

**First Parish in Cambridge January 27, 2019**  
**Decisions, Decisions - Gregory Carrow-Boyd**

**Welcome to First Parish!**

First Parish in Cambridge is a multi-faith, spirit-filled congregation devoted to love and justice. We are moving joyfully into a multiracial, multicultural, justice-making future. We embrace all ages, races, classes, abilities, sexual orientations, gender presentations, and ethnic and religious backgrounds. Honoring all the faith traditions of the world, we support each person's path to wisdom and spiritual growth. Whoever you are, wherever you are on the journey of life, we welcome you into our hearts.

**If you're here for the first time**, we invite you to fill out a visitor card located in the pew and leave it in the collection plate. We'll sign you up for our weekly e-mail announcements and monthly newsletter.

**All are welcome to join us in Helverson Parlor** following the service for refreshments.

**For those attending with children**, you are welcome to worship as a family or children ages 4 and under are welcome in our Nursery. An usher can direct you to RE staff. Registration is required.

**Participating in the Service**

Gregory Carrow-Boyd, Guest Speaker  
Rev. Danielle Di Bona, Developmental Minister  
Mandy Neff, Director of Religious Education  
William Williamson, Ministerial Intern  
Carol Lewis, Director of Administration  
Jonathan Barnhart, Music Director  
The First Parish Choir

**Religious Education for Children and Youth**

Please join us at the beginning of worship for a Time for All Ages, then RE programs. Nursery care for children under 4 opens at 9am.

<b>Nursery</b>	Children under 4	Nursery, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
<b>Spirit Play</b>	PreK-1st Grade	Baldwin Rm, Mezzanine
<b>Theme Group</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Barn Room

## Shared Offering for January

Our recipient for January is **On The Rise**. **On The Rise** was founded on the ideal that dependable relationships catalyze healing and transformation. Our programs seek relationships with chronically homeless women that are long-term and relevant to their entire life experience, not just singular challenges. Each year, about 450 women engage with On The Rise, with more than 12,000 contacts: at the Safe Haven near Central Square, through street outreach, and in apartments and other locations in Cambridge and surrounding communities – building relationships and community, taking care of basic tangible needs in a safe, supportive environment, and engaging in advocacy and assistance that address complex, long-term issues like housing and health. Since 1995, On The Rise has helped hundreds of women move from surviving on the streets to living and thriving in their own housing. Please contact [keyton.sheely@ontherise.org](mailto:keyton.sheely@ontherise.org) if you would like to explore volunteer opportunities or arrange a visit.

## In Memoriam

Flowers this morning are donated in memory of Ernie Kirwan by the Middle East Education Group. Ernie was an active and valued member of the group for many years. He continued to be interested in what was happening even when he was no longer able to attend events. We will miss his many contributions.

## Today's Events

### **The Board Wants to Hear From You**

Share your views on how well First Parish is living into its mission. Join the Governing Board and fellow congregation members at a **congregational conversation, Sunday January 27, 12:15 to 2:00 in the Barn Room**. A light lunch and childcare will be available.

Your experience and judgment will help the Board and senior staff as they plan for the next church year. What role do you, or the ministry team you belong to, play in ensuring that First Parish activities manifest the values and intentions expressed in our mission?

## **Prayer Vigil at the Boston ICE Detention Center**

**Sunday, January 27, 2:00 - 3:00 pm**

Boston-area congregations are organizing regular prayer vigils at the ICE Detention Center at the South Bay House of Corrections (20 Bradston Street in Boston) in solidarity with those detained there by ICE. Join members of First Parish as we come together to make a public statement that people of faith stand up for the rights of undocumented people. If you are interested in traveling over with a group, please email Peter at [plowber@hotmail.com](mailto:plowber@hotmail.com) to coordinate.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Cambridge Forum - Living With Robots**

**Wednesday, January 30, 7 pm, in the Meetinghouse**

Computers are learning to read our emotions and it is big business. Alexa will soon be servicing all our needs. But can we really trust the robots? Join Judith Shulevitz from The Atlantic Monthly and filmmaker Maxim Pozdorovkin, “The Truth About Killer Robots”, as they discuss the future. Free and open to all.

### **First Sunday Potluck:** get ready for the return of a great tradition!

The Membership Team is hosting a potluck lunch on **February 3** immediately following worship services. This will enhance the traditional social hour - we request everyone to bring a dish to share and we'll sit down in the Parlor to enjoy good old-fashioned fellowship. We are especially encouraging our newcomers to attend to get to know folks who have been in the congregation longer. **The Building Team is holding a discussion forum at 12:30**, right after we eat, so plan to stick around to engage with the planning process for the entry way renovations of First Parish along Mass Ave. For more details, contact John Shaw at [Js@jfds.net](mailto:Js@jfds.net).

## **Being Queer in Palestine – Solidarity Across Borders.**

**Friday, February 8, 6:30-9:00 PM.**

**The Middle East Education Group** and the Cambridge Bethlehem People-to-People Project invite you to a coffeehouse presentation and discussion in the Parlor.

