

**First Parish in Cambridge**

**December 10, 2017**

**I Like You ... You're Nice – 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  
Amanda Neff, Director of Religious Education  
William Williamson, Membership Coordinator  
Jonathan Barnhart, Music Director  
The First Parish Choir  
Noe Kamelamela, Welcome Team Leader.

**Religious Education for Children and Youth**

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

<b>Nursery</b>	Children under 4	Nursery, 2nd Floor
<b>Spirit Play</b>	PreK-1st Grade	Baldwin Room, Mezzanine
<b>Love Will Guide Us</b>	2-3rd Grade	Barn Room, 2nd Floor
<b>Bibleodeon</b>	4-5th Grade	Fuller Room, Mezzanine
<b>Building Bridge</b>	6-7th Grade	Chapel, 1st Floor meets at <b>10:30am</b>
<b>Reminder:</b> Beth El Temple Center Trip Meet at church 6:15pm, Friday, December 15		
<b>OWL</b>	8-9th Grade	Chapel 1st Floor, <b>2-4pm</b>

## Shared Offering

The Shared Offering recipient for December is **Rice Sticks and Tea**. Rice Sticks and Tea (RST) is Boston's only food pantry program serving culturally-appropriate food to indigent Asian-American households.

Operated out of the Arlington Street Church as a program of the Asian American Civic Association, a non-profit agency, RST provides about 100 households each month with bags of nutritious food such as jasmine rice, dried and canned vegetables such as mushrooms obtained from a Chinatown supermarket, as well as food products from the Greater Boston Food Bank, of which RST is an agency member.

Each year, RST has a holiday party for its clients at which clients and their children are each provided with a holiday gift. Rice Sticks and Tea relies on donations from Project Bread as well as corporations and individuals. [www.ricesticksandtea.org](http://www.ricesticksandtea.org). Please give generously.

## Today's Events

### **The Environmental Justice Task Force**

The Environmental Justice Task Force invites you to hear Senator Mike Barrett speak about his bill on carbon pricing **today at 12:15 in the Chapel**. Carbon pricing is an effective strategy to address climate change by reducing demand for fossil fuels. Your support is needed to get the bill out of committee and voted on this legislative session which ends this February. Come hear how you can help. Refreshments will be served.

## **Special Congregational Business Meeting – December 17**

At a ceremonial event on Saturday, Jan 13 Adam Lawrence Dyer will be ordained by First Parish as a Unitarian Universalist minister and installed as our Lead Minister.

### **Members will vote to authorize First Parish in Cambridge to ordain Adam at a brief business meeting on December 17.**

All members should plan to attend this meeting, to be held in the Meetinghouse directly after the service. Authorizing Adam's ordination is the only item to be taken up, so the meeting should be brief. As this is a business meeting at which a vote will be taken, a quorum of voting members is required to be present. Please mark your calendar and attend this meeting.

## Membership Anniversaries

Today we honor membership anniversaries for the following members of First Parish. We begin honoring membership anniversaries at 5 years and continue in 5 year intervals. We are grateful for the support and commitment of these members to this faith community.

### 55 years

Ann Daily  
Jean Farrington

### 40 years

Mary Wright

### 35 years

Michael Melford  
Susan Nye  
Martha Velie-Gass

### 25 years

Chris McElroy

### 20 years

Ted Bischoff  
Margaret Drury

### 15 years

Marcia Hams  
Wendy Leiserson  
Jeb Mays  
Susan Shepherd

### 10 years

Joel Baehr  
Dan Bartley  
Loring Brinckerhoff  
Alan Hamilton  
Peggy Kraft  
Grier Merwin  
Irene Merwin  
Mara Vorhees

### 5 years

Paul Anders  
Rosalie Anders  
Charlene Galarneau  
Valerie Fullum  
Allegra Heath-Stout  
Laura Heath-Stout  
Lois Josimovich  
Grey Lee  
David Light  
Leslie Light  
Jessica Roffe  
Tamina Stephenson  
Don Tucker

## The 2017 First Parish Auction was a great success!

Thanks to everyone that donated and bid on items, *we raised over \$18,500!* Stop by the *auction table today* or email [Auction@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:Auction@firstparishcambridge.org) to pay your invoice; pickup your basket; reserve a spot in one of the remaining dinners and events; or reserve one of the remaining services. First come, first serve on the remaining items. Help us increase the total raised to \$20,000!

The 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.

## Christmas Eve Services

We'll be offering two services on Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24. Please join us!

- At 10:30 am Rev. Danielle will offer a quiet service of readings, music and reflection in the Chapel
- At 5:30 pm Lead Minister, Adam Lawrence Dyer will lead our Family Candlelight Service.

