



First Parish, Hingham

## Old Ship Church

Unitarian Universalist

107 Main Street Hingham, MA 02043

(781) 749-1679

office@oldshipchurch.org www.oldshipchurch.org

### February 2020 Newsletter

**March newsletter deadline is  
Monday, February 24.**

[Want to print out the newsletter? Click here](#)

## Worship

### Sunday, February 2, 10:25am

Each year at about this time we exchange pulpits with Second Parish in Hingham. This means that Ken Read-Brown will be preaching down the street at Second Parish and Rev. Stephanie Shute Kelsch will be preaching here at our First Parish Old Ship.

Stephanie's sermon will be "Thresholds." She writes: "Sometimes we cross them without thinking; other times we plan great pomp and ceremony to mark the crossing. Sometimes we find them routine; other times significant. But isn't our routine significant in what it reveals about our goals and methods? Where and how do the mundane and the marvelous transitions of our lives reinforce each other? Thresholds and how we approach them are clear reminders of what we bring wherever we are going, as well as what we hope to find. The sermon will explore how we might more mindfully approach the great step of crossing a threshold."



### Sunday, February 09, 10:25am

"Winning at any Price?" will be Ken's sermon. We see it over and over, most recently in Major League Baseball, forcing managerial resignations, including our own beloved Alex Cora. And we certainly see it in politics, often in academia, and elsewhere.

"Winning" - whether an election or a game - is apparently so important to some people that they are tempted to sacrifice values of honesty and integrity on its altar? Why is this so? And have we ever been tempted by - or even succumbed to - the siren call of winning?

Fellowship Hour will include the Youth Group's annual "Warm Hearts, Hot Potatoes" fundraiser! Bring your appetite and a few dollars for a lunch that cannot be beat.



### Sunday, February 16, 10:25am

The class "Facing Death with Life" begins on Wednesday, February 19. Whether or not we take the class, Ken's sermon by the same title will encourage us to reflect on the reality of death - the death of dear ones and our own eventual death. Can we live more fully if we more fully come to terms with the inevitable losses that life brings, including the loss of our own life?

### Sunday, February 23, 10:25am

"Busy no More" will be Ken's sermon. Yes, there is plenty to be done in our personal lives, in our congregation, and in the larger world. Is being "busy" (with all the anxiety that can come along with being busy) the answer to getting things done? Or, paradoxically, can we get everything done that

needs doing without being busy? What spiritual resources might we draw on for such a radical departure from the world's way of doing things?

Our monthly outreach offering will be given to "Honduras Hope." At noon in the Parish House here will be a forum led by Honduras Hope folks, so we can learn more about this worthy organization and their important work.

*Childcare available before Sunday services: If you plan to attend the Men's Breakfast or Women's Breakfast or The Way of the Bodhisattva study group or a Sunday early morning committee meeting and need childcare in order to do so, please call our office (781-749-1679) by Wednesday before the Sunday, and we will do our best to arrange childcare in the nursery for you.*

### **Most Sunday mornings...**

*Most Sunday mornings at Old Ship begin with gatherings in small circles in the Parish House parlor for sharing and spiritual enrichment. And we are all invited! Our web site has more detailed information about these opportunities: The "Way of the Bodhisattva Study/Meditation Group" meets at 8:30 on the first and third Sundays of each month. "Men's Breakfast" meets at 8:30 on the second Sunday of each month for sharing and conversation. And the Women's Breakfast meets at 8:30 on the fourth Sunday of each month.*

### *from the minister's desk*

#### **Musing**

This past Monday, as you know, marked the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. The lives of those who were still managing to survive in Auschwitz were saved. But the lives of the over one million who had perished in Auschwitz, along with the five million others in the other death camps, can never be retrieved. Nor can the families broken apart ever be entirely mended. Nor can the lives of those never born be miraculously brought to life.

Can one not weep contemplating all this?

And can one not weep contemplating the resurgence of anti-Semitism in Europe as well as in our own nation, founded however imperfectly on the principle of liberty for all? Can one not weep as we observe other manifestation of hate along with the effort to exclude those considered (by all too many) to be different from some imagined white norm?

