

The Spire

The Newsletter of
**First Parish of Norwell,
Unitarian Universalist**
24 River Street
P.O. Box 152
Norwell, Massachusetts 02061
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www.firstparishnorwell.org

October 3, 2018
Volume XVII, Issue 2

Sunday Services - 10 am

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry
preaching unless otherwise indicated

October 7: The Necessity of Retreat

Rev. Lise will share her experience of attending a retreat at a Buddhist monastery this summer. We'll also consider the importance of retreats and ways we can refresh and restore ourselves on a regular basis.

October 14: The Promise and the Practice of our Faith for Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU)

Elizabeth Robinson, worship leader

This Sunday we'll hear words exclusively by black writers as we take the opportunity to listen to voices not usually centered in our culture. It's a chance to celebrate diversity and listen for common ground. This is an Outreach Sunday and our offering will go to BLUU.

October 21: Rethinking Atonement

Christians believed that Christ died on the cross to save us from our sins. As we explore our Christian roots this year, we'll consider how Rev. Rebecca Parker's theology evolved as her lived experience seemed to counter Christian orthodoxy.

October 28: Remembrance of Loved Ones

As we near All Saint's Day and Day of the Dead, we'll take time to celebrate and ritualize our remembrance of loved ones who have died recently or long ago. Please feel free to bring photographs or small mementoes to share with the congregation.

WE ARE UU!



OFFICE HOURS
(September to mid-June):

Closed on Mondays
Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday: 9 am-1 pm
Friday: 9 am-12 pm

Minister:

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, x11
lsherry@uuma.org

Director of Religious Education:

Gabe Millins, x12
DREfirstparishnorwell@gmail.com

Music Director:

Gingy Grimes
gingygrimes@gmail.com

Office Staff:

Hope Weinman, Office Administrator, x10
office@firstparishnorwell.org

Donna McDonald, Bookkeeper, x14
donna@firstparishnorwell.org

Parish Committee 2018-2019:

Chair: Dave Hockman
Members: Scott Garland, Mary Mercier,
Amanda Metzger and Prue Miller

Treasurer: Dave Traggorth

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Richard M. Fewkes

The deadline for the next issue of the Spire is
Monday, November 5, 2018. Submissions
should be emailed to Hope at
office@firstparishnorwell.org.

LISE'S LETTER

Last week I had the privilege of being a chaplain to ministerial candidates during their Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC) interviews. These interviews are roughly equivalent to a graduate level oral exam for aspiring ministers. As part of the interview, candidates give a 10-minute homily, and then answer questions ranging from the professional to personal. The topics can include any coursework (theology, UU history, pastoral care, etc.) as well as personal questions regarding past or personal issues. It's all fair game because the MFC wants to make sure ministers are mentally and emotionally prepared so that they won't inadvertently harm a congregation. The interview can be demanding and many candidates bring a friend or family member with them for moral support. For those candidates who can't afford to pay for two folks to travel, the UUA tries to supply a local minister as a chaplain. That's where I came in.

Part of what makes this day so stressful is the anticipation. Completing the MFC interview is the last official hoop candidates must jump through before they are cleared for ministry within our association. Often, on interview day, the MFC is running late. The interview may take longer than expected, or the MFC to has difficulty settling on the best score for the candidate. According to my interpretation, a 1 means everything is great, go for it! A 2 means that they see you as a minister, most everything is great, but they want you to be aware of one or two things as you continue your ministerial journey. A 3 means that they can see you as a minister, but you're still in formation and they'd like you to "cook" a bit longer. A 4 is less clear than a three— they're not really sure you're on the right path, but you're welcome to keep trying. A 5 is the least ministerial score you can get. Those who receive a 1 or 2 do not have to come back to see the MFC, but 3s and 4s do.



During the afternoon I spent as a chaplain I saw many versions of dealing with pressure. I also saw different ways of experiencing joy and disappointment. I think we all can imagine the different ways that this last emotion can manifest— sadness, anger, quiet resolve, shame. The thing that intrigues me is how people take that disappointment and transform it into something meaningful. I recently found out that an acquaintance of mine, who I think is an excellent minister, had to see the MFC three times. How did he maintain his purpose and drive through those difficult results? How did he continue to persevere?

