



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)

## December 2022 Newsletter

### Merrie Market Saturday, December 3rd!

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

*Deadline for January's newsletter: Tuesday, December 20, 2022*

**Worship: 10:30 a.m.**  
**Multi-Platform:**  
**Join us in-person in the Meeting**  
**House**  
**or on Zoom**



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

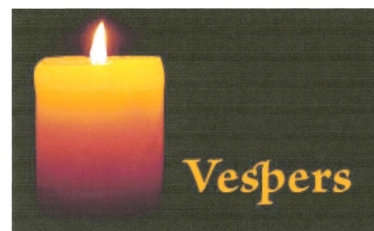
Zoom link opens at 10:15 a.m.

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

### **Seasonal Vespers – Wednesdays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and 14, 6:00 p.m.**

We are invited to gather for just over half an hour in the Meeting House (or to attend on Zoom) for our annual Vespers services. During this sometimes hectic season, we can share a time of quiet, readings, and music in a gently lit Meeting House. Here is the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89570050479>



*VESPERS AT OLD SHIP*

107 main street  
Hingham, Ma.  
6:00 Wednesdays  
Nov 30  
Dec 7, 14th

Imagine stepping  
back into 1681. A  
candlelit U.U.  
church, vaulting  
timbers hundreds  
of years old, and a  
half hour of  
listening and being.

We hear words of  
peace and comfort,  
music that lifts us,  
and silences that  
invite our inner  
thoughts as we  
listen to the  
settling of this

ancient Meeting  
house.  
Join us for this time  
of self refreshment.  
All are welcome at  
Old Ship - 1st  
Parish, Hingham

**Christmas Eve Service,**

**Saturday December 24th 5:00 p.m.**

As in past years, Old Ship's Christmas Eve service will continue the beloved tradition not only for those of us who regularly worship here, but for many others in the wider community. All are warmly welcomed to our beloved Old Ship Meeting House for traditional carols, readings both traditional and not so traditional led by Erin - as well as beautiful music from Christopher and the Choir.



The Meeting House fills early; wise ones plan to arrive before 4:30.

### A Note from Erin

Joseph Campbell wrote that, "we must let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us." Waiting is our worship theme for the month. Here are some questions I'm thinking about as I prep for the month ahead perhaps they resonate with you:



What are you waiting for? The future? The next moment?  
Every stage of life seems to require/offer a different kind (skill set) of waiting . .  
What kind of waiting is required of you – at this time in your life?  
Waiting has a poor reputation. We like fast, instant, efficient.  
Is waiting truly passive? Or is it active?  
How is waiting our teacher? What fruits does waiting bear?  
Patience? Restoration? Hope?  
What are you waiting for? What is worth waiting for?  
How does waiting enhance your ability to be present in your own life?  
What time is it? For you – right now?  
It is time (to) \_\_\_\_\_  
It is time(for)\_\_\_\_\_

Peace,  
Erin

### Old Ship Board of Trustees December President's Newsletter

As December moves in to our lives and before the calendar turns to 2023, I'm taking time to think about all the major milestone moments that this year has brought to my life. Many milestone events happened in my little family of 3 bringing joy, mixed with a few mostly joyful tears. My extended family and friends have also shared in these joyous moments. I'm so happy to have them all in my life.



And here, with my Old Ship family, I've also shared in many moments of joy,

mixed with those personal "candles" of sorrows and concerns, sometimes in the Meeting House, sometimes in my home. I see us a family here at Old Ship - we care for and about each other, we feed each other literally and spiritually, sometimes we are in agreement with each other and sometimes we are not.

Through the ups and downs of this year, my hope for my Old Ship family, is that we reflect on what brought us here, what we found, and why we stayed. For me, it was the RE program, and seeking spiritual nourishment and community. The desire to be helpful here and elsewhere. To grow and learn. To be with people involved with and caring about social justice and awareness in our world. What we as UU's offer to all children. The bonus of gathering together for dinners, learning about each other, game nights, making wreaths, Cape retreats. Friendship - people I never would have met otherwise that I treasure.

As the year winds down, let the joy and camaraderie of Merrie Market inspire us. Let the peaceful Vespers moments calm us. Let the Poetry Solstice kindle us. Let the Christmas Eve service uplift us.

