



LIGHTING THE WAY FORWARD

First Parish News



Photo by Allison Lazos

There is a Season

January 29, 2023, **10:00 a.m.**

Rev. Lara K-J Campbell

All Church Birthday Party after Sunday Service!

Concurrent Religious Exploration Program and Nursery Care Available

Come in person or click to join the service!

<https://uukennebunk.org/Sunday-Service-Access>

Or by cell phone (audio only) 929-205-6099, meeting ID 734 887 010.

Password:024481.



Photo by Al Adams

***The tree the tempest with a crash of wood
Throws down in front of us is not to bar
Our passage to our journey's end for good,
But just to ask us who we think we are -Robert Frost***



Photos by Paul Beach

Memorial Service for Carolyn McAdams



Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023

A memorial service will be held for long time member Carolyn McAdams at 11 a.m. Saturday January 28th at First Parish. Carolyn died on Tuesday, November 29th.

If you are unable to attend in person, please join us via zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/92062211359?pwd=d3FocCs1N3hWUFlwdnB4dWtReFliQT09>

Maine UU legislators prioritize environmental, social justice

Maine UU State Action Network (MUUSAN) on Jan. 21 presented six UU Senators and Representatives. They gave an overview of their priorities all of which directly relate to environmental and social justice. It was inspiring to hear them.

There is now an opportunity to have a UU spokesperson for Our Power, the group trying to change from CMP to a consumer owned utility, to come to First Parish and outline the environmental and social justice issues addressed by this change. I will find an appropriate Sunday for an after-service conversation.

Tips and Tools is an amazing resource for anyone wanting to make a difference in the legislative agenda in Maine. It is available at MUUSAN.org and worth exploring even if you aren't planning to do anything right now.

- Marilyn Wentworth

Maine Public Radio airs MLK coverage

Our Martin Luther King Holiday celebration was a great success this year, attracting well over 100 people on Monday and highlighted on Maine Public Radio.

Maine Public Coverage by Patty Wight

Portland attorney Krystal Williams was the featured speaker at an event honoring Martin Luther King, Jr at the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church in Kennebunk on Monday morning.

After reading portions of King's 1963 letter from a Birmingham jail in which he advocated for nonviolent action to fight for civil rights, Williams said King's words still ring true today.

"If we want to change the outcome of American history, we have to change our daily actions. Will it take a little more effort? Yes, yes it will. But if you don't make the effort now, when will you?" Williams said.

Williams is the founder of the Alpha Legal Foundation, a nonprofit that works to diversify the legal profession. She's also the founder and managing attorney of the legal and business advisory firm Providentia Group, which seeks to create economic equity through entrepreneurship.

Williams told attendees of the Monday event that the Civil Rights Act ushered in important changes, but racism today is much more subtle and it maintains a race-based economic caste system.

"Now, almost 60 years later, black Americans remain economically disenfranchised with disproportionately negative outcomes across all social determinants of health," Williams said. She urged the crowd to continue to focus on racial equity beyond the national holiday.

"Please know, this is the easy part," she said. "The work is not showing up today. The work is what you do away from the speeches, away from the workshops, away from the days of commemoration. The work happens when you choose what nonprofit to support, or what restaurant to go to, or where you purchase certain services, or even what movie ticket you buy."

Emails to us from keynote speaker Krystal Williams

I am so glad that the feedback was positive. It truly was an honor and privilege to spend the morning honoring Dr. King's work with you. I had no idea that Maine Public was covering the event (a good thing!). I am so glad that the message was amplified!

All my best, Krystal

Dear Friends,

On Feb. 9th, 4 - 6 p.m. Alpha Legal Foundation is proud to host Jody Armour, the Roy P. Crocker Professor of Law at the University of Southern California and a widely published scholar and popular lecturer, as the guest speaker in the second installation of our 2022-2023 Legally Racist Series. Jody will speak on the themes presented in his book, *N*gga Theory*. You are invited to join us.

