

April 11, 2007

# The Spire

The Newsletter of the First Parish Church of Norwell, Massachusetts

781-659-7122

April 11, 2007

Vol. V Issue 16

## Sunday Services – 10 a.m.

April 15

*Rev. Victoria Weinstein*

### “Who Are We To Forgive?”

On Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, we take an opportunity to delve deeply into theological reflection on forgiveness.

**Ushers:** Jack and Jean Christensen

**Pulpit Arrangement:** Jack and Jean Christensen

**Chalice Lighter:** Harry Heineman **Coffee Hour:** Karen and Larry Baker

April 22

### “Knowing Without Seeing”

Faith enables us to engage a universe that we can know quite well, in ways that may be atypical of how we generally come to know things. Are there signs, tracks, traces that provide us clues we can follow? Building on the metaphor of tracks left in the (melted) snow, we will explore how we might access and engage faith. The sermon will be delivered by Walter LeFlore, Student Minister.

**Ushers:** Chris Silva and Henry Heineman

**Pulpit Arrangement:** Carrie and Stuart Twite **Chalice Lighter:** open

**Coffee Hour:** Jack and Jean Christensen & Bev and Bernie Gardner

April 29

*Rev. Victoria Weinstein*

### “Breaking and Entering: Reflections on Commandments Against Stealing and Against Adultery”

Continuing with our Ten Commandments series, we consider the ways that the admonitions not to steal and not to commit adultery are connected emotionally and socially

**Ushers:** Cathy and Dan Phillips

**Pulpit Arrangement:** open

**Chalice Lighter:** open

**Coffee Hour:** Lisa Messersmith and Tom Kane & Chris and Corina Silva

## FIRST PARISH CHURCH

*of Norwell, Massachusetts*  
24 River Street, P.O. Box 152  
Norwell, MA 02061

**Office Hours:** 9-Noon, M&F  
9-1, T,W, Th

**PHONE:** 781-659-7122

**FAX:** 781-659-7939

**E-MAIL:**

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

**HOME PAGE:**

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

**Minister:** *Rev. Victoria Weinstein*  
*In an emergency, call the Parsonage:*  
781-659-7288

**Director of Religious Education:**

*Stuart Twite, 781-837-8791*

**Director of Youth Programming**

*Jennifer Anderson 617-763-2799*

**Music Director:** *Gingy Grimes*

**Parish Committee:**

*Chris Silva, Chair*

*(Home) 781-871-6819*

**Committee Members:**

*David Dube, John Meddaugh,*

*Jim Pickel, Cathy Phillips,*

*Sally Turner and Derek Sulc*

**Treasurer:** *Marta Reese*

**Collector:** *Jeannette Mitchell*

**Minister Emeritus:**

*Richard M. Fewkes*

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The **deadline** for the next issue of THE SPIRE is **Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Submissions may be emailed as an attachment to: [office@firstparishnorwell.org](mailto:office@firstparishnorwell.org), or dropped off in hard copy or disk at the church office.

## **In the Spirit**

*Rev. Victoria Weinstein*

It's early Easter morning as I write this, thinking about the dawn of a new day and today's message that if "God so loved the world," we must love it back better than we have, and be better stewards of our Earth.

As I've said before, reverence for Gaia, Mother Earth, is becoming the big truly inter-faith concern of our time, bringing together liberals and conservatives of many faith traditions in the awareness that, as Henryk Skolimowski has written, "To worship God in our times is to save the planet." In that scenario, there is less time to argue about the specificities of theology and an urgent need to apply our hearts, minds and best creative efforts to the problem of climate change and ecological devastation.

