

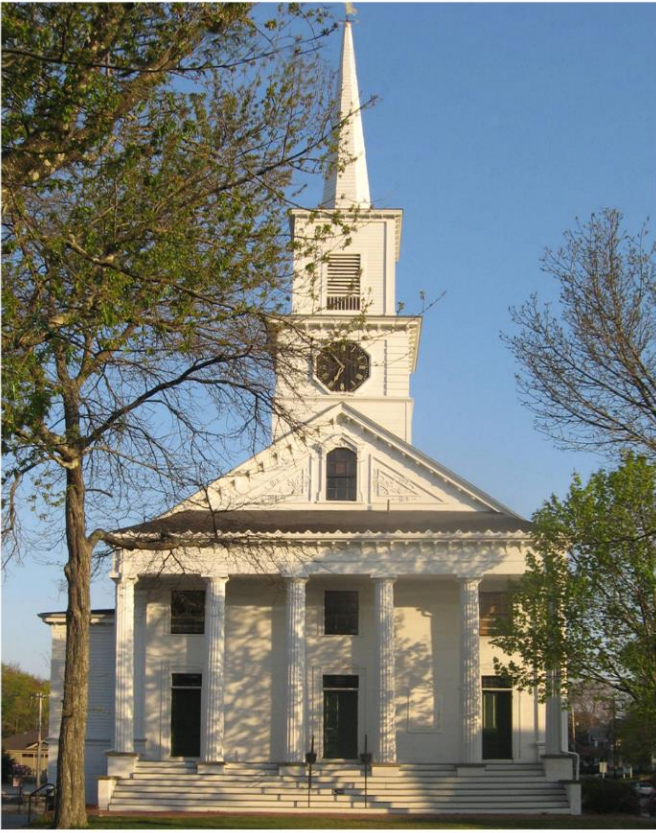
# First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Medfield

26 North Street, Medfield,  
MA

(508) 359-4594

[www.firstparishmedfield.org](http://www.firstparishmedfield.org)

SHARING TOGETHER  
THRIVING TOGETHER



## February Newsletter 2021

### Ministerial Musings

This morning as we stepped outside, my 10-year-old and I noticed the thin layer of snow that had fallen overnight. The trees glimmered with crystalline highlights, occasionally a blade or two of grass poked out above the white surface, a cold squirrel huddled on a branch bristling its tail over its back trying to stay warm. The world had been transformed overnight. What was once drab and dull was now bright and magical.

We began to walk to school, a rare treat since these days since school is usually a two-dimensional experience. As we walked, we noticed the footprints of others who had walked

down this same sidewalk just minutes before. My daughter loved seeing the teeny tiny dog tracks, next to large lumbering boot prints. She pretended she was some large old man walking what she imagined to be a tiny little miniature poodle. Then she noticed the footprints of someone her size, who apparently was wearing Vans. "Dad, all the boys wear Vans... it's like, a thing".

Seeing all of these tracks, reminded her of a time in 2nd grade when her teacher brought the class behind the school to the edge of the salt marsh. They placed carrots and celery and cucumbers in a small clearing among the tall grasses and shrubs. Then they carefully spread wet sand all around

these tempting veggies. The next morning the class went out to see if any visitors had discovered their treats, and were delighted with what they found. They identified the tracks of a squirrel, a fisher cat, a fox, a turkey, even what their teacher believed was a coyote. My daughter was so excited when she described pouring plaster over the tracks to make a mold that they could then hold in their hands! Such good memories.

As we kept walking to school, noticing all of these tracks by folks who were just here minutes ago, I kept thinking about all of you. In so many ways these days, we are aware of one another by the

tracks we leave, but are not able to get close enough to enjoy the walk together. Yes, we have screens and phones and gizmos to keep us connected, but it isn't the same. This morning I was imagining all of you going on your morning walk, enjoying the divine beauty of the world. I wonder if any of you saw my tracks in the snow? For even if we sometimes seem really far away, I am reminded that we are all journeying through this dark cold winter together, often just a few steps away.

