

The Spire

The Newsletter of
**First Parish of Norwell,
Unitarian Universalist**
24 River Street
P.O. Box 152
Norwell, Massachusetts 02061
phone 781-659-7122
fax 781-659-7939
www.firstparishnorwell.org

April 4, 2018
Volume XVI, Issue 8

Sunday Services - 10:00 am

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry
preaching unless otherwise indicated

April 8: **Traditions of Spring**

Maybe if we think and talk about it enough it will really come! In the meantime, let's consider spring in a historical and multicultural way.

April 15: **Spiritual DNA**

Joanne Howard, pulpit guest

Total access to our genetic history has become a mainstream - almost recreational - project. Intricate answers arrive in the mail in the form of a pie chart. What about your spiritual DNA? What religious, scientific or nature based philosophies make up your uniquely personal pie chart?

April 22: **Multigenerational
Earth Day Celebrations - 10 am**

with Rev. Lise and DRE Jessie Slade
We'll celebrate and share some concerns about our earth as we consider our seventh principle: the interdependent web of

creation of which we are all a part. The Climate Change CHALICE group will assist. This is also an **Outreach Sunday**.

April 22: **SciCoRockWell Youth Service
6-7 pm**

Our four-church cluster youth group (Scituate, Cohasset, Rockland and Norwell) will have their annual service at Channing Unitarian Universalist Church at 45 Webster Street in Rockland. All are invited!

April 29: **A Visit from the Fey**

Fey is another name for fairies, and during Beltane, the fairies come to visit. What does this mean and how has this earth holiday been celebrated in the past and in contemporary times?

May 6: **Music Sunday**

with our Choir and Rev. Lise
Join us for beautiful music and readings meant to brighten and inspire our spring.

OFFICE HOURS

(September to mid-June):

Closed on Mondays

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9 am-1 pm

Friday: 9 am-12 pm

Minister:

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, x11

lsberry@uuma.org

Director of Religious Education:

Jessie Slade, x12

drefpnuu@gmail.com

Music Director:

Gingy Grimes

gingygrimes@gmail.com

Office Staff:

Hope Weinman, Office Administrator, x10

office@firstparishnorwell.org

Donna McDonald, Bookkeeper, x14

donna@firstparishnorwell.org

Parish Committee 2017-2018:

Chair: Les Taylor

Members: Scott Garland, David Hockman,
Amanda Metzger, Gabrielle Millins, Mary
Nickerson and Jim Pickel

Treasurer: Marta Reese

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Richard M. Fewkes

The deadline for the next issue of the Spire is
Monday, May 7, 2018. Submissions should be
emailed to Hope at
office@firstparishnorwell.org.

LISE'S LETTER

Wasn't the snow on Monday pretty? I know, I know- it's supposed to be spring! Even I, a self-declared lover of snow (and once upon a time "snow dancer" with my brother in the parking lot) am ready for a more pronounced change of seasons. Still, the snow was beautiful, thick and heavy, drooping on the bushes outside our front windows. We took several photos to text to our relatives and friends with the caption "Happy Spring!" And then I remembered the lovely, solitary, purple crocus I had seen by my driveway the day before. It was brave and strong, proclaiming its readiness for spring. "Oh, no!" I thought, "Will it still be there?" It was, protected by the large tree under which it grew.

It is challenging to be in the midst of a situation that one doesn't want, need, or is too tired to deal with. But deal we must, in some form or fashion, even if it's just to put it off until the next day. When I have days like that (weeks?), I try to find small moments of calm and joy during the chaos. Even a little respite watching the dogs play or having a sip of tea can make a difference. Then, at night before I go to sleep, I recall my day and all the things that went well and/or that I enjoyed. I'm often surprised by all I have to be grateful for. Someone once told me it's difficult, maybe even nearly impossible, to feel depressed or down (or wintery) when experiencing gratitude. I have found this to be true; it's a nice way to end the day.

