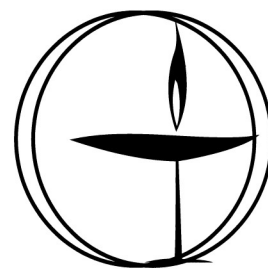


BRIDGING



Newsletter of the First Parish Church, Bridgewater, MA, Unitarian Universalist

November 2013

Highlights

10/5/13
8pm Off the Common
Coffee House at FP

10/6/13
10:30am "Join the
Move" w/Rev. Anita

10/13/13
10:30am "What a Jour-
ney We Are on To-
gether!" Rev. Joanne
Giannino

10/15/13
UU Classes at FP

10/16/13
2:30-9pm Photo shoot
for First Parish direc-
tory

10/20/13
10:30am Worship with
Rev. Anita

10/22/13
UU Classes at FP

10/27/13
10:30am "Lessons
from Costa Rica"
Kelsey Baumgarten

10/29/13
UU Classes at FP

From the Minister

***Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out
how far one can go.*** - T. S. Eliot

In our part of the world, at this turning of the year, the universe demands that we make plans. Bear and chipmunk put up stores for the winter. Trees prepare to drop their leaves in anticipation of making the most of winter's time. And we have started up church in earnest.

I love it. We have stretched out our arms to gather in life, and hold it in all its wonder and complexity. Life in covenanted community is rich, sustaining, and ours. The photo directory, still in the making is one example. We said we wanted everyone, member, friend, occasional participant, to step into the photo shoot, and get included. And you did. So much so that we had to add another day for photo sessions in October. Please go to the church website to sign up if you have not had your picture taken already.

Circle Dinners are on the calendar for October so we can gather together in informal intimate environments for food, fun and conversation. You can sign up as a host or as a participant.

But we are seeking to stretch out even farther than to those already in our circle, wide as it may be. This is a time of reflection that is necessary preparation for the great reaching out (much as the maple must pull in starch in winter to convert to sugar that will run in the spring). You have just received a survey from the Ministerial Search Committee inviting you to think deeply about who we are as a community and who and where you are in relation to it, your dreams and aspirations for your future together. Fill it out thoughtfully.

We will be spending time this year thinking about who we are and how better to be the congregation we wish to be. What kinds of promises are we making to each other? What does it mean to be a covenanted community- a people of promises? What does it mean to be a people of dreams? Visions? Aspirations shared and risks as well?

***Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find
out how far one can go.***

Let us risk together, risk our hopes, our hearts, our treasured community, in the service of the greater call, the deeper journey. Let us find out just how far it is that we can go.

***Autumnal blessings,
Rev. Anita***

Minister

Rev. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson
 anitafr@comcast.net
 617-257-5854

Directory of Religious Ed

Victoria Capon
 dre.bridgewater@gmail.com

Parish Committee

President: Bob Messing
 rmessing@massbankers.org
 508-378-3340

Vice President: Sam Baumgarten
 sbaumgarten@verizon.net
 508-697-6848

Treasurer: Stefan Michaud
 spmicha@verizon.net
 (508) 946-5684

Clerk: Susan Irish
 eirish2@aol.com
 508-378-2906

Members at Large: Pat Hart
 Gordon Hatfield
 Jan Thompson

Church Sexton / Building Rental

Tom St. Thomas: 508-697-8637

Choir Director/Pianist

Denise Haskins
 denisehaskins@comcast.net

Tone Chimes Choir Director

Lisa Rue
 508-378-8359,
 lisa_rue80@yahoo.com

Religious Education Committee

Chair: Korin Zigler
 Laurie Lessner
 Peter Jacobson

Community Minister

Rev. Rachel Tedesco
 revrayted@comcast.com
 508-378-3904

Social Justice Committee

Convener: Betty Gilson
 gillyflower@verizon.net
 774-226-0942

Membership Committee

Chair: Jan Thompson
 redrubberball@verizon.net
 508-697-2492

Green Sanctuary Committee

Chair: Eileen Hiney
 fryleen@verizon.net
 508-279-3955

First Principle Project

Convener: Betty Gilson
 gillyflower@verizon.net
 774-226-0942

Facilities Committee

Chair: Frank Yeatman
 Fryleen@verizon.net
 508-279-3955

Office Administrator

Jamie Doulette
 firstparishbridgewater@hotmail.com
 508-697-8229

October Worship Services

Sundays at 10:30am

October 6 – “Join the Move” – Rev. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson. Exciting news about what’s going in with the UUA. It’s more than about the building.