Those questions are probably a bit cliché, because we all know some good answers: have a sense of humor; don't take yourself too seriously; have a good support system; be open to possibilities; don't be too attached to outcomes; pace yourself; pray; go on vacation; let yourself learn from your experiences; realize that nobody is perfect. There are probably at least a few remedies I've forgotten. And of course, the real trick is acting on these remedies, not just listing them.

We are in challenging times, whether we're thinking about our political and economic climate, personal goals, family issues, health concerns or day to day bumps in the road. And yet, as a society we continue to move forward in some fashion, sometimes with skill and polish, other times barely by the skin of our teeth.

My prayer for all of us is that we continue to heartfully work, with integrity, for what is important to us, find time to enjoy our loved ones, and be willing to give grace and second (or more) chances to those who might need it. This last part is especially important, because we never know when we might be on the receiving end of things; life is full of twists and turns. Together though, I think we can constructively journey through it.

Blessings and love, Rev. Lise

REV. LISE'S OFFICE HOURS

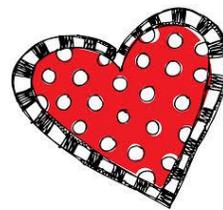
Tuesday and Thursday 10 am-1 pm

Friday 2:30-5:30 pm

While these are her scheduled office hours, pastoral emergencies will always take priority. You are welcome to contact her at lsherry@uuma.org to schedule an appointment.

Hope's schedule will change slightly for the month of October. Most (but not all) mornings, she will work 9:30-1:30 (9:30-12:30 on Fridays) instead of her usual 9-1. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the Church Office will open at 9 am when Donna arrives. On Wednesdays and Fridays, it will open at 9:30 am. She will return to her regular schedule on Tuesday, October 30.

CARING CORNER



Winnie Lou Rounds, age 96 and a long-standing member of Alliance here at First Parish, passed away last Sunday surrounded by family and friends. She will be

remembered at a memorial service the day after Thanksgiving. The arrangements are pending; we will keep you posted.

We send our healing thoughts to Maddy Farrar, who is recovering from a recent fall. She is in rehab at HealthSouth in Braintree and doing well with PT and her recovery. Her family has respectfully requested no visitors. Maddy would love to receive cards, which can be mailed to her home address (PO Box 260, Norwell, MA 02061) or to HealthSouth (250 Pond Street, Braintree, MA 02184).

We also send healing thoughts to Linda Goodwin who broke her kneecap in a recent fall.

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 781-659-7122 or 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).



**ALL-CHURCH
HALLOWEEN POTLUCK
Saturday, October 20
5 to 8 pm**

Come in costume! Join the fun and games and enjoy good food. Get to know new families and our new RE Director, Gabe Millins. Peg Kitchenham will have a sign-up sheet during Coffee Hour, or contact her via phone at 781-447-5831 or email at chrispegk@verizon.net.

**FROM THE
OFFICE STAFF**



The Church Office is a busy place- answering phones, greeting visitors, and coordinating the myriad activities of a busy parish. To help us to better help

you:

- If you are attending a meeting in the office, please reset the furniture to its usual arrangement at the end and dispose of your empty cups and plates.
- Please respect Hope's and Donna's workspaces. They are happy to lend their scissors, scotch tape, pens etc. as long as the items get returned.
- If you are leaving something in the office, please leave a note with the item. Is someone picking it up? Should we file it? Mail it? Reorder it?

Hope and Donna enjoy meeting members of the First Parish community. Please stop by, say hello and introduce yourself! If you have a quick question or something you need help with, we will do our best to help you. If you have a more in-depth question or project, we encourage you to call or email ahead for an appointment so that we can make sure we can give you our full attention.

**NEW CHURCH
DIRECTORY ON THE
WAY!**



We will be producing an updated church directory this fall. This will be text only/no photos. Representatives from the Membership Committee will be at Coffee Hour over the next few weeks with a list of names and addresses. Please check and make sure your info is up to date. You may also contact Hope in the Church Office at office@firstparishnorwell.org to update your listing.





FROM THE DRE

“What I try to tell young people is that if you come together with a mission, and its grounded with love and a sense of community,

you can make the impossible possible.”

