Ceilidh (“kay-lee”)
First Tuesday evenings, 7:00 p.m.
Sharing of songs, stories, poems, and an old-fashioned good time. Bring an instrument or just bring yourself to listen and maybe sing along. Everyone is welcome. Come anytime between 7 and 9:30. We hope that gatherings will be in person; a Zoom option will also be available. For information, contact Ken.

Fiber Funship
Joan Wilson, Diane Elliott
Occasional gatherings
We gather to sew, craft, knit and enjoy each others’ company. Our goal is to make items to sell at Merrie Market and May Breakfast, and we have lots of fun and good conversation as we work together. New members and new project ideas are always welcome. For information, contact Diane or Joan.

Sacred Texts Meditation Group
Ken Read-Brown
Second and fourth Thursday afternoons, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Each gathering includes time for meditation and conversation based on ideas and readings in ancient scriptures. We will read a variety of texts this year, beginning each session from an anthology of sacred texts titled God Makes the Rivers to Flow, ed. Eknath Easwaran. Newcomers are welcome. Gatherings will include a Zoom option. For information, contact Ken.

Gender in the 21st Century
Abby Diamond-Kissiday
Five Tuesdays, Oct. 5 – Nov. 2, 7:00 p.m.
What are current understandings of gender? What is gender? What are all these pronouns about? How does the history of oppression impact us today? What do youth and parents have to say about gender roles/identity? How can our First Parish Old Ship Church be a Beloved Community? Some of our resources and topics come from the “Transgender Inclusion within Congregations” (TIC), a six-part video series available to all participants. For information, contact Abby.

UUs Reading the Bible
Ken Read-Brown
Two Saturdays, Oct. 23, Oct. 30, 10:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Session one will focus on the Hebrew scriptures (what Christians call the Old Testament), and session two will focus on the Gospels. These workshops are designed to help us read these ancient texts with fresh eyes and minds open to fresh meanings for our lives. For information, contact Ken.

From Age-ing to Sage-ing
Ken Read-Brown
Two Saturdays, Nov. 6, Nov. 13, 10:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.
These sessions will be based on the book by the same title by Zalman Schachter-Shalomi and Ronald Miller. 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? For information, contact Ken.
The Bhagavad Gita  
Ken Read-Brown
Six Wednesdays, Jan. 5 – Feb. 9, 1:00 in person, 7:00, Zoom
This classic Hindu text has influenced and inspired millions – including our minister. The many layers of meaning include resources that can help us plumb the meanings of our lives and plot the directions of our lives. A companion book for the class is The Great Work of Your Life: A Guide for The Journey to Your True Calling, by Stephen Cope. For information, contact Ken.

So You Want to Meditate  
Ken Read-Brown
Saturday, Jan. 8, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Whether you are a long-time meditator or wish to begin, this gathering will offer instruction in mindfulness meditation and in Eknath Easwaran's passage meditation. There will be time for questions and conversation, and time to meditate. We are living in tumultuous times – all the more reason to live from a deeper place. In person and on Zoom. For information, contact Ken.

Facing Death With Life  
Rich Elliott, Claire Petrie, Ken Read-Brown
Six Wednesdays, Feb. 23 – March 30, 7:00 p.m., Zoom
Despite the presence of death, dying and grief in our lives, we avoid speaking of it directly. This class will facilitate a process of personal reflection, learning, and spiritual growth focused on topics relating to death and dying. We will invite participants to experience death and dying as a natural part of life. For information, contact Rich, Claire or Ken.

Spring Poetry: Old Ship Retrospective  
Elizabeth Torrey 
Ken Read-Brown
Six Wednesdays, April 6 – May 4, May 18, 3:30 p.m., Zoom
Our annual spring poetry class will celebrate National Poetry Month by sharing favorite poems from Old Ship poetry classes since the first class in 2004: From Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost and Langston Hughes, to Joy Harjo, Naomi Shihab Nye, Gary Snyder, Mary Oliver, and many others. All are welcome, whether or not you attended a Spring Poetry class. For information, contact Elizabeth or Ken.

Midsummer Night's Dream — For Us!  
Pat Bianco
Sometime in the Spring
Sometime in the spring Pat will lead interested folks in a reading of excerpts from one of the most delightful of Shakespeare's plays. No thespian experience necessary! Watch the newsletter for the date.

Crossing Time Poetry Circles  
Elizabeth Torrey
At turnings of fall, winter and spring; Sep. 21, Dec. 21, March 19, 7 p.m.
We begin our 25th 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 re-inforce 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  
Ken Read-Brown
Every Sunday morning, 8:30 a.m.
Half an hour of sitting meditation, followed by an hour of conversation based on a Buddhist text. This year, Ken will lead the group on the first and third Sundays as we read a Buddhist text together; we’ll begin with chapters from Welcoming the Unwelcome by Pema Chodron. On other Sundays, led by group members, a variety of brief Buddhist quotes will be the basis for conversation. Newcomers welcome – no previous experience needed. For information, contact Ken.

Men's Breakfast  
Ralph Brown, Rich Elliott
Second Sunday mornings, 8:30 a.m.
An ongoing opportunity for men to get together in a safe, nurturing environment to speak freely and listen deeply to each other as a form of spiritual practice. We also seek to have fun together and rekindle our playful souls. For information, contact Ralph Brown or Rich Elliott.

Women's Breakfast  
Davalene Cooper, Janice McPhillips
Fourth Sunday mornings, 8:30 a.m.
Meeting monthly via Zoom, these virtual meetings are open to all Old Ship women. They give us an opportunity to get to know each other better. We are looking forward to seeing you! For information, contact Davalene Cooper or Janice McPhillips.

Anti-Racism Book Group  
Davalene Cooper
Sundays, monthly, starting Sep. 20, 7:00 p.m.
Each month, a volunteer will choose the book and lead the discussion focusing on racism and/or white supremacy. People can come when they wish or when they are most interested in the book being discussed. The first two books this year are The Vanishing Half, by Brit Bennett, and Four Hundred Souls, edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain. For information, to sign up to host a session, or to be added to the email list, contact Davalene.