



First Parish, Hingham  
**Old Ship Church**

Unitarian Universalist  
107 Main Street Hingham, MA 02043  
(781) 749-1679  
[office@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:office@oldshipchurch.org) [www.oldshipchurch.org](http://www.oldshipchurch.org)

## May 2023 Newsletter

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**Deadline for June's Newsletter: Tuesday, May 23, 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)*

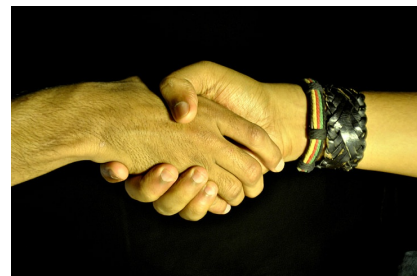
Zoom link opens at 10:15 a.m.

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

### **Congregational Connections** **Sunday, May 7** **12:00 PM**

Our Listening Circles have encouraged us to express ourselves and listen to fellow Old Ship members. This Sunday, expanding on Rev.

Erin's sermon on Grace, members and friends have another opportunity to deepen our connections after by sharing what is important to us. And, coffee hour will be held just outside the meeting house, so we can enjoy the fine weather and pop back inside at 12:00 pm to connect.



### **A Note From Erin**

### **A Month of Sundays at Old Ship**

**May 7th** — We will continue April's theme of Grace for one more Sunday. "I do not at all understand the mystery of grace" writes Anne Lamott "only that it meets us where we are but does not leave us where it found us." How do we UUs understand grace? How do you know when grace is present in your life or when it is absent?



**May 14th** — This year several Old Ship folks will be joining thousands of people. The Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace (MDW4P). The MDW4P started in 1996 so mothers of murdered children could receive support and love from their neighbors. Twenty-seven years later, the Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace continues to be a powerful way to honor loved ones who have been murdered and embrace our shared responsibility in creating more peaceful communities. Our service will explore all of that and more.

**May 21st** — Music Sunday! As usual Christopher has created a wonderful hour of music and readings to fill our hearts and lift our spirits.

**May 28th** — Four Friends and A Futon Rev. Hank Peirce will be our guest minister. He writes, "It takes a village to raise a child, yet when that child has an addiction problem finding support for them and for the family becomes difficult due to long held assumptions. The sermon will center around the Christian story of Jesus and the paralyzed man."

Peace,  
Erin

## Message & Update From Your Board Of Trustees

It's that time of the year, turning the corner towards summer, looking ahead together to May and June with the "church year" calendar then slowing down. Never stopping, as our Summer services are wonderful, and there's work to do, each other to support, and a world to tend to, all summer too.



We are sending you some updates ( in no particular order ) .

**Stewardship Campaign:** This year's Stewardship Campaign ends on April 30th. As we wrote this newsletter, we are less than \$30,000 away from our goal with a definite increase in participation. The annual stewardship campaign supports our operational budget; it is the monetary expression of our values and our hopes for the future. As we prepare to construct a new space to meet, work, share and learn, it is vitally important that we understand, as a congregation, what our financial obligations and goals are. We need to be clear on what we can responsibly budget for in order to plan for our future. Thank you to everyone who has pledged so far. Yes, money is important. But

equally as important is demonstrating our level of commitment to our congregation. So, whether you pledged \$10.00, \$100.00, \$1000.00 or more, we are incredibly grateful to YOU!

*From the Pledge team itself : We have had so much fun connecting with so many church members and friends, hearing your stories, hosting themed, upbeat fellowship hours. We too hope you have enjoyed this time. We also ask for your grace, and forgiveness, on a couple of things ! In a blitz of communication modalities, we sometimes don't catch each and every error especially, but not only, in mail merging and sorting. We do try , how we all communicate with each other is important. But we have missed a few things. Please , please let us know if you received something from us that had errors, we will fix it, and apologize. We don't want anyone to feel badly about a letter, communication with an error that smarts. Very much the opposite actually, of the joy and warmth we are experiencing at engaging in this work together with you.*

Congregational Conversation on May 7th after church. What a journey we've all been on together these past few years! Please join us for a congregation check in following the service on Sunday, May 7th. This forum will be an opportunity to connect on how things are going for us. Together we will discern, answer a few key questions related to hopes, goals, needs. And, it will connect to the Worship service content that day as well ( a package deal! ). We hope all will join in and participate.

