

First Parish Brewster Unitarian Universalist

Winter Quarterly 2022-2023

“As cold as everything looks in winter, the sun has not forsaken us. He has only drawn away for a little, for good reasons, one of which is that we may learn that we cannot do without him.”

...George MacDonald

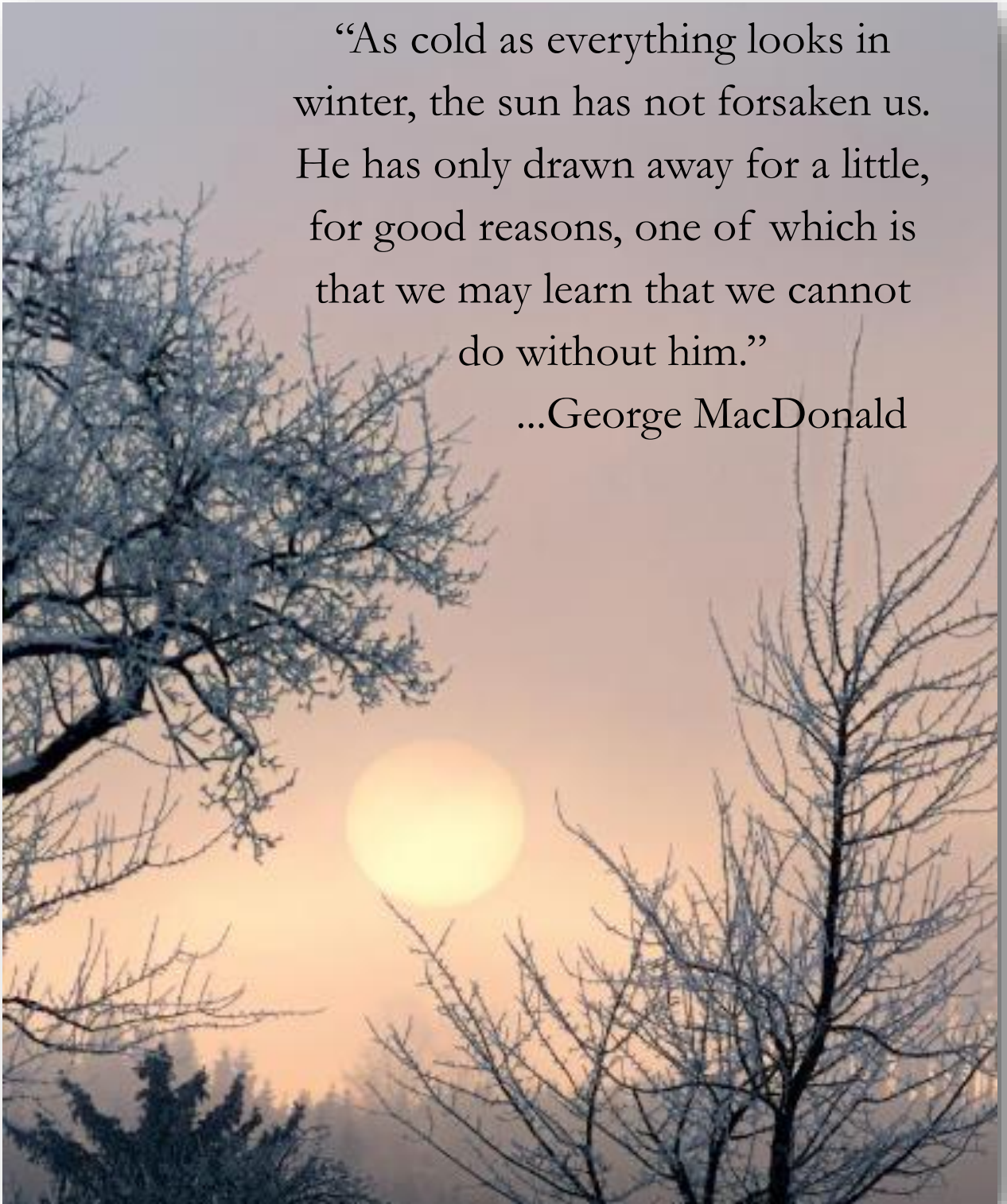


Photo from Soul Matters



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Your COVE (Communications, Office Volunteers, Etc.) Team



Mondays:

Susan Smith &
Bob Spencer (website updates)

Tuesdays:

Marilyn McDermott (calendar)

Wednesdays:

Bob Flanagan (order of service)

