

The Bell-Ringer

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



APRIL 2023



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Theme for April is **"RESISTANCE"**.

Sunday, April 2ND -- "My Little Insurgency" -- Not every act of resistance needs to swing for the fences. There are many ways one can work to dismantle systemic oppression, brick by oppressive brick, in daily life. Think of it as your little insurgency. On this Sunday, former sabbatical minister **Rob Kinslow** returns to First Parish Church in Duxbury to share how kindly resistance can work some magic in the world—and in our lives.

Thursday, April 6th -- Maundy Thursday Service, In-Person in the Chapel & Zoom, 7:00pm - a UU Communion Service

Sunday, April 9th -- Sunrise Service on Duxbury Beach @ 6:00 am (Sunrise is at 6:12am) - The hardy among us will gather on the beach to the right of the handicap ramp to share a beautiful sunrise service!

Sunday, April 9th -- "Rise Up!" - Our Annual Intergenerational Easter Service featuring the Egg Tree. **Our younger children (age grade 1 & younger) may go downstairs for an egg hunt. BRING AN EASTER EGG THAT YOU HAVE DECORATED FOR OUR EGG TREE. BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES!**

Sunday, April 16th-- "The Courage to Take the Risk" ---As our Jewish friends celebrate Passover, we'll look at the story of Moses, the shy, stammering Israelite who risked answering God's call to lead his people out of slavery.

Sunday, April 23rd- "The Value of Vulnerability" -- What does it mean to be vulnerable? Can vulnerability be a doorway to trust, connection and community?

Sunday, April 30th--"The Earth Is Our Mother"-- Catherine will be joined by our FPC Land Acknowledgement Team and special guest Native American speaker Dawna Duncan, from MCNAA (Mass Center For Native American Awareness). Join us for this celebration of Earth Day and Indigenous People! **(Share the plate with MCNAA)**

COMING EVENTS

SATURDAY APRIL 1

Pollinator Garden Workshop

10:00-11:00am

SUNDAY APRIL 2

Worship 10:00am

Cell Program Committee 9:00am

Pollinator Garden Workshop

11:30-12:30pm

OWL 4:00-6:30pm

MONDAY APRIL 3

Seeing Sacred Class 10:00am

WEDNESDAY APRIL 5

Bell Choir 5:00pm

THURSDAY APRIL 6

Book Club 9:00am

Studio Art Drop-in 9:00-12:00pm

Maundy Thursday - 7:00pm

In-person & Zoom



From the Staff at First Parish Church!

Rev. Dr. Catherine Cullen

Ed Swanborn

Dr. Kate Sullivan

Lenore O'Malley

Elaine Stephansky

Richard Roquemore

Sam Clifford

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

JOYFUL HEART SANGHA INVITES YOU TO JOIN US!

Transforming Our Powerlessness
to Help Heal a Hurting World

A Day of Empowerment

with Dharma Teacher John Bell

Saturday, April 1st, 2023

10 am to 1:30pm (online only)

Advance Registration Required [HERE](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing
information about joining the meeting.

What would you do if you were not afraid?
How are feelings of powerlessness hindering you?
What helps you feel your power to make a difference?
How can our mindfulness practice help?

You are invited to join other practitioners to explore
our feelings of powerlessness, its root causes,
and how to heal and transform these feelings
to even better fulfill our aspiration to make a difference
to help a suffering world.

John Bell met Thich Nhat Hanh in 1982, ordained in his Order of Interbeing in 2001, and is a Dharma Teacher in the Plum Village tradition. He has been facilitating the Mountain Bell Sangha in the Boston area since 1997, offers retreats around the country, writes and publishes, and currently serves on the Beloved Community Circles CTC, and formerly served on the Earth Holders Community CTC, the ARISE core group, and the CTC of the North American Plum Village Dharma Teachers Sangha. In his wide world work, he is a founding staff and former vice president of YouthBuild USA, an international non-profit that provides learning, earning, and leadership opportunities to young people from low-income backgrounds. He is an author, lifelong social justice activist, international trainer facilitator, partner, father and grandfather. His blog is www.beginwithin.info and email is jbeltminder@gmail.com.

Link for Registration: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#), or call Lenore in the office,
781-934-6532 with your contact information so she can sign you up.



GOVERNING BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR MARCH 2023

Probably the most important thing this past month is that we started planning for events to celebrate Catherine's farewell. Please leave June 11, morning and afternoon, OPEN. We will also have a lot of "end of" things on Catherine's last Sunday, June 18.

Tracy and I are continuing to meet with the Finance people to provide frank and open discussion amongst the money people. We are considering a By-Law change that would get rid of a separate Finance Committee and institute a Finance Group made up of all the treasurers and others who have a money role in the church. One of our biggest accomplishments this month was to discuss how to fund our budget deficit. We propose using the general funds which would take just a bit from across the board.

