

Holy Week at First Parish

PALM SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH

- 9:45am: Palm Procession from the Parish Hall (weather permitting)
- 10am: worship in the Meeting House
(Pre-school – Grade 1 & Communion Class church school only)
- 3pm: *Requiem* concert at Walpole United Church

MONDAY MARCH 29TH & TUESDAY MARCH 30TH

- 7-9pm: Labyrinth walk in the Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31ST

- 4pm: Kids Labyrinth walk in the Parish Hall
- 7-9pm: Labyrinth walk in the Parish Hall

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 1st

- 12-3: Labyrinth Walk in the Parish Hall
- 7:30 PM: Worship in the Meeting House

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 2nd

- 9am-3pm: Meditation in the Meeting House
- 12-3pm: Labyrinth Walk in the Parish Hall
- 7:30pm: Worship in the Meeting House

HOLY SATURDAY

Saturday, April 3rd

- 7-9pm: Labyrinth Walk in the Meeting House

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 4th

- 6:30am: Worship in the Meeting House garden
(a light breakfast will follow)
- 10am: Worship in the Meeting House
- 11am: Easter Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall



The Clapboardtree Spire

News From First Parish of Westwood, United Church
340 Clapboardtree St., Westwood, MA 02090

April, 2010

COMING UP AT FIRST PARISH

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PLAIN CLOTHES SUNDAY

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 25th for our annual Spring clean up! Plan on wearing your yard work clothes to worship, and plan to remain after worship for an hour or so to neaten the grounds after the long winter. Bring your favorite rake and work gloves – we'll supply the tarps!

This is a perfect service project opportunity for the whole family – there are lots of ways school age children can help out.

In case of inclement weather, the date will be moved to Sunday, May 2nd.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION AND SCHOLARSHIPS

On Sunday, May 16th First Parish will recognize all graduates during the 10AM worship service. At that time, scholarships will also be presented.

High school graduates will be receiving more information in the mail. If you are a college student and would like to be considered for a scholarship this year, applications are available at our website (www.firstparishwestwood.org).

The deadline for scholarship requests is April 25th.

CONGRATULATIONS COMMUNION CLASS

First Parish's Communion Class will successfully complete their 6-week study of the life of Jesus and the sacrament of Communion on Sunday, April 11th, by taking Communion with their families. Congratulations to the following students for their hard work: *William Carr, Ben Condon, Laura Ellis, Hannah Jordanides, Richie Kendall, Amanda McKim, Chris Underhill, and Lucia Vaccaro.*

During Coffee Hour on that Sunday, class members will dress in period costumes and assume the identity of one of the disciples. The congregation is invited to interview them so they can share what they have learned.

Special thanks to teachers Jeannie Germano and Steve Werth for their many years of hard work and dedication.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

April 1	Jamie Osenton, Susie Peterson
April 3	Douglas Clay, Betsy Dakin
April 4	Lucia Vaccaro
April 5	Dana Schock
April 7	Joy Sudduth
April 8	Jean Blum
April 10	Eric Burgess, Emma Lloyd Rebecca McClellan
April 12	Ava Peters
April 13	Kevin Bean, Joan Stefans
April 14	Landon Bayer, Bob Deininger Stefanie Joe, David Liebrock Peter Stefans
April 15	CJ Adourian, Mitchell Pfaff Susan Shaw
April 16	Emma Archambo, Scott Blomquist
April 17	Jeslyn MacClary
April 18	Connor Blaney, Drew Donovan Karen Poreda
April 19	Nicholas Hawes
April 20	Joshua Belinsky, Austin Russell
April 21	Joshua Blaney, Andrew Gettings
April 22	Ginnie Mather, Jason Sullivan
April 23	Katie Cushing, Lisa McKeown Nikki Oliveri, Fred Rice
April 24	Jim Dakin
April 26	Genny Rogers
April 28	Gail Bean, Linda Perry Carol Robinson
April 29	Kylie Arnold
April 30	Delaney Russell

Anniversaries

April 11	Fred & Toni Lea
April 14	Neal & Elayne Clay
April 25	Bob & Nancy Stoll
April 30	Thelma & Nicholas Bruno

THE CLAPBOARDTREE SPIRE

The Clapboardtree Spire is published monthly, September - June by and for The First Parish of Westwood, United Church. Material should be submitted to the church office by the third Friday of the prior month. Available monthly at www.firstparishwestwood.org, via email, and through the mail (by request only).