-John Lewis

It’s been a bit of a whirlwind start this year. I’m awestruck watching the young people of this church and how well they care for one another. The OWL kids are a blend of children raised in the church, newcomers, and returning youth. They have suspended judgement and jumped right in with a quick sense of comfort and camaraderie with one another. When I watched the littlest among us this past Sunday being mentored by someone a handful of years older, it gave me pause. The grades 1-4 classroom was filled with giggles as they got into costumes, helping one another with headpieces and directions, as they acted out the story of Baby Moses. May we all learn from the youngest teachers among us!

Books:

RE has purchased a copy of the two books which are used in OWL programs for younger children, for you to borrow at any time to help facilitate conversations with your own children. If you would like to review them and/or borrow them, just let me know. They are both written by Robie H. Harris and Michael Emberley:

It’s So Amazing: A book about eggs, sperm, birth, babies and families (ages 7 and up)

It’s Perfectly Normal: Changing bodies, growing up, sex and sexual health (ages 10 and up)

Looking ahead:

October 7: No RE nor OWL classes. Service will be a multi-generation lite service about Rev. Lise’s Buddhist retreat this summer. Activities and crafts complementing the service theme will be available for children in

a Craft Corner and there will be a Time for All Ages as well.

October 14: RE and OWL classes will meet

October 21: RE and OWL classes will meet

October 28: All teachers and children will meet in the Parish Hall for Halloween and Dia de Muertes activities and then return to church for a costume parade

November 4: RE and OWL classes will meet

~Gabe Millins

Director of Religious Education



FIRST PARISH BOOK GROUP

Join the FPNUU bookworms at the upcoming discussions, held the first Wednesday of the month in the Fogg Parlor at 7 pm.

November 7: “A Tree Grows in Brooklyn” by Betty Smith

December 5: “Death at Wentwater Court” by Carola Dunn



OCTOBER BOOK REVIEW

The parish is invited to attend a book review hosted by the Alliance on **Wednesday, October 17** at 10 am in the Fogg Parlor. Carolyn Housman, the reviewer, has offered programs for Alliance meetings in the past and always provides interesting and insightful book reviews. This is a great way to get recommendations for your fall and winter reading.



HELEN FOGG SERVICE COMMITTEE

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”

\$20 Summer Challenge – How many different ways did we find to use the \$20 in the envelopes we picked up in May to help someone or some organization? It’s time to bring in your family’s story to post on our bulletin board in the Parish Hall. If you haven’t used your \$20 yet, there is still time. How about donating it to your favorite non-profit? Or ask if your school or senior center has a need for scholarships for an upcoming activity? Local food pantries always appreciate donations of food. Or surprise a friend or neighbor with flowers or an invitation to lunch. You can even bring the \$20 to put in the collection plate for our church, or save it for the next Outreach Sunday collection. You can write your family’s story on the story sheet that came in the envelope with the \$20 bill OR on any blank piece of paper. (There are extra story sheet available on the bulletin board.) The Service Committee thanks you for spreading our outreach.



SEE WHY PEOPLE ARE EXCITED ABOUT COMMUNITY DINNER

Have you talked to folks at church about community dinner? If you have, you can FEEL the enthusiasm they have for this service project we host for our neighbors. Don’t you want to see for yourself why so many people are committed to keeping this monthly dinner going? If so... PLEASE come on **Wednesday, October 10** to meet our guests and experience yourself what makes the volunteers so energized and keeps the guest

coming back! We would LOVE to have you sit with our guests and hear their stories while you enjoy a delicious meal made by your loving congregants. Won’t you please join us? This month we’re having ham, macaroni and cheese, salad and dessert. Yum! Gluten free options available.

Or, maybe you want to join in with our enthusiastic volunteers who, with the support of the entire church, create excitement for our parish and a fun Community Dinner for all our guests where we invite our congregation, our friends and our neighbors to enjoy a fabulous home cooked meal. Here a a few quotes from volunteers:

- “I love the feeling of community we have when we’re all working together.”
- “I leave here energized every time I help with the dinner.”
- “The community dinner is a great thing that we’re doing and I’ll do whatever it takes to keep it going.”
- “For me, this is what church is all about!”

