



The eBulletin

August 13, 2025
A weekly newsletter

Worship online ~~ Sunday at 10am



"My Hindu Conversion"

Rick Eastwick, Lay Worship Leader
Sunday, August 17, 2025, at 10am

Lay leader Rick Eastwick will tell the story of his life changing conversion to Hinduism starting when he was a college junior at Tufts University in 1970.

During the summer our Zoom-only worship is led each week by a member of our congregation. Rick Eastwick grew up in New England and graduated from Tufts University in 1971 with a degree in Applied Physics. He worked in industry for 42 years mostly in technical staffing for high tech companies in the Boston area. He was married twice, the second time to Marie Raduazzo, who succumbed to ovarian cancer in October of 2020. He has a son from his first marriage, who lives in California. He was raised Congregationalist but converted to Unitarian-Universalism in college partially because of its tolerance for Eastern religious ideas. He and Marie began attending First Parish in 1983.

Join us [online!](#) View the Order of Service [Here](#)

Wednesday Community Potlucks

During the summer months, First Parish Community potluck dinners are held in the courtyard **every Wednesday (Vestry if rain) from 6:00-7:30**. Tonight's potluck will be hosted by the Covenant Group leadership. Everyone is welcome! Bring a dish to share.



Religious Education News

Over the summer months, our Religious Education program enters a season of rejuvenation & reorganization, planning & preparation. Regular programs for children, middle school OWL, and Youth group all resume on Sept 7th.

Calendar

Aug 13: [Weekly Potluck](#)
Aug 14: [Lectio Divina](#)
Aug 16: [UUUM Art Tour + Jazz Concert](#)
Aug 17: [Zoom Meditation](#)
Aug 17: [Worship Service](#)
Aug 18: [Spirit Talks](#)

First Parish Returns to Regular Office Hours

The First Parish office will return to our regular office hours next week. We will be open Monday through Friday, 10am - 3pm.

If you would like to connect with Stevie about the program or your family during the summer, use this [Calendly online scheduling link](#). If you would like to volunteer in the RE program this upcoming year, reach out to Stevie by email (stevie.carmody@firstparish.info)

Aug 18: [In-Person Meditation](#)

Aug 19: [Lectio Divina](#)

Aug 19: [Diversity Book Club](#)

Aug 20: [Lectio Divina](#)

Welcome to Rev. Jonipher!

Rev. Jonipher Kwong has begun his two-year term as Interim Lead Minister. Rev. Jonipher can be reached at jonipher@firstparish.info.

Looking Ahead

Sep 7: In-Gathering Service

Sep 20: Arlington Town Day - [Pie](#)

[Palace](#) and [Man-Made Chili](#)

Oct 3-5: [Ferry Beach Retreat](#)

Nov 22: [Harvest Moon Fair](#)



Rev. Erica speaking on the First Parish lawn on May 30

Labor Day Prayers for Liberty Walk

On May 30th, Prayers for Liberty held an interfaith clergy march from Lexington to Boston. Hundreds of faith leaders from all different sects and creeds came together in support of democracy and human rights. First Parish hosted the group and we are thrilled to host them again when they march again on Labor Day.

Rev. Jonipher Kwong will speak on the First Parish lawn, and we will offer refreshments to all marching. Anyone who wishes to join the march is welcome!

We need volunteers to help with welcoming, refreshments, and clean-up. Please email Rev. Erica at erica.richmond@firstparish.info if you are interested in volunteering.

The walk will take place on Labor Day, September 1st, from 9:00 - 5:00. **The group will be at First Parish from 12:00 - 12:30pm on Monday, September 1.**

Art Tour and Jazz Concert - UU Urban Ministry

Saturday, August 16, 10am - 4pm, UU Urban Ministry (10 Putnam St, Boston). On Saturday, the UU Urban Ministry will host two great events. Attending either or both will be an enjoyable Summer day's way to build connection to the community and the Ministry. The folks at the UUUM are encouraging people to do the tour in the morning and head back to the campus for the afternoon concert.

The Roxbury Ramble -- Public Art Tour 10am - 1pm

Visit local murals with artist Dayenne Walters and appreciate the artists who address important topics. [RSVP for the tour by clicking here.](#)

Makanda Project Jazz Concert on the lawn 1:00-4:00 pm

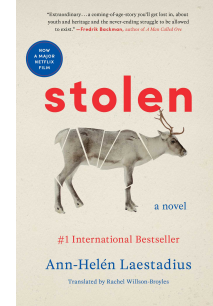
Free concert by locally based world-class 13-piece jazz ensemble is a summer UUUM tradition

Diversity Book Club - August Meeting

Tuesday, August 19, 7pm, Zoom. The Diversity Book Club generally

meets on the third Tuesday of every other month, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, on Zoom. In August, we will discuss *Stolen* by Ann-Helén Laestadius. All are welcome, please join us!

