

# FIRST PARISH OF WESTWOOD, UCC

*Growing Faith + Sharing Love + Grounding Lives*



## We are an Open & Affirming Church

*First Parish of Westwood affirms the dignity and worth of every person regardless of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, physical or mental ability, family structure, education level, economic circumstance and faith or religious tradition.*

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**March 24, 2022**

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## COVID Protocols

Our Covid protocols have been updated as of March 8, 2022. [Click here](#) for the letter from Pastor JT with protocol information

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## Other information about return to in person worship

There is Sunday School this Sunday.

Nursery coverage is not available until after vaccines for children under the age of five become available. Look for updates in future emails.

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Image: Enough by Hannah Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Artist Statement: This image depicts the joyful motion of a party, the lights in particular. The lines in this stained glass window design are inspired by photographs of light glowing and moving, dancing in the night. In the center circle, the shadow of a dancing silhouette repeats, echoing the way that we see figures move in two dimensions in the light of the night. In the corners of the window frame, architectural motifs that historically represent the Holy Trinity reflect the light as though shining themselves.

Thinking about an expansive Lent as I worked on this paper lace, this image became all about joy. Joy that is misunderstood. Joy as an act of resistance. Inexplicable joy. In an expansive understanding, the joy that the father is experiencing makes sense. He shows an uncharacteristic willingness to celebrate inexplicably with joy.

## Join us for an in-person worship service Sunday, March 27 at 10am followed by the 73rd Annual Meeting\*

Please join us Sunday in person or on Facebook for a live-streamed service at 10am.

This service will also be available for viewing on Facebook and YouTube after the service is concluded. To access the service via Facebook page, please [click here](#). You do not need a Facebook account to do this. Anyone viewing the service who has a Facebook account is invited to LIKE and SHARE the service.

**\*Annual Meeting** - We will be listening to a presentation on the church finances and the 2022 budget during this meeting. To read the Treasurer's Report [click here](#) and Financial Statements [click here](#).

While in-person participation at the Annual Meeting is encouraged, remote access via Zoom will be available to those interested but unable to attend. If you would like to receive the Zoom link, please email the church office at [office@firstparishwestwood.org](mailto:office@firstparishwestwood.org).

## Easter Dedications

Easter dedications represent an opportunity to dedicate a plant(s) in memory of or in honor of special people and loved ones. These plants will be displayed in the front of the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

Please submit your order to the church office by **Tuesday, March 29**. Please [click here](#) for the

order form.

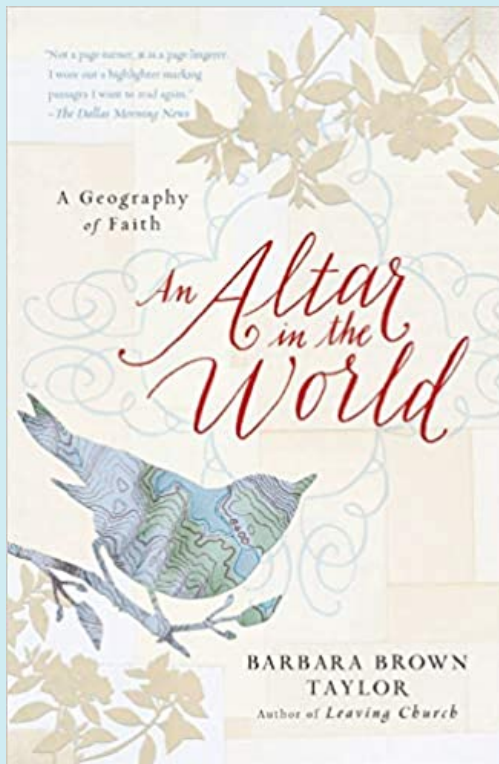


## Thoughts and Prayers

It is with sadness we share news that Doug Gorman passed away Monday. Doug had been sick for the past year. Many of you will recall Doug and Cheryl Gorman once served as co-moderators here at First Parish.

Doug's children, Bobby and Katie, have asked that letters of condolence be sent to their mother.

Cheryl Gorman  
1 Button Dr #110  
Londonderry, NH 03053



## Lent Reading and Book Discussion - *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor

During the Lent season, everyone is invited to read and participate in a book discussion of *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor.

