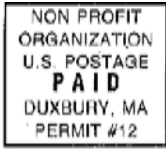


The Bell-Ringer



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

SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

Cindie White-Weiss, Editor

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9/15 - "**Just As I Am**"--As we begin our year-long study of our UU Seven Principles, we will consider how our lives might be different if we really believed in our own "inherent worth and dignity," the claim we make in our First Principle!

(PEACE WALK AT 12:00 NOON)

9/22 - "**Holy Namaste--You Mean You Have Inherent Worth and Dignity Too?**"--In the Hindu tradition the greeting "Namaste" means "I honor the divine in you." What would it be like to see the sacredness in every person? **(After Church Budget Hearing in the Parlor, 12 pm)**

9/29 "**The Children Of This Age And The Children Of Light**"

Unitarian Universalists often use the phrase "beloved community," which Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. popularized. For King, it was not a utopian ideal - it was an achievable goal. But what is utopian and what achievable for us now, in our context, in our community? And what might we need to go elsewhere to find or create? Please join us as our Intern Minister Tom Bozeman reflects on his experiences at Burning Man, the art festival that draws tens of thousands of people to the Nevada desert every year.

(Annual Finance Meeting, 12 p.m., Harvey Assembly Hall. Warrant is on the last page)

COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY SEP 15

Jr. Choir begins 9:30 a.m.
Worship/Church School/Unit I begins 10:30 a.m.
Peace Walk 12:00pm
HIP 6 p.m.

FRIDAY SEP. 20

Autumnal Equinox 7:30 p.m. (see RE pg. 5 for details)

SUNDAY SEP. 22

Worship/Church School 10:30 a.m.
After Church Budget Meeting 12 p.m.

WEDNESDAY SEP. 25

HIP Parent Meeting 7 p.m.

SUNDAY SEP. 29

Worship/Church School 10:30 a.m.
Annual Finance Meeting 12 p.m.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER...

Dear Friends,

As I begin my 10th year as your minister (my 12th year in ministry--how time flies), a reminder that I'm here if you need me:

Call Your Minister When....

You just want to talk.

When you don't know me, but would like to.

When you are looking for a way to deepen your spiritual life.

When your children have questions of faith and you would like me to visit with them.

When you have religious or spiritual questions.

When you or your child are feeling sad or lonely, or lost.

When you have lost your job, found a new job, been promoted or demoted.

When you or a family member is ill.

When someone close to you has died or is critically ill or you're dealing with a significant loss of some kind.

When you would like to make plans for a memorial service. When you would like to make plans for your memorial service.

When you are planning to be married. When you are challenged by the demands of marriage. When you are separated or planning to get a divorce.

When you feel ready to join the congregation

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
Sunsue Fleming, Director of Religious Education
Edwin Swanborn, Music Director
Elaine Bryant, Bell Choir Director

Rev. Robert R. Walsh, Minister Emeritus
Jackie Smith-Miller, Director of Religious Education, Emerita
Lenore O'Malley, Church Administrator
Alex Pevzner, Jr., Junior Choir Director

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER Continued . .

When you want to share your experience of or appreciation for our beloved community.

When you have concerns about the church or our faith community.

When you have a good story or a good joke to share.

When you just want to talk.

Blessings for a wonderful church year!

Catherine

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

DRE Sabbatical 2013

I return from my sabbatical with a heart of gratitude for such a wonderful gift of time. Producing my second DVD of Liturgical dance has been my focus, which wove through my time off. Working with music from the gifted group “Emma’s Revolution” I am excited to be in the final stage.

During my sabbatical I was able to:

Volunteer a week on Star Island

Attend the RE conference on Star Island

Attend GA with our Youth

Attend a workshop at Rowe camp and conference center led by Susun Weed

Build a personal Labyrinth and incorporate this walking meditation in my life

Read and reflect on some books

Work on media skills

Spend family time including:

A trip to North Carolina with my sister and her family

I attended a memorial service in Delaware with my children for my Mother-in Law who died at the age of 104

Spend time with my children and grandchildren

At times it was hard to be away, especially during the events surrounding the Boston marathon but I am thankful for the time off, happy to be back and look forward to the year ahead.

Photo for “Dancing our Faith”

On Saturday September 14th I will be taking pictures in the sanctuary for the cover of my DVD. Any children who would like to participate are invited to join us at 9:30am. Children should wear a short sleeve solid color T shirt and black pants or shorts. Please let Sunsue know if your child would like to attend.

