

Steeple Chat

The weekly update from your church



In our ONLINE Church this Sunday, September 20, 2020 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



10:00 a.m.
ONLINE Service
Prelude Music begins at 9:50 a.m.

Message by Rev Paige Besse-Rankin
Manna
Exodus 16:2-15; Matthew 20: 1-16

Children's Message by Pastor Paige

During the service we will honor and thank
Carol Seely for many years of dedicated
service on her retirement as a music leader
at First Parish Church

OUR ONLINE Ministry of Music

First Parish Ringers:
Come, Celebrate--by Cynthia Dobrinski
(recorded at the service of installation for Pastor Paige in May 2019)

**Please click this link to join the webinar service
online: <https://zoom.us/j/825890693>**

**OR: phone in using this number: 1 929 205 6099.
When asked, use our Webinar ID: 825 890 693.**

In preparation for the Annual Meeting of the Church on September 27, there will be a Budget discussion via Zoom this Sunday, September 20 following the online worship service. Please stay on the service Zoom link and the budget discussion will begin shortly.

**In Steeple Chat
this week:**

***Sunday Worship
*Budget discussion**

- *Sunday School begins
- *Lunchtime Devotions
- *Pastor Paige's Corner
- *Stewardship Thanks
- *Thrift Shop Opening
 - *Thank you!
 - *Prayer List
- *Warming Shelter Update
- *Holiday Fair
- *Deacons Bench
- *Book Club
- *Cook Book
- *White Privilege
- *Your Offerings
- *Music Ministry
- *Recordings Sign-up
- *Thrift Shop Opening
- *Stephen Ministry available
- *ONA Covenant



Sunday
School
starts
THIS
Sunday
at 9:15
am!

**Join us on Zoom for virtual
Sunday School.**

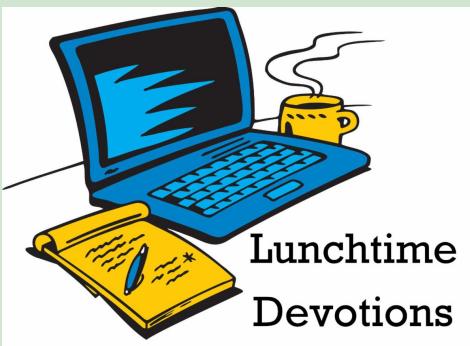
Here is the Zoom link:

[https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/81872238147?
pwd=UTFHRog1Y1JyaGhMUmU2eVlscDZWZz09](https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/81872238147?pwd=UTFHRog1Y1JyaGhMUmU2eVlscDZWZz09)

**Meeting ID: 818 7223 8147
Passcode: 836687**

Lunch Time Devotions: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:00 noon

We offer devotions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-12:30. This is open for everyone on a drop in basis. Come when you feel like it! What will you find when you join us? We spend a few moments greeting each other and catching up, we hear a scripture reading and a brief reflection on that reading. Then we listen to a song. We share people and situations we want to lift up in prayer and finally we pray together. Please join us



Tuesdays and/or Thursdays and ground your day in prayer. You can find us here:

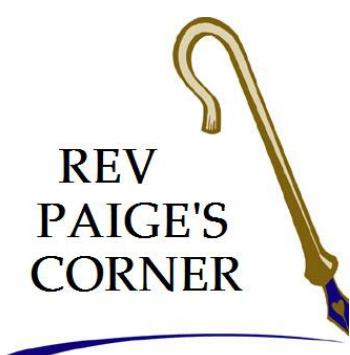
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/92409379536?pwd=RUXZaFFBK3JOUWplRTRLaWFBaVRkQT09>

Dial: 1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 924 0937 9536

Password: 835028



Working Together

I was a little worried last week I might get buried in an avalanche of tag sale donations! There was so much stuff! And the amazing volunteers who got it all sorted and organized over the last month did an awesome job. It filled many classrooms and slowly overflowed into fellowship hall, the parlor, and atrium. The challenge? How would we get it all out into the parking lot in time so everyone could enter and shop at 9 am. Ingrid showed up at 5 am followed

by the rest of us at 6 am. There were tables and tents to set up and then the big move began! So many people bringing things out and setting them out to be found and shopped! And with many people working together, we were ready to open on time! And clean up went even faster. The task seemed overwhelming, but many hands make light work.

