



## Minister

Rev. Paul Sprecher

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## Directory of Religious Ed

Sara Williams

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## Parish Committee

**President:** Bob Messing

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**Vice President:** Sam Baumgarten

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**Clerk:** Stefan Michaud

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**Treasurer:** Susan Irish

eirish2@aol.com

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**Members at Large:** Pat Hart

Kat Gillespie

Jan Thompson

## Church Sexton / Building Rental

Tom St. Thomas: 508-697-8637

## Choir Director/Pianist

Denise Haskins

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## Tone Chimes Choir Director

Lisa Rue

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lisa\_rue80@yahoo.com

## Religious Education Committee

**Chair:** Laurie Lessner

Peter Jacobson

Sonia D'Alarcao

## Community Minister

Rev. Rachel Tedesco

revrayted@comcast.com

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## Social Justice Committee

**Convener:** Betty Gilson

gillyflower@verizon.net

774-226-0942

## Membership Committee

**Chair:** Jan Thompson

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## Green Sanctuary Committee

**Chair:** Janet dye

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## First Principle Project

**Convener:** Betty Gilson

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774-226-0942

## Facilities Committee

**Chair:** Frank Yeatman

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508-279-3955

## Office Administrator

Jamie Doulette

firstparishbridgewater@hotmail.com

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## Worship Services in July & August

There will be **no service on July 5<sup>th</sup>**. Many of our church members will be recovering from working long and hard for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Bridgewater Arts and Music Festival.

**Summer Lay-led Worship Services Schedule** These summer services are held in the Upper Parish Hall and begin at 9:30 a.m. They are shorter and less formal than our regular church-year services, but are often quite creative and interesting.

- ◆ July 12 – Bobbe Anderson - "What's Your Plan?"
- ◆ July 19 – Beth Manchester-Howell: "Bhagavad Gita Mystery Bag"
- ◆ July 26 – Fay George & Winston Bolton: "A Question of Faith" – Readings from their poetry.
- ◆ August 2 – Green Sanctuary Committee speaker, Maria Armour: "Conservation & Bats"
- ◆ August 9 – Gordon Hatfield: "A View of History; The Story of David & Bathsheba"
- ◆ August 16 – McKayla Hoffman & Tony Winters: "The Spirituality of Music"
- ◆ August 23 – James Hayes-Bohanan – "Geographies of Migration & Justice"
- ◆ August 30 – Kathy Keenan - TBA



**Our regular church year will resume on September 13 with our Water Communion Service.** Please remember to bring a small amount of water from your summer experience...whether from a place far away or close to home. We share a few words about where it's from and why this is meaningful to us as we pour it into a large communal bowl.

**The next Worship Committee meeting** will be on Thursday, August 13 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Upper Parish Hall. This is a longer meeting than usual as we plan the monthly themes and rough out the schedule for the coming year.

**Committee members:** Rev. Rachel Tedesco, Chair; Denise Haskins, McKayla Hoffman, Stefan Michaud, David Page, Tom St. Thomas and Rev. Paul Sprecher.

## 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

**Once again First Parish will celebrate the 4th with our annual Snack Bar - Lemonade Stand - Strawberry Shortcake - Book & Rummage Sale.**



**Following Bridgewater's Annual Parade, make your way down School Street and be sure to stop by First Parish Church. The snack bar will offer burgers, hot dogs and sausages, an assortment of wraps, (vegetarian, too) and a variety of baked goods. There will be a fresh-squeezed lemonade stand and home-made strawberry shortcake. Don't forget to visit the Book/Rummage Sale. Hope to see you there!**

# Religious Education

## Chalice Lighting

Beginning in the fall the children will be lighting the chalice at the start of the service. There will be a brass candle lighter/snuffer to help the children light the chalices easier.

Children will each have a turn to light the chalice, and can have a parent help if they would like.

More information and sign ups coming this fall!

## Summer is Here!

The church year is over and summer is here! Enjoy all of the beautiful days you get to share with your family and be in the moment for these experiences — summers go by too quickly!

