

## On Sacred Ground- Rev. Susan Chorley

### 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. Please take a "terra cotta" mug so we can recognize and greet you.

For those attending with children, you are welcome to worship as a family or children ages 4 and under are welcome in our Nursery in the Parish House. An usher can direct you to Nursery staff. Registration is required.

Activity boxes for older children are also available from the ushers. For more information, please speak to today's newcomer liaison.

### Chemical Sensitivity Policy

This is a fragrance-free parish. Thank you for not wearing any of the following during your visit: cologne, after shave lotion, perfume, perfumed hand lotion, fragranced hair products, and/or similar products. Our chemically-sensitive congregants appreciate this.

### Share the Plate- UUSC

The shared offering recipient this month is the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). UUSC is a human rights organization powered by grassroots collaboration. In more than a dozen countries, UUSC fosters social justice and works toward a world free from oppression. UUSC's innovative approaches and measurable impact are grounded in the moral belief that all people have inherent power, dignity, and rights.



A looping system is available for people who are hard of hearing. Switch on the telecoil in your hearing aids.

### Religious Education for Children and Youth

Hello families!

This is a holiday weekend, and there is no religious education programming today. All children are invited to stay in the Meetinghouse for worship. Nursery care will still be available in the Nursery.

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**SAVE THE DATE!!** Our annual winter REtreat for 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders will be held over Martin Luther King Jr Weekend, January 15-17.

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 Reminder: DRE Mandy Neff is on a family and personal leave from November 6- December 31. In the meantime, please contact your RE Committee or Rev. Sarah Napoline at [actingdre@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:actingdre@firstparishcambridge.org)

### Today's Guest Minister - Rev. Susan Chorley

Rev. Susan Chorley serves as the Senior Program Director at the UU Urban Ministry overseeing Renewal House (a domestic violence shelter) and Bethany House (a social justice/faith activist living community). Prior to coming to UUUM, Susan served as a minister at an American Baptist church in Beverly, MA where she was ordained in 2004. Susan has been active in the work of reproductive justice, was the previous chair of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice in MA and is co-founder and current Board member of Exhale, a national pro-voice talkline for people who have chosen abortion and their friends, allies and relatives based in Oakland, CA. In Boston, Susan has started "Partners in Faith" (a quarterly roundtable for individuals, organizations and congregations who are doing faith-based organizing around domestic/sexual abuse) and is a co-founder of the MA Restorative Justice Collaborative. Susan and her 13 year old son live in Jamaica Plain, MA.

### Pastoral Care (Circle of Care)

The Pastoral Associates, supported by Circle of Care volunteers, help to provide care to First Parish members and friends during times of need by providing meals, rides, and other help. The Pastoral Associate in November is Sheila Norton: [pastoralcare@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:pastoralcare@firstparishcambridge.org).

## Upcoming Events

### Harvard's Kuumba Singers Christmas Concert- December 4 & 5

Founded in 1970 by African American undergraduates as a safe space for Black students at the university, the Kuumba Singers of Harvard College is a choir that celebrates the musical creativity of the African diaspora. The Dr. S. Allen Counter Christmas Concert is a celebration of the spiritual wealth of this mission. Services are at 8:00 pm on December 4 & 5 at the Memorial Church in Harvard Yard; get free tickets from the Harvard Box Office.

### Christmas Singalong – December 5 at Sancta Maria Nursing Facility

Join us in singing our favorite Christmas carols together with the elderly residents at Sancta Maria. We'll meet at 799 Concord Ave in Cambridge in the 5<sup>th</sup> floor activity room at 10:00 AM and work our way down to the 4th and 3rd floors -- feel free to come late or leave early if you have a tight schedule (we will be going until noon). No rehearsal or musical talent needed – the songs are easy and familiar, and we'll have plenty of large print song sheets for everyone. Children, newcomers, non-FP folks, jingle bells and Santa hats are all welcome! For more information, to request a ride, or to be added to the email list for future events, please speak with Elke Jahns-Harms or email [sing-alongs-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:sing-alongs-owner@yahoogroups.com). Please mark your calendars for our regular First Saturday Sing-alongs in the coming year as well!

### Community Vigil- December 9

At 7:30 pm, the First Church in Boston will be hosting the 2015 Vigil for all Victims of Gun Violence. This is the Boston branch of a national vigil, which works in loving remembrance of all victims and with determination to save lives moving forward.