That is how we come together as church to do great things – both locally and beyond. With so many close connections to those involved in the western wild fires, we wonder how we can help. And then we see the tropical storm season causing great damage. Everywhere we look, there is need for help. It can feel overwhelming. But then I look to the UCC Disaster ministries and discover that they are coordinating efforts, talking to pastors on the ground and funneling resources where they need to go. They plan in advance and when we make donations, they are ready to go when and where they are needed. They even sent assistance to Beirut after the explosions. And that is the church, working together. God weaves all our gifts together to make a difference.

Praise God for bringing us together and praise God for working through us!

Blessings!

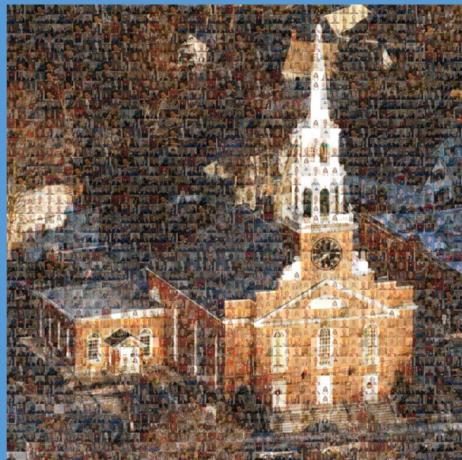
Rev Paige

From Your Stewardship Team

For such a time as this, we are very pleased to announce that participation in our stewardship drive this year has been simply uplifting! Thank you to all of you who have taken time out to pledge your time, talents, and financial commitments to First Parish Church. We would like to extend a friendly reminder to those that still have this on their “to-do” list. It is not too late to act by mail or through

the church web site. This will help tremendously in making an impact to help our church and the communities we serve.

Community



For Such a Time as This

Esther 4: 14



First Parish Church expresses our heartfelt thanks to each and everyone of you who stepped up to volunteer for this impressive fundraising event. We feel fortunate that you felt called to give your time and your support for this event. We are so grateful for your service work. God bless you All!

The ***Find It At The First Thrift Shop*** is opening on Saturdays beginning THIS SATURDAY September 19th with a "soft" opening from 9 am to 12 pm!

Please come into to say hello! Masks are required.

THANK YOU
to Our
Tag Sale Volunteers



Our Prayer List is published weekly as a link here in Steeple Chat.

If you have prayer concerns that should be included in our weekly listings, please contact the church office at 742-5664 or by email at: firstparish@comcast.net.

For the latest Prayer List, click here:
[Prayer List.](#)

Warming Shelter update:

Local advocates for the homeless continue to look for a site for a homeless shelter to protect some of our most vulnerable neighbors from harsh weather this coming winter. They are working



WARMING SHELTER UPDATE

with property management companies and owners of commercial space in Dover, Rochester, and Somersworth to find a suitable site by December 1. The goal is to shelter about 30 homeless neighbors in a 2,000 square foot space. If they are unable to secure space to house a shelter, they propose to fall back on local churches, like ours, to provide shelters, as needed. In either solution, we will need volunteers to (1) oversee the shelter, especially from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m (2) prepare food; and (3) manage donations from community members.

Betsey Andrews Parker, CEO of the Community

Action Partnership of Strafford County, and Tory Jennison, Director of Population Health at the Integrated Delivery Network that serves Strafford County and parts of Rockingham County plan to offer training for volunteers in the following areas:

1. Shelter 101
2. Trauma Informed Care, Crisis Intervention and De-Escalation
3. NARCAN Safety
4. CPR and First Aid
5. COVID-19 Protections
6. The Homeless Population

If you are interested in volunteering to provide shelter to those in need this winter, please contact Anne Drysdale at: aedrysdale@sbcglobal.net



HOLIDAY FAIR

Our Untraditional Holiday Fair is fast approach

ing! We are still looking for someone to oversee the plant room as well as the Holiday Baking/candy table. If this is something you are interested in please email Bethany ASAP at fpcfair@gmail.com.

Calling all crafters!

If you are part of our artisan crafters group and have items you would like to donate to the fair please contact Laverne S. before October 1st. Laverne can be reached at laverneswanson@comcast.net or at 614 260 9871.



An Untraditional Virtual First Parish Church Holiday Fair

Join the fun beginning in October!