## RE Sunday

The children prepared a service for us on June 7th, and it was wonderful to have their helping hands assist during the service. All children had the opportunity to perform Tone Chimes, present their experiences during RE this year, and even perform musically! Thank you first to all of the teachers who provided us with a fantastic year of learning and exploring. Thank you to the families

for being involved and sharing your wonderful children with us!

## Searching for Teachers

Are you interested in teaching next year? Are you curious to learn what it's all about and start by assisting a class? Contact Sara at [dre.bridgewater@gmail.com](mailto:dre.bridgewater@gmail.com).

If you are unsure of volunteering because of obligations, don't worry! Teaching can be flexible. We will be placing floating teachers in slots to have a flexible schedule, and also sessions can be co-taught. Reach out to me and we'll talk!

## At-Home Activities:

This section of the RE Update will be dedicated to help you learn about being a Unitarian Universalist, U.U. for short!

Unitarian Universalists believe that every person is important and valuable!

Things that are important and valuable to me:

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All people!

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### **Calling All Bakers!**

Hello All! We need sweets & treats for the July 4th Baked Goods table. If you'd like to bake a batch or two or three of cookies or bars, let Laurie Lessner ([laurie@yabroudy.com](mailto:laurie@yabroudy.com)) know the following:

- The Type of Cookie you'll be making
- How Many Cookies you'll be making
- What Day you will drop them off; Friday (7/3) or Saturday (7/4)
  - ~Drop-off your cookies/bars in the kitchen.
  - ~Cookies should be in closed containers, labeled with your name and the name of the cookie.
  - ~To make pricing easier, cookies should be fairly large - 3" (about 1.5 tablespoons dough) or a 2" square bar.

Thank you for all your effort! It is greatly appreciated.

## **GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE's Green Tip of the Month**

### **ECO-FRIENDLY AIR FRESHENER**

Check out the new eco-friendly air freshener making its debut this month in the Unisex bathroom. The freshener contains lavender essential oil, baking soda, and water. The GSC is seeking small pump spray bottles (5-6 oz.) for the freshener. Please contact Debbie ([catsmeowgo8@verizon.net](mailto:catsmeowgo8@verizon.net)) if you can help with smaller bottles (perhaps recycled from hair products, etc.)!! For the present time, the spray bottle will be a larger size.

### **BOYCOTT BOTTLED WATER THIS SUMMER!**

~Boycotting bottled water means you support the idea that public access to clean, safe water is a basic human right. We don't need to pay a corporation for it. Perhaps the most important feat of engineering ever devised by humans, access to clean water, comes right out of your faucet every day, and for that we are fortunate. Drink it!

~The commodification of water also means that the planet is being polluted by those obnoxious plastic bottles. Use (and re-use) a refillable water bottle instead. Make it a habit to bring a bottle filled with ice water with you each day as you leave your home.

~Have a happy and hydrated summer!

## SHARE THE PLATE

For the months of July and August the Share the Plate charity is MainSpring House lunches. Every month a devoted crew makes 100 lunches for this homeless shelter in Brockton. This is the chief charity of the Social Justice Committee. We welcome specific checks as well as loose collection. Just make the checkout to the First Parish Social Justice Committee with "lunches" in the notation We do not have a line item in the budget, so appreciate all donations to this cause.

## MAINSRING HOUSE LUNCHES

Monday, July 7 at 9am MainSpringHouse lunches will be made in the LPH.  
Monday, August 3 at 9am MainSpring House lunches will be made in the LPH.  
Volunteers and donations always welcome. Speak with Betty Gilson 774-226-0942  
or gillyflower@verizon.net



## PEACE VIGIL MEETING

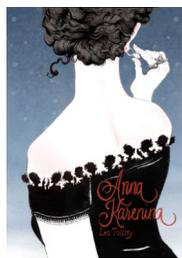
Sunday, July 19 after morning service the Peace Vigil Committee will meet to continue planning for the 11th Annual Celebration for Peace on September 19 and 20.

## CARING COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, July 20 at 7pm the Caring Committee will meet at the home of Mary Hatfield. If you know of issues for the committee to address, contact a member.  
Lisa Foos, Betty Gilson, Andrew Harding, Mary Hatfield, Louella Mann, Jan Thompson, Korin Zigler

## T"UU"RNING LEAVES BOOK CLUB

There is no book selection for July, but we will be meeting on Friday, July 31 at 7pm location TBD. We will be watching a movie based on one of our previous reads. Watch for special updates.



