



First Parish Unitarian Universalist Of Medfield

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

www.firstparishmedfield.org



November Newsletter 2019

Ministerial Musings

Dave Egan, Minister

Every fall, as I wake to these cool dark mornings, I feel the instinctual urge to prepare for the coming winter. I often find myself wondering, "Do the kids have proper winter coats, hats, and boots?" "Will we have enough firewood to heat the house in case the power goes out?" "Will that old furnace make it through another winter?" Deep down inside I feel a need to get ready for the hard cold days ahead. This fall however, this feeling of unease is somehow more intense. For, as I imagine many of us are, I am worried about the days to come.

I worry about those who are struggling with hunger and homelessness in our community, as the weather gets colder and harsher. I pray that our state and

federal public policy begins to reflect our Unitarian Universalist first principle, that respects the inherent worth and dignity in everyone, even those struggling with substance abuse, mental illness, and prison recidivism.

I am concerned by much of what is happening at the highest levels of our national government. Right now there are cases before the US Supreme Court that would take away the basic civil rights to those in the LGBTQ community. Right now there are refugee children who have fled horrific violence, locked up in cages at our border. Right now there are brutal immigration raids that are breaking up families who have peacefully lived in this country for decades.

I am deeply troubled by how we will recover from what seems like constant, crippling hurricanes, floods and earthquakes? Will we as a human race finally take responsibility for our centuries of unchecked industrialism and develop a real plan to ease the devastation of our quickly changing climate?

This fall, there is much to worry about. Some days I am not sure if we are ready for the changes on the

horizon. Some days I wonder if humanity has enough firewood and warm coats to make it through the coming winter. But on other days, I look around at the warm faces of the folks here at First Parish Medfield, and am reminded that whatever comes, we will be doing it together.

Blessed Be,
Rev. Dave

Upcoming Services

Sunday, November 3 **Rev. Dave Egan**

You Are Not Alone

Rev. Dave Egan will be preaching on the difficult subject of domestic violence. Domestic violence refers to a pattern of violent and coercive behavior exercised by one adult in an intimate relationship over another, and is unfortunately far too common in our society. We hope you will join us for this important service that brings this issue out of the shadows and into the light.

Sunday, November 10 **Rev. Dave Egan**

Guest at our Table

During this intergenerational worship service, we will learn how we can support the good work being done at the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, as they combat worldwide issues of poverty, poor access to healthcare, and lack of education. This service will include interactive music, drama, and stories that will appeal to people of all ages. Bring the whole family!

Sunday, November 17 **Rev. Dave Egan**

Gratitude

This time of year, as we begin to prepare our family Thanksgiving feasts, we know that we have so much to be thankful for. But we also need to acknowledge that there are many who are not as fortunate. On this Sunday, Rev. Egan will explore issues of hunger and homelessness, and how we can learn to better love our neighbors.

Sunday, November 24

Why I Am at First Parish?

During this lay-led service, members of the congregation will give personal testimonials about all that this congregation means to them. If you ever thought about bringing a friend to church, this would be a great time to start!



Daylight Saving Ends on Sunday,

10:00am

November 3rd - Worship begins at

The Meeting House Lunch Club

for LGBT Seniors, Friends and Allies

Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual & Transgender



**Please Join Us For Lunch
Presentation by Reverend David Egan
Unitarian Universalism - A Spiritual Home
For LGBTQ People**

Monday, November 4th, 2019

11am to 1pm

First Parish Unitarian Church

26 North Street

Medfield, MA

For further information or to register
call HESSCO Nutrition Department at 781-784-4944
Or email Louise Rachin at lrachin@comcast.net

**To ensure a meal please RSVP by October 31st
Support for this event provided in part by the
Metro West Health Foundation**

Suggested meal donation \$3.00 for seniors over 60, \$5 charge for anyone under 60

HESSCO
Care. Support. Solutions.