Yes, weeping is appropriate. But, needless to say, weeping must be turned to working for equal rights for all, turned to warm welcome to those fleeing persecution and oppression, turned to celebration of the beautiful diversity of our nation and of the world's cultures and peoples.

All of this as we enter the high season of this presidential election year, the most momentous in modern history, if not in the history of our nation.

May we, this year and always, speak up and speak out for the dignity of every person, regardless of ethnicity, country of origin, religion, or gender identity. And may our words be reinforced by our political participation, above all by our votes and support for candidates who celebrate rather than denigrate our diversity and who seek to give further life to our stated national ideals of freedom and equality - along with a commitment to creating a natural environment which sustains all life.

May it be so.

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

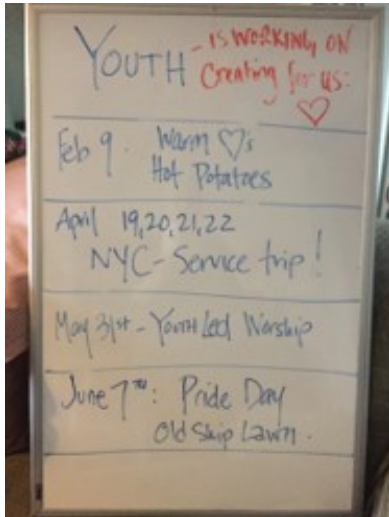
*My Parish House office hours are ordinarily Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday mornings from about 10:00 - 2:00 and by appointment. Monday is my day off, and Thursday my sermon writing day.*

My primary phone contact is through the Parish House office - 781-749-1679. The office answering machine includes my cell phone if you need to reach me quickly - since when I am not in the office I am either working in my study at home, or making visits or attending meetings elsewhere. I can also be reached via email, [oldshipkrb@gmail.com](mailto:oldshipkrb@gmail.com).

## Religious Education Notes

January 28, 2020

Dear Old Ship...



The church year is half over. I know because I counted the Sundays. We've spent twenty-one Sundays together and we have twenty one left to be spent. So many cool and inspiring things to do together, one more time...

### February

February 2, Sun 10:30-11:40  
February 7, Fri 7-9:30 p.m.  
February 9, Sun 10:30-11:40  
February 9, Sun 10:30 -11:40  
February 14, Fri 7-9:30 p.m.  
February 16, Sun 10:30 -11:40  
February 21, Fri 7-9:30 p.m.  
February 23, Sun 10:30 -11:40

Sunday School            Noon-1:30 OWL  
\*FFN\*/Painting Drawing and Seeing Together  
Sunday School            Noon-1:30 OWL  
Warm Hearts/Hot Potatoes Coffee Hour  
Painting Drawing and Seeing Together  
Sunday school - Fr. Bill's Lunches - NO OWL  
Painting Drawing and Seeing Together  
Sunday School - NO OWL

February 28, Fri 7-9:30 p.m.

Painting Drawing and Seeing Together

### March

March 1, Sun 10:30-11:40

March 6, Fri 6 p.m.

March 8, Sun 10:30-11:40

March 15, Sun 10:30-11:40

March 22, Sun 10:30-11:40

March 29, Sun 10:30-11:40

Sunday School

Noon-1:30 OWL

\*FFN\*

Sunday School

Noon-1:30 OWL

Multi-Gen worship Noon-1:30 OWL

Sun school - Fr. Bill's Lunches Noon-1:30 OWL

Sunday School Noon-1:30 OWL

### April

April 3, Fri 6 p.m.

April 5, Sun 10:30-11:40

April 12, Sun 10:30-11:40

April 19, Sun 10:30-11:40

April 26, Sun 10:30-11:40

OWL

\*FFN\*

SEDER - All R.E. groups Noon-1:30 OWL

EASTER - ALL R.E. groups Noon-1:30 OWL

Sun school - Fr. Bill's Lunches, NO OWL

Multi-Gen worship Noon-1:30

### May

May 1, Fri 6 p.m.

May 2, Saturday - all day

May 3, Sun 10:30-11:40

May 10, Sun 10:30-11:40

May 17, Sun 9:00 a.m.