August, 28 at 7pm we will meet location TBD to discuss Leo Tolstoy's masterpiece *Anna Karenina*. Described by William Faulkner as the best novel ever written and by Fyodor Dostoevsky as "flawless," *Anna Karenina* tells of the doomed love affair between the sensuous and rebellious Anna and the dashing officer, Count Vronsky. Tragedy unfolds as Anna rejects her passionless marriage and thereby exposes herself to the hypocrisies of society. Set against a vast and richly textured canvas of nineteenth-century Russia, the novel's seven major characters create a dynamic imbalance, playing out the contrasts of city and country life and all the variations on love and family happiness.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a meeting of the Social Justice Committee on Thursday, August 6 at 7pm at First Parish. This will be time for a brief check in from all the branches: First Principle Project, Green Sanctuary, Peace Vigil and UU Animal Ministry. But the main focus will be on issues for the fall. We will be sending out updates during June and July to let you know our plans. Please consider working with SJC and its branches. Circle the date and try to attend the meeting.



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

1 Jenny Manchester-Howell  
2 Paul Gavin  
7 David Tedesco  
8 Warren Dahlin  
10 Scott Gillespie  
11 Ginger Irish  
13 Bob Gilson  
15 Hope Vallarelli  
16 William Harding  
28 Rev. Rachel Tedesco  
30 Ross Michaud  
31 Jack Hart, Chris McDougall

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

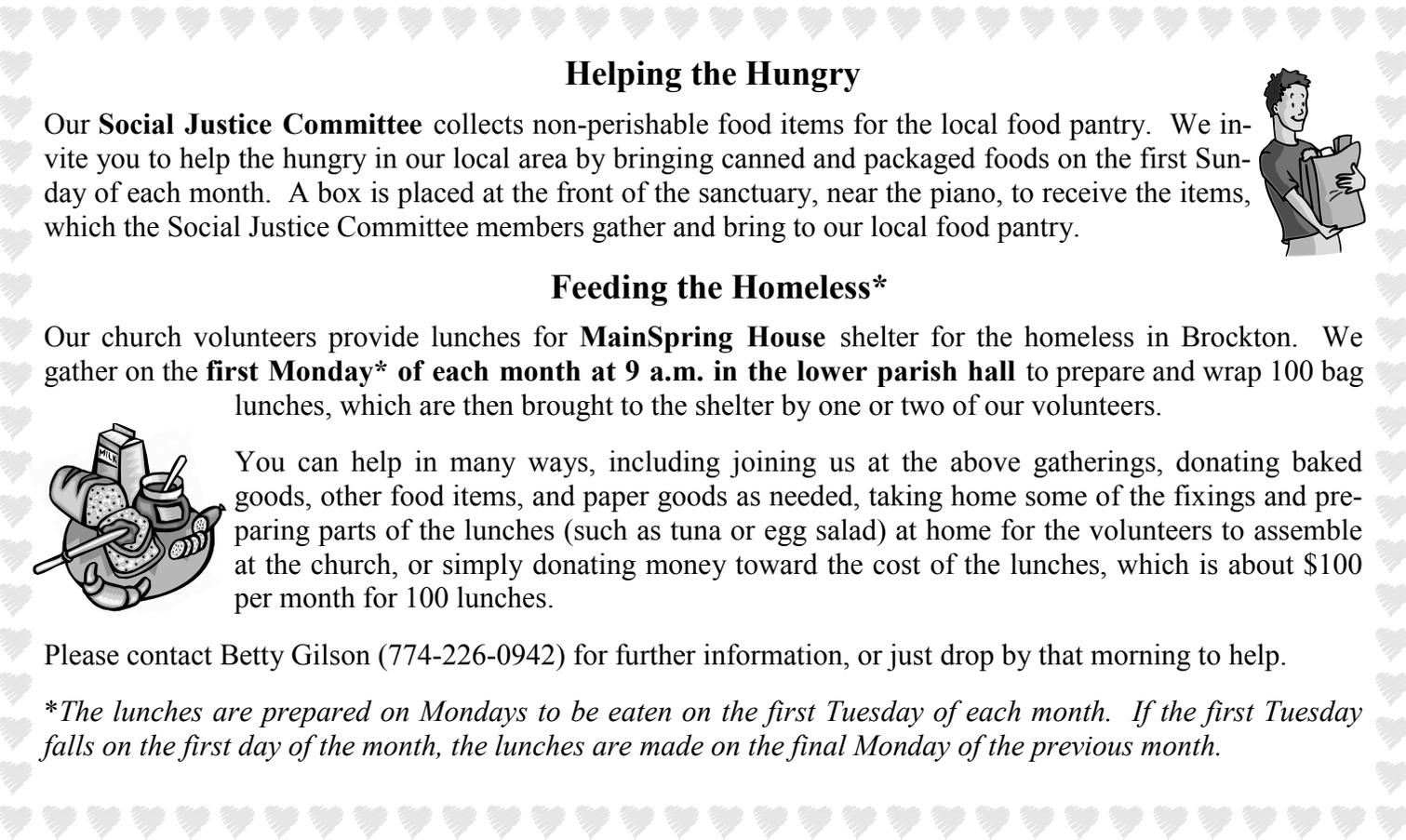
1 Karen Reed-Messing & Bob Messing  
6 Doreen & Jim Slavin  
7 Ellen & Ken Crompton  
10 Meg & Andrew Harding  
14 Korin & Scott Zigler

