join us for brunch and pledge on the spot! Amy Hamilton will be available to help you remember your last year's pledge.

[Pledge Online 2022](#)

[Pledge Guide](#)

# Governing Board

## **From the Governing Board: The President's Report**

The Governing Board welcomed Nancy Ovaska of the Stewardship committee at our March meeting. She provided an update on Stewardship activities (see elsewhere in the Bell Ringer for more on these) and asked the Governing Board members to submit their pledges early. I encourage you all to respond promptly when you look over the Stewardship mailing that was sent recently or are contacted by members of the Stewardship committee. Pledges from church members and friends allow us to anticipate incoming funds and be prepared for the expenses that the church incurs. These are vital to our ability to budget appropriately.

The Pandemic Fundraising working group (whose members include Jay Bray, Sharon Nabreski, Pat Slechta, Tracy Wagner, and I) is in the midst of preparations for our Service Auction, which will take place on the evening of Saturday April 9th. See elsewhere in the Bell Ringer for more information on that event. And if you haven't started doing so already, search out your basement and attic for potential items to donate to our Summer Fair (Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup> – the day before Father's Day).

The Governing Board voted to schedule two all-church meetings:

- Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup> – A special meeting to vote on what to do about our historic tablets, the cornice above the pulpit, and the drapes behind the pulpit. (See elsewhere in the Bell Ringer for an update from me about recent Envisioning the Meeting House in the 21st Century activities.)
- Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> – Our annual program meeting

We also voted to add Marsha MacVicar to the Worship-Music committee.

The Governing Board has stepped in to help with coffee hour in recent weeks and will also be assisting on Stewardship Sunday (April 3<sup>rd</sup>). Now that we are back to having a regular coffee hour, the members of the Fellowship/Hospitality committee need your help in providing goodies. Keep an eye out for e-distro messages on this topic. We'll be returning to the mode of asking for coffee hour donations based on last name in alphabetical subsections (i.e., last name beginning with H through L).

The monthly 'Talk with the Governing Board' session will take place on Sunday April 24th. Vice President Cindy Ladd Fiorini will be joined with Governing Board Physical Plant Liaison Lester Lloyd to take questions after church both in-person and by Zoom.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

All the best,

**Jim Hamilton, Governing Board President**

781-724-6456, [jim@greenharbor.com](mailto:jim@greenharbor.com)



## **Envisioning the Meeting House in the 21st Century Update**

By the time you read this, we will have completed four discussion sessions about next steps in regard to our historic tablets, the wording on the crown molding, and the drapes behind the pulpit. We will have at least one more session before mid-April to go over wording for a motion at the special meeting now scheduled for Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Attendance at the discussion sessions has been good and the conversations have been thoughtful. Around 25 people attended the after-church session on Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup> and nine people attended the first of the Zoom sessions. Once these sessions are complete, the Envisioning the Meeting House in the 21st Century working group will meet to draft a motion that we feel will draw broad support at the special meeting. Keep in mind that any vote at that meeting will require a two-thirds majority.

This vote reminds us that we, as Unitarian Universalists, are part of a living tradition and are doing our best to promote our values as times change. Any decisions around our historic tablets are part of a broader process in which we envision what we as a church community need to do to remain vital and relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is heartening that so many of you are deeply engaged in this process.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the members of the working group.

All the best,

Jim Hamilton for the Envisioning the Meeting House in the 21st Century working group

The other members of the working group are: Elaine Bryant, Rev. Dr. Catherine Cullen (on sabbatical), Caroline Mitchell, Dorothy Pilla, Carol Robison, Emily Simeone, and Tracy Wagner



Our theme this month is **Awakening**, and we'll be exploring that in RE by continuing to focus on our focusing on our Principles and Sources. We'll be spending time outside as the weather allows, to learn about how to be good UU stewards of our beautiful planet. Our 7<sup>th</sup> UU Promise, our Violet Promise, reminds us to **Value our home, Earth, that we share with all living things**. For Earth Day (April 22<sup>nd</sup>) we'll be planting some butterfly-loving native plants to help us live into our promise of protecting Mother Earth and all of it's inhabitants!



This month we will continue to begin our services all together in the Sanctuary for the first 10-15 minutes of the service. I've had lots of wonderful feedback from kids and adults about how much they love having the kids in the service each week. The RE comm. and I are continuing to with the Worship & Music Comm. to make this time in the service participatory for **ALL AGES**.



