



Weekly Announcements

Sunday, April 21, 2024

Sunday Morning Meditation

Sundays, 9:00–9:45 am, in-person

Meditation is offered on Sunday mornings from 9:00am to 9:45 am. We meet in the parlor, and when weather permits, we meet outside in the garden. We begin with a poem by Thich Nhat Hahn to center our intentions, followed by a walking meditation, then silent meditation, and ending with sharing our thoughts and insights. Feel free to contact Marie-Louise at 857-526-2579 or mariejm1961@yahoo.com.

Worship Service

“Seeds of Love”

Rev. Rebecca Froom, Shiloh Hoffman, and Nan Moore
Sunday, April 21, 10:30 am, in-person and livestream

On this multigenerational Earth Day Sunday, we reflect on our efforts as Earth Carers who cherish and sustain the web of life.

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

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

Spirit Circle: Multigenerational Worship

Sunday, April 21, 10:30 am, in-person

There will be no Spirit Circle classroom this week. All ages are invited to the multigenerational worship service at 10:30 am and will remain in the sanctuary for the entire service. Rev. Rebecca Froom and Shiloh Hoffman will be leading worship with assistance from Olga Popova our music instructor. Children are asked to sit with their families during the entire service. Child Carers Lily and Sol Selinger-Batista will be available in the sanctuary during the service to assist young children if they would like to draw or use the busy bags.

Note: Holly Hill Farm Community Service Day sign up! Please sign up in the parish hall on Sunday if you are going on the workday April 28th following the luncheon.

Abolition Theologies: Praying for Liberation

Minns Lectures by Rev. Jason Lydon

April 21, 25, and May 9, in-person and online [First Church Boston]

Each year First Church Boston hosts a series of lectures by UU ministers on religious topics. With both violent theological underpinnings and inherent racism upholding the prison system, in this year's lecture series Rev. Jason Lydon will show that prison abolitionism is a theological imperative for Unitarian Universalists. Respondents include Daniel McKanan, Nicole Pressley, and Vincent Lloyd. Lectures are available online and at First Church Boston [66 Marlborough Street, Boston, Massachusetts]. Find out more and RSVP at <https://www.minnslectures.org>.

Stock the Stacks: A Prison Book Program Fundraiser

Saturday, April 27, 5:00–7:00 pm, in-person

New Normal Comedy is excited to partner with the Prison Book Program to present Stock the Stacks, an Indie Bookstore Day Fundraiser! Join us on Indie Bookstore Day to support this nonprofit in its mission to “support people in prison by sending them free books and reading materials that meet their specific needs and interests. [They] do this through a highly engaging volunteer experience that connects people inside and outside of the American prison system.” In their honor, we have assembled a roster of some of Boston’s most bookish comedians for a night of laughs to support their work!

Join us for an evening of stand-up comedy in the parish hall of our church. You can get tickets online here: [buy tickets now](#). Use the code “JOHNQUINCY” to get the volunteer discount price, which is offered to church members and friends as well. Wine, beer, beverages and snacks will be sold at the event to benefit the Prison Book Program and our church.

Worship Service

“An Olive on the Seder Plate”

Shiloh Hoffman

Sunday, April 28, 10:30 am, in-person and livestream

On Passover, our Jewish siblings in faith uplift the liberation of Hebrew slaves from Egypt, as told in Exodus. It is a time to remember the weight of oppression, memory, identity, and self-determination of Jewish people. Today, as conflict continues among Israelis and Palestinians, we as Unitarian Universalists bear witness to the losses and pain of a war long fought, and the ensuing impact for our Jewish and Palestinian siblings in faith. Join us for a service of mourning for those lost in this conflict, as we call in our resilience, empathy, and love in the holy season of Passover.

Join by computer: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/82251479714>

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

Puerto Rican Meal

Sunday, April 28, after the service, in-person

Savor mouth-watering, authentic Puerto Rican specialties such as roasted pork, sweet plantains, pink beans, yellow rice and yucca. While you are enjoying this delicious food after the service on Sunday, April 28th, you will also be contributing to the larger community by supporting a minority business called La Lechonera Restaurant. The suggested donation is \$5.00-\$20.00. Everyone has a place at the table and children eat for free. It may be cash or check and placed in a designated box at social hour the week before or on the day of the meal. You can contribute online by going to the UFPC website and clicking on the donate button. If you prefer, you may place your donation in an envelope, mark it Puerto Rican Meal and place it in the collection basket at any service. So, on Sunday, April 28th, chat with folks, contribute to a minority business and enjoy a great meal. Contact Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller at mariejm1961@yahoo.com for more information.