With love, care, and a grateful heart,  
Diane (she, her, hers)

Photo by Mark Curran outside of Fellowship Hall

**SPECIAL PARISH VOTE, DECEMBER 4, 2022**  
**at 12:00 PM**  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Warrant



For Special Parish Meeting, the 4th of December, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.  
in the Old Ship Meeting House and via Zoom

To: Patricia McAleer, Clerk of the First Parish in Hingham, Massachusetts

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the members of the First Parish in Hingham, Massachusetts, qualified to vote on Parish affairs, to meet in person in the Old Ship Meeting House and via Zoom on the 4th of December 2022, at 12:00 p.m., then and there to act on articles relating to the purchase and sale of the Parish House and property, 107 Main St. Hingham, MA.

Given under our hands this 23h day of November in the year two thousand twenty-two.

/S/President Diane Jordan, Vice President Maureen Butler, Treasurer Jack Gomez, Clerk Trish McAleer, President Emerita Janet Asnes, Trustees Joan Wilson, Roy Harris, Abby Diamond-Kissiday.

**Fellowship Hour & Snacks:**

We are having food for coffee hour! Last names

**beginning A-H are asked to bring snacks this**

**Sunday, December 4.** 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 in the Fellowship Hall ready to go. Food can be left in it's box or served on a paper plate. Thanks everyone!



Since we don't have a working dishwasher or volunteers to hand wash dishes, we encourage bringing your own travel mug for coffee hour. Paper cups will also be available.

### **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](#)

[Joan Wilson](#)

[Erin Splaine](#)

### **Musical Notes**

Hello Old Ship Church,

It's that time of year again -- Thanksgiving is just behind us and more holidays are right around the corner. As you know, music is an integral part of the Christmas Eve service at Old Ship. And this year is no different! Myself, the choir, and guest musicians will be pulling out all the stops (literally and figuratively!) to make the music for this service special. We have a fantastic brass group lined up, as well as an amazing violinist, which will bring the service to another level.



It's not too late to join in on the music making! Below you'll find a schedule for Christmas Eve rehearsals. If you're at all interested in singing with the choir, please consider joining us! It really is a kind and welcoming group. It's useful if I have an idea of who to expect, so filling out [this form](#) would be helpful, but you can also feel free to show up to rehearsals and I'll help you get everything you need. You can also reach me by [email](#).



Wishing you and yours all the best for a wonderful holiday season. I hope to see you soon!

Musically,  
Christopher

Dec 1 THU 7:00pm Christmas Eve Rehearsal (Meeting House)

Dec 15 THU 7:00pm Christmas Eve Rehearsal (Meeting House)

Dec 18 SUN 12:30pm Christmas Eve Rehearsal (Meeting House)  
(rescheduled from Dec 8)

Dec 22 THU 7:00pm Christmas Eve Rehearsal (Meeting House) +  
vocal quartet

Dec 24 SAT 3:00pm Christmas Eve Rehearsal (Meeting House) + vocal  
quartet, brass

Dec 24 SAT 5:00pm Christmas Eve Service (Meeting House)

## WISDOM OF THE POETS

### SOMETHING TOLD THE WILD GEESE

Something told the wild geese  
It was time to go.  
Though the fields lay golden  
Something whispered, - "Snow."  
Leaves were green and stirring,  
Berries, luster-glossed,  
But beneath warm feathers  
Something cautioned, - "Frost."  
All the sagging orchards  
Steamed with amber spice,  
But each wild breast stiffened  
At remembered ice.  
Something told the wild geese  
It was time to fly, -  
Summer sun was on their wings,  
Winter in their cry.

- American poet Rachel Field (1894-1942)

Wishing everyone peaceful and joyous holidays.

[elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com)



**Old Ship Church Labyrinth Meditation  
Walks  
Sunday, December 11th 5:00 PM**

**Join us once again this Fall to Restore,  
Renew, and Revive!**



Please join us for our next event on

**Dec 11: Mindfulness and Metta**

**Meditation.** During this session certified meditation leader Jen McConnell will lead the labyrinth walk in Metta Meditation, a loving kindness meditation and Buddhist practice oriented to cultivate compassion for ourselves and others through directing loving, positive language, and goodwill. The word Metta is a Pali word often translated as loving kindness. This session, begins with a meditation that then segues into a labyrinth walk, leading us all to a kinder, more collaborative and peaceful place. The quiet bonds forged through this practice promotes self-compassion, decreases stress and anxiety, reduces physical pain, improves longevity and enhances social connections - nurturing stronger and more positive social relationships.

