

# The Spire

The Newsletter of First Parish of Norwell

October 22, 2014

ELECTRONIC EDITION

Volume XIII, Issue 5

## Sunday Services – 10:00 am

*Rev. Dr. Len DeRoche preaching unless otherwise indicated*

October 26:

### Music Sunday

Julian will be leading the service, which will spotlight the life and music of UU Malvina Reynolds. This is a multi-generational service.

November 2:

### The Samuel J. May Story

Our guest minister will be Minister Emeritus Dick Fewkes. He will be leading a special service about the service of Rev. May, who served our congregation from 1838 to 1842. The service will include the unveiling of the recently restored Cold Water Army banner carried by children to fight against the use of liquor. The banner is a rare artifact of the period and will be displayed at the church. **SPECIAL TRAFFIC NOTE:** A half-marathon is running through Norwell that day, starting at the high school at 7 am. Runners will be on the roads until approximately 10 am. Traffic will be heavy! We have been notified that River Street will be *closed* between Forest Street/Gaffield Park and Pine Street. Please plan extra travel time to church that day. Runners are being asked to NOT park in our parking lots.

November 9:

### Armistice Sunday

This year's Veterans' Day service will look at World War I and the tragedy of the event. Our Service/Outreach Sunday collection will go to the Wounded Warriors Foundation.

November 16:

### Religion of John Adams and John Quincy Adams

The service will deal with the two presidents that are buried in our church in Quincy.



## CARING CORNER

Help us to keep in touch, celebrate the happy moments in life and support you during the difficult times. Please send your news to Hope Weinman in the Church Office at [office@firstparishnorwell.com](mailto:office@firstparishnorwell.com), or contact any member of the Pastoral Care Team (Sue Robinson, Joanne Howard, Joyce Hockman and Betsey Detwiler).



## HOLIDAY FAIR 2014

Saturday, November 22, 9:00 am – 2:30 pm

The excitement is building! You can help in lots of ways. We will need you to bake, make handcrafts, clean out your closets and bring your toys, books/CDs and household treasures (clean and in good condition) to the church the week before. See Bev Gardner for ideas on gift baskets you could make.

Sue Robinson will chair a new **Artists Table** – featuring work by First Parish artists and friends. Work will be sold on consignment with all or a portion of the sale going to the church.

Items should be brought starting the Sunday before the Fair. Housewares can be carried up to the Skylight Room. Don't leave items in the sheds unless protected. They get very dirty there. NOTE: We will not accept large sports equipment, TV's or very old skis. Bring pictures of any large furniture instead of the actual item.

Be a part of this year's fair and make special memories! Be sure to bring a good appetite for lunch and don't miss the fun of this important all church activity! To volunteer to help, call Peg Kitchenham at 781-447-5831.

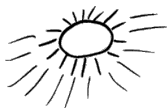


## GIFT BASKETS

We have quite a few signed up but can use many more to sell at the Holiday Fair on November 22. We will start wrapping and labeling the baskets during Coffee Hour on **October 26**, continuing **each** Coffee Hour through the fair. This is a BIG money-maker for the church. Please help! Contact Bev Gardner at [bevgardner@comcast.net](mailto:bevgardner@comcast.net) with questions or to sign up to provide a basket.

Noel Constantino and Bev Gardner, Chairs

Roberta Fairbanks, Joanne Howard, Linda Goodwin, Debb Welch and Adrianna McLane, Amy and Rae Stephenson, Basket Ladies



## FROM THE DRE



Hello First Parish! We've gotten off to a great start, but we have even more going on in November. First, for the adult members of First Parish, I will be leading a series of workshops called "Resistance and Transformation: Unitarian Universalist Social Justice History". This is a fascinating course written by Rev. Colin Bossen and Rev. Julia Hamilton. Grounded in the belief that even "failures" in our history can be instructive, this program presents the ongoing struggle of our tradition to live up to its ever-evolving

ideals of social transformation. Themes include abolition, peace-making, civil rights, free speech, utopianism, counter-culture, the women's movements of both the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, sexuality education, and LGBT equality. The course will be beginning **Wednesday November 19** at 7pm, and will continue biweekly. I anticipate a great deal of learning and engaging discussion, and would like to encourage everyone to feel free to bring a guest to any session! I would love to have an idea of likely attendees however, so I would appreciate it if you sign up on the clipboard I'll have during Coffee Hour each Sunday.

For the youth of our congregation, our Youth Group will be hosting an over-night Youth Conference at the Cohasset UU church on **November 15**. Our Youth Group is working with the youth groups of Scituate, Cohasset, and Rockland to host this conference for the youth of the entire district. It will be a lot of fun, and be both a bonding, and learning experience for all of our youth. This Youth Conference (or CON) has been named "UnCONventional" and the youth from our church will be leading a wide variety of workshops on topics ranging from knitting to debates on social justice issues. The CON will reach its high point with a moving midnight worship service, some aspects of which the youth will bring back to our congregation during the youth service later in the church year.