Thursdays:

Betty Hayes (order of service),
Skip Bell (weekly angle)

email: cove@firstparishbrewster.org
508-896-5577

Top row (l - r): Skip Bell, Bob Flanagan, Bob Spencer, Marilyn McDermott. On the screen: top: Susan Flaws; bottom: Betty. Bottom row (l - r): Susan Smith, Sue Weber & Karena Stroh

From the Minister

One thing I love about living in New England is the seasons. The change in the weather reminds me of the impermanence in life; it reminds me to take one day at a time. You all have been so gentle with your care for me with this new pregnancy. Thank you. I am happy to report it's a girl (until she tells me differently), and I have reached the halfway point. All things are going well, and I am feeling pretty good. December will be a hard month for me with the one year of Penelope's passing, and I know she will be on all of your minds as well. With that, know that I am so looking forward to being in our sanctuary with you all on Christmas Eve; it will be a tender return to the space we all love. The first one in our sanctuary since 2019!



As we enter the new year, I will be at a meditation retreat, which feels like the perfect way to begin this new year—full of hope for this pregnancy and tender excitement with what's to come. You can share your joy and wonder with me in this new life; it is welcome. We all know that life holds joy and sorrow in the same hand, interwoven fine. I hope that if you are experiencing sorrow, there is also joy woven in. May these holidays be a time of centering, connecting to those you love, and finding joy and wonder amidst it all.

If you are looking for community on Christmas Day, I will be leading a simple service of poetry, music, and connection. All are welcome at 10 am.

With much heart,

Rev Jessica

HOLIDAY EVENTS & SERVICES

At First Parish Brewster Unitarian Universalist

Saturday, Dec 10 Holiday Fair

11 am—2 pm in the Parish Room

Featuring Photos with Santa, Bake Shop, Crafts, Santa's Gift & Holiday Shop, Rog's Handmade Ornaments, Caroling & our online/in-person auction!

Sunday, Dec 18 Christmas Pageant, 10 am

Join us for our annual heart-filled, joy-filled, fun-filled Christmas pageant, where you become the story.

This year we have an all new script, as we tell the age old story of the birth of a baby, celebrating the season of hope.

Saturday, Dec 24 Christmas Eve Services, 4:30 & 7 pm

4:30 pm: Join Rev Jessica & Director of Lifespan Religious Education, Twinks Hastings for this family-friendly lessons and carols service.

7 pm: Join Rev Jessica & our Worship Associates as they lead our traditional Lessons & Carols service.

Sunday, Dec 25th The Wonder of Simplicity 10 am

Join Rev Jessica and Worship Associate John Kielb for this Christmas Day service focused on poetry, music, and community.



Lifespan Religious

Education Ministries

This year as the holidays roll around, I'm finding it harder than ever to find my center. In the "before days", aka before the pandemic, I was an avid celebrator of every Holiday from Halloween through to New Year, including but not limited to Wolfenoot, Deviled Egg Day, and Have a Bad Day Day, but then the pandemic came along, and I have been turned inside out and upside down. Some days I don't remember what my center looks like; I've started to question if I am an introvert or an extrovert. Do I actually enjoy the holidays, or is it just that I need traditions in my life? Is the longing I feel for things to be like the "good old days" actually a longing not to have to acknowledge the passage of time and the changing of life's seasons?



I can always be brought back to my center by spending time with children and youth. This week I was working with the Coming of Age youth on an activity where they traced the outline of their bodies and then wrote what makes them, "them", on their outlines. I started to think about my 13-year-old self and wondered what I would have written then compared to now. I have lost my fierce vegan self, but my deep care and love for animals remains. My religion has changed, but my devotion to my faith has not. My ambivalence about what my hair looks like on any given day has not changed one bit. It was a good reminder that no matter what the world around me looks like on any given day, my center, my soul, is always there to come home to.

On that note, I invite you to join our final adult ed offering of the fall session on December 8th, 6-8 pm, a *Soul Collage Workshop* - An evening of art and reflection. *Soul Collage* is an easy, enjoyable, intuitive process for self-discovery and community. This will be a fun and cozy community experience, and absolutely no artistic skills are required!

Wishing you all peace and centering at this most joyful and chaotic time of year.

Twinks Hastings, Director of Lifespan Religious Education



Thrift Store Winter Update

The Thrift Store continues to be very busy even though the summer tourists have gone.

