



First Parish, Hingham
Old Ship Church

Unitarian Universalist
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November 2021 Newsletter

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Deadline for December newsletter: Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2021

**Worship: 10:30 a.m. - Multi-platform:
In-person in our Old Ship Meeting House and
on Zoom**

Zoom link opens at 10:15 a.m.

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

Sunday, Nov. 7

Seems there is ample reason to feel hopeless these days in relation to national and global events – and sometimes our personal situations too may lead us to times of despair, “when hope is hard to find,” as one of our hymns expresses it.

Ken’s sermon, addressing this season of the soul, will be “Why Hope?” Among other resources, Ken will be drawing on the life wisdom of Jane Goodall as expressed her recent book *The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times* (created in collaboration with Douglas Abrams).



Sunday, Nov. 14

Old Ship member Diane Elliott will be preaching on this Sunday. Her sermon title will be “What Questions Should We Be Asking?”. Diane and her husband Rich have been members of Old Ship since 1986, when Diane began her tenure as our Director of Religious Education. She later served as DRE at Arlington Street Church and First Church Belmont. She earned an M.Div. degree from Andover Newton Theological School.

Sunday, Nov. 21 – Old Ship Community Day!

Ken’s sermon, with the approach of Thanksgiving, will be: “Gravy and Gratitude.”

At our service we will kick-off our annual Guest at Your Table program to support the programs of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. And following the service we are invited to put on our work gloves and grab our rakes and tarps for our Community Day workday. (Once again this year, we will, sadly with COVID concerns,, forego our shared pizza lunch and indoor work projects.)

Wednesday, Nov. 24 – 7:00 p.m. – on Zoom
Community Thanksgiving Service

As we have for many decades, Old Ship hosts this annual Thanksgiving service, which is sponsored by the Hingham Hull Religious Leaders Association. We will hear from clergy (of course including Ken) and other leaders from the various faith communities in our two towns; musical offerings , coordinated by our Christopher Nickelson-Mann, will also be offered by several congregations.

Though participants will be in the Meeting House, *the service will be open to the public only on Zoom.* The link will be on our website later this month.

Sunday, Nov. 28

This is the Sunday of the annual pulpit exchange with First Parish in Cohasset. Ken will be preaching at First Parish in Cohasset. Rev. Bob McKetchnie, who is in his sixth year as the minister in Cohasset, will be our preacher at Old Ship. Bob's sermon will be: "I Was Just Being Honest". Could it be that the word "honesty" is so overused that it has lost some of its meaning? Does being "honest" give one license to inflict negative criticism? Today's sermon will examine what to do if you are or have been on the receiving end of negative criticism.



from the minister's desk
Musing

Here in New England we've just had another vivid demonstration of what climate change looks like – or, as some call it, climate chaos. The police chief in Rockland said this was the worst he'd seen in his eleven years as chief;

Cohasset's fire chief agreed, saying the damage was unprecedented, worse than a hurricane. As we know, several towns were out of power for two or three days, schools closed and businesses disrupted. And though hundreds of ancient trees were felled in southeastern Massachusetts, fortunately no lives were lost; we are aware that thousands upon thousands have not been as fortunate this year in the midst of wildfires and floods and storms of unprecedented intensity around the globe.

Are leaders from nations around the world meeting in Glasgow this week for the COP 26 UN Climate Conference paying attention? Surely those from the nations most vulnerable to rising seas, encroaching deserts, and life-threatening heat are paying attention. But what about leaders of the wealthier nations, those who have contributed the most to global warming yet who are

less vulnerable to the effects? Will the siren call of ever-expanding economic growth drown out what has been named in a recent United Nations report a Code Red for humanity? As the co-author of that report, senior climate scientist at the U.S. National Center for Atmospheric Research, Linda Mearns writes: "It's just guaranteed that it's going to get worse. Nowhere to run, nowhere to hide."

All this said, though despair is an understandable response to all this, we must not let despair linger. Our Earth home is still a beautiful place. And we can – we must! – draw spiritual sustenance from a walk in the woods or a glance outside at the stunning reds and golds of the changing leaves during this season of change. Then resolve once again to do our part, however small it might seem, with the knowledge that millions of others, billions of others, are doing their part too, to help and heal this hurting world... and to encourage our political and corporate leaders to pay attention to the alarm and do their part as well.

