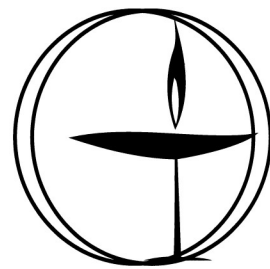


BRIDGING



Newsletter of the First Parish Church, Bridgewater, MA, Unitarian Universalist

November 2013

Highlights	From the Minister
<p>11/2/13 8pm Off the Common Coffee House at FP</p> <p>11/3/13 10:30am All Souls Day w/Rev. Anita</p> <p>11/10/13 10:30am "The Lone Ranger's Creed" Rev. Michael LeDuc</p> <p>11/13/13 7:30pm One Book— One Community</p> <p>11/16/13 6-9pm Covenant Con- versations & Potluck</p> <p>11/17/13 10:30am Worship with Rev. Anita</p> <p>11/19/13 5-7pm Coming Out Potluck at First Parish</p> <p>11/24/13 10:30am Guest at Your Table Service</p> <p>11/29/13 7pm T"UU"rning Leaves Book Club</p>	<p><i>"Where our deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet, we hear a further call."</i> - Frederick Buechner</p> <p>November: While the light lessens, a time of abundance and harvest.</p> <p>November: While nature is divesting, a time of gathering and provisioning.</p> <p>November: While beginning by acknowledging loss, it closes with acknowl- edging blessings.</p> <p>What a spiritual treasure is November. It invites us into deeper places; guides and prepares us to seek what is important- to find our treasure, our inner center of gladness, our deep heart of compassion, our untapped wisdom and power. It prepares us to hear the further call of which Buechner speaks:</p> <p>"Where our deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet..."</p> <p>And we do it together. While we know that each of us must do the work of discerning our own call, time has taught us that such work is best done in community, in covenanted community. Our tradition has shown us this over thousands of years. Each of us grows best, in body and in spirit, when we are held and hold each other, in good faith and care.</p> <p>We are creating a wonderful opportunity for this congregation to gather, eat, laugh and play together, and through it generate what is a meaningful behavior covenant for our life together. Saturday, November 16, 6:00 PM.</p> <p>Come, eat and talk and play with us. Together we can find where your deep gladness and the world's deep hun- ger meet, and discern your further call and ours. For as surely as there is a call for each of us, there is one for us together.</p> <p><i>November blessings,</i></p> <p><i>Rev. Anita</i></p>

Minister

Rev. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson
 anitafr@comcast.net
 617-257-5854

Directory of Religious Ed

Victoria Capon
 dre.bridgewater@gmail.com

Parish Committee

President: Bob Messing
 rmessing@massbankers.org
 508-378-3340

Vice President: Sam Baumgarten
 sbaumgarten@verizon.net
 508-697-6848

Treasurer: Stefan Michaud
 spmicha@verizon.net
 (508) 946-5684

Clerk: Susan Irish
 eirish2@aol.com
 508-378-2906

Members at Large: Pat Hart
 Gordon Hatfield
 Jan Thompson

Church Sexton / Building Rental

Tom St. Thomas: 508-697-8637

Choir Director/Pianist

Denise Haskins
 denisehaskins@comcast.net

Tone Chimes Choir Director

Lisa Rue
 508-378-8359,
 lisa_rue80@yahoo.com

Religious Education Committee

Chair: Korin Zigler
 Laurie Lessner
 Peter Jacobson

Community Minister

Rev. Rachel Tedesco
 revrayted@comcast.com
 508-378-3904

Social Justice Committee

Convener: Betty Gilson
 gillyflower@verizon.net
 774-226-0942

Membership Committee

Chair: Jan Thompson
 janicethompson22@comcast.net
 508-697-2492

Green Sanctuary Committee

Chair: Eileen Hiney
 fryleen@verizon.net
 508-279-3955

First Principle Project

Convener: Betty Gilson
 gillyflower@verizon.net
 774-226-0942

Facilities Committee

Chair: Frank Yeatman
 Fryleen@verizon.net
 508-279-3955

Office Administrator

Jamie Doulette
 firstparishbridgewater@hotmail.com
 508-697-8229

October Worship Services

Sundays at 10:30am

November Worship Services:

