



# First Parish Unitarian Universalist Of Medfield

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



"I would rather sit on a pumpkin, and have it all to myself,  
than be crowded on a velvet cushion."

— Henry David Thoreau

## October Newsletter 2016

### The Parson's Packet

David W. Chandler, Interim Minister

Dear friends,

Of course, I do have a few ideas about interim ministry and am happy to talk about them – but your ideas are what count. The transition period between settled ministers is for the people of a congregation to talk to each other about who they are and what they want. "What they want," means not just what qualities you want in a minister, but what qualities you want in yourselves. Listening obviously must go with talking – nobody will hear anything otherwise. Your Transition Team and I hope you will join us after the Sunday service

on October 2 to start the conversation. I invite your questions of all kinds, your ideas and suggestions and even your concerns. It is helpful from the start to understand some essentials, some "best practices" of the interim process.

There are no wrong opinions. We are all entitled to the ones we have. Nobody else is required to agree or disagree. There are also no wrong experiences. Even the most common episodes of human life are experienced differently by each of us. Everyone has a right to speak – to express opinions and relate experiences. These must, of course, be your own, not somebody else's.

Finally, in everything we do, we try our best to recognize the difference between decisions and discernment. "Decisions" are deliberate choices to take one course of action or another. Often, for clarity, we vote on them and the majority rules.

Most of the interim process is not about decisions but about "discernment." We seek a consciousness of what is right for us – as a community, as stewards of the past and creators of the future. This is trickier because it is a feeling,

and feelings are both elusive to most of us and in some ways uncomfortable. Opening ourselves to feelings in a group requires a strong sense of safety, because feelings are where we are vulnerable.

And we don't vote on them. The Quaker "sense of the Meeting" is much closer to the concept. It takes a firm belief we will all, together, find the right way if we take our time. Let's begin!

Best wishes, Rev. David

## Upcoming Services

**Sunday – October 2**      **"What's on Second?" – Locating Interim Ministry, Part II**      **Rev. David W. Chandler**

Is this going to be a lot of work? As the gardener pulling weeds reminds us, attitude is key. Our second conversation about the interim will focus on the congregation. Your roles and relationships are what we are renewing and invigorating. **Religious Ed.**

**Sunday – October 9**      **"Honoring Indigenous People"**      **Worship & Music Committee**

On October 9th, on what's traditionally known as Columbus Day weekend, we will explore the other side of the story of what happened when he and other Europeans "discovered" this country. Many municipalities, first Berkeley, CA and recently Cambridge, MA, have moved away from a celebration of Columbus, instead choosing to celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day to honor the history of Native Americans. Join us as we explore the history of our region and our country through this important perspective. **Religious Ed.**

**Sunday – October 16**      **"A Matter of Degree"**      **Rev. David W. Chandler**

How much agency do we have against evil? Might we expect any help in the struggle to prevent it from prevailing? These are critical questions in our age – and every other time and place. There are deep stories to help us grasp our opportunity. **Religious Ed.**

**Sunday – October 23**      **"And Quit Show Business?"**      **Rev. David W. Chandler**

The work of church community can be considerable. It is almost never glamorous. It can seem endless and even tedious. How do we seize occasions of inspiration, growth, connection and celebration? It helps to keep shoveling, no matter what. **Religious Ed.**

**Sunday – October 30**      **Annual Remembrance: "Day of the Dead"**      **Rev. David W. Chandler**

We will celebrate all those who live in our hearts but no longer in our world. Pictures and mementos are welcome for our Altar of Remembrance, and spirit world decorations as well. We will salute all souls with drums and rhythm instruments. **Religious Ed.**

## 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 (OWL) (8-9 grade)

This comprehensive sexuality program is in its 13th year at First Parish. Developed by the UUA and

the UCC, the curriculum reinforces our values as well as educating in topics including Anatomy and Physiology, Relationships, Communication, options for safe sex, and Social Media awareness through role playing, discussions, and guest speakers. **A mandatory parent/guardian meeting will be held on Sunday, 10/16, at 7p in the vestry.** The curriculum and visuals will be reviewed as well as a Q&A. Permission forms will be distributed and must be on file by the start of our program! The sessions will meet the first and 3rd Sundays of the month from 7-9pm, and is open to members of First Parish and the larger community (a \$100 materials fee applies for non-FP friends). OWL is a year-long adventure, ending with a celebration in June. This year the facilitators are Chris Conley and Cissy Hull-Allen.