So let's keep dreaming of spring while we also appreciate the beauty around us. Here's a section of a Walt Whitman poem ("When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd") to ruminate on in the meantime:

*In the dooryard fronting an old farm-
house near the white-wash'd palings,
Stands the lilac-bush tall-growing with
heart-shaped leaves of rich green,
With many a pointed blossom rising
delicate, with the perfume strong I
love,*

WE ARE UU!

*With every leaf a miracle—and from
this bush in the dooryard,
With delicate-color'd blossoms and
heart-shaped leaves of rich green,
A sprig with its flower I break.*

Blessings,
Rev. Lise

MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

Rev. Lise's office hours have changed. She is still available most Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10 - 1 pm. Friday office hours are changing from Friday morning to the afternoon from 2-5 pm. Rev. Lise will be taking a reading week from **April 9 through April 16**. This is something all UU ministers do for about four weeks of the year and is part of their Letter of Agreement with their congregations. A reading week is a time for reflection and study, so other than pastoral care, Lise will be out of the office and unavailable. In an emergency, you can always call her cell: 503-999-2061. Rev. Lise is also part of the Greenfield Study Group which meets two times a year. She will be gone for their next meeting **April 23 to 25** and will be checking her email regularly. Unfortunately, cell coverage there is not very good.

Condolences to Daleann Awalt and family on the death of her mother, Ola Awalt, age 97. Visiting hours and services were held at Blanchard's Funeral Home in Whitman on April 2 and 3.

Caring thoughts to Ed Mosher and wife Carol Altshuler as Ed continues to battle several medical issues. He is currently at Royal Nursing Home in Norwell and welcomes visitors, calls and cards.

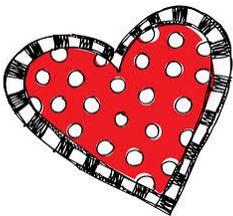
Help us to keep in touch, celebrate the happy moments in life and support you during the difficult times. Please send your news to Hope Weinman in the Church Office at 781-659-7122 or office@firstparishnorwell.com, or contact any member of the Pastoral Care Team (Sue Robinson, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Marcia Babcock, Noel Constantino, Betsey Detwiler, Joanne Howard and Joyce Hockman).



SPRING COTTAGE MEETING

Please save the date! The Parish Committee is hosting one spring cottage meeting on **Sunday, April 8** at 11:30 am in the Fogg Parlor. The primary subject will be in regard to "Growth and Stewardship." We welcome one and all to attend. Childcare will be provided!

CARING CORNER



Congratulations and best wishes to mom, Amanda Peterson; dad, Colby Ring and sister Adelaide on the arrival of Ethan born on

March 7 and weighing in 8 lbs. 5 oz. They are happily at home after Ethan spent 2 ½ weeks in the NICU.

Healing wishes to Phyllis Cohen following hospitalization and surgery. She is home now, and welcomes cards at her home: 12 Pat Road, Hanover, MA 02339.



Ushers

USHERING WORKSHOP

Prospective NEW ushers: please join us for a brief orientation meeting following the worship service on **Sunday, April 22**. Meet at the back of the Meetinghouse with Les Taylor and Thad Robey. Ushering is an easy way to help out at church and get to know your fellow parishioners! We are always in need of ushers so we appreciate your involvement.

CHURCH TREASURER ANNOUNCEMENT

Marta Reese, our outstanding FPN Treasurer for the past 25 years, has announced her retirement, which will take effect on July 1. We sincerely thank Marta for her years of excellent, dedicated service and wish her all the best.

In an effort to find Marta's replacement, a search committee from the church was formed this winter. After careful consideration, the search committee has developed a new job description for the Treasurer. The role of the new Treasurer will be less expansive than Marta's in that responsibilities such as employee benefit administration and staff compensation will be assumed by church committees and the Bookkeeper (Donna McDonald). In fact, with the terrific work that Donna has done for us, the search committee is recommending a promotion for Donna from Bookkeeper to Assistant Treasurer. Fortunately, Donna will be able to provide the church with more working hours per week and a pay increase for her has been budgeted for FY19.