May 17, Sun 10:30-11:40

May 17, Sun 12 -1:30

May 24, Sun 10:30-11:40

May 31, Sun 10:30-11:40

\*FFN\*- NOT in Fellowship Hall

May Breakfast and Plant sale

Sunday School Noon-1:30 OWL

Music Sunday Noon-1:30 OWL

Graduating Seniors, Breakfast with Ken and Beverly

Sun school - Fr. Bill's Lunches

Annual Meeting

Sunday School - Bev "not on duty"

Youth-Led Worship/Multi-Gen

### June

June 5, Fri 6 pm

June 7, Sunday Noon - 3

June 14, Sun 10:30-11:40

June 21, Sun 10:30-11:40

June 28, Sun 10:30-11:40

\*FFN\*

Pride Day

Sun school - Fr. Bill's Lunches

Flower Communion -

Last day-Kids'Quidditch-front lawn

Big Worship at GA in Providence - RENTING A BUS

If you lose track of time like I do, you may want to print this out and plan accordingly...

Being mindful of, and grateful for, our time together...

Beverly Tricco

Director of Religious Education

### Music Notes

Dear Old Ship,

I love the many ways that music is woven into the fabric of Old Ship. It's everywhere: the halls of Merrie Market, labyrinth walks, Tuesday-night ceilidhs, Candlelight

Concerts, and Rev. Ken's musical stylings -

- just to name a few! As I continue to get to know the Old Ship community, I am thankful to be a part of a group of people who appreciate music and the beauty it brings to this world. Cherish this about yourselves, because this does not always happen everywhere.



The Old Ship choir will spend the next few months preparing for Music Sunday on May 10th.

Have you considered contributing your voice? Whether you have been singing for years or are working up the courage to try something new, the choir will welcome you with open arms. There



I wish you the best as we continue forward into 2020! Please email me with any musical questions, comments, or ideas at [musicdirector@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:musicdirector@oldshipchurch.org).

Christopher Nickelson-Mann  
Music Director

**just**<sup>2</sup> /dʒʌst/, **justice** /'dʒʌstɪs/

Sign up for the Old Ship Social Justice Action Alert Network to find out about specific advocacy opportunities such as letter writing, advocacy calls, participating in

educational/advocacy events with local legislators. Send your email address to Davalene Cooper, Keeper of the List, at [davalenecooper@verizon.net](mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net). Coffeehouse Off the Square, February 15, 2020 features Hingham Native Bow Thayer Open Microphone at 7:30 p.m. Show at 8 p.m.

This Hingham native returns to where it all began with the '80s Hingham super-group Metamorphosis. Bow has been the driving force in many critically acclaimed bands and has 13 CDs to his name. He plays all things stringed, including guitar, banjo, mandolin, and ukulele. One recent reviewer said, "Bow Thayer reminds us again that he is among the state's finest songwriters." For more information about Bow, go to <https://bowthayer.com/>. And remember, profits from the Coffeehouse benefit the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Come and enjoy live music in Hingham and support a worthwhile cause!

#### Green Sanctuary

The Green Sanctuary Committee invites you to review the information provided at last month's Electrify Your Life Forum to learn about actions you can take now to help reduce your carbon emissions and do your part to reduce climate change: go to Electrify Your Life

#### UU Urban Ministry (UUUM)

The mission of the UU Urban Ministry (UUUM) is to unite communities and transform individuals through education, service, and advocacy. We engage communities and congregations in social action and change, with programs that empower youth and adults to realize their full potential. Over nearly 200 years, our programs have adapted to meet the needs of our community.

Updates on programming and ongoing events are at [uum.org](http://uum.org)

Interested in helping plan Social Justice Actions for our congregation?