### Cambridge Forum Event- December 16

Come enjoy an evening of poetry and prose- sample some free warmth and literary inspiration on a chilly winter's evening. Richard Blanco will read from *The Prince of Los Cocuyos*, his memoir about growing up in Miami as the son of Cuban exiles, which explores the themes of Latino identity and sense of place. Free and open to the public, 7:00 pm at First Parish.

### Christmas Caroling- December 19

Nothing spreads the joy of the holiday season like singing good old fashioned Christmas carols. Join the First Parish choir 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!

### Christmas Cookie Swap- December 20

On Sunday, December 20, we'll enjoy a First Parish tradition: a Christmas Cookie Swap. Bring two dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies (home-made or store-bought) to the kitchen before the service. One dozen will be shared with all in the social hour. The other dozen will be available for swapping with other cookie-bringers in the Chapel after service. If you really love Christmas cookies, you can double down by bringing four dozen cookies and taking two dozen cookies home. Serious business! ;-)  
Whether you love to bake cookies or just to eat them, this will be a fun event for all. So grab your mixer and let the fun begin!

## 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:

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

## Announcements and Flowers

All requests for written, oral and spotlight announcements should be submitted to Emily Guthrie. A reminder that the word limit for written announcements is 125 words and oral announcements is 65 words. The deadline for requests is Thursday morning at 8:30 am. Send E-mail requests to Emily at [CMC@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:CMC@firstparishcambridge.org).

A reminder that you can order a bouquet to beautify the sanctuary on any Sunday. To do so, please contact Emily Guthrie at 617-876-7772 or [CMC@firstparishcambridge.org](mailto:CMC@firstparishcambridge.org), by the preceding Thursday. Bouquets are \$35.

## Events this Week

### Monday, November 30

- 5:00 pm Harvard Extension in the Barn Room
- 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous in the Parlor

### Tuesday, December 1

- 9:30 am Yoga Class in the Barn Room
- 11:00 am Tuesday Meals Morning Volunteers
- 5:30 pm Tuesday Meals Dinner service
- 6:00 pm Spanish Conversation in Baldwin Room
- 7:00 pm Buddhist Meditation in the Fuller Room
- 7:00 pm Young Adults Group in the Nursery

### Wednesday, December 2

- 9:30 am Yoga Class in the Barn Room
- 6:00 pm Sanctuary Worship in the Barn Room
- 6:00 pm GBIO Meeting in the Chapel
- 6:30 pm Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room
- 7:00 pm Stewardship Committee in the Gallery

### Thursday, December 3

- 9:30 am Yoga Class in the Barn Room
- 10:00 am Playgroup in the Chapel
- noon Yoga Class in the Barn Room
- 5:30 pm Internship Committee in the Landing
- 6:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room
- 7:45 pm Circle Dance Meditation in Barn Room

### Friday, December 4

- 1:00 pm Better Future Project in the Chapel
- 8:00 pm Dance Friday in the Barn Room

### Saturday, December 5

- 8:30 am GSA in the Chapel
- 8:30 am Cambridge Minyan in Parlor and Chapel
- 10:00 am Yoga Class in the Barn Room
- 5:00 pm Nameless Coffee House in the Parlor

## First Parish Staff and Leaders

Interim Minister .....	Rev. Clyde Grubbs
Ministerial Intern .....	Seanan Fong
Minister Emeritus .....	Rev. Dr. Thomas Mikelson
Music Director .....	Jonathan Barnhart
Acting Director of Religious Ed..	Rev. Sarah Napoline
Religious Education Intern.....	Colleen Vickers
Youth Coordinator .....	Myra LalDin
Nursery Care Coordinator .....	Lace Campbell
Nursery Care Coordinator .....	Jeremy Schwartz
Congregational Administrator .....	Carol Lewis
Communications & Membership Coor.	Emily Guthrie
Building Manager .....	Roland Ellies
Tuesday Meals Kitchen Coordinator.....	Pam Cannon
Tuesday Meals Assistant.....	Brian Downes
Executive Director, Paine Senior Services	Liz Aguilo
Social Worker, Paine Senior Services..	Maureen Harty
Director, Cambridge Forum .....	Mary Stack

## Standing Committee 2015 - 2016

Chair: .....	Peggy Kraft
Vice Chair:.....	Sylvia Wheeler
Treasurer:.....	Ernie Sabine
Clerk: .....	Linda West
Members at Large: Julie Duncan, Devon Kinhead, Grey Lee, Mark Pickering, Rashid Shaikh	