For the Treasurer position, the search committee is putting the finishing touches on the revised job description and will post that next week, which will be announced in a special edition of the iSpi. A term of 3 years, instead of the current 1 year term, is being proposed. This could be renewed by Parish vote after every three years and would not be subject to term limits. In addition, a proposal has been made to re-instate the Treasurer as a voting member of the Parish Committee, as well as making the Treasurer a voting member of the Finance Committee. Many of the changes previously described would require a bylaw change and would be voted upon by the Parish at June's Annual Meeting. Finally, a stipend for the Treasurer position is in place.

Should you have any questions or seek additional information on the Treasurer position, please feel free to reach out to any of the five people on the search committee:

Les Taylor (*Parish Committee Chair*); Bob Neely (*Nominating Committee Chair*); Jack Wallace (*Personnel Committee Chair*); Marta Reese (*Outgoing Treasurer*); and Rev. Lise Adams Sherry. Thank you!



The Finance Committee thanks you for your support of **“Sharing Hearts Lead the Way”**, the 2018-2019 Annual Pledge Drive. As of April 3, **67** pledges have been received, totalling **\$109,590**, from:

Anonymous (1), Amanda Adams, Jeff Angley, George and Meredith Atkinson, Scott and Marcia Babcock, Larry and Karen Baker, Paul Bourque, Laurie Brown and Dan Carroll, Bob and Shirley Bunnell, Bill and Staci Carey, Jean Christensen, Phyllis Cohen, Noel Constantino, Patricia Crumley, Bob Cullum, John and Peg Carpenter, Betsey Detwiler, David and Betsey Drollett, Peter and Roberta Fairbanks, Maddy Farrar, Bernie and Bev Gardner, George and Linda Goodwin, Ralph and Betsy Gordon, Jordan and Emily Grant, Clayton and Ellie Handleman, Cathy Harder-Bernier, Bob and Barbara Hickey, Dave and Joyce Hockman, Steve Hurt, Pearl Jayko, Helen Keeler, Joan Kenworthy, Phil and Diane Koury, Chris and Peg Kitchenham, Joan Kuhn, Sarah Lincoln, John Litchfield, Tommie Magazu, John McCann and Debbie Chase, John and Debi Meddaugh, Mary Mercier, Jon and Mandy Metzger, John Micek and Nancy Fuller, Jim and Marie Miller, Prue Miller, Jeannette Mitchell, Bob and Carol Neely, Kerry Ouellet, Dan and Cathy Phillips, Harold and Lorna Phillips, Alan Prouty, Marta Reese, Deanna Riley, Thad and Elizabeth Robey, Dexter and Sue Robinson, Elizabeth Robinson, Paul and Denise Shaw, Derek and Jen Sulc, Sue Sulc, Les and Marlon Taylor, Dave and Julia Traggorth, Peter and Linda Twomey, David and Sally Turner, Paul and Netta Vercollone, Mark and Judy Witcher, Sandra Williams and George and Donna Wilson



RESERVING MEETING SPACE AT FPNUU

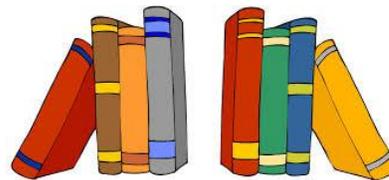
1. To reserve meeting or event space, members, friends and community members must check with our Office Administrator, Hope Weinman, who is in charge of all things regarding the calendar for FPNUU. She may be reached at 781-659-7122 or office@firstparishnorwell.org.
2. Space is reserved on a first come, first served basis.
3. Space may be reserved up to one year in advance. (Weddings may be reserved up to 1.5 years in advance.)
4. If dates are not firm, or there is concern about cancellation due to weather, the reserver may reserve two dates for one event, but all reserved dates must be labeled as to their purpose.
5. Reservers are asked to let Hope know the preferred date as soon as possible.
6. Once the event has taken place, the "rain date" will automatically be released if it is still on the calendar.
7. For rental prices for friends and community members, please refer to our rental information on our web page at <http://www.firstparishnorwell.org/facilities-fees2015.pdf>.
8. Some non-profits may be given a price break, but this is at FPNUU's discretion.