October 13 – “What a Journey We Are on Together!” – Rev. Joanne Giannino. A reflection on a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

October 20 – Worship with Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson

October 27 – Green Sanctuary Service—What is Sustainability? Lessons from Costa Rica, with Kelsey Baumgarten

Ushers for the Month:

October 6 – Debbi & Sam Baumgarten

October 13 – Frank Baxter & Ellen Crompton

October 20 – Karen Cruz & Sonia D’Alarcao

October 27 – Vernon Domingo & Jenny Donahue

Note: If you are unable to usher that morning, we request that you find a substitute. If unable to do so, please notify Tom St. Thomas or Rev. Rachel Tedesco.

The Worship Committee Meetings:

The next regular meeting of the Worship Committee is scheduled for Thursday, October 17 in the Church Office. You are cordially invited to attend and share your ideas about worship... or simply observe. We will also be meeting briefly with Lay Worship Leaders after the October 20 service.

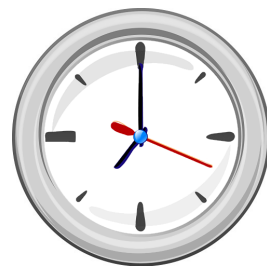
Committee Members: Rev. Rachel Tedesco, Chair; Denise Haskins, Stefan Michaud, David Page, Tom St. Thomas, Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson, Advisor.

MINISTER’S OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Anita is on site in Bridgewater on the second, third, and fourth Tuesday and Thursday of every month and the first and third Sundays of every month. On the first **full** week of the month, Rev. Anita is off.

All regular business should be handled after the first full week of the month. Emergencies of course come up, and she understands that.

Your help in protecting her time is appreciated.



Experiences in the woods of NH and back country of CA, and finding myself again:

By Victoria Capon

This summer my husband and I were back packing in Henry Coe State Park, a large reserve about an hour south east of San Jose. I wanted a back country experience and got it! It was challenging, amazing, quiet, inspiring. All my senses were awakened to the rolling golden hills, the smells of the creosote and manzanita bushes, madrone and Douglas fir trees baking in the hot sun. Then with the feeling of being watched and later finding out after we returned to park headquarters, that the park probably supports 14 mountain lions that roam and hunt on its 87,000 acres. We saw mule deer, a gang of turkeys, a 3+ foot californian king snake, 4 turtles and school of pike from very small to at least a foot long in a very small and quickly evaporating pond, that in the spring, was part of a river.

On this coast, visiting with my step Dad in Peterborough NH recently, I took a walk in the woods, exploring a new path to Pack Monadnock. It is a path that I had wished for in earlier years...being able to access Miller State Park from down town Peterborough without having to drive.

While I was exploring this trail I came upon a vulture doing his job on a newly dead porcupine, we startled one another and he flew off leaving the porcupine in the middle of the path. I heard many song birds and startled a few chipmunks, I saw turkey tracks. I collected trash left by people who had been fishing by a pond I passed. I did not make it to the top, I wanted to get back before dark, but I enjoyed my time in the woods with out having a goal.

As I was on my return walk I was thinking about my life in general, past and present. I realized that my life is like walking in the woods, some times there is a very clear path, I know where I will plant my foot next and where I am going. Other times if there is a path it is very subtle, or to my eyes, not there, no path at all! Some times I have had to blaze a path and other times just pay very close attention or I will stray, get lost for a time and then with more attention find my way again. Communing with and finding my self in nature has always been a spiritual experience for me no matter what is happening in my life.

Greetings from the desk of your new Acting DRE, we are getting off to an exciting start with a very active RE committee and 18 children registered for children's RE classes so far. We have many more children that need to be registered and quite a few teaching slots that still need to be filled. Let's all pull together and make this a year of investing our selves in the future of Unitarian Universalism and the future of our world, our children!

There is a very exciting event happening in New Bedford, Oct 25th - 27th. The 9th Annual Connecting for Change: A Bioneers by the Bay Conference. There is a sliding scale this year making it accessible to all. This event draws people from all over the U.S. and beyond. **Paul Winters** will be performing his new work "Flyways" Friday night, register now at: <http://www.marioninstitute.org/connecting-for-change>

The UU General Assembly annual meeting that happens the third week in June is being held in Providence RI in 2014! We are close enough that we could take a very active role in this inspiring and potentially life changing experience for many people. It is a very powerful feeling being with thousands of other UUs, meeting new friends and connecting with old ones. Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process.