LIFETIMES

Address Changes:

- *Susan Shaw*: 581 Gay St., Westwood
setshaw@gmail.com;
- *Margaret Kaleh*: Stonehedge Rehabilitation Center, 5 Redlands Rd., W. Roxbury 02132

In Memoriam:

- *Edna Mathei*: died on March 8th at the age of 97. Condolences may be sent to her daughter, Diane Boden, 73 Jordan Rd., Skaneateles, NY 13152

WHO'S WHO AT FIRST PARISH

Pastor:	Rev. Christoph L. Dodge
Phone:	781-326-0135
Email:	revchris@firstparishwestwood.org
Moderator:	Bob Deininger
CE Admin.:	Donna Bertazzoni
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Sexton:	Denis Wholey
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IT'S THE PROGRESSIVE SUPPER! SATURDAY, APRIL 10TH

Historically one of the most popular and enjoyable social events at First Parish, the Progressive Supper is back, on Saturday, April 10th! There's only one thing to do - mark your calendars and line up a babysitter, so you don't miss the fun!

WHAT IS A PROGRESSIVE DINNER?

In brief, it's a three course meal and libations enjoyed at three different locations. The evening starts at the Parish Hall where participants enjoy appetizers from 6 to 6:45. From there, everyone travels to a host home to enjoy a soup or salad course with a smaller group of diners from 7 to 7:45. Following that, everyone splits up again to travel to different hosts' homes by 8:00 for the main course and dessert. It is great to visit the homes of others, to be surprised by the fare, and to meet and get to know First Parish neighbors better.

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

All diners are asked either to prepare one of the courses and host 6-8 guests in their home, or to provide appetizers for the Parish Hall gathering or dessert for 6-8 people at their final host's home. Meal assignments, maps and directions are passed out at the Parish Hall during the appetizer course. Hosting and food assignments are established well in advance.

HOW DO YOU SIGN UP?

In order to organize all this, the Progressive Supper Committee asks that you "register" by signing up in the Parish Hall or by contacting Pam Kane (pampsterkane@msn.com) or Anne Christian (781-329-5683).

We hope lots of First Parishioners will participate, whether you're new to First Parish or a long-time member. It's a lot of fun, and a great way to meet for the first time or get re-acquainted! Those who find themselves alone for the evening are most welcome to participate – if you would like to travel with another "single" or need transportation, we would be most happy to help you make those connections.

So that plans can be finalized and assignments established, we are asking that everyone sign up by Wednesday, April 7th.

The Progressive Supper Committee

Anne & Roger Christian

Ingegerd & Steve Larch

Pam & Peter Kane.

Molly & Phil Speros

CRADLES TO CRAYONS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

On Sunday, May 16th volunteers are needed from 1-3pm to help organize the Cradles to Crayons warehouse in Quincy. This would be a great family outreach activity, as the work involved is appropriate for both adult and

school age volunteers.

If you are interested in participating, please sign up in the Parish Hall, or contact Beth Kendall.

FROM PASTOR CHRIS



Where has Lent gone? It seems to move along so fast.

As I write this, Holy Week is only a few days away. Once again we will have the opportunity to gather throughout that week for special services that mark the last days of Jesus life. **They are all important services and worth the time to attend (see the Holy Week schedule for details)** Palm Sunday and Easter are significant worship days, but it is what happens in between those Sundays that makes all the difference. To shout out on Easter, “Alleluia, Christ is Risen!”, without hearing Christ crying in the Garden of Gethsemane or on the cross is not the same.

To remember both the “crying” and the “shouting” is important as an Easter people. The former puts us in touch with Christ’s pains, our pains and the pains of the world. The latter put us in touch with God’s power and his eternal response to tears and hurts. That is why Easter is such good news. It is not just about us – it is about the whole world. Easter is personal, but it is not private. Because of Easter, where there is pain in our life we can have hope, be healed and made whole again. Because of Easter, voices crying can be transformed into voices shouting. Because of Easter, we can both cry in sympathy with others who are in pain and also shout hope to them.

The journey to the joy of Easter took Jesus through the hurting lives of people and through his own sufferings. Our journey to Easter takes the same path. If we take the time to gather throughout Holy Week, we will add our voices to the shouts of “Hosanna!” and “Crucify Him!” We will cry at Jesus’ agony, his sacrifice for our benefit and maybe even our complicities. But then we will cry with tears of joy at the resurrection. And we will shout, “He is Risen, indeed!”

Then maybe this Easter will have a new and deeper meaning for our lives.

Blessing on your Holy Week and Easter!