*Woke up today to
Less green and more gold, more red:
The beauty of now.*

Peace and Blessings,
Ken
cell: 781-635-2060
oldshipkrb@gmail.com

Board of Trustees November Newsletter

During October, the Board of Trustees held two congregation meetings. The purpose of the first meeting was to learn more about why Atlantic Development withdrew from the purchase and sale of the Parish House. The Parish House

Management team explained the decision and participants asked questions to clarify. The Board again thanks the Parish House Management team for the expertise, time and effort they provided for the project.



During the second meeting, we reviewed that information and also discussed reasons and perspectives about selling and reasons and perspectives for not selling the Parish House. Attendance was good at both meetings. There were 50 people in attendance at the first meeting and 39 at the second meeting.

The upcoming meeting of the congregation to vote on selling or not selling the Parish House will be held on Wednesday, November 3, at 7 p.m. in the Parish House with masks and on Zoom. We hope to have good attendance of Old Ship voting members at this important meeting. We continue to look for ways to improve our technology systems so we can offer multi-platform meetings which are as equivalent as possible.

Since we are holding a congregation wide meeting on Wednesday, November 3, we have rescheduled the November Board meeting to November 10.

Davalene Cooper will attend as the chair of the Social Justice Council and Kate Doyle will be at the meeting as the chair of the Religious Education Committee. These chairpersons will discuss committee goals and challenges for the year.

We look forward to our gathering together as a community while we prepare for the holidays and Merrie Market.

All the best,
Ginny Perelson
President, Old Ship Board of Trustees
she/her/hers



Nurturing Community

Among Us

We extend healing thoughts and prayers to Alec Macmillian. Alec had a fall related to a mild stroke and slow heart rate. After receiving a pacemaker at Mass General, he is now at

home with Sunny for continued healing and rehab.

We send healing thoughts and prayers to Jim Robinson who is recovering from hip replacement surgery which took place at Milton Hospital, following a fall and hip fracture.

Beth Lilly has moved to Pennsylvania to be near her children and grandchildren. Beth and her then young family came to Hingham and to Old Ship in the early 1980s and have been active members for all these years, contributing in innumerable ways to the health and vitality of our congregation. We will miss her in person, but hope to see her on Zoom screens and for the occasional visit for many years to come.

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](#)

[Catherine Mayes](#)

[Carol Valentine](#)

[Joan Wilson](#)

[Ken Read-Brown](#)

Musical Notes

Dear Old Ship,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm writing this month with exciting news: after many many months of waiting, we are beginning to phase back in the Old Ship Choir. Considering the current state of the pandemic in our area, we feel that this can be done safely; the well-being of our choir members and congregation remains a priority. In the coming weeks when the choir returns, you won't see them in their regular spot downstairs, they will be moved upstairs to the balcony where adequate spacing is easier. I'm sure many of you are eager to hear the voices of the Old Ship Choir resounding in the Meeting House once again. I hope this step forward will lift the spirits of many.



In order for choir members to participate in person on Sunday mornings, they are expected to be vaccinated, wear a well-fitting mask, and maintain appropriate distancing when singing. If you are interested in singing with the choir and haven't been added to the choir email list, please let me know. People on this list receive important updates and announcements regarding rehearsals, scheduling, and any other important information pertaining to the choir.

I hope this autumn is treating you well! Please take care and keep singing.

Musically Yours,
Christopher

WISDOM OF THE POETS;

A note from Elizabeth Torrey and Ken Read-Brown

This month's excerpt is from the poem "If you Knew" by Ellen Bass (born 1947).

"What if you knew you'd be the last
to touch someone?
If you were taking tickets, for example,
at the theatre, tearing them,
giving back the ragged stubs,
you might take care to touch that palm,
brush your fingertips
along the life line's crease."



Be sure to read the entire poem; it's available on line.
Responses are welcome (elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com)

Children's Religious Education

Nursery care for the very young is provided each week in the Parish House nursery.

