

The Bell-Ringer

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



SEPTEMBER 2022



OUR ALL CHURCH THEME FOR SEPTEMBER IS **"BELONGING"**. WORSHIP SCHEDULE – 10:00AM

September 11th -- **"BEGINNING AGAIN FOR THE LAST TIME"** – Join us for the final Ingathering Sunday of our shared ministry (Bring water from some place special/sacred to you for our Water Communion and **BACKPACK** for a **BLESSING!**)

September 18th – **"The New Meaning of Belonging"**—What does "Belonging" mean in a post-Covid world?
(After Church Budget Discussion – Hybrid)

September 25th – **"Rosh Hashanah Under Our Roof"** – As our new synagogue tenant celebrates the Jewish High Holydays in our Children's Chapel, what are some spiritual lessons from this ancient tradition for us? **(10-10:30 service -- This abbreviated service will be Hybrid and will be followed by our Annual Finance Meeting at 10:45am.)**

CHURCH COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4

Fisherman's Service 8:30am

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 5

LABOR DAY

OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6

Sunset Supper 6:00pm on Duxbury Beach

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 8

Worship/Music 7:00pm

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11

INGATHERING

IN-PERSON AND ZOOM 10:00am

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12

SSHAGLY 7:00-9:00pm

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 15

Governing Board Mtg. 7:00pm

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17

South Shore Folk Group

Coffeehouse 7:00pm



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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER...

Community... a circle of hands will open to receive us, eyes will light up as we enter, voices will celebrate with us whenever we come into our own power.... A circle of healing. A circle of friends. Someplace where we can be free. —Starhawk

Dear Friends,

In just a short time, we will come back together at "Ingathering"----- and another church year will begin!

On Sunday, September 11th we will resume "hybrid" worship from our Sanctuary (which, by the way, will look a bit different!). We will introduce our new Governing Board, bless backpacks, share our tradition of Water Communion----touchstones in the way we come together here at First Parish Church. We will say to one another, "Come as you are---you are cherished and welcome here. We are *so happy and grateful* that you are part of our community...."

AND I AM SO HAPPY AND GRATEFUL THAT YOU ARE A PART OF THIS BELOVED COMMUNITY!

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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. 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

Minister's Message continued from page 1 . . .

Friends, as I begin my final year among you, I am excited—we still have much good work to do together, we still have lots of opportunities to spread more love and justice in the world.

THE BRIGHT LIGHT OF THIS BELOVED COMMUNITY WILL SHINE, SHINE, SHINE THIS CHURCH YEAR---AND I CAN'T WAIT!!

LET'S BEGIN.....

Catherine



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION?

SEPTEMBER 2022

Welcome to a new church year!



On Sunday, Sept 11th, we will gather for a Water Communion, our traditional UU ritual to mark the beginning of a new church year! This ritual was created by *Carolyn McDade and Lucile Longview* nearly 45 years ago and celebrates our belonging to this community and Unitarian Universalism by combining our waters in a simple yet meaningful ritual. The mixing and mingling of our water is symbolic that our UU faith comes from many different sources and serves as a reminder that we are a church that values and honors different perspectives and experiences. At our multigenerational ingathering service, everyone is encouraged to bring a small amount of water from a place that is spiritually nourishing to them. Perhaps it comes from a special trip to a beloved homeland, or a pool/beach/lake where gatherings with family and friends remind you of the importance of staying connected (especially after our covid isolation.) Maybe it comes from a spicket in the yard that you use to water your beautiful garden, or your animals. You'll be invited to say a word or two of the special significance this water means to you & your family. After joining our waters together, we will use them throughout the year to bless people in weddings, child dedications, and other ways to represent the love and support of our community.



We begin this church year with the theme of ***Belonging*** and we will begin in Religious Education by celebrating coming together again and being a part of this wonderful community. We will continue with beginning our Sunday morning worship all together in the Sanctuary every Sunday, with the purpose of building a beautiful, multigenerational community where everyone feels they truly belong.

See you all on Sept 11th!

Love & Blessings, Kate ☸

"The strength of water takes on many, many forms—just as each of you has a unique and necessary strength that you bring to our community and to the work of love..."

4.



Ring Out Justice!



News of Social Justice Activities at First Parish Church

Social Justice Committee Members:

Ann Callanan, Sally Delisa, Mary Flanagan, Cindy Ladd Fiorini, Sherry Gardner, Bob Hughes, Eleanor McGonagle, Carrie Meier, Sarah Moran, Carol Nappellio, Peter Nappellio, Jeanne Penvenne, Susan Rudman, Judy Savage, Donna Savicki, Mark Schlesinger, PJ Simeone, Emily Simeone, Cindy Simmons, Cindy Wilson, Ronnie Whelan.

Membership in the Social Justice Committee is open to all FPC members and friends. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Donna Savicki (781-585-8041 or dsavicki@comcast.net) or just drop in on one of our meetings. The Social Justice Committee meets at 9:00 in the Harvey Assembly Hall the second Sunday of the month.



Join the Tuesday Lunch Team!

FPC prepares bag lunches every Tuesday for individuals experiencing homelessness. Can you help? Email Donna for clear directions and EASY sign up.

dsavicki@comcast.net

Looking for Volunteers to Make Tuesday Bag Lunches

For decades, beginning in the early '80's, FPC members and friends baked casseroles for 60 to 120 people once a month. Volunteers transported, heated, and served those casseroles at a Soup Kitchen in Brockton. This ended with the pandemic. Our resourceful and incredibly generous Bob Hughes came up with another way for us to help. Since January 2021, we've been making bag lunches every Tuesday, which Bob takes to Plymouth, where he distributes them. Our fresh sandwiches are much enjoyed as a change of pace to the soup kitchen fare served every other day. Each week, two volunteers make 10 sandwiches each and assemble the lunches in bags provided by the Social Justice Committee. Another volunteer makes desserts. It's easy and very rewarding.

