



First Parish, Hingham
Old Ship Church

Unitarian Universalist
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office@oldshipchurch.org www.oldshipchurch.org

March 2023 Newsletter

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Deadline for April's Newsletter: Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Multi-Platform:
Join us in-person in the Meeting
House
or on Zoom



(masks and vaccinations are strongly urged)

Zoom link opens at 10:15 a.m.

[Click here to join Sunday Worship!](#)

There has been an uptake in reported Covid cases in Massachusetts and we are aware of a few members of our congregation who have recently tested positive.

All are welcome to our Sunday services however, if you are not feeling well, please consider zooming in this week for the health of your neighbors.

A Note from Erin

Robert Anthony wrote, "If you want to know what your true beliefs are, take a look at your actions."

Belief is our worship theme for the month. Here are some questions I'm thinking about as I prep for the month ahead perhaps, they resonate with you:



What is it you believe?
What do you know to be true?
Of what are you sure?
How is belief different from faith?

“Your beliefs will be the light by which you see,” writes Flannery O’Connor, “but they will not be what you see and they will not be a substitute for seeing.”

Peace,
Erin

Love in Action, Forward in Faith

"Love in Action, Forward in Faith" is the theme of this year's stewardship campaign. The campaign will kick off on 3/26 and run through the end of April. Stay tuned for more information!

Stewardship Campaign Committee: Bonnie Baynes, Mary Murphy, Susannah Thomas and Janet Asnes.

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

Fellowship Hour & Snacks:

We are having food for coffee hour! **Last names beginning A - H are asked to bring snacks this Sunday, March 5th.** Some type of finger or toothpick food that can be placed on a napkin is best. We don't have volunteers to hand wash dishes and are going to keep things simple. Please leave your food item on the table in the Fellowship Hall ready to go. Food can be left in it's box or served on a paper plate. Thanks everyone!



Since we don't have a working dishwasher or volunteers to hand wash dishes, we encourage bringing your own travel mug for coffee hour. Paper cups will also be available.

Musical Notes

Hello Old Ship Church,

As we prepare to move out of the Parish House, I have been sorting and organizing all things musical -- from sheet music and books to instruments and memorabilia. While it has been a sometimes tedious process, I'm reminded of the long history of music at Old Ship. I'm excited to be a part of this big step toward the next chapter and how music will be a part of it. Thank you all for your continuing support and kind words regarding the music offered here. I look forward to much more music to come! Be on the lookout this spring for some instrumental guest musicians



along with new music to lift us up and inspire. I look forward to seeing you at Sunday services! And last but certainly not least, there's room for more choir members -- so come sing with us!

Musically Yours,
Christopher

IOT is "on the move"

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Parish House Packing Parties! Kitchen and RE supplies are mostly done.

Wreath making supplies are now stored in the Jordan's shed.

Archives are being sorted and packed.

The Board is finalizing our lease, and it looks like we will be moving to 14 Main on March 15th.

The Board has decided on a tentative room configuration for 14 Main. A floor plan will soon be shared for comments.

Lisa has started notifying our office suppliers and partners of our moving date. The music fund to renovate the grand piano in the fellowship hall has some interested music aficionados! Want to join?

Decisions to be made this week:

- * which professional mover will be chosen?
- * what renovations should we authorize for the grand piano?
- * where will the temporary shed for Mark's equipment be located?

Please direct any questions or comments to:

[Carol Valentine](#), [Trish McAleer](#), [Jack Gomez](#) & [Ron Pollara](#)



**As of March 15th,
First Parish Hingham, Old Ship
Church's mailing address will be:**

14 Main Street
Hingham, MA 02043



Do you have payments sent directly from your bank account? If so, please update the mailing address.

**One More Event at The Labyrinth!
"Spring into the Well"
Sunday, March 19th at 5:00 PM**

We gather with our community around music, visuals, rituals and intention. Led by Santjes Oomen, Peter Lochetefeld and team.

All are welcome!

Sunday March 19 at 5:00 PM

For questions, please contact Santjes 508-228-9939
or santjesoomen@gmail.com

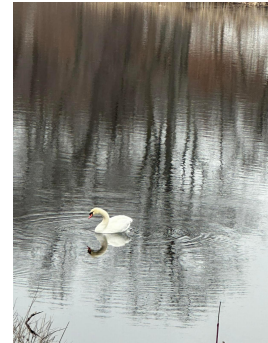


WISDOM OF THE POETS

" A light exists in spring
Not present on the year
At any other period -
When March is
scarcely here."

- Emily Dickinson

Responses always welcome (elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com)



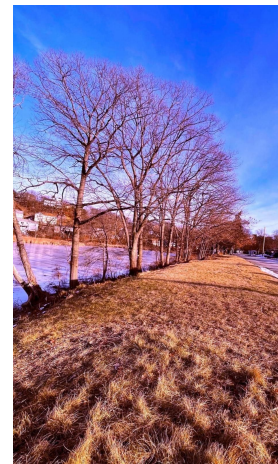
Spring (Vernal) Equinox Poetry Circle Monday March 20th 7 PM on ZOOM

Come join the worldwide poetry renaissance, and in the United states, Northeast Branch, Old Ship Affiliate! Bring a favorite poem, one that speaks to the hope of new beginnings, or one that inspires or challenges or comforts you, or even one that makes you laugh out loud. This evening is an opportunity to share and perhaps deepen our appreciation of poetry in community, and remind us of our connection with the natural cycles of the seasons and of life.

