



STEEPLE CHAT

the weekly updates from your church
April 11, 2025



Sunday Services

Please join us in-person in the Sanctuary
or livestream through Zoom (at link
below):

<https://zoom.us/j/825890693>

OR

Phone in using this number:

1 929 205 6099

When asked, use our Webinar ID:

825 890 693

April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

Message by Pastor Dana Mann

Children's Message by Pastor Dana

Distribution of Palms

~Ministry of Music~

The First Parish Choir:

Hymn for Palm Sunday

arranged by Craig Courtney

Piano/Organ Prelude:
The Palms--Jean Baptiste Faure
Jeannie Goodwin and Rick Gremlitz



Sunday Children's Gathering

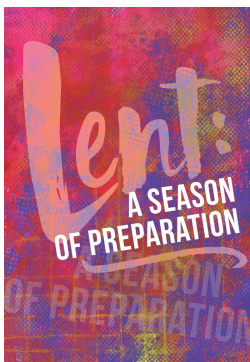
Following their special time in worship, all children pre-k through 6th grade are welcome to join with adult leaders in the Parlor for an interactive lesson.



Keep in Mind...

Of course, children are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary with their parent or guardian! There are bags with creative materials at the entrance to the sanctuary.

There is an unstaffed Children's Room downstairs, at the foot of the staircase, for the very young accompanied by a parent/guardian. Feel free to come and go in worship whenever your child needs a bit of rest or play!



Upcoming! Children and Youth Faith Formation Events

Sunday, April 13th, 5-6:30

Children, youth and their families are invited to gather for a light supper, and together we'll ask questions and ponder this holy week.

Later in April: We'll be heading to the Islamic Center in Portsmouth for conversation with community members. Stay tuned for details!

Easter Egg Hunt, Sunday, April 20

After Easter Sunday service, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children. The Faith Formation Team will be putting the eggs together – if you would like to donate wrapped candy that will fit into plastic eggs, please leave them in the donation box in the church office on any Sunday morning before April 13. If you have questions, please contact Sandy O’Neill at sandy_oneill@comcast.net.



All are welcome to join in the journey through Holy Week...

Together we'll move through the darkness into the invitation of a new day.

April 13th Palm/Passion Sunday, 10am

We'll gather to remember the story of that first Palm Sunday, the hope that was heralded as Jesus entered Jerusalem, and together we'll anticipate the journey to come, the joy turning to sorrow.

April 17th Maundy Thursday, 7pm Service of Communion and Tenebrae

This evening we'll share communion and remember together Jesus' commandment to love one another. Then we'll hear contemporary and gospel words about Jesus' last days, and experience the darkness that falls in and around us as he nears death.

It's a solemn evening in which music and candlelight play a meaningful role.

Please note: This service will be in-person only.

April 18th Good Friday, noon to 1pm

Our sanctuary will be open for time for personal prayer when we ask with the Psalmist, *from where will my help come?* At 12:30pm, Pastor Dana will offer a brief meditation.

April 19th Holy Saturday, 6pm
An informal gathering in Fellowship Hall

At **6pm** we'll walk the labyrinth in silence, then at **6:30pm** we'll share communion and words of hope as we wait for the return of the light. Please note: this event will be in-person only.

April 20th Easter Sunday, 10am
Festival Easter Service: We'll sing our Alleluias!



Welcome to our newest members!



Grant Kingsley

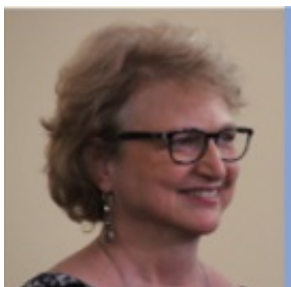
Grant is retired and has been living in Durham for the past 4 years. Grant is already actively involved in the choir and is assisting Rick by creating a database of the church keyboard music library.



Samuel and Amanda Tombarelli

Sam is a high school social studies teacher and Amanda is a middle school counselor. They have two daughters and reside in Portsmouth. They are excited to help serve God and others alongside the congregation. Amanda is the daughter of church member

Sally Tappan and the late Dick Tappan.

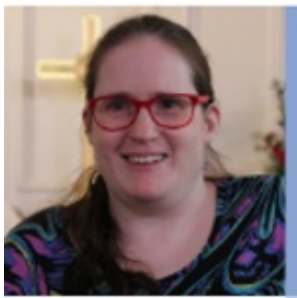


Mary Daniels

Mary moved to Dover in 2024 and loves the community. She is a retired librarian, enjoys singing in the First Parish choir, and volunteers in our Thrift Shop.

Jill Taylor

Jill enjoys doing art activities. She loves to



volunteer at church and is involved with Friends in Action.



Bev Caffrey

Bev enjoys watching movies and going out to eat, and being part of our Tuesday craft group and our First Parish family.



Alex Farrell and Edie Shimel

Alex and Edie both work in the arts and have lived in Dover for a few years now. They look forward to being active in the church with their children.



Sue Mallen

Sue had a career as a Red Cross nurse and also worked at the Kennedy Space Center. She is learning to play chess and plans to play golf again after many years. She is currently undergoing cancer treatment and remains hopeful.

Mission and Action Event, April 21st

On Monday, April 21st at 6 pm, M&A will be hosting Vrante from Zimbabwe, who is visiting and is involved with the shipping container project.

Vrante will share information regarding the project and will answer any questions. All are welcome to attend.

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'
Matthew 25:40.

**Our social justice team is
hosting a forum on
immigrant justice and
our bill of rights.**

**Wednesday April 23, 2025, 4:30pm
in the sanctuary, followed
by refreshments in the atrium**

Our immigrant neighbors came seeking safety and freedom. Many find poverty, isolation, and risk of detention and removal...removal from family, friends, safety, and freedom. Many are among the most vulnerable members of our community.

