

# 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  
[www.firstparishnorwell.org](http://www.firstparishnorwell.org)

October 5, 2016  
Volume XV, Issue 3

## Sunday Services - 10:00 am

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry  
preaching unless otherwise indicated

### October 9:

#### **The Legacy of the Discovery Doctrine**

During the colonial era, European monarchies put forth the Doctrine of Discovery. Wanting to add as much territory as possible to their domain, non-Christian countries were considered fair game for colonization and rule regardless of the people that might already have lived there for 1000's of years. How has this attitude shaped our country and possibly even current attitudes?

### October 16:

**The Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Child - Department of Children and Families**  
We'll have a guest speaker from DCF to discuss the foster child program. This is one of the areas of our social action CHALICE projects this year and it will be an Outreach Sunday so please bring extra funds if you're able.

### October 23: **Libraries Transform!!**

The above title is on a poster at the Norwell Public Library, but before that institution came into existence there was The James Library, created and started by FPNUU in the 1800's. As part of our 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration we'll explore our library roots and then go over to The James for our Coffee Hour after the service.

### October 30:

#### **A Visit and Sermon with Rev. Judith Campbell**

Once upon a time, FPNUU mentored Rev. Judy as a student minister. Now she's coming back to share and visit with us. Watch future editions of the iSpi for her sermon topic.

### November 6: **Voting Our Values**

Our nation was founded on the principle that ordinary people should have a say in what happens in their country. One of our Seven Principles also promotes the practice of democracy. How will our values encourage us to vote, and perhaps even more importantly, how will they lead us to continue to participate in our nation if we wake up on Wednesday morning sorely disappointed?

**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](http://www.firstparishnorwell.org)

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[lisherry@uuma.org](mailto:lisherry@uuma.org)

**Director of Religious Education:**

Julian Baptista, x12

[dre@firstparishnorwell.org](mailto:dre@firstparishnorwell.org)

**Music Director:** Gingy Grimes

**Office Staff:**

Hope Weinman, Office Administrator, x10

[office@firstparishnorwell.org](mailto:office@firstparishnorwell.org)

Donna McDonald, Bookkeeper, x14

[donna@firstparishnorwell.org](mailto:donna@firstparishnorwell.org)

**Parish Committee 2016-2017:**

**Chair:** Les Taylor

**Members:** Scott Garland, David Hockman, Mary Nickerson, Jim Pickel, Elizabeth Robey and Dexter Robinson

**Treasurer:** Marta Reese

**Minister Emeritus:** Rev. Richard M. Fewkes

The deadline for the next issue of THE SPIRE is **Monday, November 7, 2016**. Submissions may be emailed to Hope at [office@firstparishnorwell.org](mailto:office@firstparishnorwell.org).

## LISE'S LETTER



When I was in college, I was lucky enough to get to spend one school year in France. There are many, many things I remember about that wonderful time of exploration, but one that sticks out forever in my mind is the trip I took to the Dachau

Concentration Camp near Munich, Germany. My friend Sarah and I went together, and I am grateful for her presence that day because it's not something I'd want to process on my own.

One of the first things we saw on that day was a huge memorial made out of wrought iron. To my mind it looked like bodies entwined in barbed wire fence. Have you ever been caught in barbed wire? It's not a pleasant experience, and as we all know, the people who lived in this concentration camp experienced much worse. One of the other things that stunned me about that day is learning how many people who were not Jewish, came to be interned within that camp: gypsies, homosexuals, political dissidents, those who tried to help others. The list was inclusive and horrifying; I saw my own emotions on my friend Sarah's face as we quietly absorbed all there was to see that day.

I bring this memory up because as Unitarian Universalists we are proud of our heritage of reaching out and helping others in difficult times. UU churches in Canada helped draft dodgers, churches in the US have helped refugees, congregation members have registered people to vote, we've marched with others showing that we Stand/Act on the Side of Love and this year our congregation is enacting our CHALICE (Changing Hearts And Lives by Inspiring Community Efforts) Projects to make the world a better place. We've also recently celebrated the documentary, *The Sharps' War*, which told the story of Martha



and Waitstill Sharp and how they worked to get refugees out of Nazi Germany. This, all in the midst of a country where fear about outsiders seems to be getting the best of our fellow citizens and bringing out the worst in our democracy.