A few weeks ago we had a very successful informational meeting and discussion of the UUA Article 2 proposed changes to our Principles and Purposes. We have 6 delegate spots available to vote on the issue at General Assembly in June - either in person or virtually and the church will pick up your registration fee. Presently we have 5 spots taken. Can we get one more?? Jeanne Penvenne has made a very generous offer to fund a young person who has never attended General Assembly. If you want more information, contact me, Tracy or Catherine.

The entire DARI group (Duxbury Afghan Resettlement Initiative) has sent a BIG THANK YOU to First Parish Church for extending our parsonage for another year. It will make all the difference in the world to the family so now they can take a breather and concentrate on more learning!

The Interim Minister Search Committee has been meeting and they are right on schedule. Thank you to Regina Mortland, Ted Lillys, Donna Savicki, Emily Simeone and Lilly Leedom.

We are planning an after church informational session on UU camps and conferences on Sunday April 2!

As always please reach out with any questions or concerns.

In faith - Cindy Ladd Fiorini for the Governing Board



April means the arrival of Spring, and the warmer weather means we'll be able to get outside for some of our activities this month. Our kids LOVE getting outside to play in the playground and to climb the huge tree.

This month our theme centers on Resistance – and throughout the month we will explore the challenges and paths of **resistance**. Each path includes an exploration of a practice of resistance, and each path is connected to and rooted in a religious or secular holiday. Our aim is to learn about the holiday through its relationship to our theme of Resistance. This lens will allow our kids to begin to hear the words associated with the various faiths and their holidays as well as think about how the path of resistance applies to their own life. We will focus on Vesek (also known as Buddha's birthday or Buddha Day) Earth Day and Ramadan.

Our 4th-6th OWL class graders is going well – our young youth are coming together as a group and learning about important developmental issues, both physical and psychological. Each week they end class by putting an anonymous question in the Question Box, and our fabulous leaders, Tracy Wagner & David Murphy spend time each week prepping answers. Their questions are serious and probing and would likely not get addressed if not for the anonymity of this process. Many thanks to Tracy & David for creating a space for this important work. NOTE: There will be **NO OWL classes** on Easter, 4.9.23 or the first Sunday of April Vacation, 4.16.23.

Coming up this month

April 2nd. The return of the Magical Ministry of Rev. Rob. While Catherine is away, Rev. Rob Kinslow will be in the pulpit. I wonder what tricks he'll have up his sleeve for us?

April 9th: Easter Sunday. We'll all start in the Sanctuary and then the kids will recess to find some sweet treats hidden around the church grounds.

April 16th There will be no RE classes, but fun spring activities and childcare will be provided.

Blessings,
Kate (she, her)





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 9:00am in the Harvey Assembly Hall the third Sunday of the month.



Stroller, Clothes, and a Bunk Bed Needed!

A **Head Start** family is in need of a **stroller**. The mother needs a stroller so she can walk her children to school. She does not have a car. If you have one, please call or text **Carrie Meier**.

A family needs **bunk beds** so their children can sleep in the one small bedroom that they have for them.

A little girl is in need of **leggings and light weight tops size 6**. Please call Carrie if you have clothing or a stroller at **781-249-9127**.

Thank you!



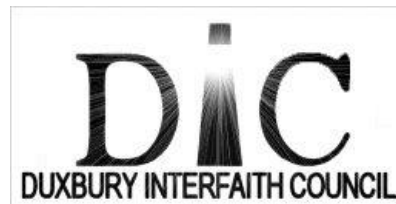
Save the Bay - Environmental Action:

First Parish UU Plymouth is opposing Holtec dumping of nuclear waste off the coast of the decommissioned Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant. If you want to join their effort please be in touch with Abigail Bottome, Chair Social Action Committee, abottome@yahoo.com



Pardon our Look – Black Lives Matter:

Our Black Lives Matter banner is a bit worse for the wear. We plan to purchase a new one but await the report from the committee that is re-imagining our First Parish Church landscape. When they report in we'll be on it!



Opportunity with Duxbury Interfaith Council

<http://www.duxburyinterfaithcouncil.org/>

First Parish is one of nine faith communities forming the Duxbury Interfaith Council. It meets the first Saturday of each month from 9 to 10 AM. Each community is allowed a total of 5 members. We are short one. If this work might interest you please be in touch with any of the current members: Rev. Dr. Catherine, Jeanne Penvenne, Bob Hughes and Cindy Simmons.



Add a New Spiritual Practice – Combat Food Insecurity

The Social Justice Committee at First Parish Church is organizing a program to help meet the daily needs of our neighbors who are going through difficult periods in their lives. We will place a large basket in the sanctuary (up front, in the left hand corner, as you enter the sanctuary from the parlor) where you are encouraged to leave a donated item each Sunday. A member of the committee will collect the items and deliver them to a local food pantry or shelter or distribute them directly to needy individuals. The below items are most popular.

