

# First Parish Unitarian Universalist Of Medfield

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

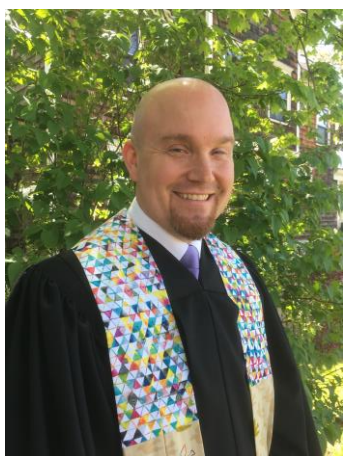
[www.firstparishmedfield.org](http://www.firstparishmedfield.org)



## September 2025 Newsletter

### Ministerial Musings

Dave Egan, Minister



After hearing about it from a colleague, this summer I signed up for the Clergy Pass offered by Fenway Park. This pass allows myself and a guest to attend any home Red Sox game for \$10-\$15 per game, and we often sit right up front between home and 1st base. Not too shabby. I have already been to seven games...and plan to go to a few more before the season ends. Pretty nice way to spend a warm summer evening.

With baseball on the brain, I took note when I rewatched the classic 1987 movie *The Untouchables*, starring Robert De Niro as Al Capone. You may remember his famous speech standing around a table filled with his henchmen:

*"What is that which gives me joy? Baseball! A man stands alone at the plate. This is the time for what? For individual achievement. There he stands alone. But in the field, what? Part of a team. Teamwork... Looks, throws, catches, hustles. Part of one big team. Bats himself the live-long day, If his team don't field... what is he? You follow me? No one. I get nowhere unless the team wins."*

Now if you have seen the movie, you know that this scene does not end well for one of Capone's minions, as he finds himself on the wrong end of Capone's baseball bat. But we won't talk about that part! What does resonate with me is this notion of both individual effort and teamwork, that both go hand-in-hand. There are times when we must take initiative and step up to the plate, and other times when we must collaborate and work together.... much like here at FPUU Medfield.

So as we begin another church year together, let us remember to cheer on and congratulate those who are willing to step into leadership and take a swing at the bat...even if sometimes they miss. And let us honor all of the fielders who run, dive, throw, and hustle to get the work done that needs to be done. For all of it is important work. All of it is generous. All of it is holy.

"What is it that which gives me joy? Baseball!" ...and all of you.

Go Team!  
Rev. Dave

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Have you moved over the summer? Got rid of your landline? Got a new cell phone number? We are working on a fall directory. Please contact the church office at [admin@firstparishmedfield](mailto:admin@firstparishmedfield) with any changes. Thank you.

InGathering Sunday  
**Potluck Luncheon**



Come join us for our annual  
InGathering Water Communion Service  
followed by a special potluck lunch.

Sign up for a dish to share:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040449ADAD2DA64-58405956-ingathering>

**Sunday, Sept 7**  
worship service: 10:00am lunch: 11:00am

First Parish Unitarian Universalist, 26 North St., Medfield, MA

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

## Upcoming Services

**September 7**

**InGathering: Waters of Connection**

**Rev. Dave Egan**

During this intergenerational service, we will gather in connection and love, reflecting on our journeys over the summer. You are invited to bring water from a special place you have travelled over the summer. Whether your water is from the Seine River, the shores of Ferry Beach, or your kitchen sink, come share your experience with us. Following the service, we will reconnect over a potluck lunch.

**September 14**

**I'm Universalist, What are UU?**

**Rev. Dave Egan**

Covenant is the silk that joins Unitarian Universalist together in a web of interconnection, where we come together in this theologically open and affirming faith. The practice of exploring our faith together is the core of our creed-less faith. During this service, we will ponder our individual theologies, and practice ways to communicate them with one another and folks from another faith tradition. Religious Exploration offered for children.

**September 21**

**When Life is Too Much**

**Rev. Dave Egan**

During the month of September, we are marking Suicide Prevention month through signage and purple lights shone on the meetinghouse every night. During this service, we welcome guest speakers from Samaritans of Boston, and the Medfield Coalition of Suicide Awareness, who will share resources and guidance on how to best help someone in crisis. They will also stay for social hour to provide additional information and answer any questions. Religious Exploration offered for children.

