



First Parish, Hingham

## Old Ship Church

Unitarian Universalist

107 Main Street Hingham, MA 02043

(781) 749-1679

office@oldshipchurch.org www.oldshipchurch.org

### March 2019 Newsletter

**April newsletter deadline is  
Monday, March 25.**

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

## Worship

### Sunday, March 3, 10:25am

Our Old Ship Deacons will lead this service on the theme "What Gives You Hope?" Our deacons are Turner Bledsoe, Mike Dwyer, Fan Leonard, Jane Malme, and Eva Marx. As they present their reflections, often based on dimensions of Unitarian Universalism and our Old Ship community, we will be stimulated to reflect on what our response would be, particularly in these tumultuous times.

### Sunday, March 10, 10:25am

Sunday Brigadoon - The village that appears in the morning mist and is gone by the end of the day.



### Sunday, March 17, 10:25am

Amanda Grant-Rose, the director of Common Cathedral, will be our guest speaker. A social worker, Amanda's experience includes time as a special education teacher, time teaching masters level classes in special education, mental disabilities and learning disabilities, and developing individual education plans for students in Tanzania. Common Cathedral "is an outdoor congregation, sharing God's love through community, pastoral care, creative expression, and worship on Boston Common" with a specific ministry to those who are homeless. Our outreach offering will be given to support the important work of Common Cathedral.

### Sunday, March 24, 10:25am

Our worship leaders will be Old Ship members Davalene Cooper and Diane Elliott. Their topic will "A Language of Faith." They write: "As so-called searches and seekers, Unitarian Universalists must try to recognize that each person's faith is shaped by one's experience and environment. If this is true then we need to consider the language we use when speaking with one another and recognize that our religious perspectives may not be the same. What is the language you use when speaking your sense of faith?"

### Sunday, March 31

This will be a service for all ages, led by our wonderful Old Ship youth.

*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.

### **Summer Services....**

It's not too early to think about being a Summer Service speaker! Summer Services, held in Fellowship Hall, are a fantastic opportunity to learn more about your fellow parishioners. We are signing up people now to lead and facilitate worship services during the summer months. Anyone who would like to lead a Summer Service, or just share a spiritually uplifting message, please contact Karen Churchill at 781-812-5518 or at [xplasticfishx@yahoo.com](mailto:xplasticfishx@yahoo.com)



### *from the minister's desk*

#### **Musing**

Thank you all for your wonderful musical send-off at Fellowship Hour after my final pre-sabbatical service: everyone singing Chris Hossfeld's "Ken Read-Brown" to the tune of the Beatles' "Penny Lane" (which I haven't been able to get out of my brain... good thing I love the tune!). Thank you... thank you!

Another of my favorite songs is Pete Seeger's "Turn, Turn, Turn." In the spirit of those words of wisdom from Ecclesiastes, yes, to everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven... including a time for rest and renewal. I know such times are in short supply for many, so I am particularly grateful that, following the tradition of our UU congregations, I have this privilege of taking time away from the usual routines and responsibilities of ministry in order to read and reflect without the next sermon waiting to be prepared. I hope and trust that this time bears fruit for our shared Old Ship ministries when I resume my regular responsibilities.

So I'll be following my four "r's": reading, writing, reflecting... and running (as some of you know, I'm preparing to run the Boston Marathon once again, raising funds for the Alzheimer's Association in memory of my mother - if you'd like to help out, you can go to my fundraising site: [click here](#))

Can't think of an "r" to cover banjo picking and guitar strumming, but that too will be part of most days. And since I'll be in Hingham for most of this time, I won't have disappeared altogether. You may see me around town or even at an Old Ship Coffeehouse, Candlelight Concert, or Ceilidh (three musical "c's").

\* \* \*

You'll find elsewhere in the newsletter a list of the worship services we've planned for this ten-week period; I hope you will honor those who will be leading services by coming to

church whenever you can - it promises to be a stimulating and inspiring group of services and sermons.

These weeks will also be the period of our annual stewardship pledge drive, so I encourage you to reflect with care concerning how much you are able to give to support all that our congregation does and represents. Your dedicated volunteer leaders will not only appreciate whatever generosity is possible for you - they will also appreciate your quick responses, saving them the time and effort of further letters and calls.