Come with or without a poem.

For more info: elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com or 781-749-0543

[Click here for the Zoom link](#)



Among Us

Marty Saunders' Memorial Service Monday, March 13th at 11:00 A.M.

The memorial service will be held on Monday, March 13 at 11:00 am at Linden Ponds in the Performing Arts Center in the lower level of the Derby Clubhouse, 203 Linden Ponds Way.

Refreshments will be served after the service. It is open to the public and the family encourages Old Ship Church members to attend as she loved Old Ship Church.

[Marty's completed obituary](#)

Note that Linden Ponds is holding their 14th annual (except for Covid) Spring Flower Show from March 11 to March 19. Marty created the show to 'chase away the winter blues' by bringing Spring to Linden Ponds. The Flower Show is held in the lobby between the Performing Arts Center and the Catering Room (where the refreshments will be served). The theme of the show is 'Gardens Bring Light into our Hearts'. Everyone is encouraged to enjoy the show.



There will be signs for Event Parking for visitors

Introducing Nicolas Wolf Wiers!

Brook's son was born on February 20, 2023.
Congratulations to the Wiers Family!



Invitation to Worship Tech Team

As you know, Colin McGinnis has been our solo "tech team" for Sunday worship for the past two years, managing the cameras and computer connections.. We would like to support Colin with a bit more of a team! If you are interested in helping out during the upcoming worship year, please contact [Lisa](#).



Life Learning Offerings

click here to see our [2022-2023 Life Learning Web Page](#)

Ongoing groups and gatherings

The Way of the Bodhisattva

Every Sunday morning, 8:30 AM. Zoom only. Twenty minutes of sitting meditation followed by discussion of a Buddhist or related text, facilitated by Catherine Mayes. Currently we are reading [Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind](#) by Shunryu Suzuki. Newcomers warmly welcomed. No experience with Buddhism necessary. For questions and Zoom link, email. [Lisa Sawyer](#).



Sacred Texts Meditation Group

Next gatherings: Thursdays, **March 9th & 23rd** 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., Zoom
Second and fourth Thursday afternoons

Each session will have a reading, a 15-minute meditation, and exploration of one chapter from the Tao Te Ching, including its meaning to each of us, as well as related writings, poetry or art. Newcomers are welcome. Gatherings will be Zoom only. For information and the Zoom link, contact [Rich Elliott](#) .

Men's Breakfast – Meets on the second Sunday morning, 8:30 a.m., of each month – our next gathering will be **March 12th**—in person and on Zoom. Contact Ralph Brown (ralph.e.brown@gmail.com) or Rich Elliott (richelliott56@gmail.com) for information and, for the Zoom link.

Women's Breakfast and Conversation – Ordinarily meets on the *fourth Sunday* morning of each month from 8:30 a.m. -10:15 a.m. The next meeting will be on **Sunday, March 26th** by Zoom only. Open to all the women of the church. If you would like to attend go to: <https://zoom.us/j/92656862826?pwd=cGZwOHVzR0lpLzdPQ2ZmVnNjYVZBUT09>. We gather to share our lives and enjoy one another's company. Conversations are confidential and, again, all are welcome!

Ceilidh! – Gathers on the first Tuesday of each month. This means our next monthly song/poem circle will be on Tuesday evening, **March 7th**, at 7:00 p.m. We are currently planning to gather in the Parlor as well as on Zoom. Email Eric Cornetta with any questions about Ceilidh or for the Zoom link:EECornetta@aol.com. The zoom link is:<https://zoom.us/j/92888235659?pwd=M3NEcVNibjdqM1RvUHhTUm9aN21Edz09>

Fiber Funship

We will meet Wednesdays at 1:00 pm, in the parlor. For info contact [Diane Elliott](#) or [Carol Valentine](#).

Welcoming Congregation Committee Discussion **Important Days to Recognize in March** **Wed. March 22nd, at 7p on Zoom.**

Zoom Link [https://zoom.us/j/95490356542?](https://zoom.us/j/95490356542?pwd=eDFNZUY0K2N4bzV4dEtZU3E2TVBJQT09)



<https://zoom.us/j/95490356542?pwd=eDFNZUY0K2N4bzV4dEtZU3E2TVBJQT09>

March has several days that recognize LGBTQ+ and other marginalized people. Each is important, and no one is more than the other.

What do you know about them? How will you honor them?

- Bisexual Health Awareness Month
- Women's History Month
- 3/1 - Zero Discrimination Day
- 3/10 - National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- 3/20 - National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- 3/21 - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 3/31 - International Transgender Day of Visibility

Join us on Zoom for a discussion of the coming month. How and what should we bring their importance to the larger community?