Nov. 3 – All Souls Service with Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson
 Nov. 10 – Guest preacher Rev. Michael LeDuc: "The Lone Ranger's Creed"
 Nov. 17 – Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson
 Nov. 24 – Guest At Your Table with the Social Justice Committee

Lay Worship Leaders & Ushers for the Month:

Nov. 3 – Leader: Louella Mann; Ushers: Mark Young & Frank Yeatman
 Nov. 10 – Leader: Laurie Turner-Curran; Ushers: Rob Waterman & Lisa Rue
 Nov. 17 – Leader: Karen Messing; Ushers: Beth Manchester-Howell &
 Jo-Ann Compagnone
 Nov. 24 – Leader: Betty Gilson; Ushers: Lisa Troy & Denise Haskins

Note: If you are unable to usher on your assigned morning, we request that you find a substitute. If you are unable to find a substitute, please notify Tom St. Thomas (508-697-8637) or Rev. Rachel Tedesco (508-378-3907). Thanks to everyone for your willingness to fulfill these important roles.

Pre-Service Announcements: The Worship Committee asks a few things of those who wish to have an announcement read at the beginning of the service: 1) Please limit announcements to church-related business. 2) Keep it brief and to the point. 3) Write it out as clearly and legibly as you can ... or print it out ahead of time if you think this would make it easier for the Lay Worship Leader to read. 4) Come early enough to go over your announcement with the Leader to make sure it is understood. Thank you for your help in making this part of the service go as smoothly and quickly as possible.

The Worship Committee Meetings:

Monthly Worship Committee meeting on Tuesday, November 12 at 7 p.m. in the Church Office.

Workshop for Worship Associates on Thursday, November 14 at 7 p.m. in the Upper Parish Hall.

Committee members: Rev. Rachel Tedesco, Chair; Denise Haskins, Stefan Michaud, David Page, Tom St. Thomas. Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson.

MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Anita is on site in Bridgewater on the second, third, and fourth Tuesday and Thursday of every month and the first and third Sundays of every month. On the first **full** week of the month, Rev. Anita is off. Also, staff meetings are held each Tuesday from 12:30 – 2:30pm.

All regular business should be handled after the first full week of the month. Emergencies of course come up, and she understands that.

Your help in protecting her time is appreciated.



ReligiousEducation

Connecting for Change! What a great conference. Three days of wonderful performances of music, spoken word and dance, awesome key note speakers on topics such as sustainable living, global climate change, social justice issues and spirituality with a main focus on understanding the interconnectedness of all things. All in all a VERY UU experience, and it was wonderful sharing this experience with the three youth group members that attended.

One brilliant keynote speaker on Friday morning was Professor Trisha Rose. She grew up in the Bronx in poverty and now teaches at Brown University. She talked about how hard it is for us as human beings to confront human suffering and when we do so we must start where we are to get to where we want to be, confronting what is going on around us even though it is uncomfortable. She went on to say that by ignoring race issues we do not make them go away. The status quo being a convenient colorblind perspective, "I don't see you in all your complexities because then I will have to face my privilege." This statement hit me in a place where I could really hear it. I have thought for so long that I was "color blind" when it came to race, my adopted sister is black and I grew up in a very liberal household where I learned that the color of a person does not matter, but this statement made it very clear to me how unevolved my perspective really is and how with this perspective I can comfortably stay in my place of privilege.

We are individuals and we are individuals in groups. "Transforming the meaning of our identities is essential," she said, "and yes I, Trisha Rose, have broken the mold, but I am part of a much bigger mold." We can do our work of changing ourselves, but then we have to go out and help make the world we dream of.



Volunteering at First Parish in the religious education department as a co-teacher can be a wonderful way to get to know families, children and other wonderful volunteers that are committed to the future of this planet. We can also learn so much about Unitarian Universalism, other world religions and ourselves. Please consider volunteering to teach this winter session. The session begins the first Sunday in January and ends the second Sunday in February. We also need volunteer co-teachers for the Spring session, beginning March 2nd and ending May 4th. Contact your Acting Director of Religious Education, Victoria Capon at dre.bridgewater@gmail.com or you can call her at 508-717-2401, or connect with her on Sundays, Thanks!

COVENANT CONVERSATIONS & POTLUCK—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 6-9PM

Last year, a small working group—Mary Maruska, Jack Hart, Lisa Rue, Sam Baumgarten, and Rev. Anita—developed a revised Covenant, trimming down the three page, 2005 document to a more concise one page statement. That document was sent out last year in one of the weekly e-mails, and we are including it again on the next page.

