

# The Spire

The Newsletter of First Parish of Norwell

January 21, 2015

ELECTRONIC EDITION

Volume XIII, Issue 13

## **Sunday Services – 10:00 am**

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

February 22:

### **The Ministry of Mary Magdalene**

As women are breaking more barriers in professional spiritual leadership, let's take a look at one very influential woman in Jesus' time! Guest Minister is the Rev. Catherine Cullen from First Parish Duxbury. Catherine is in her eleventh year at Duxbury and has served our UU denomination on the district and national levels. She came to ministry 15 years ago after a career as a trial lawyer because she believes that Unitarian Universalism is the best way she knows to serve the world!

March 1:

### **Hutzpah, Humility and Hubris**

We all live somewhere on the spectrum between humility and hubris. Rev. Len will attempt to answer why hutzpah can be beneficial.

March 8:

### **Union Sunday at First Parish Scituate at 10:30 am**

The congregations of First Parish of Norwell, First Parish in Scituate, First Parish in Cohasset, Old Ship Church and Second Parish Church in Hingham celebrate our historic ties with a union service. There will be a special activity for the children. This year, we will focus on Earth Justice, and the collection will benefit the Trustees of Reservations. First Parish Scituate is located at 330 First Parish Road, Scituate. *Please note that there will be NO services in Norwell that day.*

March 15:

### **Celtic Spirituality**

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, we will look into what makes Celtic spirituality different and special. At Coffee Hour, Sue Robinson is organizing the celebration of the Irish Baked Potato. We will have a baked potato bar; sign up with Sue to bring your favorite topping.

March 22:

### **Senior Youth Sunday**

## **ROSE AND COLUMN**

Last chance for reduced-fee sign-ups for the Jesus Seminar, to be held Friday and Saturday, February 27-28 here at First Parish of Norwell. You can sign-up for individual session or the whole weekend. There is a special rate for couples. We are the only seminar being offered in the Boston area this

spring. This is run by a national non-profit organization to examine the roots of what became Christianity from an academic perspective. This is what your Bible study class did a few years ago. Hosting this brings into our UU community, people who we do not ordinarily find coming through our doors and makes a statement about our inclusiveness theologically. There sessions will offer a look at the times and life from a scientific and academic perspective. Pre-register and the cost is only \$60 for the weekend by February 13 (Friday night, Saturday morning and afternoon.) The two scholars who are presenting are Catholic Biblical experts; their understanding comes from a Bible based not on faith, but facts. Both our presenters have academic positions. For more information or to sign up, please visit [www.westarinstitute.org/events](http://www.westarinstitute.org/events) or call 503-375-5323.

Remember too our Fogg lecture by former UUA and Amnesty International USA President Bill Schultz. We will be hosting for the entire South Shore on **Sunday, April 12** at 3 pm.

Let me know if you need some support in this snow season.

Yours in faith and love,  
Len



## CARING CORNER

In the "Who Does What at FPN" article in the last Spire, Debbie Chase was inadvertently omitted from the Helen Fogg Service Committee's list of members. Debbie is the committee's secretary.

The Pastoral Care Team continues to provide some meals for Bill Carpenter and his family as he recovers from a spinal injury incurred last summer. Please consider helping with this team effort. Contact Sue Robinson at 781-294-8840 or [artsue45@hotmail.com](mailto:artsue45@hotmail.com) if you could deliver a meal to Bill's front porch cooler in Scituate. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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).



The Church Office is closed during school vacation week. Hope will be in on **Saturday, February 21** for a brief period in the morning. Donna will be in for a limited period on either **Wednesday, February 18** or **Friday, February 20**. Email her ahead of time at [donna@firstparishnorwell.org](mailto:donna@firstparishnorwell.org) if you anticipate needing her assistance. We will reopen at 9 am on **Tuesday, February 24**.



## PROGRAMMING CHANGES

Due to the upcoming blizzard, the screening of "Lincoln" has been rescheduled to **Saturday, April 18** at 6:60 pm in the Parish Hall. Rev. Len's worship service focusing on the Lincoln-Unitarian connection has been rescheduled to **Sunday, April 19**.



## ALLIANCE NEWS

Upcoming events:

**Wednesday, February 18** at 10 am in the Fogg Parlor: Book Review with Vivian Perry

**Wednesday, March 18** at 10 am in the Parish Hall: A Choral Tour of Northern Europe - an audio and video presentation with Sue and Dexter Robinson.

## MEN'S GATHERINGS

Next **Men's Covered Dish Dinner** will be held in the Fogg Parlor on **Monday, March 9** at 7pm. BYOB and something to share. The April 13 gathering will be at Bob Sutter's in Hanson. As well, men's breakfasts take place each Friday morning at 8:30 am at Sam's Restaurant (146 Front Street) in Scituate Harbor.



