



First Parish in Waltham Newsletter

*No matter who you are or
where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

This Week at . . .



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Upcoming Sunday Services

Hear the Earth Call

October 13, 10.30 am

Rev. Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd

Humans are meant to be in deep relationship with the natural world. And we have been systematically severed from that relationship over generations. As we continue to explore our theme of deep listening, what might it look like for us to reconnect with the earth and all her inhabitants. On this Indigenous People's weekend, how are we listening to Indigenous voices? How might listening to the wind, the birds, and those who have been reminding us of our call to reciprocity and connection change us?



Youth Faith Formation

This week, our Chalice Children and Jr. Youth groups will continue exploring The Practice of Deep Listening. We will explore how we listen to nature and remember that we are not alone but instead a part of something bigger and truly interconnected.

As we play some listening games and talk about our connections to the natural world, we will also be creating games and decorations for the Fall Fair that will take place after service on Sunday, Oct. 27th



If you wish to join services virtually, please contact our Office Administrator.
office@walthamuu.org

Upcoming Events



Friday Oct. 11th 6:00pm

NO NUTS OR NUT-FLOUR PLEASE

Come for great potluck and friendship

1st chance to wear your costumes!

Story tellers, knitters, musicians, all are invited

We clean up together & leave around 9:00pm

You're welcome to come at any time!

Need a ride? We may be able to help. Special diet? It's best to bring your own food. Need info?

Contact Martha Gallagher!



Adult Faith Formation: Fall Soul Matters

Reminder: Our Soul Matters Small Group will meet this **Wednesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the chapel. We will share** the questions (page 6) we each chose.

First Aid and CPR Training

Provisional date: Saturday 9th November

Time: Morning to early afternoon

Cost: \$77.90 per person

Open to all - bring your friends or send your babysitter

If you are interested in attending please email office@walthamuu.org so Emma can book you a place.



Book Group

October 17, 2024 - 1:00 pm
Harrington Room and online

"Touch" by Olaf Olafsson

A mesmerizing, panoramic story of one man's search to find a lover who suddenly disappeared decades before.

The poster for the 'COMMUNITY FALL FAIR' is decorated with various Halloween-themed illustrations. At the top left is a witch's hat, and at the top right is a girl in a yellow dress holding a skull. In the center, the text reads 'COMMUNITY FALL FAIR' in large, bold, orange letters, followed by 'Sun. 10/27' and '12-3 PM'. Below this, it says 'OPEN TO ALL AGES GAMES, CRAFTS, PRIZES AND MORE'. The schedule includes '12:00 FREE PIZZA LUNCH', '12:30 MUSIC BY JAMMIN WITH YOU', and '1:30 COSTUME CONTEST'. At the bottom, the location is listed as 'FIRST PARISH WALTHAM 50 CHURCH STREET A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH WWW.WALTHAMUU.ORG'. Other illustrations include a boy in a skeleton costume, a candy, a jack-o'-lantern, and a broom.

The RE Committee asks you to save the date for our Fall Fair on Sunday, October 27, from 12 to 3. The Committee is asking for volunteers to serve pizza, sit at a table and assist with an activity, play a game like bowling or bean bag toss, and welcome visitors. We are also looking for donations of juice boxes, candy (no nuts), and small prizes for our costume contest. See Pam for more information.

Messages from our Community



Dear fellow tear wipers, huggers, booboo kissers, and special moment makers,

This month, my wish for you is this...

That you notice the many ways your children communicate with you, and that with this noticing, you allow the "ears" of your heart to hear to concerns and longings of children who are not heard or noticed.

That when you listen deeply to your children, you open space to connect with them in new and deeper ways, laying the paths and rhythms that will keep you close for many years to come.

That your listening awakens you to the longings that have sat quiet inside for far too long.

That you hear the voice of who you were before you began raising children and answer its calls – whatever it might be beckoning you back to. Whether that be painting with brushes rather than fingers, reading books that do not contain pictures, or cooking meals that you like even if you are the only one who does.

Listening doesn't just help us hear others. It also expands our world and helps us hear our own hungers. May that gift of a larger world and knowing yourself more fully be yours this month.

Blessed be, and May It Be So.

April

You are cordially invited to meet with Your Minister, Rev. Elka!

You can make an appointment with me at www.calendly.com/revelka, or you can email me with some suggested good times at revelka@walthamuu.org. If you don't see a time that works for you on Calendly, definitely send me an email. I can make another space appear.

I can't wait to settle in with you and get to know you better!



Men's Group

Looking for a place to connect more deeply with other men? If so, contact [Scott Tougas](#) to be part of the initial conversation about what this year's men's group will look like and when they will meet. The group is open to anyone who has identified as a man at some point in their life. The goal is to provide a space for men to develop deeper relationships and grow spiritually through sharing stories about

Thank You and Join Us: Celebrate the Life of Mary Ann "Punchy" Taylor Sat Oct 19, 3 pm

All the family of Mary Ann Taylor thank you all for your cards and kind words of condolence. Support from the community always means a lot to us. The First Parish community has meant many things to Punchy over the years from providing religious education for her kids, giving her a chance to play God in the '70s, seeing her children and grandchildren married at First Parish, to dancing in the aisles just last year. Her spirit will hopefully be with us for some time to come. Please join us to celebrate her life on **Saturday, October 19th at 3 pm**. The service will be in the First Parish sanctuary and followed immediately by a reception in Whitcomb Hall.

subjects that have a particular relevance to being male.