Taylor's book is an exploration of encountering God in our everyday lives. "Something as ordinary as hanging clothes on a clothesline becomes an act of meditation if we pay attention to what we're doing and take time to notice the sights, smells, and sounds around us."

The book discussions will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm over Zoom, starting Tuesday, March 8 and ending in Holy Week on Tuesday, April 12. Two chapters will be discussed each week.

This coming week the discussion will be about Chapters 7 and 8.

## UCC Ukraine Relief Fund - Donations due by March 31

First Parish is participating in the UCC Ukraine



Relief Fund. Gifts made to UCC Ukraine Relief Fund will provide shelter, food, and other care to war refugees and internally displaced people. It also will help refugees and asylum seekers from African, Middle Eastern and other countries who had sought refuge in Ukraine and now are twice displaced, as well as other citizens of more than 125 countries living in Ukraine.



There is a donation bowl in the church sanctuary, or you may send in donations to the church office (payable to First Parish of Westwood and note Ukraine Relief on memo line of your check).

Please make your donation by Thursday, March 31.

### One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) 2022 - Remember to bring in your donations to worship this Sunday, March 27.

Would you like to put your love for others into actions? Putting love into actions is a call to us to help our neighbors, near and far, as we have the ability. Your generous gift to One Great Hour of Sharing – United Church of Christ enables our church and our worldwide partners to make a difference in the lives and communities around the world. Together, we are responding to disasters, supporting sustainable farming, education, and health initiatives, as well as pitching in to assist people fleeing violence from their home communities.



***Please bring your donation with you to church this Sunday.***

### SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

#### THE FIRST PARISH OF WESTWOOD, UNITED CHURCH

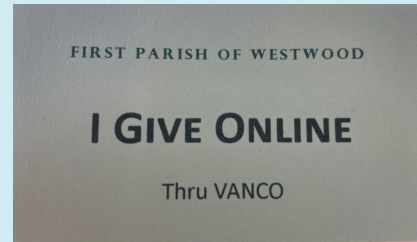
Under the authority of the constitution of First Parish of Westwood, United Church, notice is hereby given that the Seventy-Third Annual Meeting of the First Parish of Westwood, United Church will be held on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2022 following morning worship. The meeting will take action upon the following agenda:

1. To approve and accept the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting.
2. To hear and approve the Treasurer's Report for the restated financials for 2020 and the financial report for 2021.
3. To hear the proposed budget for 2022.
4. To hear and act on any other matters which may properly come before this meeting.

Judith A. Thomson

## Church Offerings

For all who now fulfill their pledges online, we have "I give online" cards (see photo) in the pews so you can place a card in the offering plate to show your participation. Contact [asst\\_treasurer@firstparishwestwood.org](mailto:asst_treasurer@firstparishwestwood.org) if you are interested in giving online.



## Important Dates at a Glance

### March

- March 27 - Sunday Worship @ 10am

### April

- April 3 - Sunday Worship w/communion @ 10am
- April 10 - Palm Sunday Worship @ 10am
- April 15 - Maundy Thursday
  - 6:30pm Simple Dinner (Sign-up will be coming soon)
  - 7:30pm Tenebrae Service w/communion
- April 17 - Easter Sunday Worship in person
  - (Almost) Sunrise Service @ 7am on the patio w/communion
  - Intergenerational Service @ 10am w/communion
- April 24 - Sunday Worship @ 10am

### May

- May 1 - Sunday Worship w/communion @ 10am
- May 8 - Mother's Day/Sunday Worship @ 10am. Guest preacher - Rev. Alex Shae Will, Area Conference Minister
- May 15 - Sunday Worship @ 10am
- May 22 - Sunday Worship @ 10am
- May 29 - Sunday Worship @ 10am
- May 30 - Memorial Day

## Coffee Hour Sign-Ups

Please click this [link](#) to see what dates are available to sign-up as coffee hour host(s) and enter your name to host. Thank you.



## Office Hours

Mondays 9am - 1pm

Tuesdays 1pm - 3pm

Wednesdays 9am - 1pm  
Contact the church office at  
[office@firstparishwestwood.org](mailto:office@firstparishwestwood.org) or  
call 781.326.5344.



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STAY CONNECTED

