



First Parish Unitarian Universalist Of Medfield

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

www.firstparishmedfield.org



September Newsletter 2016

The Parson's Packet

David W. Chandler, Interim Minister



Dear friends,

Where do we come from? Who are we?
Where are we going?

You have probably sung this song in worship. The questions are the central mysteries of life. They also focus the transition time we call interim ministry. FPUU has already entered this time, in which I now join you for the next two years.

An Interim Minister is and should be a minister in full to each member and friend. I look forward to sharing your joys and sorrows, your accomplishments and disappointments, your dreams and fears, the events great and small of

your life. They are no less important to me just because my time with you will be limited. I will care for and about you each day.

As a gathered religious community – a vision-seeking people – there are some protocols to the interim relationship. We do work together on those three big questions, and remembering that central purpose will help us stay on track. This is crucial: The answers must be *your answers*. A settled minister says “we,” but I am required to say “you.” That reminds everyone this work is ultimately your privilege and responsibility. I will guide and assist by asking the big three questions in many different ways, but the invitation is for you to talk *to each other*. You will share things you know. If the process works properly – I believe it will – you will also discover things you may not know, or not know fully, about your past, present and future as a congregation.

All congregations do some things well – often many things well. Are they the right things? Are there things we could do better? Are there

things that should be let go? What are the best opportunities within our reach? These are also key questions as we seek to worship and welcome and serve our communities.

We will work out the answers that make sense to you. The right answers for FPUU are the only ones that matter. Gaining that knowledge will sometimes be challenging, as true knowledge always is. It will also be fun, illuminating and inspiring. Here’s to our journey of discovery.

Best wishes, Rev. David

More can be learned about Rev. David on the church website or by clicking this link: <http://www.firstparishmedfield.org/cms/aboutusmenu/staff>

Upcoming Services

Sunday – September 11

Ingathering Sunday

Our first Sunday of the church year is to renew and reconnect. Please bring water and words of the heart for Water Communion. Your water can come from anywhere (the tap is just fine). Your words will tell us where your spirit journeyed this summer (even if your body never left home). Whether you were happy or sad or sunburned, whether you felt stretched or squeezed, you are invited into a sharing worship. **All-ages Service.**

Rev. David W. Chandler

Sunday – September 18

“Who Goes There?”

Sad but true – ministers are not delivered by the stork. You have a right to know, here at the beginning of our time together, where I actually do come from. You need to know at least a little bit about who I really am, and the roots of my ministry. **Religious Ed.**

Rev. David W. Chandler

Sunday – September 25

“Who’s on First?” – Locating Interim Ministry, Part I

Rev. David W. Chandler

Aren’t you hot wearing that robe? Well, yes – but there are reasons to wear it anyway. Our first conversation about the interim will pose and maybe even answer questions about the IM role and relationship between minister and congregation. **Religious Ed.**

Religious Education for Children & Youth

RE for Grades K-7 Begins on September 18th



Hi Everyone! We are looking forward to a new year of Religious Education! On September 18th, bring your appetite because we will be decorating bagels before church and religious education! Bring your appetite, creativity, and your thoughts from summer to start RE off on the right foot! RE Parents and caregivers, following RE you will be receiving a hard copy registration packet for your child(en)’s year during that Sunday’s coffee hour. I am looking forward to seeing your bright smiles in the fall!

We will continue exploring the promises that Unitarian Universalists make to themselves and the world while also exploring the roots of Unitarian Universalism to find out where it had all started. We will further our exploration through creative expression, discussions, and through various pieces of literature.

Samantha Decker Nemeth

Coordinator of Religious Education

Youth Offerings at First Parish Grades 8-12

2016-2017 Youth Offerings - open to FP youth and friends from the larger community



Our Whole Lives 8/9 Grade (*JOWL*)

This comprehensive sexual education curriculum, developed by the UUA and the UCC, offers age appropriate lessons and activities to include the values and attitudes of our 7 principles while reinforcing respect and compassion for the spectrum of people in our world. Role playing, values voting, and guest speakers add to the fun! The group will meet 1 to 2

Sundays/month from 7-9 pm and is facilitated by Cissy Hull-Allen and Chris Conley, both certified in OWL 7-12. JOWL parent orientation will be in October.

