

The Sunday Teaser

First Parish Unitarian Universalist in Arlington

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

October 25, 2026

Today

10:00am	Worship
11:30am	Coffee Hour (Vestry)
12:00pm	Settled Search Committee Open Group Discussions (in-person + 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; YAC at 6pm, Youth Group 7pm.

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



All-ages event or free childcare available!

Upcoming Events at First Parish

****TODAY - Harvest Moon Raffle Quilt ticket sales begin during coffee hour!****

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 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. Interested in volunteering to help support the drive? Email John: blooddrive@firstparish.info.



Monthly Community Potluck

Wednesday, October 28, 6:00pm, Vestry. All are welcome - no registration needed. Bring a dish if you are able, and reusable tableware, but join us regardless - we will have plenty to share!

Mt. Auburn Cemetery Walking Tour - Heroines of Social Justice

Sunday, November 1, 1:30pm, Offsite. Join us at beautiful Mount Auburn Cemetery to honor social justice heroines who are buried there. Tour will be about 2 miles on mostly flat terrain and last about two hours. Space is limited to 16 people - please use this code to register online.



Transitions and Staffing: Learning from Ministers of Peer Congregations

Wednesday, November 4, 7:00pm, Zoom. Join the Transition Team on Zoom for a moderated panel of UU ministers who lead congregations of similar size to First Parish. We plan to record the session for those who can't attend.

Keep Immigrant Domestic Workers Safe: Training by Hand in Hand

Thursday, November 5, 7pm, Vestry. Learn practical ways to support the immigrant domestic workers who care for our homes and communities. Please RSVP via email to STAR@firstparish.info (questions may also be sent via email).

Women's Book Group - there is still time to read the book and join us!

Thursday, November 5, 7pm, Zoom. The November book selection is *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett. This group meets monthly on the first Thursday.



Draft Covenant Listening Circles - offered in-person AND on Zoom

Sunday, November 8, 11:30am, Sanctuary OR Monday, November 9, 8pm, Zoom. The Covenant Task Force is hosting two Listening Circles events, one in-person and one online, to gather your thoughts and comments on our Draft Covenant. Light refreshments and childcare will be available on November 8.

This Week

Mon	Spirit Talk 4pm (Zoom) In-person Meditation 6pm (Parlor) Disability Focus Group 7pm (Zoom) RE Committee Meeting 7pm (Zoom)
Tues	Lectio Divina 7am (Zoom) Young Adult Focus Group 7pm (Zoom) Grief Support Group 7:30pm (Zoom) Parish Committee 7pm (Grady)
Wed	Lectio Divina 9am (Zoom) Red Cross Blood Drive 11am - 4pm (Vestry) Monthly Potluck 6:00pm (Vestry)
Thur	Lectio Divina 8am (Zoom) Older Men's Lunch 12pm (Zoom) FP Choir Rehearsal 7pm (Sanctuary) BIPOC Focus Group 7pm (Zoom)
Fri	Open Small Group 6pm (Zoom)
Sat	C-Winds Rehearsal 10am (Sanctuary)

Settled Search Small Group Conversations

Remaining Groups:

OPEN SMALL GROUPS:

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



FOCUS GROUPS (all on Zoom):

- Access / disability, 10/26, 7pm
- Young adults, 10/27, 7pm
- BIPOC, 10/29, 7pm

More information ON THE BACK OF THIS INSERT →



Scan this code to register online

Update from the Settled Minister Search Committee

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.



Upcoming Important Dates

October 13 – November 6 Zoom / in-person	Small Group Conversations - Open Groups and Focus Groups Small group conversations led by the Settled Search Committee.
November 4 7pm - 8:30pm, Zoom	Congregational Transitions and Staffing: Learning from Ministers of Peer Congregations
November 8 11:30am,  In-person November 9 8pm, Zoom	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

Transition Team Update: Panel on Transitions and Staffing

Join us on **Wednesday, November 4th from 7-8:30 on Zoom** for a moderated panel of UU ministers who lead congregations of similar size to First Parish. Marc Jacobson of the Transition Team will moderate, asking about their experiences as newly settled ministers and how their ministry, staffing and congregations have evolved. Please submit any suggestions for discussion topics IN ADVANCE to transitionteam@firstparish.info by Sunday, Nov. 1.

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 - see the draft and links to additional resources at <https://www.firstparish.info/in-the-interim/congregational-covenant-task-force/>

On **Sunday, November 8th (11:30am, in-person)** and **Monday, November 9th (8pm, Zoom)** we will host two **Listening Circles events** to gather your thoughts and comments. Light refreshments and childcare will be available on November 8th.

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