



*First Parish
Unitarian Universalist*

**26 North Street, Medfield, MA
(508) 359-4594**

www.firstparishmedfield.org

March Newsletter 2012

SPRING

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, March 4th

Special First Parish Meeting

Saturday, March 17th

Indoor Yard Sale

Saturday, March 24th

Annual Fund Drive

Ministerial MUUsings...

March is an important month for FPUU Medfield. Next week following the Social Justice service there will be a meeting where the Executive Board and I will present a preliminary budget in anticipation of the Annual Fund Drive. In preparing the budget I asked the Board and the various committees to present three figures: one for a "bare bones" budget; one for a "maintenance" budget; and a third figure for a "dream" budget. The figures run the spectrum from "what we have to do" to "wouldn't it be nice if we could...." I think it is important for the congregation to be informed of the budget process before final figures are presented at the annual meeting in the spring. The success of the stewardship campaign depends on the vision we have for First Parish.

The following Sunday, March 11, Laura Graham, the MassBay Ministerial Search Representative will be in the pulpit to explain the process of looking for a called minister. After the service she will hold a Q&A session to answer your questions. For many of you this is the first search you are experiencing as a member of First Parish, so the information Laura will present is important for you to hear, particularly if you are interested in serving on the search committee.

Later this month we will have "The Sky's the Limit" kickoff to the Annual Fund Drive. Please sign-up for what will be an enjoyable evening celebrating First Parish, Medfield...and all of you.

This past Sunday in my sermon I mentioned a small kitchen appliance, "The Salad Shooter." Someone came up to me during coffee hour and asked what a Salad Shooter was. I was taken aback and as I went around the vestry asking people if they knew what it was only Deb Carbanes knew. So for those of you who want to know what it is.

Look here:



It will be on sale at the Indoor Yard Sale.

Peace,

Rich



Executive Board Notes

From Meeting held on February 16th

- Ministerial Search:

Jim Peterson, Ministerial Compensation Consultant for the Massachusetts Bay District of the UUA talked to the Board and persons interested in the Ministerial Search Committee. The process of determining compensation for new ministers was discussed in detail. The next step in Ministerial Search will be on March 11 when Laura Graham, the Ministerial Search Representative for the MBD will conduct service and meet with the Board and persons interested in Ministerial Search. A parish meeting will be held in April for the Congregation to elect the Ministerial Search Committee members.

- CINCO DE MAYO Fundraising Event Saturday May 5 is reserved for an evening of music, entertainment, food, fun and fundraising. **Save the date.** Talk to Bob Luttmann or Fritz Fleischmann if you have ideas and want to volunteer.

- 2013 Budget / March 4 Fund Drive Parish Meeting

Many thanks to the Committee Chairs for providing 2013 budget information. The three budget scenarios "Bare Bones," "Maintain" and "Dream" were discussed in detail. These 3 budget scenarios will be the subject at an informational

meeting on the Annual Fund Drive held following the Service on Sunday March 4.

- Annual Fund Drive "THE SKY'S THE LIMIT" Fund Drive dinners will be held March 24. See article in Newsletter for details.

- Membership By-Law

The definition of Membership was reviewed by the Board. Alternate by-Law amendments will be proposed to the Congregation at the June annual Meeting. The Congregation will elect whether or not to continue requiring a monetary contribution as a condition of membership.

- Capital Campaign for New Educational Facility

Duncan Glover presented an outline plan for a Capital Campaign to replace the UHouse over the next 3-5 years. The Board approved a plan to have conceptual sketches available and a funding schedule prepared for the June Annual Meeting.

- Wireless Antenna

No change since January. Still waiting for word from T-Mobile and MetroPCS.

- Rental Policy

Rental policy has been updated to clarify member usage of Church facilities.

MESSAGE FROM MEMBERSHIP

New Member Welcome



The Henderson Family

Dan and Pam Henderson and their three delightful children, Gwen, 6, and 4 y. o. twins, Vivien and Nick are among the most recent members of our First Parish family. They joined the church in May 2011.

Dan grew up in nearby Westwood and Pam is a native of Vermont. They met in Boston where they worked for the same company.