So many of you are deep lovers of the Earth, of hiking, gardening, and savoring the out-of-doors in many ways. I hope that you will consider ways that you might share your passion for Nature with children, and especially our church children. A man named Richard Louv has coined the term "Nature Deficiency Disorder" to describe children who are disconnected from the natural world, spending most of their day indoors and wired up to some form or another of technology. If they're outside, they're often participating in a highly-structured activity of some sort. Do our kids just go out and play in unstructured and unsupervised random-age gaggles any more? I have such fond memories of frog-catching in the springtime, playing "Bloody Eyeballs" with the neighborhood kids until it got dark (isn't that a charming name?), and spending hours just exploring the woods. I don't consider myself any kind of Nature Girl (the last time I tried to camp, the tent collapsed on me), but I know that my imaginal life and creativity were formed in great measure by my hours of free play time in the good old out-of-doors.

It may snow again tonight, but Spring is coming! Keep the faith!

In hope and love,  
Vicki

I will be in Pennsylvania from April 16-18, doing Auntie Duty following my nephew Nicholas's surgery to remove his adenoids. You are welcome to call my cell phone during that week. Just call the office and they'll give you the number. I will drive back on April 19<sup>th</sup> and expect to arrive home that evening.

An article by Rev. Vicki is currently featured on the UU World website. The link is:

<http://www.uuworld.org/spirit/articles/22324.shtml>

## Meetings

**Activities Committee**, Sun., May 6, 11:30 a.m. in the Fogg Parlor

**Caregivers' Group**, Tues., April 24, 7:30 p.m. in the Fogg Parlor

**Denominational Affairs**, Mon., May 14, 7:30 p.m. in the Church Office

**Finance Committee**, Tues., May 8, 7:15 p.m. in the Church Office

**Music Committee**, Sun., April 29, 11:45 a.m. in the Skylight Room

**Parish Committee**, Tues., April 17, 7 p.m. in the Fogg Parlor

**Service Committee**, Sunday, May 13, 11:30 a.m. in the Fogg Parlor

## Thanks So Much...

Easter Breakfast was a great success because of the willingness (as usual) of many of you to help, so thanks...

to the bakers and makers  
to the decorators and creators  
to the servers and clearers and washers  
and even our own money changer.

Also, many thanks to Carrie Brandon for organizing the great egg hunt after the morning service! I am very grateful for all your help!

Peg Kitchenham, Activities chair

## Fogg Scholarship Applications Deadline of May 1<sup>st</sup>!

The Fogg Scholarship Committee is accepting applications from graduating seniors who will be attending accredited post secondary educational institutions (including trade schools) that lead to a diploma, certification or license. **Completed applications must be returned to the church office by May 1, 2007.**

## Sign up Now for The Circle Dinner Sat. May 5

You're invited to our houses! Come have dinner with 6-8 other members and friends of First Parish and get to know us better. Everyone brings part of the meal. See Peg Kitchenham at coffee hour.

Peg Kitchenham is looking for a volunteer to help her coordinate the next Circle Dinner. You need to walk around at coffee hour and ask people to sign up. I'll also teach you how to organize the list. It is not a lot of work. Please give me a call at home this week, 781-447-5831. Thanks.

## Family Astronomy Day at First Parish Sat. April 21

*Mark your calendars and bring the kids.*

All ages will love this show. The South Shore Astronomical Society is an amateur astronomy club, based in Norwell. In cooperation with The First Parish Norwell, they will host a family Astronomy event on Saturday, April 21 from 4:00 pm to about 10:00 pm. There will be a paid snack bar of hot dogs and chili for dinner and lots of fun activities. All events are **free** and will include:

Fantastic Planetarium Show in a bubble  
Meteorite display

7:00 pm Live Performance of "Galileo's Daughter"  
Telescopic Viewing of planets and deep sky objects  
Instruction on telescope use for all ages

Everyone is invited to this exciting, family event.

Please check the club's website  
[www.ssastros.org](http://www.ssastros.org) for more info.

## ALLIANCE NEWS

We welcome all Church friends to a morning of wonderful book reviews by Rev. Vicki at the Alliance meeting on Wednesday April 18<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at 10 a.m. at the home of Helen Keeler on Union St. in Marshfield. We hope you will bring a sandwich and stay for lunch. Delicious desserts, punch and coffee will be served by Shirley Bunnell and Mary Lou Sutter. Call 781 837-8248 for directions. Neighbors and friends are welcome!