FROM THE SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

Whether or not you are on Facebook, you can see our church Facebook page! Just Google "First Parish of Norwell Unitarian Universalist Church" and click on any link that mentions Facebook. You can also visit the FPNUU website at www.firstparishnorwell.org, which is expertly maintained by Debi Meddaugh, and click on the small white "f" in the yellow bar at the top of the home page. Last church year, we asked you to let us know if you did not want your photo shared on our Facebook page. This question was asked again on the church school registration form for children and their adults. If you let us know your preference last year, you are still on our list. If you are fairly new to the church and don't have church schoolers, please let Tschol Slade, our Publicity Coordinator (tscholslade@gmail.com), know if you do *not* want your photo on our Facebook page. These pictures are usually of a group of people and are taken at church services and church activities. People are listed by first name only. If you want to, you can tag yourself or your child in any photo if you want your friends to see it. Thanks from the Social Media Committee: Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, DRE Jessie Slade, Bev Gardner and Clayton Handleman.

FIRST PARISH BOOK GROUP



Come join the bookworms of the First Parish Book Group on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Fogg Parlor. The selections for the rest of the church year are:

May 2: "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance AND "This Is How It Always Is" by Laurie Frankel. (This "two-fer" was a result of our March discussion being cancelled due to bad weather.)

June 8: "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane" by Lisa See

SUTTER BEQUEST

Bob and Mary Lou Sutter generously left a legacy gift to First Parish in their will. A small advisory group of representatives from many church committees has had two meetings to brainstorm ideas and figure out a process for deciding how to use their gift. Any final choices will be put before the congregation for a vote. A more detailed letter regarding this process and the amount of the gift will be coming to your mailboxes and inboxes soon. In the meantime, if you'd like to attend the next meeting of this advisory committee, mark **Sunday, April 29** from 5 to 7 pm on your calendar and come to church prepared for a potluck meeting in the Parish Hall. Dave Hockman is the chair of this group and you may contact him or Rev. Lise if you have any questions.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - SPIRIT IN PRACTICE

Due to snow storms we had to postpone some classes, so if you'd like to explore some different spiritual practices and discover some ways to help keep you more grounded in your busy life, please join us! Our next two meetings are **Tuesday, April 17 and May 8** at 12 pm in the Fogg Parlor.



ALLIANCE NEWS

Members and friends of First Parish are invited to attend an Alliance book review on **Wednesday, April 18** at 10 am. Our reviewer, Darlene Beauvais, has kindly offered her home at 63 Buttercup Circle in Hanson as a meeting place. Please bring your own sandwich to enjoy with the beverages and desserts that will be provided.



FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT

Save the date for an event that's right up your alley! Family Bowling Night will be

Saturday, April 28 at Boston Bowl in Hanover. Join us for the only sport you can get three strikes and not be out. All are welcome, especially newcomers - we'd love to see you there! Let the pins fall where they may. We're just getting the ball rolling, so stay tuned to your iSpi for further details. RSVP to Elizabeth Robinson or email eerob2001@gmail.com.



Ushers

USHERING WORKSHOP

Prospective NEW ushers: please join us for a brief orientation meeting following the worship service on **Sunday, April 22**. Meet at the back of the Meetinghouse with Les Taylor and Thad Robey. Ushering is an easy way to help out at church and get to know your fellow parishioners! We are always in need of ushers so we appreciate your involvement.

FROM THE PARISH COMMITTEE CHAIR

One big theme that the Parish Committee has emphasized this year is the attempt to avoid volunteer burnout at FPNUU. Saying no, "opting out" and taking a break is perfectly acceptable. In fact, we made sure that very point was included in last spring's parish-approved "Right Relations Covenant." This subject was also addressed at last fall's Church Council Meeting with our leadership team as well as in my November Spire column. In addition, the Committee Chair Tasks that we developed several months ago highlighted the need to delegate, among other suggestions, in order to avoid burnout.

