

***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***

"You Say Goodbye, I Say Hello"

The cross-quarter holiday of Beltane ended on July 31, a time of saying goodbye to summer in the Celtic calendar, with Lughnasadh beginning on August 1. I am surely not ready to say goodbye to summer, and there is more in store for us: not only warm temperatures, and sun, but fresh tomatoes and cucumbers from the garden, perhaps one last weekend getaway, and some gorgeous sunsets. There are still books to be read, plans to be made for Ingathering and beyond...and welcomes to be shared with my new colleagues in ministry, Megan Lynes and Yvonne Andrews. It is, for sure, a time of transition, even as we let go of the height of summer.

It's also a time of change and turning...of the sun – bringing us shorter days – of getting ready for school (whether it's public or private, elementary, middle, high school, college, graduate school or special education). My friend, the Rev. Andrea LaSonde Anastos writes of this new cross-quarter:

*Be welcome, Abundant Giver.
You scatter blessing with generous hands:
nourishment of grain,
refreshment of grape,
fulfillment of acorn,
clarity of wisdom,
healing of compassion,
compassion of rest,
vision of leadership,
bounty of harvest,
steadfastness of truth.
Be welcome at the hearthfire of my heart.*

So I encourage you to enjoy a meal in this time, with corn - watermelon - peppers and tomatoes - fresh cheese, perhaps. Celebrate a new friendship that might have been born at the recently-held Circle Suppers/Lunch that the church sponsored. Grab hold of a new hobby you have been meaning to try - and dig in. There is abundance in this time, from gardens, and from all that grows in our hearts. So let the goodness flow, and bring some of it back to church on August 27 at worship, as we welcome our new ministry team and share a potluck filled with the bounty of these days!

In faith, with love,



From the Director of Religious Education: Yvonne Andrews

I would like to re-introduce myself. My name is Yvonne Andrews. I am the religious education director with First Parish in Waltham. I would like to invite everyone to stop in this Sunday for the service that I am heading entitled Sologamy: Spiritual or Selfish. After service I will be hosting an open house for Religious Education. I will be speaking about different programs that will emerge this year for both children and adults.

Are you interested in helping with RE on Sunday's with the children? I will have a sign up sheet whether you can volunteer once a month or now and then I would love to speak with you. If it is just an idea but not sure you want to commit, we will have a volunteer zoom information/drop on Tuesday 29th at 7pm.. Join us with this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86168114791?pwd=Zi91Q3ovWERNZjVyZmtDSlhhN1ZHUT09>

Religious Education sign up for children will be available Sunday August 27th and Sept 10th during coffee hour. Or contact me directly by email at DRE@walthamuu.org or 978-235-1266
I am looking forward to meeting everyone and to an exciting launch of religious education programs

Dates to note:

September 9th: visit us on Waltham Day on the common.

September 10th: I would like to invite everyone to join us for an ice cream social



Welcome to Rev. Megan Lynes!

We are delighted to welcome the Rev. Megan Lynes to First Parish in Waltham as our Parish Minister. Rev. Megan grew up Unitarian Universalist in the Boston area, attended Andover Newton Theological School, and was ordained in 2008. Megan's ministry has included serving as a chaplain at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, working with interfaith youth at Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries, and herding cats as the president of the Mass Bay Chapter of UU Ministers. She served for nine years as the Parish Minister at the First Parish in Bedford, MA, two years as the Minister of Faith Formation at the First Church in Sterling, MA, and just completed another year as Parish Minister at First Parish in Bedford, serving in a transitional role.

Megan lives in Stow, MA with her four year old son Jesse, her best friend Nazish Riaz, two cats and six chickens. We are thrilled to welcome her, starting August 21, to First Parish where her primary areas of ministry will be preaching, pastoral care, and family ministries. You can reach Rev. Megan at: revmeganlynes@walthamuu.org .

Summer worship opportunities

Upcoming Sunday Summer Worship Services at First Parish

August 20 - Our new Director of Religious Education, Rev. Yvonne Andrews, returns to lead summer worship (10:30 AM).

Sunday, August 27 - 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

Rev. Megan Lynes, Deborah Weiner, Yvonne Andrews

With music by Michael Carmody, Bee Fortin, Katie Gullotti, and Carla Hillyard

Holding On, Letting Go

In our lives, we have those who have made a difference - whether for good or for ill. We reach out, we strive for connection - and sometimes we have to let go for the next big moment to take hold. Is there anything you need to let go of in order to allow the good to unfold? Come and join us in exploring the turning points in our lives!

