

**Wherever you are in your spiritual journey,  
you are welcome here.**



**Everyone is  
Welcome!**



**50 Church St, Waltham MA 02452 | 781.893.6240  
office@walthamuu.org | www.walthamuu.org**



## **Theme for the Month: Creativity**

**Sunday Worship, May 21, 2023 - 10:30 AM**

**"Home is Where the Spirit Lives"  
Deborah Weiner, preaching**

**Have you thought about where your spirit's home is? What are the gifts that being part of a faith community can offer us? We'll celebrate the commitment that our new members have made to our spiritual home, and share our appreciation for the support, service and nurture that this congregation's many volunteers have brought to enrich our lives together.**

**Come and celebrate with us!**

Please sign up for roles on Sunday morning - greeters, coffee makers, sound engineers, camera operators, Zoom hosts by clicking on the link [here](#).

If you would like to join virtually, see the email distribution on Thursday afternoon, or email [office@walthamuu.org](mailto:office@walthamuu.org) for login instructions.



***"For This Time" - Thoughts from Deborah Weiner  
Transitional Ministry Associate***

### **Ministry is What We Do - Together**

On Sunday, we'll take time to celebrate milestones in the life of this congregation. While talking about the state of the world, our country, and deep theological questions is timely and significant, it's important for any congregation to honor with ritual and celebration, the passages in our spiritual lives. Truly, ministry is what we do - together, and it's time for us to connect and share in the joys of our ministries to and with one another.

Toward that end, we'll be recognizing all who have joined this congregation as members since early 2020! These last three-plus years have been a time of upheaval, challenge and

wonderment, unlike any in our lives. And yet, during this time, the congregation kept going, and you - though you may have taken a 'vacation' from church for a while - have hung in there. It's spring, we seem to have survived the health challenges of the last three years, and now it's time to continue the important work of rebuilding and celebrating this spiritual community.

In addition to honoring our newest members on Sunday, we'll recognize the life-affirming, soul-stirring work that so many of you have offered in helping to keep the congregation going. Whether you made coffee, planted flowers outside the church, brought food to a meeting or potluck, led a committee or served on a panel or board, you have made a tangible difference in the life of this congregation. And we will celebrate you too. Beyond that, there is the Hinckley Award. Given in honor of congregant Daniel B. Hinckley (now deceased) who contributed much to the congregation, the award has been conferred annually to an individual who has gone "above and beyond" in service and support of the congregation.

For all these celebrations - I hope you'll be in church on Sunday - because this is YOUR congregation and we need you to both celebrate others, and to be celebrated!

And as we look toward summer, let me remind you that things won't stop on June 18th. We're still look for folks who are interested in leading, or helping lead, some summer worship services. And how about summer activities to draw us together? How about a swim party (do you have a pool?) or a summer potluck, a music party, or a day at the beach that you're willing to lead? Making connections with one another is important - please [contact me](#) if you would like to organize a summer activity!

Finally (for now) make sure you hold the date of Sunday, August 27 for a worship service AND welcome potluck lunch for Rev. Megan Lynes and Yvonne Andrews. More details will come, but it will be the perfect time to get together and get ready for an exciting autumn!

There's so much life around First Parish in Waltham - and I can't wait to see you in church!

In faith, with love,  
Deb

---

### From the Music and Choir Director:

'Creativity' often conjures images of inventing something new. However, having recently trawled through my summer outfits from last year - and realized that all I needed to do was acquire some new footwear and I would be ready to step out in the sunshine - it struck me that 'recycling' and creativity can go hand in hand.



With this in mind, I have chosen music for Sunday that features both characteristics. For the Prelude I have opted to play a piece that you will either love or loath - Pachelbel's Canon in D. It is constructed over a repeated 8-chord pattern whose bass line is terrifying for cellists as they are often scared of losing count of how many times they have played it before they reach the end. However, for a piece that uses just 5 different chords, the melody lines are interesting and incredibly memorable.

Ernest John Moeran (1894-1950) reworked a traditional Irish tune for his "Irish Love Song" that will be played for the Offertory. Originally composed for piano, the composer went on to create another version for cello and piano named "Irish lament". I remember hearing it for the first time and being spell-bound. Admittedly, the pianist was one of my heroes and I was seeing him live for the first time, but it was love at first sound.

The Postlude is a short, quirky re-invention of a familiar children's tune. As a musician I know I am in for an interesting musical journey when the front cover claims "*15 easy jazzy arrangements....*" There are 14 measures of 4/4 time - equivalent to 56 beats. These contain 16 changes in dynamics (loudness), and 32 notes that do not belong in the key signature. I am not sure that the composer, Bill Readdy, was being creative - it feels more as if he were trying to be difficult on purpose!

