

First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church
330 First Parish Road, Scituate MA 02066 781-545-3324
www.firstparishscituate.org
firstparishscituate@verizon.net



The Sloop's Log January 2017

Visit our Website

Worship Celebrations

All services begin at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Children and youth begin in the sanctuary with the adults to share in the opening of worship, and then leave with their teachers for Religious Education. Nursery care is available upstairs for children over 18 months, but children are welcome to remain with parents.

Sunday January 1 *In this New Year*

On New Year's morning, we will celebrate our annual Fire Communion ritual, burning our regrets for the year past and naming our hopes for the year just begun. This is a multi-generational service.

Sunday January 8th *Reminders of Who You Are*

During the seasons of Advent and Christmas, we played with metaphors of flame and light. As the season of Epiphany begins, Pamela Barz will reflect on the light within each of us. The Mission-Vision-Team Steering Committee will light our chalice. The winter session of Religious Education starts this morning, so children, youth and teachers will leave after a story for their classes. The Choir will sing *The Work of Christmas*. Jean Shildneck and Carol Sullivan-Hanley are hosting the coffee hour.

Following the service, we will hold our first Committee Sunday. Supervision and snacks for children will be offered while adults and youth are invited to share ideas and refreshments with the committees of the church.

Sunday January 15th *Staying Awake - Mary Margaret Earl, guest preacher*

Many of us have felt jolted awake since the election, and have seen the need for justice work and organizing. How we do stay focused on the road ahead? The Choir will sing *We Have a Dream*. Ann Corbo is hosting the coffee hour. We are in need of people to bring flowers and greet.

The Rev. Ms. Mary Margaret Earl has served as Executive Director and Senior Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry for two years. During her time, she has worked to strengthen bonds between UUs and the Roxbury neighborhood where the UUUM operates. She is on the leadership team of the Greater Boston Moral Revival leadership team, which strives to reclaim what it means to be religious in the public square. Prior to her arrival at the UU Urban Ministry, she spent 10 years at a faith-based nonprofit in RI serving the homeless community. She is past president of the Board of the Rhode Island Coalition for the

Homeless, recipient of the 2014 Heroes of Faith Award from the Rhode Island State Council of Churches for her interfaith work, and is a longtime vegan committed to standing up for nonhuman animals.

Sunday January 22nd *Giving Birth to the Dream*

Twenty-five years ago, Maya Angelou wrote and read her poem *On the Pulse of Morning* at the inauguration of Bill Clinton. What is our vision for this new morning in this new era? Pamela Barz preaching. The choir will sing *Riversong*. We are in need of people to host coffee hour, bring flowers, and greet.

Sunday January 29th *A Happy Church*

Leo Tolstoy famously wrote, "Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way." But we might say the opposite for churches – unhappy churches are all alike, but every happy church finds its own way to happiness. What is our way to happiness? Pamela Barz preaching. The choir will sing *Benedictus*. Wendy and George Wierzbowski are hosting the coffee hour. We are in need of people to bring flowers and greet.

Ministries of Hospitality

There are many opportunities for ministry each Sunday as we greet, create space for conversation, and add color to our worship. Please sign up to serve on the signup sheet in the Sloop Room, or online at the following: Help **drive** someone to church: contact the church office at 781-545-3324 or firstparishscituate@verizon.net

Sign up to be a Greeter: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094baea92e5-greeters1/>

Sign up to bring flowers for the communion table: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094baea92e5-sunday/>

Sign up to host coffee hour: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094baea92e5-coffee>

From the Minister

Along with many of you, since the November election I've been trying to understand the beliefs, outlooks, and experiences which divide our nation, our communities, even our families. Currently I'm reading *Strangers in their own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right* by sociologist Arlie Hochschild. Though its publication coincided with the presidential election, the author began her exploration after the 2010 elections when the influence of the Tea Party first began to be felt. She wanted to understand at a deep level the feelings which motivated people. And so she spent much of the past five years living in New Orleans, sitting at people's kitchen tables, talking over coffee, visiting workplaces and churches, barbecues and fairs, listening for what she calls "the deep story," the story that, without their perhaps even being conscious of it, shapes their understanding of their place in the world. We'll be reading excerpts from her book in the new reading/discussion group starting this month and looking at some of those deep stories.

But this concept of "deep story" doesn't just apply to other people - each of us is influenced by our own "deep story," as is our church and our town. How do our stories shape our understandings of who we are and who we could be?

See you in Church,
Pamela

Minister's Schedule: Pamela Barz is available for appointments on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and on Friday and Saturday afternoons. Tuesday is her day off. You can reach her at pamela.merrill.barz@gmail.com or 781-412-4233.



