

## Welcome to First Parish in Cambridge – September 1, 2019

### Participating in the Service

Rev. Adam Lawrence Dyer, Lead Minister  
Carol Lewis, Director of Administration  
Jennifer Fitch, Worship Team  
Jonathan Barnhart, Director of Music  
Peter Lowber, Welcome Team Leader

### This morning's hymns are:

*Singing the Journey (Teal) #1007*

*There's A River*

*Singing the Living Tradition (Grey) #128*

*For All That is Our Life*

*Singing the Journey (Teal) #1052*

*The Oneness of Everything*

### Our Covenant

In covenant with one another and all we hold sacred, we answer the call of love, welcoming all people into the celebration of life, searching for truth and meaning, and striving for justice and compassion, to nourish and serve each other, our community and our world.

### Nuestro Convenio

En convenio mutuo y con todo lo que consideramos sagrado, respondiendo al llamado del amor, invitamos a todos a la celebración de la vida, buscamos la verdad y el sentido del ser, y nos esforzamos para alcanzar la justicia y la compasión, para apoyarnos y servirnos mutuamente, a nuestra comunidad y a nuestro mundo.

Traducido por Lilia Cuervo.

*First Parish in Cambridge is a multi-faith, spirit-filled congregation devoted to love and justice. We are moving joyfully into a multiracial, multicultural, justice-making future. We embrace all ages, races, classes, abilities, sexual orientations, gender presentations, and ethnic and religious backgrounds. Honoring all the faith traditions of the world, we support each person's path to wisdom and spiritual growth. Whoever you are, wherever you are on the journey of life, we welcome you into our hearts.*

If you're here for the first time, we invite you to fill out a visitor card located in the pew and leave it in the collection plate. We'll sign you up for our weekly e-mail announcements.

All are welcome to join us in Helverson Parlor following the service for refreshments.

For those attending with children, you are welcome to worship as a family or children ages 4 and under are welcome in our Nursery on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. An usher can direct you to RE staff. Registration is required.

Religious Education programs for children and youth resume in September.

To receive information about registration for our fall programs including OWL 7-9/homeschool equivalent, please email [mneff@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:mneff@firstparishcambridge.org).

### Shared Offering for September

Each month, First Parish donates one half of our otherwise undesignated Sunday morning offering to local non-profit, social justice or service organizations with whom we have a partnership or with whom we seek to develop a new relationship. The Shared Offering recipient for September is **Alternatives for Community and Environment (ACE)**.

ACE builds the power of communities of color and low-income communities in Massachusetts to eradicate environmental racism and classism, create healthy, sustainable communities, and achieve environmental justice. Systemic change means moving beyond solving problems one-by-one to eliminating the root causes of environmental injustice. ACE is anchoring a movement of people who have been excluded from decision-making to confront power directly and demand fundamental changes in the rules of the game, so together we can achieve our right to a healthy environment. ACE is led by the constituents it serves in Roxbury and Greater Boston. Its youth empowerment program has become a model for nurturing youth leadership in the environmental justice movement. ACE's T Riders Union organizes lower income riders and riders of color who must depend on public transit to build a unified voice for better public transportation in Greater Boston. ACE also provides legal and technical assistance to support groups working on environmental justice. This has helped neighborhood groups statewide to block ethanol trains, trash transfer stations, dirty diesel exhaust and asphalt plants. ACE is currently advocating in support of the proposed Massachusetts Environmental Justice and Toxics Reduction Act H.2913 / S.426. Please give generously.

## Upcoming Events

### **GBIO Health Care Teach-In, September 5: Organizing For Better Health Care**

**Come Thursday September 5, 7:00 pm to Grant AME Church, 1906 Washington St., Boston**

Together with 40 other GBIO congregations, we can make a difference this year in health care affordability, equity and access in Massachusetts. Help build our campaign by coming to the Teach-In to learn more about our health care legislative strategy and specific bills to:

- Lower the cost of prescription drugs
- Increase access to affordable mental health
- Increase access to substance use disorder care
- Lower out-of-pocket expenses for due to surprise out-of-network billing

At the Teach-In we will also discuss next steps --- involving more people from our congregations, meeting with legislators locally, and organizing for the larger GBIO event in October with legislative leaders.