Yours in Music  
Emma

---

**Mission: Joy!**



# POSTPONED

Due to family circumstances, this film showing with Rev. Becky has been postponed and will be rescheduled for a date in June. We apologize for the inconvenience.

## A Message from the COVID-19 Response Team

First Parish in Waltham has suspended COVID-19 restrictions effective to coincide with the U.S. Health and Human Services expiration of the National Health Emergency on Thursday May 11. The World Health Organization declared an end to COVID-19 as a public health emergency on May 5.



We will resume "open seating" in the Sanctuary, no longer roping off alternate rows of pews or reserving on one side of the aisle to be for mask wearers. We will continue to provide face masks for those who want them. We urge congregants who have symptoms of respiratory infections to stay home, get tested and participate in Services remotely.

We also ask that congregants practice social distancing near those who are masked, being mindful that the effects of COVID-19 illness can be more severe for those who are immunocompromised or have other risk factors.

At this point, the virus is a "national health concern." First Parish considers the health and safety of congregants its first priority and will respond to increased health risks if necessary.

## Pledge Drive Update

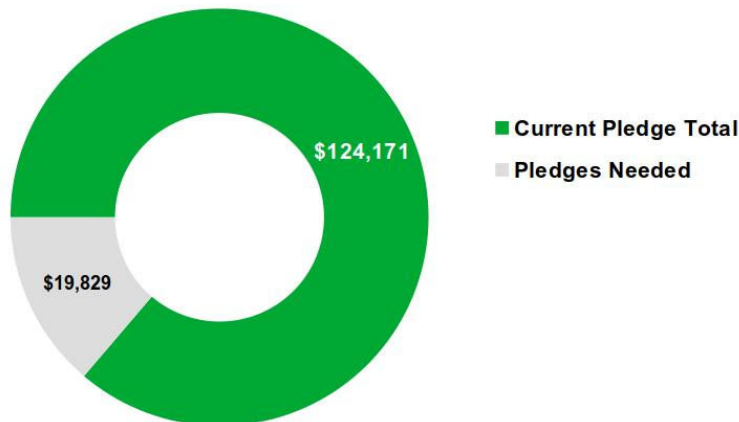
As of Monday, May 15, we have reached **86% of our pledge goal**, with 47 pledges received.

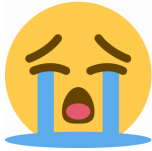
Stewardship pledges are a cornerstone of the church budget, and our first Budget Focus Group is Thursday evening.

Don't keep us guessing--if you haven't sent in a pledge yet please do it today!

You can use the [online form](#) or a paper form that you can pick up at church. If you have questions please contact Donna VanderClock ([donna.vanderclock@walthamuu.org](mailto:donna.vanderclock@walthamuu.org)) or Dan DeHainaut ([dan.dehainaut@walthamuu.org](mailto:dan.dehainaut@walthamuu.org)).

### First Parish Stewardship 2024 Pledge Goal \$144,000





Rev. Becky will be leaving soon, after many years of loving service to our community, and we want to give her a wonderful good-bye with a fun and delicious party, a handmade gift and a check.

Rev. Becky will be co-leading the Flower Service, on **Sunday June 18th**, our final worship service of the church year. The party in her honor will be in Whitcomb Hall right after that. This is NOT a secret!! We are excited to have you participate!

Contributions toward the gifts will be gratefully received until **June 12th**. There are several ways to contribute:

- A check to First Parish Waltham sent "Attention Asst. Treasurer". (Please put "Gift for Rev. Becky" on the memo line.)
- By Venmo: our ID is @FirstParishinWaltham, or use PayPal.
- Worship Service: a check or cash in an envelope marked "Gift for Rev. Becky."

If you want to be involved, please click [here](#) to sign up for providing food or other services. If you have any questions please call or email Plum Kennard (617-834-5529 or [plumthepainter@gmail.com](mailto:plumthepainter@gmail.com) .)



### From the Office Manager's desk:

Do you remember having conversations about the need for a **new website**? Well, it's nearly ready for reviewing. Janet Riley has been the true hero of the story - she has sat on late night Zoom meetings to teach me, answer questions, and solve the inevitable programming riddles that surface when someone trained to work a very different type of keyboard is let loose with an exciting task.