Pastor Chris

APRIL WORSHIP

The women at the tomb - those who followed Jesus in his earthly ministry - were the first to proclaim the good news. Then the other disciples followed their lead and passed that word beyond the first Easter. Through the Easter season (50 days in length) we will reflect on some of the early Followers of the Way named in the Book of Acts.

April 11

Communion Class Celebration. We will hear about the disciples who encountered Jesus on the road to Emmaus and recognized him in the breaking of the bread.

Note: Church School will begin at 10 AM in the Parish Hall. Parent should bring their children to the Parish Hall. The children will then join the congregation in the worship for the celebration of the sacrament of holy communion.

April 18

The Story of Saul (Acts 9:1-20)

April 25

The Story of Tabitha (Acts 9:36-43)



IT'S ALMOST YARD SALE TIME!

Our Spring Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 15th, from 8AM to 2PM in the Parish Hall! So mark your calendars and save the date to help us with one of our biggest fundraisers!

There are lots of ways you can help:

- **We need lots of good, useable stuff!** Start making a pile of donations and bring them to the Parish Hall the week before the sale. *Remember: no clothes, computer equipment, books which are water damaged or over 10 years old, or anything that is dangerous or broken! Please contact the church office before delivering heavy furniture or large items.*
- **Donations of baked goods are always welcome.** Start browsing through all those cookbooks for goodies – and if you have too many cookbooks, donate them to the Used Books Table! *Food donations must be accompanied by an Ingredients Check-List, available in the church office.*
- **Spring plant donations are also most welcome!** Start those seedlings now, or just before the sale, thin out those perennial beds!
- **Lots of volunteers are needed!** Sorters, pricers and helpers are needed, both before and on the day of the sale. Those with vans and trucks are especially needed too!
- **And of course, spread the word!** It's never too early to remind your neighbors and friends to mark their calendars too. They'll appreciate the reminder – and they might even have items to donate.

Please deliver your items directly to the Parish Hall, starting on the evening of Thursday, May 13th, so we don't have too much stuff to move across the street. If you need to bring your donations early, please contact the church office to arrange a drop off time. The barn storage area is locked.

See you on the 15th!

FREE DIXIE ECHOES TICKETS

The Dixie Echoes will perform at 7PM on April 24th at the Coakley Middle School in South Norwood to benefit Matt Brown, the Norwood High School hockey player injured in a recent skating accident.

Parishioner Dick Burgess has 25 FREE TICKETS, available by contacting him at 781-769-4075 or 78-465-3332 or in church.

A free will donation may be made at the concert, sponsored by the Neponset Valley Royal Arch Chapter of the York Rite Masonic Bodies of Norwood.

MUSIC IN THE MEETING HOUSE

Save Sunday, May 16th at 4pm for a return visit of the ever-popular crowd pleasers, the Synergy Brass Quintet!

Back by popular demand, this high-energy group will fill the Meeting House to the rafters with brilliant brass music.

Mark your calendars now, and save the date!

Donna Bertazzoni
Church School
Administrator



THE MINI-WALK FOR HUNGER GOES INTERFAITH!

First Parishioners have been strong supporters of Project Bread for many years, in many ways. Families and groups have walked in Boston and the church school had had its 'Mini' Walk for Hunger. Last year, upon learning that Temple Beth David was holding a mini-walk of their own, event organizer Robin Ostrander suggested broadening our scope. I'm happy to report that on Sunday, May 2nd



the Westwood interfaith community will join together to raise money for Project Bread. *Everyone is welcome!* There are many ways to participate. High School and adult volunteers are needed. If you are unable to walk, donations are welcome!

BOSTON- Join more than 40,000 walkers for all or part of a 20 mile walk in Boston, the country's oldest continual pledge walk! Contact Mary Champion of St. Denis Parish at 781-326-2335 ext. 20 or by email at marychampion1@verizon.net, Julie Shea at 781-255-0558 or by email at julieshea@comcast.net for more information about joining other Westwood walkers.

