

First Parish of Norwell - 375 Year Time Line

Rev. John Robinson sends his congregation on their way from Holland to the New World.
Pilgrims land at Plymouth.



1620

1630



Puritans arrive in Boston.

Scituate Parish is gathered.



1634

February 2, 1642



Second Parish of Scituate is gathered.

First Meeting House of Second Parish of Scituate is built on Wilson Hill.

Rev William Witherell serves as first minister of Second Parish of Scituate.



1645

1650



Colonial population is 50,400.

Rev. Baker of Scituate and Rev. Witherell end feud between churches.



1660

1675 - 1678



King Phillips War

Second meeting house built at site of Second Parish Cemetery.



1680

1680 - 1684



Thomas Mighill, assistant to Rev. Witherell.

Rev. Thomas Mighill minister of Second Parish of Scituate.

1684- 1689



1692



“witches” hanged in Salem

Rev. Deodate Lawson minister (sort of).

1694- 1698



1704 -1750



Rev. Nathaniel Eells, minister.

In May Scituate grants petition by Second Parish for land to build a meeting house (3rd and 4th).

Third Meeting House built on triangle property off what is now Dover Street.

1707



1751 -1754



Rev. Jonathan Dorby minister.

Ben Franklin flies a kite.

1752



1754 -1811



Rev. David Barnes minister.

Treaty of Paris

1763



1770



John Murray preaches his first Universalist sermon in New Jersey.

Fourth Meeting House is built facing Dover Street in what is now the wooded area of the triangle property.

The Boston Massacre

The Boston Tea Party



1773

1776



Declaration of Independence

Constitution signed.



1787

1791



Surrender at Yorktown

John Adams elected president of the United States.



1797

1801



Thomas Jefferson elected president of the United States.

The Winchester Profession, a Universalist creed, with liberty clause, adopted.



1803

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1803

Lewis and Clark expedition (thru 1805).

1805



Hollis Professorship at Harvard given to Henry Ware, a Unitarian.

Fourth Social Library of Scituate established.



1808

1810 - 1834



Rev. Samuel Deane minister.

War with England.



1812

1816



Indiana becomes a state on December 11th.

Rev. William Ellery Channing delivers sermon about Christian Unitarianism.



1819

1825



Erie Canal built.

American Unitarian Association formed.

John Quincy Adams, Unitarian, elected president of United States.

Fifth and present meeting house built on River Street.



1830

1836



The Alamo

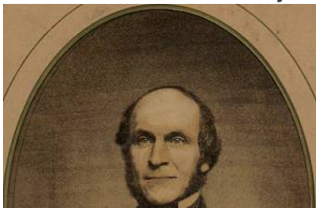
First Sunday School started.

Cold Water Army formed and active.

Rev. Samuel Joseph May minister. (through 1842)



Rev. William Oxhard Mosely minister.



1843



1846



South Scituate Sewing Circle started.
Mexican American War (through 1848)

Rev. Caleb Stetson minister.



1848 - 1858



1849



South Scituate established.

California Gold Rush.

Millard Fillmore, Unitarian, elected president of United States.

1850



1853



Washington University (St. Louis, Missouri) founded with Unitarian help.

Henry A. Turner becomes Superintendent of the Sunday School and held the position for 60 years.

1855



1857



Dred Scott decision, slaves can't vote because they are property.

Rev. William A. Fuller minister.



1859 - 1864

1861



President Lincoln assassinated.

Parish member Abial Farrah, age 16, killed at Gettysburg.



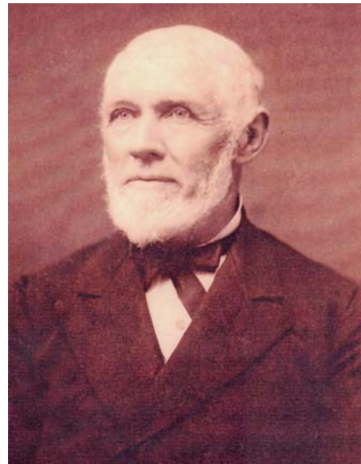
1863

1865



National Conference Unitarian Churches founded (Rev Henry Bellows).

Rev. William H. Fish, minister (through 1885).



15th Amendment – Right to vote for all MEN.



1870

1874



James Library dedicated.

Battle of Little Big Horn

Alexander Graham Bell invents telephone in Boston.



1876

1879



Thomas Edison invents light bulb.



1882

Rev. John Tunis minister (through 1889).



Statue of Liberty

1888



Norwell established.

Jane Addams, Unitarian, founds Hull House, Chicago.

1889



1890 - 1891



Rev. William H. Spencer minister.



Rev. Thomas Thompson, minister. (1891 - 1901)

Plessy v Ferguson, Supreme Court affirms separate but equal.

1896



1897



Boston Subway completed.

USS Maine explodes in Havana Harbor, Spanish-American War.

1898



1902 - 1905



Rev. Horatio Edward Latham minister.





Wright Brothers fly.



1903

1906 - 1908



Chester Arthur Drummond minister.



**Reed College founded with Unitarian help.
Rev. William E. Ennis, minister (through 1911).**



1908

1909



William Howard Taft, Unitarian, elected president of United States.

NAACP founded.

Rev. Edward L. Houghton minister.



1911 - 1916

1914 - 1918



World War I, US enters in 1917 (AUA forces ministers out who aren't in favor of WWI).

Rev. Howard Charles Gale minister.