### YOUTH GROUP (10-12 grade)

Youth group meets on the 4th Sunday of the month. The next meeting will be on Sunday, October 23rd, with plans to be decided at our September meeting - apple picking? 5Wits? Popcorn and a movie? Can't wait to find out! The group is member driven, with Arnold Kalmbach and Cissy Hull-Allen as advisers. Activities usually include service projects, food, a sleepover, food, fun, food.

## Choir Rehearsal Schedule



Sept. 25, Oct. 2\*, Oct. 30, Nov. 6\*, Nov. 13, Nov. 20, Nov. 27, Dec. 2 (Friday 6-7 pm), Dec. 4\*, 11, 16 (Friday 7-8), 18, 24\*

Stars indicate weeks when the choir will be singing in choir.

All Sunday rehearsals are to begin at 9 a.m.

## Altar Flowers for the Upcoming Months



October - Ann Cunningham  
November - Margaret Ralph  
December - Rebecca Stephenson

Flower donations may be given in honor or memory of a friend or loved one; in commemoration of a special event, or for any other reason you may decide to donate. You can even take the flowers home with you after service. Please contact Louise Rachin if you are interested in signing up.

## Executive Board Notes



Dear Friends:

Our new church year has begun with a good start, with two well-attended Sunday services on September

11 and 18. And there was Medfield Day: First Parish had a highly visible community presence, with no fewer than five distinct initiatives: pumpkin decorating, Henna painting, a bake sale, a paint-your-own mug activity, and an Espresso Yourself Coffeehouse information booth. And we raised approx. \$ 1,600 for First Parish! Many thanks to all the hard workers, thoughtful planners, generous contributors, and creative artists, for making this year's Medfield Day a resounding success for our church community.

The Executive Board held its second meeting on September 15. As you may already have read in my recent e-mail, among the things we discussed was how to improve the communication flow at First Parish. This, of course, is an ongoing project, but we came up with two new policies that address immediate needs:

- (1) All calendar information and requests for space should go to Sandra Andreassi ([admin@firstparishmedfield.org](mailto:admin@firstparishmedfield.org)). Sandra faithfully updates the church calendar on our website (<http://www.firstparishmedfield.org/cms/n>

[ews-a-events](#)), but in order to do so, she needs information and updates about what goes on or what is being planned at First Parish, such as the time and place for committee meetings, special events, or any events that require use of the sanctuary, the vestry, or the U-House.

When people check out a church website, they always look at the array of activities going on there. We have many activities, so let's make sure to list them – not only for our internal information, but also for how we present ourselves to the outside world.

- (2) We are also encouraging announcements on Sunday, as long as they are timely and short. If you would like to have an announcement made on Sunday, please send it to Sandra no later than Wednesday to have it included in the Order of Service. Rev. David has also expressed a willingness to make announcements from the pulpit (if you missed the Wednesday deadline), as long as you hand him a written note before the service.

Thanks for your help in improving our communication.

See you in church!  
Fritz



## Farmers' Market Thank You!



A long hot summer for our Farmers' Market, but we made it and no rain!

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our bake sale table and our volunteers who helped out. It was nice to see our regulars coming every week for fresh veggies, fish, and local eggs and of course our church bake sale table. Susan, thanks so much for being in charge of it.

One of our vendors commented that our market was her favorite, with such nice people!

Our PR lady, CB Doub has been terrific sending in news releases to local newspapers every week for four months. CB moved three years ago to New Hampshire but she is still our Medfield UU member. She used to be moderator. A huge thank you CB. You have been a life saver with your great articles.

Another life saver has been Derek Amaral setting up and taking down the heavy sandwich boards, tents, and banners and carrying them down to the basement. And also filling in at our bake table. Every week for 4 months. I'm tired just writing about it.

Thanks again everyone,  
Eve

*All of us at First Parish would like to thank Eve Potts for doing such a wonderful job as Market Manager this season. Eve volunteered her time and efforts to keeping the market running smoothly. Eva, the Market would not have been possible without you.*



## Volunteer Opportunities at New Life Home Refurnishing, Walpole



*Recycling furniture. Rebuilding lives.*

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](http://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](mailto:info@newlifehr.org) or call 774-316-6395

For more information please contact Duncan Glover.

### First Parish Volunteer Days:

Saturday, October 15, 2016

Saturday, November 19, 2016

Saturday, December 17, 2016



### Care Packages for College Students

I wish to encourage our congregation to intentionally stay in touch with our youth by sending care packages to those who are currently away at college. Starting on October 2nd and continuing through October 16th, there will be individual boxes for each student in the vestry. You can write a simple note, add a treat, send school supplies, personal care items or contribute a little money for mailing expenses. Thank you, Alison Galley, [galley@live.com](mailto:galley@live.com)

## Help Needed - Grounds



Margaret Rolph and I struggled with pruning the North St. Ilex (shrubs) but have heard that we may receive some help with the taller branches. Dan Bibel was a dear and brought his wonderful cart and electric pruners, but had an emergency and had to leave. So we still need help with our church clean up grounds. Maybe after church this week?  
Building and Grounds, Eve

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## Thank you Derek & Dawn!