Presenter is Sa'ed Atshan with an introduction by Abe Rybeck. Sa'ed is Assistant Professor - Peace & Conflict Studies at Swarthmore College and a LGBTQ Palestinian human rights activist. Abe is a local activist and also Founder/ Artistic Director of The Theater Offensive, a grassroots movement and voice for the LGBTQ community raising awareness, and fighting bigotry and hate through the performing arts. Free and open to the public. Please RSVP, as space is limited.

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

## **UU History 101!!!**

Our Ministerial Intern, William Williamson is offering a new adult enrichment opportunity. On **Sunday February 10th (12:30 to 2)**, we'll try to answer the question of where Unitarian Universalism came from! Content is appropriate to both people new to UU, and people who are very familiar with the basics. By the end of this class folks will know the major milestones in UU history, Unitarian history, and Universalist history. Although an RSVP is not needed, for the sake of adequate snacks please let William know if you might come at [wwilliamson@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:wwilliamson@firstparishcambridge.org).

## **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](mailto:pastoralcare@firstparishcambridge.org)

## **Build Community and Support First Parish**

There are spots remaining in workshops sponsored by the Auction including spaces in the Storytelling Workshop on Feb 10th, the Tarot Evening on March 8th, the Aging Gracefully Workshop on April 3 and the Chocolate Candy Making for Kids Workshop on April 14th. There are also spots at the Pizza and Games Night on March 9th, the Italian Baked Pasta Dinner on March 16th and the Saturday Brunch on April 13th. All dinners are at First Parish in the parlor. Check out all the available items

at <http://www.firstparishcambridge.org/connection/community-auction/>

If you would like to participate or would like more information, email the auction team at [Auction@Firstparishcambridge.com](mailto:Auction@Firstparishcambridge.com). Participating in the auction events is a great way to get to know people at First Parish while raising funds to support First Parish.

## **From the Building Ministry Team**

The church's Building Ministry Team is eager to hear from you as we begin to plan and design improvements to our front Mass Ave entrance (facade, doors, landscaping, window, and steeple).

Specifically, what do you mean by the following ideas that have been expressed as desirable? What ideas and feelings do you want the changes to provide?

- *Appear Welcoming;*
- *Demonstrate attractiveness;*
- *Be accessible;*
- *Provide security;*
- *Reflect sustainability;*
- *Retain historic legacy;*
- *Add value to Harvard Square; and*
- *Be creative.*

Please email your responses to Elizabeth Kline ([elizkline@gmail.com](mailto:elizkline@gmail.com)), Building Ministry Team

## 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](mailto:BBSF@firstparishcambridge.org) to learn more about either of these opportunities.*

## Groups

**Our Elders Group** is open and meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at 2:30 pm in the Chapel. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Danielle at [ddibona@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:ddibona@firstparishcambridge.org).

**Our GBLTQ-I covenant group** is open. This vibrant group meets on the first Wednesday of every month. If you are interested in this group, please contact Rev. Danielle at [ddibona@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:ddibona@firstparishcambridge.org)

The **Young Adult Group (YAG)** is a community for people ages 18-35. YAG meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7pm upstairs in the Nursery and sometimes meets for food and social events on other occasions. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information visit our website [cambridgeyag.org](http://cambridgeyag.org).

## **Spanish Conversation Group**

¿Hablas español? First Parish's **Spanish Conversation** Group meets on first and third Tuesdays of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the Baldwin Room. Come join us for informal conversation in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. All levels are welcome and no commitment is required! For more information, email [spanish@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:spanish@firstparishcambridge.org). ¡Nos vemos pronto!

## **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](https://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.

## **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.

## 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      January 27**  
9:00 am      Social Justice Breakfast in the Parlor  
10:30 am      Sunday Worship  
12:00 pm      Congregational Conversation  
12:30 pm      Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room  
12:30 pm      Parenting Group in the Chapel  
12:30 pm      Youth Group in the Nursery

**Monday      January 28**  
10:00 am      Covenant Group in the Nursery  
5:00 pm      Harvard Extension School in the Barn Room  
6:30 pm      AA in the Parlor  
6:30 pm      Art Class in the Chapel  
6:30 pm      Women's Writing in the Baldwin Room

**Tuesday      January 29**  
9:00 am      Yoga in the Barn Room  
5:30 pm      Tuesday Meals in the Parlor  
5:30 pm      Harvard Extension School in the Barn Room  
7:00 pm      Investment Committee in the Chapel

**Wednesday      January 30**  
9:00 am      Yoga in the Barn Room  
6:30 pm      Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room  
7:00 pm      Cambridge Forum in the Meetinghouse  
8:00 pm      AA in the Parlor

**Thursday      January 31**  
9:00 am      Yoga in the Barn Room  
12:00 pm      Yoga in the Barn Room  
6:00 pm      Yoga in the Barn Room

**Saturday      February 2**  
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  
6:00 pm      Women's Circle in the Barn Room