



## Weekly Announcements

Sunday, March 26, 2023

### Sunday Morning Meditation

Sundays, 9:00 am, in-person

We will have meditation on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am outside in the garden, weather permitting, and in the church parlor (with masks) when it rains. Our practice includes guided, walking, and silent meditation. Feel free to contact Marie-Louise at [marieljm1961@yahoo.com](mailto:marieljm1961@yahoo.com) or 857-526-2579.

Worship Service

### “Loving Our Church”

Rev. Rebecca Froom and McKayla Hoffman

Sunday, March 26, 10:30 am, in-person and livestream

As we begin our annual pledge drive on the theme “Loving our Church, Loving our Community,” we reflect on what it means to be part of a faith community, and how we can support our congregation. This service includes an anthem by our UFPC Choir!

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82251479714>

Join by telephone: 1-646-558-8656, Meeting ID: 822 5147 9714

### Spirit Circle

Sunday, March 26, 10:30 am, in-person

Spirit Circle will be led by Albert Vaughn this Sunday, who is a member of the Religious Education Committee. He will be presenting a book that touched his heart, and he really wanted to share the story with our UFPC children as he has done with his own grandchildren: “What Do You See When You Look at a TREE?” written by Emma Carlisle. Andrew Carleen will be the RE helper this week and the children will have an art activity following the story. NOTE: RE Committee meeting SUNDAY at 5 pm.

### Standout Quincy for Black Lives

Thursdays, 3:00–4:30 pm [3:30–5:00 pm starting in April], in-person

UFPC partners with Quincy for Transformative Change for an initiative in support of Black Lives Matter. We stand on the church front steps to bear peaceful witness and to advocate for justice and equity for our fellow citizens of color. You are invited to join our small but dedicated group. Kindly contact Claire Fitzmaurice at 617-272-0274 or [artclaire@comcast.net](mailto:artclaire@comcast.net). Please check out our Facebook page: StandOutQuincy4BlackLives managed by our co-leader Mimi Balsamo who can be reached at [mimibalsamo@gmail.com](mailto:mimibalsamo@gmail.com).

### Writing Group

Sunday, April 2, 12:00 pm, in-person

Our UFPC Writing Group will be meeting again this year. We will meet the first Sunday of the month in-person in the parlor at 12:00 pm. There are no meetings in January or June. As in past years, we welcome everyone to join us in a free writing session and optional sharing of our words that pursue thinking on a theme. This is a non-critiqued, open minded, generous group that encourages self-expression in a supportive gathering. You can

attend one or more sessions. No advance reservation is required. Groups tend to vary in size between 6 and 14 participants, and the session lasts for forty-five minutes to one hour. Contact facilitator Jim Petosa at [jimjamespeto@aol.com](mailto:jimjamespeto@aol.com) or 301-442-3781.

### **Book Group**

Thursday, April 6, 7:00 pm, on Zoom

The Book Group meets on the first Thursday of the Month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, with a gap in summer and in December. All members and friends are welcome to join us. We will conduct our meetings via Zoom. Each year, we choose a variety of genres and forms. This Church Year all our selections are in response to book banning across the United States. You are welcome to come even if you have not finished the book.

The book this month is The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie (2007). Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, this book which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with poignant drawings by Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89427298331>

Join by telephone: 1-646-558-8656, Meeting ID: 894 2729 8331

### **Flower Fund for Easter Sunday**

This year, the Flower Committee will be trying something new for Easter Sunday on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Instead of ordering traditional lily plants, we will collect donations of any amount for a Flower Fund, so that we may order a variety of colorful blooming houseplants such as hydrangeas, azaleas, kalanchoes and forced daffodils or tulips. We hope that with this plan more folks will be able to participate. After the Easter service, the donors will be welcome to choose a plant to take home. Please speak with Claire Fitzmaurice or send her an email at [artclaire@comcast.net](mailto:artclaire@comcast.net). Thank you!

### **New Member Ceremony**

Sunday, April 16, during the service, in-person

Are you considering becoming a full member of United First Parish Church? We will be holding a New Member Ceremony during the Sunday service on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Contact Rev. Rebecca for more information about becoming a member of the congregation.

### **Kindred Spirits Discussion Group for Seniors**

Friday, April 21, 10:00–11:30 am, in-person

Join Rev. Rebecca for a monthly discussion group, grounded in our UU values, where we reflect on current events and pressing social issues. This group is open to seniors aged 60+ and will meet on the third Friday of the month at our church in the parish hall. Coffee and tea are provided! Please contact Rev. Rebecca with any questions at [rev.rebecca.froom@gmail.com](mailto:rev.rebecca.froom@gmail.com) or 617-803-1159. If you need to enter the building via the handicapped accessible entrance, please contact David Bousquin at 617-842-1706.

### **Interfaith Social Services Race and Walk**

The Interfaith Social Services will hold its Stop the Stigma 5K 2023 Race and Walk on April 29<sup>th</sup> starting at the Kennedy Center. All proceeds will benefit the New Directions Counseling Center at ISS. Register online at [www.stopthestigma5k.org](http://www.stopthestigma5k.org). The goal is to stop the stigma surrounding mental illness and addiction. Thank you, Claire Fitzmaurice, Social Justice Action Committee.