EW **LGBT AGING
PROJECT**

Yahoo Groups is Shutting Down October 28

This includes Agora



We have been using Mailchimp for all official church related communication for First Parish. Please contact the office at admin@firstparishmedfield.org if you are not already signed up.

Click on below article to learn more. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/talkingtech/2019/10/17/yahoo-groups-online-forum-shutdown/4007150002/>

From The Director of Music

Eva Conley Kendrick



Choir rehearsals for our fall/winter season will begin on November 3rd. All are welcome to join.

We will meet at 9 am on Sundays. The anticipated dates for these rehearsals will be November 3, 10, 17, 24, December 1, 8, 15 and 22. We will be singing for the Community Thanksgiving Service on November 26, at the Lowell Mason House Holiday Concert on December 7 and for our Christmas Eve Service on

December 24.

If you have any questions, please email Director of Music Eva Conley Kendrick at evakendrick@comcast.net.



Veteran's Day, November 11th

Thank you to all our veterans for your service to our country!



Green Sanctuary Committee News



GREEN
SANCTUARY
CONGREGATION

**Our next meeting will be Friday
November 15
FPUU in the vestry. 6 pm -- potluck
supper**

Anti-idling education continues

It has been four years since your Green Sanctuary Committee (GSC) organized and put forth a community anti-idling initiative in Medfield. Videos were made for Medfield TV, posters were designed by high school students, signs were ordered and put up by Medfield Police Department (idling car engines no more than five minutes is [a state law](#)), and local news covered all of it. It would be wonderful if that was enough to change people's habits, but it is not. Ongoing education and awareness-building are needed. As part of this effort, the GSC has plans to install our own anti-idling sign for our FPUU parking lot. People come and go throughout the week at our church and it has become clear that not all know about the anti-idling law. The purpose of the statute and the anti-idling initiative is to help reduce air pollution and fossil fuel consumption— basic care of our environment. Let us encourage each other to engage in this simple practice.



Getting greener

GSC is committed to working with the Building & Grounds Committee, the Board, and other groups and individuals at FPUU to find more ways to reduce our buildings' carbon footprint. Solar panels on the church roof, for example? Let us begin to make it so.

Intersecting oppressions and injustices

That climate change and immigration/migration are connected is just one example of how all injustices are connected. The GSC supports the upcoming Espresso Yourself fund raiser happening on Nov. 23. See elsewhere in this newsletter for details about this event.

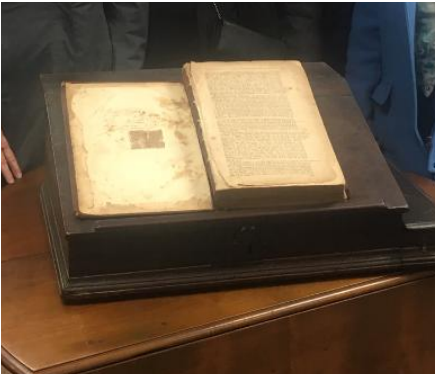
We are stronger together

Part of our GSC work is finding out about resources beyond our walls that address climate change and climate justice through the lens of our UU faith. Members of GSC regularly tap into news and action alerts from [UU Mass Action](#), the [UU Ministry for the Earth](#), and [Create Climate Justice Net](#). Check them out!

Our mission is to raise consciousness about the environment, motivate for [individual and systemic] change, generate commitment to community action, and promote environmental justice, recognizing that all injustices are connected.

Questions? Contact [Jeanette Ruyle](#). We welcome input and interest! Come to a meeting!

Opportunity to be part of The First Parish UU Exhibit at the Medfield Library



As you may remember, First Parish UU has been given an opportunity to display our recently acquired 1600's Desk and 1700 Bible (and other historic artifacts) at the Medfield Library for at least 6 months, likely starting before the end of the year. In order to make this a memorable event and reinforcing the historic significance of our church as the First Historic Meeting House of Medfield, we want to not only have a dynamite display, but also launch it with a special event.

