



# The Church Bell

November 2022



Women's Fellowship



Wobblin Goblin'



Book Group



Soup & Conversation

## Church Council Update from the Moderator

Our cups runneth over as we enter this season of thanksgiving! Throughout the past two months we have been blessed and uplifted by guest Pastors and speakers who have touched our hearts and inspired our minds, we came together for a joyous gathering at Tuck's Point, hosted by the Stewardship and Vitality Committees, we held our first Women's Fellowship event in nearly 3 years, and we held a wonderfully productive and well attended Soup and Conversation! Sunday School classes and events are underway, Council and Committees are meeting and attending to church business, the Seaside Knitters are knitting... the heart of First Parish Church beats strong!!!

And we are pleased to report that the Interim Search Committee is in the process of finalizing an agreement with an Interim Pastor who we hope will join us as of January 1, 2023. A fuller introduction and announcement will be made as soon as these details have been wrapped up!

God's good plan for our church is revealing itself, let us give thanks and be glad!

Lord God,  
we rejoice in your greatness and power,  
your gentleness and love,  
your mercy and justice.  
Enable us by your Spirit  
to honor you in our thoughts,  
and words and actions,  
and to serve you in every aspect of our lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The members of Church Council continue to encourage you to reach out to us with questions or concerns, and we ask for your prayers, support and encouragement as we journey 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!

## Vitality

**Our New Online Prayer Wall - Give it a try!** Request prayers and pray for others through the Prayer Wall on our website.

Feel more connected to the *Joys and Concerns* of our Congregation, and don't wait until the Sunday service to hear what's on each other's hearts. You will be touched to receive notifications every time someone prays for you. Please, give it a try!

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

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

Thank you to all who generously donated to the **School Supplies Drive!** We did 15% better than last year in volume and were able to purchase the most coveted teacher item ever....the allusive Sharpies, from the cash donations! Well done, friends of Faith!

The following are upcoming events for children, youth, and families. Please share this information freely -

**November 6, 2022: Our first Youth Fellowship Outing** will be held on this date with destination and time to be provided.

**November 13, 2022: Faith Formation will host a Family-Friendly Movie Night**, free for all accompanied by an adult. With crafts and snacks provided at 5:30 PM. Our "craft" will be a beeswax candle decorating suitable for Thanksgiving, Advent or to be given as a gift. Pre-registration for this event is required click [here](#) to register or contact Jeanne.

**December 3, 2022 : Saturday Winter Queen's Emporium** This is a holiday shopping opportunity for children ages 5 – 10. Children can bring a list of family members, the equivalent of 1.00 per family member in cash and shop in our stocked Emporium. They will meet the Winter Queen, enjoy a treat and wrap all their gifts to surprise their family members! Perfect. fun Shopping will be available in half-hour pre-registered time slots between 12 noon and 4 PM so don't miss your chance. [Register here](#) or contact Jeanne.

**December 11:** YF meets to launch the **Fleece Blankets Project!** More details to come.

Email questions to Jeanne at [jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com)



# **Family Movie Night**



**Sunday, Nov. 13, 5:30 PM**  
**First Parish Chapel Hall**

**Faith Formation will host a family-friendly movie, free for all accompanied by an adult, with crafts and snacks provided.**

**Make a beeswax candle decoration suitable for Thanksgiving, Advent or to be given as a gift.**

**Pre-registration for this event is required  
scan below to sign up**



Contact Jeanne Westcott, Director of Youth and  
Children's Ministry, at [jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com)  
978-526-7661 with questions





# Winter Queen's Emporium

**Save the Date!**  
**Saturday, Dec. 10**  
**12 - 4 PM**

**A holiday shopping opportunity  
for children**

Children (ages 5 – 10) can bring a list, \$1 per family member to shop in our Winter Queen's Emporium. They will meet the Winter Queen, enjoy a treat, and wrap/tag gifts to surprise their family!

**Scan to sign up  
for a shopping time!**



Proceeds benefit Bridge Over  
Troubled Waters, Boston

Contact Jeanne at [jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com) with questions

## 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 November**

For Hospitals – Blankets, Pillows, T-shirts & Underwear

### **Manchester Seniors - Drop in for *Coffee and Conversation***

Every Monday (except holidays) 10 AM-12 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!