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Jana Iampetro, David Page,  
Clara Waterman-Rue, Lisa Troy  
2 Max James  
3 Frankie Finnegan  
4 Michele Turner  
8 Elizabeth Lambert  
11 Hope Crompton  
12 Dylan Wallace  
13 Michele Dahlin  
14 Karen Reed-Messing  
16 Angela Sheble  
19 Paloma Hayes-Bohanan  
22 Susan Irish, Bobbe Anderson  
28 Miranda Zigler

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

5 Susan Holton & Joe Snyders  
14 Carlene & Jim Moore  
28 Lisa Troy & Jim Quinn



## 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.*

# July/August 2015 CALENDAR

Saturday, July 4

Annual 4th of July Snack Bar, Book/Rummage Sale, Lemonade/Strawberry Shortcake Stand etc

Sunday, July 5

6pm Game Night at First Parish

Monday, July 6

9am MainSpring House lunches prep at FP

7:30pm Facilities Committee meeting

**Sunday, July 12**

9:30am Bobbe Anderson - "What's Your Plan?"

Monday, July 13

7:30pm Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting

**Sunday, July 19**

9:30am Beth Manchester-Howell: "Bhagavad Gita Mystery Bag"

10:30am Peace Vigil Committee will meet after today's service

Monday, July 20

7pm Caring Committee will meet at the home of Mary Hatfield

**Sunday, July 26**

9:30am Fay George & Winston Bolton: "A Question of Faith"

Friday, July 31

7pm T"UU"rning Leaves Book Club—location TBA

**Sunday, August 2**

9:30am Green Sanctuary Committee speaker, Maria Armour: "Conservation & Bats"

Monday, August 3

9am MainSpring House lunches prep at FP

7:30pm Facilities Committee meeting

Thursday, August 6

7pm Social Justice Committee will meet at First Parish

**Sunday, August 9**

9:30am Gordon Hatfield: "A View of History; The Story of David & Bathsheba"

Monday, August 10

7:30pm Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 13

6pm Worship Committee will meet at First Parish

**Sunday, August 16**

9:30am McKayla Hoffman & Tony Winters: "The Spirituality of Music"

**Sunday, August 23**

9:30am James Hayes-Bohanan – "Geographies of Migration & Justice"

Thursday, August 27

7:30pm Parish Committee will meet in the UPH of First Parish

Friday, August 28

7pm T"UU"rning Leaves Book Club will meet at a location TBA

**Sunday, August 30**

9:30am Kathy Keenan - TBA

## First Parish Church Unitarian Universalist

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