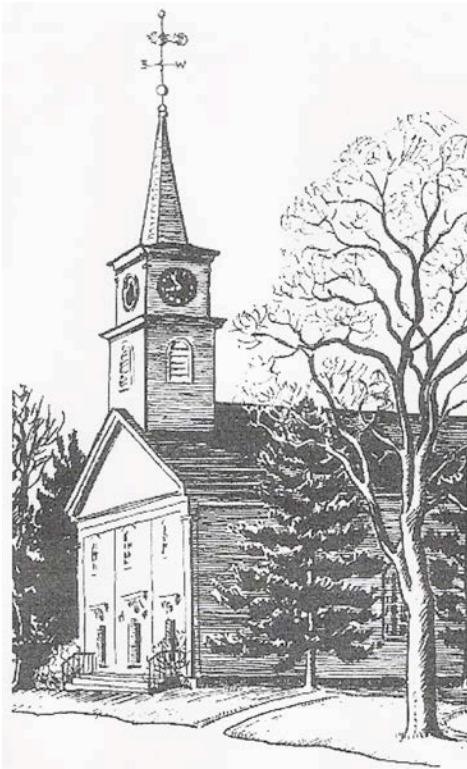


The Spire



The Newsletter of
First Parish of Norwell

24 River Street

P.O. Box 152

Norwell, Massachusetts 02061

phone 781-659-7122

fax 781-659-7939

April 1, 2015

Volume XIII, Issue 16

www.firstparishnorwell.org

Sunday Services – 10:00 am

Rev. Dr. Leonard DeRoche preaching
unless otherwise indicated

April 5: **Carrying Our Own Cross**

Community Easter Sunday Service

Please join us for the traditional Easter Breakfast before church at 8:45 am (see details elsewhere in the Spire).

April 12: **View from Grandma's Parlor**

This service will deal with kindness, with Shelley Vaugine leading.

April 19: **Lincoln: a Closet Unitarian?**

Rev. Len's sermon talks about how this president's ideas followed Unitarian thought. For those that wish, the movie "Lincoln" will be shown Saturday night (April 18) at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. (This service was originally scheduled for February 15, but was cancelled due to snow.)

April 26 and May 3: **Candidating Week**

May 10: **I Remember Mama**

Our Mother's Day service will include the dedication of Jim and Marie Miller's grandchildren. If any other families wish to join them, please contact Rev. Len.



OFFICE HOURS (September to mid-June):

Closed on Mondays

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9 am-1 pm

Friday: 9 am-12 pm

PHONE: 781-659-7122

FAX: 781-659-7939

HOME PAGE: www.firstparishnorwell.org

Minister:

Rev. Dr. Leonard DeRoche, x11

minister@firstparishnorwell.org

Director of Religious Education:

Julian Baptista, x12

dre@firstparishnorwell.org

Music Director: Ginky Grimes

Office Staff:

Hope Weinman, Office Administrator, x10

office@firstparishnorwell.org

Donna McDonald, Bookkeeper, x14

donna@firstparishnorwell.org

Parish Committee 2014-2015:

Co-Chairs: Jim Pickel and Deanna Riley

Members:

Noel Constantino, Sue Keady, Elizabeth Robey,
Les Taylor and Patti Walters

Treasurer: Marta Reese

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Richard M. Fewkes

The deadline for the next issue of THE SPIRE is **Monday, April 13** (email version). Submissions may be emailed to Hope at office@firstparishnorwell.org, or dropped off in the church office.

ROSE AND COLUMN

Alcoholics Anonymous has had meetings in our church since March 17, 1969. That is 46 years. This is not the most advantageous day to start a meeting. There is no one at the meeting that started their 46 years ago. I was invited to give a blessing on behalf of the church to commemorate their 46 years. AA and their community is a blessing. It is a blessing to the individuals and to the individual's family. But it is also a blessing to us in that First Parish of Norwell has supplied a home base for these individuals who wish to change their lives. This is part of your outreach program. You can be proud of this outreach.

It is said that even the best laid plans can go astray. I lost the Communion Bread to the talent show. I had purchased a particularly good looking loaf to bring for the Palm Sunday Communion and put it into the Parsonage fridge with some grape juice but it got diverted. Joanne Howard saved the day Sunday morning by stopping at Shaw's on the way in. My Catholic colleagues don't have the problem because their "bread" isn't that good to eat. I'll be more careful next time.