Sunday morning programs:

All programs are in person, and will begin with attendance for the first part of the worship service at 10:25 am in the Meeting House:

- Faithful Journeys (Kindergarten - Grade 5)
- Neighboring Faiths / Building Bridges (Grades 6-7)
- Youth Group (Grades 8-12)
- Father Bill's Lunch Making - 4th Sunday of each month (all ages)
- Celebrations (all ages)



Other programs

- Coming of Age (Grades 8-10) - This is a family favorite and important class for this age group.
- Interim Work with Deb Weiner, Transitional Religious Education Consultant

Please [register for the 2021-2022 year at oldshipchurch.org](https://oldshipchurch.org)

Religious Education Coordinator

We are intending to hire a 10 hour per week religious education coordinator for the year. If you or anyone you know might be interested, please let us know!

For more information

Please see Breeze

(oldshipchurch.breezechms.com), oldshipchurch.org, upcoming emails or email dre@oldshipchurch.org. Thank you!

Bikes Not Bombs

Bike Drive

Bicycle Parts and Gear Too!

Sunday, November 7

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m

Parish House.

The Old Ship youth group is hosting a regional donation location for the fantastic Boston based organization, [Bikes Not Bombs](https://bikesnotbombs.org/) with local and world wide impact.

You can find more info here: <https://bikesnotbombs.org/>

Donate your used bikes and/or bike parts, tools and cycling accessories (ie., helmets, lights, pumps, locks) to Bikes not Bombs: a terrific organization located in Boston, MA that will put them all to great use

Also, spread the word to your neighbors and friends as they may want to participate as well!



Making lunches for Father Bill's Place again!

The children and youth in our Children's Religious Education & Youth programs are back [making lunches](#) for Father's Bill's Place in Quincy. There is an even more urgent need during the COVID-19 crisis. All of Father Bill's on-site volunteer activities have been suspended, but Father Bill's & Main Spring continues to rely on volunteers who give their time and talents off-site to help meet the needs of those they serve. Bagged lunches are needed at their emergency shelters for individuals and families. We have signed up to make them every fourth Sunday of each month through May. We attend the first part of the worship service at 10:25 am in the Meeting House, then we head to the Parish House to make lunches! All are welcome!



Life Learning Offerings

click here to see our [2021-2022 Life Learning brochure](#)

Ongoing groups and gatherings
click here to see our [2021-2022 Life Learning brochure](#)



Ceilidh! – Gathers on the first Tuesday of each month. So our next monthly song/poem circle will be on Tuesday evening, November 2, at 7:00 p.m. Given the particular danger of virus spread through singing, we will once again gather on Zoom. Email [Ken](#) with any questions about Ceilidh or for the Zoom link to attend: oldshipkrb@gmail.com.

Bodhisattva Study Group – Continues to gather each Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m., for the time being still on Zoom. On the first and third Sundays of each month, Ken Read-Brown leads the group through meditation and conversation as we continue to read from Pema Chodron's book "Welcoming the Unwelcome." On alternate Sundays members of the group lead the conversation based a different reading each week. All are welcome. For questions and for the Zoom links, email [Ken](#) at oldshipkrb@gmail.com.

Men's Breakfast – Meets on the second Sunday morning of each month – our next gathering will be November 14. Contact [Ralph Brown](#) or [Rich Elliott](#) for information and, since we are meeting for the time being still on Zoom, for the link.

Women's Breakfast and Conversation—Meets on the *fourth* Sunday morning of each month in person and Zoom. The next meeting is this

Sunday, November 28th as usual from 8:30 a.m. -10:15 a.m. Open to all the women of the church. If you would like to attend, you may [click here](#) for the Zoom link or send an email to [Janice McPhillips](#) and she will send you the Zoom invitation for the October's meeting. We gather in the parlor to share our lives and enjoy one another's company. Conversations are confidential and, again, all are welcome!

Sacred Texts Meditation Group – 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. Email [Ken Read-Brown](#) for information and to be added to the email list and to receive the Zoom link for our gatherings on November 11 and 18 (third Thursday this month because of the Thanksgiving holiday).

Life Learning Class in November

From Age-ing to Sage-ing

two Saturday mornings (multi-platform), 10:00 - 1:00, Nov. 6 and 20
led by Ken Read-Brown

These sessions will be based on the book by the same title by Zalman Schachter-Shalomi and Ronald Miller - but you don't have to read the book to attend. Can we re-vision the later chapter of our lives as a period of continued spiritual growth, filled with meaning for ourselves and those around us? Can we discover that who we are is as important or more important than what we do? Contact [Ken](#) for more information, to sign up, and for the Zoom link.

