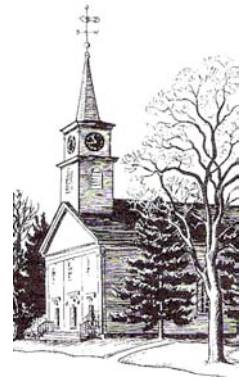


The Spire

The Newsletter of the First Parish Church of Norwell, Massachusetts
ON THE WEB AT WWW.FIRSTPARISHNORWELL.ORG



781-659-7122

September 22, 2010

Vol. IX Issue 2

Sunday Services – 10 a.m.

September 26:

Rev. Victoria Weinstein

“East and West”

We have all heard by now about the uproar surrounding the proposed building of an Islamic cultural center near Ground Zero in New York City. How do we read the times and think about the issue of Islamaphobia as Unitarian Universalists?

We will Commission our Sunday School teachers today, and re-dedicate our newly re-furbished weathervane.

October 3:

Rev. Victoria Weinstein

“Gandhi Jayanti: Happy Birthday, Gandhi”

The birthday of Mahatma Gandhi is celebrated as a national holiday in India. Gandhi was born on October 2, 1889 and today we re-visit his philosophy of Satyagraha (“soul-force”). Local musician Eric Oddleifson will play Gandhi’s favorite music and introduce us to some Sanskrit classics.

October 10:

Rev. Victoria Weinstein, Mary Mercier and Betsey Detwiler

“A Ground For Standing With Immigrants”

Rev. Vicki, Mary Mercier and Betsey Detwiler will share their reflections about the imperative to “welcome the stranger” within the context of our country’s struggle with immigration issues. Our Second Sunday offering will go to No Mas Muerte (No More Deaths), a ministry of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson, AZ that provides humanitarian aid on the border.

The service will be followed by a forum, “Continuing The Conversation,” in the Fogg Parlor. Rev. Weinstein will present more information compiled by the Unitarian Universalist Office of Witness and Advocacy and your comments and reflections are welcome.

October 17:

Rev. Victoria Weinstein

“From Consumers to Covenant”

Sharing a version of a sermon she will preach later in the day at the Installation of the Rev. Peter Boullata in Lexington, MA, Rev. Weinstein articulates the essence of her doctoral dissertation, “Covenanting: Ancient Promise and New Life For the Contemporary Church.” First Parish in Norwell inspired this work, which has been the basis of Rev. Vicki’s consultation with numerous other congregations since 2003.

October 24: Matt Meyer Drumming



"In the Spirit"*The Rev. Victoria Weinstein*

I read about a couple in Mechanicsburg, PA who decided to hang out their laundry on the line to dry instead of using their clothes dryer. Great idea, right? Fresh air, energy-saving, environmentally conscious, doing things the old-school way?

However, neighbors were offended. They didn't want to look at the Brensinger's underwear flying in the breeze and went to the homeowner's association to threaten legal action for breaking an HOA rule. The couple now hangs their clothes on racks indoors.

A similar thing happened in Bend, Oregon, when Susan Taylor hung her laundry out to dry in her wooded yard. Vandals snipped her lines in the night and she was fined \$1000.00 by her HOA. Their argument is that a visible clothesline can affect property value and curb appeal, and --did you know this? -- a "large percentage of the more than 300,000 such communities in the U.S. restrict or ban their use." (PEOPLE, September 13, 2010).

Let me ask you: how aesthetically pleasing, or even perfect, do you feel your home exterior and neighborhood should be, and where do you draw the line in creating or preserving that beauty? How much is your preference, and how much is pressure from your neighborhood? Have you adapted any greener practices in past years in regards to your landscaping, and if so, how have your neighbors reacted?

A friend of mine whose house is beautifully landscaped remarked recently that she thought her neighbor might have stopped talking to her because she (my friend) hadn't kept the garden well-groomed enough through the summer. I certainly hope that's not true, just as I hope you would not hesitate to hang your laundry outside as part of a commitment to saving energy. Sometimes, the best response to "What will the neighbors say" is to broach the conversation yourself, invite a conversation, and act according to your values and principles. It may be that you're not the only one on the block who would like the cheery sight of towels flapping on the line, or the only one who would like the smell of fresh air on your sheets at night. The Earth needs us to consider that beauty is relative. Sustainability isn't always pretty, but Green is beautiful!