I've heard from some choir members that the "story" is too violent for the children. I have not heard from the RE committee or any parent. Research in children's literature gives us a different story. Grimm's fairy tales is what I use and I'll do a service before I leave and explain why those traditional stories are healthy for teaching children. Here's a reference- Bruno Bethelheim's wonderful book "The Uses of Enchantment". Grimm is less violent than Roald Dahl's books.

Yours in faith and love,
Len



CARING CORNER

Our condolences go to Ed Mosher and his family on the passing of his sister after a long illness.

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, or contact any member of the Pastoral Care Team (Sue Robinson, Betsey Detwiler, Joanne Howard and Joyce Hockman).



The Church Office will be closed April 21-24 during school vacation week. Hope will not be in at all (she will be poolside in Florida!), and Donna will be in

on Wednesday, April 22 only. We will reopen at 9 am on **Tuesday, April 28.**



FROM THE DRE

Hello First Parish!



It was wonderful seeing all of you at our all ages Talent Show! We had so many people attend this awesome event that we had to fill up nearly the whole Parish Hall with chairs. The whole program was recorded, and we'll get that video out to you all as soon as it's uploaded.

Next Sunday will be my first away from you in a while, as I will be having dental surgery. However, Mandy Metzger will be running our

Easter Sunday Egg Hunt! Instead of candy, our eggs will be filled with lots of other fun goodies (we figure most kids will get their fill of candy at home, and want to avoid sensitive allergies) like temporary tattoos, rings, stickers, along with notes about an influential UU or one of our UU principles.

Finally, I strongly encourage you all to attend our brand new Drum Circle held every Sunday afternoon at 4 pm (**except** April 5 and 12). We've had more and more people attend each circle, and it's an excellent opportunity to expel some excess energy while interacting with others through the rhythm. I personally find it very meditative, and it's a great way to calm your mind before another week in the office. Show up at 3:30 for a simple drumming lesson from our own Denise Rachel, or if you're already experienced, come on over at 4:00pm and join the whole group!

Thank you all for another great month at First Parish - I'll see you at church!

Julian Baptista
Director of Religious Education

MOVIE NIGHT



"Lincoln" (PG-13)

Saturday, April 18 at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall

Bring your own drinks and snacks

FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes from 3/15/15:

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

1. Today's was a 3 hour meeting. The bulk of our time involved an in-depth discussion of some of the candidates we have met. We talked candidly about their qualifications and our impressions. We also reviewed our rating scale.

2. We reviewed our compensation package and its parameters for candidates of varying experiences. We were fortunate to include Marta in this overview, as she was able to clarify some of the finer points regarding the benefits we are able to offer. Our compensation team will be meeting with the ministerial candidate who accepts our invitation to serve.

3. Later this week we will hold more phone interviews for the developed references of our candidates.

4. Our next meeting is March 29.

Submitted by Ingrid Carlson - secretary

Notes from Our Final Search Committee Meetings:

When we sat together today in the Fogg Parlor, Mary reminded us that we had been at this for a year. Last spring we volunteered to take on the job of looking for a new minister - the congregation accepted. During the past 4 seasons we have collectively gotten to know our church better through surveys, cottage

meetings and an intimate review of our historical record. This effort allowed us to better describe our community to potential candidates.

Search committee work is time consuming. It is both stressful and exacting in its focus. This winter, we have all been sick, at least once, with the flu or gastroenteritis. We have bickered, laughed and come to consensus over the finer points of the search. Two of us have had a family member die. In the end, our hours together have consolidated our vision for new leadership.

We are now in the final stretch of our search. As such, for the past few weeks, though we have been busy, we can't tell you why. There have been discussions, arguments and straw polls. One of our candidates told us that "God emerges in fellowship". It is our hope that the hours spent together, grappling with our choices, has allowed us to transcend our individual limitations. We look forward to introducing First Parish to its next minister.

Search Committee Members: Bernie Gardner, Marie Miller, Scott Babcock, Ellie Handleman, Mary Nickerson, Sally Turner and Ingrid Carlson.

CANDIDATING WEEK 2015

Peg Kitchenham has been asked to set up a series of events starting **April 25 - May 3** that will enable all of us to have a chance to personally welcome the Ministerial Candidate for First Parish chosen by the Search Committee. The focus of these get-togethers will primarily be social, though time will be set aside for conversation on church matters so that you may hear the candidate speak briefly to various topics.

Below is a calendar for the week that lists planned get-togethers. Events marked with an asterisk (*) are set aside for groups of you to come together around a particular focus of committee interests or lay leadership involvement. Each of you is asked to sign up for one event that best fits your schedule. For example, if you are in the choir and serve on a committee, you need only attend one event. Spouses and significant others are encouraged to come with their partner. If you do not see yourself neatly fitting into one the groups meeting during the week, do not hesitate to select a group you would like to attend or consider coming to the Open House Coffee Tuesday morning.

