

First Parish of Westwood

United Church of Christ

Growing Faith + Sharing Love + Grounding Lives

September 25, 2022



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.

COVID Protocols

Our Covid protocol has reverted back to our mask policy that was in place before the summer session, which asks that we all wear masks during Service. Masks will be available to those in need of one. Please follow our indoor Covid policies included in Pastor JT's letter.

[Click here](#)



Worship Today, September 25th @ 10 am

Join us this morning, September 25th at 10 am. First Parish Church will be holding our in-person worship service in the Sanctuary and we invite all to attend.

This service will also be available for viewing on Facebook. To access the service via Facebook page, please [click here](#). You do not

need a Facebook account to do this.

For the service bulletin, please [click here](#).

NEW: Nursery care will be available this Sunday and will be provided by Maggie Der Marderosian. Families and children are encouraged to attend this worship service.



Coffee Hour - Hosts Needed

One of our favorite regular opportunities for fellowship occurs every Sunday immediately following worship. Well, it's time again for us to have members of the congregation sign up to be coffee hours hosts. This year we are reaching out to each one of you to take a turn at being a coffee hour host. We will start by having previous hosts sign up and then partner with a new host so you can learn the ropes. Here is the schedule to start off the year. Please email office@firstparishwestwood.org when you would like to co-host with the person listed below.

Sunday, October 2

1. Joyce Marsh
2. _____

Sunday, October 9

1. Barb Delisle
2. _____

Sunday, October 16

1. Sharon Hobbs
2. _____



Interfaith Walk for Hunger & Sock Drive

This year, the **Interfaith Walk for Hunger** organized by Temple Beth David will be held on Sunday, October 23rd. The Mission and Service Ministry wants to encourage a big turnout of families and individuals from First Parish to participate in this activity to both address food insecurity and to show unity among our fellow Westwood religious organizations. So mark this date – October 23rd – on your calendar to walk. We will provide sponsorship sign-ups for those who cannot walk to financially support the walkers. Mission and Service has decided to undertake our food drive in the spring, when local food banks are running low, but to support this walk, we are going to have a **sock drive** in anticipation of the winter. As we all know, socks are the most requested clothing item in shelters. Watch weekly emails for more information as the event draws closer.

Confirmation Class Sign-Ups

First Parish of Westwood and the First Congregational Church of Norwood are excited to announce a new adventure for a traditional



rite of passage.

This year, our two churches will collaborate on a confirmation class. This experience is for youth in 8th grade and older who have not already participated in a confirmation class. Throughout the year, we will be building relationship, learning what it means to be a person of faith, and asking lots and lots of questions as we ponder the doubts we carry while we create a foundation to explore our faith for the years to come.

Those still wishing to sign up may contact Pastor Michele (revmallan@fccnorwood.org) or Pastor JT (jthills@firstparishwestwood.org).



New Members Class Starts in October... Join Us!

If you are not already a member, but would like to explore becoming one, this October will see a return of our new members class. The class will meet for an hour after worship every Sunday in October except October 30th, which will be the day you will officially become a member of the church! Prospective new members will be partnered with a “companion” who is already a member of the church for this process.

This class is for anyone who is interested in transferring their membership to the church or joining the church anew. While church membership is not necessary to participate in the regular life of the church, it does allow you to be more deeply involved in the life of the church, including having a vote at congregational meetings.

If you are interested in the membership class, please contact Pastor JT directly either by phone at 781-326-5344 ext. 202 or by email at jthills@firstparishwestwood.org.

Sunday School Returns Today!

Welcome back to First Parish! Today marks the first day of our Sunday School program.

We are excited to see everyone after the summer break. As Covid variants emerge, we will continue to take precautions such as outdoor activities, meeting outside, and windows open in the classrooms. We look forward to breaking out the children into two age groupings. Our teachers for this

session will be Laura Hall and Ericka Der Marderosian; they look forward to meeting their new students!

Thanks to everyone who filled out the Sunday School survey, it was very helpful. The Christian Education committee will use these results in the upcoming year.

If anyone is interested in joining any of the Sunday School classes in any role, please feel free to contact Ericka Der Marderosian at ecasacca@gmail.com Please [click here](#) for the Church School Registration form. Use a separate form for each child you are registering.



Job Openings

First Parish is currently looking to fill the following position:

[Nursery Care Provider](#)

Please contact the church office at office@firstparish.org if you know of someone who may be interested.



Important Dates at a Glance

September

- Sunday, Sept. 25 worship @ 10am
Return of Sunday School

October

- Sunday, Oct. 2 worship @ 10am
w/communion
- Sunday, Oct. 9 worship @ 10am
- Monday, Oct. 11 Columbus Day - Office
Closed
- Saturday, Oct. 15 - Sunday, Oct.
30 Pumpkin Sales (Look for
opportunities to sign-up for selling)
- Saturday, Oct. 22 @ 5pm
Pumpkin/Cranberry Pot-luck dinner @
church



Office Hours

Office hours:

- Monday 9am - 2pm
- Tuesday 9am - 2pm
- Wednesday 9am - 2pm

Email: office@firstparishwestwood.org
Phone: 781.326.5344

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STAY CONNECTED



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