



First Parish, Hingham  
**Old Ship Church**

Unitarian Universalist  
107 Main Street Hingham, MA 02043  
(781) 749-1679

[office@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:office@oldshipchurch.org) [www.oldshipchurch.org](http://www.oldshipchurch.org)

## August 2022 Newsletter

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*Deadline for September newsletter: Friday, August 19, 2022*

### Summer Worship

Click here to join worship on Zoom @ 10:25 a.m. on  
Sundays!

#### Summer services in July and August

Beginning with the July 3 summer service, all the summer services will be held on Zoom and hosted by Worship and Music Committee chair, Karen Churchill. The Zoom link will be our usual Sunday worship

link: [https://zoom.us/j/94971146149?](https://zoom.us/j/94971146149?pwd=WUZWBVpyWUNjcDNpc3dUdXQwalNuUT09)  
[pwd=WUZWBVpyWUNjcDNpc3dUdXQwalNuUT09](https://zoom.us/j/94971146149?pwd=WUZWBVpyWUNjcDNpc3dUdXQwalNuUT09)



If you have a joy, sorrow, or concern you you'd like to have shared at any of the summer services, please email our Worship and Music Committee chair, [Karen Churchill: xplasticfishx@yahoo.com](mailto:xplasticfishx@yahoo.com) or text Karen at 781-812-5518

#### And here's the **schedule of the remaining Sunday services**:

July 31 - Garrison Wilkes  
Aug. 7. Diane Elliott  
Aug. 14. Elizabeth Torrey  
Aug. 21. David Nelson  
Aug 28. TBA

We look forward to sharing with you all summer long.

*Our first service back in and from the Meeting House will be Sunday, September 11 and will include our annual water communion ritual: We are all invited to bring a small sample of water from a favorite summer place: river, lake, ocean, backyard stream, or cool water from our tap. We will pour the water into a single bowl, symbolizing our regathering in community.*

## Among Us

We extend deep sympathy to the family of Walter Pierce, including his wife Margaret Omer and his daughters Melinda and Susannah and their families. Walter died peacefully at home in Cambridge on July 7 after a long illness. He was 91. Many Old Ship members will recall that the Pierce family, including Walter's wife Betty Ann (who died in 1994) was very active at Old Ship in the 1980s and 1990s. A private graveside service was held at Mt. Auburn Cemetery, at which Ken Read-Brown officiated.



## Pastoral Care Leadership Team

We are all on the pastoral care team, but our "Pastoral Care Leadership Team" meets each month to share any concerns about parishioners who are ill, in the hospital, or facing other significant challenges, and to coordinate responses. If you have a pastoral concern to share with our Team, please feel free to contact any member of the group:

[Ralph Brown](#)

[Liz Flint](#)

[Elaine Gomez](#)

[Alicia Harkness](#)

[Fan Leonard](#)

[Claire Petrie](#)

[Carol Valentine](#)

[Joan Wilson](#)



## Happy Fourth of July from the Parish House!

On a beautiful Monday morning, many parishioners were gathered on the Parish House lawn to view Hingham's Fourth of July Parade.





## **Labyrinth Walk and "Thank you" to the Parish House**

Old Ship Labyrinth Walk Reflections July 21, 2022:

The Sound Meditation Ensemble set the tone soon after we entered the Parish House labyrinth space at 5:45 p.m. It was very quiet while the LED's were being placed along the spiral path. Then we began to hear one or two rhythm instruments and soft chanting. The unexpected rhythmic interplay of additional rhythm instruments and guitar continued nonstop during the 45 minutes prior to the labyrinth walk. A glass ball on a stand surrounded by flowers was in the center, with a rattle alongside it. Sometime shortly before the walk the chandelier lights were turned on and the ambiance was complete.

At 6:30 Old Ship member Santjes Oomen, who is a Holistic Health Practitioner welcomed everyone and spoke about walking with intention for peace within and around us, as well as the future of the labyrinth and Parish House whatever that might be; keeping in mind those who had walked before us. She explained how to enter the labyrinth and how to navigate the turns to maximize every bit of the experience and not miss anything in the process. Turning like that was beneficial to our body and energy. We were doing a dance.

Santjes "opened" the labyrinth and chanted before we entered to prepare the space for our experience.