Ministerial Search Committee: The Search Committee has completed our Ministerial Record ( a statement of who we are right now, what we are looking for, and key Old Ship history) and has shared it with the Unitarian Universalist Association Transitions Office. It is available for ministers to review, and they will reach out to us if interested in our contract minister position. The team will meet and interview all the candidates, assess and score fairly and determine together with the board who to extend an offer to. We will keep you posted on the process weekly.



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
PITTSBURGH • JUNE 21 - 25, 2023

General Assembly:

We are proud to announce that there are 7 people, at this writing, attending GA and taking an active role at GA. 4 as our delegates. This is, for Old Ship, a responsibility and a joy that we have not fully taken advantage of in the past . Going forward, recommitting to our denominational connection may well be an Old Ship priority, there is much to learn together and do together with our Association, and all of the member' churches and congregations. We have many shared goals and hopes, perhaps engaging together more meaningfully can move us closer to meeting them, and making movements we'd like to see in the world more visible.

That's it for now! Doesn't quite feel like a slow down, does it. And, yet, very happy to be doing all of this together with you

Warmly,

The Board of Trustees,  
Maureen Butler, Acting President  
Jack Gomez, Treasurer  
Trish McAleer, Clerk  
Roy Harris, Trustee  
Janice McPhillips, Trustee  
Karen Churchill, Trustee  
Dennis Hogan, Trustee  
Janet Asnes, President Emerita

### **Pastoral Care Leadership Team**

We are all on the pastoral care team, but our “Pastoral Care Leadership Team” meets each month to share any concerns about parishioners who are ill, in the hospital, or facing other significant challenges, and to coordinate responses. If you have a pastoral concern to share with our Team, please feel free to contact any member of the group:



[Ralph Brown](#)  
[Liz Flint](#)  
[Elaine Gomez](#)  
[Alicia Harkness](#)  
[Fan Leonard](#)  
[Claire Petrie](#)  
[Joan Wilson](#)  
[Erin Splaine](#)

### **Nurturing Community**

#### **Among Us**

Foster Aborn's Memorial Service will be held on at the Old Ship Church on Saturday, May 13th at 10:30 AM. A reception at the Ames Chapel will be held after the service.



### **Fellowship Hour & Snacks:**

We are having food for coffee hour! **Last names beginning Q-Z are asked to bring snacks on Sunday, May 7th.** 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 at 14 Main Street ready to go. Food can be left in it's box or served on a paper plate. Thanks everyone!



## Musical Notes

Dear Old Ship,

May is an exciting month for music. On Sunday the 21st we will celebrate our annual 'Music Sunday' service. This year the choir will sing several beautiful and uplifting anthems that are accompanied by a string quartet. Additionally, we will hear from our wonderful quartet of soloists. I am looking forward to having these wonderful guest musicians with us on this special Sunday as it is certain to be one to remember. I hope to see the Meeting House filled with smiling faces, so invite a friend with whom you can enjoy the experience. I will leave you with a taste of what you will hear: Ola Gjeilo's hauntingly beautiful composition "Sacred Heart."



I look forward to seeing you at Music Sunday on May 21st.

Musically Yours,  
Christopher

<https://youtu.be/RQSCSOKVGAY>

## WISDOM OF THE POETS

### Instructions on Not Giving up

More than the fuchsia funnels breaking out of the crabapple tree, more than the neighbor's almost obscene display of cherry limbs shoving their cotton candy-colored blossoms to the slate sky of spring rains, it's the greening of the trees that really gets to me. When all the shock of white and taffy, the world's baubles and trinkets, leave the pavement strewn with the confetti of aftermath, the leaves come. Patient, plodding, a green skin growing over whatever winter did to us, a return to the strange idea of continuous living despite the mess of us, the hurt, the empty. Fine then, I'll take it, the tree seems to say, a new slick leaf unfurling like a fist, I'll take it all.



Ada Limon, current US Poet Laureate

Responses always welcome ([elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com))

## Game Night!

Friday, May 5th at 6:00 PM

14 Main Street

Bring a game, a snack, or just yourself to an Old Ship community game night! We can have some fun and get to know each other better. Contact Heather Nolasco ([heatherbachelder27@gmail.com](mailto:heatherbachelder27@gmail.com) or 541-721-1418) with any questions or your RSVP.



