

# The Spire

The Newsletter of  
First Parish of Norwell

24 River Street

P.O. Box 152

Norwell, Massachusetts 02061

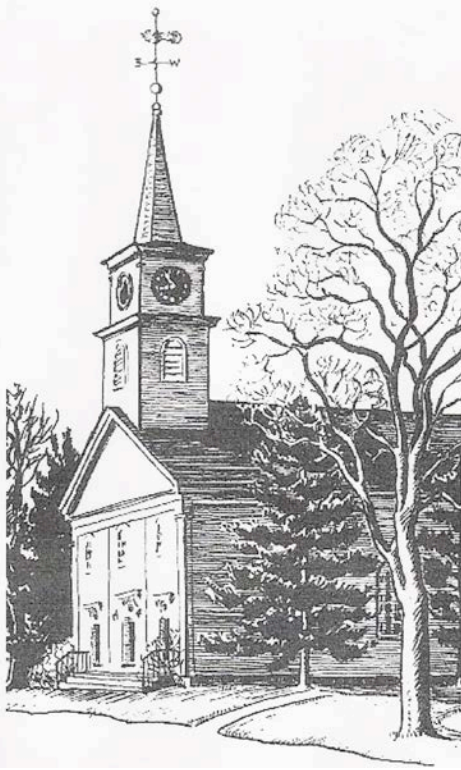
phone 781-659-7122

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June 8, 2016

Volume XIV, Issue 14

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



**Sunday Services - 10:00 am**

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry preaching  
unless otherwise indicated

June 12:        **Flower Communion**

**BRING A FLOWER** to share for our Flower Communion service. We'll also welcome new members and gratefully receive money for our sister church in Transylvania as our last Outreach Sunday of the year.

June 19:        **Our Larger Faith**

As Rev. Lise and our delegates, Elizabeth Robinson and Alex Gordon, prepare to go to General Assembly, we'll discuss the importance of being part of our larger community and some of the ideals that went into creating this larger body of Unitarian Universalism. Plan to stay for the RE picnic after the service!

June 26: **General Assembly Live!** (sort of...)

The last service of General Assembly in Columbus, OH will be streaming live and it will be set up in the Parish Hall to be viewed. Note that this service will start at **10:30 am**.

*Please see our summer  
worship schedule on page 5!*

An emailed mini-newsletter is sent out three times per month during the church year via Constant Contact. Additionally, the Church Office sends occasional all-church email "blasts" to remind the church community of upcoming events or late-breaking church news. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, or if your email address has changed recently, please take a moment to email Hope in the Church Office at [office@firstparishnorwell.org](mailto:office@firstparishnorwell.org). We also send out mailings several times per year via US Mail; please let us know if your mailing address changes.

**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)

**Minister:**

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, x11

[lsherry@uuma.org](mailto:lsherry@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 2015-2016:**

**Co-Chairs:** Jim Pickel and Deanna Riley

**Members:** Noel Constantino, Sue Keady, Mary Nickerson, Elizabeth Robey and Les Taylor

**Treasurer:** Marta Reese

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

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

## LISE'S LETTER



I want to chat with you all about our Facebook page and my summer plans but before that... Happy June! Spring/summer has finally arrived and it's wonderful, isn't it? Everything is so green and lush. I hope we all

get lots of time to enjoy our beautiful surroundings this summer. Our summer services will offer some opportunities to enjoy the nature around us (see the summer services line-up on page 5) as well as time to be in community in the midst of all our busy summer plans.

**Summer Plans:** My first trip this summer will be to attend Ministry Days and General Assembly (GA) in Columbus, Ohio from June 20-26. Then I'll be going back to Oregon for a few weeks in July to see family, spend a couple of days on the Oregon coast, and pack my step-dad up to come live with us in Norwell. Many of you met him (Orvis Tilby) at my installation last November and I know he enjoyed meeting you all and seeing what I'm up to here. My family and I also hope to explore some of our northern neighboring states a little more. When I'm gone, we'll be sure to let you know who you can contact for pastoral care if needed. Most of August will be my reading month for preparation for the coming year (Our second together!! Can you believe it?), but I'll be in and around town if you need to get hold of me.