Ken was the first to step into the labyrinth. The musicians subtle improvising during our walk was truly amazing because it never took our focus away from the labyrinth. We felt the rhythm of our flow more so! Another reason being that a few of the musicians were in our midst on the labyrinth softly adding to the experience with a rhythm instrument gently played. The result was a calming feeling that stayed with me as well as my friend. The labyrinth walk concluded with an ensemble member standing at the entrance, gradually diminishing the sound of

what appeared to be shells gently rattling.  
Sometime before the walk started, it was made known that the Parish House closing did not take place as planned that afternoon. My immediate thought was of how powerful the energy of the labyrinth can be!

I am most thankful for the opportunity to walk this magnificent labyrinth! It is beautiful beyond words!  
With deep gratitude and thanksgivings to MaryThomas!

Darlene Hagon  
*Advanced Veriditas Certified Labyrinth Facilitator*  
*darlenelabyrinth@gmail.com*  
*Photo credit to Darlene Hagon*

Following the labyrinth walk we processed outside to the front lawn of the Parish House, and Ken led us in a ritual of thanks for the Parish House. We were invited to speak about a memory of something that took place in the Parish House, and after each person spoke we shouted out:

*Thank you Parish House!*  
*You have blessed us!*

We closed by singing the chorus of "Turn, Turn, Turn":  
To everything, turn, turn, turn,  
There is a season, turn, turn, turn,  
And a time for every purpose under heaven.

## Life Learning Offerings

### Ongoing groups and gatherings

Our Life Learning Committee is preparing a schedule of classes and groups for 2022-2023.  
Watch future newsletters for updates.



**Bodhisattva Study Group** – Continues to gather each Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. During the summer members of the group lead the conversation on Zoom based a different reading each week. All are welcome. For questions and for the Zoom links, email [Lisa Sawyer](#).

**Men's Breakfast** — Meets on the second Sunday morning, 8:30 a.m., of each month – but taking a break in July and August. Will resume meeting in September on the second Sunday morning of each month. Contact [Ralph Brown](#) or [Rich Elliott](#) for information and, if we are still meeting on Zoom, for the link.

**Women's Breakfast and Conversation** — Ordinarily meets on the fourth Sunday morning of each month from 8:30 a.m. -10:15 a.m. There is a Pot Luck Dinner on August 17th at 5:30 at Janice McPhillips' home. Please email or call Janice to RSVP so she knows how many are coming. Open to all the women of the church. If you would like to attend, send an email to Janice at [jbbmcphillips@gmail.com](mailto:jbbmcphillips@gmail.com) and she will send you the Zoom invitation – all are



also welcome to gather in the Parish House parlor. We gather to share our lives and enjoy one another's company. Conversations are confidential and, again, all are welcome!

**Sacred Texts Meditation Group** — Usually meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 4:00 p.m. for meditation and conversation based on a shared text we are reading together. We'll be taking a summer break and planning to resume in September.

**Ceilidh!** — Gathers on the first Tuesday of each month. This means our next monthly song/poem circle will be on Tuesday evening, August 2, at 7:00 p.m. We are currently planning to gather in the Parlor as well as on Zoom. Email Eric Cornetta with any questions about Ceilidh or for the Zoom link: EECornetta@aol.com. The zoom link is: <https://zoom.us/j/92888235659?pwd=M3NEcVNibjdqM1RvUHhTUm9aN21Edz09>

### **Fiber Funship**

Fiber Funship will no longer meet in the Parish House. We will meet Wednesdays at 1:30, outside at members' homes during the summer. For info contact [Diane Elliot](#) or [Carol Valentine](#).

## **Serving Others**

### **News from the Social Justice Council**

***Anti-Racism/Social Justice Book Group Next Meeting  
Sunday, September 18, at 7 p.m. on Zoom.***

For this upcoming church year, we will again meet on Zoom the third Sunday of each month, except for December, when we will not meet. We will meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. We are expanding our range of books to include environmental/climate justice, which aligns with the congregation's specific focus regarding social justice. Our book for the September 18 meeting is *Waste: One Woman's Fight Against America's Dirty Secret* by Catherine Coleman Flowers (2020). This book "tells the story of systemic class, racial, and geographical prejudice that fosters Third World conditions" in the United States. The author is an environmental justice advocate at the Equal Justice Initiative. Laura Harbottle will lead our discussion. This book is an example of where racism and environmental justice intersect.