Meet with the Minister & President

Got something to talk about?

Second Monday of every month
1-3pm
"The Fika Spot"
619 Main Street



 Find out more at walthamuu.org

Thanks to the Care Committee for setting up a Signup Genius link for those who might like to help out at the service. Here is the link to that signup:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080548ABA723A4FE3-51840093-saturday>

Thanks again to our First Parish Community for supporting us in this life transition.

Dan and Joan, Alice and Jon and families

Partner Organizations and Other News

Waltham Fields Community Farm

We currently have varied volunteer opportunities that are really rewarding, from Tues-Sat! They are listed here:

<https://communityfarms.org/involved/volunteer-service>

I'd like to call out this one in particular, coming by on Thursday mornings to dig carrots and bunch veggies with the farm staff now that our seasonal help has gone:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084DA4A729A6FD0-51025520-thursdays#/>

And this one - helping at our Farm Day on Sat. 10/19:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084DA4A729A6FD0-50419438-farm#/>



- Free Admission!
- Free Tick Tock Trolley Service 1-4 p.m.
- Children's activities
- Farm demonstrations
- Live Music

Waltham Clothing Exchange Now Open - New Shoppers and Volunteers Needed!

For those of you not familiar with the Waltham Clothing Exchange, it has been an ongoing project of FPW for over 65 years. It is a type of consignment/donations/thrift shop located on the bottom floor of the church.

Volunteer run has contributed over \$5000 a year to the church budget.

We opened on September 10 for the fall season.

The regular open hours are Tuesdays from 10 to 4:30, and the entrance is at the lower parking lot.

If you have items you would like to donate (rather than consign), you can drop them off after services into a box in Whitcomb Hall that is kept under the coffee table. Alternatively, bring them in on a Tuesday (after 1 preferred).

Volunteers are needed as an increased thrift shopping craze has caused customer lines to buy or consign to get lengthy! And several of our volunteers are facing surgery soon. So, stop in on a Tuesday and see what it is like. Then ask for Joel or Susan, and we will show you what volunteers do. Or give us a call at 339-215-9559. Thanks!



Coffee Hour Treats!



Winter Is Coming!

With your help we can make our coffee hour a truly warm and welcoming event! When it's your turn to bring a snack for coffee hour, please bring it either in a container it can be served from, or on your own dish, which you bring home and clean yourself.

No nuts please, to help those with allergies.

A - C first Sunday

D - H second Sunday (this week)

I - R third Sunday

S - Z fourth Sunday

Announcing A New Way to Connect!

The Membership Team at First Parish is excited to announce the creation of a community mailing list to help us stay informed and connected! It's open to the community: congregation members, friends, and our broader community by request (participants "Opt In").

How To Subscribe to the First Parish Community Email List:

Subscribers must identify themselves by name. By joining a list, you agree to follow the guidelines found at [The First Parish Website](#). Sign-up instructions can also be found at the same link to [The First Parish Website](#). A list moderator will approve your request.

Once you've subscribed, send community posts to community@walthamuu.org.

QUESTIONS?

Contact [Brenda Asis](#) AND [Daphne Blount](#)

The actors in "Game of Thrones" were right to be worried! Spending large amounts of time outdoors in cold weather leads to many basic healthcare issues that are preventable. Chaplains on the Way will soon be moving into our building 5 mornings a week and wish to distribute 'Personal Care Packages' to their clients. If you are able to donate any of the following it would be greatly appreciated. (Please consider dropping them off at the church office or leaving them in the mailbox in the Office Administrator's door).

- Razors
- Shaving foam
- Lip balm
- Sunscreen (really good as a moisturizer in harsh weather)
- Soap holders
- Any 'travel toiletries' you may have picked up on your travels

Thank you in advance for your support.



Birthdays Among Us!

The Membership Committee is helping us celebrate birthdays as a congregation! Please let us know yours by emailing Brenda Asis: membership.commissioner@walthamuu.org

- Dimitry Zarkh 10/2
- Marianne Cutter 10/5
- Joan Smith 10/10
- Daniel Strafford 10/17
- Susan Weddig 10/19
- Sue Adams 10/28
- Ron Adams 10/31

Staff Team

Parish Minister

Rev. Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd
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Director of Faith Formation

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Treasurer

Dan Taylor

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The mission of First Parish in Waltham

is to be a caring, inclusive, spiritual community committed to using free inquiry and the power of love to achieve peace, justice, and a sustainable world.

Stay connected on our Website, Facebook Page, or on Instagram!
Like and follow us to get updates and news!



Waltham UU Facebook Page



Waltham UU Webpage



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

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