Notes About Our Church School Routines

1. Church School begins at 10:30 a.m. and ends at 11:50 a.m.
2. Toddlers (1-3 yrs) should be picked up at 11:30 a.m. in Rm. 4. Children (3 yrs to Gr. 1) should be picked up **promptly at 11:50 a.m.** in their classrooms. Older children will be dismissed on their own at 11:50 a.m.
3. The first Sunday of each month is Family Sunday. Young people (3 yrs. through Gr. 8) attend church with their families for the beginning of the service. They then leave for their regular church school classes.
4. Parents are urged to keep their infants with them in church or in the Parlor, which has a speaker system that allows you to hear the service.

Chapel Times:

Grades 2-6 have Chapel at 11:30 a.m.

Three years through Grade 1 have Chapel at 10:35 a.m.

Parents are welcome at our Chapel Services at any time.

H.I.P. (High School Youth Group)

Sun., Sept. 15, 6-7:30 p.m.

All Freshmen are invited to join us for a Welcoming Party!

Junior Choir

Alex Pevzner is excited about having the youth (2nd-6th graders) come sing with the Jr. Choir! Practices are before church at 9:30 beginning this Sunday! It's a great opportunity for the kids to get up and perform for everybody at 'Big Church'. Thank You.

HIP Group Parents

There will be a meeting for parents **Wed., Sept. 25, 7 p.m.** Come meet other parents of High School Youth, hear about plans for this year, find out how you can help, and answer any questions you may have. Please call Sunsue if you cannot make this meeting.

Church School Snacks Needed

Our church school is in need of snacks. If you have a young person registered in our church school we ask you bring snacks to share. They can be dropped off in the supply closet. Remember, no food with nuts.

DID YOU GET YOUR CHILDCARE COUPONS?

At FPC we care about young families and we want to do what we can to facilitate families' participation in the life of the church! ***So take advantage of reimbursement for childcare for church events!*** Simply fill out a "Childcare Coupon," put in Catherine's church mailbox and you will be reimbursed for childcare expenses you incurred for any church-related event.

Adult Religious Education

We are excited to offer the following courses. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside the church office. If you have any questions, please call Sunsue Fleming. We hope to see you there!

Memoirs: Writing Your Life Story

All are welcome to join us for the first Memoirs session of the new church year on **Tue., October 8th, 7:15 p.m.** This informal group will meet monthly to provide support for people interested in writing their memoirs. A great keepsake to pass on to your children. A course which will meet once a month and continue all year long. If you are interested, but have never participated, feel free to come and just listen. **Leader:** Jackie Smith-Miller.

Bible Study

Mondays, 7:00-8:30pm, Beginning September 16th - It's the best-selling book of all time. It's a foundational text of Western civilization. It has many adherents and detractors. It is regarded by different people, alternately, as science, history, myth, and/or literature. But how might UUs engage with it as a *sacred text*? Please drop in on a Monday night and join us as we engage with

the lectionary text each week, looking at both its historical context and its relevance to our own lives. Leader: Tom Bozeman

Meetings at the Moon:

September 30, October 7, October 21, October 28, and November 4, 6:30-8:30pm. This is a course for preteen girls and their mothers. Leaders: Colleen Anderson and Liz Connors

Evensong For Families

September 27, October 4, 18, 25, & November 1 - A five week course designed to explore and share how families function and how members might enrich their lives. The class is a safe haven for people to speak openly, to affirm different kinds of families, to voice concerns openly, and appreciate struggles and triumphs. It's a great way to get to share as a family and to get to know other families. Here are some topics: who is your family; everyday rituals like mealtimes, bedtimes, hellos and goodbyes; celebrations – birthdays and holidays; activities we love to do together; good times and bad; our family's Ten Commandments; sharing and privacy; and ways to further celebrate our family. Leader: Sunsue Fleming

"Don't Retire---Rewire"

This workshop is geared toward those "newly retired," the "soon-to-be-retired" and those *dreaming about retirement!* Based on a popular book by the same name, we will explore how the "retirement" years can be a time for creating more meaning, creative expression, and connection to a deeper part of yourself and others. Two Sessions (may be extended as needed) *Leader: Rev. Catherine Cullen (if you are interested in attending, sign up and we will figure out meeting times depending upon everyone's schedules).*