It is now **your** turn to step to the fore and boldly go where others fear to tread:

I need some testimonials from some of you about why you attend worship / participate in book group / go to game night / sing in the choir / serve on the care committee....

Please consider emailing me a few sentences [here](#). However, what would be truly amazing is if you would send me a small photo of yourself.

As someone who has 'landed on foreign shores' and shopped for a church, a choir, and other organizations online it has been very helpful to see what the members look like. We all know it shouldn't matter, but the truth is that it really does. As someone of a 'certain age' I wanted to know if there are others out there who may be navigating similar trials as me. I'm past the age of being able to party late into the night without repercussions, but equally appreciate the support others going through the struggles of parenthood / step-parenting.

Please, please, consider helping to grow the congregation by articulating what you love, and consider being 'visible' by others who may be considering being part of our beloved community. **Thank you for your courage.**

---

## Seeking People Like YOU: Becoming a Member of First Parish in Waltham

Some of you know that old ad that talked about how "membership has its privileges." Well here at First Parish in Waltham, members have privileges - like voting for the policies and programs and leaders of this congregation - and also the opportunity, through membership, to take their place as 'owners' of the congregation. In this Unitarian Universalist congregation we affirm the role of our members as being the leaders of the congregation...having a voice in the decision-making, future-focusing process that guides us forward.

If you are not yet a member of this congregation, we hope that you'll think about what membership can mean for you...and say, "I'm ready!" We'll welcome you with joy and

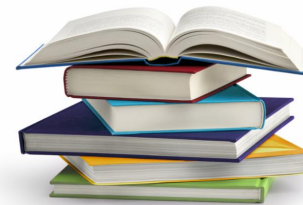
celebration, and be thrilled to count you as one of the people who helps shape this congregation's present and future. Please reach out to **Martha Gallagher**, Membership Commissioner, or to **Deb Weiner** or **Rev. Becky** if you'd like to 'be in that number'!

---

## Book Group

### **THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ROOM by Marie Benedict**

Book group meets on Thursday, May 18th at 2pm on Zoom. For more information (including the Zoom link) please contact Martha Gallagher via [membership.commissioner@walthamuu.org](mailto:membership.commissioner@walthamuu.org)



---

## News Flashes!!!

### **Blood Drive Update**

The Red Cross, in partnership with the Steampunk Festival in Waltham, would like to express their gratitude for being accommodated in Whitcomb Hall last Saturday for free. They collected a lot of blood and if you were one of the donors they send you their heartfelt thanks.

### **Budget Focus Group Meetings**

The Finance Committee will hold focus group meetings to share details about the proposed FY24 annual operating budget before the vote at annual meeting on June 11. They will be held on Sunday, May 21 at noon in the Harrington Room and on Thursday, May 18 at 7:30 pm on zoom. For the Zoom link click [here](#).

Meeting ID: 845 4155 1335  
Passcode: Finance

### **8th Principle Panel**

Save the Date: Tuesday, May 30 @ 6:30 on zoom  
Join us to hear from some local churches who have already adopted the 8th Principle. They will share their journey and now what they are doing to continue their work.

---



**Saturday  
June 3, 2023  
11:00AM–4:00PM  
Waltham Common**

Join us in celebrating Waltham's LGBTQ+ community with music, dance, fun, and food! Featuring:



Delicious food from:



[WalthamPride.org](http://WalthamPride.org) | [@WalthamLGBTpride](https://www.instagram.com/WalthamLGBTpride)  

If you will not be at Ferry Beach on Saturday, 6/3/23, come on down to the **Waltham Common** between 11am-4pm and show your **PRIDE** with us! Join us for musical performances from our own **Katie Gullotti**, along with many other talented performers. There will be kids' activities, Zumba, food, and fun.

First Parish in Waltham will have a table at the event for the very first time!

If you are interested in supporting our table, please contact Jodi Anderson at [jodimarmontanderson@gmail.com](mailto:jodimarmontanderson@gmail.com) or during coffee hour. It would be a great opportunity to outreach to members of our LGBTQ+ community. Consider wearing something festive!

For general information on the event, please see <https://www.walthampride.org/> .