May blessings,  
Rev. Dave

## Upcoming Services

**February 7**

**Tradition and Progress**

**Rev. Dave Egan**

When we look back at our Unitarian Universalist history, there has always been a tension between preserving our sacred traditions and living our progressive theology. Whether we look at our history with the abolition of slavery, the suffrage movement, the civil rights era, welcoming LGBTQ people, and now the Black Lives Matter movement, there have always been UU's who would like things to stay the same, while others seek progressive change. Why is that?

**February 14**

**What I Love About First Parish**

**Rev. Dave Egan**

There are so many reasons why folks join our First Parish community. During this service, members of the congregation will give personal testimonials about why they love First Parish. If you ever thought about inviting a friend to church, this would be a great time to start!

**February 21**

**What is Human is Mentionable Becca Kornet & Martha Holt Castle**

Join us in a lay led service dedicated to mental health. We will hear from two congregants about their personal journeys. The service is intended to acknowledge the challenges to mental well-being during unprecedented stress stemming from the pandemic and social justice unrest. Together we will reinforce several of the UU principles, including acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth.

**February 28**

**From Ally to Action**

**Rev. Dave Egan**

During this intergenerational service, our children will explore what it means to be an ally to those who have been historically and systematically marginalized. Building off of their conversations from their religious exploration classes, they will reflect on how being an ally connects with our UU theology and principles, and how that informs their actions in the world.

## Annual Fund Drive

SHARING TOGETHER



THRIVING TOGETHER

**ANNUAL FUND DRIVE 2021-2022  
SAVE THE DATES!!!!**



Through virtual worship services, religious exploration, social events, committee participation, community service opportunities, and (weather permitting) socially distanced gatherings on the Meeting House Green, our First Parish Family continues to receive the priceless gift of sharing and thriving together. As such, the Annual Fund Drive Committee is pleased to announce our 2021-2022 theme:

SHARING TOGETHER



THRIVING TOGETHER



We are now planning a series of events that promote our sharing and thriving together. Please mark your calendars and save the following dates:

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE EVENT		
	TIME/DATE	EVENT
1	7:00 PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 27	SMALL SUPPERS VIA ZOOM
2	6:00 PM SATURDAY MARCH 13	PIZZA/GAME NIGHT VIA ZOOM
3	10:00AM SUNDAY MARCH 14	ANNUAL FUND DRIVE SERVICE VIA ZOOM
4	6:00 PM SATURDAY APRIL 10	ENJOY THE FIRE PIT ON THE GREEN BEHIND THE CHURCH (WHILE SOCIAL DISTANCING AND WEARING MASKS)
5	10:00 AM SUNDAY APRIL 11	COMMITMENT SUNDAY SERVICE VIA ZOOM

We will be in touch with you shortly with details for each event.

The Annual Fund Drive Committee: Co-Chairs Mary CortHELL and Marshall Sugarman, Chris Flaherty, Fritz Fleischman, Duncan Glover, Louise Rachin & Don Rolph

## Religious Exploration



Is spring nearing...? Maybe? These sunny days and chilly temperatures are a bit confusing, but no chilly weather slows down our Religious Explorers!

This past month we had our first Paint Night done over Zoom, and it was such a blast! We can't wait to do it again. Coming up for Religious Exploration we will be turning our focus a bit to cover what the UU 8<sup>th</sup> Principle will be with child and kid-friendly language and exposure through stories and conversation. If you'd like to learn about the UU 8<sup>th</sup> Principle, please go

here: <https://www.8thprincipleuu.org/>.

For February, Neighboring Faiths will be covering the religion of Islam. Becca Kornet is doing a wonderful job leading our class and has given a summary of what is to come for February: "Our next Neighboring Faiths class will be Thursday, February 18, and will focus on Islam. Typically, we would take the NF class to the open house at the Islamic Center of Boston in Wayland to learn more about Islam, but of course we cannot do that this year. However, I am thrilled that Saadia Husaain Baloch, an educator and our long-time contact at the ICB Wayland, will join us for this class to talk to the kids about Islam. She is a wonderful person and I think this will be a great class."

**Upcoming Events:**  
**February 7th: Fishbowl Game Night 5 PM**  
**All are welcome – Fun for all ages!**  
**Please join us over zoom to play Fishbowl!**



What is it? Fishbowl is a virtual version of a fun (and mostly hilarious) guessing game, designed for any group of all ages! You'll need at least 4 to play, but it only gets more fun with more players. Hop on a video call, and play through rounds of Taboo, Charades, and Password.