Buddha's Brain: The Miracle of Mindfulness and Meditation

Meets Tuesdays October 8th, 15th and 22nd from 7:30-9:00pm, Neuroscience tells us that the ancient spiritual practice of mindfulness and meditation leads to an increased sense of well-being, greater stress resilience and deeper empathy in both professional and personal relationships. Even if you've **never meditated before**, you'll be **amazed** at how simple and effective it is! Three Sessions. Leader: Rev. Catherine Cullen

Women's Ritual: Autumnal Equinox, Fri., Sept. 20, 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a Women's Ritual in the Parlor to celebrate the Autumnal Equinox on **Fri., Sept. 20, 7:30 p.m.**

Committee on Ministry

Welcome back! We are the only committee in the Church who is looking forward to an uneventful year because that means all goes well in the congregation, the minister is happy and there are no issues to resolve. However, reality can be different and we would like you to know that if you have any concerns, you can reach out to any of us on the committee. Your concerns will be treated with absolute confidentiality by all the committee members. It is our purpose to strengthen the quality of ministry in the congregation by acting as a support for the minister as well as a channel of communication between the minister and the congregation. The Committee on Ministry consists of Reverend Catherine Cullen, Steve Cunningham, Jen Anderson Shattuck, Liz Christmann, Elaine Bryant, Regina Mortland and Caroline Mitchell, Chair.

September 15, 2:00pm-3:00pm / Sit in Peace / Copley Square

Imagine the energy of thousands of people gathered together and meditating on the open grounds of Copley Square with one of the most influential people of our time: Zen Master, author, poet and peace activist Thich Nhat Hanh. Trinity Church and the Trinity Boston Foundation will host the Buddhist monk as he guides a sitting meditation. You may like to bring something to sit on (it may be a good idea for this to be waterproof). You are welcome to sit on the benches and lawn. (*Carpoolers can meet at noon in the church parking lot*).

A NOTE FROM THE MODERATOR

The Annual Financial Meeting of the Parish is fast approaching. On Sunday, September 29 we will adopt a budget for the coming fiscal year. The Finance Committee has been hard at work preparing a draft budget that will serve as the basis for consideration at that meeting. They will distribute that draft in advance and host an information session following worship on September 22.

Please honor their work by reviewing the draft and asking any questions that may arise before Annual Meeting, either at the info session or by contacting a member of Finance. The result will be a faster, more efficient meeting and, I suspect, adoption of a more thoughtfully crafted budget.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS:

Help First Parish Church Connect our Families!

It's time to update our First Parish directory and we would like you to be a part of it!

First Parish has partnered with Lifetouch photographers to create a new picture directory.

Portrait sessions will occur on Friday October 4th and Saturday October 5th.

Please visit the Membership table at coffee hour starting in-gathering Sunday, September 8 to schedule a portrait appointment and review details!

Any questions? Please call Tracy Wagner.

Caring Connection News:

We've had a very busy summer and would like to thank the many generous people that have helped a fellow church member by preparing a meal or providing rides. We are looking to add people to our list of possible helpers so that we can always provide assistance when people are in need. We plan to have a sign up table at coffee hour in the coming weeks or you can contact **Kathy Bray** to be put on the list. If you or someone you know can use help during the month of September, contact **Jen Cantwell** and for October contact **George Anderson**.

People News

Our hard-working sexton, **John Russo**, continues to recover from back surgery. **John** will be back at church next weekend, but should not lift anything too heavy for another week or two--if you see him lifting, give him a hand. **John**, we look forward to your return!

Glad to see **Julie Lillys** back at church after some unanticipated heart issues!

Peter Noyes continues to recover from surgery and hopes to be back home by the end of the week.

Fred Hubbard remains at Brigham & Women's. Miriam is grateful for rides from our Caring Connection.

Longtime FPC'er **Eric Swanson** is recovering from a leg amputation. **Liz Polvinen** (Eric's mother) reports that he is making amazing progress. **Eric** would love to hear from FPC friends.

Catherine is happy to report that her daughter-in-law **Heidi Cullen** has completed four months of chemotherapy and surgery for a very serious form of breast cancer. **Heidi's** doctors are now very optimistic. After six weeks of radiation, **Heidi** will no longer call the Dana Farber Cancer Institute "her second home!"

Longtime FPC'er **Marjorie Chute** passed away this summer. Catherine helped her husband Bill celebrate Marjorie's life at a delightful luncheon at the Tavern-on-the Green in Marshfield.