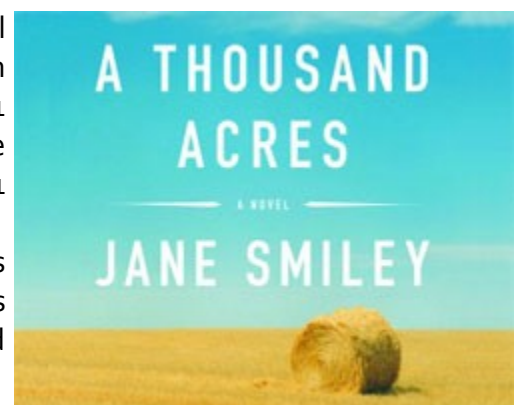
We will encourage conversation about the Covenant this fall, including inviting the entire church to an enjoyable evening of potluck dining and creative sharing/discussion about the proposed document. We are planning a skit based on one or more key points in the Covenant, and we plan to have attendees discuss and share views on the bullet points, and, perhaps, respond in artistic ways, as well. The pot luck is scheduled for **Saturday night, November 16, from 6:00-9:00**. The event is entitled: "Cool Covenant Conversations: Bringing the Covenant to Life." Mark your calendars now! Childcare will be provided.



T"UU"RING LEAVES BOOK CLUB

Friday, November 29 at 7pm the T"UU"ring Leaves Book Club will meet at the home of Betty Gilson to discuss the November selection "A Thousand Acres" by Jane Smiley. A Thousand Acres is a 1991 novel by American author Jane Smiley. It won the 1992 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, the National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction in 1991 and was adapted to a 1997 film of the same name.

The novel is a modernized retelling of Shakespeare's King Lear and is set on a thousand acre (four hundred hectares) farm in Iowa that is owned by a family of a father and his three daughters. It is told through the point of view of the oldest daughter, Ginny.



The Covenant of First Parish Church, Bridgewater, MA

Love is the spirit of this church
and service its gift.

This is our great covenant:
To dwell together in peace,
to speak the truth in love,
and to help one another.

In 2005, we the members of First Parish Church, Unitarian Universalist, Bridgewater, MA, accepted the above words as part of our Covenant. Now, we recite them each Sunday.

The 2005 Covenant also included the following historically relevant statements:

We make this covenant with each other to "walk in love towards one another, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace..."
(Covenant of the Brethren of the South Parish in Bridgewater, July 7, 1718)

Believing it is our duty ... to do all we can for the welfare of others and help one another in every good work ... we promise to give our hearty support to the public worship of this church, to encourage others in a reverent and regular attendance, to co-operate earnestly in all our religious work, and to endeavor to live in all ways ... faithful in our relations with each other.

(The Covenant of the First Parish of Bridgewater, adopted November 3, 1895)

To bring the above statements to fruition, **we pledge to** each other, our fellow Church Members, Church Leadership, Church Staff, Minister, and our Youth to:

Maintain personal integrity

Nurture each other's spiritual growth

Communicate honestly and directly, maintaining confidentiality and avoiding gossip

Listen sensitively and patiently, without judgment

Keep an open mind on all issues

Tolerate differences of opinion

Support each other in joys and sorrows

Serve as models of appropriate and respectful behavior

Focus on the common goal of creating a vibrant religious community, remembering that such a community requires our time, talent, and financial support

Use this Covenant as a guidepost in making decisions

Honoring these pledges will enable us to have "an inclusive community of love, truth, justice, stewardship, and service within and beyond these walls."



First Parish People

My Path to Unitarian/Universalism

Susan A Holton

From London, a farm town in Ohio to Boston MA. I have gone from a Methodist, following the prescribed theology, to a committed Unitarian Universalist. . Every Sunday morning, we went to the Methodist Sunday School with our offering tied in a little white handkerchief. I should have known I was a UU when the catechism teacher suggested to my dad that I quit asking so many questions! Church and academia have prescribed my life as I learned and taught in both.

I miss my students immensely and am honored when they reconnect and thank me for teaching (even research methodology!) and caring about them. . I taught mainly at Bridgewater for 25 years and consulted nationally, primarily with the Alban Institute which works with all denominations.