WESTWOOD- Join your friends and neighbors for the First Annual Westwood Interfaith Community Mini Walk for Hunger right here in Westwood! This 3 mile walk builds on the First Parish Church Mini Walk and the Temple Beth David Mini Walk. ***Let's walk together!***

MINI WALK DETAILS

- The walk begins and ends at Temple Beth David. **All ages** are welcome.
- Registration begins at 1:00 pm; the walk begins at 1:30 pm.
- A "mini" Mini Walk for our youngest participants is available.
- Parents are responsible for their own children.
- We encourage everyone to use the website to make donations. To join the team or make a donation, go to www.projectbread.org, click on Walk for Hunger, and then click on Find a Walker or Team. Enter "Westwood" and then click on the Mini Walk link.
- Checks should be made out to Project Bread with "Westwood Mini Walk" in the memo line. No cash will be accepted.
- As we are walking to raise awareness of hunger in our own backyard, please bring only water (no snacks, juice, etc.). Healthy snacks will be available at the end of the walk.
- Please bring a non-perishable item for the Westwood Food Pantry

For more information contact Robin Ostrander or Donna Bertazzoni

MINI WALK VOLUNTEERS

Project Bread's Walk for HungerSM



Volunteers are needed to help with route set up, registration, monitoring the route, staffing checkpoints, and clean up.

To volunteer or for more information, please send an email to: www.westwoodinterfithminiwalk@gmail.com or contact Robin Ostrander or Donna Bertazzoni.

FOOD DRIVE

Think hunger is only a problem for other towns? Over 60 Westwood families depend on the resources of our food pantry. In addition to raising money for Project Bread through the Interfaith "Mini-Walk" on May 2nd, the First Parish Church School will sponsor a Food Drive throughout the month of May to benefit the Westwood Food Pantry. Non perishable items will be received in the Parish Hall all month and will be delivered by the 5th and 6th grade church school children after Memorial Day so the pantry will be stocked for the summer. Donation bags will be available in the Parish Hall.

CHURCH SCHOOL UPDATE

Thursday, April 1 – Maundy Thursday

- 12-3PM: Labyrinth walk in the Parish Hall
- 7:30PM: Maundy Thursday worship in the Meeting House (appropriate for older grade school children)

Friday, April 2 – Good Friday

- 12-3PM: Labyrinth walk in the Parish Hall
- 7:30 PM: Good Friday worship in the Parish Hall

Sunday, April 4 – Easter Sunday

- 10AM: Intergenerational Communion worship
- 11AM: Easter Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

Saturday, April 10

- 10AM: Communion Class helps set up Communion in the Meeting House

Sunday, April 11

- 10AM: Worship & Communion Class celebration Sunday
- 10:15AM: Extreme Breakfast in the Cottage
- 11:30AM: Confirmation Class in the Stage Classroom

Sunday, April 18

- 10AM: Worship & Church School

Sunday, April 25

- 10AM: Worship & Church School
- 11:30AM: Confirmation Class in the Stage Classroom

LEADERS MEETING

This season's final Leaders Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 25th at 6PM in the Parish Hall.

All members of First Parish ministries and committees are invited to take advantage of this great opportunity for informal fellowship and discussion.

Watch your email for additional details.



Slowly they make their way toward the tomb,
there is no spring in their steps.
The first glimmer of morning light dances across the horizon,
the grass is still wet with dew,
the early mist begins to lift,
they arrive at the tomb,
they rub their eyes to be sure they are seeing clearly.

The stone has been rolled away.
The tomb is empty.
Their tears flow again, as they wonder what happened to the body.
Angels appear and ask, "Why are you weeping?"
Then Jesus appears and speaks to them.
Filled with wonder and joy, the women run to tell the others.
"We have seen the Lord."
He Lives!
Alleluia!

By Marjorie A. Burke, from Women's Uncommon Prayers

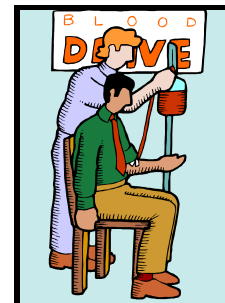
Have a Blessed Easter and a Happy Spring,

Margery Eramo, RN
Faith Community Nurse

WESTWOOD COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

The Westwood Masons are sponsoring a blood drive on Saturday, April 3rd from 9AM-3PM at the Masonic Hall, 655 High St., Westwood.

To make your reservation, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org. All donors will receive a free home-cooked breakfast when you donate. Donors will also receive a coupon for a free Qdoba Craft 2TM meal, created by mixing & matching smaller portions of five popular items.



LIFE LINE SCREENING CLINIC

On Thursday, April 29th from 9AM-5PM, Life Line Screening will be offering vascular screening by appointment in the Parish Hall. A variety of Doplar color flow ultrasound screenings will be offered to people 40-years-old and over to test for stroke, abdomen aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease, atrial fibrillation, and osteoporosis.