In case of a pastoral emergency, you may contact Julianna in the office (781-749-1679; [office@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:office@oldshipchurch.org); outside of office hours, there will be a message on the phone indicating who to contact. Julianna will know how to reach me directly, and she also has contact information for local UU ministers who have agreed to be "on call" during these weeks. Contact information for members of our Pastoral Care Team appears in every newsletter as well, including this one.

\* \* \*

I wish you all health and well-being during these weeks and always. I look forward to being fully back among you in May. Meanwhile, here are a few lines to leave you with, from Willa Cather:

"Where there is great love there are always miracles. Miracles rest not so much upon faces or voices or healing power coming to us from afar off, but on our perceptions being made finer, so that for a moment our eyes can see and our ears can hear what is there about us always."

Peace and blessings,  
Ken  
[oldshipkrb@gmail.com](mailto:oldshipkrb@gmail.com)

## Religious Education Notes

Dear Old Ship,

This year the youth is inviting any interested adults to join them on their Service and Learning Trip in April. With the understanding that this will be a youth centered Service and Learning trip with youth culture at the forefront of all experiences, we would like to share the fun and growth with Old Shippers of any age. Now's the time to sign up for a meaningful week of purposeful service and learning!



Details listed below. Please direct any questions and interest to Beverly or Sarah Hurley.

**LOCATION:**  
Burlington, VT

**DATES:**  
Saturday, April 13 - Friday, April 19

**TRANSPORTATION:**  
by car

**LODGING:**  
Burlington Hostel  
Burlington Hostel - Burlington, Vermont

**ESTIMATED COST:**  
\$450

## **BURLINGTON COMMUNITY PARTNERS:**

First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington  
Home - First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington

### **Outright VT**

The Mission of Outright Vermont is to build safe, healthy, and supportive environments for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth ages 13-22.  
<http://www.outrightvt.org/>

### **Milk With Dignity**

The Milk with Dignity campaign builds a movement of farm workers and allies calling on dairy companies to ensure respect for human rights in their supply chains by joining the worker-driven Milk with Dignity Program.

### **Vermont Youth Conservation Corps**

VYCC is a 501(c)3 non-profit conservation, agricultural, and education youth organization with the mission of teaching young people personal responsibility through meaningful work that connects us to the land, community, and one another. VYCC programs operate year-round, throughout Vermont and beyond. Food and Farm | Vermont Youth Conservation Corps

### **Green Mountain Club**

The mission of the Green Mountain Club is to make the Vermont mountains play a larger part in the life of the people by protecting and maintaining the Long Trail System and fostering, through education, the stewardship of Vermont's hiking trails and mountains.  
<https://www.greenmountainclub.org/>

### **A New Place**

Our mission is to provide a holistic continuum of services for the homeless, centered in love and dignity, that foster growth, cultivate community engagement, and provide tools for lifelong change so that each person may start anew. <https://www.anewplacevt.org/>

Can't wait to head to Vermont...  
Beverly Tricco  
Director of Religious Education

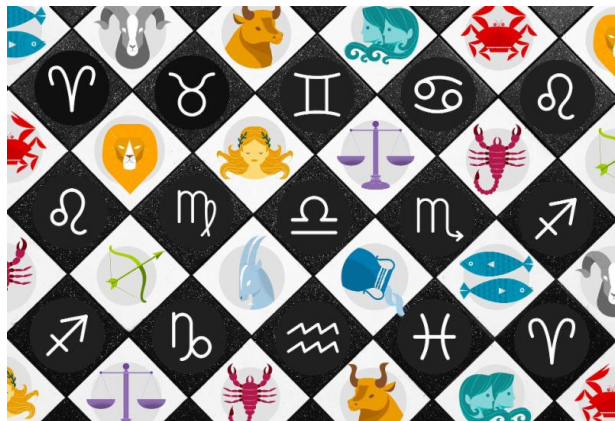
## **Nurturing Community Updates**

### **Sun Sign celebration on Sunday, March 3**

We will be celebrating birthdays at Fellowship Hour on Sunday, March 3 with cakes for all! Simply find the table with your zodiac sign and have a slice of cake while getting to know your fellow Capricorns, Pisces, Leos, Scorpios, etc.

### **Welcome New Member Nancy Gunshanan**

If you think you recognize Nancy-but are not sure-you might!! Nancy lived and raised her family in Hingham for nearly 25 years. Meredith (32) and Garrett (29), were "raised" at Old Ship Church and attended Sunday School for a number of years. Nancy came to Boston in 1974 and had a successful career as an Office Manager. Faced with losing her job at Bain in 2002, she "left" Old Ship-focusing on transforming herself-completing nursing school, being a single mom and juggling the care of two terminally ill friends.



