



First Parish, Hingham

## Old Ship Church

Unitarian Universalist

107 Main Street Hingham, MA 02043

(781) 749-1679

office@oldshipchurch.org www.oldshipchurch.org

### September 2014 Newsletter

**Want to download the newsletter to print?** [Click here for newsletter to print out.](#)

### A Month of Sundays...

#### Sunday, September 7

Our annual Homecoming Service will as always include our Water Communion ceremony. We are each invited to bring a small sample of water from some favorite summer place, as close as that cold refreshing water from the tap or a backyard stream, or as far away as travels may have taken us. We will pour our water into a single bowl to the accompaniment of gentle music and projected scenes of rivers, lakes, and seas; our water ceremony symbolizes our re-gathering in community and our sharing in the community of life.

#### Sunday, September 14

"Shalom/Salaam/Peace" will be Ken's sermon.

Ken has recently returned from Israel. The occasion was for a gathering to celebrate his son Adam's marriage to Daniella this past spring, with Daniella's Israeli family and friends. Needless to say, the journey also offered much to ponder in relation to the ongoing conflict in Israel/Palestine. Is peace possible in this region which has known so much war, yet whose central city is named Jerusalem: "place of peace"? What are the necessary conditions for peace anywhere?

#### Sunday, September 21

Ken will be in New York City for the "People's Climate March" which is preceding upcoming United Nations climate talks. One of our Old Ship deacons will present Ken's sermon: "Why I Am in New York."

#### Sunday, September 28

In the midst of the Jewish High Holy Days, Ken's sermon will be "Blessings". Following the service, the Social Justice Council will host a forum to initiate our newly designated social justice focus on homelessness and hunger.

### Special September Worship Note

As you know, for over twenty-five years we have hosted the Harvard Glee Club and Radcliffe Choral Society for their annual fall retreat; and they have sung for one of our September services. This Sunday service became a beautiful fall touchstone in our worship calendar. Sadly for us, the groups have altered their fall schedule this year, and will not be with us. We are, however, hoping to be able to schedule a concert at Old Ship in the spring - watch this space for further details. The tentative date is April 12.

### 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 "Bodhisattva Study Group" meets at 8:30 on the first and third Sundays of each month, offering time for meditation and then conversation concerning a Buddhist book the group is reading.

"Men's Breakfast" meets at 8:30 on the second Sunday of each month for sharing and conversation (and bagels and coffee and tea too).

"Women's Breakfast and Knitting" meets on the fourth Sunday of each month at 8:30 for... breakfast and knitting.

*Childcare available before Sunday services: If you plan to attend the Men's Breakfast or Bodhisattva Study Group or Women's Knitting on Sunday morning and need childcare in order to do so, please call our office by Wednesday before the Sunday, and we will do our best to arrange childcare in the nursery for you.*

## from the minister's desk

### Musing

John Lennon is quoted as saying "Life is what happens while you are busy making other plans."

This was certainly true for me this past summer. In mid-August, with a week's notice, I found myself traveling to Israel with our daughter Eliza. A confluence of events, both political and personal, led to our trip to join our son Adam and his wife Daniella, who were already there. We were able to see much of the country, even in just the week of our visit. Our home base was in Jerusalem, and we took day trips to Masada and the Dead Sea, Tel Aviv, Haifa, and the Sea of Galilee. And fortunately for us our stay coincided - for most of the time - with cease fires amidst the tragic fighting between Israel and the Hamas forces in Gaza.

The primary purpose of our journey, however, was to be able to attend the long-planned party in Jerusalem to celebrate Adam and Daniella's marriage this past spring with Daniella's Israeli family and friends.

So I return from Israel first of all knowing that we now have family there, and feeling deep bonds with that family. Further, I return not with any great new insights as to how an enduring peace can be forged between Israel and the Palestinians, but rather with a greater (and deeply poignant) understanding of just how complex and layered the political and religious realities are in that land. Finally, I return with a heart even more open to the human suffering on all sides of the conflict.

Creativity along with political and moral courage beyond anything we have yet seen will be required to make a peace that has the potential to be permanent. Meanwhile, those of us who do not live the daily realities of life in Israel/Palestine must resist simplistic declarations of right and wrong, good and evil. At the very least, we would do well to cultivate a deeper compassion for all in this troubled and beautiful land, a land holy to the three Abrahamic religious traditions, a land that someday must be shared with justice and freedom for everyone who call it home.

\*

I look forward seeing you all soon as we re-gather in community at our Old Ship Meeting House and for the year to come. I hope you are all well, and that you have

found time for personal renewal during this summer filled with difficult and sad headlines. It will be good to be together again.