We are looking for volunteers to help with this effort. We'd like to form a Task Force to focus on this effort.

Many aspects for successfully pulling this off will greatly benefit from the talents and experience of many of you, our members. Some areas that will need attention are:

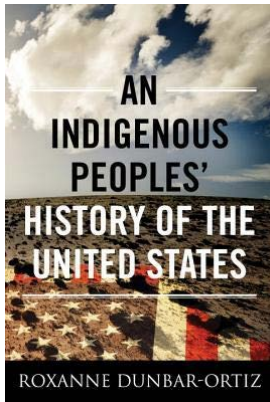
1. Figuring out how and what to display. This includes acquiring an appropriate display case and generating the materials to be displayed with the artifacts that explain the significance to the Town of Medfield.
2. Investigating and developing historical information to be part of the display. This might include creating a video based on the some video taken of the seller explaining what he knew about the desk and bible.
3. Working with the Medfield Library to make our display and related materials available to a wider array of people through their website and in conjunction with the Medfield schools.
4. Planning and advertising a "ribbon-cutting event" at the Library. We expect local dignitaries to be invited and maybe speak. Also, the Needham Bank, who has donated to this display, would like to have a presence at the event.
5. Developing and carrying out the logistics for the event. This will likely involve working with the Library to have a successful and inclusive event.
6. Interface with the media through articles, press releases, etc.

This is a great opportunity for us to "showcase" First Parish. It should be fun and rewarding. We have a talented group at First Parish and we need your help to apply those talents.

Please contact me or any of the members of the Executive Board to let us know if and how you can help.

Rich Mastronardi
rmastrona@aol.com
(978) 761-6160

Green Book Club at FPUU – NEW news!



← ← The **November meeting is Tuesday the 19th**, in the vestry at 7 pm. The book discussion from October continues on with *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. It was decided that this book needs to be explored over more than one session.

Depending on interest, there might be a third session for study and discussion, date to be determined.

While we always encourage you to read the book, or at least part of it, feel free to join us whether you have read it or not. The discussion is always interesting!

Study of *The Sixth Extinction: an Unnatural History* by Elizabeth Kolbert is postponed to a later date.

Want to Stay Even More Informed with FPUU?

Follow us on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/FirstParishMedfield/> and Instagram @ firstparishmedfield



SANCTUARY FLOWER REQUEST

Your help is needed to ensure that we have Sunday Worship Service Flowers.

Worship Service Flowers are a wonderful way to celebrate or memorialize an occasion, event, or loved one.



If you can provide (or delegate to others) worship service flowers for one month of Sunday Services, please contact

Louise Rachin at 617-429-7319 or lrachin@comcast.net

**FPUU's Next Volunteer Date for New Life Furniture Bank :
8:00 AM to Noon on Saturday, November 16th**

Collection for Chaplains on the Way



Help Medfield Seniors - Volunteer Opportunity

It's that time of year where the Medfield seniors are looking for teens to help with shoveling! Many areas are covered but volunteers are still needed in these neighborhoods:



Harding St near Marlyn
South St near 27
Lantern near Tamarack
South St Extension between Clark and Loeffler

Please email Susan: sbernstein@medfield.net

Supporting FPUU through Amazon.com & Equal Exchange

The holidays are coming! If you are using Amazon.com, you can help support First Parish and it will not cost you anything!

To order on Amazon, please use this link: <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/redirect-home/firstparisuuch01> First Parish will receive about 5% of what you order and will not cost you



anything!!! (One important note - if you had items in your Amazon 'shopping basket' before using this link, First Parish won't get the benefit of your shopping. Only items placed in the shopping basket AFTER clicking the above link help)



Equal Exchange only sells "Fair Trade" products - by dealing directly with small farmers and co-ops, they insure that the growers and producers get a fair market price for their products - and you get some of the best produce at a reasonable price. First Parish adds 15% to the Equal Exchange price, so your purchase also helps to support the work of the church. For information on ordering from Equal Exchange, please contact Dan Bibel.