At 50, Nancy started as an RN at the VA and is now in her 15th year. She loves hospice care but is currently working on a long-term spinal cord unit in Brockton. She has lived in Raynham for 5 years and is much closer to work and her two grandchildren (Mason, 11 and Mia, 3). Her son and his wife are expecting their first child in April. Nancy shares that returning to Old Ship



has been a pleasant experience-full of warm, welcoming people-both known and unknown. She attended an 8 week Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) program last spring. Incorporating a mindfulness practice into her daily life is, in large part, what brought Nancy back to Old Ship. She is thrilled to be participating in the Bodhisattva Study Group when time permits. If Nancy is not with us on any particular Sunday, she might be enjoying the serenity of her cottage on a little lake in VT. She is happy with her blessed life and happy to be back at Old Ship.

### **Thinking of becoming a member?**

Do you like Old Ship and enjoy the Old Ship community? Do you find yourself identifying with the UU principles of freedom and reason in religion? If the answer is yes, then perhaps it is time to consider becoming a member. Often, arriving at Unitarian Universalism is just a step in the evolution of one's thinking and convictions. By signing the membership book you are affirming your connection and commitment to Old Ship and to an open minded, reasoned, compassionate, and inclusive approach to life and spirituality. We will offer support and encouragement to you as you develop your own spirituality, and we ask that you offer your time, energy & financial support in affirming the ideals and values to which we aspire. As a member, you will be able to vote and participate in the decision-making process of the church. Please contact Ken Read-Brown ([oldshipkrb@comcast.net](mailto:oldshipkrb@comcast.net)) or Ivy Butterworth (781-749-3190 or [ivy\\_butter@yahoo.com](mailto:ivy_butter@yahoo.com)) for more information or to answer any questions/concerns.

### **Magnetic Name tags**

We are switching over to new magnetic name tags which will be easier to use and store in our nametag cabinet. The only drawback is that they can't be used by anyone with a pacemaker. Please stop by the Welcome Table if you'd like to sign up for a new nametag.

### **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.

March 10: Last names beginning Q-Z

March 17: Last names beginning A-H

March 24: Last names beginning I-P

March 31: Last names beginning Q-Z

### **Wanted: Sunday Flower Donor**

Interested in being a Sunday flowers donor? March 31 is available! You may provide your own arrangement, or the Sunday Flowers Committee will create a lovely arrangement for a \$50 charge. Contact Sharon Prehn ([prehn@verizon.net](mailto:prehn@verizon.net) or 781-925-0101).

### **Floral Fun**

Do you have an interest or talent for floral arrangement? If so, we need your help and can show you how it's done! The Sunday Flowers Committee is looking for additional people to assist in creating the floral arrangements for our Sunday services. Contact Sharon Prehn (781-925-0101, [prehn@verizon.net](mailto:prehn@verizon.net)) for more information.

### ***Occasional writings from Old Ship members on why this community is an important part of their life.***

#### **What Old Ship Means to Me**

As we launch the annual pledge campaign this month, I am delighted to share my reflections on what Old Ship means to me. I love Old Ship because the people are my sangha, my tribe, my community. I feel interconnected to the people and to the joys, sorrows, and concerns that are experienced and expressed.

Old Ship means I have multiple opportunities for continuing spiritual growth. This may happen when I hear a sermon or music during the worship service, when I attend a class led by Ken, or when I serve on a committee with other members. The wonderful thing is that I can't predict what experience will touch me and there have been so many since I first came to Old Ship almost ten years ago.

During my time here at Old Ship I have made new friends, learned about different religions, and increased my awareness of issues of social justice in the world. I came to Old Ship yearning for a deeper and truer faith than what I had known. I am not disappointed.

Old Ship is a gift that I cherish. I especially appreciate knowing that I can contribute to the mission by giving back my "time, talents and treasures". I can't imagine what it would be like to not have Old Ship to love. I have found a faith and a beloved community that sustains me on an everyday basis no matter what is happening in my life.

Ginny Perelson



## Social Justice Council (SJC) News

Serving Others through bringing a non-perishable food item for the Hingham Food Pantry  
The SJC invites you to continue to Serve Others by bringing a non-perishable food item for the Hingham Food Pantry whenever you come to Old Ship in 2019. There is a collection basket in the vestibule of the Meeting House each Sunday to receive your donation. The collection box in the outer vestibule of the Parish House is also available to accept donations when you come for classes or meetings or anytime.