Thanks to all that came to support our Youth during their Youth Service: Our Dream, Embodied. They worked hard to create a service that showed how new elements can enhance the worship experience for all of us. The Youth are enjoying gathering in person again, and as the weather warms, we'll be planning a couple of field trips. We are also preparing for our Bridging Ceremony in May, when we will celebrate Julia Conner as she graduates and moves on to her next big adventure, college!

We are planning to continue our collaboration with our friends of the Shirat Hayam congregation in Marshfield. We had a hugely successful Fun Friday Purim Party (attended by nearly 80 people) that spurred conversation of future joint activities. Stay tuned as we draw our circle wider into the community!



What will be awakening in you this month as the Spring brings **LIGHT** and **COLOR** to us all? Peace & Blessings, Kate



## Ring Out Justice!



### News of Social Justice Activities at First Parish Church

#### Social / Racial / Environmental Justice at First Parish Church

*The mission of the Social Justice Committee is to provide opportunities for First Parish Church members to promote justice through service, education, and advocacy.*

*The memberships of Social, Racial and Environmental Justice have merged into a "leaderful" coalition. Jeanne Penvenne and Carrie Meier co-chair the overarching Social Justice Committee. Donna Savicki and Cindy Ladd Fiorini lead various initiatives in racial and environmental justice. All First Parish members and friends are welcome to join and participate in these activities. If you interested in joining us please contact Donna Savicki (781-585-8041 or [dsavicki@comcast.net](mailto:dsavicki@comcast.net)) or just attend any of our meetings. We meet at 9 AM the second Sunday of the month. Depending upon COVID protocols we meet in person in the Harvey Assembly Hall with hybrid ZOOM coverage or just on ZOOM. Please come!*

Many thanks to all for your continuing generous donations to the Box Project .



Here is a recent piece of artwork expressing thanks from one of our young recipients.



## Land Acknowledgement Process

We are in the process of writing a Land Acknowledgement. We want to do this in a way that is respectful to the Native Peoples who inhabited these lands, the Patuxet Wampanoag, that accurately tells the story of how the land passed from their control, and that charts a path forward for redressing the harms inflicted on these Peoples. To do this, we are reading books and articles on this subject and discussing what to include.

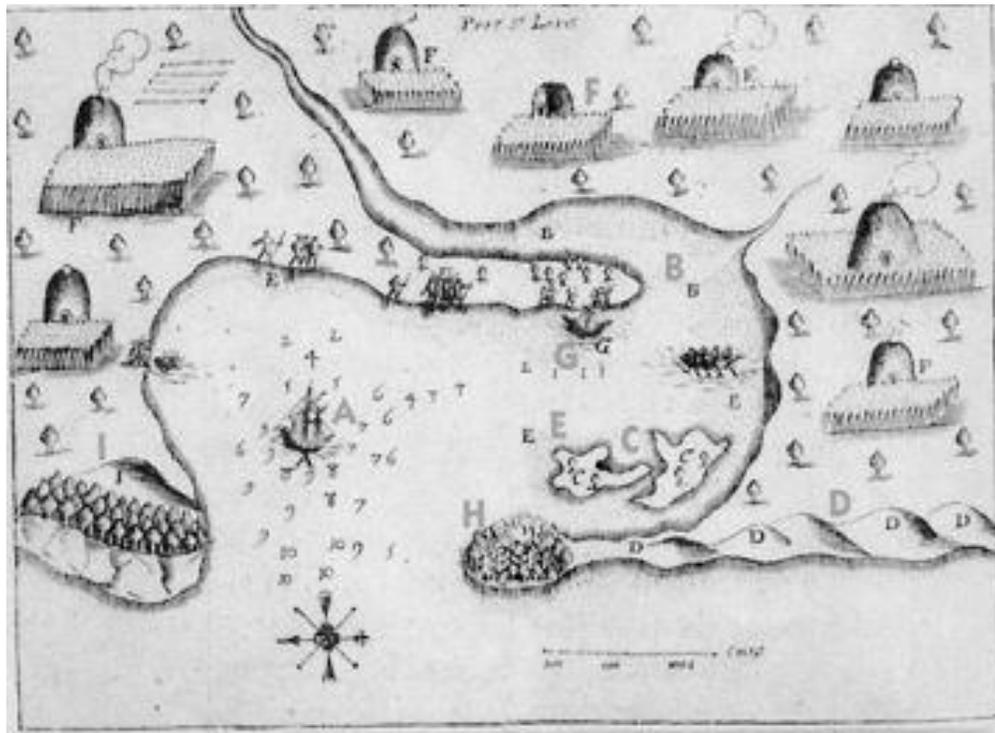
We will write a short Land Acknowledgement to introduce our services and public events and a more detailed acknowledgement for our web-site.