Following worship, we will join in a potluck lunch in Whitcomb Hall to welcome Rev. Megan

and Yvonne to our congregation. Please bring a dish to share.

See you at church!

Updates from the Welcoming Spaces Task Force

The Welcoming Spaces Task Force continues to work on the Narthex, Parlor, and Whitcomb Hall as our initial projects to offer all of us, and our visitors and newcomers, a more welcoming First Parish. If you stop by church this summer, you will notice that all the books in the Parlor have been removed from the cabinets - to wash and organize the resources in a more useful and attractive way. We are looking for help to sort the many books and possibly find homes for the ones we don't need.

The Parlor is also about to be repainted and made more comfortable and inviting. For many years there have been two old cabinets in the parlor. We've had a verbal appraisal from Grogan Auctioneers; these pieces have very little monetary value and are not of historic interest. One is a cabinet over drawers with long legs which was donated. The plaque is "in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Warren from their children... To First Parish in Waltham..." but it doesn't say what year, or use the words "Unitarian Universalist" - so we are guessing the gifts was made some time ago. The other piece is called an "upright desk". It has a cabinet over drawers with a fold-down writing surface and was donated by Dr. & Mrs. John Manning. Times have changed, and our Task Force is not interested in placing these pieces back in the parlor, or in other public spaces, after painting. If you have an attachment to them please be in touch with us.

We welcome your thoughts and ideas. In the weeks leading up to our Fall Ingathering service (coming in less than a month!) the bulletin boards will be cleaned and organized and we are working with our Office Administrator, Emma, on providing new name tags in an easy-to-use location and format. If you have any thoughts or questions, feel free to email us: pam.penton@walthamuu.org.



First Parish Book Club is Back

We meet via Zoom on the third Thursday of each month. Email Martha Gallagher via the office at office@walthamuu.org for the link.

Thursday, September 21 at 2pm
Book: Tom Lake, by Ann Patchett

In the spring of 2020, Lara's three daughters return to the family's orchard in Northern Michigan. While picking cherries, they beg their mother to tell them the story of Peter Duke, a famous actor with whom she shared both a stage and a romance years before at a theater company called Tom Lake. As Lara recalls the past, her daughters examine their own lives and relationship with their mother, and are forced to reconsider the world and everything they thought they knew.

Tom Lake is a meditation on youthful love, married love, and the lives parents have led before their children were born. Both hopeful and elegiac, it explores what it means to be happy even when the world is falling apart. As in all of her novels, Ann Patchett combines compelling narrative artistry with piercing insights into family dynamics. The result is a

rich and luminous story, told with profound intelligence and emotional subtlety, that demonstrates once again why she is one of the most revered and acclaimed literary talents working today.

News Flash!!!

Introducing the New President of the UUA, Dr. Sophia Betancourt

Rev. Dr. Betancourt holds a Ph.D. in Religious Ethics and African American Studies from Yale University as well as an M.Div. from Starr King School for the Ministry, where she also served on the faculty. She is the author of [Ecowomanism at the Panamá Canal: Black Women, Labor, and Environmental Ethics](#) (2022). You can learn more about her in [a new Q & A with UU World magazine](#), including how early life experiences shaped her path to ministry. [Read more.](#)



BBQ invitation

Please join Chaplains on the Way and the Waltham Community Leadership Group for a **cookout at FPW this Sunday, Aug. 20, from 12-2**. Meet some of your unhoused neighbors and learn about COTW and WCLG programs you could take part in. You can bring a dish to share, but you can also just drop by and enjoy everything we've got cooking!

Newsletter Summer Schedule

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

From the Community

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. 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 Deb Weiner, who provides 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!

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



<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

Light the Steeple

Honor
a person, occasion,
event, or idea

Contact the Office

✉ office@walthamuu.org

☎ 781.893.6240



Happy Birthday this Month to:

Bill Simpson 8/10
Justine Hyland 8/19
Andy LeCompte 8/24
*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

Parish Minister

Rev Megan Lynes
revmeganlynes@walthamuu.org

Director of Religious Education

Yvonne Andrews
dre@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

Deb Jose
president@walthamuu.org

Assistant Treasurer

Dan DeHainaut
asst.treasurer@walthamuu.org

Clerk

Peter Duane
clerk@walthamuu.org

Community Outreach Commissioner

Elisse Ghitelman
commissioner.outreach@walthamuu.org

Finance

Donna VanderClock
donna.vanderclock@walthamuu.org

Membership

Gary Morrison
membership.commissioner@walthamuu.org

Music and Worship Commissioner

Bethany Templeton Klem
bethany.klem@walthamuu.org

Property

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.*

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

Sent by office@walthamuu.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!