Religious Education

Our pageant, "The Christmas Hearth," was great fun for the whole congregation. Many thanks to Kate Glennon for writing and directing, and to the team of parents who helped make it happen.

Next Sunday, January 15th, Information on Star Island and Ferry Beach UU summer camps will be presented during the service. Bring your questions to coffee hour afterwards.

Winter Session (Grades K-8), January 8th-March 19th The Sunday morning RE classes are continuing their study of Unitarian Universalist Identity:

Grades K-2, taught by Tracey Timmins and Julianna Dunn, will continue with the "Storybook UU" curriculum, which will include lessons about love, gratitude, individuality, care and respect for others, and the web of life.

Grades 3-5, taught by Jen Bokavich and Spencer Howe, will be starting a curriculum called, "In Our Hands," and will cover topics including peace, justice, self-affirmation, respect, and creative conflict resolution.

Grades 6-8, taught by Brian and Patty Sutton, will continue to look at the important topics of social justice and civil disobedience as seen through the lens of Unitarian Universalism.

Coming of Age (8th grade), taught by Laura Carson-Laciner and Chuck Jones Upcoming meetings: January 22, 10:30 a.m. – Unitarian Universalist Values January 29, during RE class – Stillness, Silence and Meditation (led by the Suttons) February 12, 10:30 a.m. – Unity and Diversity (with mentors) February 26, 10:30 a.m. – Writing Your Credo

SciCohRock Senior Youth Group (9th-12th grade), led by Michael Feeney and Veronica Amelang

January 22, 5:00-7:00 p.m. – final CON planning meeting at First Parish Church, Norwell (24 River Street)

January 27-29 – 2-night CON at First Parish Church, Norwell

February 5, 5:00-7:00 p.m. – meeting in Scituate

February 19, 5:00-7:00 p.m. – meeting at Channing Church in Rockland

We are looking for an advisor or two who might be interested in being involved with the Senior Youth Group next year to work with Michael and Veronica this spring to find out what it's all about. We aren't looking for an immediate commitment, so please contact us if you are at all interested in working with this great group of teens.

The RE Committee would like to thank all of the fall teachers for all their great work in 2016: Carol Sullivan-Hanley, Jen Bokavich, Jim Nidositko, Tracey Timmins, and Jenn Mackey.

Church Matters



Notes from Beth Dubuisson

Happy New Year!

Please join us in singing for our 4th choir session Sunday January 15th through February 12th. You don't need to have sung before to join us. If you'd like to try singing with the choir, but really don't have every Sunday available you could sing with us these next 5 Sundays and see what it's like. On January 16th the song is very easy and sung to a familiar hymn tune. No music reading necessary!

Our anthems this month:

1/16: *We Have a Dream*, based on a speech by Martin Luther King, jr.

1/22: *Riversong* by Andy Beck

1/29: *Benedictus* by Brian Lewis

2/5: *I've got Peace like a River* by Martin Frey

2/12: *Put a little Love in Your Heart* by Jackie DeShannon.

Past and present members of the choir are invited to sing Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah* and *Siyahamba* for Arthur Anderson's memorial service on Saturday January 28th. Rehearsals are Sunday January 22nd 12:00 noon to 12:30 and Saturday the 28th at 1:15-1:30.

The service begins at 2:00.

There will be a Blue Boat coffee house on Saturday February 11th, 6pm-9pm. Come hear some great local talent! Billy Timmons is heading this event.

Notes from the Parish Committee

Start Thinking "Vision"!

The Mission and Vision Team Steering Committee (MVTSC) is in the process of creating, with YOU the congregation, first a vision statement and then a mission statement for our church. Why? To help us understand and articulate the reasons we exist, why we gather at First Parish, and what we want to do in the world. With a vision and mission in mind, we'll be better able to serve and support each other at church and share our light in the community.

On Sunday, February 5th there will be a Visioning Service at church. As a congregation/team, we will all participate in a fun exercise to help us see into the future and imagine our dream church. Until then, everyone big and small please open your minds to ponder (perhaps while sorting bottles and cans?!) what our church means to you, how coming here makes you feel, and where you'd like us to be five or ten years into the future.

