

Welcome to First Parish in Cambridge – September 29, 2019
First, You Must Remember - Rev. Adam Lawrence Dyer

Participating in the Service

Rev. Adam Lawrence Dyer, Lead Minister
Mandy Neff, Director of Religious Education
Jonathan Barnhart, Director of Music
The First Parish Choir
Patrick Sullivan, Worship Team
Peter Lowber, Welcome Team Leader

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 under 4 are welcome in our Nursery. An usher can direct you to RE staff.

Religious Education programs

Please join us for a Story for All Ages, then RE programs

Nursery	under 4	Nursery, 1st floor
Spirit Play	PK-K with parents & guardians	Baldwin Room, Mezzanine
Moral Tales	1-3, homeschool equivalent	Barn Room, 2nd floor
Toolbox of Faith	4-6, homeschool equivalent	Meditation Room/Barn Room2, 2 nd Floor
High school/homeschool equivalent youth		Landing Room
OWL meets from 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm in the Y2Y space in the basement		

Today's Events

First Parish's **GBIO Health Care Campaign** is organizing a brief meeting at Noon today in the Barn Room to share updates on our health care campaign. Please join us!

Vision Board Workshop

Does September inspire you to think of new beginnings and set new goals? You're not alone!

Join us for a fast and fun Vision Board workshop after worship. We will meet in the new 2nd floor Meditation Room/Barn Room 2 to explore our hopes and dreams for the coming season (or even year). We'll get inspired by some sample Vision Boards. Then we'll have open creative time to make poster-size collages. You'll take home a Vision Board that helps you keep a visual reminder of those hopes in front of you! If you'd like to bring along special images please do; all other supplies provided. This workshop is appropriate for ages 12-adult.

Thanks to Elke Jahns for helping us collect many collage materials over the years. A \$5 voluntary donation towards the supplies is welcome. RSVPs help us set up the right size space but are not required! With questions or to RSVP, email mneff@firstparishcambridge.org.

Vigil for Immigrant Justice – 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Please come and bear witness for the people being held in jail because they are undocumented. We will have songs, prayers, signs, and chants. If you need a ride please contact Peter Lowber. plowber@hotmail.com You can also take the Number 1 bus from Harvard Square which goes past the Suffolk County House of Correction at 20 Bradston Street (at the intersection of Mass Ave and Melnea Cass Boulevard).

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. 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.

Book Celebration! Sunday, October 20 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm in the Barn Room

Please join us for a celebration of *Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism* by Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones and Karin Lin! The event will take place at First Parish in Cambridge on Sunday, October 20 at 2:00 pm. Refreshments will be available and a conversation with the authors will start at 2:30 pm. Discount books will also be available on a sliding scale of \$14-20 (cash/check only). RSVP appreciated but not required; contact Charlene Galarneau at charlene.galarneau@gmail.com. All are welcome!



First Parish Auction – November 10 & 17

Welcome to the official kick-off for the 2019 First Parish Auction! The Auction Team has been hard at work planning and organizing, but ***we need your help*** to make this event a success for First Parish. The Auction raises critical funds for the operating budget, but ***more importantly***, the Auction furthers our mission of ***creating community at First Parish*** through shared planning of dinners and flat-rate events and coming together with other members of our community to enjoy amazing food and company.

How Can You Help?

Please consider supporting the Auction by organizing a dinner for 6 to 8 (or more) or an event with friends; donating a week in your vacation home; donating themed gift baskets or gift cards from your favorite local restaurant or store; or donating homemade crafts for the ***gifts to go*** table. Be creative, have some fun and meet new people. The Auction will be November 10 and November 17, 2019 and **we need all donations by October 27th**. The Auction Team will have a table in social hour or email us at auction@firstparishcambridge.org or visit <https://www.firstparishcambridge.org/connection/community-auction/>

Blessing of the Animals – October 6

Join us on Sunday, October 6 for our Blessing of the Animals service as we celebrate the lives and spirits of all animals who have given us their joy and unconditional love. Please bring your animal friend to be introduced and blessed by the congregation and your Rev. Adam Lawrence Dyer. In this multi-generational service, we will also recognize those dear companions who are no longer living and we invite you to bring a photograph or memento in their honor and to share in the celebration.

Upcoming Events

Women's Sacred Circle - Saturday, October 5

Do you identify as female? Do you currently practice, or are sincerely interested in learning more about earth and goddess-centered spirituality? If so, please consider joining the First Parish Women's Sacred Circle. We open the Circle once a year to new members. This year's Open Circle is Saturday, October 5 in the Barn Room from 7:30 – 9:30 pm. Starting in November we will begin meeting as a closed group on the 1st Saturday of each month through June. In order to foster a deep sense of trust and community, we ask those returning in November to make a commitment to attend each month. Several First Parish members are also members of the Circle, including: Eileen Sullivan, Brenda Leahy, Wendy Irvine, Eileen Maher, Jennifer Griffith, and Juliette Pickering – please ask us about it! If you do plan to attend our Open Circle on October 5, or have questions, please contact Jennifer at jennifer.audrey@rcn.com.