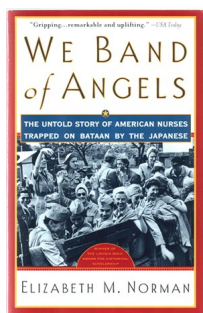
I have been a UU for 40 years, and it has totally changed my life. I felt my son's first kick when we first visited the UU church in Framingham. That must have presaged something as he and his wife are now UU ministers in Portsmouth, NH. I met Joe when I preached in his church, the UU society of Amherst. While I was gifted with staying home with CL for 8 years, I was always intensely involved with denominational work, both national and international. My proudest denominational accomplishment was the creation of the New England Leadership School. The theologian the first year was The Rev. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson.

Unitarian Universalism is at the center of my life. We chose our home town based on the UU church we wanted to join. Our wedding began with a chalice lighting and singing Spirit of Life. In addition to rings, we exchanged chalice necklaces. UUism has united us with our most significant others and people with whom we share a sense of humor – strange as it may be- and who share our sense of making a difference in the world.

During an intergenerational service, our son Christopher, a precocious preschooler, stood up and loudly proclaimed, "I love church." That sums up why and who I am.

COMING OUT DAY

Tuesday, November 19 from 5 -7pm join with Lee Forest and the GLBTA community at Bridgewater State University for the annual Pot Luck Dinner at First Parish in recognition of National Coming Out Day. In the past we have observed this event in October. But at Lee's request we are holding it shortly before the Thanksgiving break. This is a time when students may be headed home to share their stories for the first time with family and friends. The opportunity to meet with a Welcoming Congregation and have a chance for comfortable conversation will be helpful for them. Please participate in this special evening. RSVP to Betty Gilson so we know how many places to set at the table. gillyflower@verizon.net or 774-226-0942



ONE BOOK ONE COMMUNITY

Elizabeth M. Norman, author of "We Band of Angels," the One Book One Community read for the Town of Bridgewater and Bridgewater State University, will discuss her true, previously untold account of the first American women to prove their mettle under combat conditions. Her presentation will be Wednesday, November 13 at 7:30pm in Boyden Hall's Horace Mann Auditorium. A book sale and signing will follow her presentation. The event is free and open to the public. Tickets are not required.

SAVE THE DATE TO VOLUNTEER & ATTEND

*******HOLLY DAY FAIRE*******

Friday, December 6, 6-9pm & Saturday, December 7, 9a-3p

We need your soup, cookies, books, rummage, greens, time, spirit, energy & spending power!!

Please plan to be a part of this warm, friendly, charming holiday celebration!!!

Vendors can rent tables for 2 days at \$30 or one day for \$25. Members are \$25 for 2 days.

Watch for weekly emails for more information or

Contact Mary Maruska @ 508-726-2632



SMILE! YOU'RE IN CANDID PICTURES!

The First Parish Photo Directory photo shoots have finished and the second phase of production is underway. We are looking for recent photos any of you may have taken at First Parish festivities, including the Fourth of July celebration, Peace Vigil, Holly Day Fair, Candlelight Service, and any other candid shots of activities at First Parish. If you have any photos you'd like to submit, please contact Jan Thompson JaniceThompson22@comcast.net (508) 697-2492.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

More than a million people in Massachusetts, one third of the workers in the state, do not have the skills required to work in our changing economy. They need adult basic education services. Adults without high school education and with low literacy skills suffer economically and are less apt to vote. The demand for adult basic education is far greater than the available services.

Many are English speakers whose first language is not English. They need help in speaking, reading and writing to be productive citizens and to assist their families.

Right here in the Bridgewater/Brockton area many people need to improve these literacy skills. The Literacy Place in Bridgewater offers free one-on-one tutoring for adults. But more tutors are always required. Can you give one hour a week as a tutor? We will be arranging tutor training classes soon with Sheila Heagney, a retired Brockton public school teacher. To volunteer as a teacher call Sheila at 508-697-2807.

Perhaps you have other skills that would help the Literacy Place. We need volunteers who are knowledgeable in finances, organizing and public relations to help the board of directors. Retired school administrators would be especially helpful.

Call Betty Gilson at 774-226-0942 for more information.

GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE'S TIP OF THE MONTH

In keeping with GSC's Sustainability Topic at the 10/17/13 service, here are some important reminders to keep in mind in your home.