Peace and blessings,  
--Ken oldshipkrb@gmail.com

**Please note my new email address. It looks the same as the old one... until you get to the server, which is now Gmail. Thanks! I look forward to hearing from you at any time about whatever is on your mind and in your heart.**

*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 on email: my practice is to be on line at least during a period of each afternoon.*

--Ken

## From the Music Director

What's new in the music program this fall?

### **Treble Boot Camp**

My goal for this year is to increase overall participation in the choir, especially among the treble voices. To this extent, I will be offering a Treble Boot Camp program beginning the second Sunday of the church year, September 14. We will meet for 6 weeks and sing as an ensemble during the service on October 26. During these six weeks, we will work on learning to read music, building vocal range and technique and learning to sing 3-part harmony. Treble voices are typically thought of as women's voice parts, but there is also a men's vocal range called "counter-tenor" which could be thought of as a treble voice. And there is such a thing as a male soprano, called a sopranist. I say this as invitation to any transgender folks among us. If you are transitioning to being a woman, perhaps we can help you with your vocal transition. Perhaps you are transitioning as a man, happen to like your voice just as it is and have no intention of changing it. We have a place for you as well.

### **Community Thanksgiving Service**

Do you want to sing for this service? This year's Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on Wednesday, November 26. Rehearsals will begin October 23 at 7:30 pm in the church. Please let me know as soon as possible of your interest so I can make sure I have enough materials for everyone. We will begin rehearsal with Thanksgiving music and then move on to other things so if you only came for Thanksgiving, you can leave early.

### **Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat...**

Do you want to sing with the choir Christmas Eve? Please let me know right away so I can make sure to order enough materials. I also want to make sure you get rehearsal tapes in a timely fashion so you can be fully prepared. My plan, this year, is to sing the opening chorus 'from Bach's Christmas Oratorio, Jauchzet, Frohlocket. What, you don't know this chorus? Click on the image below and it will take you to the link on YouTube. Don't panic, we will sing it in English.



J.S. Bach - Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248 /  
Chorus: "Jauchzet, frohlocket" (Ton Koopman)

Berni Nadeau  
musicdirector@oldshipchurch.org

## From Your Membership Coordinator

Hello again!

As this summer comes to an end (sad, but true) we will again convene together on Sundays. I look forward to this like I do a good book: it's something I enjoy while I'm doing it, and after it's done I feel happy and want more!

This year I'd like to concentrate on bringing new members to Old Ship and connecting them with our community in ways that will generate feelings of happiness for us all. I'd like to offer more opportunities for us to grow together, to nourish, to support and to maintain our well being. I would also like to see new friendships begin the first chapter in //their// book! I will do all I can to help Old Ship's story continue, and I know all of you will, as well.

I look forward to seeing everyone and reconnecting again,

Erin  
Membership Coordinator

## Nurturing Community

### Among Us

#### Child care needed for High Holy Day services

For many years Old Shippers have assisted with child care for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services at Congregation Sha'Aray Shalom in South Hingham. This year the services fall on the mornings of Thursday, September 25 and Saturday, October 4. If you can help out for all or part of one or both of those mornings, please contact our office at 781-749-1679; office@oldshipchurch.org.

Volunteers have plenty of support and assistance, and usually a banjo player shows up for part of the time.

### **Brits and Yanks recital at Old Ship**

This has been a great summer for us tour guides. Even when business has been slow, Bernie Nadeau has kept us happy, playing in preparation for her concert. Visitors have stood and listened to her, forgetting all about us.

The concert itself started off with the rousing "Hornpipe Humouresque" that had fun with familiar themes. In the rest of the program, Brits and Yanks of various periods and styles rubbed elbows. George Frederic Handel was politely taken aback to find himself on the same bill as Leroy Anderson, but Bernie sorted out congenial groupings. She distinguished each piece by introducing its composer. There was humor, vivacity, and personality in her choices and great skill in her performance. We are grateful for such a very special gift to us.

Thanks, Fan Leonard

*Please send any items for "Among Us" either to Julianna Dunn in the Parish House office (office@oldshipchurch.org). Like our Candles of Joy and Sorrow on Sunday mornings, this page helps us to knit the fabric of community.*

## **Educating Hearts and Minds**

### **OLD SHIP LIFE LEARNING PROGRAMS**

This year's "Life Learning" programs will include classes on the Aeneid, the Sermon on the Mount, the Meditations of Marcus Aurelius, Genealogy, Spring Poetry... and more!

