

**First Parish in Cambridge**

**November 12, 2017**

**You and I – Rev. Colin Bossen**

**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 and children 4 and older are welcome in our Religious Education Program. An usher can direct you to RE staff. Registration is required.

**Participating in this morning's service**

Rev. Colin Bossen, Guest Minister  
Amanda Neff, Director of Religious Education  
Carol Lewis, Director of Administration  
William Williamson, Membership Coordinator  
Jonathan Barnhart, Music Director  
The First Parish Choir  
Alexandra Cole Spadola, Chalice Lighter

**Religious Education for Children and Youth**

Please join us for a Story For All Ages and then RE Programs.

<b>Nursery</b>	Children under 4	Nursery, 2nd Floor
<b>Spirit Play</b>	PreK-1st Grade	Baldwin Room, Mezzanine

**Grades 2-7 meets in the Chapel to hear about our proposed Justice Partners.** Please see the RE article in the Meetinghouse news for more details.

<b>OWL</b>	8-9 Grade	Chapel, 1st Floor, <b>2-4pm</b>
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## Shared Offering

The Shared Offering recipient for November is **Food for Free**. Food for Free improves access to healthy food within our community by rescuing food that would otherwise go to waste, strengthening the community food system, and creating new distribution channels to reach under-served populations. The organization envisions a future where everyone in our community—regardless of age, income or ability—has consistent access to fresh, healthy, delicious food. Food for Free programs include Food Rescue and Distribution; Home Delivery; Family Meals; the Cambridge Weekend Backpack Program; Field of Greens; and the Transportation Partnership. Please give generously!

## 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)

Also, starting on November 5, we will begin taking down names of people who would like to be actively involved in shaping this work as well as additional ideas about the kinds of care that we would like to see in our community. Please check out the table with information about Community Care in the Parlor during coffee hour throughout this month.



## First Parish Auction November 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>

Our Auction raises critical funds for the operating budget, donates 25% of the event proceeds to the Tuesday Meals Program, and furthers our mission of *creating community at First Parish* through themed dinners and flat-rate events.

### **PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN THE AUCTION - BIDDING STARTS TODAY!**

This year's Auction includes *new events* such as Aging Gracefully and Couples Massage workshops; more *vacation homes* than ever; *Themed Gift Baskets; Crafts to Go*; the always popular *Group Dinners*; and fun and affordable *Flat Rate Events*, which are great ways to meet new people. Come by the information table in the parlor after service *to get a bidding number*; check out the catalog of items and get ready to bid on dinners, events and vacations during the November 12 and 19 Auction!

**Bidding ends at 12:30 pm on November 19<sup>th</sup>.** If you can't attend church on November 19<sup>th</sup>, you can still participate! Just email your bid by 8am on November 19<sup>th</sup> to [auction@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:auction@firstparishcambridge.org) and the auction committee will add your bid to the event bid sheet. Please include item you want to bid on and your maximum bid. No guarantees but we will do our best to get your bids entered on the bid sheets.

## Upcoming Events

### **Potluck Gatherings in Homes to Welcome Adam**

All members, friends and newcomers are invited to join in welcoming our new Lead Minister Adam Lawrence Dyer by signing up for a potluck supper! Sunday suppers are scheduled between **November 19 – March 25**. Everyone interested in becoming better acquainted with Adam and others in our community are welcome! There are still spaces open for the **November 19** supper located in the East Cambridge/East Somerville neighborhood -- this supper location is very accessible with in-building elevator and parking. Guest signup sheets will be available at Sunday social hours in November and on our [website](#).  
(<https://goo.gl/forms/CTJr8dpxGhESNUnk1>)

**Cambridge Forum** hosts “*The War on Science- It Doesn’t Just Hurt Science, It Hurts Everyone*”, with Joel Clement, Washington whistleblower and ex-Department of the Interior in the Trump Administration.  
**Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 pm in the Barn Room.**

**Join members of the Environmental Justice Task Force on Thursday, November 16, 12:00 -1:00 pm** at the State House to demand Governor Baker stop supporting fracked gas pipelines and power plants, and instead invest in our communities and renewable energy.