Are you ready to be part of a team or make an individual contribution toward this wonderful thing we do TOGETHER? We hope so, because we are ready for you! Our next dinner will be on **Wednesday, October 10**, from 5:00 to 6:15 pm, and this dinner is a GREAT opportunity to experience the joy and comradery of this community event. It’s easy to help and there is a job that fits you. Try participating by:

- Signing up to prepare food (this can be done on your own schedule) - Betsey Drollett - 781-934-6672 or DBWINDYHILL@gmail.com
- Setting up the morning of the dinner - Marcia Babcock - 781-659-2956 or MARCIABAB@AOL.com
- Working the dinner itself in the kitchen, serving guests, cleaning up or greeting guests at the door - Jack Wallace - 781-834-4696 or jeanjacques99@verizon.net

- Sitting with our guests and helping them feel welcome as you enjoy their company and your own dinner
- Inviting your friends and neighbors to attend
- Providing rides for people who wouldn't otherwise be able to attend
- Bring yourself, enjoy dinner with friends and neighbors to see how it all works
- Donate food or money.

This is part of our CHALICE outreach and we are now committed to hosting a dinner at our church every month (September - June). To sustain this effort, we are seeking a pool of volunteers who can sometimes work on a team to put on the dinner. Most jobs don't include cooking, and some can be done ahead. If you have questions or want to sign up, please contact Marcia Babcock, Deborah Chase, Betsey Drollett, Joyce Hockman, Joanne Howard or Jack Wallace.

What makes this event exciting, energizing and joyful?

- Individually, we feel good about what we are contributing, making it easier to be nice to ourselves and others
- We make others feel special by volunteering with them or serving them in a way they need
- We improve the quality of life of people in need
- We extend the mission of our church to the broader community
- We feel excited and energized, which is infectious to active members, inactive members and non-members

Here at FPNUU we can do it! We can reach out to our neighbors and, together, host them at our place. Thank you all for supporting this ongoing community dinner series, September through June. With your donations of time, treasure and talent as well as your encouragement we will continue to build enthusiasm and excitement for FPNUU within and outside our congregation.



HANDCHIME REHEARSALS

All young people are invited to join the handchime rehearsals every Sunday morning from 9:30 to 9:50 am in the Skylight Room. You will be learning some new music to play for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and other holiday seasons as well as introits to begin some Sunday church services.



NEW SUPPLY ORDERING PROCESS

Hope will start ordering all coffee hour supplies and some janitorial supplies from the same company where she already orders office supplies. She will place orders on the **1st and 3rd Wednesday** of the month. If there are items you need, let her know by 1 pm on the **1st and 3rd Tuesday** of the month. Items that are in stock will be here in just 1-2 days as they ship via UPS. If items are needed in between orders, or a specialty item is needed, you are welcome to purchase it yourself and submit the receipt to Donna for reimbursement.

Coffee purchases are charged against the coffee hour supplies line item, which "belongs" to the Worship Committee. In fairness to them (and their budget), if coffee is used for other events (community dinner, holiday fair, etc.), the amount used will be moved from that committee's budget and be transferred to the Worship Committee. Let Hope know how much is used, and she will do the math for you. Donna will then make adjustments as needed in Quickbooks. Please contact Hope with any questions (office@firstparishnorwell.org or 781-659-7122).



ACTIONS OF IMMEDIATE WITNESS (AIWs) FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Our General Assembly in Kansas City last June was gathered under the theme of *All Are Called*. We issued three very powerful Actions of Immediate Witness to stop the criminalization of so many in our communities. Here are three ways to move forward on the commitments we made at General Assembly:

End Family Separation and Detention of Asylum Seekers and Abolish ICE

The Love Resists campaign is working closely with UU Refugee and Immigrant Services and Education (UURISE) and Mijente to stop the criminalization of migrants and to abolish Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). You can [take action here](#).

Dismantle Predatory Medical Care Practices in Prisons and End Prisons for Profit

The Church of the Larger Fellowship Prison Ministry Network, with support from Allies for Racial Equity, has been supporting the US Prison Strike that concluded on September 9, with a call from those imprisoned to support their demands. [Learn about the movement and what you can do to support it here](#).

We Are All Related: Solidarity NOW with Indigenous Water Protectors

This AIW honors the Indigenous-led Water Protector movement and calls on UUs everywhere to engage in continued solidarity. It was co-crafted by the Water Protectors who are facing federal imprisonment.

MINUTES FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[DRAFT Minutes \(PDF\)](#); final minutes will be adopted by the UUA Board of Trustees in October.

To learn more, please speak to Elizabeth Robinson or Tommie Magazu, this year's GA delegates.



