

# The Spire

The Newsletter of First Parish of Norwell  
September 30, 2015  
ELECTRONIC EDITION

Volume XIV, Issue 3

## Sunday Services – 10:00 am

*Rev. Lise Adams Sherry preaching unless otherwise indicated*

October 4:                      **Rev. Joseph Tuckerman, a 19<sup>th</sup> Century Unitarian**

Rev. Tuckerman was our first official Unitarian community minister. As such, he worked with some of Boston's most down-trodden while modeling our contemporary belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all.

October 11:                      **Blessing of the Animals**

We'll open this event to the community and also collect old towels and sheets for the animal shelter (see related article elsewhere in the newsletter). This is an **Outreach Sunday**. Pets should be on a leash or in a carrier.

October 18:                      **Humour**

It might be a bit early to tackle this topic since we don't know each other all that well, yet, but what the heck. Shall we see what tickles our funny bones? Is tickling all that humour does?

## CARING CORNER



The sympathies of the parish are with Bill Montuori. Dorothy passed away Monday following a brief battle with cancer. She will be remembered at a memorial service here at FPN at a future date; we will keep you all updated as the arrangements develop. Bill and his daughter Lisa are immensely grateful for the support given them by the church community, both during Dorothy's illness and during Bill's own surgery and rehab earlier this year.

Paul Coolidge will be remembered at a memorial service here on **Saturday, October 17** at 1 pm. If you can help with the collation afterwards, please contact Sue Robinson at [artsue45@hotmail.com](mailto:artsue45@hotmail.com) or 781-294-8840.

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, Noel Constantino, Betsey Detwiler, Joanne Howard and Joyce Hockman).



The Church Office will be closed tomorrow, **Wednesday, October 30** for an off-site staff meeting and retreat. We will reopen at 9 am on Thursday, October 1.

## IMPORTANT PARISH INFORMATIONAL MEETING

**Sunday, October 4** following the worship service

On August 28, the church received a letter from the Norwell Board of Selectmen regarding our property, identified as the "West Street Triangle". The Selectmen believe the "interest in that property may have reverted to the Town of Norwell" and that its location makes it a good candidate for their new library or Town Hall. Please come to this important meeting to hear the position of the Parish Committee and Clerk and to discuss the church's response to the town.



## SPIRE NEWS

As discussed in the last paper edition of the Spire, we will be experimenting with a paperless version of the Spire. The new publication schedule is below. (Currently, only four church households do not have computer access; they will of course receive a copy via US Mail.)

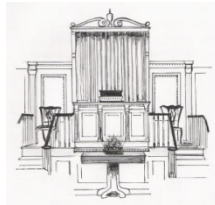
The newsletter publication schedule will change, starting in November. It will become a *monthly* newsletter. The newsletter itself will look the same - Rev. Lise's letter, information on upcoming events and worship services, news from committee chairs, etc. In between, the weekly calendar emails that Hope sends on Thursdays will be expanded *slightly* to include late-breaking news, *brief* announcements and pastoral care updates. To increase our readership, we really want these weekly updates to be concise, "update only" newsletters.

### Spire deadlines:

- Monday, September 28 (email version, current format)
- Monday, October 12 (hard copy newsletter sent via US Mail)
- Monday, October 26 (email version, current format)
- Monday, November 9 (first paperless newsletter)
- Monday, December 7 (paperless newsletter)
- Monday, January 4 (paperless newsletter)

Hope will format the newsletter on Tuesdays, and it will be emailed out first thing on Wednesdays.

The deadline for including something in the weekly email that starts **Thursday, November 19** will be *Wednesdays at 12 noon*. Please note that during the weeks a monthly newsletter is published, the weekly email will revert to the current (calendar only) format.



## PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

The installation of our 29<sup>th</sup> settled minister, Reverend Lise Adams Sherry, will be held on **Sunday, November 8**, at 4:00 pm here at First Parish of Norwell. The church will be hosting the reception (in the Parish Hall) following the Installation Service. Please contact Sue Robinson at [artsue45@hotmail.com](mailto:artsue45@hotmail.com) or 781-294-8840 if you can provide an item for the food table. Children are welcome and baby care will be provided.



