

# First Parish, Hingham Old Ship Church

Unitarian Universalist 14 Main Street Hingham, MA 02043 (781) 749-1679

office@oldshipchurch.org www.oldshipchurch.org

# **Summer 2023 Newsletter**

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Deadline for September newsletter: Monday, August 21, 2023

# **Summer Worship**

Click here to join worship on Zoom @ 10:30 a.m. on Sundays!

#### **Summer Services in July and August**

On July 2nd, summer services will begin. Services start at 10:30 a.m. and will be in person in the Meeting house as well as on Zoom. Each service is hosted by the Worship and Music Committee and a guest speaker. The Zoom link is our usual Sunday worship link



If you have a joy, sorrow, or concern you would like to share at any of the summer services, please email our Worship and Music Committee co-chair Karen Churchill or text Karen at 781-812-5518

If you would like to be a speaker there are dates available. Don't be shy and let your voice be heard.

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

July 2 - Karen Churchill

July 9 - Ellie Handleman

July 16 - Diane and Rich Elliott

July 23 - Elizabeth Torrey - Poetry

July 31 - TBA

August speakers will be Tom Zarle, Pat Bianco and more to be announced! We look forward to sharing with you all summer long.

# Message from the Board of Trustees

As we end one church year and begin the next, your Board of Trustees is planning a busy summer. Here are some highlights of the past month and what to look for this summer.

#### **Congregation Conversation**

We had a robust turnout at our June 19th Congregational Conversation focusing on the Interim Minister's Report. We appreciated hearing the diverse

points of view and the willingness to listen and dialogue on these important topics. To allow for additional participation, the Board will be offering a daytime opportunity for a second discussion. Please check your email for more information.

#### **Ministry Update**

In July, we will officially say goodbye to our Interim Minister Rev. Erin Splaine. Rev. Erin has provided us with a fresh perspective, valuable insights and left us with a lot to think about. We wish her much success next year as she moves just down the road to First Parish Scituate. In August, Rev. Edmund Robinson will start his ministry with us. Per his contract, Rev. Robinson will work in the following areas; planning and conducting Sunday services and some special services (i.e. Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, vespers), delivering sermons, coordinating with our Music Director, attending our Board meetings and advising us on governance. Rev. Robinson will also attend meetings with the Committees on Ministry, Pastoral Care, and Worship and Music and teach an adult learning class (on a mutually agreed upon topic). Additionally, as a trained Interim Minister, Rev. Robinson will do some interim work with us as determined by the Board. We very much look forward to working with Rev Robinson in the next year

#### **Old Ship Priorities Survey is Coming**

This summer, as we look to broaden participation, the Board will be sending out an Old Ship Priorities Survey will ask members to identify the areas YOU feel should be focused on at Old Ship next year. Which areas of our congregational life do you feel are most important? All voices are essential. Your participation in this survey is greatly needed and appreciated!



Ending

**Beginning** 

#### **Summer Services**

This year's lay-led summer services will happening in the Meeting House. We hope you will attend and stay connected. But as summer is a time to relax and refresh, whether you are on the beach, in the woods, your yard or walking down a city street, we hope that you will find the time and space to slow down and enjoy.

#### **Pastoral Care Needs During the Summer**

The Pastoral Care Leadership Team will not be meeting again until September 19th. If you have a pastoral concern



or need help, please contact any member of the Pastoral Care Leadership Team listed below. We will do our best to assist you. Best wishes for a happy and healthy summer!

**Ralph Brown** 

Liz Flint 508-560-1572

**Elaine Gomez** 

**Fan Leonard** 781-749-2852

**Claire Petrie** 

Joan Wilson 617-947-4664

Patience Gardner 781-974-5078

Louise Smith 781-690-1163

Erin Splaine (until July 31st) 781-749-1679

Edmund Robinson (start August 1st) 781-749-1679

#### **Looking for housing**

One of our congregants is seeking a reasonably priced one bedroom or studio apartment for himself. Please contact <u>Lisa</u> in the office for his contact information if you or someone you know might have something available.







# Old Ship Church members at UUGA

Your Old Ship banner was displayed proudly this year at the General Assembly conference in Pittsburgh. Our attendees are headed home after a very successful and inspiring week. We can't wait to share with you what we've learned!



#### WISDOM OF THE POETS

Elizabeth Torrey

SUMMER MEDITATION by

Robert T. Weston

Now blows the wind with soft, relaxing warmth.

The sun beats down. The schools are out.

Children swarm in playgrounds and streets.

Folks vacation-bound crowd broad highways. Lakes and seashores lost their solitude. All the world seems turned to carnival.

What of ourselves? There could be now deep peace, a time for soul-searching. We might turn to examine our own lives, to sort and probe our tendencies of thought. To sift the true from false in the things of doubt, The beautiful from ugliness unmarked.

The sun beats down; it is a time for pause, Even the trees seem resting for a time as if to meditate and gather strength for the more strenuous times that lie ahead.