## Life Learning Offerings

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

### Ongoing groups and gatherings



### Engage and Create! **Starts Tomorrow Night!**

Join the last Life Learning class of this church year, called Engage and Create! The class is taught by David Nelson, who invites you to come together to engage with each other, and create art in any form. Creativity is about relationships — with objects and with people. Talking about convergence, and divergence, can prompt new ways of thinking about creating images and words. Sessions include conversations, and showing and making artworks. The class will take place on five Wednesdays, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., at 14 Main Street. Participants will be limited to the first 8 who register. For information, contact David at 781-385-7952 or [dgn02067@gmail.com](mailto:dgn02067@gmail.com).

### 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. For questions and Zoom link, email.

[Lisa Sawyer](#).

### Sacred Texts Meditation Group

Next gatherings: **Thursdays, May 11th & May 25th** 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 **May 14th**—in person and on Zoom. Contact Ralph Brown ([ralph.e.brown@gmail.com](mailto:ralph.e.brown@gmail.com)) or Rich Elliott ([richelliott56@gmail.com](mailto: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. But in May, the next meeting will be on **Sunday, May 21th** by Zoom and in person. 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, **May 2nd**, at 7:00 p.m. We are currently planning to gather in the 14 Main St 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 14 Main Street Parlor. For info contact [Diane Elliott](#) or [Carol Valentine](#).

### **Listening Circles**

The Listening Circles are continuing through the month of May. If you are interested in attending please contact Diane Elliott. Due to planning challenges it is best if you let me know you are interested and then I will work to find a date that works for at least 5 or 6 people. The Committee on Transitional Ministry appreciates your interest and dedication in attending the circles.

Thank you

Diane

[dianeabbeyelliott@gmail.com](mailto:dianeabbeyelliott@gmail.com)

781 264 6234



### **Serving Others**

#### **News from the Social Justice Council (SJC)**

*The next SJC Meeting will be a planning meeting in August. All are welcome to join us in supporting social justice service and action at Old Ship, and in planning our program for the new church year. Please*

*contact [Davalene Cooper](#) if you are not currently*

*a member of the SJC and would like to be informed of the time and date for that planning meeting.*



#### **Special Plate for May: Holly Hill Farms' Farm to Food Pantry Program—**

We are aware of the increase in the number of people being served by area food pantries and the need for those food pantries to have fresh and healthy produce for their clients. As a result, we are again supporting Holly Hill Farm's Farm to Food Pantry (F2FTP) program that provides fresh and healthy food for local food pantries. Volunteers plant, grow, and deliver organic vegetables and herbs to local food pantries on the south shore. This program is often staffed by high school students who are involved in planting, composting, cultivating,

harvesting, cleaning and prepping vegetables, and finally, delivering the organic produce to area food pantries. This is another opportunity for our congregation to support those with food insecurity--and to provide healthy food that is otherwise not easily obtained through food pantries. Last year, this program donated over 2,000 pounds of fresh produce to local food pantries. Supporting this important work is another way in which we can demonstrate our love and care for our neighbors in need.

Although the special plate in the Meeting House will be on Sunday, May 14, donations are accepted throughout the month of May [online](#) through the Old Ship website by designating your donation to F2FTP, or by sending your check to the church office, payable to Old Ship, with F2FTP 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, Canned Ravioli, Beefaroni, or Spaghetios, Cheese or Peanut Butter Cracker Sandwiches, and Granola Bars.

### **Want to Help Provide Lunches for the Anderson Veterans Home in Hingham this Coming August?**

We at Old Ship are part of a community wide interfaith effort to provide six lunches twice a week (Tuesday and Friday) to the Anderson Veterans Home on Fort Hill Street in Hingham. Lunch consists of a deli-meat sandwich, chips, fresh fruit, cookie, and water or juice. Old Ship is responsible for the month of August; we are looking for volunteers to take one of the August dates and provide the six lunches. You could do this individually, as a family, or as a group of friends. The lunches are left in a cooler outside the side door of the home. If you would like to be a part of this effort, please contact [Davalene Cooper](#).

**Anti-Racism/Social Justice Book Group meeting on May 21 at 7 p.m. on Zoom** — Our May book is Jeremy Williams book, *Climate Change\* Is Racist: Race, Privilege and the Struggle for Climate Justice*. This book explores how White privilege and climate change overlap, unleashing the damage from climate change primarily on people of color--at least thus far. Brenda Black will lead our discussion. Everyone is welcome to attend this drop-in book group. Here is the Zoom link for the May meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84810976357>.