Our Whole Lives, 10-12 Grade (*HOWL*)

The high school aged Our Whole Lives expands the life skills and activities and is more group directed in activities. Following the OWL curriculum and supplementing with other resources, this group meets one Sunday a month from 7-9pm. HOWL will begin in October.

Youth Group, 10-12 Grade

The youth group is for young people in 10 grade and up. Meeting once a month, usually on a Sunday evening. Group driven, past activities have included service projects, movies, rock climbing, "slumber" parties, debates -and food! Youth Group will begin on September 25th at 7pm.

Gentle Reminder regarding Little Lights....



Little Lights, childcare during the Sunday services (9:45-11:15) for kids not yet in first grade, will be provided again this year during all services. We know it's difficult to keep RE-aged kids entertained during intergenerational services when there is no RE, but we ask that you please refrain from sending your kids downstairs; there end up being a lot more of them than there are babysitters and it is easy for the situation to become out of control. We have a combination of veteran Little Lights babysitters and some newcomers, all of whom are certified in basic first aid. It is the parent or guardian's responsibility to make sure the child is signed in and out on the clipboard located with our babysitters in our area in the vestry. Please help us keep our area clean. If your child is still playing after 11:15, after the sitters have cleaned up and are preparing to leave, it is the caretaker's responsibility to make sure the space is left tidy. Thank you!

Executive Board Notes



Dear Friends:

I hope your summer has been a healthy and happy one, with some time to relax and reflect. As we look forward to our Ingathering Sunday on September 11, we issue a warm welcome to our interim minister, Rev. David Chandler, whose appointment started on August 16. He joined the Executive Board for its first meeting on August 18, and we are delighted to have him with us. His long experience in the ministry, in business, as a lay leader in a congregation, and just generally in life brings us a wealth of wisdom to help us navigate our transition.

Transitions are always challenging, but they also open up opportunities: for new perspectives, for seeing a larger picture, for valuing what we have. And we have much to be thankful for: longstanding loyalties, outstanding talents, sympathetic care of each other, as well as a constant flow of energy and ideas. And that flow never ceased over the summer: for instance, the Espresso Yourself coffeehouse continued attracting performers and listeners from Medfield and the larger area, our Farmers' Market brought busy life to the space in front of the meetinghouse every Thursday afternoon, and every Sunday morning, a thoughtful group gathered for a lay-led summer service. Many thanks to all who made this possible! I look forward to a full congregational life as we begin our new church year.

Welcome back, one and all -- see you in church!

Fritz

Notes from the Music Director

Eva Kendrick



Dear FPUU Friends,

I hope you've all had a wonderful summer! I had a very pleasant summer, during which Chris and I attended the UUMN Conference in Madison, Wisconsin! It was a wonderful, friendly and welcoming city! The conference was held at the First Unitarian Society of Madison which had some amazing architecture including the original sanctuary, which was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Since I graduated the Music Leadership Certification Program this year I had no required courses to take, but I attended thought-provoking and invigorating workshop sessions, made new friends, bought some new organ and piano music, and worked with the UUMN Task Force I was appointed to earlier this year. I am excited to bring back what I learned to our church!

Here is a little of what is coming up this year:

—More choir! This year, we will be presenting one Lowell Mason hymn on the first Sunday of each month, led by our wonderful choir! I have been doing some research and found a treasure trove of Lowell Mason hymns.

—More services integrating instrumental music! The Larger Circle, our wonderful instrumental group made up of FPUU members has been rehearsing all summer, and they sound terrific!

—An original hymn commissioned by the Green Sanctuary Committee which will be presented both as a hymn for the congregation to sing and as a choir anthem!

—A musical fundraiser or two!

The choir schedule for September-December will be posted on our website by the first week of September. If you would like to join us for a rehearsal for In-Gathering (our first service), please mark off **Friday, September 9th** from 7-8 p.m. and **Sunday, September 11th** from 9:15-10 a.m. All are welcome to join!

