

First Parish in Cambridge
Christmas Weekend - December 23 – December 25, 2018

Sunday, December 23 at 11:00 am–1:00 pm -Holiday Festival!

(Please remember there is no regular worship service on Sunday...enter at 3 Church Street)

We invite you to join us for food, fun and a variety of activities we hope will enrich your spirit and your holiday experience! Activities will include contemplative space in the Meetinghouse for prayer, coloring and learning more about Blue Christmas; refreshment and holiday music in the parlor; gingerbread houses and crafts in the Barn Room; storytelling in the Nursery and a solstice ritual in the Chapel. Please plan to join us!

Monday, December 24 at 5:30 – Christmas Eve Service

Join us for our traditional candlelight service with trumpet and carols. Rev. Adam and Rev. Danielle will lead.

Tuesday, December 25 at 5:30 - Tuesday Meals

Tuesday Meals will offer a warm hearty holiday meal for our guests on Christmas Day, December 25th from 5:30-7:00. If you would like to volunteer, we will be prepping from 2pm until 5:30, and serving from 5:30-7:00. If baking is your thing, we'll be accepting Christmas cookies Sunday after service and Monday from 9-11am in the Parlor. Our guests loved the homemade baked goods on Thanksgiving, and it's a great way to show our support of this Beloved Community! Please contact Mike Mennonno at mmennonno@firstparishcambridge with any questions.

Religious Education for Children and Youth

Graded programs are on hiatus for the holiday. Join us on Sunday, January 6 for our multi-generational service to kick-off our Winter Theme of Covenanting. Happy Holidays everyone!

Volunteer at Y2Y during Winter Break

Many of the students who volunteer on a regular basis at Y2Y will be leaving the area for winter break which runs from December 20 through January 20. This offers a great opportunity for members and friends of First Parish to learn more about Y2Y and get involved by volunteering for one or more shifts during the break. Volunteers are especially needed for overnight shifts (don't worry there are options so you can get some sleep). Let's work together with our partners at Y2Y and help fill some of the open shifts. To volunteer follow the links on their website at y2yharvardsquare.org

Envisioning a New Massachusetts Avenue Entrance – January 13 from 12:15 pm–1:45pm in the Barn Room

Join Kate Ryan and members of the Building Ministry Team on Sunday, January 13 as we envision and imagine a new Massachusetts Avenue entrance for the church. Using markers, paint, blocks, clay and other materials we will create dioramas which will be filled with hopes, dreams, possibilities and ideas. All ages are invited to join us! A light lunch will be available.

For this event we are seeking the following supplies:

- Boxes that are approximately 8 x 11 (large shoe boxes are great!)
- Tiny boxes (jewelry type boxes, etc.)
- Legos or small blocks
- Air dry clay
- Paper or cardboard with unusual textures
- Flat rocks and stones

Save the Date! – Sunday, January 20, 2019 12:15 – 1:45

A Discussion of "White Supremacy Culture" - an eight page article by Tema Okun found [here](#).

Sponsored by the Racial Equity Team.

Organized by Charlene Galarneau. Questions? Contact charlene.galarneau@gmail.com

More info to come in January.

Do Somethings Go To the MFA – January 6 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Every month, we get together and just do something. In January, we'll be visiting Boston's Museum of Fine Arts to check out some of their newest exhibits. Whether you want to see classic Winnie the Pooh drawings or Ansel Adams landscapes, there will be something for everyone and all ages. If you're interested in joining us please email Ian Evans (ievans272@gmail.com).

Get involved!

Accompaniment Volunteering

First Parish is a member of the CISC, a coalition of 10 Cambridge-area congregations that is currently hosting a woman and her two children in sanctuary so she can avoid deportation and separation from her family.

“Accompaniment” volunteers are needed seven days a week on-site at a church in Harvard Square. Sometimes volunteer shifts are quiet, and sometimes there is a lot of interaction with the children. We can pair you with an experienced volunteer so you won't be on your own. Volunteering helps in her long process of fighting to stay in the U.S.

Child Care Volunteering

The CISC childcare team is looking for several new volunteers who can commit to regular monthly outings to ensure that the children (ages 2 and almost 4) are able to spend time outside each day. A simple hour or two of outdoor play means so much in the life of this family we've committed as a coalition to support. Because coverage and consistency are ongoing concerns, we are looking for people who can commit to at least 2 weekday morning or afternoon outings a month.

Please email Rebecca Balder, First Parish's volunteer coordinator, at BBSF@firstparishcambridge.org to learn more about either of these opportunities.

Safety Reminder

Please remember that First Parish is a public building used by many different people and groups. To ensure protection of your belongings, please don't leave belongings unattended.

Pastoral Care

Sometimes life can become stressful and hard. You may be facing a job loss, the end of a relationship, a serious illness, a family transition or a difficult conversation that you're worried about. Pastoral Care is available for you. If you would like a pastoral care phone call or visit please let us know. Our ministers are available to support you. Please contact them directly by phone at 617-528-9838 or email at pastoralcare@firstparishcambridge.org

Our Generosity — Empowering First Parish

Your financial support is important to empowering the mission of First Parish. Here are ways you can give:

- Donate, one-time or recurring, in our secure system: firstparishcambridge.org/connection/donate
- Drop checks, or cash in an envelope with your name on it, in the Sunday service offering basket or mail to the office.
- Set up First Parish in your bank's online payment system.

Events This Week

Please note that Yoga, Music and Art Classes are not First Parish programs. They are run by outside instructors and a fee is associated with the classes.

Sunday December 23

11:00 am Holiday Festival
12:30 pm Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room

Monday December 24

5:30 pm Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday December 25

5:30 pm Tuesday Meals in the Parlor

Wednesday December 26

6:30 pm Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room
7:00 pm BBSF in the Chapel
7:30 pm Interplay in the Barn Room
8:00 pm AA in the Parlor

Thursday December 27

6:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room

Saturday December 29

8:00 am Cambridge Minyan in the Parlor and the Chapel
8:30 am GSA in the Chapel
10:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room