

The Sunday Teaser

First Parish Unitarian Universalist in Arlington

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

October 18, 2026

Today

10:00am	Worship
11:30am	Coffee Hour (Vestry)
6:45pm	UU History & Theology (Parlor)
7:00pm	Men's Group (Zoom)
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:

- Fall term continues for preK through grade 7.
- Nursery care for babies / toddlers (up to age 3) at 9:50am

Tonight:

- OWL meets at 7pm; No Youth Group.

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



All-ages
event or
free childcare
available!

Upcoming Events at First Parish

TODAY! UU History and Theology Workshop - Pathway to Membership

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.

Transition to Retirement - *monthly offering*

Monday, October 19, 7:00pm, Zoom. Wherever you are on your journey to retirement — dreaming, planning, already retired — please join this drop in group which focuses on the emotional, social, and spiritual aspects of the retirement transition. All are welcome - contact Monique Chaplin for link.

Diversity Book Club - *offered every other month*

Tuesday, October 20, 7:00pm, Zoom. The October book selection is *Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line* by Deepa Anappara. All are welcome - email diversitybookclub@firstparish.info for the link and more information.

Aging Well - *monthly offering*

Thursday, October 22, 11:00am, Zoom. Women over fifty gather to foster engagement and build community as we explore themes related to consciously living out our later years. Email agingwell@firstparish.info for the link to join.

Annual Fall Clean-It / Fix-It Day - a great way to connect and contribute!

Saturday, October 24, 9am - noon, at the Meetinghouse. Join us on Saturday for our annual Fall Clean-It / Fix-It Day! All ages and abilities are welcome - help us make the Meetinghouse beautiful!

Grief Support Group - *monthly offering*

Tuesday, October 27, 7pm, Zoom. Monthly Lay Ministry-led support for individuals who have lost loved ones. Email layministers@firstparish.info for link to join.

Red Cross Blood Drive - give the gift of life!

Wednesday, October 28, 11am - 4pm, Vestry. Give the gift of life – sign up to donate blood online at redcrossblood.org or call 800-RED-CROSS.

Monthly Community Potluck

Wednesday, October 28, 6:00pm, Vestry. All are welcome - no registration needed. Bring a dish if you are able, but join us regardless - there is plenty to share!

This Week

Mon Spirit Talk

4pm (Zoom)

In-person Meditation

6pm (Parlor)

LGBTQIA+ Focus Group

7pm (Zoom)

Transition to Retirement

7pm (Zoom)

Tues Lectio Divina

7am (Zoom)

Singles Focus Group

7pm (Zoom)

3rd Tues Covenant Group

7pm (Damon)

Parish Committee

7pm (Grady)

Wed Lectio Divina

9am (Zoom)

3rd Wed Covenant Groups

7pm (1 Parlor, 2 Grady)

Thur Lectio Divina

8am (Zoom)

Aging Well

11am (Zoom)

FP Choir Rehearsal

7pm (Sanctuary)

Families with Children

Focus Group

7pm (Zoom)

FP Bell Choir Rehearsal

8:05pm (Sanctuary)

Fri Mussar Spiritual Practice

8am (Zoom)

Sat Fall Clean-It / Fix-It Day

9am-12pm at the
Meetinghouse

Open Small Group -

Settled Search

2pm (Zoom)

Settled Search Small Group Conversations

OPEN SMALL GROUPS:

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



Scan this
code to
register
online

FOCUS GROUPS (all on Zoom):

- 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

More information about these small groups can be found **ON THE BACK OF THIS INSERT →**

Update from the Settled Minister Search Committee

Thanks to all who participated in yesterday's B4 workshop online and in-person! We are still offering opportunities to participate in **small group discussions**.



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.

Questions? Email the Search Committee at 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. The draft has now been posted on the First Parish website - visit our new page for the draft and links to additional resources at <https://www.firstparish.info/in-the-interim/congregational-covenant-task-force/>

On **Sunday, November 8th**, we will host a **Listening Circles event in the Sanctuary after worship** to gather your thoughts and comments. Light refreshments and childcare will be available.



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