



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)

## September 2022 Newsletter

Trouble viewing this email or want to print? [View as Webpage](#)

*Deadline for October's newsletter: Tuesday, September 23, 2022*

**Worship: 10:25 a.m.**  
**Multi-Platform:**  
**Join us in-person in the Meeting**  
**House**  
**or on Zoom**



***(masks are optional - and vaccination strongly urged)***

Zoom link opens at 10:15 a.m.

[Click here to join Sunday Worship!](#)

### **Sunday, September 4**

There will be no service this Sunday.

### **Sunday, September 11 – Homecoming Service!**

We will resume worship for this service for all ages in and from the Meeting House!

We will begin our year together when we gather in the Sanctuary for our annual Water Sunday Celebration. Whether this summer had you traveling hither and yon or staying close, please remember to bring a small vial of water from places or events, which had meaning for you these past few months. Upon entering the Sanctuary each will be handed an index card - please be prepared to write a sentence (or two at the most) as to what meaning the water holds for you. Not necessarily from whence the water springs - but why it's important to you. These are a few samplings of years past: *"This is from the lake near where my daughter was married in July."* *"I learned to swim at the pool at the Y."* *"This is from my kitchen faucet. We stayed home this summer and it was wonderful."* *"This is from a beach in Maine where we said goodbye to my*



*grandmother.” “From my dog's water bowl. I love my dog.”* The cards will be collected with the Offering and later in the service we will mix our water together as a reader and Erin read each of the cards.

### **After the service:**

**A Special Meeting of the Members of the First Parish in Hingham, Massachusetts, qualified to vote on Parish affairs, will be held on 11th of September, 2022, at twelve o'clock p.m. in the Meeting House, then and there to act on the following article, viz:**

Article 1: Will the Parish vote to approve the attached Restated Articles of Organization? It requires a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority to pass.

Summary for Article 1: During our recently ended Purchase and Sale process it came to our attention that the State of Massachusetts does not recognize First Parish, Hingham as a corporation. This is not uncommon for New England churches whose history dates back to Colonial times.

This lack of recognition prevents us from selling property in the future and also prevents us from opening certain financial accounts.

In order to be recognized by the Massachusetts Secretary of State we need to submit our member approved Restated Articles of Organization, an Officers and Trustees Certificate and sufficient evidence to support our history as a congregation. This evidence must include proof of our operation as a corporation including bylaws, annual reports and proof of the Acts of 1786 referenced in our bylaws. Along with our attorney, the Board of Trustees drafted the Restated Articles of Organization which is attached to this email.

Another component to filing is to have a proper meeting. According to Massachusetts law, this must be approved by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of our voting members and the vote must be done in person. Because the state requires  $\frac{2}{3}$  of all the voting members to approve, it is imperative that voting members attend this meeting. The State no longer allows voting online. The State will allow votes to be taken by proxy. Our attorneys have advised us that because our bylaws do not state that proxy voting is prohibited, the State allows votes to be taken by proxy in this situation. Also for a proper meeting we must have time for discussion, to ask and answer questions regarding the Articles.

To restate, our attorney would like to see as many voting members as possible attend in person to vote. Proxy voting is available for voting members who can absolutely not attend. Please see the attached Proxy Form below for you to fill out completely in order for your Proxy vote to count, and your appointed Proxy person must attend the meeting in person.

A 'Yes' vote approves the Restated Articles of Organization. If approved, then it will be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.

A 'No' vote does not approve the Restated Articles of Organization and will prevent the State of Massachusetts from recognizing First Parish Hingham as a corporation. We will not be able to move forward with selling property in the future, or open certain financial accounts.

### [Restated Articles of Organization](#)

### [Proxy Form 9-11-22](#)

### [Exhibit A supporting Restated Articles of Organization](#)

### [Exhibit B - Vote -Restated Articles of Organization](#)

Article 2: Will the Parish vote to approve the Board of Trustees to enter into and sign a contract with contractor John Patrician for the repair and replacement of gutters, cost of and address repair and replacement of components related thereto? It requires a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority to pass.

Summary for Article 2: Many of the gutters on the Meeting House are in need of urgent repair or replacement due to falling into disrepair or rot. This work is essential before any more damage is sustained and the colder, wetter months of late Fall and Winter set in. The scope of this work also includes repair or replacement of fascia and soffit areas and the like, man lift and dumpster rental, stock, labor, fuel, debris removal, etc. The estimated cost for this contract is \$27,200. with the understanding that any major problems will be discussed at time of discovery. Work would begin approximately the third week of September, and will take at least 3 weeks to complete.

A 'Yes' vote approves the Board of Trustees to sign a contract with contractor John Patrician for the repair and replacement of gutters and address repair and replacement of components related to the scope of the work thereto.