Jeanne Marie Penvenne and **Norman Bennett** have a grandson; **Kavi Norman-Singh Bennett** was born to **John Bennett** and **Simrin Parmar** at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City on August 25, 2013. **Kavi** (pronounced kuh vee) means "poet" in Punjabi. Simrin's family is Sikh Canadian. John was raised and dedicated at First Parish. The family lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Interning Grace

“Welcome To The Exciting New Church Year!”

This year, I will continue to serve both the Duxbury and Kingston congregations – and I'm looking forward to seeing you all on Sunday mornings! In addition to Sunday mornings, though, I will also be leading a Monday-night Bible study and talking to folks about starting a men's group.

Unlike in other faith traditions, Unitarian Universalists don't have a particular sacred text with which they are expected to engage – but sacred texts are still an important part of the life of faith. Every Monday, a drop-in group will gather to explore how engaging with a sacred text can enrich one's spiritual life. All are welcome. Whether you have learned about the Bible in a Christian context or are pretty unfamiliar with it, please join us in a group exploration of how we might faithfully engage with it in service of our own spiritual growth.

I'm also talking to folks about starting a men's group for men from the Duxbury, Kingston, and Plymouth congregations. If you're interested in this possibility, please come talk to me!

I look forward to seeing you all!

Intern Minister Tom Bozeman

"ON SACRED GROUND" - LOCAL UU PROGRAM ON PACTV LAUNCHES!

Wednesday, September 11, 9:00 am
Friday, September 13, 11:00 am
Saturday, September 14, 7:00 pm

Catch the premiere installments of "On Sacred Ground," an interview program hosted by Rev. Catherine Cullen of First Parish Duxbury and produced by Rev. Dan King of Kingston.

Cable subscribers can tune in to Comcast channel 13 or Verizon channel 43, and local public access channels for Plymouth, Kingston, Duxbury, and Pembroke.

Next Bell-Ringer Deadline: Mon., Oct. 7, 2013 9 a.m.



Ringling Out Justice!

News of social justice activities at First Parish Church



Coming Sunday 9/22-Special Collection: Lend Your Support to Head Start!

Local Head Start programs in Plymouth, Marshfield and Pembroke provide education, health, and [nutrition](#) services to low-income children and their families. Recently Head Start has been very hard hit by budget cuts. For years First Parish has vigorously supported individual Head Start families through our Box Project. During our service on Sunday, 9/22, we will have a special collection for the program. Our donations will be used for enrichment, field trips, and special in-class presentations. Please give with gusto!

Social Justice Cell Fund Grants

The Social Justice Cell Fund Grant Committee is accepting applications for grants from September 1st until November 1st. The application form is available online at the First Parish website or can be obtained in the church office. A friend or member of the First Parish Church is eligible to request a grant for funds for an organization or project. All completed applications must be sent to Cindy Ladd-Fiorini or to the church office by **November 1st**. Grants will be awarded by December 15th.

Application forms are available on the First Parish website or the church office. Funding priorities and criteria are listed on the Social Justice Committee page on the church website.

Past grants have been awarded to such organizations or projects as Mainspring House in Brockton, Prison Ministry, local Heating Assistance, Roxbury Youth Programs Summer Activities; Every Child is Our Child Program, Ventress Library ESL program, and the Sharing Foundation.

UU Service Committee

A major UUSC partner in Haiti, the Peasant Movement of Papaye (MPP), is a winner of the annual **2013 Food Sovereignty Prize** awarded by the U.S. Food Sovereignty Alliance, a network of food justice, anti-hunger, labor, environmental, faith-based, and food producer advocacy organizations. The award ceremony will be held at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, NYC, in October.

UUSC, through its important work supporting MPP and other partners, is bringing *hope* to Haitians. Your support of UUSC makes a big difference in Haiti! (uus.org)

UU Urban Ministry

In July volunteers from FPC joined hands with FPC in Kingston and Plymouth for the annual UUUM Renewal House Picnic for residents, alum, and their children. Renewal House is a domestic violence shelter in Roxbury, funded and managed by UUUM. A great picnic time was had by all: heart-warming fellowship with song and testimonials, water play with the kids in Plymouth's Pinewood Lake (Carol Nappellio helped at least 3 kids learn how to swim!), delicious food, creative crafts, kayaking and

wonderful weather. One 9 year old girl, climbing in the car to head home to Everett, exclaimed, "This was the BEST day! **Thank you** to all who brought food, gave funds, and participated this year.