Personal care items:

Regular or individual size toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo

Non-perishable food items:

pasta sauce
canned tomatoes, including diced, paste, sauce
canned vegetables, baked beans
boxed macaroni and cheese
Chef-Boyardee spaghetti or ravioli, individual or regular size
canned soup
boullion cubes
bags of flour, sugar
salt, pepper
boxes of individual packets of oatmeal
peanut butter
tuna (white albacore)

THANK YOU!



Indigenous Peoples Service on April 30th

On April 30th, we will have a service relating to local indigenous Peoples of the past and present. We will have a speaker from the Massachusetts Center for Native American Awareness. We will share and talk about the proposed Land Acknowledgement and enjoy the poetry and music of Native Americans.



SHARE THE PLATE

MCNAA: Massachusetts Center for Native American Awareness

We are pleased to announce that the April Share the Plate will be the Massachusetts Center for Native American Awareness MCNAA. It will be held on April 30 to coincide with our assembly vote on Land Acknowledgement.

The MCNAA provides programs and events to meet the needs of diverse Indigenous communities in Massachusetts. They include cultural arts, public education for social change, assistance for food, heat and other necessities, scholarship funds and resources for educational needs, connections to traditional practices, and spiritual enrichment. More information can be found on their website : mcnaa.org.

The Share the Plate program donates the entire collection for the designated week to a nonprofit organization whose mission aligns with our UU principals.

If you are interested in serving on the Share the Plate Team next church year, or have a nonprofit service organization you would like to nominate, please contact Kathleen Teehan at kadteeahan@yahoo.com, or Eleanor McGonagle at eleanor9785@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Below is a proposed Land Acknowledgement.
The Governing Board approved it and it will be voted on at our General Meeting in June. If you have any questions, you can contact Carrie Meier

Land Acknowledgement

We gratefully acknowledge the Patuxet Wampanoag People on whose ancestral lands we gather today. We commit to support and honor their history and culture.

Long Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on the land once inhabited by the Patuxet Wampanoag People.

First Parish is committed to honoring the sovereignty of Indigenous Peoples who lost their land and their means of livelihood due to disease, war, broken treaties, massacres, forced removals, enslavement and forced assimilation. We recognize their painful history caused by European settlement.

We believe Indigenous Peoples should receive reparative action from the United States government and be protected by law from further loss of land and the termination of agreements that they hold beneficial. We will support indigenous organizations and legislation dedicated to the welfare and advancement of Native Peoples.

Map by Champlain of Patuxet Wampanoag Lands in 1605
By 1619 all the Patuxet Wampanoag had died of a plague.



- A. Champlain's Ship
- B. Jones River
- C /E. Clark's Island
- D. Dunes/Saquish
- F. Wigwams/fields
- G. Canoe
- H. Gurnet
- I. Manomet



PLYMOUTH LUNCH PREPARATION

WE NEED A FEW MORE SANDWICH AND DESSERT MAKERS!!

Every Tuesday our own Bob Hughes goes to Plymouth Center and delivers fabulous turkey and cheese sandwich lunches to our homeless friends. 2 people a week to make just 10 sandwiches each, and 1 dessert maker!!!

Any questions please call Donna Savicki 781-696-3026
or Sherry Gardner 617-650-7473. **THANK YOU!**

Link to Help Out:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aRoagecyllg9red1JCipI06NloL_I17H8vtxxedKXek/edit?usp=sharing



Coming Events

SUNDAY APRIL 9

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE 6:00am

EASTER SERVICE - 10:00am

MONDAY APRIL 10

Seeing Sacred Class 10:00am

SSHAGLY 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY APRIL 12

Small Group 9:30-11:00am

Bell Choir 5:00pm

THURSDAY APRIL 13

Book Club 9:00am

Studio Art Drop-in 9:00-12:00pm

Small Group 10:30am fletcher

FRIDAY APRIL 14

Knitting 2:00pm

SATURDAY APRIL 15

SSFM Group Concert 7:00pm

SUNDAY APRIL 16

Worship 10:00am

Social Justice Mtg. 9:00am

OWL 4:00-6:30pm

MONDAY APRIL 17

OFFICE CLOSED - PATRIOTS DAY

Shirat Hayam/FPC/DIC --

Yom HaShoah 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY APRIL 29

Bell Choir 5:00pm

THURSDAY APRIL 20

Book Club 9:00am

Studio Art Drop-in 9:00-12:00pm

Governing Board Meeting 7:00pm

FRIDAY APRIL 21

SSFM Coffeehouse - 7:00pm

SATURDAY APRIL 22

EARTH DAY

SUNDAY APRIL 23

Worship 10:00 a.m.