Holly Hill Organic Farm Community Service Day

Sunday, April 28, 1-3ish pm, in-person

236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset, Massachusetts 02025

Jon Belber, our Earth Care instructor, will be teaching a class in the morning with the children. Following worship there will be a community lunch. It will be catered so a \$5 donation is appreciated, but no one is turned away if they are not able to pay. The work will be springtime preparation as the group will help initiating their growing season. Jon will direct and instruct the group with projects related to physical restriction and abilities. TEENS: this outing is credit for community service hours

Book Group

Thursday, May 2, 7:00 pm, online

The UFPC Book Group meets on the first Thursday of every month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, with a gap in summer and in December. All members and friends of UFPC are welcome to join us. We meet on Zoom. We try to select a balance of styles. You can come even if you have not finished the book.

The book this month is How to Stand Up to a Dictator by Maria Ressa. The author is one of the most renowned international journalists of our time. Democracy is fragile. This book is an urgent cry for Western readers to recognize and understand the dangers to our freedoms before it is too late. It also the story of how the creep towards authoritarianism around the world, has been aided and abetted by the social media companies. It is a book for anyone who might take democracy for granted, written by someone who never would.

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

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

Wanted: Items for the Service Auction on May 4

Chili Cook Off and Service Auction

Saturday, May 4, 5:00 pm, in-person

Save the date for our annual Chili Cook Off and Service Auction on Saturday, May 4th at 5:00 pm. This is a multi-generational pot-luck affair and the last fundraising event of the church year. We will start the evening off with a pot-lick and chili cook off. You can compete for bragging rights with your favorite chili recipe in either the vegetarian or classic category. If chili is not your thing, bring a different entree, a salad, or a dessert. Our very own in-church band "The Radiators" will perform throughout the evening, interspersed with rounds of bidding for some of the big-ticket items in the service auction. Most items will go by silent auction). Throughout April, there will be a table and signup sheet in social hour so you can make donations for the silent auction. Contact kdebisschop@gmail.com for more details.

Popular items in the past have included:

- A stay at a vacation area second home
- A gardening work party
- Cooking lessons with a shared dinner party
- A beer tasting
- Dessert of the month
- Craft items
- Gift certificates for local businesses

Writing Group

Sunday, May 5, 12:00 pm, in-person and online

Our UFPC Writing Group is meeting again this year. We 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 or 301-442-3781.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81611281859>

Join by telephone: 1-646-558-8656, Meeting ID: 816 1128 1859

Kindred Spirits Discussion Group for Seniors

Friday, May 17, 10:00–11:30 am, in-person

Join us 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 Froom with any questions at rev.rebecca.froom@gmail.com or 617-803-1159.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday, May 19, 12:15 pm, in-person and online

The Board of Governors invites members and pledging friends to attend United First Parish Church's Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 19th at 12:15 pm. In this meeting we will hear updates on important projects, vote on our budget for the coming year, and elect new members to our Board of Governors, Committee on Ministry, and Nominating Committee. Childcare will be provided.

Annual Pledge Drive Ending

On April 7th we formally wrapped up our annual pledge drive on the theme "Everything Possible: Funding the Future of our Faith." We've had very encouraging responses so far, and there are still outstanding pledges. If you haven't yet turned in your FY2025 Pledge Intention Form (the amount of money you pledge to donate in July 2024 - June 2025), please do so soon. Pledge Intention forms can be turned in on Sundays or mailed to the church at the address below.

We're Hiring

United First Parish Church is hiring a half-time Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry to begin in August or September 2024. Please spread the word! You can find out more about the position and application process at <https://ufpc.org/job-openings>.

United First Parish Church, Unitarian Universalist,
1306 Hancock Street, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169, 617-773-1290
office@ufpc.org, www.ufpc.org, www.facebook.com/ufpc/uu

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:00 am–1:00 pm or by appointment.