The sign up sheet can be found at:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aRoaqecyllg9red1JCipI06NloL_I17H8vtxxedKXek/edit

All are welcome to participate. Instructions for volunteers are available at:

<https://uudux.org/make-a-difference/> If you have any questions, please contact Sherry Gardner at gardnersherry82@gmail.com or Donna Savicki at dsavicki@comcast.net

Continued Calendar:
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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18

Worship 10:00am

Finance Information Meeting
11:30am – HYBRID

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 21

Trustees 7:00pm

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25

Worship 10:00-10:30am

FINANCE MEETING! 10:45am --
HYBRID

Worship 10:00-10:30am

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 26

October Bellringer Due Date



Caring Connection has had a busy summer taking care of our First Parish friends. For those of you that may be unfamiliar with CC, we provide help to people during stressful times such as making meals, giving rides, running an errand, etc.

We can always use more people on our “helper” list. This doesn’t mean you have to respond to all requests but the more helpers we have the more likely we can fill a need. Thanks to everyone that has helped us this summer!

Caring Connection Contact for September

Michael Gardner

617-833-9606

sgmgardner4746@gmail.com

Minister’s Office Hours:

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



Church Office Hours

The FPC church office is open **Monday, 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 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 9:00a.m. (3rd Sun. each month)
 Social Justice 9:00a.m. (2nd Sun. each month)

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

TUESDAYS - Hand Bells 4:00 p.m.
 Communications 7:00p.m. (2nd Tuesday of every month)

WEDNESDAYS - Staff meeting 11:30 a.m. (weekly)
 Buildings & Grounds 9-11 a.m. (1st Wed. each month)
 "Kindred Spirits" 10:00 -11:30 a.m. (2nd Wed. each month)

THURSDAYS - Book Group 9 a.m.
 Worship/Music Committee 7:00 p.m. (1st Thurs. each month)
 Governing Board 7 p.m. (3rd Thurs. each month)

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

SATURDAYS - Community Table 9:15 a.m. (4th Sat. each month)



BELLRINGER DATES FOR 2022-2023 CHURCH YEAR

Here is the BellRinger Deadline Schedule:

October -- September 26

November -- October 24

December -- November 17 (Tweaked w/the holidays)

January -- January 3 (Tweaked with the holidays)

February -- January 24

March -- February 22

April -- March 24

May -- April 24

June -- May 24





ANNUAL FINANCIAL MEETING

Sunday, September 25th will be our Annual Financial Meeting on Zoom after our abbreviated Sunday Service from 10:00-10:30am. **Meeting starting at 10:45am.**

Informational Meeting will be held the Sunday prior on September 18th.

Our Historic Tablets Have Been Moved to the Choir Loft

Over the summer, work has progressed on our Envisioning the Sanctuary in the 21st Century project. As determined by the votes at this spring's special meeting, the historic tablets have been moved to their new location in the choir loft. The area behind them on the wall by the pulpit has been cleaned up and painted. In addition, the lettering on the crown molding has been covered. Our thanks to Rudy Langner and his team for their work on this project. In addition, an architectural photographer documented the pre-move state of the pulpit and its surroundings in July. We are currently in the process of developing a method to protect the tablets from unintentional damage from cell tower workers passing by on their way to the steeple.

The Envisioning the Sanctuary in the 21st Century working group



Progress on the Front Step Project

As you can see from the photos, the front step project has been moving forward over the summer. The old steps have been removed and the underlying structure has been put in place for the new steps. Concrete will be poured next, and then the granite will be installed (along with the new railings).



Front Step Work, July/August 2022



Caring Connection Information

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 **September**, contact **Michael Gardner**, 617-833-9606, sgmgardner4746@gmail.com.

Death Cafe

Death Cafe in Kingston

Are you interested in a safe, welcoming place where people share their ideas, concerns, fears and hopes about dying and death? Then join us at Kingston's Death Cafe.

Death Cafes were started in Europe in the early part of this century by people who wanted to learn more about death and dying to help make them better aware of their (finite) lives. Today there are more than 13,000 Death Cafes in over 80 countries where people meet for coffee, tea and dessert to talk about these important subjects.

In a relaxed atmosphere, experienced group facilitators guide the discussion focused on topics related to dying and death which group members suggest. This is not a grief support group but a place to learn more about death and dying so you can live your life more joyfully.

Join us on Saturday, September 17th at Beal House, 222 Main Street, Kingston, MA. We will begin at 10:00 AM and will finish 11:30. There is no charge for this event. Please email us if you plan to attend so we have coffee and pastry for all who attend. Email address: janeford1943@gmail.com.

(If you want to learn more about Death Cafes, go to www.deathcafe.com).





INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

"A time to remember; a time to act."

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31



TAKE ACTION

6:15pm to 7:15pm*

Hear from town leaders and community groups as they address substance use in Marshfield and plans to reduce use and support treatment and recovery.



REMEMBER

7:15pm to 8:00pm*

Remember loved ones lost to Substance Use Disorder. Enjoy music, fellowship, support and a candle lighting ceremony.

**Join for one or both parts*



**MARSHFIELD
FACTS**

MarshfieldFACTS.org

Harbor Park,
Marshfield, MA