All screenings are painless, non-invasive, and require 10 minutes or less each to com-

plete. The cost for all four vascular screenings is \$139. To make an appointment, call 1-888-653-6441.

Life Line Screening is a separate entity from and not affiliated with First Parish of Westwood, and has contracted with the church to hold its screening in the Parish Hall. If you have questions about Life Line's practices, please contact them at the number above.

FIRST PARISH VOLUNTEERS

COFFEE VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed to supply refreshments and host Coffee Hour on the following dates.

If you would like to help, please contact the church office or sign up in the Parish Hall.

Sunday, April 4 – Easter Sunday

The Kanes and Hydes

Sunday, April 11

???????????????

Sunday, April 18

???????????????

Sunday, April 25

The Worths



ROSIE'S PLACE VOLUNTEERS

Monday, February 18th

Drivers:

T. Bruno & S. DeFeo

Fruit (canned fruit cocktail: maximum \$7)

T. Bruno S. DeFeo L. Domina

C. Mather C. Getman B. Delisle

Sandwiches (14 turkey on wheat bread)

V. Mather J. Hansjon P. Sullivan

L. Owen J. Marsh D. Howard

B. Jorgensen C. Getman B. Macdonald

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sunday, April 4 – Easter Sunday

Easter plants in the chancel are provided by members and friends of First Parish, in honor and memory of loved ones.

Sunday, April 11:

Given by the Delisle family, in memory of Jim Delisle Sr., and Rudy & Katie Helgeson.

Sunday, April 18:

Given by the Dorey family and Nancy & Bob Stoll, in memory of Nancy's grandparents, Clifford & Christine Fiske.

Sunday, April 25:

Given by Louise Donovan and family, in memory of James Asselstine.

USHER SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 4 (Easter Sunday)

Martha Crawford

Ron Arntz

Stuart & Carol Maynard

Sunday, April 18

Doug Hyde

Jerry Verzino

Michael Gettings

Sunday, April 11

Fred Rice

Charles Domina

Peter Kane

Nancy Hyde

Sunday, April 25

Dix & Dianne Howard

Steve & Ingegerd Larch

Ron & Joy Sudduth

RETIRED MEN'S CLUB

On Thursday, April 15th, the Retired Men's Group will gather in the Parish Hall at 9:30AM for its monthly meeting. Guest Speaker will be Attorney Mike Razza, who will discuss Rotary Club programs. All retired men in Westwood and surrounding communities are invited to attend.

The Men's Group meets on the third Thursday of each month in the Parish Hall, unless otherwise noted on the schedule. The meeting begins at 9:30AM with a coffee & doughnut social, followed by a guest speaker.

FOX HILL BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Chris Dodge' will meet with the Fox Hill Bible Study group on Thursday, April 15th at 10:30 AM.

If you live at Fox Hill Village and would like to begin attending the Bible study, contact Pastor Chris.

SENIOR MOMENTS FELLOWSHIP

The Senior Moments Fellowship Group will meet on Thursday, April 8th at 11:30 AM, and next month on Thursday, May 6th. Mark your calendars now, and plan to attend.

All Senior Moments meetings are on the first Thursday of each month, September through June, unless otherwise noted on the schedule. All seniors are invited to bring a bag lunch to the Parish Hall for conversation and fellowship. Coffee and dessert are provided.

. It's a great opportunity to gather together, just because it's fun!

OUR LENTEN MISSION WORK

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our Lenten Mission Projects. Hopefully engaging in these horizontal practices will encourage us to do more all year long.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Our OGHS donations were added to the collections from congregation across the nation, from many different denominations, to support those in need.

CWS Health Kits

Enough supplies were donated to assemble over 70 Health Kits for Church World Service. These kits are made available in instances of natural disaster, most recently in places like Haiti and Chile.

Westwood Food Pantry:

Around 20 bags of food were collected and delivered for the Westwood Food Pantry. And with the help of a few high school students, the shelves were re-stocked. The Westwood Food Pantry currently serves about 60 families in Westwood per month.

Rosie's Place

Twelve dozen sandwiches were made by children in grades 6-8 for Rosie's Place, and other volunteers provided fresh fruit to complete the meal. Each month, First Parish members and friends provide and deliver food.

Cradles to Crayons

Over a dozen bags of gently used toys, books and clothes were delivered to CTC's Quincy warehouse to benefit children who are homeless or in need. Volunteers are currently needed from 1-3pm on Sunday, May 16th to help organize donations at the warehouse. If you'd like to help, sign up in the Parish Hall or contact Beth Kendall. items.