

First Parish News

“There is no social change fairy. There is only the change made by the hands of individuals.”
Winona LaDuke

Stewardship Sunday Board of Directors Online Worship Service Sunday, Oct. 24, 10:30 AM

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. See website: uukennebunk.org for more details on how to tune in.

Remembering Ellie Duhamel

A memorial service for Ellie Duhamel will be held at the Waterville UU church and on Zoom Saturday, Oct. 30, at 11 a.m. The service will be led by Rev. Julie Lombard and Rev. John Gibbons with music by Annabeth Rynders and others. Ellie was much loved at First Parish. She was the wife of our interim minister Rev. Marcel Duhamel, who served First Parish for two years during our search for Rev. Lara Campbell.

Zoomlink: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88049341762?pwd=bzZTMjUwQjcrMDFzdWo5VWtqYVBJQT09>

Social Justice transforms at First Parish

First Parish is undergoing a transition regarding the Social Justice Committee. At our fall meeting we learned that four members were resigning, bringing to six those who have left since last year at this time. This leaves a group of six dedicated folks who decided it's time to transform this essential part of our church community.

Over the past few years, we've accomplished a lot. Regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, we started the vibrant community-wide group, Many Towns One Circle, which is ongoing. We now contribute more than ever to community programs through our Share the Offering program. We fly flags to acknowledge our country and the issues dearest to our hearts.

We continue to sponsor an event honoring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. — next January, we will hold the 18th annual celebration!

The Committee decided to change from the committee format to a Social Justice Network that encompasses the whole congregation. Through the Network, our church will continue working on issues that we most care about. Here are a few examples: No Place Like Home, which was created by our former chair, Molly Hoadley, provides services for our elders; Welcoming Immigrants Our New Neighbors, which Marylyn Wentworth and others continue to serve; the Green Sanctuary project, which is being carried out by our Properties Committee; Community Outreach Services, for which Kathe Wright has served as liaison; Wabanaki Reach through which Bob Wuerthner is working to address Indian Affairs; and membership in Maine Unitarian Universalist Social Action Committee known as MUUSAN, which works on social justice issues at the state level. Social Justice at First Parish is growing far beyond the committee level!

The Social Justice Network Hub includes Joan Phipps, Eva Downs, Vicki Adams, Marylyn Wentworth, Bob Wuerthner, Joan Wuerthner, and others who would like to join us. The Social Justice Network Spokes are all the Members and Friends of FPUU! Stay tuned, offer your ideas, become part of this exciting transformation. Vicki Adams

Rev. Lara inspires students at KHS

Rev. Lara made a presentation to the “Race in America” class at Kennebunk High School in September, and one of the students covered the story in the student newspaper, *The Herd*. Here is his article.

Removed Pews Of Kennebunk Church Reveal A History Of Slavery In Maine

October 13, 2021

by Owen Marquez, Staff Writer for *The Herd*

It is widely assumed that slavery was abolished throughout the Union as early as 1780, right after the United States gained its independence from England. However, that wasn't the case.

Recently, Reverend Lara Campbell of the Unitarian Universalist Church, has uncovered historical documents that provide evidence to the notion that there was in fact slavery in Kennebunk, dating back to as late as 1805.

Campbell's interest piqued when she discovered a peculiar outline of pews that had been removed in the belfry of the church. She decided to dig into the archives of the church to try and uncover the origin of what she was looking at, and in doing so, found these documents.

Wells 1805
 Received of Jacob Asher one of the committee
 afore said, by the hand of John H. Parsons
 one hundred and twenty four Dollars, being
 the proceeds of one of the said extra long pews
 also Recd. the proceeds (viz. thirty Dollars) of said
 pew No 5 in the gallery In full for making
 the alterations and completing all the work
 specified in the agreement above, viz. completing
 a new Pulpit making new sashes and setting
 the glass in the st. part of the meeting house
 and finding the same and for making the
 Negroes Seat.