Living with Dying
Six Wednesdays, Feb. 22 — March 29,
7:00 p.m.,
Rich Elliott, Claire Petrie on Zoom



Despite the presence of death, dying and grief in our lives, we tend to avoid speaking of it directly. This class will facilitate a process of personal reflection, learning, and spiritual growth focused on topics relating to death and dying. We will invite participants to experience death and dying as a natural part of life. For information and for the Zoom link contact [Rich](#).

Serving Others

News from the Social Justice Council (SJC)

Next Meeting is Saturday, March 18, at 9 a.m. on Zoom. If you are not an SJC member and would like to join us for the meeting, contact [Davalene Cooper](mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net), at davalenecooper@verizon.net, for the Zoom link. All are welcome!



March's Special Plate Collection is for the Unaccompanied Minor Program through the International Institute of New England — This year, the International Institute of New England (IINE) is expanding its program to aid unaccompanied children as they arrive in the United States through the U.S. asylum system, which will allow it to double the number of children in its care. This Unaccompanied Children's program helps connect mostly Central American children forced to migrate because of violence, poverty, and deprivation in home countries with relatives or family ties in the U.S. while providing intensive trauma care, case management services, and professional support. The IINE program serves more than 300 children annually and will expand the number of children served, add deeper support, and expand the geographic reach of services. We have supported IINE in the past, but this is the first time we have supported this specific program.

Although the special plate in the Meeting House will be on Sunday, March 5, donations are accepted throughout the month of February [online](#) through the Old Ship website by designating your donation to IINE or by sending your check to the church office, payable to Old Ship, with IINE designated on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Food Donations for the Hingham Food Pantry — We continue to collect food donations for the Hingham Food Pantry each week in the Meeting House; there is a basket in the vestibule for donations. ***Donations may also be made at the Hingham Stop and Shop (large bin at the front of the store).*** The food pantry only accepts non-perishable, unopened, and unexpired food. Although all donations are appreciated, the following items are among the most needed at this time: Cookies, Jarred Pasta Sauce, Canned Beef Stew, Cheese or Peanut Butter Cracker Sandwiches, and Granola Bars.

Special Plate Report from January — Thanks to all who contributed to our

January special plate in support of Renewal House, a domestic violence shelter run by the UU Urban Ministry. We collected a total of \$1771.81. On another note, our Christmas Eve Service offering was divided among three groups; the UU Urban Ministry, Father Bill's/Mainspring, and UUSC each received \$534.

Anti-Racism/Social Justice Book Group meeting on March 19 at 7 p.m. on Zoom — Our March book is *The Other Side of Prospect: A Story of Violence, Injustice, and the American City*, by Nicholas Dawidoff. This book focuses on inequality, race, class, and violence, as it tells the story of a murder in New Haven, CT. Here is the Zoom link for the March meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84810976357>.

Upcoming Event at the UU Urban Ministry — Community Conversations: Policing in Schools: How it affects young people and contributes to the racial wealth gap. Presented by Roxbury Youth Program's Interns and sponsored by: First Parish Milton. Be a part of this discussion that will look at the school to prison pipeline, and how police brutality affects young people of color on a social and emotional level, which they then take with them into adulthood. To join this Zoom event, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82234022986>

Old Ship Social Justice Action Alert Network — Sign up for the Old Ship Social Justice Action Alert Network to find out about specific advocacy opportunities such as letter writing, advocacy calls, and participating in educational and advocacy events with local legislators. Send your email address to [Davalene Cooper](mailto:Davalene.Cooper@oldship.org), Keeper of the List.

UU Mass Action Advocacy Day 2023--Save the Date! Tuesday, March 28 — This is a day where UU's come together in community and act on our values by meeting with legislators about critical statewide policies around our five core issue areas: Decarceration and Economic, Climate, Indigenous, and Immigrant Justice. [Sign up here](#) to stay tuned on when registration opens for our UU Mass Action Advocacy Day!



The Old Ship Calendar

The Old Ship Church calendar is available on our website by clicking [here](#).

If you have an upcoming event or meeting and you want to see it on the calendar, please email [Lisa](#) in the office.

Additionally, if your contact information has changed, please email [Lisa](#) so she can update the Old Ship database.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

- **Deacon's Meeting** - Wednesday, March 1st 7:00 p.m.
- **Board of Trustees** - Thursday, March 2nd 7:00 p.m. Zoom/Parlor;

[click for Zoom Link for this Meeting](#)
[click here for the Meeting Agenda](#)

- **Choir Practice** - Thursday, March 2nd 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- **Choir Practice** - Sunday, March 5th 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall
- **Finance Committee Meeting** - Tuesday, March 7th 7:00 p.m.
Zoom/Nursery

Printer Cartridge Collection

Please bring your used printer cartridges to the Parish House and help raise funds for our office supplies. In 2019 we were able to convert used cartridges into almost \$500 of office supplies! Drop off your cartridges in the office or on the table right outside of the office door. Any brand or type of cartridge is fine.

Thank you!



Happy St. Patrick's Day from your friends at Old Ship Church!

First Parish, Old Ship Church | 107 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043

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