The churches' antique benches located on the front porch of the U-House were in poor shape, peeling paint and handles in need of repair etc. but thanks to Derek and Dawn Amaral, they look like new all four of them, two were in the hallway. Not an easy job, but so worthwhile.



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## 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 8:00-2:00

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

Sandra Andreassi-Administrator

**The deadline for the November Newsletter will be October 16th**

Please note: Sandra will be out of town from October 24-October 30<sup>th</sup>.



# Medfield Day 2016

(Pictures from Gaby Harrison)



**Thank you to all who helped  
With Medfield Day!**

**Due to the efforts of all those  
who volunteered,  
approximately \$1,600 was  
raised for First Parish!**







A new addition to FP's various activities on Medfield Day was our "Make a Mug" station, organized by all the fun people on the Membership Committee. The activity drew both children and the young at heart, who enjoyed transforming plain white mugs into unique pieces of art. The results were amazing! If you haven't tried your hand at making a mug this year, you get another chance at Medfield Day 2017. (Pssst... Maybe you are lucky and get your very own, hand-painted mug for your birthday...)

*Your Membership Team*

(Allison Bryant, Kirsten D'Abate, Linda Finkle, Katrin Fischer, Darline Lewis)





Our next show:  
Saturday, October 29th at 7:00 PM  
Open to all including high school students and adults.

Get ready to share stories, songs, and poems



Our featured performer for October is Cindy Rivka Marshall, an award-winning storyteller, workshop facilitator and consultant. Her telling of both folklore and personal tales convey a sense of humor, wonder and respect for all. She has presented nationally and in the UK since 1989 and runs the Dancing Tree Story Workshop in Needham, MA where she offers training and coaching in storytelling. She writes the Story Arc Blog on the use of stories to “reach, teach and change” in educational and community settings. Cindy’s recordings have won awards from Parent’s Choice, Storytelling World and National Parenting Publications.

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).

Expresso Yourself Coffeehouse at First Parish UU Medfield

## Support FPUU with Amazon.com (and it's Free!!!)



Did you know that if you order from Amazon.com and use a special link that First Parish will receive 5% of your order? It won't cost you anything! If you order from Amazon, please copy this link and put it on your desktop. Clicking the link will bring you right to the Amazon website and there is no need to do anything more than place your order like you typically would. How easy is that?

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)

## Support Small Farmers and FPUU with Equal Exchange



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, click on this link:

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

## The Medfield Food Cupboard has requested the following from our church for the month of October:



Canned Pasta  
Chili  
Stew  
Canned Chicken  
Juice  
Canned fruit  
Applesauce

Canned Peas  
Pasta Sauce (All set with dry pasta)  
Sweet/Salty snacks  
Kid Friendly Cereal  
Black Beans  
Rice

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.



## FPUU Calendar of Events

Sunday, October 2	Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary/9:00 am Talking Interim/Vestry/11:30 am
Monday, October 3	Medfield Historical Society Meeting/Vestry/6:30 pm The Larger Circle Band Practice/U-House/7:30 pm
Sunday, October 9	Chalice Circle/U-House/4:00 pm
Monday, October 10	Columbus Day/Office Closed The Larger Circle Band Practice/Vestry/7:30 pm
Wednesday, October 12	Transition Team Meeting/U-House/7:30 pm
Thursday, October 13	Worship & Music Committee Meeting/Vestry/7:15 pm
Saturday, October 15	NewLife Home Refurnishings Volunteer Day/Walpole
Sunday, October 16	Anti-Racism in the 'burbs /Vestry/1:30 pm OWL Parent Orientation/Vestry/7:00 pm Newsletter Deadline
Monday, October 17	The Larger Circle Band Practice/Vestry/7:30 pm
Thursday, October 20	Executive Board Meeting/7:30 pm/U-House
Sunday, October 23	Youth Group/Vestry/7:00 pm
Monday, October 24	The Larger Circle Band Practice/Vestry/7:30 pm
Saturday, October 29	Expresso Yourself Coffeehouse/Vestry/7:00 pm
Sunday, October 30	Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary/8:00 am
Monday, October 31	The Larger Circle Band Practice/Vestry/7:30 pm