**Facebook:** History tells me that Rev. Vicki set up our Facebook before she left, and since that time it has been used to record events in our congregational life as well as educate us about what's going on in the larger UU world. A majority of this work was done by Bev Gardner (thank you, Bev!) and in the fall I started adding posts as well. Julian and the RE (religious education) Committee were also getting more involved, so about a month ago we decided to have a Social Media meeting



facilitated by Deanna Riley and attended by me, Julian, Amanda Metzger and Bev Gardner. At that meeting we decided a variety of things:

- Our purpose would be to use Facebook as a communication tool for our congregation and the larger world (thinking about First Parish's goal of wanting to be a larger presence in the wider community).
- We assigned days for posting to various people along with general topics so we would cover general events, RE, Minister's Choice, the larger UU community, and the posting of our iSpi.
- We decided on a couple of format issues—we would try to post 1-5 pictures/graphic images along with any announcements since pictures attract attention and we would start "photo albums" at another place on our page to collect any other photos and so that our congregation would have the chance to see all of our children and events in fuller detail. (Who doesn't like to see photos of their family and friends?)
- We also decided that we would tag folks, with the option to "opt out" because that would give our Facebook a wider viewing.

And then . . . many in our congregation let us know that they did not want to be tagged. A few didn't want to have their photos on Facebook either, and we know this is not allowed for foster children in our midst. So we started a list of those folks, and when we saw how long that list was getting, we re-evaluated. As a result, *there will be no more tagging on Facebook*. The people have spoken and we listened. ☺ We are still keeping the list of those who wanted to "opt out" of being in photos on Facebook and if you'd like to add your name to that list, please contact Hope in our office. Oh, and one more thing. If you want to look at our Facebook page but don't have a Facebook account yourself, there's a link in the top right corner of our home page on the church's website at [www.firstparishnorwell.org](http://www.firstparishnorwell.org). Just click on the little "f" and you'll have access.

Finally, thank you all for a wonderful first year here at First Parish of Norwell, Unitarian

Universalist. I'm definitely enjoying our shared ministry and looking forward to the many years to come.

Love, Lise



## CARING CORNER

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).



## SPIRE NEWS

This is the final Spire issue of the regular church year. The deadline for the summer edition of the Spire is **Monday, August 22**. The regular publication schedule will resume in the fall; the first deadline of the 2016-2017 church year will be **Monday, September 12**. There will be a limited iSpi schedule over the summer. iSpi's will be sent on: **June 16 and 22, July 6 and 20, August 10 and September 8**. The iSpi deadlines will be 9 am *sharp* that morning.



## FROM THE BOOKKEEPER

Please forward any receipts needing reimbursement to Donna McDonald in the Church Office by **Friday, June 24**. This will allow her to close out our fiscal year in a timely manner. Contact her with any questions at [donna@firstparishnorwell.org](mailto:donna@firstparishnorwell.org) or 781-659-7122.

## HOW TO “COMMITTEE”!



You may have recently noticed the eastern wall of the Parish Hall, near the kitchen, has been enhanced with the addition of the many committees that exist at FPNUU. Committee

names, current members and group photos are beautifully presented, and we thank Mary Nickerson for all her hard work in putting this large project together. Each year, we will look to keep this information updated for our church members and friends.

At our recently held Annual Parish Meeting, we approved the slate recommended by our Nominating Committee for all eight Elected Committees and five administrative positions. In addition, we have a number of Standing Committees that do not require being elected... or even being a church member for that matter!

Our Standing Committees are as follows:

- Activities Committee
- Alliance
- Buildings and Grounds
- Capital Improvement
- Committee on Shared Ministry
- Legacy Gifts
- Membership
- Music
- Partner Church Council
- Pastoral Care
- Personnel
- Religious Education
- Helen Fogg Service (Outreach)
- Worship

Should you wish to explore any of these committees and acquire more information, please feel free to contact Hope in the Church Office who will be happy to help direct you to the appropriate point person. As we close out our current church year this month, new committee members will certainly be

welcomed at any time as we head into our exciting, upcoming 375<sup>th</sup> year at First Parish of Norwell. Thank you!

## LOST AND FOUND



Please check the lost and found bin, located outside the Parish Hall, as well as the clothing on the hooks in the hall way. Items not claimed by the end of the church year will be disposed of appropriately.



## CHURCH OFFICE SCHEDULE

The Church Office will close at 11:30 am on **Thursday, June 16** for an offsite staff lunch. **Wednesday, June 22** will be the last day of the regular church year. After that, Hope and Donna will be in one morning per week - usually Wednesdays. They will typically arrive by 9:00 am, and will be in for just a couple of hours. They will not be responding remotely to voice mails and emails. You are encouraged to call or email ahead to make sure they are here. The Church Office will reopen on **Wednesday, September 7**.



## FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT IS BACK!

The annual First Parish bowling night will be held on **Saturday, June 11** from 7 - 8pm. This is a fun event for ALL ages, including young kids. Join in the fun of candlepin bowling at Boston Bowl in on route 139 in Hanover, just west of route 53 and the CVS. The cost for bowlers, including bowling shoes, is a flat \$9 per person. Please RSVP to Les Taylor at 781-837-2929 or [lestaylor@me.com](mailto:lestaylor@me.com).

## MEDITATION GROUP



The next meditation classes will be **Tuesday, June 14 and 28** from 7-8:30 pm. During the warm summer months, the group will be meeting in the Fogg Parlor.

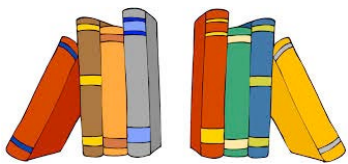
This group will provide a calm, supportive space where we can breathe, center ourselves, and practice being in the present. All levels of meditators are welcome; feel free to bring friends and acquaintances who don't come to First Parish. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Lise at [lsherry@uuma.org](mailto:lsherry@uuma.org).



## LIVE MUSIC AT FPN!

Join us for the UU Coffeehouse on **Saturday, August 6**. Seasoned professionals and music

enthusiasts alike will entertain you while raising money to upgrade the Parish Hall sound system. Dessert and awesome coffee will be provided. Baby/child care is available and included in the ticket price for anyone wanting a romantic evening out. Please contact Clayton Handleman at <mailto:enoch1680@thehandlemans.org> for additional information. The event website is: <http://enoch1680.wix.com/fpncoffeehouse>



## BOOK GROUP

If you're looking for some good summer reading, add these books to your list and come join in our FPN book discussions!! Everyone is welcome to come to any or all of the discussions the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Fogg Parlor.

**Wednesday, August 3:** The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid by Bill Bryson

This is a "...a deeply funny new memoir of growing up in the curious world of the 1950's" by the author of A Walk in the Woods. Nostalgic for those born before 1950,

and a slice of American social history for those born later.

**Wednesday, September 7:** Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf

"...a low-key, evocative short novel about the pursuit of happiness, second chances and, perhaps most importantly, about our deep emotional need of companionship and intimacy". You can read this short novel in one or two sittings -- a good book to begin the church year.

**Wednesday, October 5:** The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

This book "celebrates the 1936 men's Olympic 8-oar rowing team -- 9 working class boys from the University of Washington who stormed the rowing world, transformed the sport and galvanized the attention of millions of Americans. In an extraordinary race in Berlin they stunned the Aryan sons of the Nazi state as they rowed for gold in front of Adolf Hitler." You don't have to know or love rowing to be enthralled by this book!



## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE - SUNDAYS AT 9 AM

July 3: *Our Unsung Freedom Fighters* with Rev.

Lise

We all know about Paul Revere and the men at the Continental Congress, but there's also much more to our history. Come celebrate others who helped make our country great.

July 10: *Schweitzer, Mercy Ships and Social Justice* with Peg Kitchenham

Peg reminisces on her life and the influences that shaped her.

July 17: *Fresh Air and Fellowship* with Shastin Garland

Meet at the church, go for a walk in Norris Reservation and return for conversation at the Parish Hall.

July 24: *An Origin Story* with David Turner

Why was the church gathered in 1642? Is it relevant today? What is it?

July 31: *The Annual First Parish Regatta*

Our annual boat trip on the North River at **10 am**. Please see the full article on page 7 for more information.

August 7: *Fresh Air and Fellowship* with Betsy Gordon

Meet at Norris Reservation parking lot at 9 am. We'll leave promptly on a walk through Norris Reservation to the Gordon's house where there will be music provided by Alex along with refreshments. We'll return on foot through Reservation to Norris parking lot. Expect to be back about 10:30 am. If raining, come directly to their house at 9:00 for music, refreshments and fellowship. If weather is uncertain, check to see if Betsy is waiting at the Norris parking lot for you. If not, continue to the Gordon home at 111 Chittenden Lane, Norwell.

August 14: *TBA* with Deanna Riley and Mary Mercier

August 21: *Cemetery Lore* with Joanne Howard

Meet at the church, ready to learn lots about Norwell's ancestors. Joanne will take us through the First Parish cemetery and we'll return to the Parish Hall for more conversation and drinks.