## ATTENTION, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, PARISH COMMITTEE AND CHURCH STAFF

The Parish Committee invites you to a Church Council Meeting **Sunday, October 25**, following Coffee Hour. We will convene in the Fogg Parlor at 11:30 am. A light lunch will be served and we will finish no later than 1:30 pm. The overall purpose of the meeting is to communicate among our committees and staff, to share the news of our ministerial transition, and to ask questions and set goals. More information to come!



## FIRST PARISH BOOK GROUP

The bookworms of the First Parish Book Group meet the **first Wednesday of each month** at 7 pm in the Fogg Parlor. All are welcome – come to one discussion or come to them all!

Wednesday, October 7: “Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community and War” by Nathaniel Philbrick

Wednesday, November 4: **NEW BOOK SELECTION!**

Rev. Lise will lead this special discussion of “Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption” by Bryan Stevenson. This is the UUA’s “Common Read” book for the year. We will be ordering a couple of copies for the church’s library – please contact the Church Office if you are interested.

What is the one commonality of people on death row? If the victim is white, the perpetrator is 11 times more likely to be condemned to die than if the victim is black. When Stevenson was a 23-year-old Harvard law student, he started an internship in Georgia where his first assignment was to deliver a message to a man living on death row. This assignment became his calling: representing the innocent,

the inadequately defended, the children, the domestic abuse survivors, the mentally ill—the imprisoned. This fast-paced book reads like a John Grisham novel.



## ALLIANCE OF FIRST PARISH

The Alliance is pleased to welcome back Don Messinger as its speaker at the October meeting. Don will show his video production of a trip he and Joan took in 2014 through western Turkey – a visually beautiful tour of the “Cradle of Civilization.” The meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 21** in the Parish Hall and all friends and members of the Church are warmly invited to attend. Refreshments will be served at 10 am with a brief meeting at 10:30, followed by Don’s program.



## SIGN UP AT COFFEE HOUR!

If you haven’t already done so, please choose a day & time to have your photo taken for our new CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY. We will be producing a new pictorial directory and need you in it to make it FPN’s best ever. The directory will be a valuable tool, helping you to place names with faces, along with being an excellent reference and information source for our church community. You only visit the church one time! Please allow approximately 45 minutes for photography and for instant viewing and selection of the portraits you may wish to purchase (which, by the way, make excellent holiday gifts!). Every participating party receives a *free* directory once published... plus a complimentary 8 x 10 color wall portrait. Photography will take place on **Thursday, October 29; Friday, October 30** (both from 1 - 8pm); **Saturday, October 31** (11am - 5pm); and **Tuesday, November 10** (1 - 8pm). Our goal is 100% participation, so singles, couples and families with children are all encouraged to participate... even pets! Please be sure to sign up for an appointment after Coffee Hour on any Sunday in October. For further information, please contact Les Taylor at 781-837-2929 or [lestaylor@me.com](mailto:lestaylor@me.com).



## GOT TOWELS?

As part of the **October 11** Blessing of the Animals service, we are conducting a special outreach project. With the closing of the Pembroke Animal Rescue League facility, the Brockton Animal Protection Center of Southeastern Massachusetts has the sole responsibility to provide services for a very large population of animals in need. There is a desperate need for old towels, sheets, and lightweight blankets to provide soft bedding for animals in the shelter. Please look through your linen closet for donations. An old bath towel can be a perfect bed for an abandoned kitten!

There are large collection bags available in the Parish Hall for your donations. We hope to be able to deliver several bags of bedding to the Animal Protection Center after the Animal Blessing. The shelter's "Wish List" of other needed items can be seen at <http://www.apcsm.org/pdf/AdoptionCenterWishList.pdf>. You may also pick up a copy of the wish list on the Welcome Table in the church foyer. Thank you!



## FIRST PARISH MEN'S NIGHT

**Monday, October 5**

6:00 pm hors d'oeuvres (you are welcome any time after 5:30)

6:30-ish dinner

At Jack Wallace's home (39 Idyl Wilde Circle, Marshfield).

The host provides a main course and guests provide a potluck array of one or more of the following: hors d'oeuvres, salad, bread or dessert. It is BYOB.