Old Ship Wreath Sales

The wreath-makers of Old Ship will be selling wreaths in the parking lot and garage of the Parish Hall beginning on November 20--November 24 (unless we sell out). **Decorated Door Wreaths** with natural decorations = \$50.00 and are topped by a big bow. They are ready to be hung and will last until Spring - with a little spritzing. **Large, decorated, wreaths** for balconies or the sides of houses, garages, sheds, barns, are fewer but available. If you want to pay in advance and order, one for sure, contact [Pat Bianco](#) - 617-774-7474. Large Wreaths are \$100.00 and will also be available soon after the 20th. **ADDITIONALLY**, There are 4 available **Memorial Wreaths** that will hang in or on Old Ship for the holidays in honor of current celebrations or in memory of loved ones. Please contact Pat Bianco to purchase one of these, pay, and send a sentence stating the person(s) to whom the wreath is dedicated. The sentence, donor and recipient of each wreath will be in each Sunday's Order of Service for December. Memorial wreaths are \$100 apiece. The tradition of wreath making and selling at Old Ship goes back years. Wreaths are hand-made and no two are alike. They are all natural. .



Merrie Market season is upon us!
Saturday, December 4, 2021, 9AM-2PM

Merrie Market is the major fundraising event for our Old Ship Community. There are many ways for all ages to get involved. Many elves make the festive day a success. Please sign up to help by contacting [Trish McAleer](#) 781-738-9493, or [Diane Jordan](#) 617-308-7179. As a reminder, we **will not** have the Toy Room or Book Room this year.



Bring us Your Treasures! (We need volunteers to price precious objects before Merrie Market and work the day of please!)

Those lovely previously-loved items that are in the back of your cupboard or deep in a drawer are worth GOLD at Old Ship's Treasures Table! Bring in your beautiful no longer needed treasures; silver, china, jewelry, antiques, housewares, linens and Christmas items. **No** clothes, computers, TVs, or electronics. Contact [Diane Jordan](#) 617-308-7179 or [Trish McAleer](#) 781-738-9493 to arrange drop off or pick up times.

Gift Baskets are easy and fun! We have the baskets and you provide the contents. Just think of a theme (gardening, crafts, pet, children's, artist, cooking, hostess, chocolate lovers, energy saver, etc.). Be creative! We've found that people are not willing to spend more than \$35 for a gift basket, so try to spend less than that for the basket contents. We arrange the contents, wrap the basket in cellophane, & decorate it in holiday finery. Please bring your bagged and labeled contents to the Parish House by Wednesday, November 24. Any questions please contact [Sharon Prehn](#) 781-925-0101.

Wreaths need decorating. Have any interesting pods, pine cones or shells? Bring your finds to the Parish House by November 14th. Any questions please contact [Pat Bianco](#) at 617-774-7474.

Silent Auction items needed. Can you offer your talents and special items to the auction? We need invites for sailing trips and weekend stays, photos, paintings, beautifully crafted items, special antiques, unique finds from your travels. Contact [Carol Valentine](#) or [Nina Wellford](#) 781-223-3410.

Bake Table offers a variety of homemade delights and would love to feature something from your kitchen. Cookies, pies, candies, breads, jams, scones, cakes are always popular. All items (packaged and labeled) need to be delivered to the Parish House on Friday, December 3rd before 7:30PM or before 8AM on Saturday, December 4th. Contact [Diane Jordan](#) 617-308-7179 or [Trish McAleer](#) 781-738-9493.

Craft Table will have unique handcrafted items made by Old Ship's crafty crafters. Start your shopping early!

Takeaway Jingle Bell Café will be open for takeout only. Cooks are needed to make various food items from recipes we will provide. Also, sign up to help in the kitchen. Contacts are [Janet Asnes](#) 781-878-9886 and Alicia Harkness 781-749-7825

Money Managers - We'd like to train a small group of trusty money handlers to work our major fundraisers - to use the Square for credit cards, refill cash boxes, and count lots of beans! Please talk to [Nina Wellford](#) 781-223-3410 if you'd like to learn the system.