OWL 4:00-6:30pm

MONDAY APRIL 24

May Bellringer Due Date

Seeing Sacred Class 10:00am

PFLAG 7:00pm

SSHAGLY 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY APRIL 26

Small Group 9:30-11:00am

Bell Choir 5:00pm

THURSDAY APRIL 27

Book Club 9:00am

SATURDAY APRIL 29

Maypole Dance & May Basket

Workshop, 10:00am-12:00pm

SUNDAY APRIL 30

Social Justice Sunday

Worship 10:00am

OWL 4:00-6:30pm

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, 781-934-2560.

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.



DCLL's Office Hours:

Kate's regular office hours are **Tues., from 11-2pm,** and **Thur. from 1-4 p.m.** Fridays are her days off. She may be contacted by cell at (617) 947-9444. If you need to schedule an appointment during office hours or any time after office hours, please feel free to contact Kate at katesullivan@uudux.org, or her cell number.

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.



Next Bell-Ringer Deadline:
Monday, April 24th

ON-GOING CHURCH MEETINGS

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)
 Cell Program (9:00a.m. 1st Sun. each month)
 Social Justice 9:00a.m. (3rd Sun. each month)

MONDAYS -

Scared Seeing Photography Class 9:00-12:00pm
 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 -

Communications 7:00p.m. (2nd Tuesday of every month)

WEDNESDAYS -

Hand Bells 5:00p.m.
 Staff meeting 11:30 a.m. (weekly)
 Buildings & Grounds 9-11 a.m. (1st Wed. each month)

THURSDAYS -

Book Group 9:00 a.m.
 FPC Artworks Drop in 9:00-12:00pm
 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)

**Our Annual Easter Service!**

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!

**Easter Sunrise Service**

Sunrise Service on Duxbury Beach @ 6:00am (sunrise is at 6:12 a.m.)

The hardy among us will gather on the beach to the right of the handicap ramp to share a beautiful sunrise service.

Maundy Thursday Communion Service, (UU Style)



Thursday April 6th, 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 6th 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 be Catherine's last Maundy Thursday Service!

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.

Save the date!



Saturday June 17th, 2023

Mark Your Calendars and Start Getting Ready!

Preparations are beginning for our amazing Summer Fair.

The date: Saturday June 17th.

More information to follow as we get closer, but it's not too soon to start going through your house (garage, basement, and attic) and thinking about goodies that you may wish to donate to the fair. This is a church-wide, all-hands-on-deck, community building, fundraising lollapalooza.

Before long you'll be seeing volunteer sign-up sheets. We need everyone's help in so many ways to make the fair a success! If you have ideas or any questions about the fair, feel free to contact me.

Jim Hamilton

Chair, Summer Fair

781-724-6456, jim@greenharbor.com

Annual Parish Meeting

Attention All Committee Chairs!

Sunday, June 4th, 2023, 9:45am Meeting (worship 9:00-9:30am)!

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



Search for an Interim Minister Begins

The Interim Search Committee has begun its work to find an Interim Minister to serve the parish in transition to a new Settled Minister. A different committee, which will be appointed in the fall, will be charged with the task of search for a new Settled Minister.

We, the Interim Search Committee, are following the guidelines of the UUA which has a specific process for this endeavor. We expect to complete our work by the end of our current year, in June. Any member of the search committee would be happy to talk to you if you have any questions or concerns.

We are: **Donna Savicki, Ted Lillys, Lily Leedom, Emily Goodman-Simeone, and Regina Mortland.**





COFFEE HR HOSTING IS ROTATED BY MEMBERS/FRIEND'S LAST NAMES!

When it's your turn, please bring food to share and arrive @ 9:15AM to set up and help host! Coffee is made for you and sides are always stocked.

Instructions are on-line: <https://uudux.org/first-parish-church-documents-and-forms/>

A member of the fellowship committee will be there to assist!

<u>April 2</u>	Q R S
<u>April 9</u>	Easter - Fellowship
<u>April 16</u>	T- Z
<u>April 23</u>	As and Bs
<u>April 30</u>	C

Maypole Dance and May Basket Workshop



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

When: Saturday, April 29th, 2023

Time: 12:00-3:00pm

Where: The Front Lawn

Come join us for this fun multi-generational event!

And, bring a friend or two!

Yom HaShoah

Holocaust Remembrance Day

Please join Congregation Shirat Hayam
in partnership with the
Duxbury Interfaith Council
and First Parish Church
as we commemorate those lives lost in
the Holocaust

Monday April 17, 2023
7:00 p.m. at First Parish

This year we are honored to have
Susan Kadar, a Duxbury resident and
Holocaust survivor, as our guest
speaker, to tell us more of her story.

Space is limited

RSVP to

duxinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com