### Land of the Patuxet

Below is a map drawn in 1605 by Samuel De Champlain when he anchored in what is now called Plymouth Bay. It shows homes, fields of corn, squash and beans, and Patuxet men fishing and paddling their dug-out canoes. This area was called Patuxet which means little falls because there were then many falls in the rivers entering the bay.

**Carrie Meier**

[carriemeier1@comcast.net](mailto:carriemeier1@comcast.net)



## 9 Coming Events

### THURSDAY APRIL 14

Small Group 10:30am fletcher

**Maundy Thursday – 7:00pm**

### SATURDAY APRIL 16

**South Shore Folk Group**

**Concert 7:00pm**

### SUNDAY APRIL 17

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE  
ON DUXBURY BEACH – meet  
at 6:05am**

**ANNUAL EASTER SERVICE –  
10:00am**

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 20

Bell Choir 4:00pm

### THURSDAY APRIL 21

Governing Board Meeting

7:00pm

### FRIDAY APRIL 22

**EARTH DAY**

### SUNDAY APRIL 24

Worship 10:00 a.m.

**EARTH DAY SERVICE**

### MONDAY APRIL 25

**May Bellringer Due Date**

RE Meeting 7:00pm

PFLAG 7:00pm zoom

SSHAGLY 7:00pm – youth room

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 27

Bell Choir 4:00pm

### SATURDAY APRIL 30

**Maypole Dance and  
May Basket Workshop  
10:00am-12:00pm**

### SUNDAY MAY 1

Worship 10:00am

**Envisioning Vote After Church**

Rain date Maypole Dance

1:00-3:00pm



## **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 **APRIL**, please contact **LIZ CONNORS**, [liz.connors@verizon.net](mailto:liz.connors@verizon.net), 781-934-2560.

## **Minister's Office Hours:**

**Rev. Dr. Catherine Cullen** is currently on sabbatical until **Sunday, April 17th**. For pastoral or other concerns please contact our **Sabbatical Committee Chair, Michael Gardner** at **617-833-9606**, [sgmgardner4746@gmail.com](mailto:sgmgardner4746@gmail.com).



## **Church Office Hours**

The FPC church office is open **Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and Tuesdays 8:30-11:30am**. Please call Lenore, **781-934-6532** or email at [uuduxbury@verizon.net](mailto:uuduxbury@verizon.net) if you need anything.



**Next Bell-Ringer Deadline:**  
**Monday, April 25th**

**ON-GOING CHURCH MEETINGS**

Family/Child Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Joys & Concerns (2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Announcement Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Silent Joys & Concerns (4<sup>th</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Membership 9:00am (3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Music Committee (1<sup>st</sup> Sun. each month) 12 p.m.  
 Social Justice 9 a.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. each month)

**MONDAYS –**

Building Use 10 a.m.  
 (4<sup>th</sup> Mon. each month)  
 Historical Committee 10:30a.m.  
 (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month)  
 Finance Committee 7 p.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. each month)  
 Welcoming Congregation 7:00pm  
 (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month)  
 PFLAG – 7:30-9:00pm  
 (4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month)  
 RE Committee 7:00pm (4<sup>th</sup> Mon. each month)

**TUESDAYS –**

Communications 7:00pm  
 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month)

**WEDNESDAYS –**

Staff meeting 11:30 a.m. (weekly)  
 Buildings & Grounds 9-11 a.m.  
 (1<sup>st</sup> Wed. each month)  
 “Kindred Spirits” 10:00 -11:30 a.m.  
 (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. each month)  
 Hand Bells 4:00 p.m.

