

FIRST PARISH OF WESTWOOD, UCC

Growing Faith + Sharing Love + Grounding Lives



April 22, 2021

Worship

Join us for worship this Sunday morning, and invite a friend! We are worshipping virtually using the congregation's Facebook page. Even if you are not a Facebook member, when you click on <https://www.facebook.com/First-Parish-of-Westwood-120302557982716> you should be taken to the church's Facebook page. And while on Facebook, please "share" the church's post on your Facebook page.

Again, to worship with First Parish this Sunday morning click on <https://www.facebook.com/First-Parish-of-Westwood-120302557982716>.

In faith,
Richard & Jill Edens



Rick was able to visit Margery Eramo in the hospital on Tuesday evening. She is doing much better and expects to be home soon.

Sermon Shaping *On the Patio* Sundays, 10:30AM

Join your pastors and other church friends for Sermon Shaping on the Sundays of Easter. Each Sunday we will look at the lectionary reading for the next Sunday. And, if you want to make an observation about this morning's sermon, we can talk about this Sunday's sermon as well as preparing for next Sunday's worship!



- This Sunday, **April 25**, we will discuss the readings for May 2, the Fifth Sunday of Easter: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; I John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8.

This Sunday will be the last April Bible study on the patio at 10:30am. The first Sunday in May will be zoom communion followed by an Outreach discussion on the patio at 11:30. On May 9 there will be no patio discussions in honor of Mother's Day. On May 16 there will be a patio discussion on Christian Education at 11:30. Keep watching your e-news for updates.

When we gather on the patio, we need to continue being vigilant: (1) wear masks, (2) stay socially distanced, (3) wash hands, (4) be well and (5) stay well-ventilated. By being outside we are well-ventilated but should weather drive us inside, we can open all the windows in the Fellowship Hall and spread out. As we move towards May and June, we anticipate that more and more of us will be fully vaccinated.

Nominations for 2021-2022

The First Parish Church Council is preparing for its Annual Meeting in June. They would like to hear from you! Are you ready to step up and serve in this transition year? They are welcoming members who are willing to serve in all areas of ministry and especially Christian Formation and Mission & Outreach. Please contact Barb Worth (1barbworth@gmail.com) or one of the interim pastors (jillredens@gmail.com or jrichardedens@gmail.com).



To learn more about these vital ministries of the church, please join us on the patio:

- Next Sunday, **May 2**, at 11:30 for a discussion of Mission & Service.

We hope that these gatherings will help FP find leadership and direction for the future of these ministries.

Seeking Volunteers to Lead Worship this Summer

while the Edens are on vacation . . .

It has been the tradition at First Parish to provide lay-led worship while the pastor is on vacation. We want to extend an invitation to anyone at First Parish who would like to lead worship on the following Sundays:

- **June 13** (the Edens will be at the celebration of the life of Jill's brother-in-law in Ann Arbor, MI. Robert Dylenski died in November so the family gathering had to be postponed because of the pandemic).

- **July 4, 11, 18, 25**

If you are interested, please be in touch with Jill and Richard Edens

(jillredens@gmail.com or jrichardedens@gmail.com).

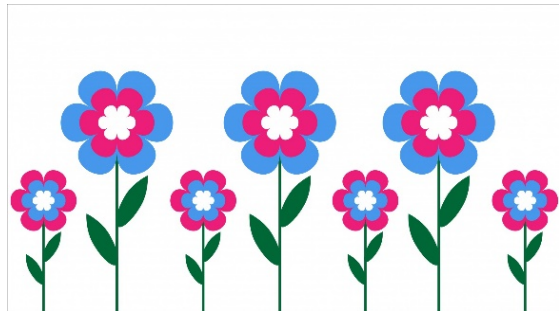


First Parish Landscaping Fund

Friends of First Parish -

Spring has arrived and planning is underway for cleaning up and maintaining our church property!

After some discussion amongst a few of us who have been volunteering to clean-up and plant garden beds, fertilize and prune shrubs, it is time to hire a landscaper to help us with several of the bigger jobs.



In order to have the necessary financial resources, we need to “grow” and sustain the landscaping and grounds fund. To start, we have set a fundraising goal for this first year of \$5,000.

How can you help? Donations to this fund should be made payable to First Parish of Westwood with a note on the memo line (Landscaping Fund). While donations are welcome year-round, we would like to jump start the fund with donations made by **May 15th**.

Questions? Contact Jim Worth at jworth@opentext.com or Nancy Hyde at nancy.c.hyde@gmail.com.

Patio Discussion: Mission & Service in 2021-2022



**SUNDAY, MAY 2
11:30AM**

It has been said that the church “*exists for mission as fire for burning.*” As we begin discerning God’s calling to First Parish to engage beyond ourselves in mission & service next year, please gather for a Patio Discussion on Mission & Service on Sunday, May 2, at 11:30am.

Our Patio Discussions promote our living-with-Covid protocols: wearing masks, staying socially distanced, washing hands, being well and having good ventilation that will continue until everyone including children are vaccinated. Gather with us for a Patio Discussion this spring.

Welcome Videos Requested



We are currently seeking volunteers to do a "Welcome to service at First Parish" video. We encourage you to get creative and have fun.

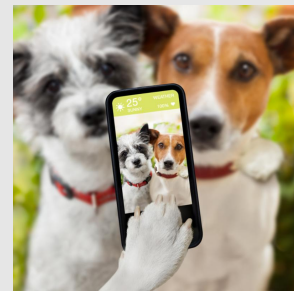
If you have questions, contact Amie Colcord at amiecolcord@gmail.com. Please submit completed videos to Doug Hyde at dkhydema@gmail.com.

Send a Selfie!

During the year, Meg will be working on compiling a "homemade" pictorial directory as a gift for our new settled Pastor.

Pastors Rick and Jill Edens invite you to email Meg a "selfie" of you/your family. Please send all pictures to: **office@firstparishwestwood.org**.

Feel free to get creative!



To read our March/April 2021 Spire Newsletter, please [click here](#).

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STAY CONNECTED

