

NON PROFIT
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PAID
DUXBURY, MA
PERMIT #12

The Bell-Ringer

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



JANUARY 2017

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Jan. 8th -- "**Questions Out of the Box**", With Catherine on sabbatical, we are taking a different approach to the traditional "Question Box" service. Ruth Owen, Jen Shattuck & representatives from the HIP group will ask and answer questions about faith, hope, service and mystery. Everyone will have a chance to contribute as we think about what sustains us into the future.

Jan. 15th -- "**In Pursuit of Harriet Tubman's Spirituality**", Jean Humez, professor emerita of women's studies at UMass Boston and the author of a book on Harriet Tubman ("Harriet Tubman: The Life and the Life Stories"), will be in the pulpit on Sunday January 15th in honor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Humez will draw from Tubman's life as an example of how African American women's historic use of spirituality provides a foundation for social activism.

Jan. 22nd -- "**Speak to Me of God**", Rev. Jill Cowie, The Prophet Micah proclaimed: "This is what the Lord requires, to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." Join Rev. Jill as she explores what the Hebrew prophets teach us about how to live as people of faith in this post-inaugural world.

Jan. 29th - "**Spiritual Friendship**", Rev. Jill Cowie, Pastoral Psychologist Robert J. Hicks says there are four kinds of spiritual friends, the ones who invite humility with humor, cheerleaders who pick you up when you are down, prophetic friends who tell you what you need to hear, and spiritual guides who help you find new direction. One or two of these come naturally to each one of us. What kind of spiritual friend are you?

COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY JAN 5

Book Club 9:00a.m.
Alliance 10:00-2:00p.m.
Worship/Music 7:00p.m.

FRIDAY JAN 6

Yoga 10:30 – 11:45am
11:00am Memorial Service
Committee on Ministry 5:00p.m.

COFFEEHOUSE 7:00pm

SATURDAY JAN. 7

DIC Mtg. – Sisters of St. Margaret

SUNDAY JAN 8

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30a.m.
Worship 10:30a.m.
Share The Plate
Social Justice 9:15pm
HIP Alumni Lunch 11:30am
Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30p.m.

MONDAY JAN 9

Welcome Cong. 7:00p.m.
Stewardship 7:00pm

TUESDAY JAN 10

Adult RE Task Force 6:00pm
Memoirs 7:15p.m.
Bell Choir 7:00-8:30pm

WEDNESDAY JAN 11

Kindred Spirits 10:00-11:30a.m.
ALLIANCE POTLUCK SUPPER
6:00pm

THURSDAY JAN 12

Book Club 9:00 a.m.
Alliance Sewing Group 10:00-2:00p.m.
Small Group 11:00a.m.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER...

In out of the way places of the heart
Where your thoughts never think to wander
This beginning has been quietly forming
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

For a long time it has watched your desire
Feeling the emptiness grow inside you
Noticing how you willed yourself on
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown...

Then the delight, when your courage kindled,
And out you stepped onto new ground,
Your eyes young again with energy and dream
A path of plenitude opening before you.

Though your destination is not clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is one with your life's desire.

Awaken your spirit to adventure
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm
For your soul senses the world that awaits you

--John O'Donohue

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

Ruth Owen, Interim Director of Religious Education

Edwin Swanborn, Music Director

Elaine Stephansky, Bell Choir Director

Alex Pevzner, Jr., Junior Choir Director

Rev. Robert R. Walsh, Minister Emeritus

Jackie Smith-Miller, Director of Religious Education, Emerita

Sunsue Fleming, Director of Religious Education, Emerita

Lenore O'Malley, Church Administrator

Building a Personal Faith, One Brick at a Time

If you didn't think, "Wow, that sounds like fun," when you read the title of this article you are clearly not a fan of LEGO. This winter (January - February) we are continuing with the "Winter Workshop" idea that we debuted last year with the K - 6th grade kids. Last year we explored the idea of home and built our town of cardboard houses. This year we are going to explore the idea of faith, specifically how we can build a personal faith from the wisdom stories, scripture and myth that surround us. Each week the kids will hear a story, either from the Bible or other traditions, and consider the question, "What can this story teach me about faith?" Then they will work together to build a LEGO model of that most important part of the story. Our first story will be the story of Noah. Perhaps for some children the most important thing will be the ark, for others the dove and maybe, for some, God's destruction of the earth. At the end of the six weeks, we will have a collection of LEGO models to display and talk about.