At Home

1. Turn off your lights and appliances when you don't need them.
2. Consider three-way lamps; they make it easier to keep lighting levels low when brighter light isn't necessary.
3. Dry your clothes using a clothesline instead of running your dryer.
4. Periodically inspect your dryer vent to ensure it is not blocked. This will save energy and may prevent a fire.
5. Close fireplace dampers when not in use. A chimney is designed for smoke to escape, so until you close it, warm air escapes.
6. Use cold water in your washing machine.
7. Air-dry dishes instead of using your dishwasher's heat cycle.
8. Wash only full loads in your washing machine and dishwasher.
9. Change at least three of your household light bulbs to compact fluorescent light bulbs.
10. Clean your refrigerator coils to help your fridge breathe easier and require less energy.
11. Cut down on the number of catalogs jamming your mailbox. See www.catalogchoice.com for ways to remove yourself from mailing lists.
12. Knock two minutes off your shower time, and use a timer to stay honest.
13. Install low-flow showerheads and low-flow toilets.
14. Look for the Energy Star label on appliances and products. Energy Star appliances meet strict efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.
15. Ask the energy company to advise you on your home's energy efficiency.
16. Check the insulation levels in your attic, crawl spaces, ceilings, floors and exterior walls. Visit www.energysavers.gov for instructions on checking your insulation.
17. Check for holes or cracks around your walls, ceilings, windows, doors, light and plumbing fixtures, switches and electrical outlets that can leak energy out of your home.
18. Make sure your appliances and heating and cooling systems are properly maintained. Check your owner's manuals for the recommended maintenance schedule.
19. Turn off kitchen, bath and other exhaust fans within 20 minutes after you are done cooking or bathing. When replacing exhaust fans, consider installing high-efficiency, low-noise models.
20. Set your thermostat as low as comfortable in the winter and as high as is comfortable in the summer.
21. In the winter, turn your thermostat down at night. You save 3 percent on your heating bill for every one degree you turn it down.
22. During the winter, keep draperies and shades on your south-facing windows open during the day to let the sunlight enter your home. Close them at night to reduce the chill. Keep all south-facing glass clean.
23. During the summer, keep the window coverings closed during the day to prevent solar gain. In the summer, you can save money by automatically turning your air conditioning up at night or when you are at work.
24. Install white window shades, drapes or blinds to reflect heat away from the house.
25. Clean or replace filters on furnaces once a month.
26. Whole-house fans help cool your home by pulling cool air through the house and exhausting warm air through the attic. They are effective when operated at night and when the outside air is cooler than the inside.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

27. Consider using an interior fan in conjunction with your window air conditioner to spread the cool air more effectively, without greatly increasing your energy use.
28. Plant trees or shrubs to shade air conditioning units but not to block airflow. Place your room air conditioner on the north side of the house. A unit operating in the shade uses as much as 10 percent less electricity than the same one operating in the sun.
29. Visit the Database of State Incentives for Renewable Energy web site, www.dsireusa.org, to see if you might qualify for tax credits or rebates for buying a solar water heater.
30. When you're shopping for new windows, look for the National Fenestration Rating Council label; it means the window's performance is certified.
31. Look for windows with double-glazing and spectrally selective coatings that reduce heat gain.
32. Keep your refrigerator temperature between 37 to 40 degrees for the fresh food compartment of the refrigerator and 5 degrees for the freezer section. If you have a separate freezer for long-term storage, it should be kept at 0 degrees.
33. Plant trees to shade your home, reducing your cooling costs in the summer months. Typically, newly planted trees will begin shading windows in their first year and will reach your roof in years 5-10.
34. Planting shrubs, bushes, and vines next to your house creates dead air spaces that insulate your home in both winter and summer. Plant so there will be at least 1 foot (30 centimeters) of space between full-grown plants and your home's wall.
35. During winter, dense, low-lying trees and shrubbery on the north and northeast sides of your home can help protect your home against wind chill.
36. If you are able to, avoid the need for paint whenever you can. Use other materials, such as natural brick or wood paneling. If you must paint, shop around for zero VOC paints, study material safety data sheets, and investigate the ingredients. One database for looking up chemicals commonly used in household products is www.ScoreCard.org.