**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](#), Keeper of the List.

**Mothers Day Walk for Peace.  
Sunday May 14th**



This year Old Ship will create a team to walk in the important Mothers Day Walk for Peace on May 14th . Event Starts at 8 AM , at Town Field, Dorchester, MA. The Event supports and is integral to The Louis D Brown Institute for Peace. The Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace (MDW4P) was founded in 1996 by the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's President and CEO Chaplain Clementina Chéry. The walk was created for mothers of murdered children to receive support and love from their neighbors. When Chaplain Chéry's son, Louis, was murdered, she wondered how she could grieve her son on Mother's Day and also celebrate her living children. Twenty-seven years later, the walk continues as a powerful way to honor loved ones who have been murdered and embrace our shared responsibility of peacemaking.



See the website for much more detail, especially around the work the institute does to promote support, healing, education and training for communities and individuals impacted by trauma, loss and grief.

<https://www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org/>

Our [Team Website Page](#) is up and running so you can check it out, sign up, promote donations from friends and family, etc.

The walk and the institute are dedicated to promoting interfaith engagement, and challenging us to turn our hopes into action. This year's theme is : "Cultivating Cycles of Peace."

From website: " In our society, we are constantly looped into cycles of violence that overshadows the transformative power of peace. Like a blooming flower, cycles of peace flourish when carefully cultivated. We have the agency to cultivate these cycles by empowering survivors, supporting returning citizens and their families and investing in Generation Peace. We invite you to walk with us as we cultivate cycles of peace in our communities. Our goal is \$600,000. With your help, we can reach it, together! "

Once our Team website is up and running we will invite other church communities nearby to join us.

Team Co-Leads are [Maureen Butler](#) and [Heather Nolasco](#).

Feel free to reach out to us with your questions, ideas, etc.

[butlermcginnis18@gmail.com](mailto:butlermcginnis18@gmail.com)

[heatherbachelder27@gmail.com](mailto:heatherbachelder27@gmail.com)

## **Old Ship Annual Plant Sale**

**Saturday, May 20**

**9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

The annual Old Ship Plant Sale is being held on the lawn in front of the Meeting House on Saturday May 20, 2023 from 9am – 1pm. We need help in many areas – if you have a garden and can pot-up some perennials to

share, please do so. Please carefully label your plants with as much information as possible including growth habit, height and bloom time. It's great if you can include a photo or a picture of the flower. We find that having photos helps shoppers envision how the plant will look in their yard and this is one of the secrets to the huge success of our plant sales over the past years. There are many other ways to help including potting up, bagging up composted manure for sale, setting up on May 19. For questions about any of that, please contact Janice McPhillips at [jbbmcpillips@gmail.com](mailto:jbbmcpillips@gmail.com). We also need help the day of the plant sale and please contact Laura Harbottle at [lauraharbottle@comcast.net](mailto:lauraharbottle@comcast.net) to sign up for a shift. Thank you!



**Save the Date:  
Annual Meeting  
Sunday, May 21st  
12:00 P.M.  
Meeting House**

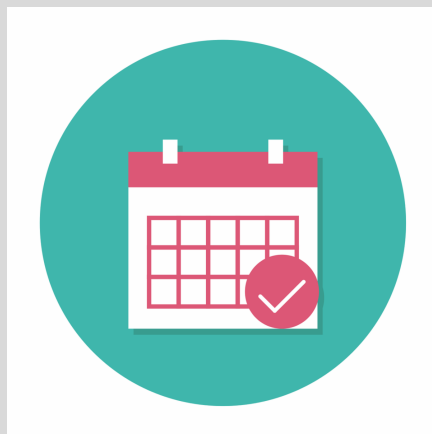


**As of March 15th,  
First Parish Hingham, Old Ship  
Church's mailing address will be:**

14 Main Street  
Hingham, MA 02043



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



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

## Upcoming Committee Meetings

- **Deacon's Meeting** - Wednesday, May 3 7:00 p.m.

• **Board of Trustees** - Thursday, May 4 7:00 p.m. Zoom/Parlor;  
[click for Zoom Link for this Meeting](#) [Click here for the Agenda](#)

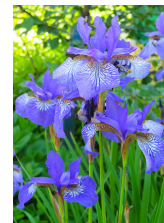
- **Choir Practice** - Sunday, May 7 9:00 a.m. Meeting House

### **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 Spring  
from your friends at  
Old Ship Church!**



First Parish, Old Ship Church | 14 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043

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