**September 28**

**Faith in the Time of Cholera**

**Rev. David Chandler**

Our body politic – all of it – is clearly drowning in corruption. The contagion of disease, disorder and despair now seems to infest every corner of our lives. Can any means of faith help our hearts escape becoming roadkill? Religious Exploration offered for children.

## Deadline Reminders



FPUU Newsletter: Third Sunday of the month. **This month it is September 25th.**

**Any submissions after deadline will not be accepted.**

Order of Service: Wednesdays by 5:00 pm.

Office Hours: Mondays & Thursdays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

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

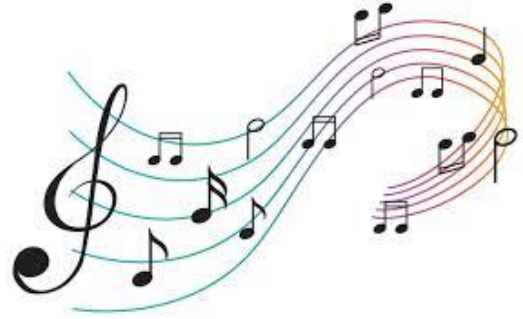
Sandra Andreassi-Administrator



# Notes from the Director of Music

Eva Kendrick Conley

I am thrilled to have received approval for a more expanded music program at our church this year! Here are some ways in which you can expect to see the music program grow in the coming months!



- FPUU Medfield Choir - The choir will sing more regularly in services, rather than just at special services throughout the year. We rehearse at 9 a.m. most Sundays. If you are interested in joining this group of fun, smart folks and sing a variety of music, both classic and contemporary in a relaxed environment, If you love singing and a friendly community, I hope you'll consider joining us this year! (No experience needed!)
- FPUU Medfield Children's Choir - We are planning to form a Children's Choir to sing at a couple special services during the year!
- Instrumentalists/Solo Vocalists/Small Groups - I am seeking solo singers, instrumentalists and those who would like to perform in small groups of musicians to play during the services throughout the year. I will have availability to rehearse with soloists and am happy to facilitate small groups of musicians as well!
- Exploration of the new UU Hymnal, Sing Out Love! I will be leading a couple of Open Hymn Sings this church year to acquaint the congregation with some of the new works in the new Sing Out Love! Virtual Hymnal. We will be incorporating some of these hymns into the services throughout the year for the choir, soloists and congregation, and we will be and exploring various ways to do this, as the new hymnal is virtual! Don't worry, our old favorites will still be sung as well, and our old hymnals will still be used!
- I will be putting together a springtime musical fundraiser! More info to come!

If you are interested in participating in the music program this year at FPUU Medfield, please e-mail me at [evakendrick@comcast.net](mailto:evakendrick@comcast.net) or [music@firstparishmedfield.org](mailto:music@firstparishmedfield.org). I have a Google poll I'm happy to send you as well to indicate how you would like to participate.

Thank you to the congregation, the Executive Board and Rev. Dave for approving my expanded role as Director of Music this year! I am still exploring ways to implement it for the upcoming year and, as always, welcome your suggestions, input and feedback! I'm very much looking forward to seeing you all this year!

Eva Conley Kendrick

## Religious Exploration classes begin on Sept 14th



It's fall y'all! That means it's time to start up our First Parish services and get ready for Religious Education! I'm so excited to start a new year with all of you, with the Soul Matters curriculum!

As a reminder, we will have new child registration forms to fill out, and an RE Breakfast on October 5th, before the service.

We will be looking for volunteers to assist with RE - a signup form will be coming soon! Great news, by the way: RE, including Little Lights, will be in the UHouse!

I'll see you at the Water Communion!



**Coming this Fall!**

**OWL for grades 4-6. This will be led by Sarah Zitoli and Arnold Kalmbach.**  
**Coming of Age for grades 9-12. Led by Cissy Hull-Allen and Bill Wians.**  
**More information to follow...**





**Updated CORI:** Keep a lookout for an email from CORI administrator Sara Drumm with documents to complete for those of you who have CORI checks due this year.

