

The Newsletter of the First Parish Church Congregational

October
2022

The Church Bell



Thank
You
Gathering
2022

Church Council Update from the Moderator

Boy is the Holy Spirit at work at FPCC!!! The Thursday Bible Study group has carried on their weekly gathering schedule, determined to continue their journey toward a closer relationship with God and each other. All are welcome to join this vibrant group of seekers as they explore God's Word using selections from the Daily Word as their resource. All are welcome to join via Zoom each week (the sessions are NOT being recorded). Please contact Paul Lengieza lengiezap@hotmail.com for more information.

A group of caring souls, led by Steve Carhart, are exploring establishing a Stephen Ministry at FPCC. Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members - called Stephen Ministers - to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the Congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties. Please see Steve if you are interested in learning more scarh104280@aol.com.

Representatives from the Diaconate and Outreach and Service Committee will be representing FPCC at a *Gathering of Faith Organizations* sponsored by Wellspring, highlighting the special impact that faith organizations have on their work. Wellspring is a Gloucester based Human Service organization focused on homelessness prevention, job training and adult education. See their website www.wellspringhouse.org to learn more about their work and mission. Church Council looks forward to hearing about the event!

Our dedicated and talented staff, together with our Deacons, have been coordinating well with the guest pastors that we have lined up and Sunday Worship continues to be a time of spiritual and community refreshment! We are excited about this opportunity to hear from a variety of voices from our pulpit and know that it will prove a great help as we consider the gifts and talents we are seeking in our next Settled Pastor. We encourage you to make note of how the Holy Spirit touches your heart and mind through each Pastor's sermon and share your thoughts with me or a member of Church Council.

The Interim Search Committee has met with a number of promising candidates, and we remain hopeful that we will secure a Settled Interim Pastor for the start of the New Year. Church Council met in September and, with guidance from Rev. Alex Will Shea, our Area Conference Minister from the UCC, are prepared to utilize this "in-between" time to advance the work to be done in preparation of our upcoming Settled Pastor search. You will hear more about these efforts in the weeks ahead, but in the meantime please feel free to ask any member of Church Council for more information.

Again, and always, we ask for your prayers, support and encouragement as we walk together through this time of transition guided by the Holy Spirit and our steadfast call to awaken to the light and love of God and be joyful beacons to the world!

God be with you 'til we meet again!

Bethany

Diaconate

July and August saw the choir take a well earned rest while Dr. Herman Weiss and Rebecca Shrimpton continued to bless us with their beautiful music with occasional visits from our Guest Music Director, Dr. Bonnie Anderson.

Sunday Aug.28th was the *Liturgy of Farewell and Release* as we thanked, released and sent Rev. Dr. Mark Boyea to his next church. We wished him well and our Moderator, Bethany Woods, gave Rev. Mark a box of our written well wishes. After the service, we all thanked Mark individually and celebrated with Ice Cream Floats courtesy of Jan Marshall and Sheila Carrassi.

Manchester Seniors - Drop in for *Coffee and Conversation*

Every Monday (except holidays) 10 AM-12:30 PM
at the First Parish Chapel Hall located behind Santander Bank

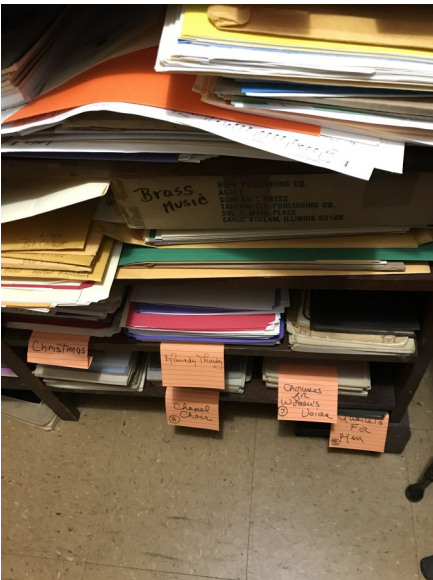
Hospitality provided by *The Friends of The Manchester Council on Aging*

Come sit down and talk!