Thank you from the MVTSC! (Ellen Isley, Alma Morrison, Billy Timmins, and Ann Svensen)

"A vision is not just a picture of what could be, it's an appeal to our better selves, a call to become something more." --Rosabeth Moss Kantor ;

Changing of the Guard(s)

After many years of greeting (and seating) us, Jack Shaw has decided to step down as Head Usher for First Parish. We are so grateful to him for all his service! Vicki Davis and I have tried to fill in when needed, but now we will try even harder to fill the gap left in his absence! We are looking for interested individuals who would agree to be ushers for Sunday mornings and other church events when needed. The duties include a few pre-service tasks, greeting and handing out Orders of Service at the sanctuary door, taking the collection during the service, and a few post-service tasks. If you are interested, please email Cathie McGowan at patmikecat@aol.com or Vicki Davis at kenneth.davis10@comcast.net, or speak to us at church. With enough volunteers, hopefully, we will only be asked to serve once or twice a month!

Thank you! Cathie McGowan



Bottles & Cans for January 2017

January Dump Duty at the transfer station - it's ON! Eight sessions of sorting netted \$1187 so far and we have the whole month ahead of us. Sign up with a friend, teen, or someone you want to get to know. It's good freezing fun!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040549aaaf2fa13-bottles1>

Opportunities for Spiritual Deepening

Monday Night Meditation

Practice listening to silence on the 2nd and 4th Monday nights for "Monday Night Meditation" at the church from 7 -8:30 p.m. January sessions are on Monday 01/09 and 01/23. All are welcome. Email Brian or Patty Sutton with any questions at brsutton@hotmail.com or pattysutton@gmail.com.

Tea with the Minister

Thursday January 19th, 21 Ann Vinal Road
Stop by any time between 4 and 5:30 p.m. for tea, cookies and conversation. All ages welcome!

A Place to Stand

A Place to Stand is a action-oriented drop-in meeting that serves any who seek a dedicated time to share resources, find courage, and take steps to demand justice. It meets first and third Thursdays at 7:30-9:30 pm at Kate and Joe Glennon's house at 82 Elm Street. Look for its group page on Facebook.

Understanding the Issues of our Times

Explore issues of economics, color, and class in a new monthly reading and discussion group. At the first meeting on Thursday January 19 at 7 p.m. at the church, we will discuss the essay *White Debt* by Eula Biss (https://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/06/magazine/white-debt.html?_r=0). At this meeting we will plan future discussion topics. This is a drop-in discussion, but it would be helpful to come to the first meeting if you are interested. If you can't attend in January but would be interested in future discussions, please let Pamela Barz know.

Spirit Sunday January 22: Spirit in Practice: Mind and Spirit

Adults and youth in junior high and high school are invited to join Pamela Barz in discussing the spirituality of the intellect – the ways that the pursuit of knowledge and understanding can lead us to experience deep truth. You are welcome to participate whether you attended whether you attended previous Spirit Sunday conversations or not. Because the children's Spirit Sunday programs have not been well-attended, childcare will be offered rather than a separate Spirit Sunday program. The program begins at 9 and end at 10, so please plan to arrive 10-15 minutes earlier to settle in.

New Evening Craft and Conversation Group

Kim Dickinson is starting a monthly evening craft and conversation gathering on the fourth Wednesday of each month, 7-9 p.m., at the church. Each month a leader will set up a craft for participants to work on, making items for the 2017 Snowflake Fair. No skills or experience necessary, and materials will be supplied. Participants may be asked to help defray the cost of materials, depending on the project. You are welcome to bring a snack to share.

Kim will lead the first project on Wednesday, January 25th, making felted wool potholders or coasters and simple, stuffed creatures. She describes the project: "The felted wool is made from recycled wool sweaters and clothing that has been discarded or ruined by stains or moths. The felting minimizes the holes and stains and leaves us with a great variety of wonderful opportunities for useful and whimsical items. No sewing experience needed. I'll teach two simple sewing stitches and provide supplies. I will also teach attendees how they can felt their own wool at home."

RSVPs appreciated (k_dickinson11@comcast.net). Please let Kim know if you have questions or ideas for future projects.

Opportunities for Ministry

Men's Ministry

The January meeting was more social than usual. Men and boys of First Parish were invited to gather for breakfast at Alan Donaldson's home and then did a quick project. In February, the group will gather on Feb. 4 and someone is needed to coordinate the project for that date. Please let Chuck Jones (charles_a_jones@yahoo.com) know if you can coordinate, would like to participate, would like to be added to his list, or have ideas for future projects.

Social Justice Committee

This Sunday, Mary Margaret Earl from Urban Ministries will be speaking. Both Carmel Callan and I are delegates from First Parish and will be happy to explain their many outreach programs. We have room for one more delegate if anyone would like to join us.