In faith, hope and love,
Rev. Vicki

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CHURCH**
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Closed on Mondays

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Victoria.Weinstein@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education:

Stuart Twite, 781-837-8791

dreslt@live.com

Music Director: *Gingy Grimes***Parish Committee-**

Chair: *Derek Sulc*

Members:

Bernie Gardner, Deane Howard,

Marie Miller,

Bob Neely, Sue Robinson,

Don Messinger

Treasurer: *Marta Reese*

Minister Emeritus:

Rev. Richard M. Fewkes

The **deadline** for the next issue of

THE SPIRE is

Sunday, October 3rd

**This will be an emailed,
mini-Spire**

Submissions may be emailed as an
attachment to:

office@firstparishnorwell.org, or

dropped off in hard copy
or disk at the church office.



Caring Corner

Our condolences to **Pearl Jayko** at the death of her mother and our friend **Myrtle Donahue**. Myrtle passed away at the beautiful age of 101 years old and was memorialized on September 11 in the Meetinghouse.

Healing thoughts and prayers to **Carol Marsh**, who is recovering from recent surgery at Braintree Rehab.

My family and I would like express our sincere thanks to everyone who expressed their sympathy on the loss of my mother, Myrtle Donohue and for the many cards and phone calls we received. A very special thank you goes to everyone who worked so hard to provide a beautiful setting and delicious food for the collation following her Memorial Service. We are so appreciative for all you did for us. Once again, we are reminded of how special our church family is, extending comfort and love during difficult time in our lives.

*Our thanks and love to all,
Pearl Jayko*

CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORIES

If you haven't yet picked up your free copy of the new church photo directory, please do so during coffee hour once church resumes on September 12th. Please stop by the "Go To" table to find your copy."



ALLIANCE NEWS

Reverend Vicki will be our book reviewer at the Alliance meeting on Wednesday, October 20th at 10 a.m. in the Fogg Parlor. Pearl Jayko, Margaret Karns and Margy Miola will be our hostesses. Discussions are great at these meetings and we hope you will join us. Dues of \$10 are due now and payable to Shirley

Bunnell or at the meeting. If you need a ride, call Helen Keeler at 781 837-8248.

WELCOME

Meet the New Office Staff

Hope Weinman is the new Office Administrator. She has a background in both office management and human resources, and most recently was the Office Manager at a group home for teenagers with emotional and behavioral difficulties. She will be publishing the Spire, creating Orders of Service, coordinating the church calendar and facility reservations. She works 9 am to 1 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and 9 am to noon on Fridays. Her email is office@firstparishnorwell.org.

Donna McDonald is the new Bookkeeper. She may be a familiar face to some of you as she does the bookkeeping at the James Library. She also does accounting work for a company that produces prosthetics and orthotics. She will be processing check requests, accounts payable, payroll and all things money-oriented. She works Wednesday and Friday mornings. Her email is donna@firstparishnorwell.org.

Please stop in and say hello!

Schedule of Activities for 2010-2011

(All dates are Sat. unless otherwise noted.)

Sunday, Oct. 3 Golf Tournament
Chair: John Meddaugh

Sat., Oct. 16 Circle Dinners
Chairs: Linda Goodwin & Mary Mercier

Sunday, Oct. 24 Fogg Lecture

Sat., Nov. 20 Harvest/Christmas Fair

Jan. 29 Birthday Party & Potluck
Chairs: Elizabeth & Thad Robey

Feb. 27 Goods & Services Auction
Peg Kitchenham & Joanne Howard
?? (early March or April or wait till next year)

All Church Musical Program - or Costumed
themed Dinner Chair or Coordinator Sought

Late March/early April **Canvass Supper**

Sun., April 24 **Easter Breakfast**
Chair: Mary Davis

May **Family Bowling**
Chairs: Les & Marlon Taylor

May ? **Spring Market**
Chair: Bev Gardner

May ? **Spring Golf**
Chair: John & Debi Meddaugh

June 4 **Circle Dinners**
Chairs: Linda Goodwin & Mary Mercier

June?? **Men's Night at the Spit**
Coordinator: Clayton Handleman
If you have suggestions for activities or
corrections, call Peg Kitchenham, 781-447-5831 or
e-mail chrispegk@verizon.net.