First Parish uses candid photos of Church activities in its publicity from time to time. Any photos of children used will not contain personally identifiable information. Members of the community not wanting their or their children's photos depicted should inform the Church Office.

Music Closet Organizers

Over the past year and a half, two volunteers have been quietly cataloging the sheet music stored in the Church and Chapel. They organized it all into categories (Christmas, Easter, responses, benedictions, general music...) and created an inventory with recent dates performed. We now have an alphabetical *Music Library Inventory* in a binder listing all of the sheet music. Please thank Penny Lapham and Maggie Michael for their dedication in accomplishing this!



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Book Group

Did you know we have a book group at First Parish? It is open to anyone and meets on the last Monday of the month (except for this October because Halloween falls on the last Monday so we will meet October 24). This is a time for church members as well as non-church friends to come together and engage with one another, build relationships, and share in a discussion of books that are of interest to people of various backgrounds. We have fun visiting, conversing about the book and sharing stories and would love to have you join us!

The October gathering will be on **October 24th** at Mary Lumsden's home, 18 Woodcrest Rd. Manchester. We will discuss ***"The Alice Network"*** by **Kate Quinn**. RSVP to Mary at 978-712-0047.

In an enthralling new historical novel from national bestselling author Kate Quinn, two women—a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947—are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.

1947. In the chaotic aftermath of World War II, American college girl Charlie St. Clair is pregnant, unmarried, and on the verge of being thrown out of her very proper family. She's also nursing a desperate hope that her beloved cousin Rose, who disappeared in Nazi-occupied France during the war, might still be alive. So when Charlie's parents banish her to Europe to have her "little problem" taken care of, Charlie breaks free and heads to London, determined to find out what happened to the cousin she loves like a sister.

1915. A year into the Great War, Eve Gardiner burns to join the fight against the Germans and unexpectedly gets her chance when she's recruited to work as a spy. Sent into enemy-occupied France, she's trained by the mesmerizing Lili, code name Alice, the "queen of spies", who manages a vast network of secret agents right under the enemy's nose.

Thirty years later, haunted by the betrayal that ultimately tore apart the Alice Network, Eve spends her days drunk and secluded in her crumbling London house. Until a young American barges in uttering a name Eve hasn't heard in decades, and launches them both on a mission to find the truth...no matter where it leads.

November 28th we will discuss ***"In the Woods"*** by **Tana French**, location **TBA**.

As dusk approaches a small Dublin suburb in the summer of 1984, mothers begin to call their children home. But on this warm evening, three children do not return from the dark and silent woods.

When the police arrive, they find only one of the children gripping a tree trunk in terror, wearing blood-filled sneakers, and unable to recall a single detail of the previous hours.

Twenty years later, the found boy, Rob Ryan, is a detective on the Dublin Murder Squad and keeps his past a secret. But when a twelve-year-old girl is found murdered in the same woods, he and Detective Cassie Maddox--his partner and closest friend--find themselves investigating a case chillingly similar to the previous unsolved mystery. Now, with only snippets of long-buried memories to guide him, Ryan has the chance to uncover both the mystery of the case before him and that of his own shadowy past.

Richly atmospheric, stunning in its complexity, and utterly convincing and surprising to the end, In the Woods is sure to enthrall fans of Mystic River and The Lovely Bones.



