

***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 28, 2023 - 10:30 AM

The song before it is sung. The soup when it is still an empty pot. A new way of looking at an old problem. Creativity is making something where nothing first existed. It requires curiosity, vision and daring to dwell in uncertainty.

What drives us to be creative?

Join Rev. Becky as she explores "The Sacred Art of Creativity."

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 for login instructions.



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

Becoming

*The most important thing to remember is this:
to be ready at any moment to give up what you are
for what you might become.*

(W.E.B. Du Bois)

On Sunday, we honored new members in our midst - some of whom had joined the congregation during the pandemic but had never been welcomed! It was great to celebrate them with ceremony and gifts, and to 'officially' welcome those who have found their spiritual home at First Parish in Waltham. We also celebrated YOU - you who make this congregation hum, through your many gifts of time and talent. You are not only becoming our leaders - you have shown, through all that you do and bring to this home of the spirit, who you are and what you have to share with us. And we are blessed.

And we honored two other special souls: Scott Tougas, who has served this congregation

faithfully for four years, including 3.3 of them during a global pandemic, not to mention many leadership changes, and the indefatigable Sue Genser, recipient of this year's Hinckley Award for outstanding volunteer service. Scott and Sue are models of what leadership looks like - and our hats are off to you both!

As we approach summer, it's a good time to think about what we want to become - as a congregation, as individuals, as leaders in this congregation. As W.E.B. DuBois reminds us, by being ready for what we *might* become, we open ourselves to the possibilities of living in engaged and enlivened spiritual community, together. What do YOU want to become? If you've been imagining a role in the leadership of this congregation, now's a good time to take a figurative or literal step forward. Let a member of the congregation's Board of Managers, or Rev. Becky or me, know that you're ready. We'll do our best to help connect you to opportunities that could just possibly change your life - for good.

In faith, with love,
Deb

Those Without Whom...

From Deb Weiner

Friends, I knew, when we were acknowledging volunteers in the congregation that we were likely to leave out some categories of service. And that is still the case, all of us being human. However, when it comes to "those without whom" we could not easily function, our Audio and Video team of volunteers are at the top of the list. And I was remiss in not calling their service out for us to honor last Sunday. So please, when you see a member of our team who make zoom and sound amplification possible each week - make sure you tell them how much you appreciate them. Because we sure do!

Dear Friends,

I've had a rough couple of weeks. Between my father's death, my mother's multiple hospitalizations in Washington D.C and getting COVID for the first time myself, I've been missing time with you at First Parish. But I've never felt disconnected, and I hope you haven't either. Your cards and Sunday prayers have kept us tethered together, and I appreciate that so much.



Thank goodness we still have time together before I leave First Parish at the end of June. I will be preaching this Sunday and then again on June 18th for Flower Sunday. I'll be away the first Sunday in June, when my son gets married in California, but I'll be with you June 12th, when Reggie Gibson leads the service. Throughout this time, I'm also available to meet with you for pastoral care or just to say goodbye. Please email me at revbecky@walthamuu.org if you'd like to do that.

Many Blessings to you, My Beloveds,
Rev. Becky

Inaugural MA 8th Principle Community Gathering (virtual) Tuesday, May 30, 2023 6:30-8PM



You are cordially invited by First Parish in Waltham's 8th Principle planning group to join us for an evening of discussion on adopting, promoting, and practicing the 8th Principle. We will host a set of knowledgeable panelists, followed by smaller group discussions amongst our guests.

Our panelists feature leaders from experienced Massachusetts UU organizations:

- **Bill Holland**, First UU Society of Newton's Racial Justice Ministry Co-chair
- **Marianne McGowan** and **Vicky Makrides**, First Parish UU in Needham's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Co-chairs
- **Dr. Rashid Shaikh**, First Parish of Cambridge, Co-Coordinator of UU BIPOC Caucus on Climate Justice

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 6:30-8PM

Zoom Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/8WupvbSN7f8SJTwY8>

Questions? Send email to candace.holman@walthamuu.org

Sunday June 18th A Party to Celebrate Rev. Becky

Please come and join the fun - Whitcomb Hall @ 11:45 am (after our Sunday Service).

Rev. Becky will conduct her final Worship Service with us on June 18th, our annual Flower Service. We'll miss her! We're grateful! We wish her well!

We'd love your help making this a memorable event. Delicious food and helping hands will make it happen!

To volunteer your skills or donate a dish please sign up [here](#).

If there is a dish you'd like to bring, but it's not on the list, please let Plum know via plum.kennard@walthamuu.org and it will be added.

We would like to present Rev. Becky with a **gift and a check** - ALL contributions will be gratefully received. To make a financial donation please use one of the methods below:

To make a donation via Venmo

If you have the Venmo app on your phone, you can use it send a donation to @FirstParishinWaltham. You can also use the link **Venmo to First Parish** to pay from your computer. Please fill in "Rev. Becky Gift" when Venmo asks "What's this for?".

To make a donation by check

Write a check payable to First Parish in Waltham. Write "Rev. Becky Gift" on the memo



line and mail it to First Parish, drop it in the Assistant Treasurer's mailbox, or put it in an envelope marked 'Gift Rev. Becky' and add it to the Sunday collections basket.

To make a cash donation

Put it in an envelope marked 'Gift Rev. Becky' and add it to the Sunday collections basket.

If you want to be involved or have questions please contact Plum Kennard on 617-834-5529 or via plum.kennard@walthamuu.org .

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'!

News Flashes!!!

Office closure

The church office will be closed for Memorial Day on Monday 29th May.

Save the Date

Annual Meeting - June 11, immediately following the conclusion of our worship service.



**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 | [@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 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/>.

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 - 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.

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



First Parish
in Waltham

*A Welcoming
Unitarian Universalist Congregation*

<http://tiny.cc/Donate2FPW>




When is Your Birthday?

.....
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

Light the Steeple

Honor
a person, occasion,
event, or idea



Contact the Office
✉ office@walthamuu.org
☎ 781.893.6240

Happy Birthday this Month to:

LeeAnn Lowe 5/30

Julian Tougas 6/6
Katie Gullotti 6/11
Chandra Penton 6/12
Simon Lowe 6/22
Jonathan Lhota 6/24
Jodi Anderson 6/29

Send a card or an email to these members!

Ministry Staff Team

Acting Minister

The Rev. Rebecca Sheble-Hall
508.479.7570
Revbecky@walthamuu.org

Transitional Ministry Associate

Deborah Weiner
617.513.6614
deb.weiner@walthamuu.org

Office Manager / Music and Choir Director

Emma Campbell
781.893.6240
office@walthamuu.org
or
musicdirector@walthamuu.org

Board Members

President, Board of Managers

Scott Tougas
president@walthamuu.org

Assistant Treasurer

Dan DeHainaut
asst.treasurer@walthamuu.org

Clerk

Deb Jose

Membership

Martha Gallagher
membership.commissioner@walthamuu.org

Music and Worship Commissioner

Bethany Templeton Klem
bethany.klem@walthamuu.org

Property

clerk@walthamuu.org

Commissioner of Community

Outreach

Plum Kennard

plum.kennard@walthamuu.org

Finance

Donna Vanderclock

donna.vanderclock@walthamuu.org

Dan Taylor

property@walthamuu.org

Religious Education Commissioner

Pam Penton

pam.penton@walthamuu.org

Treasurer

Janet Riley

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

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