JAMES LIBRARY AND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Friday, October 12
10-3 pm

Norwell Historic House Tour

\$30 in advance/\$35 day of ticket

A limited number of free senior tickets are available, courtesy of the Cordelia Family Foundation

Sunday, October 21

3 pm

Weekend Classics: Calyx Trio Concert and Reception

\$35 General Admission/\$30 Senior/\$20 Student

Sunday, October 28

3 pm

Norwell Historical Society Annual Meeting featuring actress Janet Parnes as First Lady Dolley Madison. FREE

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.jameslibrary.org or call 781-659-7100.

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

PoemJazz

With Robert Pinsky, US Poet Laureate and Laurence Hobson, jazz pianist

Sunday, October 14 at 4:30 pm

Old Ship Meetinghouse
90 Main Street, Hingham

Post-event reception in Ames Chapel

12 South Street, Hingham

\$25 adult/senior event only

\$10 student event only

\$50 adult/senior event and reception

\$20 student event and reception

Tickets available in advance at www.oldshipfriends.org and at the door.

Reception limited to 100 guests.

OCTOBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>For more information on any of the events at the James Library, please visit www.jameslibrary.org or call them at 781-659-7100</p>			<p>3 Alliance Board, FP 10 am Book Group, FP 7 pm Dancers, PH 7-9 pm</p>	<p>4 Choir, Sky. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>5 Trumpet Lessons (JM), PH 3-7 pm</p>	<p>6 Private rental, PH (evening)</p>
<p>7 Handchime Choir, Sky. 9:30-9:50 am Morning Svc. & Church School 10 am Coffee Hr., PH 11 am Activities Comm., Ofc. 11:30 am Membership Comm. Ofc. 11:30 am Private Rental, PH 2-5 pm</p>	<p>8 AA, PH 8:30 pm</p>	<p>9 Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am Knitters, FP 9:30 am Pastoral Care Team, Sky. 12 pm Dancers, PH 7:30-8:30 pm</p>	<p>10 iSpi deadline, 9 am Community Dinner, PH & Kit. 4-6:45 pm Dancers, PH 7-9 pm</p>	<p>11 Minister's Meeting, FP 9 am-12 pm Choir, Sky. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>12 Trumpet Lessons (JM), PH 3-7 pm</p>	<p>13 Scrapbookers (MO), PH 4-11 pm</p>
<p>14 Handchime Choir, Sky. 9:30-9:50 am Morning Service & Church School 10 am Coffee Hour, PH 11 am Svc. Comm., FP 11:30 am</p>	<p>15 AA, PH 8:30 pm</p>	<p>16 Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am Knitters, FP 9:30 am Church Council 6:30-8:30 pm</p>	<p>17 iSpi deadline 9 am Alliance Book review, FP 10 am Dancers, PH 7-9 pm</p>	<p>18 Choir, Sky. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>19 Trumpet Lessons (JM), PH 3-7 pm</p>	<p>20 Halloween Potluck, PH 5-8 pm </p>
<p>21 Handchime Choir, Sky. 9:30-9:50 am Morning Service & Church School 10 am Coffee Hour, PH 11 am Special Parish Mtg., MH 11:30 am</p>	<p>22 AA, PH 8:30 pm</p>	<p>23 Tai Chi, Sky. 9:15 am Knitters, FP 9:30 am Dancers, PH 7:30-8:30 pm Parish Comm., FP 7 pm</p>	<p>24 iSpi deadline 9 am Dancers, PH 7-9 pm</p>	<p>25 Staff Meeting, Ofc. 10:30 am Choir, Sky. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>26 Trumpet Lessons (JM), PH 3-7 pm</p>	<p>27 Private Rental, PH 3-11 pm</p>
<p>28 Handchime Choir, Sky. 9:30-9:50 am Morning Svc. & Church School 10 am Coffee Hr. PH 11 am Finance Comm., Ofc. 11:30 am</p>	<p>29 AA, PH 8:30 pm</p>	<p>30 Tai Chi, Sky. 9:15 am Knitters, FP 9:30 am Dancers, PH 7:30-8:30 pm</p>	<p>31 Alliance Board, FP 10 am iSpi deadline 9 am Dancers, PH 7-9 pm</p>	<p>1 Choir, Sky. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>2 Trumpet Lessons (JM), PH 3-7 pm</p>	<p>3 Scrapbookers (MO), PH 4-11 pm</p>