Set up for Merrie Market will start Sunday, November 28. Strong bodies are needed to bring boxes down from the 2nd floor. We'll need volunteers to sign up to work shifts at the various tables. We will also need folks to help with the clean up on both Saturday after the Market, and on Sunday, December 5. To sign up contact [Diane Jordan](#) 617-308-7179 or [Trish McAleer](#) 781-738-9493.

Merrie Market is a great way to get involved, get to know friends, and have fun! If you haven't been an elf before, join us! Just ask any of the elves above, we know it's the most fun time of the year!



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

Upcoming Committee Meetings

- **Finance Committee Meeting** - Tuesday, November 2, 7:00 p.m.
- **Special Parish Meeting** - Wednesday, November 3, 7:00 p.m.
- **Worship and Music Committee** - Thursday, November 4, 4:45 p.m.
- **Board of Trustees** - Wednesday, November 10, 7:00 p.m.
- **Welcoming Congregation Committee for the 21st Century** - Tuesday, November 16, 7:00 p.m.

Serving Others

News from the Social Justice Council (SJC)

November Special Plate Collection — This month, we are supporting Free., which is an ongoing ministry offered by St. John the Evangelist in Hingham, MA. The mission of Free. is to provide menstrual hygiene products to anyone in need. Products to support this biological function are an added expense placed on many who are already financially insecure. These products are not covered by benefits. This gap in need and coverage imposes yet another barrier to equity in education and employment as many are forced to miss school or work during their period. Donations can be made on our Old Ship website using the drop down donation menu. Additionally, the plate offering at the November 14 service in the Meeting House will be given to Free..

We will update the congregation on the results of our October special plate for IINE's Afghan resettlement program in the December newsletter.



Opportunity for Holiday Shopping and Supporting Artists of Color –The SJC invites you to an (on-line) Arts and Crafts Fair to support artists of color in this difficult Covid year and jump start your holiday shopping for unique gifts. The UUUM (Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry), the social justice organization based in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston, works to support Artists of Color in their area through their Artist Amplification Project. Demonstrating the Urban Ministry's commitment to support and strengthen Roxbury commerce in meaningful ways, addressing economic and racial justice, they developed an online Artist Directory, featuring 24 artists and their work. Each artist has works for sale, through their own websites or through ETSY (the e-commerce platform for artisans and small businesses).

You can shop online through the 2021 Artists of Color Directory, at [7b9fdf_5a02df9a697648f090303a9ec543b644.pdf\(filesusr.com\)](https://filesusr.com/7b9fdf_5a02df9a697648f090303a9ec543b644.pdf). Help support these amazing artists by purchasing a creative piece of jewelry, pottery, poetry, children's books, paintings, textiles, clothing, or other art.

UUSC Guest at Your Table is Coming November 21— Our annual Guest at Your Table (GAYT) Program will begin later this month. The theme of this year's program is "Now is the Time for Courageous Change." The goal of a world free from oppression, where all can realize their full human rights, is a big task! We need big ideas and bold change so we can fundamentally transform our world. Throughout GAYT, we will explore how UUSC is doing this work with its partners in ways that change the world. You can learn more about this year's guests from the Stories of Hope booklet, which can be accessed at [Stories-of-Hope-2021-2022.pdf \(uusc.org\)](https://uusc.org/Stories-of-Hope-2021-2022.pdf).

We were grateful to host UUSC President Rev, Mary Katherine Morn as our guest preacher in October at Old Ship. She invited all of us to become members of UUSC. Membership dues are as low as \$40 a year. For information about membership, go to [Membership & Benefits - Unitarian Universalist Service Committee \(uusc.org\)](https://uusc.org/Membership-Benefits-Unitarian-Universalist-Service-Committee).

Hingham Food Pantry — We are collecting non-perishable, unopened, and unexpired food for the Hingham Food Pantry as part of our Sunday morning worship service. There is a basket in the vestibule for donations. Donations may also be left in the bins in the vestibule of the Parish House (front door) anytime the office is open. ***Donations may also be made at the Hingham Stop and Shop (large bin at the front of the store).*** Although all donations are appreciated, the food pantry reports that the following items are most needed at this time: rice side dishes, canned fruit, cookies, granola or cereal bars, and 1 or 2 pound bags of sugar (larger sizes are not needed). The food pantry is especially grateful for the support of the community since the start of the pandemic and the support from Old Ship members and friends. Checks to support the food pantry can be sent to Hingham Food Pantry, 685 Main St., Hingham, MA 02043.