August 28: *TBA* with Rev. Lise

September 4: *Potluck breakfast and church clean up*

On **Sunday, June 12**, remember to bring a flower to the worship service for Flower Communion!



## FROM THE DRE

Hello, First Parish!

This church year has flown by, but we still have some great things going on in our last few weeks before Summer Services. This year has been filled with learning, service projects, laughter, and spiritual discovery, and I am delighted to have shared it with you all.

First off, I want to thank everyone who was volunteered to teach in September. There has been such a great response, that we have been able to assign a rotation of 3 teachers to nearly every Sunday School class. This allows us our teachers to attend more of the Sunday morning services, and feed their spiritual selves. We still have a couple of slots left for substitute teachers, and we can always use more people interested in leading mini-sessions however, so if you'd like to volunteer with the children of our congregation, please contact me.

For the High School youth of our congregation, our Youth Group will continue to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of June, and the group would also like to welcome our incoming Youth Group members (those who will be in 9<sup>th</sup> grade or higher in September) to their Year End Celebration on **Sunday, June 26** after the General Assembly worship service. If your child is going into the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, or if they have not attended Youth Group yet, this is the perfect way to jump in and meet the rest of our incredible FPN youth!

For adults, our Spirit of Life program will continue on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> **Wednesdays at 7:00 pm** in June before going on hiatus for the summer. Our next session is titled "Move in the Hand: Living our Spirituality in our Day-to-Day Lives". This has been a great class, and we hope to see you there!

One of our focuses for next year in the RE program is to build up our programs for adults further. To this end, Julian will be leading two different longer form classes, and we are

also looking for people who are passionate about different topics to lead one-off classes on passions of theirs. For example, this year Bob Sutter ran a class on the indigenous art of native people in Alaska and northern Canada. We know that the knowledge of our church community is incredibly vast, and we would love to bring more of these passions out to our community. If you have a topic you are interested in leading a 1-2 hour class on, please contact me at [JulianBaptistaMusic@gmail.com](mailto:JulianBaptistaMusic@gmail.com).

Thank you all for another wonderful year at First Parish of Norwell. I'm looking forward to everything in our last month, and I can't wait to see you all at church!

Julian Baptista  
Director of Religious Education



**YA GOTTA  
REGATTA!**  
**Sunday, July 31 at  
10:00 am**

Don't miss this year's family day on the north river or the pizza party in the evening! We'll have our church fellowship on the North River on **Sunday, July 31**, followed by a late afternoon pizza party at the home of Peter and Roberta Fairbanks. Both parts of the day are for all ages. Here are the specifics:

9:45 am: Meet at the Bridge Street/Union Street canoe launch on the Marshfield side of the river. Bring your canoe or kayak and a picnic lunch. (Don't forget paddles, life preservers, and sunblock!)

10:00 am: Leave the canoe launch and paddle upstream to the picnic and swimming beach at the Couch property in Marshfield. We'll be going WITH the tide- much easier and more fun!!

11:30 am - 12:30 pm (estimated): Swim and picnic at the Couch property. We'll leave when the tide turns.

12:30 or 1:00 pm: Start back WITH the tide. *Optional: Stop at the home of Ralph and Betsy Gordon (short break, beautiful location, bathroom available).* Return to the canoe launch and your car. Take a few hours to relax at home, then come to the Pizza Party.

5:00 pm: Family pizza party at the home of Peter and Roberta Fairbanks (1243 Union Street, Marshfield). Bring \$5.00 per person for pizza and an appetizer or dessert to share. There is a lovely swimming pool (a favorite of the children) and a gorgeous view of the River. Be sure to get directions to the Fairbanks home!

If you need to borrow a canoe or kayak, we may be able to find one for you. And if you don't feel comfortable in a canoe or kayak, we will try to find space for you on a pontoon boat. Pontoon seats are limited, though, so call Marcia or Scott Babcock (781-659-2956) soon to reserve your space. If you have a canoe or kayak to loan or plan to bring a pontoon or motor boat that can take extra people, please let Marcia or Scott know, too.