Thank you very much! I look forward to seeing you all again very soon!

Eva



Congratulations to Eva Kendrick: Certified Music Leader!



Dear Leaders from First Parish in Medfield and Beyond:

With great pleasure, I share that your congregation's Music Director, Eva Kendrick, has been awarded Certified Music Leader status by the UUA Music Leadership Certification Committee. It has been a pleasure to witness such growth in an already accomplished musician. Eva took full advantage of our program, engaging her assignments enthusiastically and authentically, and emerging with increased confidence and a deepened sense of her role.

The Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations greatly appreciates Eva's fine work within and beyond your congregation. She will be recognized and celebrated at General Assembly. We hope that Eva has been, or soon will be, honored within her congregation, as well. She could not have achieved this milestone without your encouragement and involvement. Thank you for nurturing quality music leadership and for your continued support of Eva, in particular. I'd especially like to acknowledge Greg Beedy, who served as Eva's sponsor. Greg helped ensure that Eva's credentialing work meshed with your congregational context and needs.

I encourage you to place a copy of this letter in Eva's personnel file and to ensure that her accomplishment is shared broadly within your congregation. This is also an appropriate time to become familiar with the UUA's fair compensation recommendations for Certified Music Leaders.

Best wishes to all.

Joyfully,
Jan Gartner
Professional Development Specialist, UUA

This is a significant accomplishment that took three years of hard work spanning coursework and unique projects. We are so fortunate to be able to enjoy Eva's professional talent and personal presence at First Parish UU Medfield," said Greg Beedy, Eva's FPUU sponsor for her certification.

Green Sanctuary Committee



It's been a fantastic summer, the hottest June on record, and July the hottest month ever. The year 2016 will likely be the hottest year on record, according to NASA. While El Nino is partially adding to the heat, scientists place the blame on human activity. Bill McKibben says we are under attack by the climate and our only hope is to mobilize at the national level. Many of us at First Parish are trying to make sure we are part of the solution and not the problem.

Last year, the Green Sanctuary Committee worked hard at the local and systemic levels and joined with others. This interfaith work is paying off. This week the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court rejected public subsidies for fossil fuels.

Our agenda for the GS Committee is to continue doing and participating: promoting the anti-idling law and reducing our carbon footprint. And our goal is to apply for Green Sanctuary status for First Parish. Would you like to join us? Our monthly Friday meetings start with a potluck and end with lots of information and ideas. Contact Thea Iberall theaiberall@yahoo.com.

Farmers' Market Continues!



A big thank you to our church members who have contributed baked goods to our church bake sale table. Susan Stromgren has done a great job initiating our table along with preparing many homemade goodies. Thank you Susan, Thea Iberall, Dan Bibel, Jeanette Ruyle, Nancer Ballard, Faye Kalmbach (and Eve Potts) for all your baking. To date about \$500.00 has been raised!
All proceeds go to the maintenance of our church.

Derek Amaral, our new co-market manager has been busy setting up and closing every week plus doing many jobs including painting our antique church benches. Another big thank you.

Needham Bank, our market sponsor, has supplied our tent, signs, posters and money for our market. Their support has been such a help to make our six years of the market successful. If you visit Needham Bank, a thank you from us would be appreciated.

We have a new vendor. The Schilling family is selling their free range, organic, eggs. Curt has collected many different chicken breeds. A dozen eggs consist of blues, whites, and cream colored, small and large eggs. Grant, his son, maintains the table. I bought a dozen and was surprised how much better they taste than my grocery store eggs.



Our Farmers' Market is every Thursday from 2 to 6:30 until September 22nd. Come by and visit us.
Eve, Co-Market manager

MEDFIELD DAY- SEPTEMBER 17th!!

Medfield Day will be held Saturday, September 17th from 9 AM to 3 PM.



First Parish is in the middle of the activity and it is a great opportunity to join in the fun with both the church and the community!



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!!

PLEASE THINK ABOUT HOW YOU CAN VOLUNTEER. YOU CAN BAKE, BREW (coffee), SELL AND SUPPORT FIRST PARISH.