September Book Group

October Birthdays

10/04	LUMSDEN, MARY	18 WOODCREST ROAD MANCHESTER	rasc84@hotmail.com
10/10	STEFANOVICH, ETHAN	61 FOREST ST MANCHESTER	anapeter2005@yahoo.com
10/15	ARNTSEN, ELLA	20 WOODCREST ROAD MANCHESTER	
10/19	FLYNN, JAMESON	7 LOADING PLACE ROAD MANCHESTER	
10/26	CARRASSI, SHEILA	19 VINE ST MANCHESTER	scbythesea@comcast.net
10/26	FEUERBACH, MARYJO	5 HAROLD ST MANCHESTER	maryjofeuerbach@gmail.com
10/28	BOTHWELL, SAMUEL	121 PLEASANT ST MANCHESTER	

School Supplies Drive September 11 - October 9

There will be a bin to collect assorted school supplies outside of the Chapel Hall



The following items are sought.

- Backpacks
- Number 2 Pencils
- Sharpeners
- Washable Markers
- Composition Books
- Colored Construction Paper
- Two Pocket Folders
- School Glue
- Ballpoint Pens
- Thin Dry Erase and Sharpies
- Colored Pencils
- Pencil Cases

If you are shopping and come across a sale of epic proportions, please consider one or more of the items above.

Blessings! Jeanne Westcott, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

Vitality

Our New Online Prayer Wall - Give it a try!

Request prayers and pray for others through the Prayer Wall on our website.

A few of us have given it a "test drive" and we've found it to be a spiritually deepening and enlivening addition to our lives.

We feel more connected to the *Joys and Concerns* of our congregation, and don't have to wait until the Sunday service to hear what's on each other's hearts. And we've been touched to receive notifications every time someone prays for us. Please, give it a try!

<https://www.firstparishchurch.org/prayer-wall/>

Service and Outreach

The Outreach and Service collection continues for The Open Door, The Grace Center and Operation Troop Support

The Open Door Needs

Baking Mixes - Cake, Brownie, Cookie, Muffin, Pancake
Peanut Butter
Canned Tuna, Chicken, and Turkey
Healthy Snack Items
100% Juice/Juice Boxes
Breakfast Cereal
Hearty Soups
Canned Vegetables and Fruits
Spaghetti Sauce
Macaroni and Cheese
Rice, Noodles, Pasta
Pet Food

The Grace Center Needs

Gift Cards from local grocery markets
(Shaw's, Stop & Shop, Market Basket, etc.)
so they can purchase butter, cream and other perishables

Troop items for October

Disposable cameras
Writing materials
Calling Cards

Our FPCC Compassion child, Chepkirwok, needs supporters for 2023

Contact Sue Parker, sueparker33@aol.com or click the link below to

[sign up](#)

Director of Youth and Children's Ministry [Jeanne Westcott](#)

Sunday School begins!

October 2nd marks the beginning of the 2022-23 Program Year for Sunday School and Youth Fellowship. If you have yet to register your children or you know of children who would enjoy stories, art and a chance to help others, please contact me at jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com.

Family Sunday, October 2, children will stay in the service. Children's bulletins and an activity will be available for families. This time is devoted to helping your child learn about the worship service and about what parts are especially meaningful to your family.

October 9th, *children will meet at the Church and be walked from the Sanctuary to the Chapel location for their first Sunday School class.* Parents are invited to attend our first session.

October 8, Faith Formation will offer *Hoops for School Supplies* to benefit the Beeman School of Gloucester. Come at 3:30 PM to the Chapel Hall parking lot. Register and get your entry number by providing \$5 worth of school supplies. At 4 PM we begin keeping count of how many consecutive baskets you can sink. If you miss, we give the next contestant their turn. This is an hour long event finishing at 5 PM. The winner receives an MBA jersey courtesy of First Parish Church! Tell your friends. This is also an opportunity to register and find out more about the exciting opportunities for Youth Fellowship (middle school through age 18) and Young Adults.

This summer's *Plant a Piz̃za Program* yielded some pretty good fruit! (And vegetables). On behalf of the Faith Formation team, 5 lbs. of fresh produce was delivered to The Open Door food pantry and another 5 lbs. were delivered to shut-ins in surrounding towns. Well done to Zach and to Leah for their contributions to this project! Do you have a flair for gardening? Jump into the *Plant a Piz̃za Program* next season and help feed folks who can't afford the rising costs of fresh produce.