Ruth Owen

Interim DRE Director

Happy New Year!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Our Whole Lives Resumes Jan. 8 at 10 AM

The 7-8th graders will resume the OWL program on Jan. 8. Parents should have received a full schedule via email. If you didn't, please contact Ruth.

HIP "Reunion" Jan. 8 at 11:30 AM

Current and former HIP members are invited to church on Jan. 8 for the "Questions Out of the Box" service featuring two HIP members as well as Jen Shattuck and Ruth Owen. We will be focusing on questions about how Unitarian Universalism is understood and experienced by our young people who are the future of our faith. After church, we will have pizza together and have time to hang out and catch up. Please pass the word to any former HIP members you know who are home for the holidays. Please RSVP to Ruth so we know how much pizza to get.

Parent Coffee Get-Together, Jan. 22 at 11:30 AM

Parents (and grandparents) of young children are invited to an informal get-together after church on Sunday, Jan. 22 in the blue classroom. This is a chance to get acquainted and to meet members of the Religious Education committee. Coffee and refreshments will be served and child care will be provided.

Bingo! January 29, fun for the whole family!

The Hip group will be hosting their annual Bingo! night on Sunday, Jan. 29. We are in need of items that could be used as prizes. Please bring any new or gently used items (toys, games, household items, books, DVD's etc.) to Ruth's office.



Ring Out Justice!



News of Social Justice Activities at First Parish Church

Social Justice Committee Members:

Carrie Meier, Carol Nappellio, Peter Nappellio, Callie Brandeis, Andrea Brandeis, Mary Flanagan, Donna Savicki, Cindy Wilson, Bob Hughes, Nancy Nowak, Sally Delisa, Cindy Ladd-Fiorini, Troy Riley, Bella Santorini (HIP Representative), and Nancy Landgren.

Meeting: second Sundays 12 noon to 1 PM

Please Join Us! All Welcome!

Open Minds Social Justice Speaker Series Kicks Off Jan 13

The Social Justice Committee is very pleased to announce the Open Minds Social Justice Speaker Series. Bringing diverse and inspiring speakers to our church and to the broader community, each evening of the series will offer thought-provoking information and time for questions and discussion.

Events begin at 7:30. They are free and everyone is welcome. In case of bad weather, a notice will be posted at uudux.org.

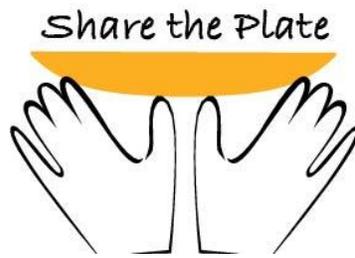
The Schedule:

January 13 Criminal Justice Reform: Ending Pretrial Incarceration - Atara Rich-Shea is Director of Operations for the Massachusetts Bail Fund. Her experience as a public defender allows her to detail how pretrial incarceration unfairly targets the poor and costs taxpayers.

February 24 - Trans 101: Transgender Identities and Experience - Hear a panel of speakers share personal stories, explain terminology, and speak to the relevance of transgender issues for our community.

March 24 - In Our Own Voice: Living Life with a Mental Illness – A panel of speakers from National Alliance on Mental Illness relate powerful personal stories of living with mental illness which challenge our assumptions and stereotypes.

April 28 - Using Restorative Justice to End the Cycle of Violence - Charlotte Simpson, Co-Founder of Restorative Justice: RSVP, presents a compelling documentary film and discusses a successful model for reducing prison recidivism: Resolve to Stop the Violence Project.



Share The Plate Donations

Yay! Share the Plate donations in December generated over \$1800 for Magical Moon Foundation! In January our Share the Plate recipient will be The Massachusetts Bail Fund. Stay tuned to learn more about this group working towards reform of the criminal justice system. **Share the Plate** provides a real world expression of our values.