The Alliance annual May luncheon and annual meeting will soon be upon us so put Wednesday May 2 at 12:30 on your calendar. (Note the change of time from 12 to 12:30)

## AUCTION RESULTS

Thanks to everyone who donated and purchases items at the recent Goods & Services Auction, we raised \$5800 after expenses.

A list of who purchased which items has been posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall near the Fogg Parlor.

Thanks very much to auctioneer, Bob Detwiler who made this such a fun and profitable evening.

## HEADS UP!

**The annual all-church Spring Market** will be held on Sat. May 12! While doing your Spring cleaning, think of selling those items you no longer want-at your own table (supplied by us) for \$22 (keep your profits!-sign up in the office) or donate to the church's tables! Remember our plant table, as you get out to those beds! And the Silent Auction for those extra special items!

Everything should be clean and in working order! No clothing, computers or TV's. Thanks!

## THE HEIFER GIFT ARK PROJECT

We did it! As of Christmas, we had raised our goal of \$5,000!!! In fact, we have, to-date, \$6,241.65! Coins and bills are still turning up in the model of the ark in the Parish Hall! We are still "fishing for pennies" for the Heifer Gift Ark at the RE table! Thank you to Ed Mosher, who once again gave us a large amount of pennies, and to the anonymous person who left a bag-full of pennies! These add up! Thank you to everyone!

We have one more Heifer activity-the church school classes will hold an Animal Fair at Coffee Hour on Sunday April 29, just in time for Mother's Day! Last Fall each class talked about Heifer International and a specific animal, which they will "talk up" at the Animal Fair. A share of an animal is only \$10-\$50. What a great Mother's Day present!

Yes, we have made our goal of \$5,000, but the kids were told that they would get to be in an Animal Fair for their class animal! Let's let them have the fun and get some more money for Heifer international!

## SERVICE COMMITTEE

### \$1000 to be given to NSRWA

Thanks to the generosity of the Easter Sunday congregation, the North and South Rivers Watershed Association will receive a donation of \$1,000 for their work to protect and restore the rivers. Special thanks to the Environmental Committee and it's chair, Elizabeth Robinson, for its work to educate the congregation. It was this committee who suggested the gift of energy efficient light bulbs to each household at the Easter service – as one parishioner commented "a brilliant idea!"

James Library  
& Center for the Arts

**Third Thursday Poetry Night Series.**

**April 19 at 7:30 pm**

Join Stuart Twite and other fellow poetry lovers at the Third Thursday Poetry night on April 19 at 7:30 p.m. Bring a favorite poem to share or come and listen.

**Dillon Bustin and Jacqueline Schwab**

*Poems for Singing*

**Sunday, April 22 at 3 p.m.**

The poetry of Dickinson, Whitman and those involved with the Concord Transcendental movement come to life through Bustin's contemporary songwriting.

**Jazz at the James**

**Saturday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m.**

The Felice Pomeranz Quartet.  
Cool jazz at The James. See you there.

**Please help support  
"Team Gregory"  
in the**

**2007 MARCH OF DIMES WALK AMERICA!**

Linda and Steve Hurt's grandson (Alison's child who is now a happy and active one year old) was born 5 weeks prematurely with complications.

They are walking to try to raise \$1,000 to help fight premature birth. For a picture and info how you can help support their team, go to

<http://www.walkamerica.org/394523>,

or call Alison at 617-688-2265.

**TALES OF LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP  
IN A TIME OF WAR**

**Bridgewater Benefit Concert for Iraqi Families  
featuring storyteller George Capaccio**

**World Musician Salil Sachdev**

**Hearts with Ukes youth ensemble**

**Friday April 20th 7:30 PM**

**First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church**

**50 School Street**

**Bridgewater MA 02324**

**(508) 697-2525**

**Suggested Donation: \$10/**

**\$5 Student/Low Income**

Since 1998 professional storyteller George Capaccio has assisted a small group of Iraqi families, first helping them deal with punitive UN sanctions, then with the worsening situation after war was declared in 2003. Today George assists 10 families, one which has gone into exile in neighboring Jordan, where its members live in limbo awaiting the outcome of the war. There are few aid efforts organized to help these families. Ongoing violence in Iraq hampers both government and NGO organizations. In neighboring countries Iraqi refugees are wearing out their welcome.