And regularly meeting groups now resume after a summer hiatus: Evensong, Monday Meditation, Upanishads Study Group, Men's Breakfast, Bodhisattva Study Group, Women's Fourth Sunday Breakfast and Knitting, Living By Heart, Crossing Time Poetry Circles, and the monthly "ceilidh" (song circle).

A full schedule for 2014-2015 programs will soon be posted on our web site, and "Life Learning" brochures will soon be available on our various literature tables. Meanwhile, here is a description of the first class this fall:

**The Aeneid Re-Visited** - five sessions, Wednesdays, September 10 - Oct. 8, 7:00 and/or 1:00 depending on interest

We continue our exploration of the western tradition of epic poetry with Virgil's Aeneid. Not as often read as the Iliad or Odyssey, which we read together over the past two years, the Aeneid also has lessons for and poses questions for our own time. Picking up where the Greek epics left off, the journey of Aeneas after the Trojan war and the eventual founding of Rome has relevance in our own age of imperial ambitions and war. There are many fine translations; if you are getting a new one, I recommend the translation by Robert Fagles. For more information and to sign up contact Ken Read-Brown at 781-749-1679; oldshipkrb@gmail.com

### **And here are a few reminders about ongoing groups:**

Newcomers and everyone else are warmly welcomed to the following:

*The Bodhisattva Study Group*, which usually meets on the first and third Sunday

mornings at 8:30; we will be starting a new book for the group: *No Time to Lose*, by Buddhist teacher and writer Pema Chodron. The group is led by Ken Read-Brown.

*The Upanishads Study Group*, which meets on the second and third Thursday afternoons at 4:00. We are slowly making our way through the Upanishads, using a translation by Eknath Easwaran. This group is also led by Ken Read-Brown.

*Men's Breakfast*, which meets on the second Sunday of each month at 8:30 - all men welcome.

*Women's Breakfast and Knitting*, meeting on the fourth Sunday of each month at 8:30 - all women welcome.

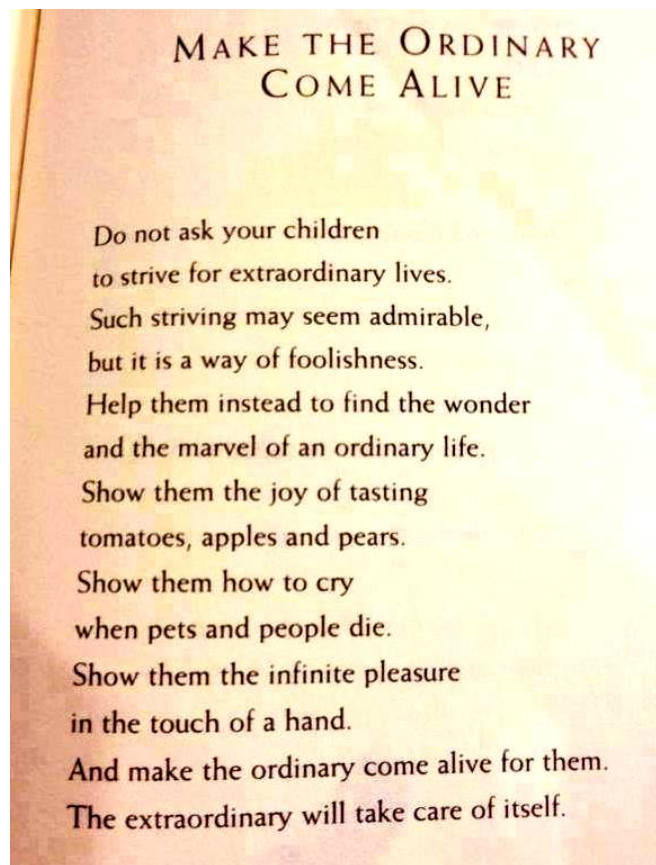
*Monday Meditation in the Buddhist tradition*, every Monday evening from 7:00-8:30.

Also continuing this year: the first Tuesday (7:00 p.m.) monthly *Ceilidh*... and much more...see our web site for all of Old Ship's Life Learning opportunities.

*Morning Meditation* has a new improved time; 5:30 - 6:30 am. Still on Thursdays, all are invited for quiet zen schedule of meditation - sitting & walking with the Heart Sutra before sitting again. Any questions, please email or call me, Eric E. Cornetta, [EECornetta@verizon.net](mailto:EECornetta@verizon.net), 781 740-0628.