Off the Common Coffeehouse

*Located in the Upper Parish Hall at First Parish Church
50 School Street, Bridgewater*

November 2, 2013 at 8pm

Potluck dinner at 6:30pm

featuring

Chris & Meredith Thompson



Coming Attractions

December 7—Hayley Reardon (w/ ShawnTaylor)

January 4—Girls, Guns and Glory gtickets \$15)

February 1—Greg Greenway

March 1—Riley Coyote (w/Stuart Ferguson)

April 5—Annalivia (duo) and Ari & Mia (split bill; tickets \$15.00)

May 3—Bill Staines

Admission: \$13

*Enjoy our homemade
Refreshments*

Sign up for open mike!

Welcoming a Guest at Your Table

Each year at this time, friends and families in our congregation participate in Guest at Your Table - a decades-long UU tradition. Our GAYT service this year will be on Nov. 24. By bringing home from this service a beautiful Stories of Hope booklet, families and individuals can learn about how the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee puts our shared values into action in the United States and around the world. Through a potent combination of advocacy, education, and partnerships with grassroots human rights leaders, UUSC promotes workers' rights, rebuilds sustainable communities, advances civil liberties, and heals people affected by disasters.

Through the Stories of Hope booklet, we connect with leaders throughout the world who are working hard for human rights in partnership with UUSC. In each household, the Guest at Your Table materials are placed in a prominent spot where the household gathers. When family and friends gather to enjoy their blessings, they can reflect on the contributions of these "guests" to the movement for universal human rights - and share generously. Each week, we can choose a different story to read, bringing our guests to life and helping celebrate our own rights.

Sharing our blessings through Guest at Your Table ensures that UUSC's human rights work continues. Please consider making a contribution that meets member benefit levels (\$40 or more). And thanks to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, NY gifts of \$100 or more are matched dollar for dollar, doubling the impact.

Please return your contribution on Sunday, January 5, 2014. Checks should be made out to First Parish Church with UUSC/GAYT in the notation line. If you are not able to be at the January 5 service, you may bring your gift the following Sunday or mail it to the church.



2014 GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

The annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

Unitarian Universalists will converge in Providence, RI for the 53rd General Assembly! This will mark the first time that the Ballou Channing District is the host district for GA. It will have been 11 years since GA was last in the northeast. The 2003 Boston GA was the largest assembly of Unitarian Universalists in history! The 2014 GA has the potential to match that turnout.

General Assembly 2014 June 25-29, Providence, RI

The theme for General Assembly 2014 is *Love Reaches Out*.

Most General Assembly events will be held in the Rhode Island Convention Center,
1 Sabin Street, Providence, RI 02903



MAINSRING HOUSE LUNCHESES

Monday, November 4 at 9am in the LPH MainSpring House lunches will be made. Donations and volunteers are always welcome. Contact Betty Gilson to help. gillyflower@verizon.net or 774-226-0942

HEALING WISHES...

...to Elsie Whitman who is still recovering from a broken hip at Life Care Center in West Bridgewater.
... to Bob Gilson who had his cardiac catheterization this week.
... to Pat Hart who had hand surgery recently.

CONDOLENCES...

... to Korin Zigler and family. Korin's grandmother passed away last week.

CARING COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday, November 17 a meeting of the Caring Committee will be held after morning worship. If you have joys or concerns to be addressed, please contact a committee member.

Betty Gilson, Mary Hatfield, Louella Mann, Joe Snyders, Jan Thompson

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER PLATE SHARING

The charity selected for November and December plate sharing is The Bridge Center in Bridgewater. Here is some background information.

Help us build a playground!

In 1963, a group of philanthropic visionaries from the Knights of Pythias founded a public charity known at that time as Handi Kids. The original facilities on Pine St. in Bridgewater were modest, the services offered were limited, and resources were scarce. The goal of Handi Kids was to provide a place where children with special needs could play, learn, and grow.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of our founding. Our name has changed to The Bridge Center, our facilities are award winning, and we offer a wide variety of services tailored to the needs of children and young adults with an extensive spectrum of special needs. But some things never change. Our mission is still to provide the opportunity for children to play, learn, and grow.

To celebrate our 50th anniversary we are planning to build a playground. Not just any playground, but one that is designed for children with a variety of challenges.

As you can imagine this is an ambitious and expensive undertaking, but with your help we can accomplish our goal. Not many of us could donate thousands of dollars to any charitable organization, but hundreds of people donating \$50.00 to The Bridge Center playground fund will result in a playground that meets diverse needs, promotes physical, social and cognitive development, but overall provides a place where children can have fun!