It is true that over the last several years there has been an increase of frightening events in our world. Beyond the terrible events of September 11, there have been bombings by terrorists in France, Belgium, Spain, Turkey, Indonesia and many other countries. These events can cause anyone to want to stay in bed with their covers firmly over their head planning to stay there until things somehow get better. Others, in their anger, speak out against outsiders and paint all foreigners from particular countries with the same colored paint brush; this sentiment is voiced by many of our politicians—mayors, representatives, governors and presidential candidates. But something I also see in our news media, is how many of the surviving victims of these attacks are determined to live life openly and inclusively. They want to live with joy and love, not fear.

I encourage all of us to live with these positive emotions to the best of our abilities—especially in the countdown to our elections. And remember, if things seem too daunting, we always have our friends (like Sarah) and our wonderful religious community to see us through.

Love and blessings,  
Rev. Lise



### CARING CORNER

We send healing thoughts to our DRE, Julian Baptista, who is recovering from injuries sustained in a recent car accident.

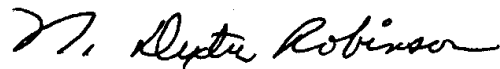
Help us to keep in touch, celebrate the happy moments in life and support you during the difficult times. Please send your news to Hope Weinman in the Church Office at

[office@firstparishnorwell.com](mailto:office@firstparishnorwell.com), or contact any member of the Pastoral Care Team (Sue Robinson, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Marcia Babcock, Noel Constantino, Betsey Detwiler, Joanne Howard and Joyce Hockman).

### WARRANT FOR SPECIAL PARISH MEETING

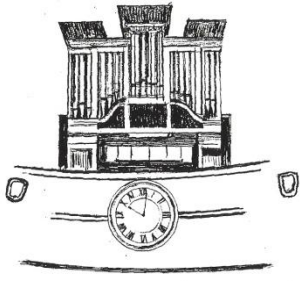
The members of First Parish of Norwell are hereby notified of a Special Parish Meeting to be held Sunday, October 16, 2016, at 11:30 am, in the Meetinghouse, to hear and act upon the following articles:

- ARTICLE I: To act upon the acceptance of new members.
- ARTICLE II: To hear and act upon the financial reports of committees for the year ending June 30, 2016 (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016).
- ARTICLE III: To determine if the Parish will approve the signing of a contract to expend up to \$16,500 for painting of the two sides and front of the James Library to be funded 50% from the Parish Capital Improvements Fund and 50% from James Library funds.



September 23, 2016  
N. Dexter Robinson, Parish Clerk  
Norwell, Massachusetts

“First they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew. Then they came for the Communists, and I did not speak out because I was not a Communist. Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out because I was not a Trade Unionist. Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak out for me.”~Protestant theologian Martin Niemoeller, a Nazi victim



## ORGAN RECITAL

For the first public event to celebrate First Parish's 375 years, there will be an organ recital on **Sunday, October 9**

at 3 pm, performed by Heinrich Christensen. This hour long recital will feature a variety of music spanning several hundred years and will include several contemporary pieces, one jazz selection, and some well known classical pieces. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted for a special service project in recognition of First Parish's 375<sup>th</sup> founding. A reception will follow the recital.

A native of Denmark, Heinrich Christensen received Church Music and Soloist Diplomas from the Århus Conservatory of Music with further studies at the Conservatoire de Saint-Maur with Olivier Latry. He came to the US in 1998 and received an Artist Diploma in Organ Performance from the Boston Conservatory.

He was appointed Music Director at King's Chapel in 2000 after serving as the affiliate organist under Daniel Pinkham. At King's Chapel, he manages the Tuesday Noon Hour Recitals as well as the King's Chapel Concert Series, and directs the fully professional choir. Heinrich was a prizewinner at the international organ competitions in Odense and Erfurt and has given solo recitals on four continents. An avid proponent of contemporary music, he has premiered works by Daniel Pinkham, Carson Cooman, Graham Gordon Ramsay, James Woodman and several others. He has worked extensively as an accompanist for many choral groups in the Boston area. His solo CD "Heinrich Christensen plays the C.B. Fisk Organ at King's Chapel" was hailed by Gramophone Magazine as a "smorgasbord" of "enormous stylistic flexibility".