On September 13, organizers delivered our demand letter ([here](#)) to the governor. Each week the lunch hour “Stand-Ins” outside Baker’s office have escalated as new groups and people have joined the silent #SpeakUpCharlie protest. Here is the [Sign Up Form](#) for the stand-ins – For more information talk with Sharon DeVos or Grace Hall during coffee hour, or email [sharondevos@gmail.com](mailto:sharondevos@gmail.com) or [gracewhall@msn.com](mailto:gracewhall@msn.com).

### **Criminal Justice Reform Workshop**

On **November 19**, from 1:00 pm-2:15 pm, learn more about criminal justice problems in Massachusetts and new proposals that can reduce incarceration and solitary confinement rates, as well as support those leaving prison to be able to live and work with dignity. We will hear an update from Lori Kenschaft of UU Mass Action on comprehensive criminal justice legislation at the State House and the new initiative to raise awareness of the power of prosecutors and the importance of the District Attorney elections in 2018. Michael Cox, a senior in Clark University’s Political Science program and Director of Heartwood Meditation Support Program, will also share his personal experience with solitary confinement. We’ll discuss the possibility of a proposal eliminating all mandatory minimum sentences. These goals cannot be achieved without broad understanding and community support. Please join us at the meeting upstairs in the Barn Room. Lunch will be available at 12:30-- come join us after you finish bidding at the auction! Sponsored by the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization Task Force.

**Cambridge Forum** hosts “Who Can You Trust” How Technology brought us together - and why it could drive us apart " with Rachel Botsman on **Tuesday, November 21 at 7:00 pm in the Meetinghouse.** At a time when trust in governments and institutions is at an all-time low, people are happy to trust unknown individuals as witnessed by Uber, AirBnB and Zipcar.

### Getting Involved

#### **Guest at Your Table 2017-18**

Guest at Your Table (GAYT) is the UU Service Committee’s annual intergenerational program to raise support for and awareness about our work to advance human rights. Since UUSC works in over 25 countries, with over 75 grassroots partners, there are thousands of individuals involved in and who benefit from the work that our members make possible. GAYT is an opportunity to celebrate grassroots partnership, support human rights, and learn about just four of these individuals – the “guests” in Guest at Your Table. This year’s guests include a leader of local efforts to respond to climate change in the South Pacific and a Burmese human rights activist. For more about the guests, please visit <http://www.uusc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/UUSC-Stories-of-Hope-2017-18.pdf>.

First Parish in Cambridge supports Guest at Your Table each holiday season with boxes to take home as a guest at your own family's table, and "feed" with donations. We hope you will enjoy having the guest in your home over the holidays, and we will collect the boxes in January.

#### **Can’t Keep From Singing?**

Perhaps you used to sing in a choral group. But now those “high” notes are harder to hit than they used to be. Nowadays, rather than soprano, you could be perfect for alto or even tenor. Or perhaps you simply need practice – which we can provide. Whatever your voice range, it’s an excellent time for finding out more about the First Parish in Cambridge choir. Choir members or director Jonathan Barnhart would be interested to answer your questions. Contact: [jonathanbarnhart@comcast.net](mailto:jonathanbarnhart@comcast.net)

## **Support Our Sanctuary Guest and Her Two Children**

As many of you know, a woman and her two young children are in Sanctuary at University Lutheran. As a member of the Cambridge Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition, First Parish is providing volunteers in support of this effort. Volunteer opportunities are available seven days/week. Volunteering is easy and rewarding and we'll pair you with an experienced volunteer so you won't be on your own. Please email Rebecca Balder at [BBSF@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:BBSF@firstparishcambridge.org) to learn more.

## **Women's Writing Group Seeks Newcomers**

We warmly welcome you to join the Women's Writing Group, in the Margaret Fuller Room, mezzanine level on the elevator; the next few biweekly Monday night meetings are: November 20, December 4 and 18, and run from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Please contact Heidi Meyer, facilitator, at [h.meyer@comcast.net](mailto:h.meyer@comcast.net) for more details; the opportunity to freely explore your writing voice in a supportive, non-critiquing environment, awaits you!!