The Saturday Ham and Bean supper is an all-church event as well as an opportunity for those who have not been able to attend other group meetings to meet the candidate. What is **MOST** important is that everyone signs up! Lists will be available beginning **April 12** at Coffee Hour and the Church Office will gladly take your reservation by phone. Volunteers have stepped forward to coordinate events and would like a head count, so please make your commitment by Friday, April 24 to allow for plans to move forward.

The following schedule indicates group meetings. Those marked with the asterisk (*) are events open to the entire church community:

SATURDAY, April 25: Search Committee

SUNDAY, April 26: *Religious Education Committee, RE staff, teachers and parents

TUESDAY MORNING, April 28: *Open House coffee

TUESDAY EVENING SUPPER, April 28:
*Parish Committee, Finance Committee, Church Treasurer, Invested Funds Committee, Moderator, Deputy Moderator, Clerk and Auditor

WEDNESDAY MORNING, April 29: 9:30 meeting with First Parish Preschool Staff and 10:00 meet with the Alliance

WEDNESDAY STAFF MEETING LUNCH, April 29: 12:00 Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer, Office Administrator, Music Director and Sexton

WEDNESDAY EVENING POTLUCK, April 29:
*Membership Committee, Buildings & Grounds Committee, Helen Fogg Service Committee, Denominational Affairs Committee, Nominating Committee and Activities Committee

THURSDAY EVENING SOUP, April 30:
*Search Committee, Music Committee, Choir, Head Usher, Pastoral Care Committee, Partner Church Council and Worship Committee

SATURDAY HAM & BEAN SUPPER, May 2:
***all are invited!**

Members of the Search Committee will attend each event with the candidate and will be available to talk with you as needed.

Important phone numbers for the week:

Search Committee members:

Scott Babcock 781-659-2956

Ingrid Carlson 781-826-9876

Bernie Gardner 781-8299-0932 (co-chair)

Ellie Handleman 781-749-3498

Marie Miller 781-837-6620 (co-chair)

Mary Nickerson 781-659-2633

Sally Turner 781-659-4646

Candidating Week Coordinator:

Peg Kitchenham 781-447-5831



SHARED MINISTRY – WHO DOES WHAT AT FPN?

Ministry is a shared endeavor that engages all members in the work of our congregation. Committees are the backbone of the organizational structure of the church and are the primary method for how our ministry is accomplished. Committees are also a vehicle for members to contribute their talents, enjoy fellowship, and deepen community, while benefiting First Parish and the community we serve.

Denominational Affairs Committee

The Denominational Affairs Committee serves to link First Parish with denominational organizations and to educate the Parish about the larger denomination. The committee encourages and promotes greater participation of members and friends of First Parish in the activities and concerns of the broader Unitarian Universalist movement. Committee members provide information about services, resources and processes that enhance or are necessary to the healthy functioning of our church operations.

The committee is comprised of elected delegates. Delegates are elected at the annual meeting of First Parish to represent the Parish at the New England Region annual meeting and Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly. The number of delegates

elected relates to the number of certified members of First Parish Church.

Through association, we add strength and diversity, and can accomplish together what one congregation cannot. We promote awareness of issues of denominational concern so that Unitarian Universalist values are articulated and upheld in the public arena.

The 2014-15 elected delegates: Betsey Detwiler, Karen Baker and Mary Mercier.

MEN'S GATHERING

The next Men's Dinner is **Monday, April 13** at 7 pm at Bob Sutter's (264 Brook Street, Hanson). BYOB and a dish to share.



FIRST PARISH BOOK GROUP

The First Parish Book Group welcomes any fellow bookworms to their discussions, which take place at 7 pm in the Fogg Parlor.

Wednesday, April 8: "Still Alice" by Lisa Genova

Wednesday, May 13: "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr

Wednesday, June 10: "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee



DRUMMING CIRCLE

A drumming circle has begun at FPN, and will run until each Sunday at 4 pm in the Parish Hall until May 17. (There will **not** be sessions on Easter, April 5 or on April 12). All levels welcome, no experience required. Just bring your enthusiasm! Bring your own drum or you can share one here. Open to all 13 years old and up. If you want any additional information, please contact Denise Rachel at pp-ff@thepianoworkshop.com or Ellen Herling at ellen7herling@gmail.com.