Box Project Sign-Up Time

What is the Box Project? The Head Start social worker identifies the neediest families in our local programs. Each family is given a check list of food, personal and cleaning products once a month. Groups of six families or individuals under the leadership of a coordinator buy the requests and deliver them to the church.

How do I sign up? Look for the Social Justice table at coffee hour and sign up there. You may also contact Marilyn Christmann.

Questions? Again, visit the Social Justice table or contact Marilyn.

Children's clothing needed for Head Start families

When sorting your kids' clothes this fall, please consider passing on outgrown/not needed clothing for Head Start families. The clothing needs to be in very good condition – no stains, rips or significant wear (fading, pilling, etc.) We are now accepting newborn through teens fall and winter. If you have spring/summer clothing we can take that too, just bag separately and clearly mark "Spring/summer". Please contact Cindy Ladd Fiorini for information or to arrange a drop off. Clothing can also be brought to church – just let Cindy know!

Summer Common Read

The Social Justice Committee is sponsoring a Summer Common Read of the book **Behind the Kitchen Door** by Saru Jayaraman. The UUA has designated this book as their Common Read for the upcoming church year! The book concerns the restaurant industry and the lives of the people who work in that industry as well as American's eating out culture. It has been called "a groundbreaking exploration of the political, economic and moral implications of dining out." It is not too late to pick up a copy of the book and join in discussions of the book that will take place in October. If you have questions, please stop by the Social Justice table during coffee hour (where we will have copies of the book for sale for \$18.50) or contact Cindy Ladd Fiorini.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SEPTEMBER 28th - THE COMMUNITY TABLE

@ MainSpring/Father Bill's

First Parish Church Duxbury will be providing and serving the meal at MainSpring/Father Bill's Community Table on Saturday, September 28th.

Please consider preparing a casserole, salad, dessert or serving the meal.

We will be at coffee hours for sign ups, handing out casserole dishes and the recipe for American Chop Suey with ground turkey. We need 12 casseroles, 8 salads, 8 desserts and 4 First Parish volunteers for Saturday, Sept 28th.

Volunteering to set up and serve is a lot of fun. You spend time with FPC members/friends, serve others by spending just a few hours.

You also sign up in cyberspace via Facebook by messaging Andrea Brandeis or emailing Sam Brandeis @ scbrandeis@gmail.com. We are looking forward to another great year!

**BUDGET DRIVE YIELDS \$5,000 IN NEW CONTRIBUTIONS;
\$6,000 MORE NEEDED TO BALANCE BUDGET**

First Parish members and friends responded to last month's budget deficit letter generously, contributing an additional \$5,000 in new and increased pledges and cash contributions toward the current year's operating budget. However, this is slightly less than half of what we need to balance our budget. The proposed budget, which will be voted on by the parish at its annual financial meeting on Sept. 29, still shows a deficit of \$6,000. The finance committee and the governing board have already cut many proposed new programs and expenditures. We feel further cuts will adversely affect our outstanding staff and impair the church's ability to grow. We need more help from our members to close the gap.

If you have not yet made a pledge for this year – or if you can increase your pledge or make a cash contribution -- you can still do so, by filling out the form below and returning it to the church office.

We are now able to accept contributions by credit or debit card and to process pledge payments by regular electronic transfers from your checking or savings account. If you wish to help in this way, you may indicate this on the form below or visit the stewardship table during coffee hour next Sunday, Sept. 15. The final budget will be available before the after-church budget information session on Sept. 22.

CUT ON DOTTED LINE AND RETURN TO CHURCH OFFICE BY SEPT. 13:

Yes, I want to help First Parish Church close the budget gap!

Please check one or more of the choices below and return this form in the enclosed envelope

New pledge: (If you have not made a financial pledge this year.)

I/we pledge \$_____ for the current fiscal year (ending June 30, 2014). Pledges may be paid in weekly, monthly or other installments during the year. Please be sure to sign below.

Increase pledge: (If you want to increase the pledge you have already made for the 2013-2014 church year.) I/we hereby increase our pledge by \$_____, to a total of \$_____, for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. (If you are unsure how much you pledged, please contact assistant treasurer Linda Pelham. Please be sure to sign below.

Cash contribution: Enclosed is my/our check for \$_____ for the church's operating expenses during the current fiscal year.

Completion of last year's pledge: Enclosed is my/our check for \$_____ to fulfill a pledge made last year for the budget year that ended June 30, 2013.