You are welcome at any Social Justice Council meeting to talk with us about your ideas of how Old Ship can Serve Others. Look for announcements of the February SJC meeting date in the Order of Service. Contact Brenda Black [blackpollara@verizon.net](mailto:blackpollara@verizon.net) or Davalene Cooper [davalenecooper@verizon.net](mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net)

#### Save the Date:

March 22: Social Justice Sunday with a focus on Immigration Justice

Guest Preacher: Heather Vickery from UU Service Committee (UUSC)

Social Justice Plate Collection for United We Dream, the largest youth-led immigrant organization in the country "working to empower people to develop their leadership, their organizing skills, and campaigns to fight for justice and dignity for immigrants and all people"

Soup Lunch and Forum on TPS (Temporary Protected Status) for persons from countries experiencing violence, civil war, political instability, or natural disasters. There will be a short film and a soup lunch, followed by letter writing opportunities on this issue.

## Nurturing Community



#### Saturday Supper- February 22

Join us at the Parish House for a potluck supper, and an evening of fun, fellowship and fabulous food at 6 p.m. on February 22. Newcomers are especially welcome!

Only non-alcoholic beverages will be served at this dinner event. Sign-up to bring your favorite main dish, salad, or dessert by contacting Sharon Prehn (781-925-0101, [prehn@verizon.net](mailto:prehn@verizon.net)) or sign up during Fellowship Hour.

Volunteers for set-up and clean-up would be greatly appreciated as well. A \$3

contribution per person is encouraged to cover our expenses for paper goods, centerpieces, and beverages.

#### Volunteer to be a Fellowship Hour Host

Every Sunday following the service we gather in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation. The only tasks for the Fellowship Hour Hosts are to pour the coffee, put out food,

and clean up. Our church sexton makes the coffee, and each week a rotating segment of the alphabet (A-H, I-P, & Q-Z) brings coffee hour food. Please volunteer to help out occasionally for this recurring Sunday task. Many hands make light work! Sign up at coffee hour, or online with SignUp Genius:



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c49a8aa2aa3f94-sunday1>.

### **Food for Fellowship Hour**

Fellowship Hour is a time to reconnect or get acquainted over a cup of coffee and a snack. Every Sunday we ask a different segment of the alphabet to bring a plate of food for coffee hour.

February 2: Last names beginning I-P.

February 9: Youth fundraiser-Warm Hearts/Hot Potatoes

February 16: Last names beginning Q-Z.

February 23: Last names beginning A-H.

### **Cash for Cartridges**

Printer Cartridge Collection:: Please bring your used printer cartridges to the Parish House and help raise funds for our office supplies. Drop off your cartridges in the office or in the cabinet right outside the office door. Any brand or type of cartridge is fine. Thank you!

### **Committee on Ministry**

The Committee on Ministry, with a rotating membership appointed by our Board of Trustees, meets monthly with our minister, Ken Read-Brown, to reflect on the five ministries of Old Ship and sometimes to discuss particular current concerns or issues with the life of our congregation.

Input, questions, concerns, ideas from Old Ship members and friends is of course always welcome. Feel free to contact Ken or any of the members of the committee: Eva Marx, Rob Baynes, Cory Fitz-Marquez, John Sneath, Pam Harty, and Dennis Hogan.

### **Pastoral Care Leadership Team**

The Pastoral Care Leadership Team meets monthly with Ken and often coordinates meals and other forms of caring for Old Ship individuals and families in the midst of illness or crisis. If you have a need or are aware of a need that the PCLT might be able to help meet, you may be in touch with Ken or any member of the group. At Old Ship we all share in our mutual caring and helping one another; the Pastoral Care Leadership Team simply helps to identify needs and coordinate responses.

There are specifically two ways Old Ship members might want to help out:

- Rides: Would you be able to give an Old Ship parishioner a ride to church, either regularly or from time to time?
- Food: Would you be willing to prepare a casserole to be given to someone who could use a little extra help following a hospitalization or in the midst of illness or treatments?

If you might be able to help in any way, please be in touch with a member of the Pastoral Care Leadership Team. Thanks very much!