Thanks to everyone who has donated items; the Store is fully stocked! **We have many holiday items at amazing prices, so, shop the Brewster Thrift Store for all of your Christmas decorating needs. And, don't hesitate to try us for that unique gift item.**

If you are active on social media, check us out on Facebook and Instagram! We are open Tuesday Through Saturday 10 am to 3 pm.

www.brewstert thriftstore.org

508-896-8744

Volunteers are always welcome!

Celine Crook, Thrift Store Manager
celine@firstparishbrewster.org

Board of Trustees Update

The Board is working closely with our Director of Finance and Administration, the Endowment Board, Fundraising, Stewardship, and the Finance Committee to address our financial challenges. Our primary commitment is to the long-range health of our congregation.

The Board voted:

- ◆ To approve Rev. Jessica's parental leave plan. She has been granted twelve weeks of paid leave in accordance with our employment policies. Her leave will begin in March and end in June. A clergy person will be contracted for pastoral care and preaching coverage. The Board will work with Rev. Jessica to appoint a team to supervise staff and make any necessary administrative decisions.
- ◆ To reinstate the Committee on Shared Ministry. "The COSM assesses and evaluates the wellbeing of the entire congregational ministry's fulfillment of its stated mission/covenant, accomplished by providing honest feedback and advice relative to the effectiveness of the minister and the congregational ministry." (Board charge) The COSM is also responsible for supporting the Minister in times of decision making or in times of crisis by managing conflicts, not resolving them.
- ◆ To approve the hiring of our Interim Music Director, Kaeza Fearn, as requested by the Music Director Search Committee, the choir, and others involved in our music ministry.
- ◆ To approve the *Vehicles for the Parish Program* which will support the mission of FPBUU.

Many thanks to all who contribute to the life of this wonderful congregation. Happy holidays!
Carol Yerby, Board President

Board of Trustees 2022-2023

Carol Yerby, President
Susan Smith, Past President
Jim Lieb, President-elect
Karen Witting, Treasurer
Rand Burkert, Clerk
Members-At-Large:
John Kielb
Liz Libby
Tom O'Brien
Diane Willcox

Financial Futures

Providing space for clear communication and striving for transparency, the *Financial Futures Team* continues their bimonthly hybrid meetings. These are all the Boards and Committees at First Parish directly involved with the financial health of our congregation: the *Board of Trustees*, the *Endowment Board*, the *Finance Committee*, the *Stewardship Committee*, and the *Fundraising Committee*. Each board or committee reports on its progress and current activity, which enhances communication for all and avoids duplication of effort.

In addition, a *Financial Futures* working group called the Tiger Team meets more frequently to explore new funding sources. Our consultant Barry Finkelstein has encouraged us to look in fresh ways at our underutilized resources and other financial opportunities which we could pursue. These include a Cars for Charity program; grants at the local, state, and federal levels; increased rental opportunities for our five buildings, and programs offered by the UUA like *UU'er Home* and *Faithify*.

Jim Lieb, Bob Spencer, Susan Smith, and Carol Yerby
Financial Futures Tiger Team



A Few Words From the New Interim Music Director

It is with much joy that I will be digging into the lively music program at FPBUU! I am very grateful to have this opportunity to work with singers and instrumentalists to continue what is thriving and branch into new directions that interest the musicians and community at large.

The first organizational task I am taking on over the next few months is the creation of an online digital catalog of choral and instrumental music. This will serve everyone involved in the music program for years to come.



I am grateful to Deb Selkow, Mary Gamerman and Gail Webb who dove in to assist in the project. Since *score borrowing* among Unitarian churches is a very friendly practice that can broaden the repertoire, it may also stretch beyond Brewster's congregation.

Thank you for entrusting me with leading the music program at this time!

Kaeza Fearn, Interim Music Director

Building A Bigger Table Is Reorganizing

Building a Bigger Table is a humanitarian community that supports asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants in the U.S.

Since becoming a committee of First Parish Brewster Unitarian Universalist, we have been working on organizing and supporting our immigrant families. Ruslan, Svetlana, Vladyslav, and Svetlana's mother are residing in Brewster. Ruslan is working for a construction company in Orleans. Some BBT members are helping Svetlana find activities and resources on the Cape. Svetlana has a Brewster Ladies Library card.

Our Guatemalan family is thriving and growing in New Jersey. Janet recently traveled to attend a Christening for the newest member, David.



