

The Spire

The Newsletter of
First Parish of Norwell
Unitarian Universalist
24 River Street
P.O. Box 152
Norwell, Massachusetts 02061
phone 781-659-7122
fax 781-659-7939
www.firstparishnorwell.org

May 3, 2017
Volume XV, Issue 10

Sunday Services - 10:00 am

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry
preaching unless otherwise indicated

May 7: **“Truth and Lies in Our
Public and Private Lives”**

Rev. Richard M. Fewkes, our Minister Emeritus, will be in the pulpit today.

May 14: **Music Sunday**
Joyce Pickel, Worship Leader

On this Mother’s Day morning, give yourselves the gift of music!! Our Choir will be singing “Frostiana”, comprised of music composed by Randall Thompson for seven poems by Robert Frost. Please join us for this service which will highlight the talents of our dedicated, talented, hard-working choir.

May 21: **Youth Sunday**

Our youth and Julian, our Director of Religious Education, will lead us through this service which will surely challenge our perceptions and opinions.

May 29: **In Remembrance:
Native American Military Service**

Many have heard of the code talkers, bilingual Native Americans who served during the World Wars. Many other Native Americans have served our country as well, and we’ll hear their stories and honor their sacrifices.



LISE'S LETTER

We're nearly at the end of our "regular" church year. It's that time when, as a congregation, we're finishing up projects and starting to do a little bit of planning for the next year. Sometimes, things get a little bunched up or surprising. For instance, the Sundays just seemed to work out for most of this month without me in the pulpit. How did that happen?

Well, according to the letter of agreement I have with all of you, I get one Sunday out of the pulpit per month from September through June. But sometimes, I end up preaching every Sunday of the month so my Sundays off collect, or I have to schedule around when others can take my place in the pulpit, and I usually preach a couple of times in the summer which means I can take a Sunday or two off from preaching during the rest of the year. It all comes out in the wash, however, and I'm usually at church on Sundays whether I'm preaching or not.

What are some of the other things I do as your minister? Well, I have office hours three mornings a week where people can casually drop by, unless I already have an appointment or two (usually 10 am-1 pm on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday). I'm also available to meet outside my office hours if those times don't work for people. I go to committee meetings on Sundays after church and at other times during the week. There are pastoral visits to make, memorials to write, and staff with whom I check in regularly. I post things on Facebook, write newsletter articles, lead classes, show up for and sometimes host community events, help with special events like our 375th year activities, and go to Coffee Hour to check in with everyone who'd like to have a conversation. In addition, there are continuing education events to attend and some other things I've probably forgotten.

This variety of tasks is one of the things I enjoy most about being a minister—that, and hearing people's stories. It's always amazing to me how similar and distinct all of our different lives are. That we somehow manage to make personal meaning out of all of these life events, and contribute to the greater good is even more

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. Lise Adams Sherry, x11

lsherry@uuma.org

Director of Religious Education:

Julian Baptista, x12

dre@firstparishnorwell.org

Music Director: *Gingy Grimes*

Office Staff:

Hope Weinman, Office Administrator, x10

office@firstparishnorwell.org

Donna McDonald, Bookkeeper, x14

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, June 5, 2017**. Submissions may be emailed to Hope at office@firstparishnorwell.org.



incredible. All in all, it's a pretty good journey, and I'm glad to share it with you. Thank you.

Blessings and love,
Rev. Lise



TREE PLANTING FOR OUR 375TH

After church on Sunday, April 23, we celebrated Earth Day and our 375th birthday by planting a young flowering crabapple tree at the "triangle" property opposite the church on River Street. Transported by Sue Robinson in daughter Elizabeth's truck, planted by Don Messinger and John Litchfield on a drizzly Friday morning, dedicated by Rev. Lise and the congregation with a red ribbon blessing and a shovel full of mulch, and promised watering by Mary Nickerson and daughter Aine - it is truly a community effort for a tree that sends promises to the future generations of First Parish to care for the earth - our Blue Boat Home.



CARING CORNER

Healing thoughts to Bob Bunnell, who has been dealing with several medical issues recently.

Rev. Lise's stepfather, Orvis Tilby, recently celebrated his 81st birthday and continues his recovery at Bay Path Rehab in Duxbury.