How do I play? It's easy! One person will "host" the game, and after everyone has joined in with a link or 4-character code, the game can start! First, everyone writes down a few words or phrases on "cards" that will be guessed later. The group will then randomly be split into two teams! Players from each team will alternate turns, giving clues to their team to guess as many cards as possible against the clock.

There'll be 3 rounds, and cards will get recycled after each round!

Round 1: Taboo. Use words to describe the word or phrase on the card, without any acting or gestures. You cannot use any part of the word or phrase!

Round 2: Charades. Without words or sounds, act and use gestures to communicate the word or phrase on the card.

Round 3: Password. You can say exactly one word to describe the word or phrase on the card, no more! You'll rely on your team's memory and association.

\*The team that guesses the most cards across all rounds wins!\*

Samantha Decker Nemeth  
Coordinator of Religious Education

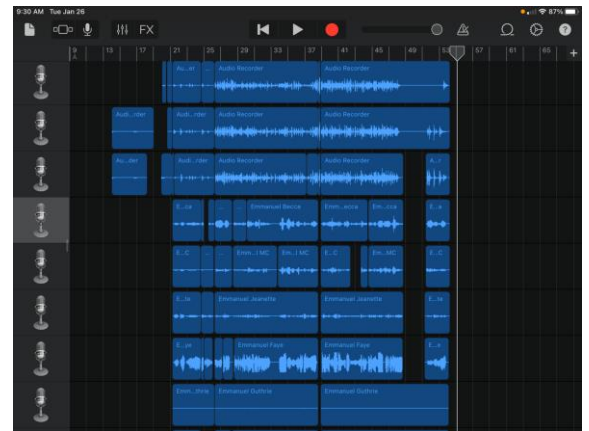
# Notes from the Music Director

Eva Conley Kendrick

## BEHIND THE SCENES - MAKING OF A CHOIR VIDEO

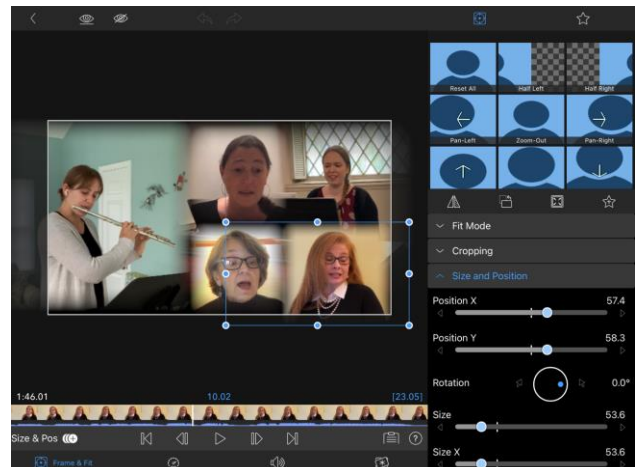
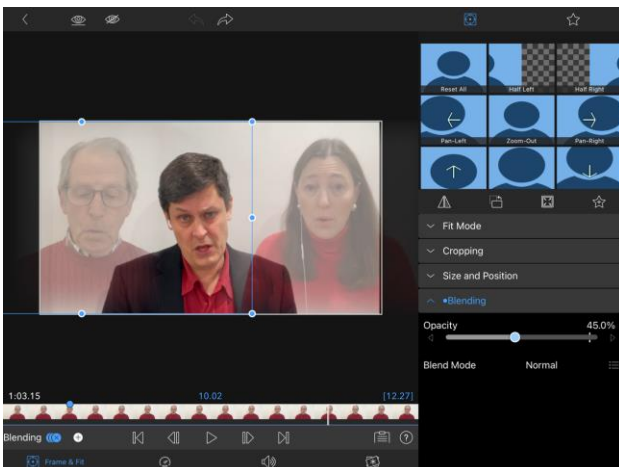
This year, our FPUU Medfield Choir has been busy at work with Zoom rehearsals and virtual choir projects, seven so far! I just wanted to give you a peak at the behind-the-scenes aspects of the virtual choir videos and to say thank you to all who have helped make them possible!