## FIRST PARISH BOOK GROUP

Join us on **Wednesday, March 11** at 7 pm in the Fogg Parlor as we discuss "Something of Value" by Robert Ruark. This is a novel based on events that took place in Kenya Colony during the violent Mau Mau insurrection of the 1950s, an uprising that was confined almost exclusively to members of the Kikuyu tribe. It is a powerful, gripping, and sometimes shocking novel that presents an enlightening glimpse into the lives of all sections of the population in Colonial Kenya fifty years ago.

Our February discussion on "Boom! Talking About the Sixties: What Happened, How It Shaped Today, Lessons for Tomorrow" by Tom Brokaw was cancelled, so we decided to add the discussion to our March meeting.



## JAMES LIBRARY & CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The South Shore Woodturners show scheduled for February has been cancelled due to weather issues.

New dates for upcoming events:

Wooden Synagogue presentation by Rick and Laura Brown of Handhouse Studio  
**Friday, February 20** at 7:30 pm. Call 781-659-7100 to reserve your seat.

Children's Trail Magic Program

**Saturday, February 21** at 10:30 am. Free. For children ages 3-6. Call 781-659-7100 to sign up your child.

Gregg Pauley, Beethoven Sonata piano concert

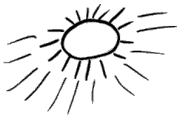
**Sunday, March 8** at 3 pm. Visit [www.jameslibrary.org](http://www.jameslibrary.org) for ticket information



## TAI CHI CLASSES

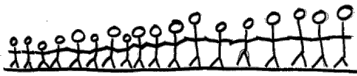
Due to all the weather issues, our popular Tai Chi and Qigong class on Tuesday mornings has been canceled several times. We hope to meet this **Tuesday, February 17** at 9:15 am to complete our four week session begun in January. If you'd like to try out Tai Chi please join us. Contact Sue Robinson at [artsue45@hotmail.com](mailto:artsue45@hotmail.com) or 781-294-8840 to confirm.

Our next four week session will start soon – watch the Spire or Weekly Calendar for announcements. A fee of \$20 (\$5 per session) is payable to instructor Mike Showstack at the first class. No special equipment, clothing, or shoes are needed. New students are welcome at any time and prior registration is not necessary – so invite friends and neighbors.



## FROM THE DRE

Hello First Parish!



Well, I'm beginning to think we may never see the ground again with all this snow, but FPN will continue!

Things will be a little quieter through the end of February. We're just getting into our second semester in Sunday School, and we're all hoping that more snow won't intercede with our last big event of February: The Jesus Seminar. This in-depth class for adults and youth is an excellent opportunity to explore the historic figure of Jesus of Nazareth. Whether your interest lies in the life of Jesus, the virgin birth, or the resurrection, Arthur J. Dewey (Th.D., Harvard University) and Robert J. Miller (Ph.D., Claremont Graduate School) are the scholars who can answer your questions, and leave you with a better understanding of our Christian roots. Admission is \$60 for both Friday and Saturday, and a limited number of scholarships are available.

There are two major events coming up in March which I'm really looking forward to sharing with you all.

First is our Youth Led Service on **Sunday, March 22**. I have had the privilege of being one of the youth advisors at our church over the past two years, and have often been struck by the worship style which the youth bring to their Youth Conferences. Expect this worship to be different from our typical service, with a whole lot of music, movement, and introspection. I'm never sure exactly what to expect, but I have never been disappointed by the creativity and thought that our youth bring to worship. I hope they see a great turnout for this service, and I can't wait to see it myself.

Then, on **Saturday, March 28** is our Talent Show! Get out your music! Tune up your sax! Put on your dancing shoes! We are looking for people of all ages, with all kinds of talent to join us in making this snowy winter a lot of fun. People of all ages who would like to sing, dance, play an instrument, tell jokes, or drum, let Amanda Metzger ([amajon@me.com](mailto:amajon@me.com)) or Julian Baptista ([dre@firstparishnorwell.org](mailto:dre@firstparishnorwell.org)) know through email, or by signing up with Julian at Coffee Hour on any Sunday beforehand. Gingy will also be available to accompany you on piano. If you or your child feels uncomfortable performing alone, we will also have opportunities for a few group performances (most likely musical or simple stage performances). If you would like to take part in one of these groups, please contact Julian.

Thank you everyone; I'll see you all at church!

~Julian Baptista, DRE

## MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

- Tuesday, February 15: Parish Committee, Fogg Parlor, 7 pm  
Wednesday, February 16: Alliance Book Review, Fogg Parlor, 10 am  
Social Justice Workshop, Fogg Parlor 7 pm  
Sunday: February 22: Budget-setting Meeting, 11:30 am  
Wednesday, February 25: SSHAGLY, Skylight Room, 7 pm  
Friday, February 27: Hope will be out of the office today.  
Jesus Seminar on the Road, Parish Hall, 6-9 pm  
Saturday, February 28: Jesus Seminar on the Road, Parish Hall, 9 am-5 pm

**The deadline for the next hard-copy edition of The Spire is Monday, March 2, 2015.**

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