And shall not we? Here's the unfinished clay, half-moulded, that still waits on us
To think what we have been and as we are
Still yet have to become

**HUMMINGBIRD** by Raymond Carver

for Tess

Suppose I say summer, write the word "hummingbird", put it in an envelope, take it down the hill to the box. When you open my letter you will recall those days and how much, just how much, I love you.



Wishing everyone moments of laughter, connectedness, and

peace this summer.

elizabeth (elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com)

# **Children's Religious Education**

Sunday School classes have ended for the church year. All ages are welcome to attend and participate in our Sunday Services.



Please reach out to Maureen Butler with any questions 617-877-5204

# **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 – Every Sunday morning,

8:30 AM. Zoom only. Twenty minutes of sitting meditation followed by discussion of a Buddhist or related text, facilitated by Catherine Mayes. Currently we are reading Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind by Shunryu Suzuki. For questions and Zoom link, email <u>Lisa Sawyer</u>.

**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 on September 10th. Contact <u>Ralph Brown</u> or <u>Rich Elliott</u> for information and, if we are still meeting on Zoom, for the link.

#### **Sacred Texts Meditation Group**

Next gatherings: Thursdays, July 13th, August 10th and August 24th 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., Zoom

Second and fourth Thursday afternoons

Each session will have a reading, a 15-minute meditation, and exploration of one chapter from the Tao Te Ching, including its meaning to each of us, as well as related writings, poetry or art. Newcomers are welcome. Gatherings will be Zoom only. For information and the Zoom link, contact Rich Elliott.

**Ceilidh!** – Gathers on the first Tuesday of each month. This means our next monthly song/poem circle will be on Tuesday evening, **July 4th**, at 7:00 p.m. We are currently planning to gather in the 14 Main St Parlor as well as on Zoom. Please email **Eric Cornetta** with any questions about Ceilidh.

The zoom link is https://zoom.us/j/92888235659? pwd=M3NEcVNibjdqM1RvUHhTUm9aN21Edz09

# Fiber Funship

During the summer months, Fiber Funship will meet Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. at members' homes. Hopefully outdoors! No crafting is required. For info contact Diane Elliot or Carol Valentine.

#### Fellowship Hour & Snacks:

Fellowship Hour will be held outside the Meeting House (weather permitting). People are asked to bring some type of finger or toothpick food that can be placed on a napkin is best. We don't have volunteers to hand wash dishes and are going to keep things simple. Please leave your food item on the table outside the Meeting House ready to go. Food can be left in it's box or served on a paper plate. Thanks everyone.

# Welcoming Congregation Wednesday, June 28, 7:00 P.M.

**Zoom for Welcoming Congregation** 

Welcoming Congregation Discussion
This is the last one for this church year, so it will
be open to all topics. We might discuss - Pride,
anti-LGBTQ+ laws around the US, plans for the
summer, what you'd like to see in the next



social

church year, etc. Don't let this open discussion time pass you by without chiming in.

# **Serving Others**

**News from the Social Justice Council (SJC)** 

Our Next Meeting is Sunday, August 6, 2023. We will be gathering in person for a potluck and to plan our work for the coming church year. Please contact Davalene Cooper at <a href="mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net">davalenecooper@verizon.net</a> if you would like to attend and be part of our planning process. All are welcome to join us in our work in creating a more just world!



Donations for the Hingham Food Pantry — During the summer months, the need for food for those served by the Hingham Food Pantry continues. Donations may 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: Crackers, Canned Beef Stew, Instant Mashed or Scalloped Potatoes, Rice Side Dishes, Cookie

Baking Mixes, 1 lb or 2 lb Granulated Sugars, Ketchup, Cheese or Peanut Butter Cracker Sandwiches, and Granola Bars. Checks to support the food pantry also are appreciated (for every \$1 donated, the food pantry can purchase about \$3 of food from the Greater Boston Food Bank). If you are interested in donating, please send a check to: Hingham Food Pantry 685 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043.

**Special Plate Updates:** We have completed our special plate collections for the church year; special plates will resume in October. Thanks to everyone who supported our special plate recipients this past year. In May, we donated \$830.51 to Holly Hill Farms Farm to Pantry Program. We appreciate the congregation's support of the special plate program during this past church year! Thank you.



# 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**

 Board of Trustees - Thursday, July 6, 7:00 p.m. Zoom/Parlor; Agenda will follow.

Click here for the Zoom Link / Click here for the agenda

- Deacon's Meeting Thursday, July 6, 7:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee Meeting Tuesday, July 18, 6:00 p.m.14 Main Parlor

Contact Lisa for links or information about these meetings.

#### Summer (July & August) Office Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Office is Closed on: Tuesday, July 4th Tuesday, July 18



#### **Printer Cartridge Collection**

Please bring your used printer cartridges to the Parish House and help raise funds for our office supplies. In 2022 we were able to convert used cartridges into almost \$500 of office supplies! Drop off your cartridges at 14 Main Street office. Any brand or type of cartridge is fine. Thank you





# Happy Summer from your friends at Old Ship Church!

First Parish, Old Ship Church | 14 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043

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