Mary Lou and Bob Sutter will be remembered at a memorial service, officiated by Rev. Lise, on **Saturday, May 20** at 11 am in the Meetinghouse. There will be a collation immediately afterwards in the Parish Hall. If you can help in any way, (provide food, set up, clean up...) please contact Sue Robinson via email or at 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, 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).



GOLF TOURNAMENT 2017

SAVE THE DATE! Once again, the Silver Chalice of golfing superiority is back up for grabs. The Annual First Parish Golf Tournament is **Saturday, June 24** at Squirrel Run Golf Course in Plymouth. Tee Off at 1:00 pm. \$100.00 per golfer includes dinner in the Parish Hall of steak or swordfish, or come to dinner only for \$25.00. BYOB. Corporate sponsors are needed at \$50 Per Hole. Sign up with Don Messinger, Deane Howard or John Meddaugh.



ATTENTION, COMMITTEE CHAIRS

An Annual Report for your committee should be submitted electronically by 9:00 am on **Friday, May 19** to Hope in the Church Office. Reports will NOT be printed if they are not submitted to Hope by the deadline. If your report is not submitted in a timely manner, you will be responsible for printing and distributing your committee's annual report yourself. Please let Hope know if you would like a copy of your committee's report from last year.



2016 Champions Bernie Gardner, Don Messinger and Bob Neely



FIRST PARISH BOOK GROUP

Join us on **Wednesday, June 7** at 7 pm in the Fogg Parlor. We will be discussing “I Heard the Owl Call My Name” by Margaret Craven. This will be the last book group discussion of the church year. All bookworms are welcome!



FROM THE DRE

Hello First Parish!

We might only have two more months before summer and the end of the church year, but in the RE program we’ll be packing in all we can!

First up, on **Friday, May 12** is our monthly Game Night Potluck at 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Bring your favorite food and games to share with your First Parish community. This month is going to be a bit different. After we’re done with games and dinner, the cooperative youth group of Scituate, Cohasset, Rockland, and Norwell will be hosting their annual youth-led service. The service will be more interactive than the typical adult worship service, and the youth hope to see many representatives of our congregation.

Saturday, May 20 will be our Youth Group Bridging Overnight held at Channing Church in Rockland. Registration will be going out shortly to all Youth Group members and families, but feel free to check with me if you have questions. In addition to current Youth Group members, we would like to invite former members who have bridged in the past 4 years to return and play a part in the bridging ceremony which will be a part of this overnight.

For our OWL class, our 2nd OWL Overnight has been rescheduled. The class will gather at the church on **Saturday, May 27** at 6:00 pm for an evening of learning and fun. We plan to complete two classes that evening, and dinner will be provided.

Over the past several weeks I’ve had a great time with members of our congregation discussing the hard choices we all have to make in our lives. Whether it’s deciding if it is ethical for every person to steal a single paperclip, or something a little more personal; UUs have a hard road to travel. We do not have a creed dictating what is right, so we must decide the best course for ourselves based off of the best sources we have. If thinking about these big issues and discussing them with your fellow First Parish members appeals to you, come to our adult program entitled “**What We Choose**” continuing on **Tuesday, May 23** at noon. All are welcome, and the program is free of charge, so feel free to bring friends!

Now you may ask, how do my kids take part in 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 online registration form here:

www.goo.gl/forms/BT1HXxgMKY9hZLVL2

I can’t wait to see you all at church!
Julian Baptista
Director of Religious Education



HELEN FOGG SERVICE COMMITTEE

Outreach Sunday is the once-a-month church service when a charity or cause is high-lighted and money collected in the collection plate goes to that charity. Often, the sermon reflects the cause. Be sure to note on your check that the check is to be applied to your Pledge or to Outreach. All loose, undesignated cash goes to the cause.

For Outreach Sunday for March, the Service Committee raised the \$631 collected in the collection plate for the organization “Stop Handgun Violence” to \$800. The Preventing Gun Violence CHALICE Committee developed an excellent church service with an outside speaker!

Thank you to Cathie DiMassa who spoke to us at the April Outreach Sunday service about the Lonestar Pyrs and Paws animal rescue organization from which she adopted her beloved dog, Henry. The Service Committee increased the money collected in the plate to \$600.