**...AND ANOTHER  
REGATTA!**

First Parish Bridgewater UU is planning a canoe/kayak trip **Saturday, July 16** on the North River and would like to invite anyone from First Parish Norwell to join us. We'll be leaving from the Marshfield canoe launch off of Union Street at 10:00 am, paddling with the tide to Couch Beach for picnicking and swimming, and returning with the outgoing tide several hours later. This could be a great chance for the two congregations to get to know one another and for the Norwell folks to get a little practice for their own upcoming river trip a few weeks later. For more information, please contact Jon Babcock (son of Norwell's Scott and Marcia Babcock) at [jonbab2112@gmail.com](mailto:jonbab2112@gmail.com).



## JAMES LIBRARY AND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

In the Gallery: Artist Judy Quinn at the James

Free opening reception on **Saturday, June 11** from 5-7 pm; on view June 11 - July 5

Judy's current work deals with an abstract idea of the currents, forces and energy that move around the earth. Be it oceanic gyres, typhoons, winds, rivers, fish shoaling, birds flocking, leaves falling; everything feels a pulse and a rhythm. She has tried to depict this feeling of involuntary movement, natural flow that affects living creatures everywhere. It may even be a metaphor for human flight and the change in global weather patterns. She tries for a minimalist approach, using repetitive marks that build upon each other and flow around the painted ground. Some mimic shoaling fish or bird flight. Some seem more aboriginal and earthbound. For more information on the artist, please visit <http://judyquinn.com/>.

For more information on the James Library, please call 781-659-7100 or visit [www.jameslibrary.org](http://www.jameslibrary.org).

shipped to the church. The goal is to hand deliver them at church on opening Sunday. All orders will need to be placed by **Thursday, August 18** in order to secure the great price break and to arrive on time.

So look over all the choices (don't miss the sizing info with each style), make your selections for you (and your family), pay, and we will do the rest. If you need help in ordering or have any other questions, contact Lindsey Houston [lindseymosson@hotmail.com](mailto:lindseymosson@hotmail.com).



## 375<sup>TH</sup> COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES T-SHIRT PLANS!

Show pride in our church and help celebrate our 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a special First Parish t-shirt! Please follow this link to order:

<https://www.customink.com/g/aza0-00ak-ff5h>

You'll see that we have several fun colors and styles to choose from, all with our anniversary logo on the front and a Unitarian Universalist slogan on the back. All orders will be paid for individually online and then will be group





CALENDAR  
June 2016

| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | MONDAY                                                                                                                                                           | TUESDAY                                                                                                                                                                             | WEDNESDAY                                                      | THURSDAY                                                                          | FRIDAY | SATURDAY                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                     | 8<br>Adult RE, FP 7 pm                                         | 9<br>Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm                                               | 10     | 11<br>Family Bowling Night, 7 pm @ Boston Bowl, Hanover |
| 12<br><b>Outreach Sunday</b><br>Morning Service & Church School 10 am<br><br>Coffee Hour, PH 11 am<br><br>375 <sup>th</sup> Comm., FP 11:30 am<br><br>Piano Recital, PH 2 pm<br><br>Worship Comm., 2:30 pm @ Pickel's<br><br>Young Adult Group, FP 7 pm | 13<br><br>AA, PH 8:30 pm                                                                                                                                         | 14<br><br>Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am<br><br>Knitters, FP 9:30 am<br><br>Meditation Group, FP 7 pm<br><br> | 15                                                             | 16<br><br>Church Office closing at 11:30 am<br><br>Choir Rehearsal, Sky., 7:30 pm | 17     | 18<br><br>Scrapbookers, PH 10 am-11 pm                  |
| 19<br><br>Morning Service & Church School 10 am<br><br>RE Picnic 11 am<br><br><br><br>Service Comm., FP 11:30 am<br><br>Young Adult Group, FP 7 pm                    | 20<br><br><br><br><i>Software updates in the office</i><br><br>AA, PH 8:30 pm | 21<br><br>Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am<br><br>Knitters, FP 9:30 am<br><br>Parish Comm., FP 7 pm                                                                                              | 22<br><br><b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSES</b><br><br>Adult RE, FP 7 pm | 23                                                                                | 24     | 25                                                      |
| 25<br>Live stream of GA Worship Svc., PH 11:30 am<br><br>Youth Group Party, FP & Kit., 1-3 pm<br><br>Young Adult Group, FP 7 pm                                                                                                                         | 27<br><br>AA, PH 8:30 pm                                                                                                                                         | 28<br><br>Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am<br><br>Knitters, FP 9:30 am<br><br>Meditation Group, FP 7 pm                                                                                          | 29                                                             | 30                                                                                |        |                                                         |