In January our donations totaled 119 lbs.  
Foods especially needed by the Pantry in March:

Rice or rice side dishes  
Canned stew  
Canned spaghetti or ravioli  
Strawberry or grape jelly  
Pasta sauce



### Social Justice Plate Collection, Sunday March 17th

Our Special Plate collection will go to Common Cathedral, an outdoor church based on the Boston Common for those experiencing homelessness and their friends. Common Cathedral serves as an important community for people experiencing homelessness, and for faith communities who want to be in supportive relationship with un-housed individuals and their friends

### U.U. Urban Ministry

Based in Roxbury, "the UU Urban Ministry unites communities and transforms 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."

Explore ways to be in community with the UUUM in Roxbury here

- Ongoing-Join Old Shippers who volunteer once a month with UUUM's (UU Urban Ministry) Fair Foods affordable food distribution at UUUM headquarters at 10 Putnam St in Roxbury. Email [pamharty@comcast.net](mailto:pamharty@comcast.net) to be connected with them.
- March 2, 10:30-12:30: Museum of African American History. 46 Joy st, Beacon Hill. As part of UUUM's "Roxbury Connections Corner", we invite UUs to engage in Roxbury's cultural richness and to learn about its history art and activism. Discover the history of our city's African American Community with a visit to the African Meeting House and Abiel Smith School. Stay for lunch following an engaging tour by former State Representative Byron Rushing. Tickets are \$10 for the Museum only and \$22 for the tour and lunch and can be purchased on the day of the event. Please RSVP to Marcia Butman. More here.
- March 17, 3 pm at the UUUM 10 Putnam St, Roxbury: (and a 2:15 p.m. - Artistic Exchange featuring a performance by students from Project STEP) Boston Symphony

Orchestra presents its Community Chamber Concert in the First Church in Roxbury. FREE event, but you must reserve tickets here.

### **Green Sanctuary**

The mission of our Green Sanctuary is to protect all elements of our precious Web of Life from what is now recognized as an existential danger: the man-made threat of runaway global warming. While the "Big Picture" context is daunting we have already demonstrated that strategic action by a small band of Old Ship activists convinced the Hingham Light Plant to convert Hingham's electricity to 100% "Fossil Fuel Free. At Hingham's last town meeting Hingham's Energy Action Committee won approval of the town to seek certification as a Green Community. In January, their application was approved. This will provide state funds to help improve energy efficiency in town facilities. In discussions with Tom Mayo the town administrator, it appears the time is ripe for Hingham to go beyond "Green Community" and join other MA towns in the quest for "Net Zero" status where all of the elements of energy use in town can become carbon free. We are focusing on campaigning with like minded allies such as local organizations, businesses, religious congregations to support a town meeting warrant to catalyze a town study group to launch this transformation. The goal would be a successful warrant in the 2020 town meeting. The towns of Cambridge and Lexington have done this and others are working on it. We have the people in our congregation who can help to make this happen, we have civic organizations who can be recruited to the cause. Success with these campaigns across the state could take the market for energy away from the petroleum industry and save Mother Earth. We look forward to hearing from anyone interested. Next meeting of our Green Sanctuary/350MA - South Shore node will be Tuesday 3/5 at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Interested in advocating for vulnerable communities?

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**

Saturday, March 16th at 8pm in the Fellowship Hall -Robbie O'Connell  
Irish Celtic - tributes to dark history, original whiskey cats, & romantic classics. Note: Proceeds from Coffee House on the Square performances benefit the UU Service Committee

### **Information session : Sunday 3-24 at 12 noon in the Parlor**

"Reduction of Plastic Bags and Encouraging Reusable Bags" Warrant article for Hingham's 2019 Town Meeting. Janice McPhillips and Brenda Black, who serve on Cleaner Greener Hingham will present information about the proposed bylaw which will be voted on at the April 2019 Town Meeting. Please join us if you would like to learn about the details and rationale for the proposed ban on single use plastic bags and the recommendation to use reusable bags. If you are unable to come to the information session but have questions, please feel free to contact us: Janice McPhillips [jbmcpillips@gmail.com](mailto:jbmcpillips@gmail.com) Brenda Black [blackpollara@verizon.net](mailto:blackpollara@verizon.net)

### **Interested in Social Justice work at Old Ship?**

You are welcome at any Social Justice Council meeting to talk with us about your ideas of how Old Ship can Serve Others. Next SJC meeting will be Sat 3/2/2019 at 9 am in the Parlor.