For additional information contact Dexter Robinson at [dexsue@comcast.net](mailto:dexsue@comcast.net) or 781-294-8840.

## TAI CHI



There will be no Tai Chi classes the first two weeks of October. The next four week session will begin **Tuesday, October 18** at 9:15 am in the Parish Hall. All are invited to this beginners' class - no special equipment or clothing needed. Classes are \$5 each or \$20 for the whole session. Come for relaxation, meditation and overall improved movement and health.



## DARLENE BEAUVAIS TO LEAD ALLIANCE BOOK REVIEW

The Alliance of First Parish of Norwell invites all members and friends of the parish to attend a Book Review on **Wednesday, October 19**. Darlene Beauvais is well known as an expert on herbs, but she is also a great reader, and will share her insights and recommendations for your fall and winter reading. The meeting will begin with refreshments at 10:00 am in the Fogg Parlor followed by the book review. We look forward to your joining us on October 19!



## JAMES LIBRARY AND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Suosso's Lane by Robert Knox

**Monday, October 17** at 7 pm  
Cost: Free

With terrorist attacks, attempted coups, and targeting of immigrant groups, 2016 is growing remarkably similar to the year 1920 when Nicola Sacco and Plymouth resident Bartolomeo Vanzetti were arrested in a climate of violence and political repression. *Suosso's Lane* is based on the scandalously

unjust trial and execution of Sacco and Vanzetti for a murder most people believe they did not commit, the international cause-celebre of the 1920's. The novel follows the search for evidence of Vanzetti's innocence lost for decades to a government sanctioned frame-up.

### Lewis & Clark Trail

**Monday, October 24** at 7 pm

Cost: Free

Between May 1804 and September 1806, 31 men, one woman, and a baby traveled from the plains of the Midwest to the shores of the Pacific Ocean. They called themselves the Corps of Discovery. In their search for a water route to the Pacific Ocean, they opened a window into the west for the young United States. Just returned from their own journey along the Lewis & Clark Trail, Norwell residents George and Meredith Atkinson will discuss their experience on the Lewis & Clark Trail. Join them as they share stories, history, and images of this National Historic Trail.



## IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY YEAR!

Your 375<sup>th</sup> committee has two community events planned for October. This Spire contains additional information about the following:

**Organ Concert - Sunday, October 9, 3 pm**  
(page 4)

**Old Fashioned Harvest Picnic - Saturday, October 15, 12 to 3 pm** (page 9)

Bring friends and families of all ages to both events to help us celebrate our long history in the community. Both events will include ways to contribute to our year long CHALICE projects.



## ATTENTION, COMMITTEE CHAIRS!

Please send a list of your current committee members to Hope in the Church Office.

## EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN OUR FPNUU STUDY GROUP ON GROWTH

**When:** Sunday, October 16 at 7:00 pm  
**Where:** Parish Hall  
**How:** Watch the videos at this link: [Growth Videos](#)  
Read this brief booklet: [Congregational Growth UU](#)  
Come prepared to discuss  
If you have trouble accessing this material or are just curious, come anyway and join the conversation  
**What:** See below

According research available from the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), our church has all we need to grow:

- vigorous and enthusiastic volunteers,
- a strong worship practice,
- a good budget,
- a nice building, and
- friendly, welcoming people

Yet our growth in number of members or volunteers does not reach the level of what the UUA call a "Breakthrough Congregation".

So what is the gap? I don't know the answer to that question but I want to find out and I'm volunteering to uncover the answer with your help. What we will do together is study and look for common answers to the questions the UUA Growth Team developed for ministers at Breakthrough Congregations:

- What draws people to the congregation you serve?
- What is your role as a minister in growing the congregation you serve?

- How does your congregation help people move inward and outward on their spiritual journey?
- What needs to be in place, organizationally, institutionally and practically, for a congregation to grow?
- Within your congregation, what are obstacles or hindrances to growth, and what has helped?
- What in the larger UU system helps and hinders congregational growth?