Another related goal for the Parish Committee this year was to review elected committees' member numbers and term length requirements in accordance with our church bylaws. Toward that end, we came to the conclusion that our own committee was the one that warranted the most immediate analysis and attention. Serving a four-year term for the seven voting church members on the Parish Committee can be a daunting one, especially in this busy day and age. It's not a good sign when a retiring Parish Committee member is so burnt out that they soon quit their church membership (something that actually and unfortunately has transpired in the past couple of years).

In a recent check with a handful of our "sister" area UU churches, we discovered all have a staggered three-year term for their Parish Committee members. Several UU's have their Treasurer as one of the voting members, which we currently do not have (this was changed 20 years ago at FPNUU to allow Marta more family time). After studying this issue, thoughtful discussion and consulting with a few past PC members, our Parish Committee voted at its March meeting to approve a warrant that would include a vote to change PC terms from 4 to 3 years. This vote would take place at this June's annual meeting recommending a bylaw change in regard to future service on the Parish Committee. We are recommending to reinstate the Treasurer as one of the seven voting PC members and have PC members serve a three-year term. Besides minimizing the burnout factor, this measure, if approved, could make future recruitment to the Parish Committee easier (for both first-time candidates and for those veterans who might consider a return following a break).

The Parish Committee is hosting a spring Cottage Meeting coming up this **Sunday, April 8** at 11:30 am (following Coffee Hour) in the Fogg Parlor. We welcome your discussion, comments and feedback regarding this bylaw change proposal, as well as a continuation of the February discussion following Rev. Lise's

sermon on "transitions and change." Childcare will be provided for Sunday's meeting. Please join us if you are able - all are welcome! Thank you.

In fellowship and love,
Les Taylor



COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The following committee vacancies are open for the 2018-2019 church year:

- Parish Committee (2 vacancies) - to be eligible to serve on the Parish Committee one must have been a church member for at least three years and have served on a standing or elected committee.
- Denominational Affairs Committee (1 vacancy)
- Invested Funds Committee (1 vacancy)
- James Library and Center for the Arts (1 vacancy)

If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee. The Committee members are: Bob Neely, Patti Walters, Bernie Gardner, Chris Kitchenham and Elizabeth Robey



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

The second semester of RE classes is underway! From Pete Seeger to Wicca traditions and questions of *Why go to church?*, our students are reflecting on the past, taking perspective, and asking big questions. We look forward to continuing our journey as we head into what we hope will be a warm (and snow-free) rest of spring!

Our youngest class spent time creating personalized UU superhero wands to kick off the new semester. The end of the year will be capped by the creation of well-earned superhero capes that will highlight all of the UU values and exemplary character traits that our young people express everyday. The “in between” lessons involve delving deeper into the lives of popular and famous UU superheroes. Clara Barton’s lesson was made complete with mock first aid and our very own head nurse! So many Unitarian Universalists have positively shaped the landscape of society and culture and we are thankful to have the opportunity to explore their lives in fun and creative ways.

Our Questing Year students have spent time considering what makes each of them unique, while also part of a larger group, our UU group! Students have spent time deconstructing our UU Mystery poem and acting portions of it out for each other, not a straight-forward task by any measure! Students also dug into the question of “Why go to church?” With UU members all having so many different beliefs and faith backgrounds, what unites us? Why are we here? And more importantly, what do you believe as a Questing Year student? All of these questions were part of a larger discussion that will continue as the year progresses.

Our Neighboring Faiths class had a visit from Erin Puleio who taught them about Wicca beliefs and traditions. Julia Traggorth has also spent time working with the students around the Quaker faith. Our students have scheduled visits to the Shambhala Center in Boston, as well as the Islamic Center in Quincy, and St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Scituate. Students continue to reflect on various faith traditions, comparing and contrasting beliefs, rituals, symbols, and the like. The semester will culminate in a self-reflection and creation of personal credos.