Cecilia and Charles, and family are doing well in Worcester. Charles has a full-time job at a hospital. They will be visiting the Cape after Thanksgiving. BBT members have been invited to join them at a potluck dinner.

BBT is now using Mailchimp to communicate with our community more effectively. We recently sent out a survey to determine who wished to become a member and who just wanted to stay on our contact list. BBT has 62 contacts, 22 of whom are members.

If you would like to help with this important and rewarding work or be added to our Mailchimp list, contact Co-chairs Rick Draper (rickdraper@me.com) or Janet Emack (jaemack@comcast.net)

BBT Executive Board: Barb Draper (Clerk), Rick Draper (Co-Chair), Janet Emack (Co-Chair), Katharine Farnham, Pat Gubbins, Sue Gubbins, Cate O'Neill (Treasurer), Steve Tumulo, Anne Walsh

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The Fundraising Committee is working diligently to bring back popular events and always looking to schedule new activities throughout our church calendar year. This winter season, we will have our annual Holiday Fair and after the first of the year we will be introducing "Souper Sundays" during the winter months!!!



Mark your calendars as the *HOLIDAY FAIR* is right around the corner!!!
This year's event will be **Saturday December 10th, 11am – 2pm!**

Back by popular demand, will be *PHOTOS WITH SANTA*, our famous *BAKE SHOP* of assorted baked goodies, *CRAFT DISPLAYS*, including a wide assortment of knit goods, *SANTA'S GIFT AND HOLIDAY SHOP*, Rog's one of a kind handmade ornaments, caroling and our online/in-person auction!

This is one of our largest fundraising activities and is open to the public. So come one, come all...and invite your family, friends, and neighbors!!!

SOUPER SUNDAYS: Our wonderful Soup Chefs will be simmering up some of their most requested and delicious soup offerings! On designated Sundays we will have a couple of soup selections for sale in the Parish Room, after Sunday service. Soup will be sealed, in glass quart containers and available to purchase, ready to take home and reheat. The Fundraising Committee will announce in our weekly Angle the dates of availability and the type of soup you are able to indulge in! Look for additional information in the Angle after the new year. What a fabulous way to warm up and eat some yummy soup on those cold blustery days!!!



We are always looking for creative and innovative people to join our committee to help us bring fun events to our congregation and neighbors beyond. If you have some great ideas, we would love to chat! Fundraising Committee: Rog Smith, Judy Jollett, Vicki Kendziorski, Patsy Roberts, Susan Flaws, Barb Draper, Rand Burkert, Debbi Klein

More FUNdraising Committee Happenings

The FUNdraising Committee has been planning for some more exciting, fun, & interesting activities!

Author Presentation by FPBUU's Rog Smith on February 5th, featuring his debut novel, *The Conductor - Book 1 of Rian Krieger's Journey*. We meet Rian as an 11-year-old tomboy in 1835 Philadelphia, where racial, ethnic, and class distrust often escalate into violence. Rog will speak about Rian's journey and his journey as an author. Admission is open to the public (invite a friend or 2). Copies of *The Conductor* will be available for sale. Fifty percent of the \$20 purchase price will go to FPBU. Further details will be available in our Weekly Angle after the first of the year.

Winter Concert Series: We are in conversation with incredible musicians to bring musical entertainment back into our Sanctuary! Be on the lookout!

Beginning in March, we look towards a "**Passion & Potluck**" Series to bring us together, first to enjoy one another's company over whatever "A-game food" each of us brings for the evening meal. The after-dinner speaker(s) will be individuals who are passionate about something that will stimulate thought and discussion. Look for information regarding the speakers and their passionate topics after the new year.

Meet Our Newest Members

At our New Member Recognition ceremony on October 23, 2022, First Parish Brewster welcomed nine new members who signed the Membership Book between March—September 2022. Meet our new members below, seek them out, and introduce yourself in the coming weeks!



Nancy Benben

As of 2019, Nancy lives full-time in Eastham with her husband, David Sutherland, and an unflappable cat, Mamacita. Their blended family includes Faith and her husband Steve, who live in England, Philip and his wife Emily, who introduced Nancy to the UU church, and David's son, Lucas, his wife Whitney, and adorable three year-old, Graham. Nancy is a Spiritual Companion and the Executive Leader of the Spiritual Life Center in West Hartford and is on the Board of the Center for Spiritual Journey in Chatham. Nancy and David love hiking in the White Mountains, cycling on our glorious bike paths, gardening, and reading.