Thomas Eaton

124
124
30
\$ 278

These documents highlight the process and payment of the building of the Unitarian Universalist Church. Within the writing, architect Thomas Eaton states the need to “build a suitable place in the belfry, of three or more seats, for the people of Colour to sit.”

Campbell was quite shocked when she found these papers, as they deliver direct evidence to the mysterious outline of pews being built for the black community of Kennebunk.

She then stumbled upon a parchment that inventoried the net value of the household. Near the bottom, the document mentions that one of the items of the house was “1 negro wench named Phillis” who was worth \$30. Campbell’s research has uncovered that there were indeed slaves in Kennebunk, and the removed pews in the Unitarian Universalist Church were originally built for the enslaved population of Kennebunk.

2 Iron covers for Cullinder	2..6	Thos Kimball
1 Tin sauce pan 1 flou	1..0	30 Acres of la
4 browne Bowls 1 pt. Mug	0..1..14	Stevens with
2 milk pans	0..1..0	and Barn
1 w. large Steelyards	1..0..0	The deceaseds
1 Maple Kitchen Table 17.	0..4..0	called Ther
2 Case Knives and forks	0..1..0	hour in Bid
1 Negro Wench called PHILLIS	30..0..0	zing to Sun
1 large Horse	6..0..0	A Tract of la
1 Mare 16 of. 1 Yoke of Oxen 10.	10..0..0	Elwife 6 on la
2 Cows at 66/ 1 Hog 66/8	9..18..0	29 Musqua
The Home lot of land containing about 30 Acres dwelling House	200..0..0	2 Prason 7. - 3 pint

What does this mean?

It's a lot to process the idea that there were slaves in New England as late as the early 1800s, especially when many students learned otherwise in their history textbooks. What does this actually imply? Well, this discovery may just be more proof that history shouldn't be taken at face value but should be researched and questioned in order to gain a deeper and more true understanding of what has transpired throughout history, specifically North America.

How do we proceed?

The last and perhaps most important question is: How do we proceed? The town of Kennebunk has yet to recognize any of this history, and there have been discussions about what can and should be done in order to honor these unpronounced members of Kennebunk's history. In Kennebunk High School's Race in America class, students discussed their opinions on what should be done. The most prominent ideas were placing plaques of memorial on the historical houses where these slaves lived in order to pay respects or creating an exhibit in Kennebunk's Brick Store Museum. However, it is up to the town to decide if anything will be done.

First Parish has long included in its tours and written history the fact that this "Negro balcony" existed, but little else was known. Newsletter editor

The opinions of *The Herd* and its authors do not reflect those of RSU 21.

Women to celebrate Samhain

"Women for All Seasons" will be gathering via Zoom on Tuesday, October 26 at 6:30. We will be looking toward Samhain (October 31-November 1), which was a time of new spiritual beginnings for the Celts, as well as of bonfire festivals and other rituals. This is a wonderful time to honor our female ancestors and/or other women who have passed over but who continue to help and guide us.

We will share the names of these women and, very briefly, how their lives give perspective and inspire us today. You may also wish to bring a special object that metaphorically may represent her/their spirit. We will also have a guided meditation, where we will meet the Goddess, or Great Mother. Please have a candle nearby, and some paper and pencil handy so you can jot down any message/s you receive.

Women for All Seasons is open to all women, and we hope you will join us! Please contact me before October 26 at 508-308-3909 - and leave a message with your phone number. I will send you the Zoom link. We encourage everyone to sign on by 6:25 p.m. Hope to see you the 26th!