Dan describes their courtship as the successful concealment of a “secret office romance” which led to their getting married just short of 10 years ago.

They lived in Mansfield when their first child, Gwen was born. Later, with their growing family they moved to Plainville. It was there that they joined the Murray Unitarian Church, and had their children dedicated. In 2010 Dan and Pam moved to Walpole. They began attending FPUU in January 2011, and can be seen at church most Sundays.

Dan was raised and baptized as a Catholic, but didn’t consider himself a “church-going Catholic”. Eventually, he drifted away from the church and began to question his faith. When he moved to Plainville he discovered Unitarianism and found the U.U. values were a good fit for him.

Pam, on the other hand, did not regularly attend church as a child, although she would often describe herself as Protestant.

It is a pleasure to have the Henderson family among our faith community. Please welcome Dan, Pam and the children the next time you see them.



Campaign for Members Photos

We want to complete the church photo album. Send a family photo or have one taken at church!

Help us out!! Pictures will be taken the month of March. Please send 4 x 6 photos to bbunger@verizon.net.

Or see me (Barb) at church for photo op!!

January Potluck-Movie night a big success!

Great food, good conversation and a familiar movie, along with a turn out of 30+ members, combined for a most enjoyable evening on a snowy Saturday night in January.

Thanks to all who came and shared their special culinary talents.

Next time we'll have a potluck with game night!!



Membership Committee: Barbara Bunger, Nancy Kingsbury, Margaret Rolph, Michael Donovan.

Among Ourselves

Our thoughts and best wishes go to Terry Ballantyne-Ballard who is recovering from a stroke and is at home after a brief stay in the hospital.



Happy 95th Birthday Mr. Kane!!

Howard Kane turned 95 the week of Feb. 12th. How great is that?! He has the honor of being the senior member of our congregation. Please extend your best wishes when you see him.

Please remember the following deadlines: **Church Newsletter:** Third Sunday of the month. **Order of Service:** Wednesdays by 5:00 pm. If you miss this deadline but have an announcement to be made at the church service, please submit a typed announcement to the service manager for that given Sunday and send a copy to the office.

Church Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Telephone: 508-359-4594

Email: admin@firstparishmedfield.org

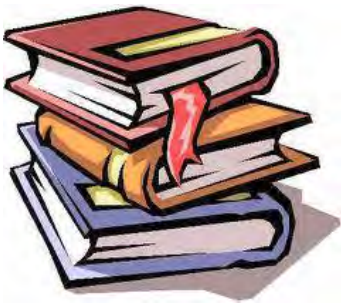
Sandra Andreassi - Administrator

FREE Laughter Yoga on Saturday, March 3rd!



The Unitarian Church of Sharon, 4 North Main Street, invites you to a FREE Laughter Yoga session on Saturday, March 3rd from 11am to noon. Any age and any level of physical ability can participate in this uplifting experience! Enjoy this unique exercise of simulated laughter combined with gentle breathing that brings more oxygen to the body's cells. This oxygen boost gives enhanced vitality, energy and a feeling of real well-being. Please bring your water bottle because laughing is dehydrating. Led by Certified Laughter Yoga Teachers, Linda and Bill Hamaker. www.letslaughtoday.com If you have any questions, just call them at 508-660-2223 or e-mail letslaughtoday@verizon.net. Please bring a canned good for the Sharon Food Pantry.

Medfield Reads Invitation to an Interfaith Discussion



You and your congregations are cordially invited to participate in Medfield Reads:

Medfield Reads aims to bring the town together to read the same book at the same time, starting a community-wide conversation.

In conjunction with the Medfield Public Library's "Medfield Reads" program, members are invited to attend an interfaith discussion on the book *Outwitting History* led by librarian Andrea Fiorillo,

with members of Westwood's Temple Beth David, Medfield's United Church of Christ (UCC) and other Medfield congregations. Join us **Wednesday, March 7th from 7 – 8:30 pm** in Fellowship Hall at UCC, 456 Main Street in Medfield.

RSVP to JeanMineo@aol.com or 508-242-9991. The interfaith book discussion is open to non-residents.

Books are available at the Library or Park Street Books in Medfield.