The UUA has developed resources for us to use in this process. There is a video for each question found at this link: <http://www.uua.org/growth/experience>. In an effort to create a consensus, we will watch the videos before we meet and then discuss the questions. In our first meeting we will explore our mission and discuss the first video, “Why Do They Come: Part 1”.

Another key source document from the UUA is the PDF found at this link: <http://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/documents/congservices/conggrowth.pdf>

I look forward to your support in this process. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you wish to discuss any part of this. I hope to learn from many, including you!

Jack Wallace  
781-834-4696

## LEGACY GIVING COMMITTEE

### EDUCATE - RECOGNIZE - ASK

Did you know the Legacy Giving Committee is an official ad hoc committee at our church? Did you know we are actively working to Educate, Recognize and Ask members and friends of First Parish of Norwell, Unitarian Universalist (FPNUU) on and about legacy giving?

No??? Well you're in luck. This is the first of three articles for the Spire about legacy

giving, the work the committee does and how you can help.

Legacy giving is a way people support our church with gifts larger than they could make from their income. These gifts are usually substantial and come from the estate or trust after the will takes effect. The purpose of the Legacy Giving Committee (LGC) is to *lead the congregation in good stewardship toward its legacy donors*:

Educate all congregants on the facts and benefits of legacy giving for them and the parish

Recognize, acknowledge and thank givers in an organized and thoughtful manner that matches the generosity of the donors

Ask potential donors to consider making First Parish of Norwell part of their legacy

Today's article will focus on recognizing.

Have you put First Parish of Norwell in your will? Have you established a trust that names First Parish of Norwell? Have you left instructions to your heirs or executor to remember First Parish of Norwell? Well if you have, we'd like to recognize you! We'll do that in a way that is comfortable for you, but first we need to know you've done it. Please have a conversation with Jack Wallace to let him know you have planned a gift to our church, and how you would be comfortable being recognized.

While the specifics of your recognition by FPNUU will be about you and what you are comfortable with, it's important for everyone to know that there is much more to recognition than a thank you. First, our church cannot exist without stewardship and, as we all know, examples set by others is the primary source of our knowledge about stewardship. If we don't know about your stewardship, even anonymously, others won't have the opportunity to learn from you. That way, giving advance notice of your planned gift, actually gives twice. Once by your gift and once by the example you have set for

others. Second, by giving some advance notice, your generosity can be as thoughtfully received as it was planned and having the best possible impact. Finally, as you've probably experienced, gifts and the anticipation of gifts have a positive impact on the energy and work of the people around you. By sharing ahead your gifting plans - in a way that leaves you comfortable, even anonymously - the congregation can anticipate and feel good for longer about a single gift.

There are many signs of legacy giving at our church: the chandelier in the Meetinghouse, our steeple and the Fogg Parlor, to name a few. People continue to include FPNUU in their wills and some substantial gifts were received in the past few years. The Parish Committee and others have thanked the families of the donors. The LGC would like to help the congregation improve the stewardship of these types of gifts as well as thank people while they are still with us.



## FROM THE DRE

Hello First Parish!

Our first month has been jam packed with great Religious Education and service projects, but we have even more going on in October! This year at FPN we are trying to be especially welcoming to the outside community. So if you have friends or family who have similar interests, you should invite them to one of our events, or especially our *Bring a Friend to Church Sunday!*

First, for the whole family we have a few great events. On **Friday, October 14** from 5:30-7:30 will be our first *Game Night Potluck* of the new church year. This event is always a blast, and a great way to meet and spend time with your First Parish family. Bring your favorite board, card, or table top game along with a dish to share.

The very next day on **Saturday, October 15** will be our *Old Fashioned Harvest Picnic*, where we'll continue celebrating our 375<sup>th</sup> birthday. There will be great food, music, and lots of opportunities to learn about our church's history.

**Sunday, October 23** will be our first *Bring a Friend to Church Sunday!* This is something new that we're trying, where each adult and child is encouraged to ask a friend to come with them to our service. Here at First Parish of Norwell part of our ministry is sharing our liberal religious ideas and incredibly welcoming and supportive community with others. This Sunday is a great way to both strengthen our community, and have a great time too!