Volunteers like George are helping fill the vacuum while the international community sorts out the crisis. All donations will directly benefit the families George has met during his trips to the Mideast. Please join us as we extend the hand of compassion to those who suffer the brunt of war: the civilians living in the combat zone.

**PROGRAM NOTES:** George Capaccio is an acclaimed professional storyteller who uses myths, fables and poetry to illuminate universal themes of humanity and peace. Salil Sachdev composes for various media and is the director of Khakatay, the Bridgewater State College West African drumming ensemble. Hearts With Ukes is an "Arts for Youth" ukelele ensemble dedicated to raising money for children's charities.

## Religious Education at First Parish

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There will not be Church School this coming Sunday (April 15<sup>th</sup>) as it is the start of school vacation week. I hope everyone enjoys vacation and if you are in town, come to Church, bring your children, and enjoy the service and the fellowship!

To celebrate our successful Ark project, First Parish will be having a musical extravaganza the final week of the church year, June 17<sup>th</sup>. The Children will be singing and performing along with the adult choir and any interested musical parishioners. The Children will be practicing various Sundays from now until the performance so please make every effort to attend Church and Church school for the remainder of the year. Thank you and many blessings to all.

A Special thank you to Carrie Brandon who conceived of, financed, and orchestrated the Easter Egg hunt on Easter Sunday. Much fun was had by everybunny (and the Easter Bunny was especially cute)

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We welcome all new members of all ages. It gives us great joy that you are here! If you have any questions about our programs, please don't hesitate to call or email me at:  
Stuart Twite: H-781 837 8791, Church-781 659-7122, or [DREStuart@aol.com](mailto:DREStuart@aol.com)

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### Adult Learning News

Blessed are those who...Attend Bible Study!

Our First Parish Bible Study, A Panorama of Life, continues on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> with a study of the Sermon on the Mount. This sermon is the central statement of the religion of Jesus. Read Matthew 5-7 and join us on Sunday morning at 9:00am in the Fogg Parlor. Call or email stuart twite if you have questions or need a Bible!

**Join us for Third Thursday Poetry Night** at the James Library. Read your own poetry, your favorites, or just come and listen

**At The James Library and Center for the Arts  
24 West Street  
Norwell, MA**

**7:00 pm on each third Thursday  
(April 19,  
May 17 and June 21)**

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# ***THE SPIRE***

**TIME-RELATED MATERIAL  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

*reminder...*

## **THE FOGG LECTURE SERIES**

**April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall  
“POLICY RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL”**

**Peter Kelly–Detwiler, Senior Director, Energy Technology Services and Adjunct Professor of Business Ethics at Johns Hopkins University in his talk will focus on:**

- ❖ What does science tell us of climate change?
- ❖ How is the world responding?
- ❖ Data points from Australia, Lloyds of London, etc.
- ❖ How is the U.S. responding?
- ❖ What are the implications of climate change for the U.S. and internationally?
- ❖ How can we, as individuals, respond?

At Constellation Energy, Peter is responsible nationwide for working with corporations and municipalities in designing plans for energy reduction and/or the use of energy technologies. As a proven leader in the energy marketplace, this billion-dollar company provides cost-effective, flexible energy solutions to the potential problems of global climate change. Peter and his family live in Scituate. He is on the Scituate Advisory Board, serves on the Board of the Maxwell Trust (which promotes the conveyance of large tracts of developable land to public open space) and is the Earth Day speaker (April 22<sup>nd</sup>) at the Scituate Unitarian Universalist Church.

*Bob Detwiler, Fogg Committee*