For more information or if you have questions about the group, contact [Davalene Cooper](#). This group is open to all who are interested in learning more about these social justice issues. It is a drop-in group so members may attend whatever book discussions they are most interested in.



**Hingham Food Pantry** — During the summer, there are limited opportunities to make food donations for the Hingham Food Pantry through our summer services, which will be on Zoom, or through the office, which has limited hours. As a result, ***we encourage everyone to make donations at the Hingham Stop and Shop (large bin at the front of the store).*** The food pantry only accepts non-perishable, unopened, and unexpired food. Although all donations are appreciated, the following items are among the most needed

at this time: Pasta Sauce (plastic jars preferred), Packaged Cookies, Flour, 2 lb. or 5 lb., Mayonnaise, small jars (plastic jars preferred), Dried Fruit, raisins, cranberries, etc., and Nuts. Checks to support the food pantry can be sent to Hingham Food Pantry, 685 Main St., Hingham, MA 02043. The need continues and we appreciate everyone who is able to help the Hingham Food Pantry.

**UU Urban Ministry (UUUM)** — This summer, there will be a series of Jazz Concerts on the Greenspace at the UUUM. These concerts are free and will take place on July 16, August 13, and September 10, from 1-4 p.m. You may learn more about the programs of UUUM in the area of domestic violence, Roxbury Youth, and Arts and the Humanities at [www.uuum.org](http://www.uuum.org). Thanks to Lisa Sawyer, Dianne Walcott, and Davalene Cooper, who were delegates from Old Ship to the UUUM Annual Meeting in May.

**UUA's Side with Love Campaign** — This is an advocacy campaign seeking to harness the power of love to work for justice and stop oppression in its many forms. You can learn more about the campaign and sign up to receive updates on how to participate at [Side With Love](#).

**Old Ship Social Justice Action Alert Network** — Sign up for the Old Ship Social Justice Action Alert Network to find out about specific advocacy opportunities such as letter writing, advocacy calls, and participating in educational and advocacy events with local legislators. Send your email address to [Davalene Cooper](#), Keeper of the List.

### **NVNA & Hospice Volunteer Opportunity**

NVNA & Hospice is looking for Volunteers to support the meal program at the Pat Roche Hospice House in Hingham. Volunteers work with the house chef in preparing meals and performing light kitchen duties. You don't need any cooking experience, and this a meaningful and enjoyable way to engage the extended Hingham and Hull community. Please contact Jonathan Pierce ([jpierce@nvna.org](mailto:jpierce@nvna.org), 781-659-2342) if interested.



### **Join the Team of Tour Guides!**

As you know, the Old Ship Meeting House is a National Historic Landmark, and a beloved symbol of the Town of Hingham. As such, before the pandemic hundreds of non-Old Shippers visited it each year - interested in family roots, architecture, early American history, or just for curiosity. We have developed a good tour for these visitors, and we used to keep the Meeting House open for drop-in visitors all summer, but now we need more Tour Guides!! If you are interested in becoming a guide, call or email [Nina Wellford](#) or [Charlotte Champagne](#) ASAP. We will be happy to train you, and you will be amazed at what you learn about



our unique treasure! Schedules are entirely up to you. We have to decide how much to open the Meeting House this summer, so please, we would like to hear from you soon. Thanks!



## The Old Ship Calendar

The Old Ship Church calendar is available on our website by clicking [here](#).

If you have an upcoming event or meeting and you want to see it on the calendar, please email [Lisa](#) in the office.

Additionally, if your contact information has changed, please email [Lisa](#) so she can update the Old Ship database.

## Upcoming Committee Meetings

- Board of Trustees Meeting August 7, at 7:00 PM
- The Old Ship Church Retreat, August 12-14 2022

Contact [Lisa](#) for links or information about these meetings.

## Shopping and Amazon Smile:

Are you shopping on Amazon? Please shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to your favorite charitable organization: The Old Ship Church! —no fees, no extra cost. Simply start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to support your favorite charity.



## Printer Cartridge Collection

Please bring your used printer cartridges to the Parish House and help raise funds for our office supplies. In 2019 we were able to convert used cartridges into almost \$500 of office supplies! Drop off your cartridges in the outer vestibule of the Parish House office. Any brand or type of cartridge is fine. Thank you



**Happy Summer  
from your friends at  
Old Ship Church!**