**THURSDAYS –**

Book Group 9 a.m.  
 Worship Committee 7:00 p.m.  
 (1<sup>st</sup> Thurs. each month)  
 Agenda Setting 7-8 p.m.  
 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. each month)  
 Governing Board 7 p.m.  
 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. each month)

**FRIDAYS -** Committee on Ministry  
 5 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> Fri. each month)

**SATURDAYS –** Community Table  
 9:15 a.m. (4<sup>th</sup> Sat. each month)

**Easter Flowers**

***Bulbs are sprouting now to celebrate Spring and grace our altar for the April 17th Easter\* service!***

If you would like to *RESERVE* a potted daffodil, tulip or hyacinth for yourself or a gift please contact Lenore at [uuduxbury@verizon.net](mailto:uuduxbury@verizon.net) or call 781-934-6532 OR Mary Lynn Carson at [MLC@LloydArch.com](mailto:MLC@LloydArch.com) or call 781-934-7445 OR use the Sign-up Sheet on the bulletin board outside Lenore’s office.

You can state quantity and flower preference.  
 (Price is still to be determined.)

\*This year’s Easter service April 17th will be a “hybrid” of live service and Zoom.





**Maundy Thursday Communion Service, (UU Style) Live and On-Zoom**

**Thursday April 14, at 7:00 PM in the Chapel and on Zoom  
All Are Welcome!**

In his last Worship Service as our Visiting Sabbatical Minister, Rev. Rob will be conducting our traditional Maundy Thursday Service from the Chapel on **Thursday April 14 at 7:00 PM** in the Chapel and also on Zoom.

In the Christian tradition, Maundy Thursday is the traditional marking of the Last Supper. In the FPC tradition, it is an intimate worship service in the Chapel, featuring music, liturgical readings, a brief Homily and the sharing of bread and wine, in honor both of the life of Jesus, and the contributions to our mutual well-being by women and men everywhere. It includes a form of Communion as contemplation. It has inspired many past attendees with its Buddhist-like aura.

For those attending in the Chapel, because of the low ceiling we strongly encourage mask-wearing.

For those joining from home, we encourage you to have some bread, wine (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) or grape juice on hand to participate in a ritual honoring of all those who labor to make this a better world.

This will also be a chance for you wish Rev. Rob all the best as he continues on the next leg of his journey.

We hope you will attend, participate in, and experience Worship at FPC in a very special way. A Zoom link will be provided in the days prior to the service.



### **Easter Sunrise Service**

Sunrise Service on Duxbury Beach @ 6:05am (sunrise is at 6:20 a.m.)  
The hardy among us will gather on the beach to the right of the handicap ramp to share a beautiful sunrise service.



### **OUR ANNUAL EASTER SERVICE**

#### **"It's Always Darkest Before the Dawn"**

Catherine returns from sabbatical for our Annual Easter Service (zoom and in-person)  
**BRING AN EASTER EGG THAT YOU HAVE DECORATED FOR OUR EGG TREE.**  
**BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES!**  
**THE CHILDREN WILL START IN THE SANCTUARY, THEN GO OUTSIDE FOR AN EASTER EGG HUNT!**



**Save the Date!!!**  
**Summer Fair 2022**  
**Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>!!!**

The tents are rented, and the Fundraising Task Force is beyond hopeful that after a two year hiatus the fair will be back this spring!

The success of this event depends on volunteerism, not just on the day, but in the weeks leading up to the fair. It is a fun way to get to know fellow church members and the broader community. We hope that you will consider helping out this year-we need you!!

Secondly, we need stuff to sell! We hope you have been saving your treasures. As spring approaches, we will have more information to share.



# Annual Parish Meeting

**Attention All Committee Chairs!**  
**Sunday, June 5, 2022 -- Annual Meeting!**

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

## **Maypole Dance and May Basket Workshop**



**We will dance around the Maypole and make beautiful May Day baskets.**

**When:** Saturday, April 30th, 2022

**Time:** 10AM-Noon

**Where:** The Front Lawn

**Rain Date:** Sunday, May 1st

**Time:** 1:00-3:00PM

Come join us for this fun multi-generational event!  
And, bring a friend or two!

Please RSVP to Joy Sawyer at [joysawyer12@gmail.com](mailto:joysawyer12@gmail.com) to let us know how many will be in your group.