Linda Thompson

Wednesday Discussion Group in Full Swing

November 3	Temple of the Goddess on Malta #19
November 17	The Aten – Monotheism in Egypt #20
December 1	Deities of the Acropolis #21
December 15	Gods and Pyramids at Teotihuacan #22

Meetings are at 7:00 pm on ZOOM. All are welcome to attend any meeting. If you are interested but are not yet attending, contact Ruth Stackpole paws8@roadrunner.com

Fabulous Food Auction

This is an on-line auction right up against the holidays for all kinds of food that the people in this congregation are famous for cooking up. It can be cookies, a takeout Mexican meal for 4, chocolate sauce, homemade jam—anything anyone can eat! We will run it just like our Spring Online Auction. The auction will be the first two weeks in November, so you have a month to get your contribution in. Please fill out this form and send it to Herve’.

Name

Item

Amount (ie take out dinner for 4, 3 dozen cookies...)

Approximate Value

A photo if you have one.

Office Update

Administrator, Crystal Jones has moved on
What next?

While First Parish is searching for a new administrator, Susie DeSantis and other volunteers will cover office duties. The First Parish Board and all of us thank Susie for taking care of the office, as she has done during emergencies in the past.

Crystal Jones served First Parish as our administrator for four years. We’ve appreciated her friendly voice as she answers the phone and greets all who enter the church; she’s a computer whiz; we’ve counted on her to keep our calendar straight and the office humming;

we've admired the fresh coat of paint and reorganized bulletin boards compliments of Crystal along with Rev. Lara; we've marveled as she finds just about anything we're looking for.

An open house was held Thursday, Oct. 21, to say "Thank you and farewell" to Crystal.

Contribute to the E-Blast

You are invited to contribute to First Parish News. Articles must be succinct and relevant to First Parish. Submit them to uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com by 10 AM Wednesday. If received later, your submission, if timely, will appear the following week. Vicki Adams is serving as editor.

Our website includes just about everything at FPUU

You can easily find ongoing activities and announcements on our website or Facebook page. Spiritual opportunities are also listed with our Order of Service each week, available by email. For events see our church calendar.

Website: uukennebunk.org

Calendar: www.uukennebunk.org/events

Facebook page: search for

First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of Kennebunk

Monthly Updates from Our Committees

Share the Offering

For the month of October our church Share the Offering will go to the Ministerial Fund

The Ministerial Discretionary Fund (MDF) was established to allow our minister to provide financial support to the congregation in ways that are not covered in the congregation's budget. This may take the form of providing financial assistance for congregants to attend workshops, providing charitable needs to members of the community, supporting causes that are consistent with our values or purchasing a special item of need for the congregation.

We would like to thank the congregation for their contributions for Share the Offering for the month of September. As a congregation we raised \$293.00 for No Place Like Home.

How You May Participate

Share the Offering enables us to actively express our Unitarian Universalist values, while reaching out to a larger community. Each month an approved non-profit agency will receive one half of our cash, non-pledged collection.

Each month you may:

1. Mail or drop of your check payable to FPUU Kennebunk, 114 Main Street, Kennebunk 04043. noting in the memo line Share the Offering
2. Log into our website www.UUKennebunk.org and select "Plate Offering, which allows you to contribute using your credit care.

Congregants wishing to recommend a non-profit as a recipient please contact Eva Downs.

Ongoing spiritual opportunities

Adult Choir: Online rehearsals on Thursdays from 7-8:30 p.m., and 2 Sundays per month. All are welcome.

Buddhist Sangha - Ripples of Peace Online Zoom - Tuesdays, 5:15- 6:45 p.m., Beginners Welcome! A Sangha is a community of friends learning and practicing the teachings of the Buddha. Our gatherings begin with sitting and walking meditation followed by a reading by a Buddhist teacher and discussion. Come when you can, you are always welcome. FMI Sally Keene 590-0035, sjk@roadrunner.com for info.

Embracing Aging: Moment to Moment: is a thoughtful, provocative discussion group open to any senior who is interested in sharing the aging journey with others. No meetings are planned at this time. FMI contact Helen Rousseau at hrousseau@roadrunner.com or 207-332-0046.

