**First Parish in Cambridge – April 14, 2019**

**There is Always More – Rev. Adam Lawrence Dyer**

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**

Rev. Adam Lawrence Dyer, Lead Minister

Carol Lewis, Director of Administration

Jonathan Barnhart, Music Director

The First Parish Choir

Rob Moir, Welcome Team Leader

Today’s Events

Robin Brownwill present“Pilgrimage & Mystery: Mark Twain and Agatha Christie in the Middle East” today at **12:15 pm** in the Chapel. This session will introduce memoirs by several well-known literary figures who traveled in the Middle East. Expressions of their experiences will be considered with reference to cross cultural interactions and their relevance today.  A light lunch will be served. All are welcome.

**Those who identify as a person of color** are invited to gather after church in the Landing Room for community building.

Religious Education for Children and Youth

Over Spring break there are no Religious Education programs. Classes will resume on Sunday, April 28.

Easter Egg Hunt – Sunday, April 21

Please join us for our traditional children’s Easter Egg Hunt in the Old Burying Ground.  The hunt is hosted by our Junior and Senior Youth immediately following the worship service on April 21. They and the Easter Bunny need your help with 2 things:

* Can you **join the Grounds Cleanup Crew** on Saturday, April 20 from 9:00 am – 11:00 am?  We need a team of 3-4 adults who can pick up trash and make the space safe for our little ones!  Please email Mandy Neff to sign up. [mneff@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:mneff@firstparishcambridge.org)
* **Please donate candy** in the marked bins on **April 14 and 21** so the youth can stuff and hide eggs! Small, peanut-free candy, wrapped if possible, is preferred.  Thanks for your generosity!

Shared Offering for April

Our recipient for **April** is the **Louis D. Brown Peace Institute**: [www.ldbpeaceinstitute.org](http://www.ldbpeaceinstitute.org). Founded in 1994 by Tina Chery, the mother of Louis D. Brown who was killed in 1993,at age 15, by gun violence, the Institute’s mission is to be a center of healing, teaching, and learning for families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief, and loss. Their principles are those that many of us strive for and believe in: Love, Unity, Faith, Hope, Courage, Justice, and Forgiveness.

In addition to being the Shared Offering recipient for April, the Institute will again sponsor the **Mother’s Day Walk for Peace**, and we’re hoping many from our congregation will participate.

Upcoming Events - Save These Dates!

It is estimated that 40% of slave owners may have been white women. "THEY WERE HER PROPERTY" is the subject of the next **Cambridge Forum on Wednesday April 17 at 7:00 pm** in the Meetinghouse.  Historian and author, STEPHANIE JONES-ROGERS from UC Berkeley, will examine the role of white women slave owners in the American South. A book sale will   
follow the event, which is free and open to all. Please join us. For more information go to [www.cambridgeforum.org](http://www.cambridgeforum.org/).

**April 19, noon - 3:00pm - Old Cambridge Baptist Church**

On Good Friday 2019, Old Cambridge Baptist Church (OCBC) is inviting the community to a commemoration of the Mass Shootings Cross on their property.  They erected this cross as a symbol of execution, indicative of the death-dealing politics of the Roman Empire and as a symbol of protest over our own empire's death-dealing politics that privilege the love of money and guns over human lives.

This commemoration will include a marathon reading of all 340 mass shootings (City, State, Number Injured, Number Dead, and Date) in the US during 2018. All are welcome and First Parish is invited to read from 2:30pm to 2:40pm.  You are welcome to bring your own signs of protest and to come any time during the three hour commemoration and stay as long as you like.

The **First Parish Passover Seder**, on Saturday, **April 20 at 6:00 pm**, is a participatory potluck where a ritual story of liberation is told. Everyone brings a dish to share from the easy kosher for Passover recipes that we provide. Everyone is warmly invited to be an active participant in the ritual, but that is not required.  You do not need to be Unitarian Universalist or Jewish to participate. All are welcome. The service is short and suitable for all ages.

Please sign up at coffee hour or online if you wish to attend.

<http://tiny.cc/fpseder>

**The** **Environmental Justice Task Force** invites you to a talk by State Senator Marc R. Pacheco on **Tuesday,** **April 23**, **at 7:00 pm** in the Meetinghouse. Senator Pacheco is the founding Chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change, and is Senate Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (TUE). He initiated, authored and secured passage of the Global Warming Solutions Act, and has been a leading champion for alternative energy and greenhouse gas reduction legislation. The Senator will talk with us about current legislative proposals and strategies for implementing the Global Warming Solutions Act, especially in the environment of the Green New Deal and the climate action urgency highlighted in the latest U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report. He will also discuss how we can best support state legislative proposals for the climate!

**Vespers Service – April 25 at 6:00 pm**

In the middle of your busy week, are you wanting a time of quiet and peaceful reflection? Please join us for **reflection, prayer, and music in the Chapel on Thursday April 25 (PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE) at 6:00 pm**. Questions? Please email Rev. Danielle at [ddibona@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:ddibona@firstparishcambridge.org)

**Be part of the GBIO health care campaign at First Parish!**

* Are you or someone close to you struggling to pay for necessary medicines or other health care?
* Have you or someone close to you suffered from mental health problems and not received the help you or they need?