Please RSVP to Jack at 781-812-5874, 781-834-4696 or [jeanjacques99@verizon.net](mailto:jeanjacques99@verizon.net).



## JAMES LIBRARY AND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Norwell Historic House Tour

**Friday, October 2, 9 to 3 pm**

Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door

Step on the trolley and enjoy the Historic Norwell House Tour and Shopping Boutique! Visit special properties in Norwell, including the James Library & Center for the Arts, the beneficiary of this special fundraising event. Shop for early holiday gifts at the House Tour Boutique with more than 20 artisans, including jewelry, paintings by local artists, topiaries and antiques. Beginning at the Cushing Center, 673 Main Street, the tour includes trolleys to transport guests to each location for a self-guided tour.

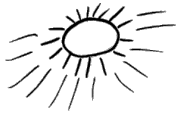
Boston Cello Quartet

**Sunday, October 25 at 3 pm**

Tickets are \$25 adults, \$20 seniors or \$10 students

The Boston Cello Quartet will embark on the pleasantly storied tradition of the musical travelogue with a jaunt through Spain and a hop to the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking New World with an exceptional program, which includes a world premiere written for the Quartet by the Venezuela-born composer Paul Desenne.

For more information on any James events, or to purchase tickets, please visit [www.jameslibrary.org](http://www.jameslibrary.org) or call 781-659-7100.



## FROM THE DRE

Hello First Parish!



We've gotten a great jump on this church year, and I can't wait to see you all at some of our upcoming events. First up is our monthly game night and potluck, happening this coming **Friday, October 2** from 6-9 pm. Bring your favorite dish and your favorite game to share!

This coming, Sunday the children of First Parish will be welcoming a speaker from the Carolina Hill Shelter who will be talking about their programs and how people of all ages can help out. Later, on 10/25 a group from First Parish will go to their location in Marshfield, serve a meal, meet the residents, and do some fun crafts with the children there.

But wait, Religious Education isn't just for kids! On **Wednesday, October 14** at 7 pm we will be starting our first Adult RE class of the year, which will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. "Faith Like a River: Themes from Unitarian Universalist History" examines the historical and theological movements which brought our religion into being. Each class is stand alone, and offered at no cost to those in and outside of the congregation. The first class is called: Against the Flow: Orthodoxy and Heresy, and discusses some of the very beginnings of Unitarian and Universalist thought, as well as their denunciation as heresy. This class will help you gain a general understanding of UU history, and is strongly recommended for those who did not grow up in Unitarian Universalism. I hope to see you there!

Finally, we're also looking for adults and youth with an interest they wish to share as part of our "Mini-Sessions" classes. This time between our regular Sunday School semesters divides the RE children up by interest rather than age, allowing you to share your favorite hobby with a group of many ages, and lots of enthusiasm! In the past we've had classes on everything from music and arts, to science, local history, and service projects. If you have one or more ideas you'd like to bring to us, please sign up with me in person during Coffee Hour or via email ([julianbaptistamusic@gmail.com](mailto:julianbaptistamusic@gmail.com)).

See you all at church!

Julian Baptista

Director of Religious Education

## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday, October 2: Game Night & Potluck, Parish Hall, 6-9 pm

Saturday, October 3: Scrapbookers, Parish Hall, 4-11 pm

Sunday, October 4: West St. Triangle meetings – right after worship  
Activities Committee, Office, 11:30 am

Open House/Potluck at the Parsonage (644 Main St., Norwell), 12:30-4:30 pm

Wednesday, October 7: Alliance Board Meeting, Fogg Parlor, 10 am

Installation Committee meeting, Office, 3:30 pm

Book Group, Fogg Parlor, 7 pm

Saturday, October 17:

Memorial Service for Paul Coolidge, Meetinghouse, 1 pm

Reception to follow in the Parish Hall

Sunday, October 18:

Helen Fogg Service Committee, Fogg Parlor, 11:30 am

Special Parish Meeting, Meetinghouse, 11:30 am

Baby Dedication, Meetinghouse, 2:30 pm

The full First Parish calendar can be accessed online at the website by selecting "News" on the toolbar, then scrolling to the calendar option. The deadline for the next issue of the Spire is **Monday, October 12**. That will be the *last* hard copy edition before our experiment with paperless newsletters begins!