HELEN FOGG SERVICE COMMITTEE

In 1 ½ weeks, we have the pleasure of hosting our first Helen Fogg Lecture in several years at our church! On **Sunday, April 12** at 3 pm, we will be hosting Rev. Bill Schultz of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. This is his **ONLY** talk in this area this year. For more information, please see the article elsewhere in the Spire.

We hope to have about a hundred guests from the Boston area, South Shore and the Cape. Sue Robinson is organizing an elegant reception afterwards for this special occasion. We will need lots of donations of finger foods (cheese and crackers, fruit, cookies, veggies, etc.) as well as people to set up, serve or clean up. Please let her know how you can help (artsue45@hotmail.com or 781-294-8840). Remember- it takes a village to run a church!

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



MEDITATION GROUP

The Meditation Group meets next on **Tuesday, April 14** at 7 pm in the Skylight Room. 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 ellen7herling@gmail.com.



ALLIANCE IN APRIL

Book Review at the home of Helen Keeler (1327 Union Street, Marshfield)

with Winnie Lou Rounds

Wednesday, April 15 at 10 am

Bring a sandwich and stay for lunch
Desserts and beverages will be served



FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT

Save the date... this year's bowling night will be held on **Saturday, June 6** – details to follow! Please see Les Taylor with any questions.

PENNIES WITH PURPOSE



Noel Constantino read about a Boy Scout troop in Abington that collected a million pennies. That's **\$10,000**. Could WE do the same? A collaborative effort of Fogg Service Committee and RE Committee is underway. Please bring in one, two or a whole pocketful of pennies on Sundays and place them in the "Pennies with Purpose" jar on the information table in the Parish Hall. The pennies collected will be turned into cash donations for organizations voted on by the children, such as local food pantries, Cradle to Crayons, First Parish itself or whatever imaginative ideas the kids have. This is a project to help the kids learn about stewardship, giving, the democratic process, and perhaps even practice their counting skills.

See a penny pick it up... and bring it to the Pennies with Purpose container on the welcome table inside our Parish Hall. No, we do not discriminate against nickels, dimes or quarters. All are welcome. Thank you! Questions- see Gabe Carroll or Noel Constantino.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2016

Would you like to represent our church at the UUA's General Assembly in Columbus, Ohio in June 2016? You have the opportunity to join with UU's from all across the country, attending meetings, programs and your choice of a wide variety of workshops. As one of our elected delegates, you would represent FPN and cast your vote on policy issues brought before the General Assembly.

If you are interested in becoming one of our four delegates, please speak with one of the members of the Nominating Committee: Marcia Babcock, Joanne Howard, Marie Miller, Bob Neely or Tom Yardley.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

International Peace Awards Concert, sponsored by the Peace Abbey. **Saturday, April 11** at 7:30 pm at the First Parish UU Church in Duxbury (842 Tremont Street/Route 3A) Tickets: adults \$20, students and seniors \$15, children under 13 are free. Those unable to make a donation are free. For more information, please visit www.peaceabbey.org or call 508-259-8508.



Sunday, April 12, 2015 • 3:00-4:00 PM

Reverend William Schulz

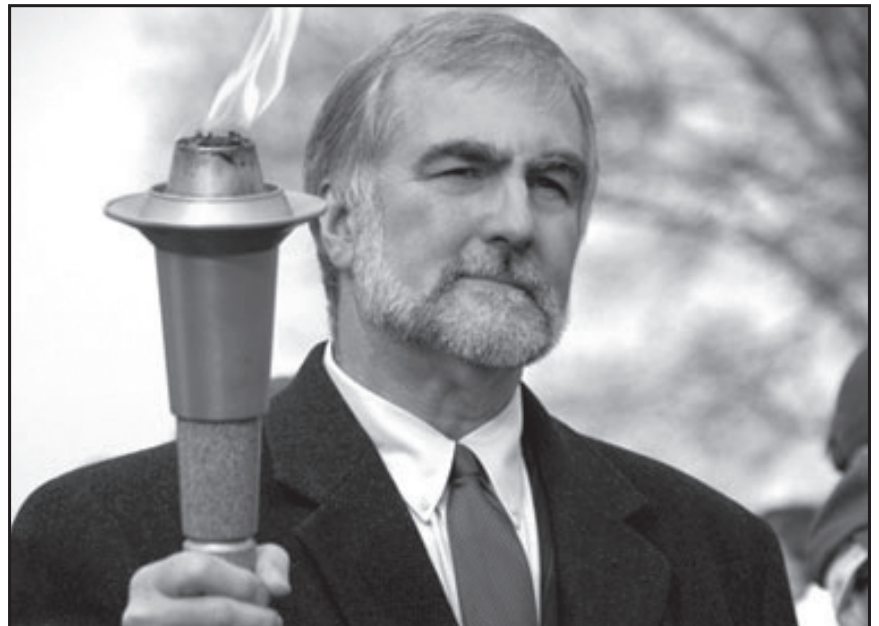
Helen Fogg Lecture:

“Do Human Rights Have a Future?”