A 'No' vote does not approve the Board of Trustees to enter into and sign a contract with contractor John Patrician.

Given under our hands this 29th day of August, two thousand twenty-two /S/ President Diane Jordan, Vice President Maureen Butler, Treasurer John Gomez, Clerk Patricia McAleer. Trustees: Abby Diamond-Kissiday, Roy Harris, Diane Morrison, Joan Wilson, President Emerita Janet Asnes

## **DONORS FOR SUNDAY FLOWERS**

Interested in being a Sunday Flowers donor? We have several upcoming dates available—**September 11, October 2, 30 and November 6**. You may provide your own floral arrangement, or the Sunday Flowers Committee will create a lovely arrangement for a \$50 charge (covers the cost of the flowers and

supplies). Please contact [Sharon Prehn](mailto:Sharon.Prehn@verizon.net) (781-925-0101 or [prehn@verizon.net](mailto:prehn@verizon.net)) to become a donor



## **Old Ship Board of Trustees September Newsletter**

September is here. We can feel the changes in the air – the light is different, the evenings are cooler, wildlife is changing behavior, trees are tired from struggling in this summer's extreme heat and drought causing them to already drop leaves and change colors.



This late spring and summer also brought changes, and challenges, to the Board and to the congregation. Our beloved minister of 35 years retired which gave rise to celebrations of Ken's life and time with us as we shared memories of our long history together (thank you retirement team!). The Board members on the Interim Minister Search Team worked together to find and welcome our wonderful Interim Minister Rev. Erin Splaine, who will now help all of us work together on our journey to find out who we are now, where we are going, and prepare us for our upcoming important work to find our next settled minister. We were in the middle of a long and sometimes stressful Purchase and Sale process for the Parish House, with the Board having meeting after meeting with each other, our attorneys, and our Deacons, all while trying to keep our congregation updated with information that changed weekly, and often daily. We worked together with Rev. Ludwig of First Baptist Church, his attorneys, and our attorneys on rental contracts with First Baptist for alternate office space and coffee hour space. We had our congregational meeting for voting for our Restated Articles of Organization (now voting again on Sunday September 11). We had our All-Parish Annual meeting, our annual Board Retreat meeting, our annual Old Ship Church Retreat in Craigville. Summer lay services were carefully planned and had (thank you worship hosts!). We gardened, packed, moved, cleaned, and sold items in the Parish House (thank you all teams!).

If you are tired after reading this previous paragraph I understand your exhaustion! I apologize if I forgot or didn't mention people or other things we did as we did a lot, and I really want to thank everyone who worked so hard for our congregation. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

We've had so much going on this year without nearly enough time to take a breath, look around, and appreciate all that we have to offer each other, our Hingham and surrounding communities, our world. My hope for this upcoming church year is for us to join together to be our best so we can do our best – to find common ground for the important work we have to do in our Old Ship community and beyond as Unitarian Universalists. After reading all the work we did in 5 months, I have faith that we can accomplish just about anything,

together.

With gratitude,  
Diane Jordan (she, her, hers)  
President, Old Ship Board of Trustees

## Among Us

We are sad to announce that Carol Schuler passed away early August. Carol was a long-time member who enriched our Old Ship community. In recent years, she was a devoted caregiver to her beloved husband Herbie. No service is planned.



We share the sad news that Jim Watson has passed away this weekend. We send out deepest sympathy to Jim's family and we will of course let everyone know as soon as we know of whatever service will be planned in consultation with Jim's family.

## 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](#)  
[Erin Spaine](#)

## WISDOM OF THE POETS

A note from Elizabeth Torrey  
([elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com))

This month's excerpt is from the late Elizabeth Tarbox, former Minister of First Parish (UU) in Cohasset.



## THERE HAVE BEEN SEPTEMBERS

Whatever September means to you, bring it here and



let it find its place in your belonging.

Those of you whose memories of summer will be smoothed onto the pages of a photograph album, those whose memories will line your forehead, or tear your heart, welcome to September. those who carried a school bag for the first time, loved someone, said good-bye, cried some, cried a lot, welcome to September.

Thank you, September, for bringing us all together, to smile at each other, hug maybe, touch hands, join voices once again.

Spirit of love and reunion, bless our house and our hours together, help us to feel the possibility of joy in this place, and friendship, and beginnings.

responses always welcome.

## Children and Youth Religious Education

**Sunday, September 11**



We continue to create meaningful opportunities for reflection, spiritual engagement, learning and multi age community for our children and youth.