Finally, our Sunday School program will be continuing with our regular schedule from November 2 until our Thanksgiving multi-generational service on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. We'll be learning about a lot of different things, and it should be a lot of fun too!

The RE committee is always looking for new program ideas too, so if you have something you're interested in, we'd love to help you put together a program for adults, kids, youth or all of the above!

~Julian Baptista  
Director of Religious Education



## FIRST PARISH BOOK GROUP

The bookworms of the First Parish of Norwell Book Group are in the midst of another year of interesting and enjoyable discussions. New members are always welcome – come to one discussion or come to them all! Our meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Fogg Parlor. The next discussion is scheduled for **November 5**. We will be talking about "The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History" by Robert M. Edsel and Brett Witter.



## HELEN FOGG SERVICE COMMITTEE

Two caring parishioners sent a check for \$200 and the following letter:

"To the Service Committee: We were sorry to read in the Spire that your budget

had been removed from the church budget. We believe that supporting local non-profits is both helpful to those organizations and the causes they serve as well as sending an important message to the community at large about the mission of Unitarian churches. We have enclosed a check for \$200 as a modest start to rebuilding service committee funds used to help non-profits in our local communities. Hopefully the time will come when finances permit a restoration of support for your committee within the church budget." Thank you to our anonymous donors!

If you are so moved, we will gladly accept donations from others to get us through this difficult year without a budget. Up to this year, the Fogg Service Committee matched what was in the plate for the designated organization each Service/Outreach Sunday. At the end of the year, we used what money we had remaining for worthy causes.

Bev Gardner and Noel Constantino, Co-chairs of the Helen Fogg Service Committee  
Scott Babcock, Debbie Chase, Pat Crumley, Mary Mercier, Dorothy and Bill Montuori, Jack Wallace and Jane and Stan Wilderoter, members

## **SEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 12, 2014**

Attending: Marie Miller, Bernie Gardner, Sally Turner, Mary Nickerson, Scott Babcock, Ingrid Carlson

1. Sally and Mary provided us each with copies of the Congregational Record, the Ministerial Record, and various drafts of previously completed responses.
2. We spent the bulk of the first hour discussing our responses to various questions for the Congregational Record. Specifically, the group was asked to brainstorm ideas re: the challenges that face our congregation, and the strengths of our congregation. We also discussed issues that will be pressing for First Parish over the next ten years. We will be consulting the survey responses to help craft our answers to these questions.
3. Both Sally and Mary welcome any input we may have re: the Congregational Record. We have been encouraged to email any ideas we may have in responding to its queries.
4. The second hour of our meeting involved planning for next Sunday's service "Beyond Categorical Thinking". Katie Lee and Danielle, the BCT facilitators, were available to discuss preparation for the service, and the logistics for the workshop and lunch.

Submitted by Ingrid Carlson, secretary

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**



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## MEDITATION GROUP

The Meditation Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the Skylight Room. Sessions are scheduled for **November 11 and December 9**. Meditation is an ancient spiritual practice of mindfulness that leads to greater stress resilience, improved memory and increased empathy. Everyone is welcome whether you have experienced this practice before or are brand new to it. Please join us! Any questions, please contact Ellen Herling at

[theherlings@comcast.net](mailto:theherlings@comcast.net).



## JAMES LIBRARY AND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Follow us on social media to stay in touch with the latest news from the James:

Instagram - @jameslibrarynorwell

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/thejameslibrary](http://www.facebook.com/thejameslibrary)

Twitter - @TheJamesLibrary

A full calendar of events and ticket information is available at [www.jameslibrary.org](http://www.jameslibrary.org).



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

UU Spirituality: Wellspring Events on **October 24 and 25**

Imagine a sustained, daylong experience of your own Unitarian Universalist spirituality. The Rev. Jen Crow travels from Minneapolis to offer us retreat-style practices of UU adult spiritual development. This will be an experience to be savored and that will be talked about long afterward. The Friday, October 24 event is designed for religious professionals, while a similar program is designed for laypeople on

Saturday, October 25. For more information or to register, please visit <http://www.newenglanduua.org/>.

## MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Friday, October 24:           Preschool Teachers' Professional Day, Fogg Parlor 12:30-3:30 pm
- Saturday, October 25:       Scrapbookers, Parish Hall, 10 am-11 pm
- Sunday, October 26:       Search Committee, Fogg Parlor, 11:15 am  
**Special Parish Meeting**, Meetinghouse, 11:30 am  
Youth Group, Fogg Parlor, 5 pm
- Tuesday, October 27:       Worship Committee, Fogg Parlor, 7:30 pm
- Sunday, November, 2:       Potluck Coffee Hour, Parish Hall, 11 am  
Search Committee, Fogg Parlor, 11:15 am  
Activities Committee, Office, 11:30 am

**The deadline for the next hard-copy edition of The Spire is Monday, November 3.**

The full First Parish calendar can be accessed online at the website by selecting "News" on the toolbar, then scrolling to the calendar option.