GA is a powerful experience for youth, meeting other UU youth from all over the country, and participating in the Youth Caucus, learn more at <http://www.uua.org/re/youth/events/gacaucus/> And right now they are looking for youth media volunteers! <http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid/14930.shtml> We are close enough that we could offer home hospitality, volunteer in exchange for the cost of registration, submit proposals for programing, or be part of the musical leadership. Being involved in GA 2014 is a wonderful way to meet and get to know other UUs form all over the country! What say you?

Peace, Victoria Capon

CLASSES IN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

TUESDAYS, OCTOBER 15, 22 & 29

Whether you're new to Unitarian Universalism or have been a member or friend of First Parish for many years, you're invited to attend Classes in Unitarian Universalism offered by Rev. Anita and various lay leaders of First Parish Bridgewater.

This is a three session course designed for people who are interested in exploring their journey and learning about Unitarian Universalism, the historical, the contemporary and the practical (here at First Parish.)

It will offer a chance for those of you who are new to the faith or the congregation to get grounded, get your questions answered, and have some time with the minister. For those of you who have been here for some time, it will give you a chance to further explore your faith and share your experience with others.



THE CLASSES WILL RUN FOR 3 TUESDAYS: OCTOBER 15, 22 and 29

The first class will focus on our own personal spiritual journeys. The second will focus on the historical and contemporary significance of the Unitarian Universalist faith. The third class will be a practical discussion of how our own church, First Parish, works and what it takes to keep it going. At the end of the third class there will be an opportunity for newcomers to join the church by signing the First Parish Register if they choose to do so.

If you are interested please contact Jan Thompson JaniceThompson22@comcast.net (508) 697-2492 or Rev. Anita through the church office. This is a great pathway to membership, and should you decide to join upon completion of the course, you will have the opportunity to share in our celebration and welcome of New Members on a date yet to be determined.

TONE CHIMES

The Ringers will meet to practice and play the service Prelude on October 6th at 9:30. New members are welcome and no experience is necessary, except the ability to read from left to right. Please contact Lisa Rue at 508/378-8359 or lisa_rue80@yahoo.com in advance, if you are planning to come, so that music can be arranged for those playing. Also, if new, arrival at 9:00 to practice reading the rhythm symbols is recommended. Just let me know! :)

From the Ministerial Search Committee

HAVE YOU TAKEN THE SURVEY ON MINISTERIAL SEARCH YET?

The Search Committee's primary objective is to find a settled minister who is the best fit for our congregation. But we can't do that alone – we need your input! We will be seeking your views and suggestions in a variety of ways during the search process. One of the first ways for you to make your voice heard is by completing a survey designed to help us get a sense of what First Parish wants in a settled minister.

If you have already completed the survey – Thank You, we greatly appreciate your participation in the search process.

IF YOU HAVE NOT TAKEN THE SURVEY, YOU MUST DO SO BY October 14, 2013. We know how important to you the selection of our next settled minister is. Don't miss this opportunity to express your thoughts. You may:

1. **Complete an on-line survey** at <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1331034/Congregational-Survey-for-Ministerial-Search>; or
2. **Complete a paper copy** of the survey. Copies will be available in the Upper Parish Hall.
3. **OR, speak to any member of the Committee** individually. A Search Committee member would be happy to help you complete an on-line or paper version of the survey, or to talk with you if you would like to discuss the survey questions.

(Because we will have a lot of data and ideas to tabulate and process, the preferred method is the on-line survey.)

The survey will provoke some deep thinking on your part about what you value and what you seek in the next minister. **NOTE: Once you begin the on-line survey you will not be able to save and close it to return to it later. If you close it, you will lose the responses you have made.** So please plan some quiet time to complete this important task. It will take about 30 - 45 minutes to answer all the questions.

A special note to parents: We really do want everyone's input, including the children and youth. Their voices are important and deserve to be heard. Please use common sense as to whether your child has the ability to complete the survey or not. If they are unable to do the survey but have some input to contribute please encourage them to speak to a member of the Ministerial Search Committee. We would be happy to hear their thoughts.

