The Sunday Teaser

First Parish Unitarian Universalist in Arlington November 8, 2026

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

Today

10:00am	Worship
11:30am	Coffee Hour (Vestry)
11:30am	Covenant Listening Circles (Sanctuary)
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:

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

Tonight:

- OWL 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 and TOMORROW - Draft Covenant Listening Circles

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 today.

Fall Financial Roundtable

Tuesday, November 10, 7pm, Parlor. Annual working meeting with committee leaders and finance team to set priorities for the upcoming year. Please RSVP via email to Carolyn Hodges at treasurer@firstparish.info.

Alliance Event - Discussing Multi-generational Living

Friday, November 13, 6pm, Vestry and Zoom. First Parish members will share stories and reflect on the creative ways they are managing housing needs and caregiving across the generations within their families. Childcare and light pizza supper available - please register your children by scanning this code to help us get a headcount for planning.

Who are UU? Conversations - with Rev. Jonipher Kwong this month!

Sunday, November 15, 11:30am, Damon. Join members of the First Parish Membership Committee for conversations about what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist here at First Parish and beyond. While aimed at newer folks, these informal conversations are open to all - no registration is required.

Harvest Moon Fair

Saturday, November 21
10:00am - 3:00pm
At the Meetinghouse

This week: Quilt Raffle Sales continue during social hour

Starting November 15: Donations and setup begin
Want to volunteer? Email Aaron at fair@firstparish.info.

Transition to Retirement

Monday, November 16, 7pm, 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. Email group organizers for link to join.

Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil

Friday, November 20, 7pm, Front Lawn. Join us on the front lawn of the Meetinghouse for a vigil for our annual observance of the Trans Day of Remembrance and Resilience. Affinity dinner at St. John's Episcopal at 6pm.

This Week

Mon
Spirit Talk
4pm (Zoom)
In-person Meditation
6pm (Parlor)

Tues
Lectio Divina
7am (Zoom)
2nd Tues. Covenant Grps.
10am (Parlor)
7pm (1 Damon, 2 Grady)
Fall Financial Roundtable
7:00pm (Parlor)
Membership Committee
7:00pm (Zoom)

Wed
Lectio Divina
9am (Zoom)
2nd Wed. Covenant Grps.
1:30pm (Zoom)
7pm (Parlor)

Thur
Lectio Divina
8am (Zoom)
Older Men's Lunch
12pm (Zoom)
Music Committee
6pm (Parlor)
FP Choir Rehearsal
7pm (Sanctuary)
Property Committee
7:30pm (Parlor)
FP Bell Choir Rehearsal
8:05pm (Sanctuary)

Fri
Alliance Program: Multigenerational Living
6:00pm (Vestry, Zoom)

SAVE THE DATE!
Upcoming Child Dedication

First Parish will hold a Child Dedication **on December 6th during service**. If you have a child you would like included, please reach out to Rev. Stevie Carmody at mre@firstparish.info.

SAVE THE DATE!
Special Musical Offering
Sunday, December 6
During worship and after

We will be honoring the life and music of trailblazing composer and pianist Margaret Bonds during worship and in a special offering after worship with Victoria Ellington, Soprano & Margaret Bonds Specialist. Free and open to the public.

Update from the Settled Minister Search Committee

Thanks to everyone who participated in small group discussions. We were able to engage with folks from all across different areas and ways of engaging with First Parish to talk about the ministerial search and our congregation's future. We spoke with congregants and staff, and in the coming months we will share what we have learned, both in small group conversations and in our earlier surveys, with lay leaders and, of course, with prospective ministers when our profile is made available to them as part of the search process. Curious about our process, or have questions about the search? Email us at **settled-search@firstparish.info**.

From the Bylaws Committee: Every Voice Matters!

Our voices matter most when everyone's voice can be heard. We're exploring online voting so that every member of our First Parish community — whether you're in the sanctuary, at home, or across the country — can participate in decisions that shape our congregation. Join us for one of two info sessions on online voting either on **Sunday, November 22 in the Parlor after worship**, or attend **on Zoom in the evening on Wednesday, December 2 from 8pm-9pm**.

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/

TODAY, Sunday November 8 (in-person after worship) and **TOMORROW, 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 today.

Upcoming Important Dates

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 **December 2** 8pm, Zoom	**Small group discussions: 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
November 29	**Farewell** to Rev. Carolyn Patierno
December 1	**Rev. Erica Richmond returns** from sabbatical
December 11	**Embrace the Darkness Service** Rev. Jonipher Kwong preaching
December 24 4pm (ASL) 6pm	**Christmas Eve** Candlelight Services Rev. Erica Richmond preaching, with special musical guests

Looking Ahead to 2027

February 7	**Mid-Winter Music Sunday** and **Congregational Meeting** (voting on bylaws change - online voting)
March	**Stewardship** Month
April 24 – May 2	Ministerial **Candidating** Week Culminates in a congregational vote to call a settled minister
May 16	**Annual Meeting**
June 6	**Farewell** to Rev. Erica Richmond
June 20	**Farewell** to Rev. Jonipher Kwong Final service of the regular 2026-7 church year
June 27 - Sep. 5	**Summer Season** (Zoom worship)
September 12	**Ingathering & Water Communion**