

The Sunday Teaser

First Parish Unitarian Universalist in Arlington

December 14, 2025

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

Today

10:00am	Worship
11:30am	Children's Choir Rehearsal (Parlor)
11:45am	Conversation with the Ministers (Sanctuary)
11:45am	Ornament Decorating (Vestry)
6:45pm	2 nd Sunday Covenant Group (Parlor)
7:00pm	Men's Group (Zoom)

Learn more:
www.firstparish.info/events

Scan this code
with your phone



Religious Education this morning:

- Grades K-7 all-together for service project activity, pre-K as usual
- Nursery care for babies / toddlers (up to age three), 10am-11:30am

Tonight:

- Final OWL Workshop; YAC meets at 6pm and Youth Group at 7pm

Upcoming Events at First Parish

TODAY! Conversation with the Ministers

Sunday, December 14, 11:30am, Sanctuary. Curious to know more about the work of our three ministers? Join Rev. Jonipher, Rev. Erica, and Rev. Stevie for a look behind the scenes, after which you are warmly invited to share your thoughts about what you look for from our ministers and your hopes during this period of Interim Ministry and beyond.

TODAY! Ornament Decorating for All Ages!

Sunday, December 14, 11:45am, Vestry. Stop by our table in the Vestry to decorate an ornament today. Parents should accompany children.

Alliance Program: Food for Body and Soul with Rev. Aisha Ansano

Friday, December 19, 7:00pm, Vestry. All are welcome to join us for "dinner church" - a communal meal and service. This cozy evening will include potluck, reflection, conversation, and the story of Rev. Aisha's organization, Nourish. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Beverages and main dishes will be provided by the Alliance.

December Holiday Events at First Parish

Carols in the Parlor

Tuesday, December 16, 1:30pm, Parlor. Plan to join a group of music lovers in our Stanton Parlor for an hour of seasonal songs. Everyone is welcome! Wendy Covell will support us on piano, and we'll choose our favorites as we go along. We will have a zoom link available upon request - please let us know so that we're sure to be ready. Questions and comments? Email cheriminton@gmail.com.

Winter Solstice Evening Ritual

Saturday, December 20, 7:00pm at the Meetinghouse. Join us for a time to pause and immerse in stillness, quiet, and the beauty that can be found in the dark. Gather in the vestry between 6:30 and 7 p.m and bring your coat, since we will spend some time outdoors before continuing our ritual in the sanctuary. Stay after the ritual for tea and a bûche de noel.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Tuesday, December 24, 4:00 and 6:00pm, in the Sanctuary. The Christmas Eve services, a highlight of the season, occur twice due to the number of people attending. The services both feature the lighting of candles, organ fanfares, musical guests and children reading the ancient tale. Rev. Jonipher offers a homily. *The 4pm service will have ASL interpretation and both services will also be offered live on Zoom.*

This Week

Mon	Spirit Talk 4:00pm (Zoom) In-person Meditation 6:00pm (Parlor) Trans. to Retirement 7:00pm (Parlor)
Tue	Lectio Divina 7:00am (Zoom) Carols in the Parlor 1:30pm (Parlor) Diversity Book Club 7:00pm (Zoom) 3rd Tues. Covenant Gr. 7:00pm (Grady) Parish Committee 7:00pm (Zoom)
Wed	Lectio Divina 9:00am (Zoom) 3rd Wed Covenant Gr. 7:00pm (1 in Parlor, 2 in Grady) Evening Chapel 9:00pm (Zoom)
Thu	Lectio Divina 8:00am (Zoom) Aging Well 11:00am (Zoom) First Parish Choir 6:45pm (Sanctuary) Property Committee 7:30pm (Parlor) First Parish Bell Choir 8:05pm (Sanctuary)
Fri	Dinner Church 7:00pm (Vestry)
Sat	Winter Solstice Ritual 7pm (meet in Vestry)

Giving First Nominations

The Giving First Task Group is accepting Giving First Nominations now through December 21st. Nominations must be submitted online (scan code with your phone). Questions? Email givingfirst@firstparish.info.