**MAKING THE VOCAL TRACKS**—To record each track, I use the audio recording and editing software Garageband, I create a “click track” to keep the beat steady and record a piano/keyboard part to it. Then, John Kornet and I make vocal tracks for each of the voice parts, usually Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. Once the tracks are recorded, I upload them to the shared Choir Google Drive: one full track and also practice tracks where each voice part is louder and the other parts are in the background.

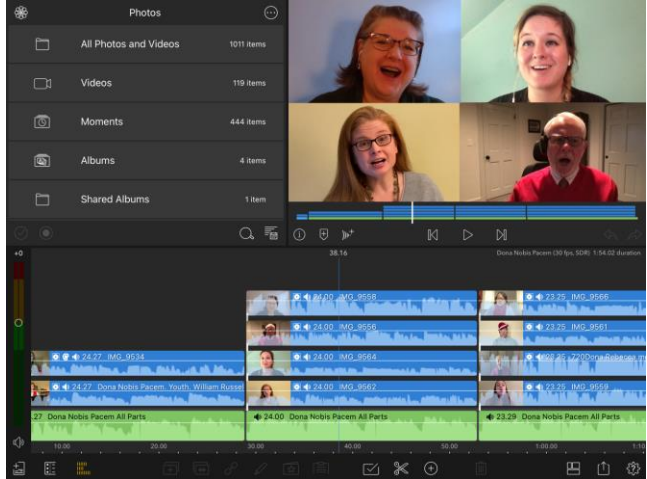


**REHEARSALS**—Zoom rehearsals are a great opportunity to get together and catch up a little before we get to business. Often, we split up into break-out rooms where the section leaders (Becca, myself, John and Duncan) rehearse with their section, singing their part along to a vocal track while the others join in on mute. Sadly, Zoom technology hasn't improved enough for singers to be able to sing in harmony at the same time but rehearsals enable us go over logistics, have a dedicated practice time and go over musical directions together.

**RECORDING**—This is the part that differs the most from live singing. Each singer video records themselves singing along to the practice track while wearing one headphone and listening to themselves at the same time. Then our amazing tech coordinator Guthrie Morgan separates the audio from the videos.



EDITING—In Garageband, I edit the singers’ audio tracks. Some tracks are louder than others so they need to be balanced, and I try to line up the tracks as close as possible. The audio example below for “O Come O Come Emmanuel” had a total of 28 different tracks. Lastly, I use the video editing software LumaFusion on my iPad where I can layer up to five videos on screen at once and blend the transitions. Some of the pictures below show the audio and video editing process.



Lastly, I wanted to say an enormous thank you to everyone involved! John, Becca and Duncan for helping with rehearsals, every singer for spending hours rehearsing and recording, and to Guthrie for her tech wizardry! It has also been a special joy seeing members near and far at rehearsals, including Greg, while he has been in Florida! We look forward to making more videos for you very soon!

## Online Service Sponsors for the Month of February

- Sunday, February 7 – Rich Mastronardi & Susan Harlow
- Sunday, February 14 - Kirsten & Glen D’Abate
- Sunday, February 28 – The Egan Family

Thank you!

The cost to film a service to post online is \$40.00. We still have openings in April, May and June. If you would like to sponsor a service please send your donation to FPUU with a note in the memo. If you would like to sponsor a service to honor an occasion or loved one, please provide the information needed and it will be posted in the order of service for that given Sunday.

## Notes from the Church Office:



Please remember the following deadlines:

Church Newsletter: Third Sunday of the month. – **February 23rd**

Order of Service: Wednesdays by 5:00 pm.

Church Office Hours: Mondays & Thursdays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Email: [admin@firstparishmedfield.org](mailto:admin@firstparishmedfield.org)

The UU Urban Ministry presents:

# Community Conversations

## Equity in Education

featuring historian Joseph D. Feaster, Jr. Esq., speaking on the NAACP and Urban League's work in Boston