### **Visiting Nurses Health Clinic**

Held the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month, 10 - 11:45 AM at First Parish Chapel Hall.  
Services offered include: health assessments, blood pressure screenings, B12  
administration, pulse, heart and lung monitoring, blood sugar screenings for  
diabetics, medication and diet consults. Drop in. Free.

## Operation Troop Support



### Halloween Candy Donation

**Manchester Essex Middle School**

**November 1 - November 7**



The Manchester Essex Middle School is collecting your unused Halloween candy to donate to

### **Operation Troop Support!**

They will have a collection bin at the school or you can drop at the Chapel and we will get your candy to the school.

Just put your candy in the bin outside the Church Office door.

## Messiah Sing, part 1, and Hallelujah Chorus, with Orchestra

**Sunday, December 11  
7 PM**

Open to the public  
Come ready to sing;  
listeners also welcome  
Reception to follow

**First Parish Church  
10 Central St.  
Manchester by the Sea**



The Church Office will be closed for Veterans Day, November 11. We will reopen November 15.

## Diaconate

September marked the start of different weekly supply ministers as we journey during transition. Each minister has brought new perspectives, spiritual messages and calls to action. Many Congregants have shared that they are enjoying the variety.

The infrequent absence of our fabulous and much appreciated sound technicians has meant that services haven't always been able to be live streamed or recorded for future viewing. These volunteers have certainly earned a well-deserved break! Will YOU help with this ministry? No experience is necessary. Please speak with Richard Smith. Thank you!

On October 6 Outreach and Service and Deacons were represented by Christiane Alsop and Susan Parker at Wellspring's *Regional Clergy Event*. This remarkable agency serves all the North Shore; nearly 2,000 participants have received services this year. They provide housing and homelessness prevention, job training and education with the goal of fostering financial security of its participants.

Chepkirwok, FPCC's supported Compassion child, sent the following message from his Compassion Center counselor:

*"Chepkirwok and his mom, Miriam, are happy to share with you that they are very grateful for the amazing gifts you sent him. (goat, mattress, bag of grain) Blessings be your way always. Bye!"*

A photo of Chep, his mom and the gifts is hanging in the Narthex.

If you would like to sign up to be a sponsor for \$38 a month in 2023, please go to (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4caba822a1f49-compassion>) or contact Susan Parker (978-704-9798).

We are always seeking people to read scripture for Sunday service. If you would like to do so, please speak with any Deacon or go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4caba822a1f49-diaconate>

Would you like to join a bighearted team of care givers who provide meals and transportation when needed? Please email Janet Growth at [janbythesea244@gmail.com](mailto:janbythesea244@gmail.com).



## Stephen Ministry

A number of members are organizing a Stephen Ministry at First Parish. The Stephen Ministry—named for Stephen, who in Acts 6 was appointed to assist members of the community suffering acute hardships—is a 50 year old interdenominational Christian tradition which trains lay members of the congregation in psychology and theology to be a Christian presence with any in the community suffering acute challenges. Typical examples would include bereavement, divorce, terminal illness, substance abuse, or mental illness. Fully details of the program are here: [Stephen Ministries](#)

A Stephen Minister's objective is not to "solve" the challenge but rather to ensure that none feel alone in their struggles. (Jesus, after all, did not come to "fix" all of our challenges, but rather to be *with* us in our struggles.) At the same time, a Stephen Ministry in a congregation develops a network of specialized services suitable to assist individuals with particular problems. For example, someone struggling with alcoholism would be introduced to a local AA group, while the Stephen Minister would continue to meet with that individual as a friend and witness.

We are currently working closely with the Outreach & Service Committee and the Care Team on this project. In the short term, as the leadership is trained and the program develops, our intention is to augment the work of the Care Team and develop our network of specialized services to which we can refer people for specialized support. Our tentative expectation is that during the current program year we will assist people within the congregation, with the goal of offering a fully trained and developed service to the full local community in the following program year.

If you are interested in learning more about this project, call Steve Carhart at 978-407-8454.

## 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. 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!

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

For questions about Book Group call Mary Ellen Cook 978-500-0018 or the FPC office at 978-526-7661 ext. 1.

## Spiritual Study

**Thursday Spiritual Study** sessions continue with lively discussions and members locally and spread far and wide! We use *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](#).