October 14, 2013 is an absolute deadline as we will be including a summary of the data in information we will make available to potential candidates in late October

Thank you for being a part of the selection process.

The Search Committee: Sonia D'Alarcao~Kat Gillespie~Eileen Hiney~Quent Jarvis~David Tedesco~David Wilson~Alan Yabroud

First Parish People

My Path to Unitarian/Universalism

Faye George

Before I met Unitarianism I had already met Emerson, who had begun putting ideas in my head about trusting myself and not living after the world's opinion—or the Pope's: that nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind. And the day I stood up and walked out of Mass after hearing a priest condemn as "evil women" those whose unfortunate circumstances had forced upon them the difficult choice of abortion, I knew I had made an irrevocable decision. No doubt it was Emerson, father of American Unitarianism, who had nudged me out of my seat that Sunday.

I had by then learned about paradoxical logic from Alan Watts, exponent of Zen Buddhism, who pointed out the limitations a rigid Aristotelian way of conceptualizing placed upon the Western mind and its religious traditions. It was an insight that called into question most of what I'd learned by rote from my Baltimore Catechism.

During the days of our country's involvement in Vietnam I had met several UU peace activists, and came to realize how my own thinking seemed to coincide with their liberal positions on so many issues. Thus, when one of my UU friends suggested that I might find their church to my liking, I accepted the invitation to visit. I shall never forget reading and reciting for the first time those liberating words:

*Love is the doctrine of this church,
The quest of truth is its sacrament,
And service is its prayer. . . .*

The quest of truth—an epiphanic concept! This was no Baltimore Catechism!
To seek knowledge in freedom . . . I knew I'd found a home.

But let me say in qualification that I do not see myself as a "recovering Catholic." I shall always be grateful for the beauty, which despite all intellectual frustration is preserved in that tradition: in its art, music, and evocative ritual. Sadly, the rigid dogma that concretizes metaphor into canon law gets in the way of all that beauty. As the cultural anthropologist Joseph Campbell once said, "They don't know what they have." Or as the Zen koan puts it, "The finger pointing to the moon, is not the moon."

Having come to appreciate the difference, I can continue to appreciate the mystery, the devotional vehicle preserved in Roman, Anglican, and Orthodox traditions, while choosing to identify with the liberalism of Unitarian/Universalism, a faith predicated on the concept that truth cannot be imprisoned in absolutes, that it is always receding before us as a quest.

GREEN SANCTUARY TIP of the MONTH

The Green Sanctuary Committee would like to invite folks to join our community effort in serving as Stewards of the Earth. If you're interested in knowing more, please talk to members of the GSC: Bobbe Anderson, Debbie Baumgarten, Janet Dye, Pat Hart, Eileen Hiney, or Ginger Irish.

Consider buying fairly traded coffee, tea, chocolate and other snacks from small farmers to make a world of difference. First Parish along with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee has a partnership with Equal Exchange to promote long-term committed relationships with small farmers. Check out the EE interfaith web site, www.equalexchange.coop/our-partners. Please contact Janet Dye (dyedyeo7@gmail.com, 508-697-9663) if you're interested in any of the fair-trade items offered. She orders coffee and tea regularly and would be happy to add other items to her list for you. Check out the GSC bulletin board in the Parish Hall for more information.



A Young UU's Summer Experience

Over the first three weeks of July I attended the National Youth Justice Training offered by the UU College of Social Justice, a program dedicated to promoting interest in social justice and preparing teens to make a difference in the world. NYJT, partnered with The City School in Boston's Summer Leadership Program (SLP) teaches participants about racism, sexism, and other systems of power and how oppression is promoted within one's self and through the ideas, institutions, and people that make up our society. Both SLP and NYJT sought to do more than teach about oppression but encouraged action against it. Participants took direct action against injustices in Boston by attending youth rallies and other events, even organizing their own community actions in small groups. Participants in NYJT also learned about Unitarian Universalist philosophy and the importance of social justice work within it, and then saw UU ideas in action by going into Boston non profits as interns. Many of these non profits, such as the UU Association headquarters and the Boston New Sanctuary Movement were either UU organizations or interfaith organizations with heavy Unitarian presence. As an intern at the New Sanctuary Movement, I met people dedicated to advancing the status of undocumented immigrants and got to see first hand what it means to work in social justice on a day to day basis. NYJT youth also learned more about their own spirituality, not only by learning about UU history but by learning how to run their own services and learning personal spiritual practices such as meditation and writing. Through NYJT, participants were able to contribute in a meaningful way to the Boston community and learned skills to develop into people who can cause a positive impact in the world, and I'm grateful to the Ballou-Channing District which supported me in attending this great program.