Deborah recently moved to Brewster from Sonoma County, CA, to be close to her family, some of whom are familiar to you all! Before her recent retirement, she worked first as a behavioral pediatrician at U Mass Medical School. She then ran a non-profit counseling center for traumatized children before a stint in private practice in Santa Rosa, CA. She is delighted to be near her stepchildren and grandchildren in the Boston area and is beginning to discover the amazing natural beauty of the Cape.



Deborah Madansky



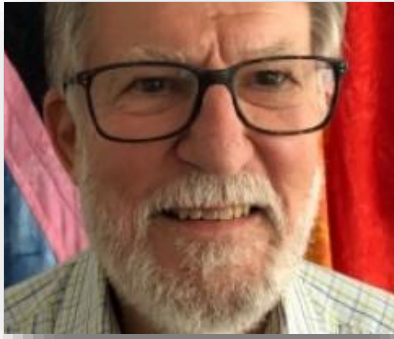
Shawn Dahlstrom

After 48 years, Shawn still lives in the same East Dennis house where she and her husband, Frank, raised their four daughters. In 1996, she first came to First Parish with her youngest daughter, Elin, 12, who took part in the OWL program, staying for about five years. While raising her family, Shawn followed her art journey, first as a potter, then as a painter, curating several art exhibitions and initiating art discussion groups. Her husband continues to practice dentistry.

Al graduated from Clarkson College of Technology in 1973 and started a civil engineering career. He then became a home improvement contractor. His daughter and son now live in Denver, CO, and his ex-wife has joined them there. In past times they were all very busy putting on musical theatre productions and doing sports in Mansfield, MA. Today, Al has the tools and a builder's license to do a day's work as a carpenter but will focus on a lifelong dream of blue-water sailing, hoping for fair winds to Antigua for the Spring Regatta.



Alan Post



Ken Hill



Leslie Rennie-Hill

Ken and his wife Leslie settled into Harwich last fall, moving cross country from Portland, OR. They are happy to have found FPB! After 15 years as a teacher, counselor, and principal and 30 years as an Executive Coach, he is now semi-retired. Ken writes and illustrates children's books. In addition, he enjoys kayaking, biking, golfing, reading on the beach, and bird-watching.

Leslie has enjoyed the Cape since she was a child; it is her "heart space." She moved here a year ago with her husband, Ken. Much of Leslie's career has been in education, especially creating inclusive systems for students on the margins. Her loves: her family, writing, photography, music, walking, being in or on the water – and now FPB.

Shana grew up on the Cape and has always lived here. Unitarian Universalism is entirely new to her, and she is excited to learn more. When not working full-time, she enjoys hiking, camping, traveling, backpacking, reading, and visiting public lands and attractions throughout the state and New England.



Shana Brogan



Bob Spencer

Bob retired from a long career in social work to play with wood, help where and when he could, and explore the world he lives in. His dog Maxine is a regular walk companion.

Lindsay moved from CT with her husband Bob Spencer to Harwich in July 2020. There she worked as a clinical psychologist until she fully retired in June 2021. Since then, she has enjoyed reading, knitting, music, and being outdoors in this beautiful place! Lindsay and Bob's two adult children and their families live in Arlington, MA, and Austin, TX.



Lindsay Harvey

MEMBERSHIP

Getting to Know UUs Orientations

New to our congregation? Want to learn more about First Parish and the Unitarian Universalist tradition?

The Membership Committee offers short, topical informational sessions on the third Sunday of each month aimed at visitors and others new to our community.

Join us after coffee (11:30 am) in the back of the sanctuary (kids' area) for 30 to 45 minutes.

Bring your questions! Choose to attend any, or all, of the orientations.

No sign-up necessary. Here are the dates and topics for the year:

January 15, 2023: Social Justice Ministry at First Parish: Key social justice committee leaders share their committee's work past and present.

February 19, 2023: Unitarianism at First Parish: A short history of the evolution of Unitarianism in America from Pilgrim times to now and how FPBUU fit into this evolution. Recent research on the history of FPBUU by the Reparations Committee will also be shared.

March 19, 2023: Governance/Stewardship at FPBUU: Learn how the congregation operates and thrives from a former president of the Board of Trustees and a Stewardship representative.

April 16, 2023: Making Connections: Learn all the many ways to become connected/involved from leaders of different activities/committees at First Parish.

May 21, 2023: 322 Years of History/Tour of FPBUU Campus: Take a guided walk on the FPBUU campus (Meetinghouse, Dawes Hall (Thrift Store); Winslow House; Annex/Barn); learn the history of the buildings and some fascinating historical tidbits.



