

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



**Everyone is  
Welcome!**



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

**“Patriotism, Community, and Challenges to Our Faith”**

As many of you know, I was glad to be able to represent First Parish in Waltham last week at the Unitarian Universalist Association’s General Assembly in Pittsburgh, PA. It was an action-packed GA, with Ministry Days, worship services, workshops, business sessions, and valuable connections with both religious professional colleagues and old friends. It was exhausting and compelling, challenging and inspiring. Later this summer I hope that your delegates Elisse Ghittleman and Katie Gullotti and I will be able to share more about our learnings with all of you.

For now, though, I wanted to focus on two elements that I found particularly relevant to this congregation. First is the conversation connected to discussions about the 8th principle and UUA Article II Bylaw revision proposals...conversations that both put love at the center of our UU congregations, and seek to connect UUs with the community and people around them, to build connection and share the power of our congregations with the wider world. One of the presentations, on “Becoming a More Welcoming Class-Inclusive Faith Community,” will be ready for viewing in a week. Another that I attended, called “Disrupting Church: Creating What’s Next” is available for viewing [now](#). What are the ways in which First Parish in Waltham can connect more authentically to the communities and people around us - and what will we learn by doing so? It’s food for thought.

The second major presentation which I can not let go of, was the Berry Street Essay. This annual presentation, first offered by William Ellery Channing, is given by an esteemed UU minister and includes words from several respondents. This year’s essay was given by the Rev. Cecilia Kingman and is entitled [“My Little Pony Was Right: Reflections of Fascisms Within and Without.”](#) It is a compelling and frankly, frightening essay which explores, through Kingman’s long study of fascism in the US, the risks our country is under in this troubled time. (A video version of the essay is also available on the same web page). It is also a call to action to all of us - even those of us who live in the bubble of Massachusetts. If you, like me, are interested in more deeply exploring Kingman’s essay, I’d love to meet with you for more conversation, so please send me an email message!

We have an opportunity in this congregation to raise our collective voices in support of our Unitarian Universalist values; to reach out to the communities around us; to take seriously the ways in which our faith can be a restorative and liberating force for good. This is the faith I was raised in; this the faith to which you are connected, as member or friend. This is the work we need to do together - will you join me?

In faith, with love,  
Deb

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## Summer worship opportunities

### What's Up in Worship?

There will be no worship service on July 9th.

On July 16, Deborah Weiner will explore "The Theology of Ted Lasso" with us. We'll gather at 10:30 AM in the chapel; we regret that no zoom streaming is available from our chapel location.

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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## David Wilbourn Legacy Fund

The Finance Committee is establishing the David Wilbourn Legacy Fund as a named fund to be part of the church's endowment. This fund will be managed by the Trustees and will serve as both a tribute to David's 40 years of being a Trustee at FP (and an acknowledgement of his providing sound financial backing for the church all those years), as well as a vehicle for folks to contribute to the long-term stability of the church, something that is near and dear to David. This fund is open for any and all donations from parishioners. Please make checks payable to FP and put David Wilbourn Legacy Fund in the memo line.

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## 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.

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## Circle Suppers Update

Plans are afoot 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 . A Sign Up Generous will be arriving later this month for folks to save their spot and list their food item for these potlucks. Time to Save the Date if you are interested!



The more the merrier - if you still wish to host please contact Leslie Gildersleeve via [gildersleeveleslie@gmail.com](mailto:gildersleeveleslie@gmail.com). If you are unable to host in your own home, there is an option to host in the Harrington Room at church. Please keep in mind that it will undoubtedly be HOT and air-conditioning might be considered a must.

Thanks, all.  
Leslie Gildersleeve



## Worship Survey

**The Worship Team** is already thinking about next year's services. They have written a short questionnaire to help them find out what is is you love about services at First Parish in Waltham - and the things you do not. Please feel free to comment on all services held here, not just the Member-Led ones organized by the Worship Team.

It can be completed anonymously and it would be delightful if you would click [here](#) to do so.

## News Flashes!!!

### Ministry Staff Schedule Updates

Summer Minister/Transitional Ministry Associate Deborah Weiner will be on vacation through July 9. In case of urgent need, call or text Deb at 617-513-6614. All emails will be returned after July 10.

Music Director Emma Campbell will be attending the annual conference of the Association for UU Music Ministries (AUUMM) in Baltimore MD from July 12-16. For administrative or office concerns, 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 on July 19th.

## From the Community

### Decorating the Minister's Study - Can You Help?

During the summer we'll be painting the Minister's study and spiffing it up a bit. One thing that would be great is a love seat and a comfortable chair or two. Might you have such items, in excellent or very good condition, that you are willing to donate? If so, please contact Deb Weiner ([deb.weiner@walthamuu.org](mailto:deb.weiner@walthamuu.org)) to let us know - and thank you!

### 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!

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



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

## 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

*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

### Transitional Ministry Associate

Deborah Weiner  
617.513.6614  
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### Director of Religious Education

Yvonne Andrews  
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### Office Manager / Music and Choir Director

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781.893.6240  
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## Board Members

### President, Board of Managers

Deb Jose  
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### Assistant Treasurer

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### Clerk

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### Finance

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### Membership

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### Music and Worship Commissioner

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### Property

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### Religious Education Commissioner

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### 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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