**First Parish Unitarian Church of Norwell, 24 River Street,
Norwell MA**

Followed by a Reception

Rev. Dr. William F. Schulz leads the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee in advancing human rights and social justice in the US and around the world. Previously, he served for 12 years as executive director of Amnesty International USA, until spring of 2006. An ordained UU minister, Schulz is a former president of the Unitarian Universalist Association.



Rev. Schulz is the author or contributing editor of several books, including

In Our Own Best Interest: How Defending Human Rights Benefits Us All;
Tainted Legacy: 9/11 and The Ruin of Human Rights; *The Phenomenon of Torture;* and
The Future of Human Rights: US Policy for a New Era. The New York Review of Books said in June 2002, “William Schulz has done more than anyone in the American human rights movement to make human rights issues known in the United States.”

RSVP to kklett@uusc.org or by phone at 617-301-4353 to ensure seating.





THANK YOU all for your support of the Annual Pledge Drive.

With gratitude from your Finance Committee

George and Meredith Atkinson Sarah Lincoln
Scott and Marcia Babcock John Litchfield

Larry and Karen Baker
Bob and Ginnie Bartlett
Paul Borque
Bob and Shirley Bunnell
Phyllis Buell
Frank and Libet Callahan
Bill and Staci Carey
Lars and Ingrid Carlson
John and Peg Carpenter
Laurie Brown and Dan Carroll
Jack and Jean Christensen
Phyllis Cohen
Noel Constantino
Paul Coolidge
Patricia Crumley
Bob and Betsey Detwiler
Jefferson and Ryan Detwiler
Susan Donahue
David and Betsey Drollett
Peter and Roberta Fairbanks
Madeline Farrar
Nancy Fuller
Herb and Ellen Fulton
Bernie and Bev Gardner
Scott and Shastin Garland
Rosemarie Gentile
Douglass and Barbara Gladstone
George and Linda Goodwin
Alex Gordon
Ralph and Betsy Gordon
Jordan and Emily Grant
Clayton and Ellie Handleman
Cathy Harder-Bernier
Bob and Barbara Hickey
Walt and Judy Hall
Carl and Ellen Herling
David and Joyce Hockman
David Horton
Kevin and Lindsey Houston
Deane and Joanne Howard
Pearl Jayko
Tony and Sue Keady
Chris and Peg Kitchenham
Helen Keeler
Joan Kenworthy
Phil and Diane Koury

Tommie Magazu
Tim and Kathy Malley
John McCann and Debbie Chase
John Marsh
John and Debi Meddaugh
Mary Mercier
Don and Joan Messinger
Jonathan and Amanda Metzger
Prue Miller
Jim and Marie Miller
Jim Millins and Gabe Carroll
Bill and Dorothy Montuori
Ed Mosher and Carol Altshuler
Bob and Carol Neely
Mary Nickerson and Patti Walters
Jill O'Loughlin
Eric and Laura Page
Deborah Peterson
Dan and Cathy Phillips
Harold and Lorna Phillips
Jim and Joyce Pickel
Michael and Karen Pritchard
Marta Reese
Deanna Riley
Thad and Elizabeth Robey
Dexter and Sue Robinson
Elizabeth Robinson
Paul and Denise Shaw
Scott and Amy Stephenson
Sheila Stockbridge
Derek and Jen Sulc
Sue Sulc
Carol Sullivan
Bob and Mary Lou Sutter
Les and Marlon Taylor
David and Sally Turner
Paul and Netta Vercollone
Jack Wallace
Debb Welsh
Mark and Judy Witcher
Stan and Jane Wilderoter
Sandra Williams
George and Donna Wilson
David Yampanis and Wendy Prentiss
Tom and Abbie Yardley
Joan Kuhn

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THE SPIRE

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PLEASE REMEMBER...

At the end of a church event or committee meeting, please remember to:

- ✓ Wash out your coffee cups and dispose of your snacks
- ✓ If you met in the Church Office, please re-set the furniture to its original arrangement
- ✓ Unplug the coffee maker
- ✓ Turn off the water heater for the dishwasher
- ✓ Turn down the heat to 55 degrees
- ✓ Turn off all the lights
- ✓ Lock the doors

If another group is using the facility at the same time, please check in with them and decide who is taking care of these tasks. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!