### Recent Activity last Spring Included:

- Annual Seder for all ages children and youth and their teachers
- Annual Easter celebration, discussion & reflection, and "Traditional" Hingham Cemetery Easter Egg Hunt
- Youth Group trip to Somerville to see Critically Acclaimed Trans Feminine Poet, Writer & Comedian ALOK
- Father Bill's and Wellspring Lunch Making
- City Reach Service Weekend in Boston- April 29 & 30
- Youth Group Hosted Old Ship Pride Day

### **Sunday Morning Programs**

**All programs** will begin with attending the first part of the worship service at 10:30 AM in the Meeting House. Then we travel on over to Parish House for:

- Elementary School Ages Class During September we will focus on being outside together, creating personal chalices, exploring nature through our UU faith lens, share joys and concerns & reconnecting with each other after the summer
- Youth Group (Grades 8-12)
- Father Bill's Lunch Making - 4th Sunday of each month (all ages)
- Celebrations (all ages)

**On Sunday September 11th, our first Sunday back, please stay with us in the worship service as we participate in our Annual Water Communion Service.**

### **Other programs (at other times):**

OWL. Our Whole Lives. For grades 8 and 9 .

OWL is a Comprehensive Life Span Sexuality Education program offered at Old Ship and many other Unitarian Universalist (and United Church of Christ) Congregations.

As we do every other year, we will offer OWL for 8th and 9th graders this year. Sept through May.

See upcoming information, dates for any introduction meetings, and schedule from Debra Squires Lee ( We will reach out to all 8th and 9th graders and families)

We will be collaborating with other local UUA congregations (as we have done in the past at times) to offer this terrific, meaningful curriculum to our teens.

If you'd like to get a jump on enrolling for OWL and /or running any questions by our teachers please email the office and we will be sure they get your email!

**Please** register for the 2022-2023 year at [oldshipchurch.org](http://oldshipchurch.org)

### **For more information**

Please see [www.oldshipchurch.org](http://www.oldshipchurch.org), and/or email [dre@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:dre@oldshipchurch.org).

Please reach out to us with all your questions, concerns and ideas!

We are all looking forward to seeing you in September!

Your Old Ship Church Religious Education Committee and Volunteer Teacher Team,

Janet Asnes, Susan Carrillo, Diane Elliot, Lauren Gadot, Alicia Harkness, Debra Squires Lee



### **Five Practices of Welcome Renewal Congregation 2021-2022**

Last church year our congregation achieved our first renewal as Welcoming Congregation.

As a reminder, our three most impactful events were Gender in 21st Century class, Youth Lead Service and Pride celebration.

### **Welcoming Congregation Discussion Wednesday, September 28, 7:00 PM**

This month's discussion topic is "What Does It Mean To Be More Welcoming?"

It's more than opening the church doors and asking people to come in. What is it really? Are we doing enough?

This month's meeting will be on Zoom. <https://zoom.us/j/95490356542?pwd=eDFNZUY0K2N4bzV4dEtZU3E2TVBJQT09>



## Invitation to Worship Tech Team

As you know, Colin McGinnis has been our solo “tech team” for Sunday worship for the past two years, managing the cameras and computer connections, then putting each service up on YouTube. We would like to support Colin with a bit more of a team! If you are interested in helping out during the upcoming worship year, please contact [Lisa](#)



## Life Learning Offerings

*click here to see our [2022-2023 Life Learning Web Page](#)*

### Ongoing groups and gatherings

*click here to see our [2022-2023 Life Learning brochure](#)*



### Autumnal Equinox Poetry Circle

Thursday, September 22nd, 7:00 p.m.

On [Zoom](#) and in the parlor:

Crossing Time Poetry Circles

Elizabeth Torrey

At turnings of fall, winter and spring; Sep. 22, Dec. 20, March 20, 7 p.m.

We begin our 26th year! Come join the ongoing poetry renaissance in America. Bring and read or speak a favorite poem – an opportunity to share and perhaps deepen our appreciation of poetry, and reinforce our connection with the natural cycles of life. All welcome! Only be willing to search for poetry, / and there will be poetry. / My soul, a tiny speck, is my tutor. – Yuan Hei. For information, contact [Elizabeth](#).

**The Way of the Bodhisattva**- Every Sunday morning, 8:30 a.m. Zoom only. Twenty minutes of sitting meditation followed by discussion of a reading, facilitated by Catherine Mayes. Currently we are reading No Death, No Fear by Thich Nhat Hanh. Newcomers warmly welcomed. No experience with Buddhism necessary. For questions and Zoom link, email [Lisa Sawyer](#).

**Men's Breakfast** – Meets on the second Sunday morning, 8:30 a.m., of each month – our next gathering will be September 11 – on Zoom. Contact Ralph Brown ([ralph.e.brown@gmail.com](mailto:ralph.e.brown@gmail.com)) or Rich Elliott ([richelliott56@gmail.com](mailto:richelliott56@gmail.com)) for information and, for the Zoom 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. The next meeting will be on Sunday, September 25th. Open to all the women of the church. If you would like to attend, send an email to Janice McPhillips at [jbbmcpillips@gmail.com](mailto:jbbmcpillips@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!