1916 - 1920

1920



19th Amendment – Women can vote.

Rev. Alfred "Jimmy" Wilson minister.



1921 - 1947

1925



Scopes Trial (evolution lost but verdict over turned on technicality).

Black Friday – Great Depression begins.



1929

1938



Hurricane of '38.

WW II – US enters in 1941.



1939 - 1945

1945



Two atomic bombs dropped by US on Japan.

ENIAC (first computer) completed – weighed 50 tons.

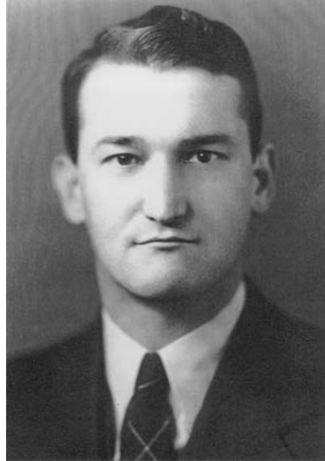


1946

1948 - 53



Rev. Herman H Geertz, minister.



Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay climb Mount Everest.

Rev. William Lovely minister. (through 1958)



1953

1954



Brown vs Board of Education, no more segregation.

Rosa Parks stays on the bus.

Parish Hall dedicated.



1955

1959 - 1962



Rev. Victor H. Carpenter minister.



Rev. Charles A. Engvall, minister.



1961 - 1963



President Kennedy assassinated.

1963



Beatles on Ed Sullivan Show.

1964



1964

Civil Rights Act signed.

Gulf of Tonkin Resolution – Vietnam War.

Rev. John M. Kolbjornsen minister. (through 1968)



Rev. Kolbjornsen goes to Selma to march for civil rights – May 25.

Church School enrollment reaches 170 children.



1965

1968

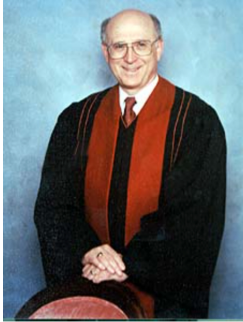


Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated (Rev Kolbjornsen hangs black crepe over church door).

Bobby Kennedy assassinated.

Apollo 11 – first human on the moon.

Rev. Richard M. Fewkes minister (through 2000).



1969

1970



Became a teaching church.

Joyce and Jim Pickle married by Rev Fewkes in May.

Pentagon Papers published by Beacon Press.



1971

1973



Secretariat wins Triple Crown.

Roe v Wade

Sue and Dexter Robinson become members in January.

Richard Robinson dedicated.

Nixon resigns.



1974

1977



Marie and Jim Miller become members in September.

Blizzard of '78 – February.



1978

1979



Elizabeth Robinson dedicated in June.
Sue Robinson Director of Religious Education.
(through 1983)

Megan Miller dedicated in April – Easter Sunday.
Chris Kitchenham visits First Parish Norwell for first time.



1980

1981



Rev Fewkes officiated at the wedding of Tom and Marie Osterland.
Evan and Barry Neely dedicated.
Church members put on excerpts from 4 musicals – continues each year to 1985.

First Parish Players present "My Fair Lady."



1982

1983



First Parish Players present "The Sound of Music."
Jefferson Cole Miller dedicated in December.

Virus causing AIDS discovered.
First Parish Players present "The Man of La Mancha."



1984

1985



First Parish Players present "Camelot."

Broke ground for addition.



1989

1990



Partakers involvement began.

First Gulf War.



1991

1991



Become a Partner Church for the Unitarian Church in Kadacs, Transylvania. (Rev Fewkes and Paul Coolidge visit)

FPNUU Celebrates 350 Years

Click on the image to enlarge it.



Deane Howard and Joanne Babcock are married.



1992

1998



Rev. Elizabeth Tarbox diagnosed with cancer – writes farewell column in Quincy Patriot Ledger in May.

Matthew Shepard, a gay youth from Laramie, Wyoming is beaten and left tied to a fence post to die – Oct. 6th.

Rev. Jan Vickery Knost minister.



2000 - 2002

2001



First Parish is asked to lease land for building Friendship Home – controversy ensues.

First issue of The Unchained Spire is published in response to controversy over building Friendship Home – May 13th.

September 11 Terrorist attack.

Rev. Victoria Weinstein minister (first woman minister of church).



2002 - 2013

2004



Right to Marry passes in Massachusetts – May 18th.

Patti Walters and Mary Nickerson married June 17th.

Avery and Kai dediction.

Fab 4 – Dexter Robinson, John Meddaugh, Jim Miller and Peter Fairbanks celebrate their 60th with a fund raiser party for the Organ Fund.



2007

2009



Barack Obama inaugurated as president.

Sonja Sotomayor first Latina sworn in as Supreme Court Justice.

Meeting House Organ renovation and expansion completed – December.



2007

"Don't ask, Don't tell" repealed.

2011



Houstons move to Norwell and start attending in the fall.

Solar Panels installed.

2012



2013



Boston Marathon bombings.
Rev. Len DeRoche minister (through 2015).

Michael Brown killed in Ferguson, Missouri.

2014



2015



Gay marriage legalized.
Rev Lise Adams Sherry called to First Parish of Norwell, UU.

Orlando Nightclub shooting.

2016



2016 - 2017 Church Year



375th Celebration Activities

The whole church year filled with celebrations to mark our 375 years of community, service, and worship.

Click on the image to enlarge it.



2017