**Please RSVP online** to [gbiohc.org/hcst323](http://gbiohc.org/hcst323) and/or contact your health care captains, Sharon DeVos

([sharondevos@gmail.com](mailto:sharondevos@gmail.com)) and Marcia Hams ([marciahams@gmail.com](mailto:marciahams@gmail.com)). If you can drive or need a ride, please let us know too.

### **Beloved Conversations is back!**

The First Parish Cambridge Racial Equity Team first sponsored Beloved Conversations at First Parish a year ago. The response has been strongly positive and so we are bringing Beloved Conversations back to make this work available to more persons. We have a few spots open so we've extended the registration deadline to **Monday, September 9**.

Beloved Conversations is an experiential curriculum using a small-group ministry format that provides an intentional space to explore the role of race/ethnicity in individual and congregational lives.

- The program begins with an Opening Retreat at First Parish: Friday evening, October 18, and Saturday, October 19, 2019. Retreat participants then divide into two groups (~ten participants plus two facilitators to allow for more intimate discussion) for eight two-hour sessions at First Parish roughly twice a month, on either Thursday evenings or Saturday mornings.
- For more information and/or to register, click [here](#) or see the Beloved Conversations page on the First Parish website: <https://www.firstparishcambridge.org/>, Click on the Justice tab and then on Beloved Conversations. Also feel free to contact Karin Lin, [kslnet@yahoo.com](mailto:kslnet@yahoo.com), (617) 710-9581, and Charlene Galarneau, [charlene.galarneau@gmail.com](mailto:charlene.galarneau@gmail.com), (617) 455-8905, for more information.

### **Cambridge Forum – Wednesday, September 11 at 7:00 pm in the Meetinghouse**

Chinese Democracy in Crisis: The New Long March

As the Pro-democracy demonstrations escalate in Hong Kong, we examine the Chinese government's crackdown in response. Teng Biao, human rights lawyer at NYU, will be joined by Uyghur-American Ambassador Salih Hidayar and activist Kyle Olbert, who will discuss the challenges facing both the Chinese Communist party and those who risk opposing their policies.

### **Global Climate Strike September 20<sup>th</sup>**

Stand with us on September 20<sup>th</sup> for Youth Climate Strike's call to action to fight against the climate crisis. Following the lead of Swedish activist Greta Thunberg, thousands of young people and adult allies will gather in Boston to kick off a week of climate action! Youth groups working together through [youthclimatestrikeus.org](http://youthclimatestrikeus.org) are passionate about saving our environment and are pushing for new practices and systems to lessen the impact on our climate and our planet. The climate strike in Boston is one of many strikes happening around the world on September 20<sup>th</sup>. The time is expected to be 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The exact location in Boston is still pending. We will update this announcement as more information becomes available.

## **Autumn Equinox with the Women's Sacred Circle – September 22**

Please join the Women's Sacred Circle for a celebration of Autumn Equinox in the Barn Room on Sunday, **September 22nd**. All genders and ages are invited! If you have never attended a pagan ritual or would like an overview, join us at 2:00 pm for a short orientation. The ritual will begin at 2:15 and last about 60 minutes. Autumn Equinox focuses on harvest, gratitude, abundance, balance and preparation for the dark. The ritual will include reflection, chanting, movement, pagan communion and blessings. Refreshments will be available after the ritual.

## **Accompaniment and Child Care Volunteering**

First Parish is a member of the CISC, a coalition of Cambridge-area congregations that is currently hosting a woman and her two children in sanctuary so she can avoid deportation and separation from her family.

“Accompaniment” volunteers are needed seven days a week on-site at a church in Harvard Square. We can pair you with an experienced volunteer so you won't be on your own.