Youth Group participated in a CON in Sharon from March 24-25. The CON organizers arranged for students to attend the gun

violence rally on that day as well. We are grateful for their flexibility and creativity in making both events possible. Youth Group is also coordinating a youth-led service at Channing Church in Rockland on April 22. This is a win-win for everyone, as Channing is without a minister and this is an excellent opportunity for the teens to take a leadership role!

With great hope for a wonderful RE spring season!

Jessie

“HATE HAS NO HOME HERE”



If you are local, you have noticed that when our 375th anniversary banner came down this winter, it was replaced with a new banner of “Hate Has No Home Here” in multiple

languages. The spirit of the project per the organization behind it is “The Hate Has No Home Here project seeks to declare neighborhood residences, businesses, and places of community free from hate speech and behavior, providing safe places for conversation, work, learning, and living.”

The Parish Committee believes it to be a valuable message to our community, both large and small. Unless you are familiar with the project, you may not know about the origin of its message. The slogan was written by two children, a third grader and a kindergartner from Peterson Elementary School in the North Park neighborhood of Chicago, Illinois. North Park is a diverse community in regard to age, race, nationality and ethnicity. Other neighbors within the community created the graphics and secured multi-lingual translations for the message. The organization specifically identifies the signs as non-partisan. Per the website, “The Hate Has No Home Here Project promotes just and inclusive communities by encouraging

neighbors to declare their homes, schools, businesses, and places of worship to be safe places where everyone is welcome and valued.”

As a mother, a Unitarian Universalist, a person who treasures diversity and inclusivity, and just about every other single aspect of my identity and values, the “Hate has No Home Here” is a message that rings true to my core. I suggested sharing information about the sign’s origin via The Spire, but installing the banner was not my idea. I wish it was. The suggestion was made and following conversation, it was with unanimous approval of Parish Committee that we went forward with this banner. We hope it sparks reflection, conversation... and hope.

The official website is <http://hatehasnohomehere.org> if you would like to read more about it, download the image, or see where in the world the sign is being used. They also have a presence on social media via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Gabrielle Millins,
on behalf of Parish Committee



CLIMATE CHANGE MOVIE

A Movie Night is being organized by the Climate Change CHALICE Group. The event will occur on **Saturday, May 12** with a showing of *Before the Flood*, a National Geographic documentary film featuring Leonardo DiCaprio. We will start with a pot-luck supper at 6 pm with tables set up to provide ecology-related crafts for children of all ages. We will begin the 96 minute movie after the supper around 7 pm, and there will be time for discussion following the movie. Please contact Bernie Gardner at w1az@arrl.net or 781-883-8140 for more information.



SPRING ACTIVITIES AT FIRST PARISH

Come to a Birthday Party after church on **Sunday, May 6** at 11:30 am. We will have cupcakes and do the all-church Birthday Circle, as well as sing and dance. Donations for Birthday Wishes and Carolina Hill will be collected. Peg Kitchenham (781-447-5831 or chrispegk@verizon.net) and Marie Miller (781-837-6620 or mariemiller@verizon.net) will coordinate.

The annual Golf Tournament and Dinner will take place on **Saturday, June 2**. This is a great way to learn. Prior golfing experience is not necessary. We play best ball which means everyone shoots from the best prior shot. Golfing is at Squirrel Run in Plymouth starting at 1 pm. The fee is \$100 (or \$25 for the dinner only), with a choice of steak or swordfish.

RE Picnic - **Sunday, June 17** at 11:30 am - On the last regular Sunday of the church year, come join us for a picnic after church.



THEMED GIFT BASKETS

While you are doing your Spring cleaning, please be on the lookout for unneeded large or gigantic baskets for us to use next Fall for Gift Baskets. Bring them to church, and we will store them until Fall. Thank you!