To inspire greater community participation and celebrate Black History Month, you are receiving **early access to purchase deeply discounted, \$20 tickets using the code BHM2023**. If you purchase your tickets before February 2, 2023, you will also be eligible to receive a free download of Professor Armour's book, *N*gga Theory*. Alpha Legal Foundation has purchased a limited number of ebooks for download, so this offer is subject to availability.

You can purchase your tickets here:

Providentia Group
Alpha Legal Foundation
110 Marginal Way Ste 195
Portland ME 04101
(207) 587-3765

Gilgamesh discovers the meaning of life

Last Sunday, our worship service focused on *THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH: THE NAÏVE HERO'S QUEST FOR IMMORTALITY* by Lyrical Austrian Poet Rainer Marie Rilke (1916). A two-act play by Nick Bartenhagen was presented by Maggie and Nick Bartenhagen, Crow Lowry and Ted Trainer. The script derives from this ancient epic, deeply rooted in the fertile soil of Mesopotamian myth, offering us a deeper meaning for being alive and being here today. Finally accepting the inevitability of death, Gilgamesh learns that the true meaning of life can only be found in the present, among our companions.



Upcoming at First Parish



Sunday, Jan. 29, at 11 a.m. Tables will be set up by *seasons* rather than months, so you will have fun learning who was born the same month, season, or day as you! This is an all-ages fun event, so be sure to bring your children.

Our “All-Church Birthday” Party returns this Sunday in person! It will take place right after the church service

Questions? Contact Linda or Jim Thompson, 207-502-7796.

New Men's group launching soon.

Our new men's group will begin to meet soon. It is being formed in answer to the overwhelming response recently received from many church members and others. In an effort to meet everyone's goals and personal aspirations, a questionnaire was designed and then emailed to all interested individuals on Sunday, January 15th. The questionnaire (it's not too late to answer) includes the following:

- How often would you suggest we meet?
- Where should we meet, including the venue?
- Do you prefer "In person" or by "zoom" meetings?
- What day(s) and time of day work for you?
- Is there any day(s) you cannot meet?
- Do you prefer a shared or rotating leadership?
- Should we combine joint activities?
- Any additional thoughts or suggestions that you would like to add?

If you have not indicated your interest before, but would like to now, please email Mark Gallup at grouchomg@gmail.com to obtain a questionnaire at your earliest opportunity.

Thank You on behalf of your organizing group:

Mark Gallup, Abraham Brody, Bob Wuerthner, Jim Thompson

Are you a team player?

2 opportunities are available!



Having decided that it is not a very good idea for people over four-score years to shovel snow, the **Properties Committee** is forming a new Snow Team to shovel snow off the steps and ramp leading into the church. Properties needs four volunteers. Please contact Barbara Conner (207) 229-0799, and she will work out a plan with you.

Advantages:

- This is a great way to work off holiday excess of all kinds!
- We believe in equal opportunity; everyone is welcome to participate.
- New way to explore leverage.
- Great opportunity for air guitar jamming on shovels.
- FPUU supplies the shovels and a snow blower.
- Much appreciation to be showered on you!



Our **Membership Committee**, under the direction of Linda and Jim Thompson, has organized a new way to offer coffee hour after church services on Sundays. They have designated 12 church members/friends to facilitate the effort by forming teams, which will go into action during the upcoming months. Each team should include three people, including at least one person who is relatively new to the church. So, when your telephone rings or your email beeps or if one of our coffee dozens meets you in person to invite you to participate, please respond with "Yes."

Or even better, call or email Linda or Jim to volunteer.
lindabear33@aol.com, jethompson33@aol.com

The coffee hosting has been simplified, to make it easy for all. Making coffee and tea, setting up a few tables and chairs, and doing up the dishes are all that is needed. Instructions are posted in the kitchen. Then, you are done for quite a while, as others take over during the following weeks.

BEWARE!