Thank You! and You! and You!

As is frequently said, "many hands make work light," and so it was Sunday afternoon when several folks pooled their energy and ideas to clean up the Skylight Room. What a difference two hours make! Thanks to Joanne Howard, Bernie and Bev Gardner, Noel Constantino, Stuart Twite, Jay McOsker, and Marcia Babcock on this first day of work.

We encourage all to come up for a visit and see how great the room looks in its "clean" state. The next event will be a painting party – probably on a week day. So let us know if you can assist!

Again, many, many thanks,
Sue and Dexter Robinson



AT THE JAMES LIBRARY

In the Art Gallery
The Coastal Printmakers
3rd Annual Show
October 1-30.

Free opening reception on Friday, Oct. 1, 6-8 p.m.
Meet the 20 printmakers, purchase some small
pieces (all affordable) and support local artists.

Lyceum

Use It or Lose It: Self Culture in America
presented by Stuart Twite

Free. 7:30 p.m.

Stuart will explore the question, "How Can I
Make My Life an Art".

Save the Date!

Friday, October 29, 6-8 p.m.

Community Open House at The James



The Holiday Fair
Sat., November 20
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

(the week before Thanksgiving)

Mark your calendar right away for the Holiday Fair!

Can you help with this major fundraiser? We especially need help on the Jewelry Table. We also need you to bake, make handcrafts, clean out your closets and bring your clean, good toys, books/CDs and household treasures to the church the week before. See Deanna Riley or Bev Gardner for ideas on Gift Baskets you could make. Please don't leave items in the sheds unless protected. They get very dirty there.
NOTE: We will not accept large sports equipment, TV's or old skis.

To volunteer to help call any of the following coordinators.

Set up & Handcrafts - Marcia Babcock, 781-659-2956.

Holiday Table – Margy Ericson, 617-698-5326 & Mary Davis, 781-545-2417

Silent Auction - Marina Selby, 781-659-2019, Joanne Howard, 781-826-6561 & Joyce Hockman, 781-545-6517

Books – Sally Turner, 781-659-4646

Grandma's Attic – Phyllis Buell, 781-659-2203 and Noel Constantino, 781-878-7983

Jewelry - Rita Horgan, 781-826-6060 **(We need people to help here)**

Gift Baskets – Deanna Riley, 781-837-4964 & Bev Gardner, 781-829-0932

Baked Goods – Helen Keeler, 781-837-8248,

Toy Table – Debi Meddaugh, 781-659-2901

Face Painting & Balloon Animals - Youth of the church – (proceeds to the Youth Group)

Assisted by Karen Baker, 781-826-3284 & Chris Kitchenham, 781-447-5831

Snack Bar- Jim Miller, 781-837-6620

Publicity – Peg Kitchenham, 781-447-5831

Clean-up - Don Messinger, 781-659-7574

Be a part of this year's fair and make special memories! Be sure to bring a good appetite for lunch and don't miss the fun of this important all church activity.



Themed Gift Baskets

Welcome back! Time to think about donating a themed gift basket to be sold at the Nov. 20th all-church Holiday Fair! We are asking that you keep your purchases, if at all possible, to under \$40, so we can keep the prices of the baskets reasonable. If you don't have time to buy the items yourself, contact Deanna Riley (781-837-4964). She loves making baskets for others!

A sign-up sheet will be at Coffee Hour from now until the Fair. If you have any medium, large or gigantic actual baskets for people to fill, we can use them! Just bring them to Coffee Hour. Remember-YOU provide the items, and WE put them in a basket and wrap, decorate, label and sell it! Thank you!

Bev Gardner and Deanna Riley

Photographs

If you have any pictures which you would like to go into our church album for last church year, please leave them in the church office for Bev Gardner, who will be assembling the album in Oct.