Bev Gardner, Noel Constantino and Debb Welsh, Themed Gift Baskets co-chairs





SHOUT OUT SUMMARIES

In case any recent Sunday worship services were missed, the Parish Committee would like to recap our pulpit “SHOUT OUT” recipients:

Tricia Fabrizio

A heartfelt thank you goes to the director at First Parish Preschool, a program of our church. Tricia popped in on the first Sunday in March (when the church was closed due to the big storm’s power outage), with her children in tow, to check on the building and discovered yet another leak in the basement which damaged books, games and tiles. Hours later, the ruined items were in the dumpster, the water cleaned up, fans and dehumidifiers set up and the crisis was contained (a side Shout Out to the incredible Jim Millins and the many hours he also spent on the crisis!). The pipe fitter from the sprinkler company arrived early Monday morning and with minimal sleep since the start of the storm Friday night, still had a smile on her face and got straight to work, so the building could be occupied. Later, Tricia and her teachers came in and reassembled the two affected classrooms so the children could return to familiar and comfortable learning space. The preschool was able to open the following Tuesday. It sure takes a village... “Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.” Thank you!

Finance & Invested Fund Committees

We thank the elected committees that handle and are responsible for FPN’s “treasure!” The Finance Committee is responsible for the management of the church’s financial resources. To finance the operating budget, the Finance Committee runs the Canvass to raise funds from the members each year (which is actually happening *now!*). We thank the Chair, Laurie Brown, plus members Peg Kitchenham, John Carpenter, Larry Baker, Derek Sulc and Patti Walters. The Invested Funds Committee oversees the invested funds of the church to provide growth of capital,

protect against inflation, and provide a consistent payment stream to support the needs of the church. It is focused on the very long term health and hopes to sustain the church for another 376 years. We thank the Chair, Jack Wallace, the other “at large” members Nancy Fuller, the three George’s: Atkinson, Goodwin and Wilson, plus the annually elected Finance Committee representative (this year it’s Larry Baker) and Parish Committee representative (for the past two years, it’s been Jim Pickel). Your work is much appreciated. Thank you all for being such good stewards of our church funds!

Nominating Committee

This team is responsible for annually filling the church’s administrative positions, plus all of the annual openings that arise on the elected committees as terms expire. These folks draw enthusiastic people and their talents into the life of First Parish. They identify prospects and interview and answer questions of potential nominees for offices to be filled. At each Annual Meeting of the church in June, the Nominating Committee presents a slate of nominees to the membership for vote. This is their busy time now as they are identifying openings and potential prospects to fill for the upcoming FY19 church year. We thank the entire Nominating Committee team for their time & dedication to their important church work, led by Chair, Bob Neely, and members, Patti Walters, Bernie Gardner, Chris Kitchenham and Elizabeth Robey.

Easter Breakfast Participants

We sincerely wish to thank:

- All who helped bake, prepare and bring the delicious food.
- All the paid attendees who came to enjoy and support the breakfast.
- All those who set up, cleared and cleaned. This includes Chris & Peg Kitchenham who conducted a big “spring cleaning” of our church kitchen this past week, including cleaning the ovens by hand.

Finally, a sincere thank you to those who planned this event, particularly the Activities Committee's fearless leader, Peg Kitchenham.

Thank you again to all of the above. We very much would welcome your suggestions for future Shout Out recipients. Please feel free to reach out to any member of the Parish Committee with your suggestions. Thank you.

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

FOLLOW-UP SERIES ON 'BEING MORTAL'

The United Church of Christ, 460 Main Street, Norwell, will be hosting a series of follow-up offerings to build on the BEING MORTAL event held in October 2017. Please join us, whether you attended the original event or not, as we delve a bit deeper into the topics most requested by attendees:

Monday, April 9, 6:30-8 pm - Understanding Palliative Care and Hospice Care.

Gabriel Mahoney, Nurse Practitioner, Palliative Care Medicine, South Shore Health System, and Lisa Melchionna, Director of Hospice, Supportive and Palliative Care.

Monday, April 23, 6:30-8 pm - Planning Ahead: Empowering Others to Fulfill Your Wishes While You are Living and After Death.

Alexis B. Levitt, Norwell Estate Planning & Elder Law Attorney, and Brendan McNamara, McNamara-Sparrell Funeral Homes.