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

#### **Painting, Drawing, Seeing... Together continues for three Friday evenings in March!**

**Beverly Tricco**

**March 1, 15, 29**

*"... 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.



**Spring Equinox on Wednesday, March 20 at 7pm, Parlor**

Come join the ongoing poetry renaissance in America, Northeast Branch, Old Ship affiliate! Bring and read or speak a favorite poem: one that speaks to new beginnings, or has inspired you, challenged you, comforted you, or even one that made you laugh out loud. This evening is an opportunity to share and perhaps deepen our appreciation of poetry, and remind us of our connection with the natural cycles of life. Come with or without a poem.

For more info: Elizabeth Torrey (781-749-0543)

" A light exists in spring  
Not present on the year  
At any other period -  
When March is  
scarcely here."

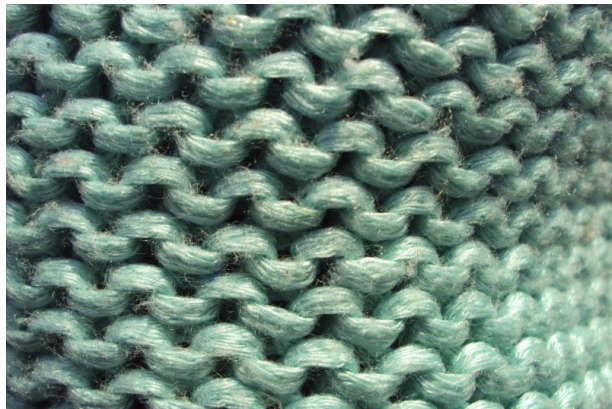
Emily Dickinson

**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.

**Fiber, Fun & Fellowship**

The Old Ship Crafters are changing our name, and inviting you to join us. We are now Fiber, Fun & Fellowship, also known as FiberFunShip! We meet most Wednesdays at 1:30 in the nursery at the Parish House, preparing high-quality crafts (usually fiber-based) to be sold at Merrie Market and May Breakfast. Join us when you can! Please let Diane Elliot know you are interested ([dianeabbeyelliott@gmail.com](mailto:dianeabbeyelliott@gmail.com)) so she can keep you posted.



**Infants-to-Ancients "Pizzas and Pies, Games and Puzzles" Night!**





Are you young? Are you an elder? Are you somewhere in between?  
Come eat, play games, and do puzzles with friends at Old Ship.

**Friday, March 22nd, 6 - 9 pm**

(Want some help with those infants?

Contact Beverly @ [beverlytmail@gmail.com](mailto:beverlytmail@gmail.com)  
and we will arrange plenty of baby-holders)

### **Candlelight Concert - Sunday, March 31, 4pm**

"Mostly Gershwin" is the focus of the last Candlelight Concert of this season. Vocalist Dominique Eade and jazz pianist Elan Mehler will perform works from this most American of musicians.

Eade is a vocalist, improviser, and composer whose work over the past three decades has earned her critical recognition from a variety of publications, including "The New York Times" and "Jazz Times," among others. Elan Mehler, who studied jazz and classical music, has toured his bands in major festivals and venues worldwide, receiving generous accolades from "The Guardian," "Downbeat," and many other publications. This concert, which will be held on Sunday, March 31, at 4:00 p.m in our Meeting House, will be presented free of charge; your contribution is welcome.



### **More Nurturing Community News**

#### **NVNA and Hospice needs volunteers**

NVNA and Hospice, based in Norwell, is seeking volunteers one day a week to help provide patients comfort in their homes or at the Pat Roche Hospice Home in Hingham. If you are interested, contact Kelly Tammaro: [ktammaro@nvna.org](mailto:ktammaro@nvna.org) or 781-610-1427.

#### **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: Santjes Oomen-Lochtefeld, Nigel Harvey, Eva Marx, Rob Baynes, Cory Fitz-Marquez, and John Sneath.

#### **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 three 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?
- Companionship: Would you be willing to spend a few hours now and then with an Old Ship member when the primary caregiver in their household needs to be away from the home for a short while?

If you might be able to help in any of these ways, 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)  
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Liz Flint, [Elizabethflint@hotmail.com](mailto:Elizabethflint@hotmail.com)  
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