Judith Foos

August 10, 2013

CIRCLE DINNER SIGN UP

Did you know that Circle Dinners are one of the best ways to get to know your fellow First Parishioners? Did you know that Susan Irish went to China last year? Or that Betty and Bob Gilson's daughter is named Thais because that's the name of the first violin piece Bob played for Betty when they were first dating? Or that Lisa Rue and Rob Waterman have a peacock named "Mr. Bill"? Or that Jan Thompson is a committed existentialist but admits she doesn't have a clue what that means?

You can find out these and many other interesting facts about your friends at First Parish by signing up to host or attend a Circle Dinner on Fridays and Saturdays October 18 & 19 and 25 & 26. Hosts of Circle Dinners provide the hospitality, appetizers and beverages while their guests bring the main dishes, salads and desserts.

If you would like to host or attend a Circle Dinner, please sign up on the sheets in the Upper Parish Hall. The host sign up is first and we'll have the guests sign up when we know who the hosts will be. You can also sign up by contacting Jan Thompson JaniceThompson22@comcast.net (508) 697-2492.



Off the Common Coffeehouse

*Located in the Upper Parish Hall at First Parish Church
50 School Street, Bridgewater*



November 2, 2013 at 8pm

Potluck dinner at 6:30pm

featuring

Chris & Meredith Thompson

with Heather Pierson

Coming Attractions

December 7—Hayley Reardon (w/ Shawn Taylor)

January 4—Girls, Guns and Glory (tickets \$15)

February 1—Greg Greenway

March 1—Riley Coyote (w/Stuart Ferguson)

April 5—Annalivia (duo) and Ari & Mia (split bill; tickets \$15.00)

May 3—Bill Staines

Admission: \$13

*Enjoy our homemade
Refreshments*

Sign up for open mike!

FIRST ANNUAL FOUNDERS DAY EVENT

The Mass Bible Society, of which pre-eminent Unitarian minister William Ellery Channing was the first Chair of the Executive Committee from its inception in 1809-1819 and (of which Rev. Anita is a member and serves on their Board) has put together a fabulous program for anyone interested in American history, local history and the role of religion.

Their Founders Day event will take place at Plimouth Plantation, Sunday October 20 at 5:30pm.

We will be given a private and customized tour of Plimouth Plantation, complete with the interpreters in character. This tour will focus particularly on lifting up the religious issues and controversies of the day as well as beliefs that were held and/or challenged and how folks managed the differences.

Following the tour experience a worship service as the pilgrims would have worshipped and then, eat like a pilgrim, enjoying a period dinner (however forks will be provided!) with a presentation by a food historian.

Sound fabulous? The price includes the cost of opening the Plantation and researching and offering a program designed especially for us, along with the historical dinner accompanied by a food historian.

Tickets are \$80.00

Sounds fascinating, entertaining, educational and fun!

To learn more or purchase tickets go to:

<http://www.massbible.org/plimoth-plantation-founders-dinner>

Consider joining me,

Rev. Anita



Economic Dignity Campaign

First Parish is participating in a statewide campaign by many coalitions of organizations to raise the minimum wage and to insure earned sick leave to all employees in Massachusetts. Rev. Rachel Tedesco, Rev. Joanne Giannino and Karen Cruz form the team that will head the effort at First Parish and in the town of Bridgewater.

We are working with Brockton Interfaith Community and over 60 other faith, labor and community organizations that have formed a coalition named Raise Up Massachusetts. Beginning on September 17, we have 9 weeks to gather the 200,000 signatures needed to put raising the minimum wage to \$10.50 and earned sick time initiatives on the ballot in November 2014. Other organizations supporting this campaign include the UU Service Committee, the Coalition for Social Justice/Coalition Against Poverty, Mass. Community Action Network, and Mass. Alliance of HUD Tenants--where Rev. Rachel is employed.