For adults, we will be resuming our Adult Religious Education program *Spirit of Life* on **Wednesday, October 12** at 7:00 pm and continuing every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. This program is themed around the song of the same name, and uses the lyrics to explore our definition of spirituality, and its place in our everyday lives. All are welcome and you are encouraged to bring friends or family.

Finally, our church *Youth Group* meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 5:00 pm for two hours to discuss current events, do social justice work, and build a supportive community. Youth Group meetings can include everything from helping at a food pantry, to loud discussions about the right to protest, or sometimes just talking and eating pizza, but are always interesting and a lot of fun. The group will also be hosting a two-night Youth Conference for UU youth from around the Massachusetts and Rhode Island area at the very end of January.

Now you may ask, how do my kids take part in all of these great programs? Well the answer is *Registration!* This year we are supporting both in person and web-based child registrations. So if you haven't registered yet,

come see me in person, or go to our new online registration form here:

[www.goo.gl/forms/BT1HXgMKY9hZLVL2](http://www.goo.gl/forms/BT1HXgMKY9hZLVL2)

I can't wait to see you all at church!

Julian Baptista  
Director of Religious Education



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

My favorite season is each change in season. That being said, I love September. The dropping temperature, the increased rainfall (yay!), the fireworks of fall... and our return to church! What a feeling gratitude I have gathering yet again and being back among so many of you and meeting new friends. Welcome everyone!

### Signing the Membership Book:

If you are interested in becoming a member at First Parish, please speak to Rev Lise about signing the book! We always look forward to having growth spurts. Feel free to approach anyone on membership committee with any questions. If you are interested in our Spring UU 101 class, speak to Rev. Lise or Gabrielle Carroll to get on the signup list.

### Bring A Friend to Church Day:

Our Bring a Friend to Church Day will be **Sunday, October 23**. Find a friend, family member, neighbor, or a curious stranger and warmly invite them to join us. The Membership Committee will be staffing the informational welcome table before the service, helping with greeting, getting paper name tags to visitors, getting families hooked up with religious education teachers for their age group. Please remember to wear your name tag. The music will be beautiful as always! The message of the day will be

joyous! Religious Education classes will be even more welcoming!

### Name Tags:

We are starting to take notes on who has already received our new FPNUU name tags. Soon we will have a table set up at coffee hour. Please stop by to get your preferred name spelling (to nick or not is the question) as well as if your preference is a name tag with a pin or with a magnet. Please note, those with pacemakers will want a name tag with a pin and NOT a magnet. We will need that information before your tag can be ordered. All of our "old" name tags are currently in circulation. Sincere apologies to those who have misplaced their tags or the new friends and members who have not yet gotten a name tag. In the meantime, please use the sticker name tags on the welcome table if you need a temporary one. Name tags are helpful to visitors, newer friends and members, the children of the parish and those of us who have a hard time remembering names. It's radical hospitality!

Thank you for everything you do for our community. Happy Autumn!

Gabrielle Carroll, chair (look for my rainbow striped clipboard)  
Betsey Detwiler, Shastin Garland,  
Chris Kitchenham and Mary Nickerson



## REQUEST FOR UPDATED COMMITTEE PHOTOS

We will soon again be posting FPN's committee photos in the Parish Hall. If you have an updated photo (or can take a picture) of your committee for the 2016-2017 church year, please submit those to Les Taylor at [lestaylor@me.com](mailto:lestaylor@me.com). Thank you!





## OLD FASHIONED HARVEST PICNIC

First Parish of Norwell is celebrating its 375<sup>th</sup> birthday! We have lots of fun events planned throughout the year to celebrate! One upcoming event is the Old Fashioned Harvest Picnic on **Saturday, October 15** from 12-3 pm, rain or shine! Kids and adults will enjoy pumpkin painting, face painting, fall leaf art, lots of old fashioned outdoor games, music, food, a cake walk, and even a petting zoo! The event is open to ALL, and most of it is FREE (there is a minimal charge for food and drinks. Money raised will go to one of our service projects). We hope all church members can make it, and please feel free to bring family and friends! Please email Lindsey Houston ([lindseymosson@hotmail.com](mailto:lindseymosson@hotmail.com)) or Elizabeth Robey ([elizabethrobey67@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethrobey67@gmail.com)) if you can help with any of the craft or outdoor game activities.

note cards. Work can be donated or given on consignment with proceeds shared with the church.