Please print your name(s): _____

Signed: _____

We now accept contributions or pledges by credit or debit card or by electronic transfer from your checking or savings account. If you wish to contribute this way, please contact assistant treasurer Linda Pelham.

Letter From the Board President

The Governing Board has been busy this summer with a couple of key changes to report:

We have new Church Administrative Assistant: Lenore O'Malley. Lenore comes to First Parish with considerable experience, having previously been the Administrative Assistant at a church in Weymouth, as well managing administrative staff for the YMCA, a large member based organization. We are excited to have Lenore's extensive experience supporting the needs of a diverse set of member including correspondence, communications and calendars using online media and other functions. Lenore can now be reached at the church office at (781) 934-6352 and via email at uuduxbury@verizon.net .

I would like to thank the efforts of the Personnel search committee (Laura Howerton, Sharon Nabreski, Ted Lillys, Amy Hamilton and Nancy Landgren) for their work in reviewing numerous candidates, refining requirements, and making recommendations to the Governing Board in filling this position. . I would also like to thank the Personnel Committee (Michael Gardner, Laura Howerton and Peter Baker) for their extensive support of this process, and their continued efforts to ensure that our position requirements were appropriate, that we provide the appropriate ongoing support and oversight to this position, and for advising the Governing Board on a variety of key issues relative to this position. In order to provide ongoing support for all our hourly staff at First Parish , The Personnel Committee is also establishing a sub-committee (Staff Resource Committee) headed by Laura Howerton. If you are interested in joining the Staff resource Committee please contact Laura.

The Governing Board would also like to thank the Harvey Assembly Hall Renovation Task Force (Jim Savicki, Doug Friesen, Dorothy Pilla, Pam Campbell Smith, and Mary Flanagan) for their extensive work this summer. The Assembly Hall has undergone an amazing transformation in a short period, and is now much more attractive, functional, and energy efficient, and is much better suited to supporting our current and future needs. There are a few additional improvements that will be completed in the next few weeks (entry stairs, disposition of items in the "pod" that were removed during the renovation process), and the task force has also compiled a number of items for ensuring the future use of the space is appropriate, along with some recommendations for possible future enhancements.

I am honored to be your Governing Board president this year. Please contact me with any issues or concerns, or speak to others on the Governing Board (Ted Lillys, Amy Hamilton, Nancy Landgren, Nancy Ovaska, Jim Savicki, Steve Cunningham, Meredith Lehman and Colleen Anderson).

Welcome to the New Year!
Karl Schweitzer

Committee Chair Reminder: Just a friendly reminder to all committee chairs, if you have not already done so, please email the church office with your committee members, chair, vice chair and when you will be holding your monthly meetings. Please indicate time, day of the month, what room you wish to hold your meetings and when your first meeting of the year will commence. Thank you.

NEW POLICY ON ANNOUNCEMENTS IN WORSHIP

The Worship Committee has decided to increase spoken Announcements during Worship for an additional Sunday per month. Spoken Announcements will now be available to be made on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. However, your Announcement absolutely needs to concern a church-sponsored event ONLY and must be very brief. Please write out your announcement ahead of time so that you may remain concise.

Of course, you may still put your Announcement in the Order of Service and request that Catherine “lift it up” during the Welcome and Announcement portion of any Sunday. Thank you and the Worship Committee welcomes your feedback on this and anything that may arise during the year.

The 2013-2014 Governing Board Covenant: Each year at the Governing Board Retreat, the incoming Board composes a covenant with the help of Rev. Cullen. This is a blueprint for how we will approach this year’s work on behalf of the church and its friends and members.

GOVERNING BOARD COVENANT 2013-2014

We promise one another to:

- Listen and speak with respect, keep an open mind, ask questions, be constructive in words and actions, and trust the process,
- Honor tradition but not be afraid of change,
- Act for the benefit of the whole congregation, validate the work of committees, follow through, and keep good records,
- Look for ways to improve,
- Remember we are part of a larger faith community; it’s an honor to do this work, and to laugh!

Denominational Affairs Committee

The Denominational Affairs Committee welcomes NEW MEMBERS to help plan a First Parish strategy for the 2014 UUA General Assembly in Providence, RI, and to re-imagine our relationship with the Cranberry Cluster. Our next meeting is **Sunday, September 15**, after coffee hour (noonish) probably in the parlor. ALL are welcome.