Check out www.firstparishdover.org & our Facebook page in October to order:

- FPC Handmade Crafts & Quilts
- Tiffany Collectibles
- Holiday Cafe
- Cookie Walk & Baked Goods
- Homemade Pies
- Quilt Raffle

We are also hosting virtual vendors

Drive-in and pick-up your order

November 14th, 2020 From 10 am-2 pm

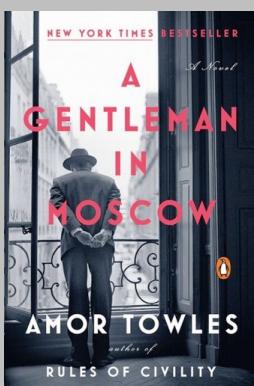
218 Central Avenue, Dover, NH - www.firstparishdover.org - 603-742-5664
If you have any questions please contact Bethany at fpcfair@gmail.com

The changing weather brings another season of change for the Deacons. The past 6 months have presented challenges on many fronts and our connections have brought us through with enough hope and faith left to continue meeting challenges head on. The Deacons have agreed that worship services will remain remote at least through



from the Deacons bench

October. With continuous improvements to technological abilities, we're moving closer to our goal of offering a meaningful worship experience for both live and virtual attendees once the Sanctuary opens. The Deacons are "leaning into" the chance to go back to basics and examine the "who, what, where, when, and how" of our decisions as stewards of FPC's worship. More than half the Deacons are stepping off the Board which is a bittersweet transition. We will dearly miss the talents and perspectives of members leaving but the holes left by departing members offer new opportunities for others to serve and grow with FPC through fellowship with the Deacons. We spent part of our last meeting reflecting on our time together. There was unanimous agreement that deepened connections to FPC and each other made the commitment to Deacons worthwhile. And laughter- we laugh A LOT when we're together. At FPC "once a Deacon, always a Deacon" and there may be "guest Deacons" from our alumni ranks filling in on some Sundays- so the changing of members is not a farewell, just a release from regular duties. That said, a HUGE THANK YOU is going out to our stepping off members. If you are interested in serving as a Deacon, please reach out to Nominating. We're a joyful and joy filled group and it is our hope that our joy in serving is reflected in the robust worship FPC offers. Blessings from the Board of Deacons



Hello Book Enthusiasts!

The next book club discussion will be on *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles on Thursday October 1st from 7pm - 8 pm. The zoom link will be sent the morning of. Please RSVP with Ingrid if you would like to join us by sending her your email address at: IngridFPCDover@gmail.com

Review- <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/34066798-a-gentleman-in-moscow>

Hello from The Dream Team!

We are putting together a cookbook of recipes that feed the soul to do our part in fundraising for First Parish Church. We're hoping to have it finished in time for the virtual Holiday Fair.

Please submit recipes that you found comfort & joy in during the pandemic. Recipes that made you smile.

You can submit as many recipes as you would like.

Please send your recipes to Ingrid Roeder

at IngridFPCDover@gmail.com or send them to

First Parish Church, 218 Central Ave. Dover, NH 03820

Thank you Everyone, this should be a lot of fun!



"White Privilege: Let's Talk

2 discussion groups have been organized from those who registered interest and

WHITE PRIVILEGE

let's talk



invitations and information has been sent out. If you are interested in being part of this 6 session program this fall or if you signed up but did not get an invitation, please contact Rev Paige.



webpage here: [Donate](#); or by mail, or through electronic giving.

An additional option for giving to your church is through 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.



Music Ministry Videos posted in Basecamp

We are posting videos of various music ministry offerings from our online services in a separate folder in the Basecamp Worship and Music Recording section.

We will continue to add to the music ministry collection every week.

If you do not have access to the Basecamp Worship and Music Recordings, please following the instructions in the box below:

VIDEO Recordings of ONLINE 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.

If you do not already have access to Basecamp, you may register by filling in the registration form posted on the Breeze program. Here is the link to sign-up:

<https://fpcdover.breezechms.com/form/55811a>





Find it at the First Thrift Shop *The Thrift Shop is REOPENING this Saturday, September 19 from 9 am until noon. Many new items at bargain prices! Masks are required for entry to the Thrift Shop.*

First Parish is a **Stephen Ministry Church** that provides weekly individual and confidential spiritual care for those in need. Please contact one of the following to get connected: Judy Edwards, 603-978-4789 or Dave Dickson, 603-781-9791.

First Parish Church is Open and Affirming,

welcoming 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.



See you ONLINE!

First Parish Church Congregational

United Church of Christ
218 Central Ave
Dover, New Hampshire 03820
(603) 742-5664

Visit our website: www.firstparishdover.org