Local South Shore Group Forming to Assist in Afghan Evacuee Resettlement — A group of individuals on the South Shore are forming to help to resettle Afghan evacuees. They would like to do this locally, if possible. They are at the beginning of their work and would love to have anyone interested from Old Ship to join them. At present, they are gathering the information they need to engage in this work. Anyone who is interested in joining them should

contact [Ann McCarthy-Egan](#). There will be a meeting of this group at the Hingham Public Library on Monday, November 15, at 7 p.m. for anyone interested in helping with this project.

Anti-Racism "Drop-In" Book Group— We will next meet on Sunday, November 21, on Zoom, at 7 p.m. to finish our discussion of *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019*, edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain. Although we will be discussing the second half of the book, Parts 7-10, everyone is free to attend even if you were not at the October meeting. Here is the Zoom link for the meeting, <https://zoom.us/j/92841925395>. For more information, contact [Davalene Cooper](#). This group is open to all who are interested in learning more about racism and its impact on our nation, past and present. It is a drop-in group so members may attend whatever book discussions they are most interested in.

Father Bill's Cooking Teams— This month, we would like to thank our six Father Bill's cooking teams. Each group prepares four meals a year for those who are served by Father Bill's in Quincy. Prior to COVID 19, the groups also served the meal, a practice they hope to return to in a post-Covid world! Thank you all for this important service to our community!

- Team 1: Charlotte Champagne (team leader), Mary Petrino, Jocelyn Burke, Bob Casey, Kathy Lynch, and Kevin Mulvey & Bruce Mauer.
- Team 2: Sharon Prehn (team leader), Nina Wellford, Erica Goode, Carolyn Locke, Judy Sneath, Mary Markel & David Murphy, and Elizabeth Morse.
- Team 3: Peggy Weymouth (team leader), Nancy Hills, Ronnie Scott, Charlie Woodard, Julie Kembel, Avis Goldstein, Stephanie Connolly, and Kathi Lesko.
- Team 4: Dave Petrie (team leader), Mid Walsh, Brenda Black & Ron Pollara, Paul Stone, Stewart Lewack, Libby Benson, and Frank Cheney.
- Team 5: Janice McPhillips (team leader), Janet Blampied, Susan Read-Brown, Roseanne Bush, Caryn Schneider, and Diane Clarke.
- Team 6: Pia Young and Lisa Sawyer (team leaders), Allan Greenberg, Connie Hill, Fan Leonard, and Davalene Cooper.

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/advocacy events with local legislators. Send your email address to [Davalene Cooper](#), Keeper of the List.

Looking for Old Ship Elves!!

Old Ship is adopting 10 families without permanent housing for the holidays—and we need your help! This year, due to COVID, the Friends of the Homeless of the South Shore (FHSS) are not able to have their holiday party, which is usually prepared, served, and hosted by us at Old Ship. Additionally, we have not been able to participate in the Gifts for Kids in Foster Care for the past two years. So given these facts, we have decided this year to participate in FHSS's



Christmas Gift Program. We are adopting 10 families, which means we will purchase gifts for the children and parents in ten families who are currently living in shelters. This is our opportunity to make the holidays more special for those in need, and perhaps, even more special for those of us who participate! There will be a meeting of this group at the Hingham Public Library on Monday, November 15, at 7 p.m. for anyone interested in helping with this project.

Welcoming Congregation Committee for the 21st Century –We’re Back!

Do you have questions about all those acronyms or what about those pronouns? Do you want to learn more about gender, sexual orientation, transsexuality, non-binary, or have other questions concerning LGBTQ+/TGQNB¹? The Welcoming Congregation Committee is back, and we plan to have our monthly meeting include a topic for discussion.

Our next meeting will be November 16. Come join us in person or via Zoom. This meeting will be a general discussion of some of the [attached](#) topics. Details to follow in the Old Ship Weekly Update email. New members welcome. Help us with our renewal requirements.

You may email [Abby Diamond-Kissiday](#) with any questions.

Holiday Shopping and Amazon Smile:

Have you started your holiday shopping? Are you shopping on Amazon? Please shop at 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 to support your favorite charity.



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