Ralph Brown, [ralph.e.brown@gmail.com](mailto:ralph.e.brown@gmail.com) (781-925-9197)  
Diane Elliott, [dianeabbeyelliott@gmail.com](mailto:dianeabbeyelliott@gmail.com) (781-749-2248)  
Elaine Gomez, [eh-gomez@comcast.net](mailto:eh-gomez@comcast.net) (781-740-1663)

Alicia Harkness, PAJL7@verizon.net (781-749-7825)  
Fan Leonard, oldship1927@gmail.com (781-749-2852)  
Liz Flint, Elizabethflint@hotmail.com  
Joan Wilson, joanielw@verizon.net (781-740-8840)  
Beverly Tricco, oldshipdre@oldshipchurch.org (781-749-1679)  
Ken Read-Brown, oldshipkrb@gmail.com (781-749-1679)

## **Educating Hearts and Minds: Life Learning Programs**

### **Painting, Drawing, Seeing... Together four Friday evenings in February**

**Beverly Tricco**

**Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28**

*"... spiritual truths often arrive wearing unexpected disguises. It's wrong to assume that the only way to get "there" is by sitting in deep meditation on a mountaintop. True, that method might work for you, but there are limitless ways to arrive at some of the deeper understandings about the nature of Life that don't require walking traditional routes..." - Christopher Palibicki*

We'll paint, draw and see together once a week and see where our spiritual journey takes us. Bring your own work and supplies, or I will provide assignments and supplies for you. All media, and modalities are welcome... and absolutely all skill levels. For more information and to sign up contact Beverly at [bev's email link](#). We are happy to arrange care for babies and toddlers if you let us know in advance.



### **Facing Death with Life - four sessions, Wed., Feb. 19 - March 25, 7:00**

led by Ken Read-Brown

Despite the constant presence of death, dying, and grief in our lives, we mostly avoid speaking of it openly and 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 healthy part of life. For more information, contact Ken.

Coming in March....

### **Tell Me A Story: Story Telling Class**

**March 10,17, 24, 31, in the Fellowship Hall, 7:00 - 9:00**

Life is a banquet of stories. All of us have favorite stories, funny happenings, confused messages, heartfelt times, and awakenings. You are already a story-teller. This class will help us organize, describe, and present the story. The classes are breezy and fun, non-threatening. Our own Dr. Pat Bianco, Professor Emeritus, University Of Pittsburgh, will lead the class. Pat has studied and taught story-telling and play writing previously, and recently participated in the Moth Radio class at Star Island.

If you are interested in joining the Story Telling Class, contact Pat Bianco at [bluesulphur3@yahoo.com](mailto:bluesulphur3@yahoo.com).

The Life Learning Committee invites and welcomes your suggestions for classes, forums, and workshops for the coming year. Contact oany member of the committee with your ideas:

Ken Read-Brown ([oldshipkrb@gmail.com](mailto:oldshipkrb@gmail.com))  
Beverly Tricco ([dre@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:dre@oldshipchurch.org))  
Ralph Brown ([ralph.e.brown@gmail.com](mailto:ralph.e.brown@gmail.com))  
Rich Elliott ([richelliott56@gmail.com](mailto:richelliott56@gmail.com))  
Claire Petrie ([cdpetrie@aol.com](mailto:cdpetrie@aol.com))  
Elizabeth Torrey ([elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com))

**Other ongoing groups and gatherings....**



[Link here](#) to the page on our web site that includes descriptions of all these groups: from opportunities to meditate and study spiritual texts ancient and modern as described above, to the Men's Breakfast, Women's Breakfast, Sewing Group, and the monthly Ceilidh song circle.

## Membership

### Welcome to New Member, Angel West!

Angel and his family started coming to Old Ship about eight years ago, when his parents, Laura and George West, were looking for a church that would be compatible with their values. How lucky we are that they found us! Angel is one of five children. He has an older sister who lives on the West Coast as well as an older brother. Locally, his sister, Myrah, goes to Wentworth Institute while his sister, Cierra, is a freshman in high school. Three cats complete the household.

Angel is a very busy young man. He works during the day at Chipotle's in the Derby Shoppes while taking two night courses at Weymouth High School. His initial goal is to be a kitchen manager with duties ranging from doing inventory to figuring out costs. In the long run, he would like to own his own restaurant. He is looking forward to his May 18th graduation. His diploma will note that he attended high school as well as night school. Oh yes, he also serves as the Youth member on the Board of Trustees.