The Labyrinth as a sacred space and place allows each pilgrim to navigate many complex twists and turns. These turns are guided by their feet, but in reality they take place in space, time, minds, and lives. In the process each individual and the group as a whole become profoundly aware of what is under their feet (the Labyrinth, the earth...), and who and what is around you (other pilgrims, the lights, the building, the trees...).

For so many of us the Parish House Labyrinth is a place where we can walk, ponder our everyday lives, knowing in so many ways that we are alone and that so much of what is so important to us is out of our hands. That is, until someone reaches out their hand to hold yours as they pass by, or opens their arms to embrace you. Then we realize that we are not always alone. Together we are strong and capable. Our future is bright and together anything is possible.

Please join us Sunday, Dec 11th, 5pm. Old Ship Parish House. 107 Main Street, Hingham, MA. 02043. All are welcome. Admission is free.

**Looking for Old Ship Elves to Buy  
Presents for Families Living in Shelters!!**

Old Ship has signed up to participate in the Friends of the Homeless of the South Shore's Christmas Gift Program. We have adopted 9 families for the holidays, consisting of 7 fathers, 10 mothers/grandmothers, 5 teenagers, 18 children, and 2 infants. These families are either currently living in shelters or have just moved into more permanent housing. 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! We certainly had a great time doing this last year!



Here are the details of the program. Each Old Shipper who participates will adopt one or more members of each family we have adopted. The program

anticipates that we will purchase 3 gifts for each child or parent, with the total costs of the gifts being about \$60 -- \$80 per person. (If this is more than you are able to spend, consider sharing one of the names with another person—the program is trying to make sure each person receives an equal set of gifts.) You will receive information by email about your person, including their name, age, sex, clothing size, shoe size, and suggestions for possible gifts. You then purchase the gifts, wrap them, put the person's names on the gift, and bring them to the Parish House Parlor on Sunday, December 11. You may also drop the gifts off at the Parish House from December 5-9 during normal office hours. If none of those options work, contact Davalene Cooper and she will make arrangements to get your gifts!

How do you adopt a person? We are assigning names via email since that worked so well last year. To participate, email [Davalene Cooper](#) and tell her the number of names you would like and any preferences you have (age, sex, etc.). We will honor your requests and preferences to the extent possible. Davalene will email you the information about your family member(s). And remember, we will need to have your gifts no later than Sunday, December 11. Questions? Email or call [Davalene](#), 781-749-0790. Thanks for helping us make the holidays even more special for our friends in need!

### **Holiday Dinner for Parents and Children Living in our Local Family Shelters**

After a two year absence due to COVID, the annual holiday dinner for the Friends of the Homeless of the South Shore (FHSS) returns to Old Ship on **Thursday, December 15, from 5:30-**

**7:30 p.m.** If you would like to help with this very special holiday celebration for the parents and children living in our local family shelters, please contact [Davalene Cooper](#), 781-749-0790. Old Shippers will be needed to prepare food at home and bring it to Fellowship Hall, help with last minute tasks at Old Ship, help feed small children, serve the holiday meal, and clean up after the party. It is a wonderful event, and we are so happy to welcome our FHSS back to our space this holiday season!



### **Committee on Ministry to Host Listening Circles**

The Transitional Ministry Committee, formerly the Committee on Ministry, has the role to improve relations and to strengthen the overall ministry of the Parish. We meet monthly with Rev. Erin Splaine, our Interim Minister, to find ways to help the congregation make the necessary changes between settled ministries, to correct problems and prepare the way for the next minister. John Weston of the UUA states, "The Interim Minister is like a mirror, reflecting the congregation back to itself."



This is a time of reflection, and Listening Circles seem like the best way for us to begin our work. These Listening Circles are the first step towards sharing our personal experiences at Old Ship and how affected we have been by the many changes in these past few years. We hope you all will have the

opportunity to share personal thoughts, listen to each other with love, compassion and honesty. This work will be about helping all of us look both back at our history and forward to where and who we want to be as Unitarian Universalists and members of First Parish, Hingham.

We are planning our first Listening Circles to be held during the months of December and January. There will be multiple opportunities for you to choose a day and time that works best for you. Meetings will be in person or on Zoom. There will be no more than 8 people per group. The purpose of the listening circle is to be free to talk uninterrupted in a safe space. A circle keeper will ask a question and pass a talking piece to the person next to them. That person will respond to the question and pass the talking piece to the next person. This process will continue in a circle until everyone has been able to speak what is on their mind or in their hearts. One person talks, while other people listen. Each circle will last approximately One and a half hours

We do hope you will all take the opportunity to come together to share with one another at this important junction of our Old Ship lives. If you have any questions, please call Diane Elliott at 781-264-6234.