The time of snow and ice is here! Sometimes the parking lot is slippery...If you are able, please park farther away in the parking lot and leave the closer spaces for those who are older or mobility impaired. Thanks so much!



Choir welcomes all singers

Choir rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7-8:30 p.m. All are welcome. For more information contact our Music Director, Chris Staknys or Margaret Jones margaretj@maine.rr.com.

Need a ride? Give a ride.

A new ride service is available from the Town of Kennebunk. It's called the Kennector. Rides are available to Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and Arundel residents for any daily needs Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. The service area is a 15-mile radius in any direction from Kennebunk.

Rides are in private vehicles by trained and vetted drivers. There is a \$2.00 base fee + \$.50 per mile with a \$5.00 minimum. No cash is needed. Riders prepay from their own account, which they set up with the town. For more information call 207 604-1366 to reach Tabetha Barden, Ride Coordinator.

Or go to the website www.kennebunkmaine.us/kennector for more information or to complete an Online Rider or Driver Application.

Food can be donated in the Parish Hall

This is going to be a difficult winter for some here in our community. We can do our part by helping keep the COS food pantry well stocked with a variety of non-perishable food. A box will be placed in the Parish Hall and our donations will be brought to COS. Thank you all so much for your generosity! If you prefer to send a check you can make it out to COS, P.O. Box 1175, Kennebunk, ME.

Deadline for Newsletter Submission

Please send your items for submission in the newsletter by Tuesday, 10 am. Please email Allison at: uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com

Covid-19 protocol updated

- Masks are now requested, but not required for activities at First Parish UU Kennebunk.
- We have installed air purifiers in rooms that need them. Contributions are being received to purchase them.
- Two windows must be opened in the room you are using—if there are no air purifiers there. EVERYONE is responsible for closing them when exiting the room.
- If someone requests that folks mask, please do so. You may want to speak with your group leader/organizer for support in making a mask request.
- Beverages are now allowed in the church, but only water is allowed in the library.

We need your help! Thank you for keeping our community safe.

FPUU Website and Calendar: easy access

There is a new easy way to find First Parish News on our website. Look for the link at the top on the opening page. You can find upcoming and ongoing spiritual opportunities, activities and announcements on our website or Facebook page.

Website: www.uukennebunk.org

Weekly Calendar: www.uukennebunk.org/events

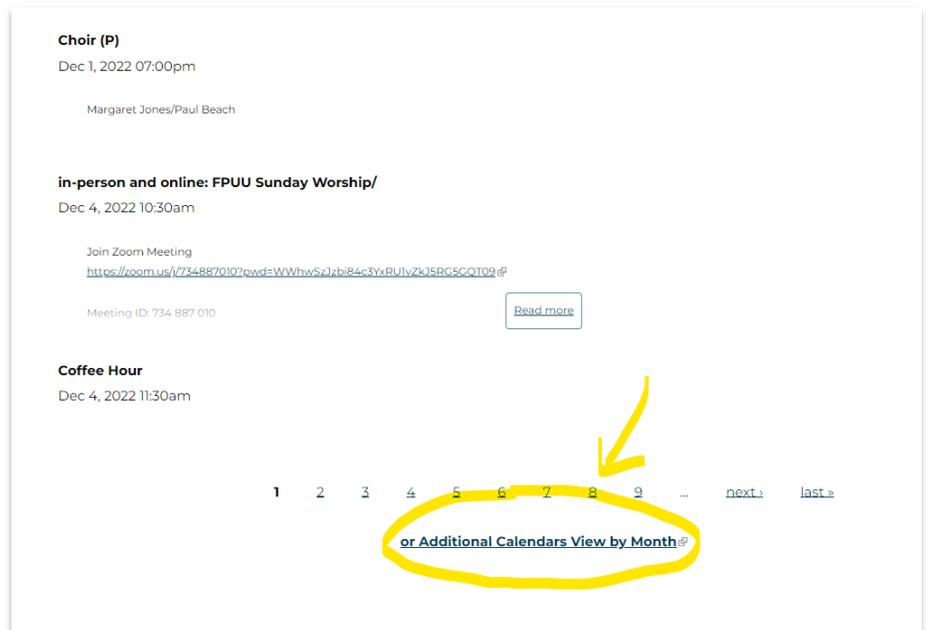
Facebook: www.facebook.com/FirstParishUUKennebunk



Check out both Calendars!