Signing the Membership Book on the Second Sunday of Each Month

Upcoming opportunities to sign the Membership Book :

December 11, 2022

January 8, 2023

February 12, 2023

In our Unitarian Universalist tradition "signing the book" and making a financial pledge to the congregation are the steps to becoming a member. Signing the book as the path to membership goes back many decades in UU churches and signifies that the signer agrees to our congregation's covenant found at here at:

<https://fpbuu.org/about-us/mission-and-vision/>

For more information on becoming a member and the benefits of membership, check out our website (fpbuu.org) or contact Paula Lieb: paulasliebma@outlook.com.

Administration and Finance Ministries

It's so good to be back! What a gift my four month sabbatical was. My intent during that time away from my regular responsibilities as Administration and Finance Director was to stay curious. My youngest child was heading off to college, and my hope was to create space for wonder at this stage of my life. As my sabbatical went on I was drawn to utilize this precious time to practice more being than doing, and I spent much of the time getting quiet so I could listen to my mind, body and spirit. It was an act of finding my center, the me, under all the expectations and responsibilities.

When I first took this job in December 2014, I already loved First Parish Brewster and was excited to serve this community in a whole new way. I found a purpose with love at the center and enough challenges to satisfy my internal drive to problem solve. Those early years were a time of great growth for me, and I am grateful for all the joys and struggles along the way. First Parish Brewster UU, as I have come to know it, is a diverse and dynamic community, filled with deeply compassionate and loving people; a place where one can truly grow one's soul.

Karena Stroh, Administration & Finance Director



Get to Know Everyone—Become a Greeter!

Are you a friendly person looking for a way to contribute your talents to FPBUU, even if you have limited time? Become a regular Sunday greeter!! We need at least two greeters for each service. Being a greeter is enjoyable and a nice way to start the day. Not only will you provide an important service to First Parish, but you'll get to know other members by greeting them on Sunday mornings. The schedule is flexible; we send out a schedule for the next four months, and you pick the 3 to 4 dates that work best for you. It takes about 30 minutes before service and 15 minutes after. So be involved in parish life; become a greeter! If interested, please contact Paula Lieb, paulaslieb@comcast.net.

Inclement Weather Procedure

For **Sundays**: A decision will be made by Saturday at 5 pm and if services are cancelled notification will go out at that point.

For **Weekdays**: Our campus will be closed if Nauset Schools are closed, and all programming scheduled for that day will be cancelled.

Where can you expect to find out if there's a cancellation?

- An email blast will be sent out to all who receive the Weekly Angle.
- It will be posted to our [Facebook page](#).
- It will be submitted to CapeCod.com.
- It will be announced on radio 104.7, 107.5, 99.9 & 104



Dine Around with UUs! *The Interconnected Web of Dining Together...*

Dine Around with UUs will provide a fun way to get to know each other in small groups (6-9 people) by sharing a potluck dinner in a home once a month for four months. It is not about having a fancy dinner; these will be purely social opportunities where the hosts and dinner groups will change each month; no one will host more than once.

Many congregations have small group dinner programs so
be sure to continue reading about how we will do it at FPBUU in 2023,
then use the link at the end of this article to **sign up before the Dec 15 deadline!**

Check your calendars to see if you can **commit** to these dates. Those who can commit to these dates can be **Regulars**. If you cannot commit to the dates but want to be invited, sign up to be a **Substitute**.
WE NEED BOTH!

Winter-Spring 2023 Dinner Parties

Sunday, January 29

Sunday, February 26

Sunday, March 26

Sunday, April 23



Regulars will **host only one** of the four potluck dinners in their homes. They will provide the entrée and beverages. The host will be provided with their guest names on the *Dine Around with UUs* schedule. The host will ask each of their guests to bring either an appetizer, salad, or dessert.

We need Regulars! The program won't work if everyone is a Substitute. If there is one date that you can't host, designate that date when you sign up. The schedule can probably be shuffled to accommodate this.

Singles who want to be Regulars will be asked if they can host 6-9 people (including themselves) in their home. If there isn't space to seat 6-9, you will be paired with another single who is able to host. The single who can't host often provides the entrée as a way of sharing the work.

All participants must be fully vaccinated for Covid 19 and test negative on the day of each dinner party.