Yours in Peace

The Transitional Ministry Committee: Janet Asnes, Diane Elliott, Michael Jordan, Chris Sullivan, Paul Stone, Lorraine Varney-Riggs

### **Welcoming Congregation Discussion Wed. Nov. 30th 7pm**

It's supposed to be a season of Gratitude. Is it? If our lives are going without too many problems, can we be truly thankful when so many are having a hard time? This crosses so many different communities, genders, sexual orientation, ethnicity, economics, ability, skin tone, where one lives, how they live, treated by others, etc. Everyone is made up of more than just one issue. This discussion is not just about LGBTQ+, it is for everyone. How do we handle how gratitude and thanksgiving in the midst of everything happening around us?

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



### **Come One, Come All to Merrie Market! THIS Saturday, December 3, 9am-2pm**

Please come out to Merrie Market THIS Saturday, where you can experience the joy of community AND get a jump on your holiday shopping! This year's offerings will include a large selection of ready-to-gift baskets, fabulous and creative silent auction items, the ever popular "treasures table", handcrafted gifts and





stocking stuffers, beautiful jewelry, handmade wreaths, delicious baked treats, a gingerbread house raffle, a hot chocolate bar and more! Please help spread the word about this fun and family-friendly holiday market!

And...for our procrastinators out there- Treasures can still be dropped off at the Parish House this week between 9am and 2pm. Any questions, contact [Susannah Thomas](mailto:Susannah.Thomas@gmail.com) via email [zanthomas@gmail.com](mailto:zanthomas@gmail.com) or cell 781-724-2340.

## December events for Families at Old Ship Sunday December 18th!

### Caroling Together

Are you interested in joining other Old Shippers for car pool caroling? Join fellow Old Shippers on Sunday, December 18th following the Service. No prior singing experience required. All you need is enthusiasm and a desire to share in some seasonal fun. Contact [Diane Elliot](#) for more information and to sign up.



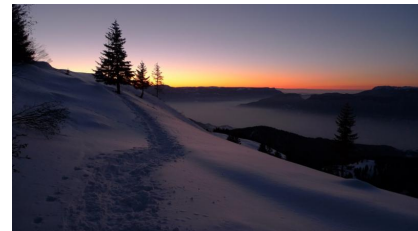
### Gingerbread House Making

Join Old Shippers [Judi Flaherty](#) and [Heather Nolasco](#) for some gingerbread house making fun on Sunday, December 18th from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. You don't need to be an architect to build something fun. Warm up with a bowl of chili and company. We'll bring the supplies, you bring the fun!



## 26th Annual Winter Solstice Poetry and Song Evening

Tuesday, December 20, 6:45 PM via  
ZOOM/Meeting House



Everyone is cordially invited to honor the 26th Winter Solstice Celebration with poetry and song on Tuesday, December 20th (Musical prelude, 6:45 PM, Poetry Program, 7:00 PM). This event will take place in person and virtually on Zoom. Audience members are invited to share a favorite winter poem or simply join us online. Rev. Erin E. Splaine will introduce the evening facilitated by Elizabeth Torrey. The event will be hosted from inside the historic Old Ship Meetinghouse in keeping with the traditional setting.

For more information or questions, please contact [Elizabeth Torrey](#) at 781-749-0543

All are warmly invited. Here's the Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/91640411177?pwd=b0l0bVdaZUxhck1QZDJvUjdFUVpzQT09>

## 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.. 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](#)



## Children & Youth Religious Education

While attendance has been light this year, the RE Committee is committed to providing a meaningful experience for all who come. This fall we are focusing on being outside together, exploring nature through our UU faith lens.



It's an exciting time to be part of RE at Old Ship and we need YOU.. ...your time....your thoughts....your commitment to creating a joyful, spiritual space in our congregation for our children to feel connected to one another and Unitarian Universalism. We are looking for volunteers to be on the committee and/or to be available on Sunday mornings. Please reach out to anyone on the committee if you are interested in taking part in laying the foundation for a meaningful and engaging multi-age community for our children and youth.

