

***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**



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

**"The Heat is On"**

We are in the Dog Days of summer...and while, temperature wise, we can count ourselves as lucky – given that the unrelenting humidity and warmth aren't nearly what the south and west are experiencing – we've also been subject to unrelenting rain and flooding. Again, it has not been nearly so bad - at least for most of us - as our neighbors to the north, south, and west (in Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and some parts of Massachusetts) have experienced, where devastating flooding is occurring. But still, it's been too much rain, too much humidity, and every day the news leads with stories of the heat, the floods, the tornados, the wildfires in Canada, and more.

There are climactic crises occurring in other parts of the globe, too: brutal heat, droughts that are killing crops. Our planet is on fire, and while environmental envoy John Kerry, author and activist Bill McKibben and others are trying to focus our attention on the need to change our ways NOW, for too many in power – those who value money above saving the planet – resistance and denial is evident. "Let them eat cake" is an attitude that ultimately will bring our own downfall; our alternative - the one that might help to save us all - is to do what we can to support environmental care and behavioral changes in all of us that could help to turn the (rising) tide.

While I don't consider myself a paragon around environmental change, I remember well the night when my husband Ben and I went to see "An Inconvenient Truth" in 2006. We went into the movie telling each other that we were likely to come out believing that we would need to make changes in our own lives, and we were right. We also knew that we couldn't do everything, but we could do something. We chose carefully, because we wanted to spend our limited funds in places that could make a difference. We replaced all the windows in our house - which was built in 1951 - with windows that would hold in the heat in the heat and keep the cold out. We had an environmental survey done of the house (Free!) to guide our changes. Ben re-insulated the attic with better insulation. We bought our first hybrid vehicle, a Toyota Prius (there were no electric vehicles at the time) and it made us Prius (now plug-in with a rechargeable battery) devotees forever. And, following the words of *Candide* as he realizes that the world is not all he imagined, we decided to 'make our garden grow' and expanded our organic beds so that I could grow as much of our own produce as possible.

As the words from the song in *Candide* say, "we're neither pure, nor wise, nor good - we'll do the best we know. We'll build our house, and chop our wood and make our garden

grow." That's what we're still trying to do, just a couple of people doing a few things that allow us to live our lives knowing that, at least in a few ways, we are trying to stop the planet from dying so quickly. Right now the change is that we're about to put up solar panels, which will reduce our reliance on fossil fuel by 67%. Another step forward in this struggle to save our own lives, and that of the planet.

I am no paragon, and I don't really expect you to be, either. But I am asking you, in these hot-hot-days, to think a bit about whether there are things you might do in your own life, to make the planet a little stronger; to conserve the environment we have, to help it survive a bit longer. I hope you'll think about it, and say, in the words of Edward Everett Hale, "I am one - but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something I can do." May it be so.

In faith, with love,

Deb



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### **A message from the Office Manager:**

#### **How is your summer faring?**

Have you won on the lottery? Have you used your umbrella? While these questions do not seem related, they feature in a training I attended as part of the AUUA (Association of Unitarian Universalist Administrators), and I wanted to share some information that was distributed.

There are multiple ways you can make a donation to First Parish in Waltham. Many of you have completed your pledge, or made a donation to the Minister's Fund or one of Trusts. (You may recall that a new trust in honor of David Wilbourn was set up). However, none of these methods offer you the security of remaining totally anonymous. To remedy this situation, the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association) has developed a method known as 'Umbrella Giving'.

The process is simple and costs nothing. You make a single gift to the Unitarian Universalist Association – cash, stocks, annuities, bequests or charitable gift annuities - and let them know how you would like your gift to be distributed. The UUA then distributes the gift to your chosen recipient and notifies the benefiting entity according to your instructions. You cannot use this method for non-UU entities, but you can support UU organizations and even your church! You will not be named unless you want to be. If you would like more information, please click here: <https://www.uua.org/giving/umbrella> .

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## **Summer worship opportunities**

### **What's Up in Worship?**

Our new DRE Yvonne Andrews will lead worship on July 23 with her service, "No Stone Left Unturned". News about more worship services and activities for the summer will be available in subsequent newsletters.

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## **Circle Suppers Update**

Plans are moving ahead for August Circle Suppers. We have three hosts for the August 11th and 12th weekend. Daphne Blount is on for the Friday date, and Kris DiNardo and Gary Morrison as well as Ann Ross have volunteered for Saturday the 12th. Ann Ross has promised a luncheon time for six with the possibility of a turn on the Charles in a canoe.

Sign up here save your spot and food item for these potlucks.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0548a4a72aa4fe3-circle#/>

(Sign up Genius Hint: you'll need to click on Save and Continue after you've picked the dinner/lunch of your choice.)