Since the real value of the minimum wage has dropped 24 percent since 1968, and nearly a million workers in our state may lose their jobs if they miss work when they are sick or have to care for a sick child, these changes are necessary to insure economic dignity for all Massachusetts employees. It is an opportunity to work to promote the worth and dignity of every person, as our UU First Principle states. For more information on the issues and the campaign, see www.massbudget.org/report or www.mcan-pico.org.

Rev. Rachel, Rev. Joanne and Karen welcome everyone interested to help us gather signatures, so please see one these ladies to sign the petitions and circulate petitions at your workplace or in your neighborhood. We can help you get the necessary materials and explain the procedure.

Notice of Special Congregational Meeting

Following Social Hour on Sunday, October 6, 2013

RE: Vote to elect alternates David Tedesco and Kat Gillespie to be full members of the Ministerial Search Committee

The Ministerial Search Committee is comprised currently of five full members and two alternates. Search consultant Rev. Judy Campbell recommended to the Parish Committee, after discussion with the Search Committee, that the two alternates should be added as full members.

The Parish Committee approved this change in the composition of the Search Committee at its August meeting and recommends its adoption by the congregation.

Following the discussion and vote on this single article, representatives of the Search Committee will provide an update on the search process and will take questions.

The estimated time for the meeting is 30 minutes.

The Parish Committee

MAINSRING HOUSE LUNCHES

Monday, September 30 at 9am, October lunches will be prepared in the LPH. (Since the first Tuesday of October is October 1, lunches have to be made the day before.) Volunteers and donations always welcome.

CONDOLENCES...

... to Lisa Foos and family. Lisa's sister Jo A. Spillane, passed away in August.

... to Dick Hill and family. Dick's sister, Marilyn Alvarnaz, passed away last month.

YOU OUGHTA BE IN PICTURES

... Or at least you should be in the First Parish Picture Directory! And there's still time for you to do so, because we've added a day in October for portrait appointments.



First Parish is working with Lifetouch Church Directories and Portraits to produce a photo directory of First Parish congregants this fall. Professional photographers will be at First Parish on Wednesday October 16, 2013 from 2:30 - 9 p.m. to take portraits for our directory. All families will receive a free 8 x 10 professional portrait and a free church photo directory for participating. You will also have the option of purchasing additional portraits, frames, and personalized greeting cards in time for the holidays. Please plan on your portrait sitting (prep, photo shoot and choosing of your portrait) to take approximately 1 hour.

You can sign up for your portrait sitting in 3 convenient ways:

1. Sign up at the sign up table at church before or after Sunday services or:
2. Sign up online at the First Parish website www.firstparishbridgewater.org and click on the icon, "Be a Part of Our Family Album Portrait Sign Up" or:
3. Call Jan Thompson (508) 697-2492.

Your portrait can be casual or dressy and can include any personal items you'd like to bring. Are you musical? Bring your instrument! A gardener? Bring veggies or flowers from your garden, or even a rake or hoe! We can even accommodate pets, just give us advanced notice when you sign up.

The photo directory will help us connect names with faces and enhance our connections with each other. It will also help the new minister we will be calling for next year to get to know us more quickly.

Our photo directory won't be complete without you, so please sign up today!

T"UU"RNING LEAVES BOOK CLUB

Friday, October 25 at 7pm location TBD the T"UU"rning Leaves Book Club will meet to discuss "We Band Of Angels" by Elizabeth Norman. This is a One Book One Community read for the town of Bridgewater. Here are the related events:

**Elizabeth M. Norman, author of *We Band of Angels,*
*The Untold Story of American Nurses Trapped on Bataan by the Japanese***

November 13, 2013

7:30PM - Presentation

Book sale and signing to follow

Horace Mann Auditorium, Bridgewater State University

October 2013

Kick-Off

October 5, 2013

11am - 1pm

Bridgewater Public Library

Presentation by Mark Nestor, son of Helen Cassiani,
followed by laying of wreath at St.Thomas Aquinas

Panel Discussion

October 19, 2013

11am - 1pm

Williams Intermediate School

Discussion of the roles and responsibilities of women
in the military from WWII to present

"A Letter Home"

October 22, 2013

7pmBridgewater Public Library"

A Letter Home" presented by David Moore

is the story of one man

from Bridgewater who went off to war during WWII. The
stories that he wrote while serving were sent home and
published in the Bridgewater Independent. David is the
son of Ken Moore, the author of this collection
of stories about his military adventures.