Outwitting History by Massachusetts resident Aaron Lansky is a hilarious, heartfelt, and down to earth memoir. In 1980, twenty-three-year-old Lansky set out to rescue the world's abandoned Yiddish books before it was too late. Thirty years and one and a half million books later, he's still in the midst of a great adventure. Filled with poignant and often laugh-out-loud tales from Lansky's travels across the country as he collected books from older Jewish immigrants—books their own children had no use for—*Outwitting History* also explores brilliant Yiddish writers and enables us to see how an almost-lost culture is the bridge between the Old World and the future. This memoir should appeal to young and old alike, those that love books, linguistics, lost causes with happy endings, and a good story.

Mr. Lansky will come for an author visit on March 12th at 7:00 pm at the Medfield High School auditorium.

Andrea Fiorillo Adult Services Librarian
Medfield Public Library
[508-359-4544 ext 8002](tel:508-359-4544)



Daylight saving time will begin on Sunday, March 11th

7TH ANNUAL FIRST PARISH MEDFIELD INDOOR YARD SALE SATURDAY MARCH 17TH, 9AM-1PM

DROP-OFF DONATIONS: FRIDAY MARCH 16TH 4-8PM

Scheduling for Pick-Ups: Call (508) 359-4594

YARD SALE PROCEEDS HELP MAINTAIN
MEDFIELD'S HISTORIC 1789 MEETING HOUSE
DONATIONS ARE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

This year's features:

- Early drop-off: bring your goods to the Vestry (28 North St. Medfield) as early as Tuesday March 6th and leave in the designated section or call Sandra in Church office 508-359-4594 to arrange pick-up.
- Friday night drop-off: Age-appropriate Happy Hour! Wine & cheese, light beverages and snacks (from 4 PM Friday March 16)
- The Olde Meeting House Shoppe: home furnishings (including rugs you would want in your own home) on display in the U-House for easy browsing
- Involving our Children: RE children and adult supervisors will set up and manage the Toy section and are creating signage for the Sale.



Reminders:

We accept (in good condition): bikes, electronics, CDS, DVDS, books, games, toys, kitchen ware, knick-knacks, garden items, tools, media, gently cared-for furniture and ,small appliances.

We CANNOT accept: TVs, computers, outdated software, clothing, shoes, car seats, bedding, sofa beds, and large appliances.
PLEASE nothing broken, incomplete, or unsellable!

Help Still Needed:

ONE WEEK BEFORE: we need bags, boxes, and packing materials

FRIDAY EVENING: we need an E-Bay researcher with handheld device to explore donations online and help us to set aside valuable items for special sale

AFTER SALE: we someone to manage online sale of special items

QUESTIONS? CONTACT KAREN (wianskbad@verizon.net), GABY (chezgaby@verizon.net) OR FRED(fbunger@verizon.net) or leave a message with Sandra in the Church office: 508-359-4594

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT



**Saturday March 24
First Parish Medfield
Annual Fund Drive Kick-Off**

A celebration combining great company & food

**At 7:00 pm, the festivities will begin at hosts' homes (TBD) for
Out-Of-This-World Hors D'oeuvre & Wine Pairings**

**At 8:30 pm, we will proceed to the Vestry for
Heavenly Desserts &
A Star-Studded Awards Presentation**

**RSVP by Friday, March 16th
duncanglover@comcast.net or 508-528-8456**

Let's Laugh Today is on Monday, March 26th

Laugh to get your heart pumping and the positive energy flowing! This is an excellent way to start the week! Laugh on every fourth Monday of the month at the First Universalist Society in Franklin, 262 Chestnut Street, Franklin, MA. They laugh in a group and initiate laughter as a form of exercise. Through eye contact and child-like playfulness, laughter then becomes contagious and real. There is a \$5 suggested donation to the church per person with a maximum of \$10 per family. All ages and all physical abilities are welcome. Everyone should experience this healthy, fun exercise at least once! Since laughing is dehydrating, please bring your water bottle. Linda and Bill Hamaker are Certified Laughter Yoga Teachers who were trained by Dr. Madan Kataria, the creator of Laughter Yoga. See www.letslaughtoday.com or call 508-660-2223 if you have any questions.