## Religious Education Notes

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes,  
but in having new eyes. -- Marcel Proust



Dear Old Ship,

The world is heavy on us... from the heavy, heavy news... to the weighty expectations of our family, friends and community... Sometimes it is a challenge to remember who WE are... and what our individual life is about... and what makes US come alive.

I like to think this is a big part of what Unitarian Universalist religious education does...

And I feel like this fall, this year, what we offer is more needed than it's ever been.

I propose that this year, we treat our time together as a balm... and a blessing... and nourishment.

Feel free to talk to me about that... about what would be most nourishing for you and your family. I have the feeling that it's going to come down to how we treat each other when we're together... maybe slowing way down. Maybe we'll be feeling our way as we go.

Call, e-mail or visit me during the week, because as always, I like to dedicate my brief, precious, Sunday morning time to being 100% present and available to children and Youth, who don't have the power or the executive skills to call, e-mail, or visit me during the week...

Finding the "wonder and marvel"...

Beverly Tricco

Director of Religious Education

[beverlytmail@gmail.com](mailto:beverlytmail@gmail.com)

p.s. Like last year, our first day of R.E. (September 14) will be a scavenger hunt of the Parish house... Ground floor to attic... Teams of teachers, children and Youth... Getting to know each other, the building, and where to find stuff, all in one fun, pseudo-competitive swoop. And, first of all, I can't wait to see you all for our Homecoming Service and Water Communion this Sunday, Sept. 7, in the Meeting House.

## 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!

Abbey Diamond-Kissiday, [Abby@AbbyCMA.com](mailto:Abby@AbbyCMA.com), (781) 925-1305

Elaine Gomez, [eh-gomez@comcast.net](mailto:eh-gomez@comcast.net), (781) 740-1663

Alicia Harkness, [PAJL7@verizon.net](mailto:PAJL7@verizon.net), (781) 749-7825

Fan Leonard, (781) 749-2852

Bob Shepard, [cheney777@verizon.net](mailto:cheney777@verizon.net), (781) 878-2766

Beverly Trico, [oldshipdre@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:oldshipdre@oldshipchurch.org), (781)-749-1679

Ken Read-Brown, [oldshipkrb@gmail.com](mailto:oldshipkrb@gmail.com), (781)-749-1679

## Auction! Saturday, October 26, 7pm

Hold onto your hats! By popular demand, the Old Ship Goods and Services Auction is back. Mark your calendar for October 25th

and then put on your thinking cap and decide what you can do to help make the return of this fun fundraiser a smashing success.

What it is: This event is a lively evening out where \$5 gets you in the door, and where you go from there is up to you! The Parish House doors open at 7:00 PM. There will be drinks available for purchase as well as complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

A silent auction of goods and services will get underway at once followed by a live

auction at 8:15. Up for bidding will be a dizzying array of unique goods and services offered by our exceptional members and friends as well as local businesses. Some highly sought after experiences from past years would include help with yard work, computer skills, use of a vacation home, being hosted for a sail, foods prepared from a special recipe for any number of occasions to name a few.

What you can do:

Decide what hats you would like to wear both literally and figuratively. We need many hands and minds to make this an unforgettable evening.

First and foremost, please think about your talents , abilities and resources and donate a service or goods that someone else would be delighted to purchase. Your creativity and generosity will be most appreciated.

Additionally, we would appreciate it if you could put on your chef's hat, artist's beret, accountant's visor or operator's headset to help with the food, decorations, bid tracking , phone calls et cetera. We need plenty of volunteers to help plan, set-up, and carry out this fundraiser.

Please contact Betty Fernandes (781-749-0095/[bettyfern@comcast.net](mailto:bettyfern@comcast.net)), Diane Elliott (781-749-2248/[dianeabbeyelliott@gmail.com](mailto:dianeabbeyelliott@gmail.com)), Diane Willson (781-749-3287), Betty Cossette, Carol Schuler (781-749-3736) or Joan Wilson ([joanielw@verizon.net](mailto:joanielw@verizon.net) or 781-740-8840) to volunteer or to brainstorm auction ideas.

Thank you and our hats are off to you for helping to make this a success!

Warmly,  
Betty

## Social Justice Council

The social justice focus for the Social Justice Council and Old Ship congregation beginning this fall will be Homelessness and Hunger. The Council will hold the fall kick-off meeting on Sunday, September 21 at 12 p.m. in the parlor of the Parish House.

You are invited to come to the meeting to learn about volunteer opportunities and contribute your questions and ideas. Future meeting dates and times will be determined at this meeting.

### [Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to [office@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:office@oldshipchurch.org) by [office@oldshipchurch.org](mailto:office@oldshipchurch.org) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



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