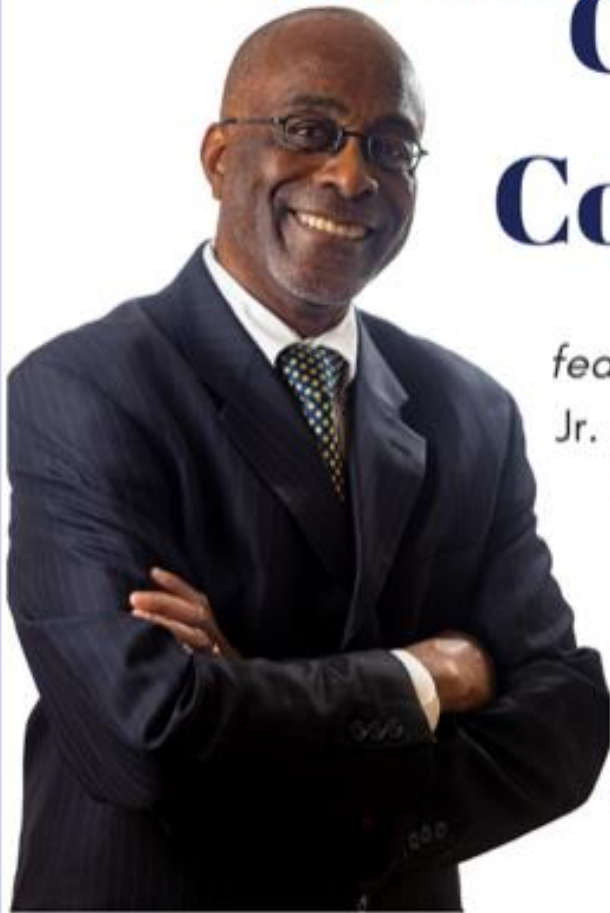
Tuesday, February 16, 2021

6 - 7:30 pm

Lecture and Facilitated Q&A

Join the Meeting: [bit.ly/UUUMccFeb](https://bit.ly/UUUMccFeb)

Call-in details available at [uum.org](http://uum.org)



Special thanks to Alan M. Cody and Edith T. Moricz-Cody



@uurbanministry

Find us in John Eliot Square at 10 Putnam St., Roxbury, MA 02119, or online



## Stay even more Informed with FPUU



Follow us on Facebook

@ <https://www.facebook.com/FirstParishMedfield/>

and Instagram @ firstparishmedfield



# Green Sanctuary Committee News



Our next meeting is **Feb. 19**, via Zoom, 7pm  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!** Email [Jeanette Ruyle](mailto:Jeanette.Ruyle) for a  
Zoom link.

## Climate Action in the Coffee you Drink

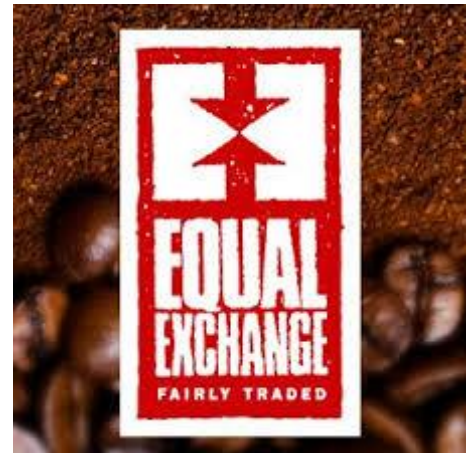
Do you know where your morning cup of coffee comes from and what impact the growth and harvesting of those beans have on the planet? What is fair trade? How is it related to climate action and sustainability?

The GSC invites you to learn from Equal Exchange about our coffee and a simple climate action we can take.

Thursday February 4th 7pm, virtual meeting

[RSVP HERE](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. And you'll get a reminder and a reminder link before the talk starts.



## MA Climate Bill

At our last meeting, the GSC expressed how deeply disappointed we are that the Climate Bill, which was passed by both the state Senate and House, was not signed by Gov. Baker. If you feel similarly, here are some things you can do now:

- [Write to Gov. Baker](#) to let him know that his veto has been noticed and let him know how you feel about it.
- Write to your Senator and Representative to encourage moving the bill, which has been re-filed. Right now, there is no schedule for it moving.

And remember...



## Order Chocolate (and coffee and tea) for Valentine's Day and Every Day!

For years when we had coffee hour in person at FPUU we used fairly traded coffee ordered from Equal Exchange. Many other congregations did too. With the pandemic, Equal Exchange's business has been drastically affected. To help support them and their particular social justice efforts, I have started a 'buying club' for EE products. Dan Bibel used to do a version of this for several years. Since then, in our home, we continue to brew EE coffee and treat ourselves to EE chocolate.