**Ceilidh!** – Gathers on the first Tuesday of each month. This means our next



monthly song/poem circle will be on Tuesday evening, September 6, 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 (SJC)

***Next Meeting is Saturday, September 10th, at 9 a.m. on Zoom. If you are not a member and would like to join us for the meeting, contact Davalene Cooper for the Zoom link. All are welcome!***



### ***Volunteers Needed to Help Feed the Hungry***

As you may know, we are part of an effort on the South Shore to provide meals to Father Bill's shelter in Quincy. We staff 6 cooking/serving teams that provide meals throughout the year. Each team is assigned 4 dates to cook and serve. One of our teams needs one more cook. This team makes lasagna on the second Thursday in September, December, March, and June. If you would like to join this team, please contact Davalene Cooper, [davalenecooper@verizon.net](mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net).

We are also part of a community effort to provide six lunches twice a week (Tuesday and Friday) to the Anderson Veterans Home on Fort Hill Street in Hingham. Lunch consists of a deli-meat sandwich, chips, fresh fruit, cookie, and water or juice. If you would like to be a part of this effort, please contact Davalene Cooper at [davalenecooper@verizon.net](mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net) for the sign up link. Many thanks to Lisa Sawyer and Jean Railton for providing these lunches in August!

### ***Anti-Racism/Social Justice Book Group meeting on September 18 at 7 p.m. on Zoom***

We will discuss *Waste: One Woman's Fight Against America's Dirty Secre* 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.

On October 16, we will discuss a book about immigration, *Solito, Solita*." It is transcribed oral history about the horrific incidents that occur with young people immigrating from Central America. It is a free download--please contact Davalene Cooper at [davalenecooper@verizon.net](mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net) and she will send you the PDF. You also may purchase the book from Amazon or perhaps other places. Patti Smith will lead our discussion.

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. Here is the Zoom link for the September meeting:

***UU the Vote Forum after church on Sunday, September 25 (in the Meeting House)*** — The Social Justice Council is supporting the UU the Vote Program this fall. This program will allow us to participate in phone banking, postcard writing, and other activities to support getting out the vote for the fall elections. We will be presenting information about how to participate in this forum after church on September 25. Elle Handleman, who participated in 2020, will share her experiences with phone banking. This is an opportunity to learn how we can best put our values out into the world through the fall elections.

In general, UU the Vote is organizing on the state and local levels to fight for fair elections, advance voting rights, protect abortion access, and resist the targeting and criminalization of Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities. For more information and/or to sign up to receive emails from the project, go to [UU the Vote - Faith, Love, and Action. Together.](#)

**Hingham Food Pantry** — We are collecting food donations for the Hingham Food Pantry. There is a basket in the vestibule of the Meeting House for donations. ***Donations may also be made 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: Cookies, Pasta Sauce, Canned Beef Stew, Canned Spaghetti, Dried Fruit, Nuts, and 1 lb. bags of Granulated Sugar. Checks to support the food pantry can be sent to Hingham Food Pantry, 685 Main St., Hingham, MA 02043.

**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.

## **Gender and Importance of Allies**

Led by Abby & Mary Diamond-Kissiday

Three Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM on Zoom

Transgender, gender-fluid, non-binary, they/them is everywhere. It's in the news, legal battles, movies, neighbor's kids, everywhere. What is it really and why is it important to you? Class will explain the 3 parts that make up one's gender, what a good ally is and it's more than using your pronouns; and



current anti-LGBTQ+ laws/bans. Most importantly, it is a time to ask questions and open discussion. For information, contact [Abby](#).

Zoom link <https://zoom.us/j/97439126450?pwd=eTFTb2xoQT1UFZwM0dXd21kSFh5dz09>

## Meet and Chat with our Interim Minister Rev. Erin Splaine

On Saturday afternoon August 27th, the congregation met outside Fellowship Hall to meet and welcome our new Interim minister, Rev. Erin Splaine.



## 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

- **Finance Committee Meeting** - Tuesday, September 6, 7:00 p.m. Parlor
- **Board of Trustees** - Thursday, September 8, 7:00 p.m. Zoom/Parlor; Email [Diane Jordan](#) for the Zoom Link
- **Deacons** - Tuesday, September 13, 7:00 p.m.
- **Pastoral Care Team Meeting** - Tues., September 13 1:30 p.m. Zoom

## 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 cabinet in the outer vestibule of the Parish House office. Any brand or type of cartridge is fine. Thank you!



## 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.

*Happy*  
**Labor Day**  
*Weekend*

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

Notice

Sent by [office@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:office@oldshipchurch.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!