Metrowest Pet Pantry



FPUU now has a donation box set up for the Metrowest Pet Pantry. The pet pantry, located in Millis, provides a variety of pet food and supplies for families in need, some of whom would have to surrender their pets to shelters without the pet pantry's assistance. Donations of opened or unopened food are accepted, as well as all manner of supplies. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about the pet pantry feel free to talk to Brianna Cusanno, who is working with the pet pantry to earn her Girl Scout Gold Award.

The Medfield Food Cupboard has requested the following from our church



for the month of
March

Juice
Raisins
Canned pineapple and peaches
Canned chicken
Coffee and tea
Packaged cookies
Tall kitchen garbage bags

Please double check your food item to ensure that it is undented, unopened, and unexpired. Thanks for your efforts. Any donations are greatly appreciated and can be placed in the basket in the narthex.

Special thanks to Sam Flaherty who will be delivering all the donations from the FPUU to the Food Cupboard.

Supporting FPUU through Amazon.com and Equal Exchange



There are many ways to support First Parish - becoming a member is one, volunteering is another. But you can also help by buying things through Amazon.com or by getting your coffees, teas, and chocolates through Equal Exchange.

Getting the things that you would ordinarily order anyway, but using the links available on our website will let you do your part in supporting the work of this congregation, helping our social action agenda, and preserving our historic Meeting House.

Go to our website www.firstparishmedfield.org and click on the "Support First Parish-Amazon & Equal Exchange" link on the left. It's easy!

Upcoming Services (All Services Begin at 10:00 AM)

March 4, 2012

"Acres of Diamonds"

Guest Speaker-Mr. Sam Williams

Sometimes we don't recognize the resources that we have within ourselves. How can we learn to value ourselves and others?

How do we cultivate our inner strengths and not squander our natural resources?

Sam Williams is the Chief Operating Officer and leader of the United Souls Men's Group, UU Urban Ministry.

March 11, 2012

"Forward into First Parish Future"

Guest Speaker- Rev. Georganne Greene

Rev. Greene is a Ministerial Settlement Representative for the Unitarian Universalist Association. She is currently the Interim Minister of the Brookfield (MA) UU Church after serving the Springfield (MA) Church for a number of years.

FPUU will be spending the next year and a half defining who we are, then searching for and selecting a minister to help guide us in the future. The goal is to have a settled minister starting August 1, 2013.

March 18, 2012

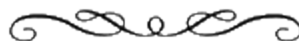
"What I Have Learned at First Parish"

Lay members of the church speak about what they love about FPUU, Medfield.

March 25, 2012

"What If There Was No FPUU Medfield?"

Rev. Richard M. Stower



FPUU Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 4	First Parish Meeting/11:30 am/Sanctuary Coming of Age/7:00 pm/Vestry
Sunday, March 11	First Parish Meeting/11:30 am/Sanctuary
Sunday, March 11	Luncheon 11:45 am/Vestry Cranes for Change/12:00 pm/U-House
Tuesday, March 13	Worship & Music Committee Meeting/7:30 pm/Vestry
Thursday, March 15	Executive Board Meeting/7:30 pm/U-House
Saturday, March 17	FPUU Indoor Yard Sale/9:00 am/Vestry
Sunday, March 18	Coming of Age/7:00 pm/Vestry
Thursday, March 22	Pastoral Care Team Meeting/7:30 pm/U-House
Saturday, March 24	Annual Fund Drive/Vestry
Sunday, April 1	Coming of Age/7:00 pm/Vestry
Friday, April 6	Passover begins
Sunday, April 8	Easter Cranes for Change/12:00 pm/Vestry
Thursday, April 12	Worship & Music Committee Meeting/7:30 pm/Vestry
Thursday, April 19	Executive Board Meeting/7:30 pm/U-House
Sunday, April 22	Cranes for Change/12:00 pm/Vestry Coming of Age/7:00 pm/Vestry
Tuesday, April 24	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting/6:30 pm/U-House
Sunday, April 29	Coming of Age/7:00 pm/Vestry

For a complete listing of events, please visit our website at www.firstparishmedfield.org. If you would like to book the Sanctuary, Vestry or U-House for an event or meeting, please check availability and then contact the church office at admin@firstparishmedfield.org