## Upcoming Events

### Christmas Caroling with the First Parish Choir

Nothing spreads the joy of the holiday season like singing good old fashioned **Christmas carols**. Join the First Parish choir on **Saturday, December 16, at 1:00 pm**, as we spread some holiday cheer to elderly residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities around Cambridge.

Meet in the parlor at 1:00 pm for a short rehearsal, where Jonathan will ensure that we are sounding our best. We will leave at 2:00 pm to carpool to the various nursing homes and assisted living facilities. **WE NEED DRIVERS!** We will return to the church around 5:00 pm for a delicious **potluck dinner**. Bring a dish to share!

## Community Events

### Cultural Survival Bazaars, December 2017

This season, find one-of-a-kind holiday gifts at Greater Boston's international Indigenous craft market. This "trip around the world's Bazaars" features winter woolens; jewelry; scarves; hand-blown glass; natural fiber baskets + textiles; vibrant paintings; pottery; sculpture; + more from over 60 Indigenous cultures. Meet the artists, exchange stories, and bring home unforgettable gifts and memories.

Contact: [bazaars@cs.org](mailto:bazaars@cs.org).

#### December 9-10, 2017

Cambridge Rindge and Latin School  
10am - 5pm both days  
Sun. 10am - 8pm

#### December 15 -17, 2017

Prudential Center, Boston  
Fri. & Sat. 10am - 10pm

## **Harvard Square Holiday Fair**

The Holiday Fair that was held in our auditorium for many years is now being held at 50 Church Street (in the former Fire & Ice space). There are also vendors outside in our courtyard. Dates for the 2017 Fair are:

<b>Saturday, December 9</b>	<b>10:00 am – 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Sunday, December 10</b>	<b>12:00 pm – 6:00 pm</b>
<b>Friday, December 15</b>	<b>11:30 am – 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Saturday, December 16</b>	<b>10:00 am – 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Sunday, December 17</b>	<b>12:00 pm – 6:00 pm</b>
<b>December 20 – 22</b>	<b>11:30 am - 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Saturday, December 23</b>	<b>10:00 am - 7:00 pm</b>

## **Candlelight Vigil for Victims of Gun Violence**

On **December 14**, there will be a candlelight vigil in remembrance of the 500,000 victims of gun violence in the United States – those who have died and those who survived – since the December 2012 Sandy Hook shootings. We hold this vigil to spotlight this tragic toll, and in determination to move forward.

This event, sponsored by the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, will be held Thursday, December 14, 2016, at 6:15 pm at the First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough Street.

Reflections by: Bishop Alan Gates, author Greg Gibson, State Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz, and Rev. Stephen Kendrick.

This service will be part of a nationwide tribute in partnership with the Newtown Foundation, Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence, Everytown Survivors Network, and B-Peace for Jorge.

## **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)

## Getting Involved

### 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. The meetings are bi-weekly on Monday nights; the next one is on **December 18** in the Margaret Fuller Room from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. 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!!

### Volunteer this Holiday Season at Y2Y

If you'll be in the Boston or Cambridge area during **Harvard Winter Break, December 19 thru January 23**, volunteers are needed to help out at Y2Y while their regular volunteers return home. The signup sheet is [here](#), and feel free to sign up or email [volunteer.y2y@gmail.com](mailto:volunteer.y2y@gmail.com) with any questions!

## 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.

### GBLTQ-I Covenant Group

A new Covenant Group for those who identify as GBLTQ-I began last Wednesday and will meet the first Wednesday of each month. Peggy Kraft will facilitate. If you have questions or are interested in participating, contact Rev. Danielle at 617-876-7772 or [devminister@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:devminister@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)

## 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.

## 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 Sunday Worship  
12:00 pm Child Care in the Baldwin Room  
12:00 pm EJFT Event in the Chapel  
12:00 pm Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room  
12:00 pm RE Council in the Nursery  
12:15 pm New Member Class in the Barn Room  
12:30 pm RE Council in the Barn Room  
2:00 pm OWL in the Chapel

### **December 10**

### **Monday**

8:30 am Cambridge Homeless Court in the Parlor  
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

### **December 11**

### **Tuesday**

9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room  
5:30 pm Tuesdays Meals in the Parlor  
7:00 pm YAG in the Nursery

### **December 12**

### **Wednesday**

8:00 am Poetry Society – Entire Space  
6:00 pm Cambridge Forum in the Meetinghouse  
6:30 pm Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room  
7:00 pm CISC in the Gallery  
7:00 pm EJTF in the Chapel  
7:00 pm Interplay in the Barn Room

### **December 13**

### **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  
6:00 pm BASEA in the Parlor

### **December 14**

### **Friday**

### **December 15**

### **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  
11:00 am CISC Accompaniment Training in the Chapel  
1:00 pm Caroling in the Meetinghouse and the Parlor

### **December 16**