Janet Asnes, Maureen Butler, Susan Carrillo, Diane Elliott, Lauren Gadot, Morgan Morales

December and January we will be focusing on:

- re-reviewing the Interim DRE reports from the last 2 years and are discussing the best way to distribute this information to everyone.
- updating our Safe Congregation policies and practices
- continuing our commitment to providing 80 lunches to Father Bill's monthly
- the possibility of a Youth Advisor
- RE's part in the Interim Ministry work we are doing as an entire congregation

If you have any questions or would like to help with RE, please feel free to reach out to any of us. We love to talk about this wonderful part of our ministry at Old Ship.

## Life Learning Offerings

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

## Ongoing groups and gatherings



### The Way of the Bodhisattva

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. Newcomers warmly welcomed. No experience with Buddhism necessary. For questions and Zoom link, email. [Lisa Sawyer](#).

### Sacred Texts Meditation Group

Next gatherings: Thursdays, December 8th & 22nd 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](#).

**Men's Breakfast** – Meets on the second Sunday morning, 8:30 a.m., of each month – our next gathering will be **December 11th**– 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, December 18th**. Open to all the women of the church. If you would like to attend, send an email to [Janice McPhillips](#) or go to: <https://zoom.us/j/92656862826?pwd=cGZwOHVzR0lpLzdPQ2ZmVnNjYVZBUT09> 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, December 6th, 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=M3NEcVNibjdqM1RvUHhTUUm9aN21Edz09>

### Fiber Funship

We will meet Wednesdays at 1:00 pm, in the parlor. For info contact [Diane Elliott](#) or [Carol Valentine](#).

## Serving Others

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

**Next Meeting is Saturday, January 21, 2023, at 9 a.m. on Zoom. If you are not a member and would like to join us for the meeting, contact Davalene Cooper,**



at [davalenecooper@verizon.net](mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net), for the Zoom link. All are welcome!

**UU the Vote:** There will be one more phone bank on Monday, December 5, to get out the vote in the Georgia runoff election. These are easy calls - we're just helping people with up-to-date information on voting and helping them to make a voting plan - there's a script to follow - no pressure, no arguing, just making sure they have the information they need to make their voices heard. Sign up at: <https://www.uuthevote.org/events/>.

We also want to thank the congregation for our October special plate collection for UU the Vote. We raised \$1725.45 for this important work! Thank you!

**December Special Plate: UUSC Guest at Your Table:**

Our December special plate collection will be for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, through its Guest at Your Table (GAYT) program. This year's Guest at Your Table program, focuses on the theme Hope, Courage, Action, and highlights stories from four leaders of UUSC's partner organizations.

Zsolt Szekeres is guiding the Hungarian Helsinki Committee's Refugee Program as more than a million people flee Ukraine following the Russian invasion to seek safety in neighboring Hungary. You can view his interview at [Guest at Your Table - Zsolt Szekeres \(vimeo.com\)](#).

Naw Wah Ku Shee, of the Karen Peace Support Network, is working with her own Karen community and other ethnic minorities in Burma to lift the voices of those resisting the violent military junta and promoting a democratic Burmese society to the international community. You can view her interview at [Guest at Your Table - Naw Wah Ku Shee - Karen Peace Support Network.mp4 \(vimeo.com\)](#).

Ian Zdanowicz is co-director of the Queer Detainee Empowerment Project, an organization offering support, solidarity, and community for queer people in U.S. immigration detention and those who have been recently released. You can view Ian's interview at [Guest at Your Table - Ian Zdanowicz.mp4 \(vimeo.com\)](#).

Ineza Umuhoza Grace is from the Loss and Damage Youth Coalition, a global organization amplifying the voices of youth, especially from the global south, as they petition governments around the world to uphold their promises and take meaningful action in response introduce them to climate crisis. You can view her interview at [Guest at Your Table - Ineza Umuhoza Grace - Loss & Damage Youth Coalition.mp4 \(vimeo.com\)](#).

You can read more about these leaders in The Stories of Hope booklet, which can be found at [Guest at Your Table - Unitarian Universalist Service Committee \(uus.org\)](#). There are other materials available on this same site where you can learn more about UUSC.

This year we have a new element to this major fundraiser for UUSC; an anonymous donor at Old Ship will match donations from members of the congregation up to a total amount of \$4500. Additionally, all donations of \$150 or more are matched by the congregation at Shelter Rock. So if you donate \$150, your donation is tripled! Because of the Old Ship match, we are asking



you to make your donation at our special plate Sunday (which will be announced in the weekly email) or on the Old Ship website through the donation [online](#) button and designating your donation to Guest at Your Table. You also may send your check to the church office, payable to Old Ship, with GAYT designated on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your donations to support our Unitarian Universalist values in the world!

