

The Sunday Teaser

First Parish Unitarian Universalist in Arlington

dedicated to encouraging you to look at our full array of activities

October 11, 2026

Today

10:00am	Worship
11:30am	Coffee Hour (Vestry)
6:45pm	2nd Sunday Covenant Group: Damon
7:00pm	RE Evening Programming (see below)

Learn more online:
www.firstparish.info/events

Scan this code
with your
smartphone
camera



Religious Education this morning:

- All-together programming for grades K-7, exploring our connection to Nature. Pre-K meets as usual.
- Nursery care for babies / toddlers (up to age 3) at 9:50am

Tonight:

- No OWL; Youth Group meets at 7pm

Questions? Email Rev. Stevie Carmody at mre@firstparish.info.



This symbol -
denotes an
all-ages
event or
free childcare
available!

Upcoming Events at First Parish

Gathering of Resilience and Hope

Monday, October 12, 11am-3pm, First Church Roxbury. A gathering for connection, reflection, creativity and collective action, sponsored by the UUUM and UU Mass Action. The gathering will close with a worship service.



Break Barriers, Build Beliefs Workshop

Saturday, October 17, 10am - 3pm (with a lunch break), Sanctuary and Zoom. This interactive experience for the entire congregation is an important part of the ministerial search process. All are welcome - register online. Lunch and childcare provided.



No Kings "Vote Early" Event - organized by Charm City Indivisible

Saturday, October 17, 11:30am - 1:00pm, Whittemore Park (across Mass Ave from First Parish in front of the Dallin Museum). Voting-centered event.

NOTE: Those participating in B4 Workshop can join during lunch 11:45a - 12:45p.

UU History and Theology Workshop - Pathway to Membership offering

Sunday, October 18, 11:30am, Damon Room. New to First Parish or just want to learn more? Discover what UUs believe, where our faith comes from, and how we got here. Aimed at newcomers but open to all - no registration required.



Monthly Community Potluck

Wednesday, October 28, 6:00pm, Vestry. All are welcome - no registration.

Settled Search Committee - Small Group Conversations

Open Small Group discussions are open to all - events where folks from all across different areas and ways of engaging with First Parish will talk about Search and our congregation together.

Focus Group discussions are events that intentionally create space for voices from communities that make up minority populations in our congregation. The goal of Focus Groups is inclusion in the Search process for as many perspectives as possible.

OPEN SMALL GROUPS:

- 10/24, 2pm, Zoom
- 10/25, 12pm, Zoom + in-person
- 10/30, 6pm, Zoom
- 11/1, 12pm, Zoom + in-person

FOCUS GROUPS (all on Zoom):

- Jewish congregants, 10/13, 7pm
- Non-parents, 10/15, 7pm
- LGBTQIA+, 10/19, 7pm
- Singles, 10/20, 7pm
- Families with children, 10/22, 8pm
- Access / disability, 10/26, 7pm
- Young adults, 10/27, 7pm
- BIPOC, 10/29, 7pm

QR CODE TO REGISTER ON BACK →



This Week

Mon **FP OFFICE CLOSED**

Spirit Talk

4pm (Zoom)

In-person Meditation

6pm (Parlor)

Tues **Lectio Divina**

7am (Zoom)

2nd Tues AM Covenant Gr.

10am (Parlor)

Jewish Community

Search Focus Group

7pm (Zoom)

2nd Tues PM Covenant Gr.

7pm (1 Damon, 2 Parlor)

Membership Committee

7pm (Grady)

Wed **Lectio Divina**

9am (Zoom)

2nd Wed Covenant Groups

1:30pm (Zoom)

7pm (Parlor)

Thur **Lectio Divina**

8am (Zoom)

Older Men's Lunch

12pm (Zoom)

Non-parents Focus Group

7pm (Zoom)

FP Choir Rehearsal

7pm (Sanctuary)

Property Committee

7:30pm (Parlor)

FP Bell Choir Rehearsal

8:05pm (Sanctuary)

Fri **YG Lock-in**

Evening to Sat. am

Sat **Break Barriers, Build Beliefs Workshop**

10am-3pm (Sanctuary)
With lunch break

No Kings Vote Early Event

11:30am-1pm

(Whittemore Park)

B4 Workshop Questionnaire

Even if you can't attend the workshop next Saturday, please take a few minutes to complete this questionnaire, which will help our facilitator tailor the workshop to our congregation's needs. Questions? Find the Search Committee at coffee hour.



Update from the Settled Minister Search Committee

The next critical step in the settled search process will be the **Break Barriers, Build Beliefs workshop NEXT Saturday, October 17 between 10am and 3pm,**



in-person and online via Zoom. Register online using this code. Lunch will be served for those attending in-person.

Beginning this week we are offering opportunities to participate in **small group discussions** - see the front of this insert for more information, and sign up online with this code. Questions? Email settled-search@firstparish.info.



The Transition Team



The task of the Transition Team is to facilitate dialogue within the congregation about how we are doing as an institution so that we can identify elements

that we can address, improve, repair, or maintain in an intentional way. Scan this code to check out our newsletter postings!

Covenant Task Force Update

We have crafted a Draft Covenant for the congregation to consider as we move forward in our search process. It has been shared with the ministers, Parish Committee, Transition Team and the Search Committee for their thoughts and comments. Over the month of October it will be shared in committees, affinity groups and other FP programs. Committee chairs should be on the outlook for an email from our task force with a link to the draft and some suggestions on ways to share it with your group. We will also post it on the First Parish web page for all to see mid-month.

On **Sunday, November 8th**, the task force will host a **Listening Circles event in the Sanctuary after worship** to gather your thoughts and comments. Look for more information about how to register for this event as we get closer to the date.

Upcoming Important Dates

October 13 – November 6 Zoom / in-person	Small Group Conversations - Open Groups and Focus Groups (Settled Search)
** October 17 10am - 3pm, Vestry & Zoom	Break Barriers, Build Beliefs: UUA workshop for congregations preparing for ministerial search
November 8	Covenant Listening Circles Small group listening circles to gather thoughts and comments regarding the draft congregational covenant.
November 10	Financial Roundtable
November 22 11:45am, Parlor	Small group discussion: Bylaws Zoom participation and voting at congregational meetings
November - January	Small group discussions continue: Covenant and Bylaws
November 21 10am - 3pm at First Parish	Harvest Moon Fair Annual fall Fair - raises funds to support First Parish operations and programs
November 29	Farewell to Rev. Carolyn Patierno
December 1	Rev. Erica Richmond returns from sabbatical

Looking Ahead

December 11	Embrace the Darkness Service Rev. Jonipher Kwong preaching
December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Services Rev. Erica Richmond preaching, with special musical guests
February 7	Mid-Winter Music Sunday and Congregational Meeting
March	Stewardship Month
April 24 – May 2	Ministerial Candidating Week
May 16	Annual Meeting
June 6	Farewell to Rev. Erica Richmond
June 20	Farewell to Rev. Jonipher Kwong