The deadline for signing up is December 15. The *Dine Around with UUs* rotation schedule will be sent to all Regulars by early January in plenty of time for the January 27 dinner.

Sign-up by clicking on this link: <https://fpbuu.breezechms.com/form/102843>

If you have questions, please get in touch with us at paulasliebMA@outlook.com or 732-887-2902.

Thanks! Paula Lieb & Lindsay Harvey



FPBUU Committee Contacts
 Contact information is available
 in Breeze,
 our on-line member directory.
 You may also contact the FPBUU
 office at (508) 896-5577



Administration and Finance: Karena Stroh (Staff)
Board of Trustees: Carol Yerby
Building a Bigger Table: Rick Draper
Building Maintenance Committee: Judy Fenner
Caring Committee: Tavia Ossola & Rev Jessica Clay
Children and Youth Ministries (CYM): Deb Selkow
Committee on Shared Ministry: Carol Yerby, Interim
COVE (office volunteers) Team: Karena Stroh (Staff)
Covenant Groups/Small Group Ministries:
 Maureen Osborne
Covid-19 Task Force: Susan Smith
Endowment Board: Bob Flanagan
Finance Committee: Karen Witting
Financial Futures Team: Susan Smith
Fundraising Team: Debbi Klein
Landscape Committee: Liz Gordon
Leadership Nominating Committee: Rog Smith, Interim
Lifespan Religious Education Ministries:
 Twinks Hastings (Staff)

Membership Committee: Paula Lieb
Music Ministry: Kaeza Fearn (Interim Staff)
Policy Committee: Topper Roth
Prayer Shawl Ministry: Pat Amos
Reparations Task Force: Abby Walters
Right Relations Team: TBD
Safe Congregation Committee: Rev Jessica Clay
Social Justice Committee: Katharine Farnham
Stewardship Committee:
 Tavia Ossola & Debbi Klein
Thrift Store: Celine Crook (Staff)
UU Connections Committee: Carol Ann Yeaple
UUSC Fair Trade Sales: Mary Wallace
Walking Group: Donna Mercaldi
LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation Committee:
 Linda Bailey-Davies, Joanne Hush
Woman's Circle Alliance: Linda Hladek
Worship Associates: Rev Jessica Clay

Women's Circle Alliance

Our group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month for special programs led by both First Parish Brewster members and various members of our Cape communities. Here is our TENTATIVE winter line-up:



December 14th: CC Saxophone Group to perform holiday music for us
January 11th: A Trip on El Camino as experienced by one of our congregants
February 8th: Building a Bigger Table Presentation
Other possible programs in the works might be paper cutting, creative dancing, an authors' showcase, poetry reading and creating, and a picnic.

Everyone and all ideas are welcome! The important thing to keep a healthy WCA is to show up. We've got refreshments and socializing at 1:00 pm, with our presentations happening at 1:30, usually running 30-45 minutes. We generally meet in the Parish Room of First Parish Brewster UU. (We will also use the Sanctuary for our holiday concert gathering in December.)

As Covid continues, time will tell about our collation responsibilities: usually, after a memorial service, our group has provided food, beverages, and comfort for the luncheon afterward. We are taking direction from our Covid Task Force, so more will be re-evaluated and revealed as time passes.

For more information, contact Linda Hladek or any of our other members. All are welcome, and we hope to see you!

Stewardship Committee

We heard your words and are making plans to kick off our pledge campaign guided by those words. We are working diligently on putting together the campaign and inviting continued input from our FPBUU community.

This year we will be conducting the campaign earlier than in years past and with a more personal connection. We are committed to our First Parish community and will strive to continue to support the workings and missions that we hold dear.

Members: Susan Flaws, Howard Hayes, Debbi Klein (Co-chair), Tom O'Brien, Tavia Ossola (Co-chair), Susan Smith



FPBUU By the Numbers

\$582,686 - Budgeted FPBUU expenses for 2022-23

315 - Number of FPBUU members

\$ 1,850 - Cost per member to operate FPBUU this fiscal year

Projected Sources of Earned Income

\$ 95,000 - Thrift Store

\$ 20,000 - Offertory

\$ 22,500 - Church fundraisers, food certificate sales,
Welcoming Congregation

\$ 7,000 - Building rental

\$ 5,550 - Investments, Interest, and Miscellaneous Contributions

\$150,050 - Total Earned Income

\$ 1,373 - Cost per member to operate FPBUU when factoring out earned income

\$349,200 - Budgeted member pledges for 2022-23 (Estimated pledge \$360,000 minus 3% loss)

\$326,336 - Predicted member pledges

(Pledge amount to date from 170 pledge units is \$336,429 minus 3% loss)

Note: Prior year pledging (9/2021) \$378,374 from 205 pledge units

\$ 73,426 - Our budgeted projected deficit for 2022-23, which will be covered by a surplus from the previous year.