Sign up schedules will be put up in the vestry and there will be many e-mail appeals for help. Thanks in advance for your help and your commitment to First Parish.



EXPRESSO YOURSELF COFFEEHOUSE

Our next show:
Saturday, September 24th at 7:00 PM

Open to all including high school students and adults.



Get ready to share stories, songs, and poems around our September theme, "Truth."

Our featured presenter is Amy Mevorach, a performance poet, youth poetry mentor and mother of four. She is a two time Natick poetry slam winner and the organizer of the Old Souls open mic at the Common Street Spiritual center of Natick

The coffeehouse is an opportunity for spoken word artists to share their poetry, stories, and songs. Teens and adults are invited to participate or to just enjoy the evening.

Coffee and refreshments are provided by our series sponsor, Starbucks of Medfield.
\$5 donation (\$3 students).

Espresso Yourself Coffeehouse at First Parish UU Medfield



Save the Date: For the last Espresso Yourself Coffeehouse on Dec. 31, New Year's Eve, our own church band, The Larger Circle, will be playing for an evening of intergenerational dancing, directed by a professional caller. More details coming closer to the time.

Shout out to Clover Leaf Lawn Care!!



Tim from Clover Leaf Lawn Care has been cutting the grass at First Parish all summer long as a gift to First Parish. Thank you Tim! Because of you we are able to put the money saved towards some other budget items. Your care and attention to the church lawn is most appreciated!

Clover Leaf Lawn Care, Inc. is a locally owned full service lawn care company providing a wide range of lawn care and landscaping services to customers in Medfield and surrounding towns. Tim McCormack, owner/operator, has been providing customers with professional and highly personal lawn care services for more than twenty five years.

Volunteers Needed

Monthly Coffee Hour Host Coordinators Needed



Monthly Coffee Hour Coordinators are needed to be responsible for one month of the year to find volunteers to provide coffee hour for the Sundays in that month.

Please let Ann Cunningham know if you would like to coordinate a month. Coffee hour is an important part of First Parish life. Thank you for your help in advance for church year 2016-2017, and for all your help in the past.

Altar Flowers Needed



First Parish is always in need of flowers for the sanctuary on Sundays. Flowers can be an arrangement from a florist or even a bouquet from your own yard. You can even take the flowers home with you after the service☺

This would be a wonderful way to celebrate or memorialize an occasion, event, or person.

If you are interested in donating a fresh or silk flower arrangement to the church sanctuary this year, please contact Louise Rachin.

Volunteer Opportunities at New Life Home Refurnishing, Walpole.



For people coming out of difficult times with limited resources, it is often very difficult

to find the household items needed to set up living in an apartment.

The mission of NewLife Home Refurnishing is to distribute "gently used" household goods at no cost to individuals and families who need help to rebuild their lives. Our clients come to us through referrals from social service and government agencies, as well as area clergy.

Our goal is to treat our clients with dignity, providing them with a "shopping" opportunity to furnish their new home with the basic necessities from our inventory.

NewLife relies on the generosity of residents of Medfield and the surrounding towns. We accept most basic furniture and household items in good condition. Those who are downsizing or redecorating can recycle their items, knowing they will be put to good use and kept out of landfills. Donations are tax deductible.

Information on how you can arrange for a donation can be found at www.newlifehr.org.

You can volunteer with others from our church on the third Saturday morning of the month.

**We meet at the warehouse at
102 Elm Street in Walpole.**

Volunteer opportunities include inventory, intake, light cleaning of items, light lifting, and heavier lifting.

Sign up online at <http://www.newlifehr.org>
Email info@newlifehr.org or call 774-316-6395

For more information please contact Duncan Glover.

Due to September 17 being Medfield day, we will assist on September 24 this month instead of the usually third Saturday of the month.

First Parish Volunteer Days:

Saturday, September 24, 2016
Saturday, October 15, 2016
Saturday, November 19, 2016
Saturday, December 17, 2016



Have you moved over the summer? We are working on a fall directory. Please contact the church office at admin@firstparishmedfield.org with any changes. Thank you.