Keep your eyes open for an Advent Candle Decorating event, a Movie Night for families and a Thanksgiving Food Drive. Plus the Second Annual ***Winter Queen's Emporium*** for children, ages 5-10, to do their own Christmas shopping for their families. We had a great time last year and look forward to a big response this year so watch for announcements to pre-register for this one-of-a-kind event!

Spiritual Study (formerly Bible Study)

Thursday Bible Study sessions are changing during the pre-interim period. The group will continue their lively discussions, with members locally and spread far and wide, using *The Daily Word* as a resource. We start at 4 PM on Zoom.

Copies of The Daily Word are available in the Church Narthex and in the Church Office compliments of the Deacons. You can also subscribe to an email version [here](#).

Below is an example of a Daily Reading-

Insight

My insight leads me on a deepening journey of spiritual discovery.

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

How wonderfully blessed I am to be on a journey of spiritual growth. No matter how much I learn or how much I come to understand, my greatest growth is that which leads me on a path home to myself.

As I have traveled my path, I may have felt frustrated or even a little discouraged believing I was not growing in understanding quickly enough. But even if it had occurred more slowly than I wanted, my growth has been happening all along. Little by little, my insight has deepened, awakening me to the truth of my divinity and the power of my spiritual gifts. My insight shows me that I am fully divine, just as I am fully human. I have everything I need to live in the world, and I am everything I could ever need to express the goodness of God.

I have good advice and sound wisdom; I have insight, I have strength.—Proverbs 8:14

We encourage you to join in! Contact Paul Lengieza at 978-526-4765, lengiezap@hotmail.com or the FPC office at 978-526-7661 ext. 1 to be emailed the link.

Use the links below to learn more about First Parish Church online:

[Facebook](#) www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/

[Instagram](#) www.instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea/

[Website](#) www.firstparishchurch.org/

[YouTube Worship Services](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUvfURhmsH8lfE13FLaRtWcw-pOTC9T2h>

Calendar

October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 AM-Memorial Service
2 10:00 AM-Communion 10:00 AM-Jazz & Family Rev Motley	3 10:00 AM-Drop In for Seniors	4	5 06:15 PM-Outreach & Service 07:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal	6 10:00 AM-VNA Health Clinic 11:30 AM-Wellness TMBTS 01:00 PM-Seaside Parish Knitters	7 03:30 PM-Adaptive Dance	8 01:00 PM-Hoops for School Supplies 02:00 PM-Wedding Rehearsal
9 10:00 AM-Worship Jasmine Buchanan 02:00 PM-Wedding Saetang Silawatsa	10 08:00 AM-Columbus Day 06:30 PM-Trustees Meeting	11 04:00 PM-Woman's Club Executive Co	12 07:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal	13 11:30 AM-Wellness TMBTS	14 03:30 PM-Adaptive Dance	15
16 10:00 AM-Worship Rev Judy Brain	17 10:00 AM-Drop In for Seniors	18 11:00 AM-Woman's Club Luncheon 06:30 PM-Church Council	19 07:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal	20 10:00 AM-VNA Health Clinic 11:30 AM-Wellness TMBTS 01:00 PM-Seaside Parish Knitters	21 03:30 PM-Adaptive Dance	22
23 10:00 AM-Worship Gene D'Angelo	24 10:00 AM-Drop In for Seniors	25 11:00 AM-COA Luncheon 02:30 PM-Friends of the COA	26 07:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal	27 11:30 AM-Wellness TMBTS 06:30 PM-Diaconate Meeting	28 03:30 PM-Adaptive Dance	29
30 10:00 AM-Worship Rev J Hamilton	31 10:00 AM-Drop In for Seniors 06:30 PM-Book Group					

First Parish Church, Congregational
P.O. Box 187
Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944



Jazz and Family Sunday



October 2, 10 AM