Monday, April 30, 6:30-8 pm - Caregiving: No Regrets.

Rev. Peggy O'Neil Files, Manager of Chaplaincy at South Shore Health System.

Please register to attend any or all of the series offerings, so that we can plan for materials. These offerings are free. Please register by contacting Gwen Morgan at whatifworkbook@comcast.net, 781-210-2045; or Ann Finnie at ann@footprintsholistic.com, 781-545-2663.

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED

The American Red Cross has a critical need for blood donors. To learn more, or to sign up as a blood donor, contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767). The following local blood drives are taking place:

Saturday, April 14 7 am-12:30 pm

Knights of Columbus
254 Hancock Street, Abington

Saturday, April 21 7:30 am-12:30 pm

Phoenix Masonic Lodge
133 Broadway, Hanover

Appointments are also available most days at the Red Cross's Weymouth Blood Donation Center at 208 Main Street (Route 18), Weymouth.

Baseball is the only field of endeavor where a man can succeed three times out of ten and be considered a good performer.

~Ted Williams

APRIL 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<p>4</p> <p>Book Group FP 7 pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Staff Mtg., Ofc 10:30 am</p> <p>Choir, Sky. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Piano lessons, PH 2-5 pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>LGBTQ Dance, PH 7:30-11 pm</p> 
<p>8</p> <p>Morning Service & Church School 10 am</p> <p>Cottage Mtg., FP 11:30 am</p> <p>Handbell Choir, Sky. 11:30 am</p> <p>Finance Comm., Ofc. 11:30 am</p> <p>Youth Group, PH & Kit. 5-7 pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Men's Dinner @ John Carpenter's, 6 pm</p> <p>AA, PH 8:30 pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am</p> <p>Knitters, FP 9:30 am</p> <p>Dancers, PH 6-8 pm</p> <p>First Nations RE, Sky. 7 pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>iSpi deadline, 9 am</p> <p>Alliance Board, FP 10 am</p> <p>Community Dinner, PH, Kit. & FP 4-6:45 pm</p> <p>Dancers, PH 7-9 pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Choir, Sky. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Piano lessons, PH 2-5 pm</p> <p>Dancers, PH 6-8 pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Scrapbookers, PH 11 am-11 pm</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Morning Service & Church School 10 am</p> <p>Coffee Hour, PH 11 am</p> <p>Handbell Choir, Sky. 11:30 am</p> <p>Music Comm., FP 11:30 am</p>	<p>16</p> <p>AA, PH 8:30 pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> <p>Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am</p> <p>Knitters, FP 9:30 am</p> <p>Adult RE, Sky. 12 pm</p> <p>Dancers, PH 6-8 pm</p> <p>First Nations RE, Sky. 7 pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> <p>iSpi deadline 9 am</p> <p>Alliance Book Review @ Darlene Beauvais's, 10 am</p> <p>Caregivers' Support Grp., FP 7 pm</p> <p>Dancers, PH 7-9 pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> <p>Reception for Sr. Housing, 11 am</p> <p>Choir, Sky. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> <p>Piano lessons, PH 2-5 pm</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Savito Memorial Service, PH 11:30 am</p> 
<p>22</p> <p>Outreach Sunday</p> <p>Morning Service 10 am</p> <p>Coffee Hour, PH 11 am</p> <p>Usher Training, MH 11:30 am</p> <p>Finance Comm., Ofc. 11:30 am</p> <p>Handbell Choir, Sky. 11:30 am</p>	<p>23</p> <p>AA, PH 8:30 pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Tai Chi, PH 9:15 am</p> <p>Knitters, FP 9:30 am</p> <p>Preschool, PH 12:30-1:30 pm</p> <p>Dancers, PH 6-8 pm</p> <p>Parish Comm., FP 7 pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>iSpi deadline 9 am</p> <p>Dancers, PH 7-9 pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Choir, Sky. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Piano lessons, 2-5 pm</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Piano Lessons, PH 9 am-5 pm</p> <p>Bowling Night, Boston Bowl-time TBA</p> 