Supporting FPUU through Amazon.com and Equal Exchange



Did you know that if you are buying items through Amazon.com, by using a link, a portion of your purchase will be applied to First Parish? First Parish will receive a portion (**between 2 and 5%**) of every dollar you spend online at Amazon.com. Anything purchased via the link below will automatically be credited to our account. **It won't cost you anymore and will help support First Parish.**

So - use this link to go to the Amazon site - make your selections - purchase - that's it! Please refer your friends and neighbors to this link too!

https://www.amazon.com/?ie=UTF8&*Version*=1&*entries*=o&link_code=hom&tag=firstparisucho1



Love coffee? Tea your thing? What about chocolate?

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.

Enjoy your favorites while also supporting First Parish, the [UJSC](#), and small farmers.

How? It's easy - by ordering your coffees, teas, and chocolate from [Equal Exchange](#), you can do all three.

First Parish adds 15% to the Equal Exchange price, so your purchase also helps to support the work of the church.

More information can be found on our website or by clicking this link:

<http://firstparishmedfield.org/cms/component/content/article/45-amazon/76-ee>.

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 link at the bottom of the page.

Medfield Food Cupboard



As in the past, First Parish will be collecting food items for the Medfield Food Cupboard. The Food Cupboard exists to provide assistance to residents of Medfield who are in need of supplemental or emergency food. The Medfield Food Cupboard is generously supported by the residents of Medfield, the town's churches, and various community organizations.

To meet the needs of their clients, food distributions are held approximately every 2 weeks at the Food Cupboard home: the United Church of Christ, 496 Main Street, Medfield. If you need the services of the Food Cupboard, please call us at 508-359-4958 and leave a message.

Donations of non-perishable, unopened, unexpired food items may be dropped off in the narthex. Donations of canned tuna and chicken, canned pasta, canned fruits and vegetables, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, applesauce, juice, pasta sauces, paper products (paper towels, Kleenex, and toilet paper), cleaning products, and health and beauty aids such as shampoo, toothpaste, and shaving razors or refills, are always welcome.

Donations can be placed in the basket in the narthex.

Eva Springer will take care delivering the donations to the Food Cupboard again this year.

Notes from the Church Office:



Please remember the following deadlines:

Church Newsletter: Third Sunday of the month.

Order of Service: Wednesdays by 5:00 pm.

Church Office Hours: Mondays & Thursdays from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Email: admin@firstparishmedfield.org

Sandra Andreassi-Administrator



FPUU Calendar of Events

Thursday, September 1	Medfield Farmers' Market/2:00-6:30 pm/Grounds
Monday, September 5	Labor Day, office closed
Tuesday, September 5	The Larger Circle/7:30-9:30 pm/Vestry
Thursday, September 8	Medfield Farmers' Market/2:00-6:30 pm/Grounds
Friday, September 9	Choir Rehearsal/7:00 pm-8:00 pm/Sanctuary
Sunday, September 11	Choir Rehearsal/9:15-10:00 am/Sanctuary First Service-In-Gathering/10:00 am Anti-racism in the 'burbs/1:30-4:30 pm/Vestry Chalice Circle/4:00-5:30 pm/U-House
Monday, September 12	The Larger Circle/7:30-9:30 pm/Vestry
Thursday, September 15	Medfield Farmers' Market/2:00-6:30 pm/Grounds Executive Board Meeting/7:30 pm/U-House
Saturday, September 17	Medfield Day/Grounds
Sunday, September 18	RE Begins
Monday, September 19	The Larger Circle/7:30-9:30 pm/Vestry
Thursday, September 22	Medfield Farmers' Market/2:00-6:30 pm/Grounds
Saturday, September 24	Medfield Day Raindate New Life Home Refurnishings Volunteer Day Expresso Yourself Coffeehouse/7:00 pm/Vestry
Sunday, September 25	Youth Group Begins/7:00 pm/Vestry
Monday, September 26	The Larger Circle/7:30-9:30 pm/Vestry

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