Choir, FPUU Discussion Group, Buddhist Sangha, Small Group Ministry, Women for All Seasons, and Committee meetings are all listed with meeting times and contacts on our church calendar. Keep in touch using the link below.

In addition to church programs, you can find many other activities that take place at the church, such as painting lessons, Open Studio, Tai Chi, AA, Al Anon meetings and more. These can be found on the monthly calendar link at the end of the weekly church calendar under *Additional Calendars View by Month*.



FPUU Staff/Leadership and Committee Contacts

FPUU STAFF/LEADERSHIP

MINISTER: The Reverend Lara K-J Campbell.....207-985-3700 (church) uukennebunkminister@gmail.com
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: Allison Lazos.....uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com
BOOKKEEPER: Barbara Boscia.....uukennebunkbookkeeper@gmail.com
MUSIC DIRECTORE: Christopher Staknys.....uukennebunkmusic@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 2022 – 2023 program year

CHAIR: Kim Lord (2021-2024)kimlord1@aol.com
CO-CHAIR: Merideth Norris (2021-2024)witchdr910@aol.com
CLERK: Ginny Lawrence (2022-2023) lawrenceginny@gmail.com
TREASURER: Herve Lavoie (2022-2023)hervae@roadrunner.com
DIRECTOR: Alicia Soloman (2020-2023)simardvet@yahoo.com
DIRECTOR: Vicki Adams (2022-2025) vickigatesadams@gmail.com
DIRECTOR: Bob Lown (2022-2025).....bplown@roadrunner.com

FPUU CHURCH COMMITTEES

BELL COMMITTEE & CLOCK COMMITTEE..... Paul Cochran, ptc@gwi.net
 Paul Beach, plbeach52@gmail.com
BLUEBERRY CRAFT FAIR COMMITTEE.....Marylyn Wentworth, Marylyn.wentworth@tnsk.org
CARING CONNECTIONS..... Nick & Maggie Bartenhagen, mnpelbar@gmail.com
CHOIR.....Margaret Jones, margaretj@maine.rr.com
CHURCH SPACE RENTALS.....Allison Lazos, uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY.....Amy Wood-Chair, amywood@amywoodpsyd.com
COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICES..... Kathe Wright, kawright4@hotmail.com
FINANCE COMMITTEE.....Herve` Lavoie-Chair, hervae@roadrunner.com
HISTORIAN.....Ruth Stackpole, paw8@roadrunner.com
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.....Jim Thompson, jethompson33@aol.com
 Linda Thompson, lindabear33@aol.com
MUSIC COMMITTEE..... Margaret JonesCo-Chair,margaretj@maine.rr.com
NOMINATING COMMITTEE..... Andrea Rohde, andrearohde49@gmail.com
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE.....Kevin Flynn, Jim Thompson & Joan Wuerthner
PHYSICS/CHEMISTRY WORKSHOP..... James Vesenka, jvesenka@gmail.com
PROPERTIES.....Barbara Conner, bsconner@roadrunner.com
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE..... Susie Desantis, Gray Hirshfield, Jacky Peters, Marylyn Wentworth
RUMMAGE SALE.....Jacky Peters, jpkrf@roadrunner.com
SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK..... Vicki Adams, vickigatesadams@gmail.com
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE..... **Vacant**
WEDDING COORDINATOR..... Allison Lazos, uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com
WED. EVENING DISCUSSION GROUP.....Ruth Stackpole, paw8@roadrunner.com
WORSHIP COMMITTEE.....Tory Leuteman, toryleuteman@yahoo.com