Women for All Seasons: Second and fourth Tuesdays from 6:30 -8:30 p.m. Celebrate the cycles of nature and the season, share, and discuss, get to know other women in the congregation. FMI Kathe Wright 985-6194 or Barbara Conner 229-0799. All women are welcome.

Small Group Ministry: First and third Tuesday each month. Discussions are wide ranging, with the purpose of deepening relationships, spirituality and sharing community. Newcomers are welcome. This group has been meeting outdoors during the day weather permitting. FMI Virginia DiMarco 985-7238.

Sermons Can Be Found On-Line Go to uukennebunk.org, click on the 3rd box on the left side "Latest Sermon: Audio" or if you want to check the archives " View all sermons in our archive" If you missed a week or want to hear a particular sermon again you can!

FPUU Staff/Leadership and Committee Contacts

FPUU STAFF/LEADERSHIP

MINISTER: The Reverend Lara K-J Campbell.....207-985-3700 (church) uuKennebunkMinister@gmail.com
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Vacant.....uuKennebunkMusic@gmail.com
ADMINISTRATOR: Vacant.....uuKennebunkOffice@gmail.com
BOOKKEEPER: Barbara Boscia.....uuKennebunkBookkeeper@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 2021 – 2022 program year

CHAIR: Marylyn Wentworth.....marylyn.wentworth@tnsk.org
DIRECTOR: Kim Lord.....kimlord1@aol.com
CLERK: Molly Hoadley.....mollyhoadley@gmail.com
TREASURER: Herve Lavoie.....hervae@roadrunner.com
DIRECTOR: Alicia Soloman.....asoliman@yccc.edu
DIRECTOR: Jim Thompson.....jethompson33@aol.com
DIRECTOR: Susie Desantis.....naturalsuki@yahoo.com

FPUU CHURCH COMMITTEES

PROPERTIES.....Barbara Conner, bsconner@roadrunner.com
HISTORIAN.....Karen Tolstrup, kdtolstrup@gmail.com
FINANCE COMMITTEE.....Herve` Lavoie-Chair, hervae@roadrunner.com
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE.....Vacant
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY.....Alexandra McCabe-Chair, alexandramccabe@mac.com
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.....Jim and Linda Thompson, jethompson33@aol.com
MUSIC COMMITTEE.....Margaret Jones Co-Chair, margaretj@maine.rr.com
NOMINATING COMMITTEE.....Eva Downs Chair, evadowns18@gmail.com
CARING CONNECTIONS.....Andrea Rohde, andrea.rohde49@gmail.com
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE.....Kevin Flynn, kevinf@ventilationcontrol.com, Jim Thompson, jethompson33@aol.com
BELL COMMITTEE&CLOCK COMMITTEE.....Stacy Wentworth, Paul Cochran
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE.....Rachel Wells, rachel.biron@gmail.com, Bridget Babcock, bridget.a.babcock@gmail.com
SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE.....Molly Hoadley Chair, mollyhoadley@gmail.com
WORSHIP COMMITTEE.....Merideth Norris, witchdr910@aol.com
BLUEBERRY FAIR COMMITTEE.....Herve` Lavoie, hervea@roadrunner.com, Marylyn Wentworth, Marylyn.wentworth@tnsk.org
COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICES.....Kathe Wright, kawright4@hotmail.com
CHURCH SPACE RENTALS.....Vacant, uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com
WEDDING COORDINATOR.....Vacant, uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com
WED. EVENING DISCUSSION GROUP.....Ruth Stackpole, paws8@roadrunner.com
EMBRACING AGING.....Helen Rousseau, hrousseau@roadrunner.com
CHOIR.....Margaret Jones, margaretj@maine.rr.com
PHYSICS/CHEMISTRY WORKSHOP.....Dan MacDonald, daniel@doornorth.com, James Vesenska, jvesenka@gmail.com
RUMMAGE SALE.....Jacky Peters, jpkrf@roadrunner.com
MEDITATION GROUP.....Vicki Adams, vickigatesadams@gmail.com