New helpers are needed. To volunteer, call any of the following coordinators or Peg Kitchenham:

Set up & Handcrafts: Marcia Babcock, 781-659-2956 & Betsey Drollett, 781-934-6672

Silent Auction: Marina Selby, 781-659-2019, Joanne Howard, 781-826-6561 & Joyce Hockman, 781-545-6517

Snack Bar: Jim Miller, 781-837-6620

Books: Sally Turner, 781-659-4646

Grandma's Attic: Phyllis Buell, 781-659-2203 and Noel Constantino, 339-244-4778

Jewelry: Kerry Ouellette, 781-834-3472

Gift Baskets: Bev Gardner, 781-829-0932 & Noel Constantino, 339-244-4778

Baked Goods: Prue Miller 781-826-2914, and the Alliance.

Toy Table: Debi Meddaugh, 781-659-2901 and Patti Walters, 781-659-2633

Electronics/Sports: Chris Kitchenham, 781-447-5831 & Larry Baker, 781-826-3284

Face Painting/Popcorn (proceeds to Youth Group): Julian Baptista, 978-595-7782

Artists' Table: Sue Robinson, 781-294-8840

Publicity & Raffle: Peg Kitchenham, 781-447-5831

Clean-up: Don Messinger, 781-659-7574 & Les Taylor, 781-837-2929



## HOLIDAY FAIR Saturday, November 19 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Mark your calendar right away. **We need your help with this major fundraiser.** We will need you to bake, make handcrafts (new crafters welcome), clean out your closets and bring your clean, good toys, books/CDs and household treasures to the church the week before. The Jewelry Table has put out a special call for good jewelry items. See Bev Gardner for ideas on Gift Baskets you could make.

Sue Robinson will again chair an Artists Table, featuring work by First Parish artists and friends. We are planning a special theme for the table to celebrate the church's 375<sup>th</sup>. It would be great to have original artwork of or about the church. Images can be made into

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 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!





## THEMED GIFT BASKETS

Please volunteer to buy supplies for a themed gift basket to be sold at the Holiday Fair on **Saturday, November 19.**

Choose a theme (teen beauty, chocolate, nuts, football, tea, baby, dog, pasta, etc.)

1. Sign up at Coffee Hour so we know of your wonderful intentions! You can even sign up with together with a friend.
2. Get your own basket or pick one up at church.
3. Shop! New, non-perishable items only, please.
4. Work toward baskets which we can sell in the \$15-45 range.
5. Keep a list of items for us and their cost to you to help us price your basket appropriately.
6. Bring the items, the list and the basket to Coffee Hour any Sunday morning whenever you complete the buying. We will help you wrap it with our supplies. Baskets must be in by the Sunday before the Holiday Fair, Sunday November 13!

If you have any large or extra large baskets which you don't need, please bring them in for us to use! We would also appreciate donations of wired ribbons, paper "grass" and cellophane bags (medium, large, grand).

Thank you so much!

Bev Gardner, Noel Constantino, Roberta Fairbanks, Linda Goodwin, Joanne Howard, Debb Welch, Adrianna McLane, Amy Stephenson

Changing Hearts And Lives by Inspiring Community Efforts.

This is the Outreach/Social Service part of our 375<sup>th</sup> celebration, and there is a place for each member of the congregation to take part. Do check out the CHALICE board on Sunday and see which of the areas interest you. Let's make this like Stone Soup -- if each of us adds just a little of our interest, knowledge, talents and/or time, the results will amaze all of us. And isn't that one of the wonderful things about being a church member -- together we can move mountains (well, not literally, of course, but we can do more and learn more together.) We CAN make a difference in our world. See if there is an area you care enough about on the CHALICE board to add your name to the volunteer list.