Please email diversitybookclub@firstparish.info to obtain the link and to RSVP to join the discussion or with any questions.



Save the Date - Pie Palace at Arlington Town Day!

Pie Palace, that fun community event where we slice up pies donated by church members and sell them on **Town Day**, **will be on September 20th**. New members, this is a great way to mingle with other First Parish folks while helping to raise money for social justice causes.



If you are able to donate pies, we're asking that you drop them off at the Vestry either Friday, Sept. 19th between 5:30-7pm or on Town Day Saturday before 11 a.m.

Here is the form to make your commitment to either donating pies and/or helping at the booth by selling pie slices, cashiering, cutting pies, making coffee or scooping ice cream. We've decided that Pie Palace, along with Man-Made Chili, will be held inside the Vestry again this year.

Ferry Beach Registration is OPEN!

Registration for the Ferry Beach Retreat (Oct 3-5 at Ferry Beach in Saco, ME) is NOW OPEN! Register today for this beloved weekend retreat. All are welcome! **See the Ferry Beach page on the First Parish website for more information** and the link to register.

Click on the link to learn more about these upcoming First Parish events:

Weekly Community Potluck, August 13

UU Urban Ministry Art Tour and Jazz Concert, August 16

Diversity Book Club, August 19

Labor Day Prayers for Liberty Walk, September 1

Town Day - Pie Palace and Man-Made Chili, September 20

Weekly or Bi-weekly

- **Lectio Divina:** *(Meets Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays ALL YEAR on Zoom.)*
Lectio Divina is a method of reading and listening, lingering with, and sharing personal responses to selected biblical texts. Diverse responses to the text provide new insights and help us grow in our spiritual lives and set intentions for our daily lives.
- **Meditation Groups:** *Meets Sunday, 9am (Zoom); and Monday, 6pm (in person)* Beginners and experienced meditators are welcome. Please feel free to drop in whenever you like. For more information, or to be added to the list to receive each Zoom session's unique link, please email meditation@firstparish.info
- **Bell ringer rehearsals:** *From September through May*, we meet most Thursdays 8-9pm in the Sanctuary after choir rehearsal. All interested are welcome - being able to read music is helpful. Contact ringers@firstparish.info for more details.
- **Spirit Talks:** Weekly discussions provide an opportunity for a small group to reflect

together on a spiritual theme every Monday at 4pm. Email spirittalk@firstparish.info to be added to the mailing list for Spirit Talk or just check us out by joining a discussion.

- **Men's Group** - Men of all ages and backgrounds are welcome to meet online, every other Sunday at 7pm to connect and support each other on our spiritual journeys. [Email](#) for the Zoom link.
- **Older Men's Lunch Group** continues to meet, on Zoom. Email oldermen@firstparish.info for more information. The sessions will be held at noon every other Thursday.

Monthly

- **Covenant Groups** Each group meets once a month from *September through June*. Through discussion of a monthly theme, participants make meaningful connections with others. Covenant groups are opportunities for us to engage in deep sharing as we speak from the heart, and are heard by others.
- **The Diversity Book Club** generally meets on the third Tuesday of *alternate* months from *September through June*. All are welcome, please join us to discuss our next title. Register by email diversitybookclub@firstparish.info
- **Grief Support Group** Lay Ministry led support for individuals who have lost loved ones. The group generally meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month, at 7:30pm on Zoom. *Will not meet in July or August.*
- **Transition to Retirement. Next meeting July 14.** You are welcome to this drop-in group that meets approximately once a month to provide support around the emotional (not financial) aspects of the retirement transition. Contact the Lay Ministry, layministry@firstparish.info, to receive the Zoom link.
- **Women Aging Well:** Join our vibrant community of women over 50 as we explore the joys and challenges of aging together. Through discussions of a variety of topics we foster meaningful connections and learning from one another. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month from *September to June* from 11am to noon. Meetings may be on zoom or in person.
- **The Women's Alliance of First Parish** The Alliance is the women's organization in our church, with a mission to support the women in our congregation, and through that support to advance the interests and efforts of our entire church.
- **Women's Book Group** The women's book group meets the first Thursday of each month at 7pm from *September to June*.

Get the "Workings" Booklet for 2024 - 2025

First Parish publishes events and news from our community. Click this banner to submit your news or event.

First Parish Playlist



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