Saturday, January 28th - Father Bill's Community Table

Please consider signing up to serve with your family, friends or small group for Saturday, January 28th.

We are in need of the following:

5 Servers

13 Casseroles (pan and recipe available @ the Social Justice table @ coffee hour)

5 Salad Fixings

5 Desserts (in general 2 dozen brownies)

Please stop by the Social Justice table at coffee hour or email Sherry Gardner sherrygardner47@hotmail.com or Molly Bogan mollybgn@gmail.com, Father Bill's Community Table and Social Justice Committee Member

Thank you so much,
Sherry Gardner, Michael Gardner, Molly Bogan
Father Bill's Social Justice Representatives



All the tags were taken, all the gifts are delivered for the joy of Christmas! Thank you!

FRIDAY JAN. 13

Yoga 10:30 – 11:45a.m.

Social Justice Speaker Series**7:00pm****SUNDAY JAN. 15**

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

HIP 6:00-7:30p.m.

Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30 p.m.

MONDAY JAN. 16**MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY****OFFICE CLOSED**

MLK Breakfast 8:15a.m., Service

9:00a.m. St. Margaret's Covent

TUESDAY JAN. 17

Small Group 10-11:30a.m.

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30m

THURSDAY JAN. 19

Historical Meeting 9:30a.m.

Book Club 9:00 a.m.

Alliance Luncheon 12:30p.m.

Governing Board Meeting 7:00pm

FRIDAY JAN. 20

Yoga 10:30 – 11:45a.m.

SUNDAY JAN. 22**Box Project Due Date**

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

HIP 6:00 – 7:30p.m.

Buddhist Group 5-6:30 p.m.

MONDAY JAN. 23

SSHAGLY 7:30 – 9:00p.m.

PFLAG 7:30p.m.

TUESDAY JAN. 24**Bell Ringer Due Date**

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30pm

THURSDAY JAN. 26

Book Club 9:00 a.m.

Alliance 10-2:00 p.m.

FRIDAY JAN. 27

Yoga 10:30 – 11:45a.m.

SATURDAY JAN. 28

Community Table

SUNDAY JAN. 29

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30a.m.

Worship 10:30a.m.

HIP BINGO 5:00 – 9:00p.m.

Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30p.m.

MONDAY JAN. 30

Stewardship Mtg.

TUESDAY JAN. 31

Small Group Steering 7:00p.m.

Bell Choir 7:00p.m.

**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 months of **JAN. & FEB.**, please contact **DEB WORSH** at 781-837-9030, deborahwors@gmail.com.

**Minister's Office Hours:**

Our **Minister Rev. Catherine Cullen** is currently on sabbatical. For pastoral or other concerns please contact our Sabbatical Committee Chair Michael Gardner at 617-833-9606, sgmgardner4746@gmail.com, or Co-chair, Jim Hamilton at 781-834-4779 at jim@greenharbor.com.

Church Office Hours

The FPC church office is open **Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and Tuesdays 8:30-11:30am**. Please call Lenore, **781-934-6532** or email at uuduxbury@verizon.net 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 9:00am (3rd Sun. each month)

Music Committee (1st Sun. each month) 12 p.m.

Social Justice 9 a.m. (2nd Sun. each month)

Buddhist Meditation 5-6:30p.m. (weekly)

MONDAYS – Building Use 10 a.m. (4th Mon. each month)

Finance Committee 7 p.m. (2nd Mon. each month)

Welcoming Congregation 7:00pm (2nd Monday of each month)

PFLAG – 7:30-9:00pm (4th Monday of each month)

TUESDAYS - Hand Bells 7 p.m.

Memoirs 7:15p.m. (2nd Tues. each month)

Communications 7:00pm (2nd Tuesday of every month)

WEDNESDAYS – RE Committee

7 p.m. (1st Wed. of each month)

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.

Sewing Group 10 a.m.