**Hingham Food Pantry:** We are again collecting food donations for the Hingham Food Pantry. There is a basket in the vestibule of the Meeting House and of the Parish 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: Turkey Gravy, Canned Yams, Canned Green Beans, Cookies, Pasta Sauce, Canned Beef Stew, Canned Spaghetti, Dried Fruit, Nuts, and 1 lb. bags of Granulated Sugar (nothing larger please). Checks to support the food pantry can be sent to Hingham Food Pantry, 685 Main St., Hingham, MA 02043.

**Anti-Racism/Social Justice Book Group meets next on January 15 on Zoom:** We will be discussing *Stringing Rosaries: The History, the Unforgivable, and the Healing of Northern Plains American Indian Boarding School Survivors* by Denise K. Lajimodiere. This is an important history of the boarding schools where native children were taken from their parents and sent to these schools as an attempt to destroy their cultures. 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.

**Upcoming Community Discussion at the UU Urban Ministry (on Zoom):** *Supporting Small Business in the City: Barriers and Opportunities* on December 6 from 6-7 p.m. on Zoom. Rev. Willie Bodrick, II, J.D., M. Div. –14th Senior Pastor (2021-present) is the talented, enthusiastic, and anointed Senior Pastor of the Historic Twelfth Baptist Church in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston, MA. He is also the President & CEO of The American City Coalition (TACC). TACC is a nonprofit organization grounded in an inclusive, comprehensive, and collaborative approach to neighborhood revitalization. Our mission is to help improve urban neighborhoods so that families flourish in safe environments and fully benefit from the economic opportunities of American cities. Here is the Zoom link for the program: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88687467587?pwd=elRIU0RQcU5ab3V0Q1NkUEJsRmJjZz09>.

**Additional Support for the UU Urban Ministry Programs:** As you may recall, the UUUM supports Roxbury artists of color through its Arts and Humanities Programming. This is a good place to find gifts for the holidays! To see the artists who are spotlighted and to download the catalog, go to [Arts and Humanities Programming | Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry \(uum.org\)](#).

**Lunches for the Anderson Veterans Home:** We at Old Ship are part of a community wide interfaith 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, by agreeing to provide lunch for one or two days during the year, please contact [Davalene Cooper](#) for the sign up link.

**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](#). This is the program Rev. Ashley Horan leads, so if you were moved by her sermon at Old Ship on October 23, now is the time to learn more about how you can be involved in the various campaigns!

**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.

## Task Force on Widening the Circle of Concern

### **White Supremacy Culture Within Unitarian Universalism:**

In 2017, the Unitarian Universalist Association Board of Trustees established a Commission on Institutional Change. The commission was charged with conducting an audit of white privilege and the

structure of power within Unitarian Universalism, and with analyzing structural racism and white supremacy culture within the UUA.

In 2020, the commission published *Widening the Circle of Concern*, a report of its findings and recommendations about racism and white supremacy culture within Unitarian Universalism.

Last year, the Old Ship Board of Trustees appointed a special ad hoc task force to examine the report and to suggest how Old Ship might widen our welcome to all and encourage more diversity, inclusion, and equity.

The Task Force envisions this task as one for the entire congregation —this is our work as a faith community to transform ourselves, our community, and our world. As a first step in this work, members of the Task Force plan to meet with committees and other groups to discuss how we at Old Ship might work to dismantle forms of white supremacy culture that might be present in our community. As we digest the report, we are learning that because most of us live in the predominant culture, we do not always see the parts of the culture that support white supremacy.

We are excited about how this work could help to create a more beloved community at Old Ship, and we invite you to be part of this process!

Davalene Cooper is chair of the task force. Members are Ralph Brown, Fan Leonard, Ellie Handleman, Laura Harbottle, Eva Marx, and Patti Smith.

If you're interested in learning more about the UUA's effort to dismantle white supremacy culture, go to [Dismantle White Supremacy | UUA.org](#).





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

- **All Parish Special Meeting: Parish House Offers Vote**- Sunday December 4, 12:00 p.m. Meeting House/Zoom
- **Board of Trustees** - Thursday, December 8, 7:00 p.m. Zoom/Parlor; Email [Diane Jordan](#) for the Zoom Link

## 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 office or on the table right outside of the office door. 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](#) 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.



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