FULL SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, November 7 at 7:30pm, a meeting of the full Social Justice Committee will be held at the church. Very brief reports from the various branches will be followed by planning for the Guest at Your Table service on Sunday, November 24 and a discussion of fundraising at the Holly Day Faire.

The First Principle Project will meet prior to the SJC meeting at 6:30pm to discuss plans for the year.

Bridgewater's
Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service
Sponsored by the Council of
Churches

"A Celebration of Thanksgiving"

Tuesday, November 26
7-8pm

New Jerusalem Church
2 Bedford Street
Bridgewater



BIRTHDAYS

4 Joanne Michaud
6 Maeve Harding
7 Tom St. Thomas
10 Russell Curtis
14 Jim Quinn
15 Kathy Tyrer
17 Bert Anderson
19 Julia Pucciarelli
21 Lori Tunewicz-Gavin
27 Doreen Slavin

ANNIVERSARIES

22 Mary & Peter Fuller

Helping the Hungry

Our **Social Justice Committee** collects non-perishable food items for the local food pantry. We invite you to help the hungry in our local area by bringing canned and packaged foods on the first Sunday of each month. A box is placed at the front of the sanctuary, near the piano, to receive the items, which the Social Justice Committee members gather and bring to our local food pantry.



Feeding the Homeless*

Our church volunteers provide lunches for **MainSpring House** shelter for the homeless in Brockton. We gather on the **first Monday* of each month at 9 a.m. in the lower parish hall** to prepare and wrap 100 bag lunches, which are then brought to the shelter by one or two of our volunteers.



You can help in many ways, including joining us at the above gatherings, donating baked goods, other food items, and paper goods as needed, taking home some of the fixings and preparing parts of the lunches (such as tuna or egg salad) at home for the volunteers to assemble at the church, or simply donating money toward the cost of the lunches, which is about \$100 per month for 100 lunches.

Please contact Betty Gilson (774-226-0942) for further information, or just drop by that morning to help.

**The lunches are prepared on Mondays to be eaten on the first Tuesday of each month. If the first Tuesday falls on the first day of the month, the lunches are made on the final Monday of the previous month.*

November 2013 Calendar

Saturday, November 2

8pm Off the Common Coffeehouse featuring Chris & Meredith Thompson

Sunday, November 3

9am Choir Practice

9:30am Tone Chimes Practice

10:30am All Souls Day with Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson

6-9pm Board Games with Bobbe Anderson in the Upper Parish Hall

Monday, November 5

9am MainSpring House lunches prepared in the LPH. Donations and Volunteers always welcome.

7:30pm Facilities Committee Mtg

Tuesday, November 6

5:30pm RE Committee will meet in the church office

7:30pm Worship Committee will meet at First Parish

Thursday, November 7

7:30 pm full Social Justice Committee will meet at First Parish

Saturday, November 9

6-10pm Birthday Party for Tom St. Thomas in the UPH

Sunday, November 10

9am Choir Practice

10:30am "The Lone Ranger's Creed", Rev. Michael LeDuc

Monday, November 11

7:30pm Green Sanctuary Committee will meet at the home of Janet Dye

Tuesday, November 12

7pm Worship Committee will meet in the FP office

Wednesday, November 13

7:30pm One Book-One Community at BSU

Thursday, November 14

7pm Workshop for Worship Associates at First Parish

Saturday, November 16

6-9pm Covenant Conversations & Potluck at First Parish

Sunday, November 17

9am Choir Practice

10:30am Worship Service with Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson

11:30am Caring Committee will meet after services today

Tuesday, November 19

5-7pm Coming Out Potluck and Discussion at First Parish

Thursday, November 21

7:30pm Parish Committee will meet at the church

Sunday, November 24

9am Choir Practice

10:30am Guest at Your Table Service with the Social Justice Committee

Tuesday, November 26

7pm "A Celebration of Thanksgiving" at New Jerusalem Church, Bridgewater

Friday, November 29

7pm T"UU"rning Leaves Book Club to meet at a location TBD

First Parish Church Unitarian Universalist

50 School Street

Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-2525

www.firstparishbridgewater.org

firstparishbridgewater@hotmail.com

firstparishbridgewater.blogspot.com