We are also looking for volunteers who can commit to regular monthly outings to ensure that the children are able to spend time outside each day. A simple hour or two of outdoor play means so much in the life of this family. Because coverage and consistency are ongoing concerns, we are looking for people who can commit to at least 2 weekday morning or afternoon outings a month.

*Please email [BBSF@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:BBSF@firstparishcambridge.org) to learn more about either of these opportunities.*

## **Get Involved**

Every year First Parish holds a community silent auction to raise funds and build connections through sharing meals and events together. We need a few volunteers to assist with publicity and outreach to recruit donations from members. The most popular donations are dinners in members homes along with events (yoga class, tarot reading, tours, chocolate making) and services such as gardening, decluttering, legal assistance or photography. Joining the Auction Team is a short term commitment. Most tasks are September-December; auction will be Nov 10 and 17. Joining the Auction Team is a great way to meet more people at First Parish. If you would like to learn more contact Eileen Sullivan at [auction@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:auction@firstparishcambridge.org)

**Hospitality Help Needed** – It takes many volunteers for us to be able to provide food for social hour on Sundays after worship. It's too much to expect that a few people will do all the work on this so we're asking that everyone pitch in to make our social hours welcoming to all. We're looking for 3-4 people each week to provide food items (baked goods, fruit, cheese & crackers, hummus, etc). The church provides coffee, tea and water. A sign up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the Parlor for you to sign up for upcoming Sundays!

## **Office Volunteers Needed**

We are looking for one or more volunteers willing to give a few hours of time each week to help out in the front office. Volunteers would answer the phone, let visitors and those attending daytime events into the building, and some basic office tasks (filing, photocopying, etc.). Three shifts are available:

Tuesday 8:30 – 1:00 (filled thanks to Jane Sturtevant)

Thursday 9:00 – 1:00                      Friday 1:00 – 4:00

If you can help out, please contact Carol Lewis at [clewis@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:clewis@firstparishcambridge.org).

## **Groups**

**Our Elders Group** is open and meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at 2:30 pm in the meditation space on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

The **Young Adult Group** (YAG) is a community for people ages 18-35. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 pm upstairs and sometimes meets for food and social events on other occasions. Newcomers are always welcome. Anyone 18-35 is welcome to attend!

## Spanish Conversation Group

¿Hablas español? Our **Spanish Conversation** Group meets on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of every month at 6:00 pm in the Baldwin Room. Come join us for informal conversation in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. All levels are welcome and no commitment is required! For more information, email [spanish@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:spanish@firstparishcambridge.org). ¡Nos vemos pronto!

### Events This Week

*Please note that Yoga, Music and Art Classes are not First Parish programs. They are run by outside instructors and a fee is associated with them.*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 1</b>
10:30 am	Sunday Worship
12:30 pm	Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room
<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 2</b>
6:30 pm	AA in the Parlor
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>September 3</b>
9:00 am	Yoga in the Barn Room
2:30 pm	Elders Group in the Meditation Space on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
5:30 pm	Tuesday Meals in the Parlor
5:30 pm	Harvard Extension Drama in the Barn Room
6:00 pm	Spanish Conversation in the Baldwin Room
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>September 4</b>
9:00 am	Yoga in the Barn Room
3:00 pm	Sanctuary Boston in the Barn Room
6:30 pm	Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room
8:00 pm	AA in the Parlor
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>September 5</b>
9:00 am	Yoga in the Barn Room
12:00 pm	Yoga in the Barn Room
6:00 pm	Harvard Extension Drama in the Parlor
6:00 pm	Yoga in the Barn Room
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 7</b>
8:00 am	Cambridge Minyan in the Parlor and the Nursery
8:30 am	GSA in the Nursery
9:00 am	Teacher Training in the Teacher Resource Room
10:00 am	Yoga in the Barn Room
12:30 pm	Cambridge Minyan in the Barn Room
6:00 pm	Women's Circle in the Barn Room