This year-please share your pictures of church events by putting them on the bulletin boards in the Parish Hall. If you wish to get them back, make a note on the back. Otherwise, they will be put into the church album for next year! Thanks!

Bev Gardner



The Helen Fogg Service Committee

A new church year- how exciting! The Fogg Service

Committee hopes that Rev. Vicki's inspiring outreach sermon at the Ingathering Service inspired people to think about how we, as individuals and as a group, can do meaningful outreach. The Fogg Service Committee is such a conduit for First Parish Norwell.

Mission Statement:

In the spirit of the words of our covenant, "to minister to each other's needs and to those of humanity," the Helen Fogg Service Committee empowers the ministry of social justice and outreach at First Parish by serving as a conduit nationally and internationally.

Goals:

- *Contribute to local, national and international causes and crises including social injustice and natural disasters
- *Promote volunteerism within the congregation
- *Raise awareness about worthy causes
- *Support the work of the (national) Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

Action:

- *Focus on on-going projects involving the parish (e.g., Prison Ministry, Partner Church in Kadacs, Romania, local food pantries, etc.) and donations to local charities.
- *Coordinate Second Sunday collections for a project or organization the committee, on behalf of the congregation, deems worthy of our attention.

*Communicate to the parish through articles in the Spire, Parish Hall visibility, and presence within the worship service.

*Communicate national UU Service Committee issues (Guest at Your Table, UUSC Action Alerts, etc.) to the congregation

*Sponsor Fogg lectures by individuals of knowledge and insight in the areas of human service, education, and social concern.

Stop by our table during Coffee Hour (in the corner next to the couch), to learn more about the Fogg Service Committee. Please consider joining us!

Our Second Sunday offering last Sunday was for "Meals on Wheels" through the South Shore Elder Services, and we collected \$1,000 for

them! Thank you all! Drivers to deliver meals are desperately needed. If you would like to help out, call your local Council on Aging, and they will give you the number for the Agency which services your town. There are other volunteer opportunities through South Shore Elder Services---office help, a "Friendly Visitor Program" in which you would be matched with a homebound elder and "Money Management Program" in which you would help elders with developing budgets, writing checks and balancing their checkbooks. To volunteer for any of these, call South Shore Elder Services at 781-848-3910. Remember-- "Walk a Mile..."

Bev Gardner 781-829-0932
Chair of the Fogg Service Committee

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
Wed., September 29 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
South Shore Medical Center
75 Washington St., Norwell
1-800-733-2767



Walk a Mile...Religious Education

From the DRE:

It was another great Sunday of Religious Education at First Parish! As it was a "Second Sunday" we had Children's Worship during which we introduced our theme "Walk a Mile." Ask your child about our theme! We then lit class chalices from our common Sunday School chalice and our teachers and students processed to their Sunday School classes.

Welcome back to all! If you haven't yet been able to make it to Sunday School, we look forward to seeing you soon! Our attendance so far has been excellent. Come be a part of the excitement!

Service! A central part of our church year will be service. Elizabeth Robey, the Chair of our Lifespan Religious Education Committee, has a heart for service and has made helping others a focal point for our Church-school year! Much more from Elizabeth as the year goes on.

Working with the Service Committee: Carrie Brandon and Amy Stephenson, two active Church School parents, have joined the Service Committee and will be working with Elizabeth Robey and the DRE on some joint service projects this year. Thank you Carrie and Amy!

Second Sunday Offerings: Starting in October, we will be collecting an offering from the Church school children during our Children's Worship service. Besides raising money to help with the service projects we will be working on this year, the offering is a good reminder of one way in which we sustain our community. (Suggested offering is \$1 and if it could be a dollar earned during the week by your child, all the better!)

Youth Group organizational meeting! Join us on Sunday morning, Sept. 26th, at 10:15 for an organizational meeting. We would love to see all of you for this important time of planning. See you Sunday!

Adult Learning:

The First Parish Book Group discusses:

"Born Under a Million Shadows" by Andrea Bushfield

We will meet on Wednesday, October the 6th at 7:00pm in the Fogg Parlor. Refreshments will be provided.