- Who can legally stay in our country?
- What are the pathways to US citizenship?
- Who has rights under our Bill of Rights?
- Who enjoys Freedom of Speech? Freedom of Religion?
- Freedom from Unreasonable Search and Seizure?
- And what about Due Process? What do these terms even mean?

**SangYeob Kim is a Senior Staff Attorney at the
American Civil Liberties Union of New Hampshire.**

**Join us to hear how he answers these questions in
plain language we can all understand.**



POTLUCK SUPPER

5th Tuesday Supper, April 29, 2025, 5:30pm

We welcome Stephanie Westergren who will share with us the UCC trip to Zimbabwe last August 2024. We have been partners with the church in Harare for many years and it will be good to catch up on how life is in Zimbabwe. This will also lead us towards our Zimbabwe container project that will be doing this summer.

Sign-up sheet is in the binder at the Welcome station. Sign up and bring friends and family for an informative night!



Mission and Action Scholarships

The Mission and Action committee is pleased to announce that we are now accepting applications for the First Parish Church Scholarships. There are three scholarships available:

The **Martha Rowe Scholarship (\$500)** is awarded to an individual pursuing a degree in the nursing field, a patient care related field, or a health care related field.

The **Richard Abbott Scholarship (\$500)** is awarded to an individual pursuing a business major or a degree in a business-related field.

The **Mission and Action Board Grants (\$500)** are awarded to an individual pursuing his or her education at the post-secondary level in any field or proposing to participate in a community service project.

Please see this [link to the application](#) and also please find copies of the application on the Mission and Action bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

The application is due Thursday, May 1st, 2025. There will be no extensions. The application and letters of reference may be returned to the Mission and Action mailbox in the church office, emailed to office@firstparishdover.org with subject line of Mission and Action Scholarship application or mailed to: First Parish Church, 218 Central Avenue, Dover, NH. 03820.

If you have any questions, please contact the Mission and Action

In-Reach Ministry at First Parish Church

What is In-Reach at FPC?

In-Reach is a program within the church that provides short-term assistance to members and friends in need. The In-Reach ministry reaches out in times of illness and loss, and in times of joy. Volunteer opportunities include preparing meals and providing transportation. All requests are considered.

If you wish to volunteer for the In-Reach program, please contact us.

If you wish to request assistance from In-Reach, please reach out with your request (contact information below). A member of the team will contact you to determine how we can best work with you.

Contact Information

Betsy Carroll, Contact Coordinator
(207) 450-1419 or
mbcarroll2011@gmail.com

Susan Dunker, Technical Coordinator
(603) 986-3058 or
sedunker15@gmail.com

Spring has arrived at The Thrift Shop!



HOLY WEEK: THRIFT SHOP HOURS

Please be aware the hours for The Thrift Shop will be abbreviated during Holy Week:

- Maundy Thursday, April 17: Closed
- Good Friday, April 18: Closed
- Saturday, April 19: Open 10am-1pm

During the first two weeks of April, the shop is open per usual.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group...

...is currently reading and discussing *Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Revelation* by Nancy Guthrie.

The Men's Group meets 7pm every Wednesday evening at the Clubhouse at 1 Cielo Drive in Dover (behind Hannaford's off the Durham Road-Route 108).

For details about joining Men's Group, or just sitting in for an evening or two, please contact Sam Ronda at 603-337-5258.

Update Your Contact List...

Please take note of our new Email addresses:

Pastor Dana Mann: dmann@firstparishdover.org

Rick Gremlitz: rgremlitz@firstparishdover.org

Nancy Prue: treasurer@firstparishdover.org

Community Desk: communityservice@firstparishdover.org

Church Office: office@firstparishdover.org

Leslie Scarsilloni: lscarsilloni@firstparishdover.org



For those who are able, we strongly invite ongoing sharing of pledges and offerings. Offerings may be made online by selecting button below or by mail, or via electronic giving.

[DONATE >](#)

An additional option for giving to your church is via the QR Code box reproduced here.

To use: Hold your iPhone or iPad camera up to the QR Code box and a link should appear on your screen. Click on that link which will take you to the FPC donate area.



VIDEO Recordings of Sunday Services

During this time of live-streamed services, we record the video (and audio) of our Sunday online services. These recordings are now available as mp4 video files through our Basecamp software program.

Access to Basecamp

If you do not already have access to Basecamp, you may register by using this [form](#) posted on Breeze.

First Parish Church is an Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ.

We welcome all to participate fully in the life of our church family, its ministries, fellowship, leadership, rites and sacraments, regardless of ability, race, ethnicity, social or economic situation, sexual orientation or gender identity.

First Parish Church, Congregational, United Church of Christ

**218 Central Ave
Dover, New Hampshire 03820
(603) 742-5664**

Visit our website: www.firstparishdover.org

email: office@firstparishdover.org

Church Office hours:

Tuesday through Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.



April 2025 mark your calendars.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

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- 4/13: Youth/family Gathering 5-6:30pm**
 - 4/21: Mission & Action Event, 6pm**
 - 4/23: Social Justice Team Forum 4:30pm**
 - 4/27: Tivvi Pare, Executive Director, Horton Center, after worship**
 - 4/29: Last Tuesday Potluck Supper 5:30pm**

Holy Week Schedule:

- 4/13: Palm Sunday Service 10am**
- 4/17: Maundy Thursday Service 7pm**
- 4/18: Good Friday 12pm**
- 4/19: Holy Saturday 6pm**
- 4/20: Easter Service 10am**



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