Notes from the Church Office:



Church Office Hours: Mondays & Thursdays from 9:00-3:00

Email: admin@firstparishmedfield.org

The deadline for the December Newsletter will be Sunday, November 17th

Chasing the Light

A NIGHT OF POETRY AND SPOKEN
WORD ON IMMIGRATION JUSTICE

This past summer, Betsy Johnson, a local poet and storyteller, joined with Jewish Family Services and CJP's Women's Philanthropy on a mission to San Diego to serve at a Refugee Resettlement Shelter hosting refugee families seeking asylum. It was a life changing experience that left her with a commitment to share her experience and continue the work of promoting immigration justice.

It is with passion and deep sense of personal mission, that she share the evening with five award-winning slam poets, storytellers, and spoken word artists who share her commitment to environmental and social justice issues.

NOVEMBER 23RD, 2019

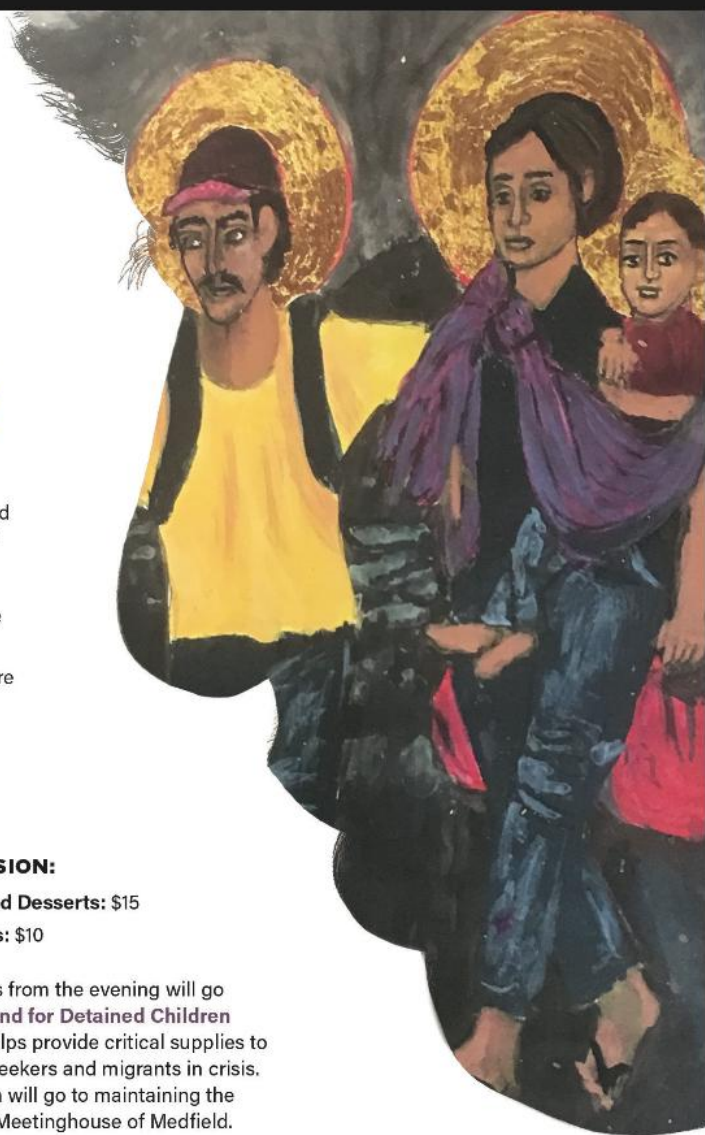
**DOORS
OPEN AT:** 6:30 PM *delicious desserts
will be served*

**FEATURED
SHOW:** 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

LOCATION: Espresso Yourself
First Parish UU Church
26 North Street,
Medfield MA, 02052

ADMISSION:
Show and Desserts: \$15
Students: \$10

Proceeds from the evening will go to the **Fund for Detained Children** which helps provide critical supplies to asylum seekers and migrants in crisis. A portion will go to maintaining the Historic Meetinghouse of Medfield.