\$ 22,864 - Additional projected deficit due to shortfall in pledges

For additional information, including Q&A regarding these numbers see [FPBUU By the Numbers](#). or contact Karen Witting, Treasurer



Intersectionality: An Idea Whose Time Has Come



**Faith Communities
Environmental Network**
Inspiring Eco-Justice on Cape Cod & The Islands

For the past five years, I've been this congregation's representative to the *Faith Communities Environmental Network* (FCEN) – an affiliate of the *Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative* – attending monthly meetings and participating in the work of caring for our endangered planet.

Recently, FCEN's focus has become more intersectional as we recognize that stewardship of the planet includes caring for its inhabitants, especially those in communities coping with multiple interrelated challenges. We updated our mission statement to incorporate eco-justice, acknowledging the intersectionality of social justice issues, especially those that marginalize significant portions of the Cape's residents – mirroring a similar process taking place throughout the country.

I am grateful for the opportunity to bring this shift in FCEN's work to our congregation, and I acknowledge the opportunity for partnership in making our commitment to the 8th Principle a reality. To learn more about FCEN's work, I invite you to attend our meetings and special programs, have conversations with me about FCEN, and read the updates I will provide on our website.

I'm excited about the partnership we can develop. Thank you, Rosanne Shapiro

Endowment Fund

It's winter on Cape Cod, and time to think about taxes. What do you mean "taxes"? I don't think about them until April. Well, that's where the *FPBUU Endowment Fund* comes in.

If you have appreciated stock you want to sell, you can donate the shares without paying tax on the capital gains. Consider a gift to the Endowment Fund if you need to withdraw money from your IRA to meet Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) rules.

Be sure to consult your investment counselor or tax accountant since the Internal Revenue Service has requirements that might trip you up. You will have time for this before December 31st. Then you will have our grateful thanks for contributing to the long-range future of First Parish Brewster UU.

Bob Flanagan, Endowment Board Chair



THE MEMORIAL GARDEN PILLARS:

A Way To Memorialize A Loved One Who Has Had A Sacred Connection To Our Church.



Names to be added to the Memorial Garden Pillar may be requested at any time throughout the year. These new names will be engraved toward the end of the summer prior to a *Memorial Garden-side Service* around the start of the new church year.

You can download the application form [HERE](#) or fill out a form at the FPBUU office. Form can be also be mailed to the office at 1 Harwich Rd.

Staff Directory

Minister:

Rev. Jessica Clay (Ext. 308) revjessica@firstparishbrewster.org

Administration and Finance Ministries:

Karena Stroh, Director (Ext. 304) karena@firstparishbrewster.org

Sue Weber, Office Assistant (ext. 313) sueweber@firstparishbrewster.org

Celine Crook, Thrift Store Manager (508) 896-8744 celine@firstparishbrewster.org

Dave Caolo, Sexton dave@firstparishbrewster.org

Ted Jalowick, Bookkeeper (Ext. 305) ted@firstparishbrewster.org

Rikki Bates, AV Tech Support rikki@firstparishbrewster.org

Lifespan Religious Education Ministries (includes CYM):

Twinks Hastings, Director (Ext. 312) twinks@firstparishbrewster.org

Claudia Hardwicke, Childcare Provider

Music Ministries:

Kaeza Fearn, Interim Music Director kaezafearn@firstparishbrewster.org

Lisa Gross, Pianist lisaleegross@gmail.com

Our Mailing Address:

First Parish Brewster

1 Harwich Rd (Mailing Address)

Brewster, MA 02631 508-896-5577

email: cove@firstparishbrewster.org Website: www.fpbuu.org

Masks are required in all large gatherings, including worship.

Masks are recommended but optional at other times.



Thank you for helping to keep our community safe and healthy.



Deadline Reminders

FPBUU Spring Angle

Due February 1st, 2023

cove@firstparishbrewster.org

FPBUU Weekly Angle

Due each Wednesday by 12 noon

weekly@firstparishbrewster.org

*Submissions for Facebook & Updates for the
FPBUU website*

karenastroh@firstparishbrewster.org