Our next Outreach Sunday will be on **Sunday, May 21**. The CHALICE-Food Pantry's choice is the Pembroke Firehouse Pantry/Soup Connection.

Thank you to all who donated last Sunday to the Norwell Food Pantry drive in memory of Barbara Meacham who was a long-time member of this church and a dedicated President of the Alliance. The food pantry was Barbara's special cause, carried on by her son David Meacham who picks up our donations! Please remember- we collect food for the Norwell Food Pantry *each* Sunday

We are always looking for people who are passionate about outreach. Stop by our next meeting to check us out and to see if you and we would be "a good fit". The next meeting is **Sunday, May 14** at 11:30 am.

Bev Gardner and Jack Wallace (co-chairs), Marcia and Scott Babcock, Debbie Chase, Penny Corbett, Pat Crumley, Alex Gordon, Bill Montuori, Jeannette Mitchell, Cathie DiMassa, Elizabeth Robey (liaison with the Parish Committee), Lise Adams Sherry (Minister).



GOODS AND SERVICES AUCTION A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thank you to all who donated and purchased items for the Goods and Services Auction. We had a wonderful evening with Deanna Riley's expert auctioneering and Adrianna McLane's and Aine Nickerson's enthusiastic child care. We raised about **\$6400** for the church budget. Thank you to Nancy Fuller and Dave Horton, who purchased the safari packages and to Deanna Riley for getting them donated to us. One half of \$2600 bid will come to the church.

A list of who purchased items will be posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall under the TV this week.

A few items are still available and can be purchased by contacting Peg Kitchenham at 781-447-5831 or via [email](#).

Donated by the Bakers: Be our guest for a day and overnight of meals, swim, boat, kayak on Hermit Lake, NH. Family of 4 or 2 couples. Minimum bid \$150, value \$200.





Donated by Mary Mercier: Advocacy for a child with special needs. Will educate, guide and empower you to advocate for your child. 2 sessions/2 hours each. Minimum Bid \$75, value \$150.

Donated by Clayton Handleman: 2 hours physics tutoring by HS physics teacher. Minimum bid \$100, value \$200.

A pair of wire-rimmed eyeglasses (in a black case from Sears) were found in the Meetinghouse after Sunday's service. Contact the Church Office to claim them.



MAY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			3 Alliance Annual Mtg., FP & PH 12 pm Dancers, PH 6-8 pm Book Group, FP 7 pm	4 Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm	5 Piano lessons, PH 3-5 pm	6 Tastes of 1642 Dinner, PH 5:30-8 pm 
			7 Morning Service & Church School 10 am Coffee Hour, PH 11 am Service Comm, Ofc. 11:30 am	8 AA, PH 8:30 pm	9 Tai Chi, PH, 9:15 am Knitters, FP 9:30 am Adult RE, FP 12 pm Dancers, PH 6-8 pm	10 Dancers, PH 7-9 pm
14 MUSIC SUNDAY Morning Service & Church School 10 am Coffee Hour, PH 11 am 	15 AA, PH 8:30 pm	16 Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am Knitters, FP 9:30 am Dancers, PH 6-8 pm CHALICE - Gun Violence, Ofc. 7 pm	17 Dancers, PH 6-9 pm	18 Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm	19 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS DUE TO HOPE BY 9 AM Piano lessons, PH 3-5 pm	20 Memorial Service for Bob & Mary Lou Sutter, MH 11 am - collation to follow, PH 
21 OUTREACH SUNDAY Morning Service & Church School 10 am Coffee Hour, PH 11 am Finance Comm., Ofc. 11:30 am	22 AA, PH 8:30 pm	23 Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am Knitters, FP 9:30 am Adult RE, FP 12 pm Parish Comm., FP 7 pm Dancers, PH 6-8 pm	24 Dancers, PH 6-9 pm	25 Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm	26 Piano lessons, PH 3-5 pm Dancers, PH 6-8 pm	27
28 Morning Service & Church School 10 am Coffee Hour, PH 11 am	29 MEMORIAL DAY AA, PH 8:30 pm	30 Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am Knitters, FP 9:30 am Dancers, PH 6-8 pm	31 Dancers, PH 6-9 pm	1 Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm	2 Piano lessons, PH 3-5 pm	3 Scrapbookers, PH 11 am-11 pm