Have any questions? Reach out to Sara Drumm at: [bongo\\_8@msn.com](mailto:bongo_8@msn.com)

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## After Sunday Worship let our service begin...

**1st  
Sun.**



### **Bldg & Grounds Work Day**

Come help paint, repair, and beautify our campus each month, led by Nate Razza. There will be big and small jobs, both indoors and outside. Stay for as long as you are able. We will meet at in the vestry at 11:30am.

**2nd  
Sun.**



### **Advocacy Luncheon**

Feel like current events are overwhelming? Not sure how to make your voice heard? Then come join us in the U House at 11:30am for our Advocacy Luncheon, where we share lunch, and write cards to our elected officials on a variety of issues that we UU's care deeply about. Led by Rev. Dave Egan.

**3rd  
Sun.**



### **Women's Group**

If you identify as female, join us in this spiritual space to share our experiences with relationships, societal expectations, motherhood, etc. We will meet in the U House at 11:30am. Led by Shirley Riga.



# Discover Medfield Day September 27<sup>th</sup> 10 am-4 pm

*Join us for **Medfield Day***

*September 27, 2025*

*10am – 4pm*

*Rain or shine*

Now in its 45<sup>th</sup> year, Medfield Day consists of over 140 booths highlighting Medfield businesses and organizations centered around Meetinghouse Pond. It's a fun, social day, and a great way for visitors to learn about First Parish as they're walking on our grounds.



This year, we are excited to offer 6 free holes of mini-golf (see photos), designed and constructed by new First Parish member, Anne-Marie Byrd and her husband Rob. They and their two sons, Ben and John, have shared this at local school fairs and festivals. It will be set up on the lawn in front of the Meetinghouse and should be a great attraction. Many thanks to Anne-Marie and her family for offering this fun activity to First Parish and the community!



We will also have several tables featuring a jewelry and accessories thrift shop plus social justice and First Parish information.

We'll soon be asking for volunteers to give one or two hours that day. We hope you'll sign up to enjoy the energy of Medfield Day!

Please contact Kirsten d'Abate ([kkdabate@gmail.com](mailto:kkdabate@gmail.com)) or Kay Bennett ([kay8941@gmail.com](mailto:kay8941@gmail.com)) with any questions or ideas.

We're looking forward to a sunny and successful Medfield Day on September 27<sup>th</sup>!



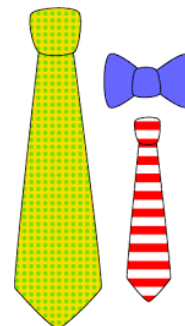


# Green Sanctuary Committee

## Items Needed for Thrift Shop for Medfield Day

Dear Friends,

We are hoping to collect a few more attractive, saleable accessories in the *'like new'* purse, shoe, scarf, necktie, and jewelry categories for our HUGE Medfield Day 'Jewelry and Accessories Thrift Shop' on Sept 27th. We already have a great inventory, but could use a few more desirable pieces, which we could even advertise on social media. This is an important fundraising opportunity for FPUU that is being hosted by the Green Sanctuary Committee.



If possible, it would be super if you also price donated items yourself, with a piece of painter's tape or a tag that won't damage the item. We ask this because you know the value of your own lovely donations, and it can take a lot of time and research to assess and price.



Drop-off donations can be handed directly to Kirsten and Jeanette at church on the next three Sundays during coffee hour, in advance of 9/27 Medfield Day, or by other arrangement. (Kirsten will pick up from you if you can't make it to church.)

Any questions, please email or text Kirsten or Jeanette with photos of your 'good' item(s) that is ready for a second life.



We are also welcoming volunteers to help at the Thrift Shop booth from 10-4 on Saturday, 9/27. Contact us if you are interested in claiming an hour or two!

-Kirsten and Jeanette



## Pride Event at Bellforge Arts Center 6/8/25

Photo from Jean Mineo, the Bellforge Executive Director



Rev. Dave Egan, Michele Gravelle, Becca Kornet & Karen Wians.