**WE ARE THRILLED WITH OUR LIST OF AN EXCEPTIONALLY
TALENTED GROUP OF POETS WHO WILL BE FEATURED.**

Regie Gibson

Former National Poetry Slam Individual Champion, Awarded a Mass Cultural Council Artist Fellowship and the Brother Thomas Award from the Boston Foundation.

Amy Mevorach

Performance poet, playwright, storyteller, organizer for social justice, who recently completed a memoir about racism, sexual violence, and what it means to be free.

Jamele Adams

Celebrated and high energy slam poet and Dean of Students at Brandeis University, who was an electric TedxNatick Talk presenter. Adams is also well known in the Boston area for his efforts leading workshops dealing with issues of diversity.

Ben Jackson

Poet, dad of the decade, political activist and frequent contributor to the Boston Globe who recently sat down with Ted Cruz to discuss gun violence prevention efforts.

Thea Iberall, PhD.

An award-winning writer, storyteller, director, and scientist. She is the author of *The Sanctuary of Artemis*, a book of contextual poetry and visionary novel *The Swallow and the Nightingale*. She is also the writer and director of the musical *We Did It For You! A Women's Journey Through History*.

Betsy Johnson

Poet and writer of stories focused on finding the beautiful in the ordinary and metaphor in the details.

ARTWORK:
*Refugees La
Sagrada Familia*
KELLY LATIMORE

Annual Medfield Community Thanksgiving Worship Service



**Tuesday, November 26, 2019
At 7:00 PM**

Please join us!

**Representatives from all the churches in Medfield will take part in
the service**

as well as a combined choir.

Hosted by

The Church of the Advent

28 Pleasant Street, Medfield, MA



Medfield Food Cupboard – Help our Neighbors in Need

The Medfield Food Cupboard has the following needs for the month of November:



- * Peanut butter
- * Jelly
- * Canned chili
- * Canned stew
- * Boxes of oatmeal packets
- * Baked beans
- * Canned corn
- * Tuna (solid white preferred)
- * Pasta

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

Serving 70 Households: 102 Adults, 22 Seniors, 59 Children

<h2>DID YOU KNOW?</h2>	<p>Massachusetts ranks highest in the US for cost of food</p>	<p><i>Last year, enough food was supplied for 70 households to make 3-4 meals per week</i></p>
<p>This year, we have an increased number of Medfield households requesting EMERGENCY FOOD</p>		
<p>The Medfield Food Cupboard relies 100% on the generosity of our donors. We receive NO funding from local, state or federal governments.</p>		

Calendar of Events

Monday, November 4	Medfield Meetinghouse Lunch Club/11:00 am/Vestry Medfield Historical Society Meeting/7:00 pm/Vestry Larger Circle Band/7:30 pm/U-House
Monday, November 11	The Larger Circle Band Practice/7:30 pm/Vestry Veteran's Day Observed/Office Closed
Thursday, November 14	Worship & Music Committee Meeting/7:15 pm/Vestry
Friday, November 15	Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting & Potluck/6:00 pm/Vestry
Saturday, November 16	New Life Furniture Bank Volunteer Day/8:00 am/Walpole
Sunday, November 17	Newsletter Deadline
Monday, November 18	The Larger Circle Band/7:30 pm/Vestry
Tuesday, November 19	Green Book Club/Vestry
Thursday, November 21	Executive Board Committee Meeting/7:30 pm/U-House
Saturday, November 23	Expresso Yourself at the Historic Meetinghouse/7:00 pm/Vestry
Monday, November 25	The Larger Circle Band/7:30pm/U-House
Tuesday, November 26	Interfaith Thanksgiving Service/7:00 pm/Church of the Advent
Thursday, November 28	Thanksgiving Day/Office Closed