Jeanne Marie Penvenne

Congregational Growth Team

Get snappy! We would love to have photos of church activities and events for inclusion in the Bellringer, weekly distribution, website and Face Book page. So get snapping and send your digital photos to Lenore in the office at uuduxbury@verizon.net. Mention the activity and date, please. Families with children in the RE program have already indicated whether photos are allowed to be used. If any adult is unwilling to have a photo used in material that might appear online, please notify Lenore.

Note from the Treasurer

Are you confused about your pledge? Do you wonder if you finished last year's pledge or how much you have pledged for this year? Pledging and fiscal years can be quite confusing. Your Treasurers are here to help! If you have any questions please feel free to contact me Amy Hamilton or Assistant Treasurer Linda Pelham. We can also assist you in paying your pledge via direct withdrawal or credit card. Linda or I will be available at coffee hour on Sept 15 and 22 with our iPads in hand ready to answer your questions.

Amy Hamilton, Treasurer

WORSHIP NEWS

Thanks to All Who Participated in Fishermans' Services

One of the hidden gems of our Worship Life here at FPC is the Fishermans' Service which happens each Sunday during the summer at 8:00 am on the patio, or in the Chapel during inclement weather. Services, which are lay-led, last about 20 minutes, followed by coffee, delicious food, and conversation in the kitchen. This past summer we had many wonderful, moving services, with an average attendance of about 15. (Hint, there is plenty of room for more; consider trying it our next year) Our thanks to everyone who participated, and especially those who led services, brought food and refreshments, and especially our anchor, who, each Sunday, arrived early to make the coffee, kept us in tune on hymns, and led off each kitchen discussion: Polly Lanman. Thanks to all who contributed.

The Worship Committee

FPC Worship Services Need You!!

How wonderful that the regular Worship Life of the Church is beginning again. The Worship Committee hopes you found Ingathering as meaningful and spiritually fulfilling as we did; and we hope that regular attendance as Sunday Services will continue to be an important part of your spiritual practices. One of the ways to participate more actively in Worship is to volunteer to serve as an Usher and/or Chalice Lighter. Each week we need two ushers and a Chalice Lighter, a role one of the ushers often fills. Both jobs are very easy and rewarding (and come with written instructions in case you are new to the role or haven't done it for a while). Ushering is a great way to greet members of the congregation as they enter for services, and to offer a friendly, welcoming face to everyone. Chalice lighting links you directly to one of our great worship traditions.

A sign-up sheet for ushering and chalice lighting is available outside the office. Please consider volunteering for one or both! There will be a very brief training session on chalice lighting and use of the microphone conducted by members of the Worship Committee on September 15 after Church. No sign-up needed—just show up! Please consider attending if you have not lit the Chalice before. It's a great way to be part of the Service.

The Worship Committee

Fellowship Committee Update

We all enjoy coffee and fellowship in the Assembly Hall following Sunday morning. Each week, either the Fellowship Committee or some other committee or group assigned/recruited by Fellowship, is asked to be responsible for setup, breakdown and cleanup of the kitchen.

In order to streamline the process and make it less time consuming on Sunday mornings, the coffee hour will now be **COFFEE ONLY**. Coffee, tea and water will be available at the window and there will be **NO SNACK TABLE**. The elimination of food at coffee hour became necessary due to an

under staffed Fellowship Committee and the challenges encountered in recruiting hosts for Sunday morning. By eliminating the need to bake or purchase food, we expect it will be more enjoyable to host and allow us continue our wonderful tradition of coffee hour following the worship service. We appreciate your understanding as we the implement this change.

Our bylaws call for Fellowship to have at least eight members. Presently, we are fulfilling the mission of the committee with a membership of less than half of the minimum specified. If you have a few hours to spare and you would like to join the Fellowship Committee, we would like to hear from you. This is a “*many hands make light work*” committee. Please contact Pat Slechta.

A ZEN MASTER IN PLYMOUTH

The Plymouth Zen Group is celebrating its fourth anniversary with a visit and dharma talk by Zen Master Bon Yeon (Jane Dobisz). Jane is the author of *The Wisdom of Solitude*, and has been teaching worldwide since 1991. This talk will be appropriate for everyone, from beginners to experienced practitioners, and is a wonderful opportunity to learn about Zen, get inspired, and ask questions of a Zen Master. Light refreshments will be served after the talk.