What's next? He might take a gap year or, perhaps, attend a culinary arts program at Bunker Hill Community College. After two years, he could transfer to another college.

Although he has very little free time, he does enjoy "hanging out" with his friends and girlfriend, perhaps listening to upbeat music from the 1990's.

Angel, we are very pleased that you chose to formally become part of the Old Ship community!



### Welcome to New Members, Susan Julien and David Foss!

You have probably already seen Susan and David at services and/or Coffee Hour. Please read on to become better acquainted with them. Susan was born in New York City, moving to Taunton when her father got a job in that city. She has lived in Hull for the last thirty years. David was born in Boston but grew up in Providence, Rhode Island. After graduating from Middlebury College in Vermont, he lived in the Boston area for a number of years. He has a daughter who earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and works at Children's Hospital. About twenty years ago, he had the good fortune to meet Susan and now also resides in Hull.

They had been coming intermittently to Old Ship, including attending the Christmas Eve service. Fortunately for us, they recently decided to join Old Ship because they liked the history of the building, the values of Old Ship, as well as the warm reception they received when they attended services. At the recent Committee Fair, Susan joined both the Buildings and Grounds committee and the Finance committee. David will be working with the Coffee House committee. We are all beneficiaries of their energy!

Professionally, Susan taught high school Spanish in Canton for many years while David worked in publishing at the Harvard University Press, heading the Editorial Department for the last ten years of his time there. In their retirement, Susan grows roses, tutors women in Spanish, and

reads avidly. David plays the keyboard and is involved with several musical groups. In addition, he is a volunteer for the Meals on Wheels program in Hull and reads for blind individuals.

Both avid travelers, they will soon be attending a symposium about T.E. Lawrence at Oxford. Ask them about their other travel experiences in countries such as Spain, Scotland, and Italy. In addition, they enjoy going to concerts, plays, and movies. Susan has been particularly moved by the movie "1917."

Welcome to Old Ship, Susan and David. We are very pleased to have you as members!



## Office Notes

**Question:** How can I find out what is happening at Old Ship?

**Answer:** Old Ship communicates with members and friends in a number of ways:

The [oldshipchurch.org](http://oldshipchurch.org) website is updated weekly with fresh content on events and services. There is a monthly newsletter sent out via email. It is posted on our website, but the "Joys/Concerns" section is taken out for the website version. Weekly, an email is sent out that has the next Sunday service information and events that are happening that week only. There are paper copies of the monthly newsletter in the vestibule of the Meeting House and on a table outside the office.

We also use social media. Old Ship posts daily on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. The staff work hard to keep information current.

And if you still have a question about what is happening? Call the office!

- Julianna Dunn, Office Administrator.

## Warm Hearts - Hot Potatoes - Sunday, February 09

It's that time of year when we warm each other with love and the Youth Group warms the tummies of the congregation with hot potatoes!

During fellowship hour, for a very modest price per potato, the Youth Group will be dishing up baked potatoes with all the fixings, chili and salad. This fundraiser has become a favorite annual tradition so please come join us.



### **Lincoln Day at Old Ship - Saturday, February 15**

All are welcome to Hingham's annual Lincoln Day, sponsored by the Hingham Historical Society. Lincoln Day celebrates Hingham's Revolutionary War hero, General Benjamin Lincoln, and President Abraham Lincoln, whose ancestors hailed from Hingham.

At 10:15 on Saturday, February 15, the Hingham Militia will muster by our Old Ship Meeting House and march to Benjamin Lincoln's grave in Hingham Cemetery. Inside the Meeting House, a ceremony begins at 11:00 a.m. including a keynote speaker. Ken Read-Brown will offer the invocation, and Christopher Nicholson-Mann will lead the music.

In addition to the Militia, re-enactment groups from the Revolutionary War and Civil War eras will also be present. The ceremony will be followed by a march to Fountain Square, where a wreath will be laid at the foot of Abraham Lincoln's statue. All will then be welcome to the Hingham Heritage Museum for refreshment.

First Parish, Old Ship Church, 107 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043

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