The Social Justice Committees of South Shore UU parishes are working together on a lecture and speaker series. The first event a presentation on "Criminal Justice Reform: Ending Pretrial Incarceration: will take place on Friday January 13 at 7:30 p.m. and is offered by the First Parish of Duxbury, 842 Tremont Street, Duxbury.

Also, a number of members have expressed an interest in participating in the Boston Women's March for America on Saturday, January 21st. I will be available to drive to a Red Line connection for those wanting to go. We will leave at 9:30 from the front of the church and venture into Boston Common for a hook-up with other UUsers at the Carty Playground (corner of Beacon and Charles Streets). A brief rally will occur before joining other groups for a parade through Back Bay.

Let me know what interests you!

Carol Sullivan-Hanley, Social Justice Committee Chair csulliva@lesley.edu.

Around the Parish

Arthur Anderson April 1, 1927 – January 2, 2017
May Light perpetual shine upon him.

Gilman Wilder October 5, 1917 – December 21, 2016
May Light perpetual shine upon him.

We extend our condolences to Gail Anderson, Laura Smith, and all their family ... and to the family of Gil Wilder. Arthur and Gail joined First Parish in 1969. Gil, with his wife Jane, joined First Parish in October 1965. Both men contributed in many ways to the life of our church. Lively memories and stories were shared during the Joys and Sorrows on January 8.

A memorial service for **Arthur Anderson** will be held at First Parish on **Saturday January 28 at 2 p.m.**

A memorial service for **Gil Wilder** will be scheduled at a later date.

We extend our sympathy to **Lisa Bertola** and all her family on the death of Lisa's mother on December 25. Her life will be celebrated at a memorial service at the First Parish in Duxbury on April 29 at 1 p.m.

Welcome to the world **Carmel Callan's new grandson Harrison** born in December.

Congratulations to **Burak Laciner** who has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. A Court of Honor for him will be held at First Parish on the afternoon of Sunday March 5.

Thank UUs: To Christmas Eve readers **Heather Howe, Oliver Jones, and Robbie Murdock** (4 p.m.) and **Mackenna Berkeley, William Clarke, Bob Murdock, and Jean Shildneck** (7 p.m.) and to **Caroline Hine** for contributing her cello music at the 7 p.m. service... To **Marche Kellerhals** for the bountiful coffee hour she provided for our Christmas morning service... To **Sheri Nidositko**, Chair of the Snowflake Fair, and all who – in so many ways – contributed to the Fair... To all who have already worked to staff our "Dump Duty" shifts this month and to **Howard Mathews** and **Erica Boyle** for all their coordination.... To **Nancy Mathews** for serving as our representative to the Scituate Food Pantry for the past several years and to **Alan Donaldson** for taking over from Nancy the role of First Parish representative.



Happy Birthday! **January**

Yvonne Twomey Jan 1
Devon Smith Jan 27
Gail Anderson Jan 28
Janie Culbert Jan 28

January 2016 Calendar

Sun. 1st
10:30am Worship

Wed. 4th
7:00 pm Parish Committee

Thurs. 5th
4-5:30 pm Tea with the Minister

Sat. 7th
8:00 am Men's Ministry

Sun. 8th
9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:30 am Worship and RE
12:00 pm Committee Sunday

Mon. 9th
6:00 pm MVT-SC
7:00 pm Meditation

Wed. 11th
10:30 Fididdlers

Sun. 15th
9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:30 am Worship and RE

Mon. 16th
7:00 pm "What is the Bible" Class

Wed. 18th
10:30 am Fididdlers

Thurs. 19th
4-5:30 pm Tea with the Minister

Fri 20th
7:00 pm Scituate Ceilidhe

Sun. 22nd
9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am Spirit Sunday
10:30 am Worship and RE
12:00 pm Choir rehearsal for
Anderson memorial

5:00 pm SciCohRock YG Norwell

Mon. 23rd
7:00 pm Meditation

Wed. 25th
10:30 am Fididdlers
7:00 pm Craft and Conversation group

Thurs. 26th
7:00 pm *Understanding the Issues of
our Times* discussion

Fri. 27th- Sun.29th
2-night CON at First Parish Church, Norwell

Sat. 28th
2:00 Arthur Anderson Memorial

Sun. 29th
9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:30 am Worship and RE

We Look Forward to:

February

Sun 5th Vision service

Sun. 11th Blue Boat Coffeehouse

Sun. 12th Committee Sunday

Wed. 15th Fididdlers Luncheon at PJ's

March

Sun. 5th Union Service in Norwell

Wed. 8th Unity/Alliance women's dinner



First Parish of Scituate | 330 First Parish Road, Scituate, MA 02066