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

## November Birthdays

11/04	<b>LATIONS, KIMBERLY</b>	16 WASHINGTON ST MANCHESTER	<a href="mailto:kim.lations@verizon.net">kim.lations@verizon.net</a>
11/05	<b>HALGREN, DONALD</b>	35 CENTRAL ST MANCHESTER	<a href="mailto:doninvent@aol.com">doninvent@aol.com</a>
11/07	<b>SMITH, ATTICUS</b>	42 FOREST ST MANCHESTER	
11/10	<b>CARHART, STEVE</b>	12 BRIDGE ST MANCHESTER	<a href="mailto:scarh10428@aol.com">scarh10428@aol.com</a>
11/16	<b>CICALA, ANTONIA</b>	114 PINE ST MANCHESTER	
11/21	<b>WARNOCK, MAX</b>	5 RUNNING RIDGE RD MANCHESTER	
11/22	<b>POWERS, DANA</b>	8 STORY ROAD MAGNOLIA MA 01930	<a href="mailto:danajenpowers@gmail.com">danajenpowers@gmail.com</a>
11/27	<b>PORTER, GRACE</b>	13 HIGHWOOD ROAD MANCHESTER	<a href="mailto:gracein8@gmail.com">gracein8@gmail.com</a>
11/30	<b>SMITH, ANNABEL</b>	42 FOREST ST MANCHESTER	

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

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

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

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

[YouTube Worship Services](#)

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

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.

## November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 10:00 AM-COA Zumba	<b>2</b> 06:15 PM-Outreach & Service 07:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 10:00 AM-VNA Health Clinic 11:30 AM-Wellness TMBTS 01:00 PM-Seaside Parish Knitters	<b>4</b> 11:00 AM-Committee Meeting 03:30 PM-Adaptive Dance	<b>5</b> 10:00 AM-Collation
<b>6</b> 08:00 AM-Youth Fellowship Outing 10:00 AM-Worship 10:00 AM- Communion	<b>7</b> 10:00 AM-Drop In for Seniors	<b>8</b> 10:00 AM-COA Zumba 06:00 PM-Manchester Hist. Museum	<b>9</b> 10:00 AM-Women's Mission COA 12:00 PM-Council on Aging 07:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 11:30 AM-Wellness TMBTS	<b>11</b> 08:00 AM-Veteran's Day 03:30 PM-Adaptive Dance	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 10:00 AM-Worship 05:30 PM-Family Candle Decor/Movie 05:30 PM-Faith Form: Family Movie	<b>14</b> 10:00 AM-Drop In for Seniors 04:00 PM-Woman's Club Executive Co 06:30 PM-Trustees Meeting	<b>15</b> 10:00 AM-COA Zumba 11:00 AM-Woman's Club Luncheon 06:30 PM-Church Council	<b>16</b> 09:00 AM-TMBTS 07:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 10:00 AM-VNA Health Clinic 11:30 AM-Wellness TMBTS 01:00 PM-Seaside Parish Knitters	<b>18</b> 07:30 AM-Montessori Training	<b>19</b> 07:30 AM-Montessori Training
<b>20</b> 07:30 AM-Montessori Training 10:00 AM-Worship Outreach Service	<b>21</b> 10:00 AM-Drop In for Seniors 03:30 PM-Adaptive Dance	<b>22</b> 10:00 AM-COA Zumba Luncheon 02:30 PM-Friends of the COA	<b>23</b> 07:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 08:00 AM- Thanksgiving	<b>25</b> 09:00 AM-Office Closed	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 10:00 AM-Worship	<b>28</b> 10:00 AM-Drop In for Seniors 03:30 PM-Adaptive Dance 06:30 PM-Book Group	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM-COA Zumba	<b>30</b> 07:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal			

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



## **Save the Date**

### ***Join Us for the G. F. Handel Messiah Sing***

First Parish will hold its first annual Messiah Sing in its Sanctuary on December 11, 2022 at 7 PM. Singers and listeners are welcome to join us in the glorious music of G. F. Handel.

Featured will be soloists and orchestra, conducted by our Music Director, Dr. Herman Weiss.

This event is open to the public and will be followed by a reception in the Chapel Hall.

It also will be live streamed and recorded. A free will offering will be accepted at the door.

You are encouraged to bring your musical scores. Additional scores will be available if needed.