THE WALTHAM PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

# MUSIC IN BLOOM

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023 AT 3:00 PM

Waltham Government Center • 119 School Street • Waltham

MICHAEL KORN, MUSIC DIRECTOR

SOPHIE GAIL *Overture to Les Deux Jaloux*

EMMANUEL FELDMAN *Standing Tall Cello Concerto*  
*Composer & Soloist*

FLORENCE PRICE *Symphony No. 1*



Emmanuel Feldman,  
Composer & Soloist



TICKETS SOLD  
ONLINE ONLY

Tickets are \$20

Seats are Limited

Children 5-17 yrs admitted

FREE with paying adult

WWW.WPHIL.ORG



## Pastoral Care in Our Congregation - we're here for you!

Are you struggling with issues that could use the support of another member of our congregation as a listening ear or to offer support? In addition to Rev. Becky Sheble-Hall and Deb Weiner, who provide pastoral care to our community, our Lay Pastoral Care Team is available to you. Please reach out to us if you believe we can help: [pastoralcare@walthamuu.org](mailto:pastoralcare@walthamuu.org) - a member of our team will respond to you in a timely manner!

## Coffee Hour Schedule

When it is your turn to bring a snack for coffee hour, please bring a snack either in a container it can be served from, or on your own dish, which you bring home and clean yourself. Please don't bring snacks with nuts, to help those with allergies. Thanks.

Here is the Coffee Hour Schedule:

A - E first Sunday

F - L second Sunday

M - S third Sunday

T - Z fourth Sunday

Special arrangements will be made for fifth Sundays.

When is Your Birthday?

Make an offering plate  
donation before, during, or  
after the service!



<http://tiny.cc/Donate2FPW>



.....  
The Membership Committee is looking  
to recreate the celebration of  
birthdays! Whose  
birthdays? Everyone's  
birthdays! Yours, your partner's and  
your children's birthdays. Help us to  
celebrate each important day. Let us  
know those important dates. We will  
add the dates to the newsletter so we  
can all honor and celebrate our  
community. Email the dates to  
Martha Gallagher.

[membership.commissioner@walthamuu.org](mailto:membership.commissioner@walthamuu.org)

***Happy Birthday this Month  
to:***


Daniel Lowe 5/1  
David Wilbourn 5/11  
William Weber 5/11  
Amy Eastwood 5/19  
Bayley Remage-Healy 5/19  
Martha Gallagher 5/20  
LeeAnn Lowe 5/30  
*Send a card or an email to these  
members!*

**Light the Steeple**

Honor  
a person, occasion,  
event, or idea

Contact the Office

 [office@walthamuu.org](mailto:office@walthamuu.org)

 781.893.6240



## Ministry Staff Team

**Acting Minister**

The Rev. Rebecca Sheble-Hall  
508.479.7570

[Revbecky@walthamuu.org](mailto:Revbecky@walthamuu.org)

**Transitional Ministry Associate**

Deborah Weiner  
617.513.6614

[deb.weiner@walthamuu.org](mailto:deb.weiner@walthamuu.org)

**Office Manager /  
Music and Choir Director**

Emma Campbell  
781.893.6240

[office@walthamuu.org](mailto:office@walthamuu.org)

or

[musicdirector@walthamuu.org](mailto:musicdirector@walthamuu.org)

## Board Members

**President, Board of Managers**

Scott Tougas

[president@walthamuu.org](mailto:president@walthamuu.org)

**Assistant Treasurer**

Dan DeHainaut

[asst.treasurer@walthamuu.org](mailto:asst.treasurer@walthamuu.org)

**Clerk**

Deb Jose

[clerk@walthamuu.org](mailto:clerk@walthamuu.org)

**Commissioner of Community**

**Outreach**

Plum Kennard

[plum.kennard@walthamuu.org](mailto:plum.kennard@walthamuu.org)

**Finance**

Donna Vanderlock

[donna.vanderlock@walthamuu.org](mailto:donna.vanderlock@walthamuu.org)

**Membership**

Martha Gallagher

[membership.commissioner@walthamuu.org](mailto:membership.commissioner@walthamuu.org)

**Music and Worship Commissioner**

Bethany Templeton Klem

[bethany.klem@walthamuu.org](mailto:bethany.klem@walthamuu.org)

**Property**

Dan Taylor

[property@walthamuu.org](mailto:property@walthamuu.org)

**Religious Education Commissioner**

Pam Penton

[pam.penton@walthamuu.org](mailto:pam.penton@walthamuu.org)

**Treasurer**

Janet Riley

[treasurer@walthamuu.org](mailto:treasurer@walthamuu.org)



## Our Church Covenant

*Love is the spirit of this church and service its law.*

*This is our great covenant:*

*to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help  
one another.*

First Parish in Waltham | 50 Church St., Waltham, MA 02452

[Unsubscribe office@walthamuu.org](mailto:office@walthamuu.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data  
Notice](#)

Sent by office@walthamuu.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!