November 2013

Swing Dance and Reception

Date, time and location to be determined.

**Elizabeth M. Norman, author of
*We Band of Angels, The Untold Story
of American Nurses
Trapped on Bataan by the Japanese***

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

7:30pm - Presentation

Horace Mann Auditorium

Bridgewater State University

This event is free and open to the public

No Tickets required

The UUSC
is looking for a
Director of Programs,
Advocacy,
And
Action

Please click on
logo below for link:



BIRTHDAYS

6 Alan Yabroudy
11 Ann Thomas
12 Liam Quinn
13 Brett Foster
15 Fred Gardiner, Ruby McDougall
20 Kim Egan
21 Paul Foos
22 Frank Baxter
23 Benjamin Manchester-Howell,
30 Frank Yeatman, Koan Risko,
Lydia St. Thomas

ANNIVERSARIES

5 Rev. Joanne Giannino & Russell
Curtis
9 Beth & Keir Manchester-Howell
12 Lisa Rue & Rob Waterman
15 Eileen Hiney & Frank Yeatman,
Cindy & Gordon Janes
25 Ellen & Chuck Bordman

Helping the Hungry

Our **Social Justice Committee** collects non-perishable food items for the local food pantry. We invite you to help the hungry in our local area by bringing canned and packaged foods on the first Sunday of each month. A box is placed at the front of the sanctuary, near the piano, to receive the items, which the Social Justice Committee members gather and bring to our local food pantry.



Feeding the Homeless*

Our church volunteers provide lunches for **MainSpring House** shelter for the homeless in Brockton. We gather on the **first Monday* of each month at 9 a.m. in the lower parish hall** to prepare and wrap 100 bag lunches, which are then brought to the shelter by one or two of our volunteers.



You can help in many ways, including joining us at the above gatherings, donating baked goods, other food items, and paper goods as needed, taking home some of the fixings and preparing parts of the lunches (such as tuna or egg salad) at home for the volunteers to assemble at the church, or simply donating money toward the cost of the lunches, which is about \$100 per month for 100 lunches.

Please contact Betty Gilson (774-226-0942) for further information, or just drop by that morning to help.

**The lunches are prepared on Mondays to be eaten on the first Tuesday of each month. If the first Tuesday falls on the first day of the month, the lunches are made on the final Monday of the previous month.*

October 2013 Calendar

Monday, September 30

9am MainSpring House lunches prepared in the LPH. Donations and Volunteers always welcome.

Saturday, October 5

8pm Off the Common Coffeehouse featuring Chris & Meredith Thompson

Sunday, October 6

9am Choir Practice

9:30am Tone Chimes Practice (9am if you're new to this group)

10:30am "Join the Move" with Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson

12noon Special Congregational Meeting following today's social hour

Monday, October 7

7:30pm Facilities Committee Mtg

Tuesday, October 8

5:30pm RE Committee will meet in the church office

7:30pm Worship Committee will meet at First Parish

Sunday, October 13

9am Choir Practice

10:30am "What a Journey We Are on Together!" – Rev. Joanne Giannino

Monday, October 14

Deadline to complete "Ministerial Search Survey". See link in this issue of eBridging

Tuesday, October 15

Unitarian Universalism Classes at First Parish

Wednesday, October 16

2:30-9pm Photo Shoot for Picture Directory at First Parish

7:30pm Green Sanctuary Committee will meet at the home of Janet Dye

Friday, October 18

Circle Dinner

Saturday, October 19

Circle Dinner

Sunday, October 20

9am Choir Practice

10:30am Worship Service with Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson

5:30pm First Annual Founder's Day at Plimouth Plantation

Tuesday, October 22

Unitarian Universalism Classes at First Parish

Thursday, October 24

7:30pm Parish Committee will meet at the church

Friday, October 25

Circle Dinner

7pm T"UU"rning Leaves Book Club to meet at a location TBD

Saturday, October 26

Circle Dinner

Sunday, October 27

9am Choir Practice

10:30am "What is Sustainability? Lessons from Costa Rica", with Kelsey Baumgarten

Tuesday, October 29

Unitarian Universalism Classes at First Parish

First Parish Church Unitarian Universalist

50 School Street

Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-2525

www.firstparishbridgewater.org

firstparishbridgewater@hotmail.com

firstparishbridgewater.blogspot.com