The advantage of ordering all together is the savings on shipping costs. Shipping is free for orders over \$75. *If I get enough orders by Feb. 9, the delivery will be in time for Valentine's Day.*

The process is intentionally simple:

1. Click on this [order form](#), fill out your order, and click on send.
2. Notify me if you have any questions- - [jruyle23@verizon.net](mailto:jruyle23@verizon.net) or call 508-479-0953

3. I will contact you and deliver your items to you when they come in, or you can pick them up at my house.
4. Make a check out to me (or cash) when you receive your order.

Thank you! Jeanette Ruyle

## Collection for Chaplains on the Way



Social Action Opportunity: Thank you to all for your generous donations to the Clothing & Blanket Drive to support

Chaplains on the Way ([www.chaplainsontheway.us](http://www.chaplainsontheway.us)). Your contributions are greatly appreciated!

The following items are currently most needed:

**Coffee**

**Masks**

**Medium Sized Hand Sanitizer**

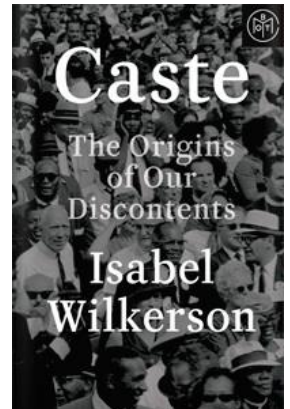
Because the church building will be closed for the foreseeable future, the drop-off site is Louise Rachin's garage, 11 King Philip Trail, Norfolk. Free free to call or text Louise at 617-429-7319 with questions or to schedule a delivery time.

Thank you so much!

## Anti-Racist Book Discussion

The next meeting of the Anti-Racist Book Discussion Group will be Tuesday, February 23 at 7:30 via Zoom. We will be discussing "Caste" by Isabel Wilkerson.

All are welcome to attend, including those from outside the congregation you think might be interested. Please email Becca Kornet at [becca\\_kornet@yahoo.com](mailto:becca_kornet@yahoo.com) if you/others will attend, so she can have a sense of the numbers.



## Peace Shawl Ministry



Our FPUU member, Blanche Teyssier has started a Peace Shawl Ministry group.

If you are interested in joining a bi-weekly Peace Shawl Ministry, please fill out the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DFVB8JZ>

## The Medfield Food Cupboard



The Medfield Food Cupboard has temporarily suspended the use of their food collection bins. During the pandemic they are encouraging neighbors or organizations to hold their own drives. Please email [MFCfooddrives@gmail.com](mailto:MFCfooddrives@gmail.com). if you would like to coordinate a drive and find out their most current needs. They are also accepting monetary donations. Over 98% of every dollar donated goes DIRECTLY toward meeting the needs of the 200 individuals that we serve. Thank you for your support! Checks can be mailed to Medfield Food Cupboard, PO Box 172, Medfield MA 02052. The Medfield Food Cupboard is a 501(c)(3) organization.

## FPUU Calendar of Events

Monday, February 1	Peace Shall Ministry/7:30 pm/Zoom
Thursday, February 4	Climate Action in the Coffee you Drink/7:00 pm/Zoom Pastoral Care Committee Meeting/7:00 pm/Zoom
Sunday, February 7	Fishbowl Game Night/5:00 pm/Zoom
Thursday, February 11	Youth Group/6:00 pm/Zoom Worship & Music Committee Meeting/7:00 pm/Zoom
Monday, February 15	Peace Shall Ministry/7:30 pm/Zoom
Thursday, February 18	Neighboring Faiths/6:30 pm/Zoom Executive Board Meeting/7:30 pm/Zoom
Friday, February 19	Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting/7:00 pm/Zoom
Sunday, February 21	Newsletter Deadline
Tuesday, February 23	Staff Meeting/5:00 pm/Zoom Anti-Racism Book Discussion/7:30 pm/Zoom
Thursday, February 25	RE Committee Meeting/7:30 pm/Zoom
Saturday, February 27	Small Suppers/7:30 pm/Zoom

