

First Parish in Cambridge

November 5, 2017

Mistaken Wisdom – 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 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

Adam Lawrence Dyer, Lead Minister
Danielle Di Bona, Developmental Minister
Mandy Neff, Director of Religious Education
William Williamson, Membership Coordinator
Jonathan Barnhart, Music Director
The First Parish Choir
Julie Gallogly, Chalice Lighter
Rashid Shaikh, Newcomer Liaison

Religious Education for Children and Youth

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

Nursery	Children under 4	Nursery, 2nd Floor
Spirit Play	PreK-1st Grade	Baldwin Room, Mezzanine
Love Will Guide Us	2-3rd Grade	Barn Room, 2nd Floor
Bibeodeon	4-5th Grade	Fuller Room, Mezzanine
Building Bridges	Field trip to the Hindu Temple	departs at 9:30am
OWL	8-9th Grade	Chapel, 1st Floor, 2-4pm

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!

Today's Events

Spiritual Practices Program

Spiritual Practices for the Spiritual but not Religious

Are you interested in developing a spiritual practice? Are you wondering what "spiritual practice" means? Are you looking for a way to decompress and see the world in a more holistic way?

The final spiritual practice session, facilitated by Adam, will meet today at noon in the Barn Room. Child care and lunch will be provided.

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

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.

Upcoming Events

FIRST PARISH AUCTION NOVEMBER 12TH AND 19TH



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

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!

Monday November 6 at 6:00 pm – State House Climate Vigil

On the opening day of the UN Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany (COP 23). In solidarity we will stand as people of hope that Massachusetts might take the lead on climate, even when our country will not. After weeks of standing in the Governor's office asking that he issue an executive order halting the development of fossil fuel infrastructure in the Commonwealth, we will come together as a coalition of leaders and organizations of faith and of non-faith in a candlelight vigil on the Statehouse steps. Email EJTF@firstparishcambridge.org

GBIO Task Force Events

November 10-12 3-day training in Boston (short walk from South Station) on GBIO techniques, strategies, approaches using lectures, discussions, and interactive exercises. \$90 to cover costs of food. Limited scholarship funds are available from the First Parish GBIO Task Force.

If you're interested, or to get more information and registration forms, please contact either Elizabeth Kline (elizkline@gmail.com) or Marcia Hams (marciahams@gmail.com)

The **Middle East Education Group** is a co-sponsor of an all-day conference here at First Parish on Saturday, **November 11** beginning at 8:45 am. BALFOUR'S LEGACY: Confronting the Consequences is also sponsored by The Alliance for Water Justice in Palestine, the Trans Arab Research Institute, UU Mass Action, UUs for Justice in the Middle East-MA Chapter, and Jewish Voice for Peace Boston, November marks the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration. Admission is free with a \$10 suggested donation and the conference is open to the public. For more information, email to MEEG@firstparishcambridge.org

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 15th at 7:00 pm in the Barn Room.

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

Elders Group

The first meeting of our new Elders Group will be on **Tuesday, November 7** at 2:30 pm in the Chapel. All elders are invited. Please join us. Questions? Email Rev. Danielle at: devminister@firstparishcambridge.org

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

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 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 6 and 20, and December 4 and 18, and run from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Please contact Heidi Meyer, facilitator, at 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.

4th Monday of the month: Valerie Fullum (vfullum@msn.com)

3rd Wednesday of the month: Marcia Yousik(myousik48@gmail.com)

3rd Thursday of the month: Susan Shepherd (sshep352@comcast.net)

If this schedule does not work for you, contact Developmental Minister, Danielle Di Bona, 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

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. 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 or

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

10:30 am
12:00 pm
12:00 pm
12:00 pm
2:00 pm

November 5 – Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday Worship
Child Care in the Baldwin Room
Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room
Spiritual Practices in the Barn Room
OWL in the Chapel

Monday

10:30 am
6:00 pm
6:30 pm
6:30 pm
7:30 pm

November 6

Groovy Baby Music in the Chapel
Harvard Book Store in the Meetinghouse
AA in the Parlor
Art Class in the Chapel
Harvard Extension Drama in the Barn Room

Tuesday

9:00 am
5:30 pm
6:00 pm
7:00 pm

November 7

Yoga in the Barn Room
Tuesdays Meals in the Parlor
Spanish Conversation in the Baldwin Room
Young Adult Group in the Nursery

Wednesday

6:30 pm
6:30 pm
7:00 pm
7:00 pm
8:00 pm

November 8

Gurdjieff Society in the Chapel
Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room
EJTF in the Chapel
Interplay in the Barn Room
AA in the Parlor

Thursday

9:00 am
12:00 pm
4:00 pm
6:00 pm
6:00 pm

November 9

Yoga in the Barn Room
Yoga in the Barn Room
Harvard Book Store in the Meetinghouse
BASEA in the Parlor
Yoga in the Barn Room

Friday

9:30 am
11:30 am

November 10 – Veterans Day observed

Groovy Baby Music in the Chapel
UUA Presidents Council in the Parlor and Barn Room

Saturday

All Day
8:30 am
10:00 am

November 11 – Veterans Day

Middle East Education Group – Entire Building
GSA in the Chapel
Yoga in the Barn Room