Your hosts will be contacting you about specifics. They have requested a deadline for

reservations by Tuesday August 8.

In addition to the online sign up, there will be sign-up sheets at church for the remaining seats following this coming Sunday's service.

Any questions? Call Leslie Gildersleeve @ 781 899 7115 or email [gildersleeveleslie@gmail.com](mailto:gildersleeveleslie@gmail.com)



## 8TH Principle Picnic & Ice Cream Social Sunday, July 23rd 12-3

Come join the RE Committee and other MA congregations who are working on adopting/practicing the 8th Principle. We will eat, get to know one another and share resources to journey toward building a diverse multicultural Beloved Community that accountably dismantles racism in ourselves and our institutions. Contact Pam : [pjpenton@gmail.com](mailto:pjpenton@gmail.com)  
Please bring a picnic dish to share (sign up genius) and ideas to share on envisioning and building the kind of community the 8th Principle promotes.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f45aaa72dab9-8thprinciple#/>

If the link above does not work, please click [here](#) to sign up to bring salads, desserts or beverages.

### News Flashes!!!

#### Ministry Staff Schedule Updates

Summer Minister/Transitional Ministry Associate Deborah Weiner will be on vacation from 25th July to August 2nd. In case of urgent need, call or text Deb at 617-513-6614. All emails will be returned after August 3rd.

Office Manager Emma Campbell will be in England August 3rd - 14th. For administrative or office concerns during this time, please reach out to Deb Weiner.

#### Newsletter Summer Schedule

Our newsletter is on an every-other-week schedule for the remainder of the summer. Our next edition will be published in August.

## From the Community

We're sorry to share news that in late June, Healthy Waltham (a Jones Partnership Grantee) experienced a serious break-in and vandalism attack at their temporary location (the Fitch School). The staff found smashed windows, rotting meat and spoiled produce from refrigerator doors left open and pantry food strewn across the room. Two fire extinguishers had been discharged throughout the gymnasium and human excrement had been left on the floor.

The Healthy Waltham team is shocked and saddened by this senseless vandalism and destruction of food and property and recognizes that Healthy Waltham is a lifeline for many vulnerable families in the community. The organization has completed the clean-up and is 'back in business' with their next distribution of food scheduled for July 13th.

What affects part of the community, affects us all. Please hold the good folk of Healthy

Waltham in your heart in the days going forward - they are doing lifesaving work and we appreciate them!

- Deb Weiner

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### Invitation:

Join **Chaplains on the Way** and the **Waltham Community Leadership Group** for a community cookout at First Parish Waltham. On Saturday, July 29th from 12pm - 2pm we will be grilling, enjoying the (hopefully) nice weather, and building community together. All are welcome to attend!



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### Lightweight Wheelchair Needed

Friends, we want First Parish to be accessible to all - and we believe that having a lightweight wheelchair that is available for our members and visitors would be helpful. Might you have one you can donate - or do you know someone who might have one to donate? Please contact **Deb Weiner** to let her know: [deb.weiner@walthamuu.org](mailto:deb.weiner@walthamuu.org). And thank you!

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### 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!

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



<http://tiny.cc/Donate2FPW>



### When is Your Birthday?

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

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### Happy Birthday this Month to:


- Marianne Taylor 7/3
- Kay Lhota 7/9
- Alice Taylor 7/11
- Gary Morrison 7/13
- Nancy Carniglia 7/14
- Aelish Strafford 7/14
- Deb Jose 7/16
- Joel Weddig 7/17
- Frank Lhota 7/22
- Daphne Blount 7/24
- Brian Miller 7/26

## Light the Steeple

Honor  
a person, occasion,  
event, or idea

Contact the Office

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

 781.893.6240



Send a card or an email to these members!

## Ministry Staff Team

### **Summer Minister / Transitional Ministry Associate**

Deborah Weiner  
617.513.6614  
[deb.weiner@walthamuu.org](mailto:deb.weiner@walthamuu.org)

### **Director of Religious Education**

Yvonne Andrews  
[dre@walthamuu.org](mailto:dre@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**

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

### **Assistant Treasurer**

Dan DeHainaut  
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### **Clerk**

Peter Duane  
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### **Community Outreach Commissioner**

Elisse Ghitelman  
[commissioner.outreach@walthamuu.org](mailto:commissioner.outreach@walthamuu.org)

### **Finance**

Donna VanderClock  
[donna.vanderclock@walthamuu.org](mailto:donna.vanderclock@walthamuu.org)

### **Membership**

Gary Morrison  
[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

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