The five areas we are focusing on this year (as a result of the all-church survey in the Spring) are:

1. Helping Children and Families (foster children, Christmas gifts for foster children, Carolina Hill, etc.) Leader: Lindsey Houston  
Christmas gift co-leaders: Betsy Gordon, Deb Chase  
Carolina Hill organizer: Mandy Metzger
2. Reintegrating People into Society (Partakers, Mass. Bail Fund, restorative justice) Leaders: Bev Gardner, Marcia Babcock
3. Gun violence, gun safety - Leaders: Deane Howard, Mary Nickerson
4. Food Pantries Leader: Scott Babcock
5. LGBTQI Issues Leader: Mary Nickerson

Plans are already underway in several of the five areas. A table will be set up at the Old Fashioned Picnic on October 15 with information on foster children and a raffle and donation basket to collect money for foster children. We are also starting a collection of clothing for foster parents to access when a child is brought to their home. The first Sunday lunch and craft visit to Carolina Hill was a great success, and the



## CHALICE PROJECT

Have you seen the yellow CHALICE Project bulletin board in the Parish Hall? CHALICE =

baskets to fill for Carolina Hill were snapped up the first Sunday.

## CHALICE PROGRAM, PART 2

One of the aspects of the CHALICE program, chosen last spring, is reintegrating people into society. This includes working with recovering addicts, prisoners, released prisoners, education, legislative work, Partakers (educational mentoring in prison) and the Mass. Bail Fund. Marcia Babcock and Bev Gardner agreed to lead the group. Other group members are: Jim Pickel, Jack Wallace, Peg Kitchenham, Ellie Handleman, Joyce Hockman, Lise Adams Sherry and Peg Carpenter. If you would like to join us, please let Marcia or Bev know! We will have an organizing meeting toward the end of October.



### HELEN FOGG SERVICE COMMITTEE

We are the outreach arm of the church. If you would like to have a say in how and what we do in this area during the church year, please join us! Several people, after many years of faithful work, have stepped off our committee this year. We need to replace them with dedicated, caring people from our congregation. Meetings are at 11:30 after Coffee Hour, usually the second Sunday of each month. Our next meeting will be next **Sunday, October 9**, at 11:30 am. Why not join us-check us out? Questions? Ask any committee member!

Our next "Outreach Sunday" will be in two weeks, on **Sunday, October 16**. It will benefit the Department of Children and Families, concerning foster care, one of our areas for the CHALICE program for this our 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year. The collection will go towards purchasing gift cards for DCF's emergency supply fund.

Bev Gardner and Jack Wallace, co-chairs  
Members: Marcia & Scott Babcock, Debbie Chase, Penny Corbett, Pat Crumley, Alex Gordon, Bill Montuori, Elizabeth Robey (liaison with the Parish Committee), Lise Adams Sherry

## FROM THE PARISH COMMITTEE CHAIR

On September 24, the Parish Committee had the pleasure of hosting our annual retreat at the beautiful, pond-side Plymouth home of Jim & Joyce Pickel. It was a busy, productive day with numerous church matters to consider... but also included a little time for play. With three new members added to the Parish Committee this year (Dexter Robinson, David Hockman and Scott Garland), we started off by getting to better know each other through sharing information about ourselves. This included revealing previously unknown "fun facts" about ourselves.

Collectively, we honed our Parish Committee Mission Statement and Covenant. In a future Spire, I will be happy to share these with the congregation. Our committee then reflected on last year's work, identified our top accomplishments, pinpointed our biggest disappointment (which was not meeting our annual pledge drive's intended goal) and continued a deeper discussion on items to work on this year.

The lengthiest session was drilling down on our goal setting for FY17. We quickly decided to maintain the four "overarching" goals the Parish Committee established last year:

- Enrich & deepen the meaning of membership in our church
- Increase giving (of time, talent, treasure) in the congregation
- Encourage new leadership and commitment to do the work of the church committees
- Create a strong presence for FPN in the local community and denomination, including service to others

All four dovetail nicely with our biggest focus this year: GROWTH. By growing, we will attain success on all our overarching goals stated above. We need to define & identify opportunities on how to grow, including enriching and enhancing membership. This will lead to important by-products, such as an increase in pledging. Regarding “growth,” we are strongly supportive, as well as deeply appreciative, of Jack Wallace’s efforts in taking on this crucial subject. Using established and successful UUA resources, Jack will lead a “Study Group on Growth” to be held in the Parish Hall on **Sunday, October 16** at 7pm. Everyone is invited and I hope you will consider attending this vital discussion. Finally, we are looking to sponsor several “cottage meetings” this year following Coffee Hour to gain feedback from the congregation regarding your thoughts on what it means (or should mean) to be a member of and give to the church. More information to come!