Honor with Poinsettias

Whether you want to express gratitude, remember a loved one, or celebrate a joy, a poinsettia is the perfect gift. These stunning red flowers will adorn our Sanctuary for the holiday season.



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Weekly & Monthly Events at First Parish

These events are open to everyone. Please reach out by email as indicated below or visit the First Parish website to learn more.

Lectio Divina

Meets Tues. 7am-8am, Weds. 9am-10am, Thurs. 8am-9pm.

Lectio Divina is a method of reading and listening, lingering with, and sharing personal responses to selected biblical texts.

Email lectio@firstparish.info for more information.

Meditation at First Parish

Meets Sun. 9am-9:30am, Mon. 6pm-6:50pm.

Looking for support for your meditation? Beginners and experienced meditators welcome. No ongoing commitment required. To receive information and Zoom Link, please email meditation@firstparish.info.

Spirit Talk

Meets every Monday via Zoom at 4pm.

Weekly Spirit Talk discussions provide an opportunity for a small group to reflect together on a spiritual theme inspired by a different quote each week. Email spirittalk@firstparish.info for the Zoom link.

Wednesday Chapel

Meets Wednesdays via Zoom at 9pm, from October through February.

This is a 25-minute gathering of sharing, silence, poetry, and song. You can come to one or all of them. No need to sign up- just show up. See the FP website for the Zoom link, firstparish.info/events.

Men's Group

Meets every other Sunday, 7:00 pm, Zoom.

Men of all ages and backgrounds connect with and support each other on our spiritual journeys. Email mensgroup@firstparish.info for information.

Older Men Lunch Meeting

Meets every other Thursday, 12 noon, via Zoom.

First Parish's Older Men's group continues to meet, using Zoom. Email oldermen@firstparish.info for more information.

Community Potluck

Monthly, last Wednesday, 6:00pm, Vestry.

A community potluck dinner sponsored by the STAR committee, will be held indoors, in the Vestry, on the last Wednesday of the month.

Email star@firstparish.info.

Grief Support Group

Monthly, fourth Tuesday, 7:30pm, Zoom.

Monthly Lay Ministry led support for individuals who have lost loved ones. Zoom link available on firstparish.info/events.

Women Aging Well

Monthly, fourth Thursday, 11:00 am.

Join our vibrant community of women over 50 as we explore the joys and challenges of aging together. Email: agingwell@firstparish.info.

Women's Alliance: 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. We meet about once a month, generally on Fridays.

Women's Book Group

Monthly, except summer, first Thursdays, 7:00 pm, Zoom.

Email womensbookgroup@firstparish.info with questions or for Zoom link. The book for January 2026 will be *The Yellow House* by Sarah Broom.

Racial and Social Justice Groups

Racial Justice Coordinating Committee

RJCC continues to further our mission of being welcoming to all and challenging the excesses and injustices of our time. Our working group, Reckoning & Repair, is dedicated to educating ourselves about First Parish's entanglement with slavery in the 18th century and facilitating discussions about what we plan to do about this ugly past. Email: rjcc@firstparish.info

Indigenous Justice Working Group

The mission of the Indigenous Justice Working Group (IJWG) is to explore First Parish's relationship to the grave injustices experienced by the Indigenous people of MA, beginning centuries ago and continuing today. Email: ijwg@firstparish.info

Diversity Book Club

All are welcome, please join us, generally on the third Tuesday every other month on Zoom. Email: diversitybookclub@firstparish.info, for Zoom link.

Defending Democracy Working Group

Our mission is to address issues of living in a democracy consistent with UU values and principles. We are action and education oriented, non-partisan and advocate for policies that strengthen democracy and oppose those that threaten it. We are called to live our faith through action. Email: DefendingDemocracy@firstparish.info

Peace and Justice in Israel-Palestine Working Group

We organize programs, guest speakers, and films for people to reflect on events in Israel-Palestine within a framework of Unitarian Universalist values. Email: PeaceandJustice@firstparish.info