**First Parish in Cambridge – April 7, 2019**

**Being Vulnerable – Rev. Danielle Di Bona**

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. Danielle Di Bona, Developmental Minister

Mandy Neff, Director of Religious Education

Robert Humphreville, Guest Pianist

The First Parish Choir

Valerie Fullum, Welcome Team Leader

Religious Education for Children and Youth

Please join us for religious education programs.  Nursery care for children under 4 opens on the second floor at 9:00 am.

The following programs begin promptly at **10:30**:

**OWL**4-5th Grade            Chapel, first floor

**Lodestone**                6th – 8th Grade          Fuller Room, Mezzanine

Our other classes begin after the Story for All Ages

**Spirit Play**                PreK-1st Grade        Baldwin Room, Mezzanine

**OWL**K-1st Grade             Barn Room, second floor

**Theme Group**          2nd – 6th Grade          Parlor, first floor

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 at age 15 by gun violence in 1993, 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.

Register for the walk [here](https://lbdpeace.z2systems.com/np/clients/lbdpeace/campaign.jsp?campaign=42&fundraiser=14176&).

Today’s Events

All are invited to attend a **pot luck lunch** after the service on **Sunday April 7th**. Newcomers are especially welcome to this event as a way to get to know you better and to meet more members of the church. Bring a dish either from home or pop around the corner and get a pizza or other food item and join us for fellowship. The lunch will start at approximately Noon in the Parlor.  The kitchen oven and fridge are available if needed. Plates, silverware, napkins, cups, serving utensils, tables and chairs will be provided.

**Directly following the Potluck, Beyond Borders/Sin Fronteras and the Environmental Justice Task Forces** are joining to present Tina Shull, a post-doc at Harvard University. The title of Tina’s talk is "Who are Climate Refugees? Climate Change, Migration, and Borders."   Tina will talk about the connections between climate change, migration, and increasing border enforcement around the world, with a focus on the US and migration from Latin America.  She has studied and written extensively about this timely topic.  Dessert will be provided to top off your pot-luck lunch.  Please join us in the Chapel.

Upcoming Events - Save These Dates!

**Spring Spruce Up! Saturday, April 13th from 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm**

Spring has sprung! And it’s time to do some spring cleaning!We want this to be an **intergenerational project,** so everyone, old and young and in between, will be warmly welcomed! Just bring yourself, a good attitude and **dress for mess!**We will be cleaning out the RE closet and rooms, organizing the curriculum room, and refreshing the nursery. We’ll even provide pizza!!

Please let us know if you need dietary accommodation. If you have any questions, email wwilliamson@firstparishcambridge.org.

**Paine Senior Services Fundraiser – Saturday, April 13**

Join us for **One Hope Wine,** a wine tasting event to benefit Paine Senior Services and their work supporting Cambridge residents age 60+ to remain in their community with dignity and respect. Join us from **3:00 pm – 5:00 pm in the parlor**. The event is free but please RSVP to Liz Aguilo, Paine’s Executive Director at eaguilo@painesenior.org

**The Middle East Education Group** invites you to “Pilgrimage & Mystery: Mark Twain and Agatha Christie in the Middle East”, a presentation by Robin Brown, on **Sunday, April 14 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.

**Rev. Danielle** invites those who identify as a person of color, to join us after church on April 14th in the Landing Room for community building. Questions? Please email Rev. Danielle at ddibona@firstparishcambridge.org.

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/).

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 18th at 6:00pm**. Questions? Please email Rev. Danielle at ddibona@firstparishcambridge.org

**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!

**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).

*Alert: There will be a joint legislative hearing on Prescription Drug Reform on April 11, 1:00 at the statehouse. Join us if you can. RSVP to Marcia Hams.*

**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 in Cambridge 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!

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 on April 14th. Information is also available on the bulletin board in the parlor.

**Join the "1-2-3 Tuesday Community Meal Challenge"!**

Our Tuesday Meals Program is challenging the First Parish community to commit to our 1-2-3 Tuesday Meal Challenge.

All it takes is:

Commit to **1** Tuesday Meal

For **2** hours (5:15 pm – 7:15 pm )

Bring **3** family members, friends, colleagues or neighbors!

Simply choose a Tuesday anytime this year. You'll have plenty of great company and it’s a wonderful way to experience Beloved Community in action! To register contact Mike Mennonno at mmennonno@firstparishcambridge.org  Join us!

**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.*

General Assembly Delegates Needed

Each year the Unitarian Universalist Association holds its annual meeting, General Assembly. This year’s GA will be held in Spokane, WA from June 19-23. First Parish can send 4 delegates.

The theme for this year’s GA is *The Power of We.* In a time of great challenge and heartbreak in our world, what does our faith demand from us? We will explore the power, possibility, purpose, struggle and joy of finding the path forward together as Unitarian Universalists.

If you’d like to be a delegate, please submit a request to the Board indicating how long you’ve been a member of First Parish and why you’d like to attend. The Board will select delegates at their April 16 meeting. First Parish does provide funds for registration costs.

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.

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.  ¡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

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 7**

 12:00 pm OWL Parent Discussion in the Y2Y space

 12:30 pm Ambassador Training in the Barn Room

 12:30 pm Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room

 12:30 pm Youth Group in the Nursery

 6:00 pm Cooking Class in the Kitchen

**Monday April 8**

 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 Writing Together in the Baldwin Room

**Tuesday April 9**

 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 YAG in the Nursery

**Wednesday April 10**

 9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room

 6:30 pm Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room

 7:00 pm EJTF in the Nursery

 7:00 pm Interplay in the Barn Room

 8:00 pm AA in the Parlor

**Thursday April 11**

 9:00 am & Noon Yoga in the Barn Room

 3:30 pm Groovy Baby Music in the Chapel

 6:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room

 **Friday April 12**

 9:15 am Groovy Baby Music in the Chapel

 12:00 am Cambridge Science Festival in the MH & Parlor

**Saturday April 13**

 8:30 am GSA in the Chapel

 9:00 am Saturday Brunch Auction Event in the Parlor

 10:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room

 1:30 pm Spring Clean Up

 3:00 pm Paine Senior Services Fundraiser