Another important Parish Committee goal is in regard to working closely with our valued church committees. To support this endeavor, we have determined our annual “Church Council” date for this fall. If you are a chair or point person of an elected or standing committee, please reserve the date of **Wednesday, November 9** from 5:30 - 8pm in the Parish Hall. As usual, those folks may expect a mailing with more specifics prior to the event. Count on more in-depth conversation regarding the Parish Committee’s FY17 goals, as well as discussion of the goals established by the individual committees. It promises to be an engaging evening. And since the meeting shortly follows the conclusion of the prior night’s contentious & lengthy election season, you may also celebrate our Church Council dinner as “Election Fatigue Recovery Night!”

The Parish Committee is energized and ready to tackle our identified goals. But we can’t do it alone. As we reach out to the congregation, we appreciate not only your support, but all your efforts and contributions as we seek to grow First Parish of Norwell, our

beloved church at 375 years strong. Thank you!

In fellowship and love,  
Les Taylor

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE IN OUR OWN LIVES

an experiential workshop on harm and healing  
led by Cathy Hoffman of the  
Cambridge Restorative Justice Circles Working  
Group

**Thursday, October 27**  
7-9 pm in the Parish Hall

Our culture’s responses to harm typically focus on separation, punishment and disconnection. This evening is a chance to explore other ways of responding to harm—restorative practices that build community and heal harms through care, reciprocity and democratic connections. These practices can be used in families, schools, neighborhoods and legal structures. Finding ways to listen, to be lovingly accountable and deepen our understanding of one another helps create the kind of humanity and change that many of us long for. Come explore relationship-oriented responses to harm and healing. For more information or to sign up, please contact Louellyn at [llambros46@hotmail.com](mailto:llambros46@hotmail.com).



**CALENDAR  
OCTOBER 2016**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			5  Alliance Board, FP 10 am  Book Group, FP 7 pm  Dancers, PH 6-9 pm	6  Staff Meeting, Ofc. 10:30 am  Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm	7  Piano lessons, PH 3-5 pm  Dancers, PH 6-9 pm	8
9  Morning Service & Church School 10 am  Coffee Hour, PH 11 am  Service Comm., FP 11:30 am  <b>Organ Recital,</b> MH 3 pm - reception after in PH  HS Youth Group, FP 5 pm	10  AA, PH 8:30 pm	11  Knitters, FP 9:30 am  Dancers, PH 6-8 pm  Meditation, Sky. 7 pm	12  Dancers, PH 6-9pm  "Spirit of Life", FP 7 pm	13  Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm	14  Piano lessons, PH 3-5 pm  Game Night & Potluck, PH 5:30 pm  	15  <b>Harvest Picnic</b> 10-3 pm  
16  <b>Outreach Sunday</b> Morning Service & Church School 10 am  Coffee Hour, PH 11 am  <b>Special Parish Mtg.,</b> MH 11:30 am  UU Study Group, PH 7 pm	17  Invested Funds Comm., Ofc. 7 pm  AA, PH 8:30 pm	18  Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am  Knitters, FP 9:30 am  Dancers, PH 6-8 pm	19  Alliance Book Review, FP 10 am  Dancers, PH 6-9pm  375 <sup>th</sup> Comm., FP 7 pm	20  Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm	21  Piano lessons, PH 3-5 pm  Dancers, PH 6-8 pm	22  Scrapbookers, PH 4-11 pm
23  <b>Bring a Friend to Church Day</b>  Morning Service & Church School 10 am  Coffee Hour @ James Lib., 11 am  HS Youth Group, FP 5 pm	24  AA, PH 8:30 pm	25  Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am  Knitters, FP 9:30 am  Dancers, PH 6-8 pm Meditation, Sky. 7 pm	26  Dancers, PH 6-9pm  "Spirit of Life", FP 7 pm	27  "Harm & Healing", PH 7 pm  Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm	28  Piano lessons, PH 3-5 pm  	29  Private rental, PH 2:30-7:30 pm