Worship Committee 7:00 p.m. (1st Thurs. each month)

Agenda Setting 7-8 p.m. (2nd Thurs. each month)

Alliance Luncheons 12:30pm (3rd Thurs. each month)

Governing Board 7 p.m. (3rd Thurs. each month)

Historical Committee 9:30a.m. (3rd Thurs. of each month)

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

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

**Alliance News****WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 11th**

6:00pm – POTLUCK Supper

7:15pm - PROGRAM: Household Highs

Speaker: Liisa Budge-Johnson

Plymouth County Sheriff's Department

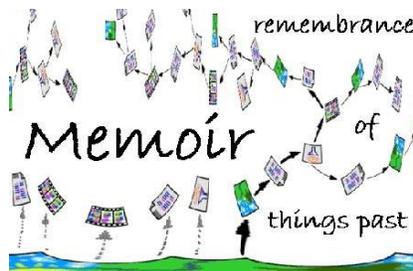
Liisa will speak about the danger of prescription drugs and inhalants in the home.

3rd THURSDAY – JANUARY 19th

12:30pm – Lunch in the Parlor/Adult RE

BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch)

Ruth Owen will chat with us about Adult Religious Education at FPC.

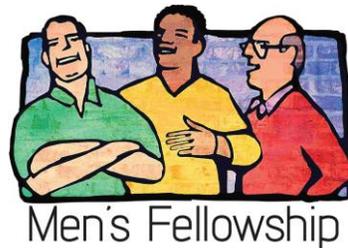
**Next Memoirs**

Our next meeting of Memoirs will be Tuesday, January 10th at 7:15pm in the Fletcher Room. Our topic will be **“Ice Skating Memories” (or any other winter sports).**

Come and join us!

Committee on Ministry

Our committee is probably the only committee in the church which 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 member of this committee. Your concerns will be treated with absolute confidentiality by all 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 is composed of Reverend Catherine Cullen (781-635-5906), Peter Baker (781-934-2031), Andrea Brandeis (781-715-4212), Mary Anne & Bob Kauffman (508-747-2009), Julie Lillys (781-934-8488), Chris Flanagan (781-934-8125).



Duxbury Senior Men's Group

The **Duxbury Senior Men's Group** was started in 1959 by members of First Parish Church who wanted an alternative to the "Women's Alliance". Initial membership was 7. We now have 37, a majority of whom are not members of First Parish Church.

It's important to note that we are a social group, not a club. We are non-partisan and non-denominational.

Our eligible age group for membership is 60+.

We are centered on Duxbury. Some members live farther away, but not over 10 miles.

We are open to members and guests (such as potential members), not the general public.

Our meeting schedule is 11:00am to 12:00 noon alternate Thursdays. The schedule is distributed to members only. Our usual format is socializing with wine and snacks. Sometimes we have guest speakers. Members normally host a meeting at least once a year at their home or an alternative site such as a restaurant, The Village of Duxbury, or Miramar.

For further information you may contact, Fred Stevens at 781-422-3171 or Ltcfas@aol.com.



Are you yearning to connect with others? To be lifted out of the ordinary? To have a place to relate to others on a deeper level? If so, a Small Group Experience may be for you

February is Small Group Sign-up Month!

Beginning on February 5th, all members and friends in the congregation will have the opportunity to sign-up and/or re-commit to Small Groups. We have openings in a few groups and the opportunity to start a new group or two. Also, if you feel you need to take some time off from Small Groups, or if your schedule has changed and you would like to be placed in a group that meets at a different time, this is the month to do it! Just visit us at the Small Group sign-up table after church **any Sunday during the month**. Or contact one of the Steering Committee members. We are David Murphy, Mary Langner and Cindy Ladd Fiorini. Our fourth member, Rev. Catherine Cullen, is on Sabbatical until April.