Steps Toward Decentering Whiteness

Winchester Unitarian Society, 478 Main Street, Winchester, MA

Saturday, October 5, 2019 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Co-led by Meck Groot, New England Region UUA; Patty Shepard, Winchester Unitarian Society; and Susan Shepherd, First Parish Cambridge

All are invited, but please register below. This is an opportunity to explore what congregations can learn from the "Findings Related to the Southern Regional Lead Hiring Decision, Spring 2017" as reported by the Commission on Institutional Change in April of 2018. Through brief presentation and lots of small group conversation, we will:

- explore the systemic issues that were at play in the search for a Lead for the Southern Region as outlined in the UUA Commission on Institutional Change's "Findings Related to the Southern Regional Lead Hiring Decision, Spring 2017,"
- apply the Commission's findings and recommendations to realities at the congregational level, and
- identify possible steps congregations can take to decenter whiteness and to center individuals and communities with marginalized identities and experience.

Join fellow congregations on this journey. Register at: www.tinyurl.com/NER-registration-10-05-2019 [Ctrl-click]

Please read the Commission's Report prior to coming. Access at www.tinyurl.com/COIC-April2018.

For more information, contact Susan Shepherd at sshep352@comcast.net

Film Screening of "Dawnland" - Sunday, October 13 at First Church UCC, 11 Garden St.

For decades, child welfare authorities have been forcibly removing Native American children from their homes to "save" them from being Indian. In Maine, the first official "truth and reconciliation commission" in the US begins an unprecedented investigation. **Dawnland** goes behind the scenes, as this historic body deals with difficult truths, questions the meaning of reconciliation, and charts a new course for state and tribal relations.

As a part of recognizing our common history and our historic place in the forming of this country, we are joining with First Church of Cambridge to screen the Emmy-nominated movie **Dawnland**, on **Sunday, October 13, at 12:30 pm, Margaret Jewett Hall, First Church Cambridge (UCC), 11 Garden Street.**

A discussion with Elizabeth Solomon, member of the Massachusetts tribe, will follow on Sunday, **October 20, 12:30 pm**, Margaret Jewett Hall. Elizabeth Solomon is an enrolled member of the Massachusetts Tribe at Ponkapoag. She is currently the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs and Fellowship Programs at Harvard School of Public Health and is a member of a number of advisory and management boards, including boards affiliated with the Boston Harbor Islands National Park and the Digital Archive of Native American Petitions in Massachusetts.

GET INVOLVED

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 to learn more about either of these opportunities.

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.

Religious Education

Would you like to help make our children's and youth programs a success, and help the next generation of Unitarian Universalists grow in their spiritual development?

There are two ways you can help!

- We are seeking two additional teachers in Religious Education! If you'd like to volunteer on a fun team to lead programs for our children and youth, please contact mneff@firstparishcambridge.org to find out more.
- We can use a few items donated! Right now we need:
 - New or gently used children's painting easel
 - Clean styrofoam trays from your groceries
 - 10 3'x2' carpet squares

Our Elders Group is open and meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 2:30 pm.

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 in the upstairs meditation space and sometimes meets for food and social events on other occasions. Newcomers are always welcome.

Spanish Conversation Group

¿Hablas español? First Parish's **Spanish Conversation** Group meets on 1st and 3rd 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 information email spanish@firstparishcambridge.org.

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.

Sunday September 29

- 9:00 am Meditation Group in the Meditation Room
- 9:00 am Social Justice Breakfast in the Parlor
- 10:30 am Sunday Worship
- 12:00 pm GBIO Health Care Update in the Barn Room
- 12:00 pm Vision Board Workshop in the Meditation Room
- 12:30 pm Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room
- 12:30 pm OWL in Y2Y Space

Monday September 30

- 8:30 am Cambridge Minyan in the Barn Room and the Nursery
- 6:30 pm AA in the Parlor
- 6:30 pm Art Class in the Nursery
- 7:30 pm Harvard Extension Drama in the Barn Room

Tuesday October 1

- 8:30 am Cambridge Minyan in the Barn Room and the Nursery
- 2:30 pm Elders Group in the Meditation Space
- 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

Wednesday October 2

- 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

Thursday October 3

- 6:00 pm Harvard Extension Drama in the Parlor
- 6:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room

Friday October 4

- 5:00 pm Harvard Book Store in the Meetinghouse

Saturday October 5

- 8:00 am Cambridge Minyan in the Parlor and the Nursery
- 8:30 am GSA in the Meditation Space
- 10:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room
- 6:00 pm Women's Circle in the Barn Room