### SAVE THE DATE!

Our next First Parish Blood Drive will be on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 2 pm. Please consider donating if you are able, and/or signing up to help set up/greet and break down on the day,

Questions ? Email Sara Drumm at: [bongo\\_8@msn.com](mailto:bongo_8@msn.com)

Ready to sign up? Use the link below or call the red Cross:

[1-800-RED CROSS \(1-800-733-2767\)](https://www.redcross.org/donate/blood)



## FPUU Hike in the White Mountains – Aug 15-17



Eight brave souls hiked up to Lonesome Lake and Mt. Cannon in the White Mountains, the weekend of Aug 15-17,

We drove up Friday night and stayed at a local motel. The next morning we shared a hearty breakfast at a local diner. Then we hiked 1.6 miles up to the Lonesome Lake Hut, a comfortable place that provided dinner

and breakfast, bathrooms with running water, warm beds, and even plenty of board games and books. After we dropped our hiking packs, some of us headed up the steep trail to the summit of Mt Cannon, while others enjoyed a leisurely walk around Lonesome Lake.



Thanks to Don Rolph for organizing and leading this hiking trip. If you enjoy the outdoors and missed the adventure this year, be sure to sign up next year!







# Waltham Cares!

## Chaplains On The Way

Invites you to a dinner & evening of hope, joy and compassion in support of our unhoused neighbors...

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2025**

**The American Legion  
Post 156  
215 Waverly Oaks Rd.  
Waltham, MA 02452**

**Invited Honored Guests and Award Recipients:**

- Governor Maura Healey
- State Representative Tom Stanley
- Mayor Jeanette McCarthy
- The Waltham City Council

### **TICKETS: \$50**

Platinum Sponsor	\$5,000
Gold Sponsor	\$2,500
Silver Sponsor	\$1,000
Tables	\$500

## **DONATE OR RESERVE TICKETS HERE**

**OR RSVP TO:**

Chaplains On The Way, Inc.

P.O. Box 541236

Waltham, MA 02454

(781) 652-1339

[President@chaplainsontheway.com](mailto:President@chaplainsontheway.com)

[www.chaplainsontheway.net](http://www.chaplainsontheway.net)





# Monthly Mediation & Reflection

Shirley Riga, Spiritual Director

Member of the Pastoral Care Committee

## STANDING ON THE DOORSTEP



Standing on the doorstep to this Fall 2025 season, I find I am surprised life continues, the world turns and we keep going, against all these odds against humanity. Madeline, a dear friend of ours, gifted us with five Monarch chrysalis to nurture until they leave their shell and are released into the world. This stunning experience moves me into awe as I witness nature in its miraculous cycles and the Monarch flutters away.

The fluttering of a Monarch gives me hope for the little miracles that happen every day, if I keep my eyes and heart open. Every year I learn more about myself and these learnings move me closer to my heart, my center, my inner truth. It would be nice if this was a nice easy process, but it never seems to be.

We are each a tapestry of our experiences, our loves and likes, our hopes and dreams. We age with wisdom, mostly, and deepen our relationships to ourselves and those around us. I am amazed my grandchildren are taller than I am. And they move fast, talk fast and have so much to do. I hang on to my Facetime calls from my granddaughter, as she shares with me her comings and goings, all in the name of loving support. She chases me at times. I hope that lasts forever.

### I am weaving the tapestry of my life

by Vera Agnes

I am weaving the  
tapestry of my life.

I am spinning the threads of my past,  
the odd and knobbly strands, the  
smooth and soft ones, it is all flowing  
like silk through my hands once I sit  
down at my loom.

Only when it all blends together, I can  
see the unfolding pattern I was blind to  
see before. When bits and pieces  
seemed like bitter blocks before, they  
now turn into a manifold ornament,

to enliven my life on a tapestry of  
experiences.

The more I weave, the more I trust.  
Though sometimes I will bleed and  
blister, it is inherent to the weaver's  
work and weave I must.

My tapestry is unique as yours, not  
better or worse, simply mine and as my  
tapestry grows, so do I.  
I weave and I weep, I weave and I laugh.  
I weave in darkness, I weave in light.  
This weaving never ends.