So what is Small Group you ask? Small Groups are intentional lay-led groups that deepen and expand the ministry of a congregation. Small means a group of 6-10 people that meet either once or twice a month. In the words of Parker Palmer “no fixing, no saving, no advising, no setting each other straight.” Instead we come together with the process of Deep Listening, over topics that challenge us to grow spiritually and to be present for one another while helping the church itself grow in numbers, generosity and connection. There is so much more to know - come visit us at our table in the Harvey Assembly Hall after any service in February or contact any member of the Steering Committee! **Maybe THIS is the year to join a group?**



Our Downstairs Space

As we work to bring more children into our Religious Education program, the RE Committee is very concerned about the downstairs space. There is one classroom that was renovated a year ago and our goal is to have all the rooms be as inviting.

We would like to replace the dingy and damaged ceiling tiles with a bright ceiling, put in energy efficient windows to replace the 60 year old windows, replace damaged doors and woodwork and remove the endless bulletin boards.

We plan to paint all the rooms warmer attractive colors and purchase some new furniture to replace the old damaged tables and chairs. We would like stackable arm chairs for the HIP room where adult groups often meet. With area rugs in all rooms we should have an appealing and friendly space.

The Governing Board will be considering a proposal to do this work at their January meeting. The funds would come from the Capital Project Funds. Before then, we invite you to come downstairs to look around to see exactly why we feel this project matters so much.

The Religious Education Committee



Bells in Nyaradszereda

Our Partner Church in Transylvania spent ten years building a lovely small church in the center of their town Nyaradszereda. This enabled them to move from a tiny chapel attached to the back of the Catholic church. Catherine, Sunsue Fleming, Jon and Meredith Lehman and Bill and Marilyn Christmann attended the dedication four years ago.

Missing from the church were bells in the steeple. It is very much a part of church tradition in that part of the world to ring church bells not only on Sunday, but for many other occasions. With the nearby Eastern Orthodox church, Catholic church and Lutheran church ringing their bells, our congregation very much wanted join in.

It has finally happened due to hard work on the part of the congregation and donations from churches who had befriended them during the construction. We helped as well knowing how very important this is. There will be some pictures on display soon so you can see these lovely bells and the very happy faces of some of our Nyaradszereda friends. Hopefully we can arrange to hear them when they are installed.

Partner Church Committee



Coffee Fellowship

January Coffee Hour Duties

January 8 -- Last Names beginning with O and P

January 15 -- Social Justice Committee

January 22 – Last Names beginning with Q, R and some S

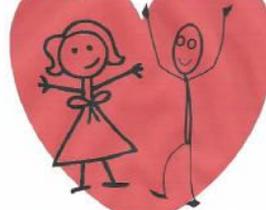
Jan 29 -- remaining S



Bell Ringer Deadline

Tuesday, January 24th, 2017

LOVERS AND OTHER
STRANGERS



BY RENEE TAYLOR
AND JOSEPH BOLOGNA

Bay Players Next Show

Featuring our own Ted Lillys & Laura Howerton!

Lovers & Other Strangers
Scenes of Love, Sex and Marriage
from the Wild & Wooley 1970's.

Five Comedies by Renee Taylor & Joseph Bologna
Directed by Michael Pevzner

A Bay Players Heartfelt Valentine

Fri/Sat, February 10, 11 & 17, 18 - 8pm
First Parish Church Hall, 842 Tremont St. (Rt. 3A), Duxbury, MA

The cast in order of appearance:

Brenda & Jerry – Karin Henderson & Eric Henderson from Plymouth.

Mike & Susan – Jeffrey Ruel from Pembroke & Corinne Manning from Norwell.

Johnny & Wilma – Ted Lillys from Duxbury & Laura Howerton from Marshfield

Hal & Cathy – Ed Krasnow from Weymouth & Karin Henderson from Plymouth

Bea, Frank, Richie & Joan – Nancy Haywood-Semcken & Philip Hebert from Plymouth
Jeffrey Ruel from Pembroke & Malorie Savran from Rockland



OLD TIME RADIO THEATER



**ADMISSION: Bring a
can or bag of pet
food or a pet blanket
for the Kingston
animal shelter!**

**There was life
before
Television!!!**

**Energetic Local
Thespians!**



FIRST PARISH CHURCH

BEAL HOUSE
223 Main Street
Kingston, MA
781-585-3051

January 14, 2017

6:00 Potluck Supper

7:00 Showtime