A Panorama of Life our First Parish Bible Study Group presents: "Justice and the Prophetic Voice" This year long study of the Prophets will begin Oct. 3rd. We meet in the Fogg Parlor at 9am on the first and third Sundays of each month. We would love to see you!

Stuart Twite will present a **James Library Lyceum** Program on Friday, October the 8th at 7:30 pm called **"Use it or Lose it: Self-Culture in America"**

For updates on our Religious Education program for children, youth and adults, go anytime to:
<http://reeveryday.blogspot.com/>

First Parish Norwell

CALENDAR

September/October 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
19 SPIRE DEADLINE Bible Study , Fogg Parlor 9 a.m. Morning Service Church School 10 a.m. Coffee Hour 11 a.m. Fogg Svc. Comm. , Fogg Parlor 11:30 am	20 AA, Parish Hall 8:30 p.m.	21 SSHAGLY Skylight Room 7-9 p.m. Finance Committee , Office 7:00 pm	22	23 Choir Rehearsal Skylight Room 7:30 p.m	24 Ballroom Dancers Parish Hall	25
26 Morning Service 10 a.m. Church School Coffee Hour 11 a.m.	27 AA, Parish Hall 8:30 p.m.	28 SSHAGLY Skylight Room 7-9 p.m.	29	30 Choir Rehearsal Skylight Room 7:30 p.m	1 Ballroom Dancers Parish Hall	2
3 SPIRE DEADLINE Bible Study , Fogg Parlor 9 a.m. Morning Service 10 a.m. Church School Coffee Hour 11 a.m. Fall Golf Tournament Rockland Golf Course 1 p.m.	4 AA, Parish Hall 8:30 p.m.	5 SSHAGLY Skylight Room 7-9 p.m.	6 Alliance Board Meeting Fogg Parlor 10 a.m. Adult RE: "Slow Down, You Move Too Fast" Session 1 Fogg Parlor 7:00 p.m.	7 Choir Rehearsal Skylight Room 7:30 p.m	8	9
10 Morning Service 10 a.m. Church School Coffee Hour 11 a.m. Fogg Ser vice Comm. Church Office, 11:30 "Continuing the Conversation", Fogg Parlor, 11:30 a.m.	11 AA, Parish Hall 8:30 p.m.	12 Finance Committee Office 7:15 p.m. Invested Funds Committee Fogg Parlor 7:30 pm SSHAGLY Skylight Room 7-9 p.m.	13 Adult RE: "Slow Down, You Move Too Fast" Session 2 Fogg Parlor 7:00 p.m.	14 Choir Rehearsal Skylight Room 7:30 p.m	15	16 Game Night and Circle Dinners
17 Bible Study , Fogg Parlor 9 a.m. Morning Service 10 a.m. Church School Coffee Hour 11 a.m. SPIRE DEADLINE	18 AA, Parish Hall 8:30 p.m.	19 Parish Committee Fogg Parlor 7:00 p.m. SSHAGLY Skylight Room 7-9 p.m.	20 Alliance Book Review Fogg Parlor, 10 a.m. Adult RE: "Slow Down, You Move Too Fast" Fogg Parlor 7:00 p.m. Session 3	21 Choir Rehearsal Skylight Room 7:30 p.m	22	23

<p>24 Morning Service 10 a.m. Church School Coffee Hour 11 a.m.</p> <p>Fogg Lecture Meeting House, Parish Hall & Kitchen 2:30-6 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>AA, Parish Hall 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Sustainable South Shore Parish Hall (evening)</p> <p>SSHAGLY Skylight Room 7-9 p.m.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Adult RE Fogg Parlor 7:00 pm</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal Skylight Room 7:30 p.m</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
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THE SPIRE

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WARRANT FOR SPECIAL PARISH MEETING

The members of First Parish of Norwell are hereby notified of a Special Parish Meeting to be held Sunday, October 17, 2010, at 11:00 a.m., in the Meeting House, to hear and act upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I: To act upon the acceptance of new members.

ARTICLE II: To hear and act upon the financial reports of committees for the year ending June 30, 2010 (July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010).

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "N. Dexter Robinson".

September 19, 2010
Norwell, Massachusetts

N. Dexter Robinson
Parish Clerk