## **Covenant Groups – Get Connected**

### **Join!**

Join a Covenant Group! We gather in covenant groups every month to examine a topic and discuss how it speaks to us as humans, and as spiritual beings. Groups covenant to attend each gathering and to stay the course until the group ends.

Folks who have participated in a Covenant Group have said that they have connected deeply with each other, have been transformed, and have grown spiritually.

Currently First Parish has 3 covenant groups that are open and open ended. If you would like to try one out please contact the Lead Facilitator.

4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month: Valerie Fullum ([vfullum@msn.com](mailto:vfullum@msn.com))

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month: Marcia Yousik([myousik48@gmail.com](mailto:myousik48@gmail.com))

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month: Susan Shepherd ( [sshep352@comcast.net](mailto:sshep352@comcast.net))

If this schedule does not work for you, contact Developmental Minister, Danielle Di Bona, [devminister@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:devminister@firstparishcambridge.org). New groups will be formed based on interest. All are welcome. Please come and try one out.

## **New Covenant Groups**

There is enough interest in a GBLTQ-I covenant group so it will start in November. If you would like to try this out, please contact, Rev. Danielle at 617-876-7772 or [devminister@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:devminister@firstparishcambridge.org)

## **Try It Out!**

Are you new here? Have you been here “forever?” Either way....if you wonder what all the fuss is about Covenant Groups, here’s your chance to try it out. In this session you will have the chance to share deeply with each other and hear deeply the thoughts and feelings of each other.

A one-time opportunity to meet on **November 12**, after church at 12:30 pm in the Chapel to experience, first hand, what Covenant Groups are all about. Maria Altamore and Marcus Graly will be your facilitators. Their topic is “Community and Belonging.”

AND....if you like it, feel free to sign up for one of our open covenant groups. See Maria or Marcus after the session.

## **Flowers for Sunday Morning**

A reminder that fresh flower bouquets to decorate the Meetinghouse for Sunday worship may be ordered by contacting Office Assistant, Laura Smith, at 617-876-7772 or [officeassist@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:officeassist@firstparishcambridge.org). Bouquets are \$50. Most upcoming Sundays are available.

## **Safe Congregation**

At First Parish we covenant to welcome all people to the table, to nourish and serve each other and to respect and honor the inherent worth and dignity of every person. To achieve these goals it is essential that we maintain a safe environment that protects children and adults from harm while fostering their spiritual growth. We encourage anyone who has witnessed or experienced verbal, sexual or physical abuse at First Parish to contact the appropriate team (adults and children respectively):

[SafeCongregation@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:SafeCongregation@firstparishcambridge.org) or  
[safechildren@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:safechildren@firstparishcambridge.org)

## 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**

9:00 am Auction in the Parlor – Bidding Starts after Worship  
10:30 am Sunday Worship  
12:00 pm Child Care in the Chapel  
12:00 pm Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room  
12:30 pm “Try It Out” Covenant Group in the Barn Room  
2:00 pm OWL in the Chapel

### **Monday**

10:30 am Groovy Baby Music in the Chapel  
6:30 pm AA in the Parlor  
6:30 pm Art Class in the Chapel  
7:30 pm Harvard Extension Drama in the Barn Room

### **Tuesday**

9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room  
5:30 pm Tuesdays Meals in the Parlor  
6:00 pm Harvard Book Store in the Meetinghouse and Gallery  
7:00 pm Finance Committee in the Chapel  
7:00 pm RE Council in the Barn Room  
7:15 pm YAG in the Nursery

### **Wednesday**

6:30 pm Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room  
6:30 pm Covenant Group in the Chapel  
7:00 pm Cambridge Forum in the Barn Room  
7:00 pm Harvard Book Store in the Meetinghouse  
8:00 pm AA in the Parlor

### **Thursday**

9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room  
12:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room  
6:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room  
7:00 pm Covenant Group in the Chapel

### **Friday**

9:30 am Groovy Baby Music in the Chapel

### **Saturday**

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  
2:00 pm World Music in the Meetinghouse