On **April 28th** at 12:15 in the Barn Room, come share your stories and learn about the campaign. Last year Greater Boston Interfaith Organization held hundreds of small group discussions across our 45 congregations, including First Parish, to help plan our agenda for change in 2019. We identified four issues that need action to improve health care in Massachusetts: High Cost of Prescription Drugs; High Out of Pocket Costs; Mental Health Care; Health Care for Immigrant Children. For more information about the event, contact Marcia Hams (marciahams@gmail.com) or Tod Hibbard ([hibbard79@gmail.com](mailto:hibbard79@gmail.com)).

**Neave Trio Performs “Women’s Voices”**

A Benefit Concert in Support of First Church Homeless Ministries  
**Sunday, April 28, at 3:00 p.m.**

**Sanctuary of First Church in Cambridge 11 Garden St.  
Tickets: $**20 in advance, $25 at the door, $10 for students with ID

available for purchase at [firstchurchcambridge.seatyourself.biz](http://firstchurchcambridge.seatyourself.biz/)

All are invited to a very special concert at First Church to benefit the Friday Café and First Church Shelter—two programs serving homeless neighbors trying to get back on their feet. If you’ve never heard these amazing local artists perform, you are in for a treat! All ticket sales support the ongoing work of First Church Homeless Ministries. Spread the word! Invite a friend!

**Middle East Education Event – May 5**

Ministerial Intern Will Williamson will give a talk after church in the chapel on “The Role of Mary Mother of Jesus in Islam.” All are welcome. Presented by the Middle East Education Group.

Join The Mother’s Day Walk For Peace – May 12, 2019

The [Mother’s Day Walk for Peace](http://www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org) has been gathering those affected by gun violence and their supporters for 23 years. Join us on Mother’s Day, May 12, to demand both an end to this violence and dignity and compassion for all families impacted by murder.

The Mother’s Day Walk is also the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute’s most important fundraising event. We’re asking you to invest in community-based solutions to a complex problem. In 2019, our goal is to raise $400,000 for our critical programs and services. For more information, visit our table during Social Hour.

Join a Group of Parishioners who will be walking. For all the details and to register for (or donate to) our Team, go to <https://lbdpeace.z2systems.com/fpcambuu>.

First Parish Retreat

The Retreat Planning Team is asking you to save the date for the First Parish one-day retreat on Saturday, **June 8** to Salisbury Beach State Reservation.  On **April 21** and **April 28**, please come to the table at social hour to voice your preferences about the retreat in terms of food, activities, etc. Let us know what you'd like to see.  We'll take your suggestions and plan around them.

Get involved!

Do you want to meet more people at First Parish?

A great way to meet people and get involved at First Parish is to **join The Welcome Team Ministry**. Members commit once a month to usher or greet for the hour before church and assist with the collection and other small tasks during the service.  Serving on the team allows you to help create a welcoming atmosphere for newcomers. It is a wonderful way to connect with members as well as newcomers. If you have questions or would like to learn more The Welcome Team will have a table during social hour today. April 14. Information is also available on the bulletin board in the parlor.

**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.*

Groups

**Our Elders Group** is open and meets on the 1st 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).

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!

Pastoral Care

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)

Safety Reminder

Please remember that the 3 Church Street door is locked beginning at 10:30 on Sunday mornings to help ensure the safety of our space. If you are entering for worship after the door is locked, please use the Mass. Avenue entrance. Accessible entrance is available at 1 Church Street. If you are entering after 10:30 for Religious Education or other programming ring the buzzer at 3 Church Street and someone will let you in.

Events This Week

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

**Sunday April 14**

12:15 pm MEEG Event in the Chapel

12:30 pm Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room

1:00 pm Auction Candy Making Workshop in the Parlor & Kitchen

6:00 pm Sacred Circle Dance in the Barn Room

**Monday April 15**

4:00 pm Harvard Book Store in the Meetinghouse

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

7:00 pm CISC in the Baldwin Room

**Tuesday April 16**

9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room

5:30 pm Tuesday Meals in the Parlor

5:30 pm Development Team in the Landing Room

5:30 pm Harvard Extension School in the Barn Room

6:00 pm Spanish Conversation in the Baldwin Room

**Wednesday April 17**

9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room

4:00 pm Cambridge Forum in the Meetinghouse

6:30 pm Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room

6:30 pm Covenant Group in the Chapel

8:00 pm AA in the Parlor

**Thursday April 18**

9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room

12:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room

3:30 pm Groovy Baby Music in the Chapel

6:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal in the Meetinghouse

**Friday April 19**

9:15 am Groovy Baby Music in the Chapel

6:30 pm Boston Intergenerational Dance Advocates in the Barn Room

**Saturday April 20**

8:30 am GSA in the Chapel

10:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room

5:00 pm Passover Seder in the Parlor & the Kitchen