When: Wednesday, October 2nd, 2013 at 7:00 PM

Where: Plymouth Zen Group, 26 North Street, Plymouth, MA 02360

All are welcome: \$10.00 suggested donation

Info: www.plymouthzen.com or 781.733.9361

First Parish Church, Duxbury
Governing Board Meeting
Minutes
May 16, 2013

In Attendance: Colleen Anderson, Amy Hamilton, Cindie White-Weiss, Peter Nappellio, Steve Cunningham. Catherine Cullen, Kim Wyman, Karl Schweitzer

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Cindie White-Weiss, Board President.

1. The chalice was lit by Catherine Cullen.
2. All members checked in.
3. The Covenant was read by all members
4. Peter Nappellio is Timekeeper and Process Observer
5. The Agenda was approved as presented.
6. The April minutes were approved as presented.
7. Staff Reports (Minister, DRE)
 - Minister: Report submitted. In addition, Catherine noted that she will be attending the first meeting to learn about being a Mentoring Congregation.
 - DRE (Interim): This Sunday is Balloon Sunday. All is going well with the R.E. Program.
8. Officer's reports (President, President Elect, Treasurer):
 - President: Report submitted and attached.
 - Vice President: No report submitted.
 - Treasurer: Report submitted and attached. Report was briefly reviewed.
It was moved that we make an intended financial contribution to the UUA of \$16, 440 (279 members X \$60.) Passed by unanimous voice vote.
9. Liaison reports (Sunday AM, Outreach, Physical Plant, Service, Finance):
 - Finance (Peter Nappellio): Sharon Nabreski reports that the Stewardship Committee is in the final stages of soliciting pledges and expects to meet or exceed last year's amount. The Parish Board did not spend any money this year, so our budget is being cut to \$100.00 for next year.
 - Physical Plant (Kim Wyman): Kim spoke to Jim Savicki who is overseeing the repairs to the Hearse House and Harvey Assembly Hall. Both jobs are scheduled and ready to go and should be completed on schedule.
 - Outreach (Steve Cunningham): No committees heard from.
 - Service (Ted Lillys): No report
 - Sunday AM (Marilyn Christmann): No report
10. Old Business:
 - a. Review of new Capital Projects Planning Procedure and Form: Peter Nappellio reviewed the revised procedure. It will be reviewed once more by

the Capital Projects Planning Committee and will come back to the Board next month for a vote to make it policy.

- b. GA delegates: **Tracy Wagner, Cindy Ladd-Fiorini, Steve Cunningham, Carson Lloyd and Anna Campbell will be our delegates to GA.**

11. New Business:

- a. Covenant of Right Relations: Has been on display in the Assembly Hall for members of the Parish to review and sign. The Covenant will be voted on at Annual Meeting in June. The Safe Congregation Committee will present its policy to the Board at the Annual Board Retreat in August.
- b. Intern Committee: Liz Polvinen has joined the Committee, so our half of the two parish committee is complete.
- c. Nominating: Peter Nappellio reviewed the Board nominations. Stewardship still needs additional members.

12. Responsibility List:

13. Timekeeper and Process Observer comments: Peter reported that we've done a great job.

14. Check out: All members checked out.

15. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
DUXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS**

Sunday, September 29, 2013, 12 p.m.

Annual Parish Financial Meeting

W A R R A N T

The annual Parish Financial Meeting of the First Parish Church of Duxbury, Massachusetts, is hereby called for 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 29, 2013 in the Harvey Assembly Hall.

- 1. Call to Order – Moderator**
- 2. Invocation – Rev. Catherine Cullen, Minister**
- 3. Reading of Minutes of September 2012 Parish Financial Meeting**
- 4. Review reports of the following committees: Capital Projects Planning Committee, Trustees of Parish Funds, Finance Committee, Audit Committee.**
- 5. Treasurer's report and review of church finances for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.**
- 6. Presentation of and vote on the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 – Finance Committee Chair.**
- 7. To act upon any bequests.**
- 8. To take any action on allocation of endowment income.**
- 9. To act on any recommendations of Capital Projects Planning Committee.**
- 10. Closing words and benediction – Minister**
- 11. Adjournment**

Colleen Anderson
Colleen Anderson, Clerk

NOTE: An informational after-church meeting to present and discuss the proposed **budget** will be held on **12 p.m., Sept. 22rd in the Parlor**. Please see the budget on the church website (www.uuduxbury.org) or request a copy from the church office (both will be available after September 15th), and come with your questions.