

# Steeple Chat

The weekly update from your church



## In our Church this Sunday, April 21 EASTER SUNDAY

### SUNRISE SERVICE



**5:52 a.m. *Sunrise Service***  
***at Hilton Park on Dover Point***  
***Message by Rev Paige Besse-Rankin***

***The Greening of the Cross***

### TWO IMPORTANT NOTES REGARDING SUNRISE SERVICE:

Due to road construction near Hilton Park, both the northbound entrance and northbound exit to and from Hilton Park are closed. Your route to the park should be to drive south and head towards the New Hampshire DMV building and Newick's restaurant. Keep going past Newicks, stay left and go under the two bridges. You will then come around and be parallel with the park, and the park entrance is marked after a section of fence.

Should foul weather conditions dictate moving the sunrise service to the sanctuary, we will post notices on the church website ([www.firstparishdover.org](http://www.firstparishdover.org)), on the church FaceBook page, and send an email to all those who receive Steeple Chat.

***10:00 a.m. Festival Easter  
Service in the sanctuary***

***Easter Message by  
Pastor Paige Besse-Rankin  
Fake News***

***Children's Message by Pastor Paige***



**The Ministry of Music  
The First Parish Choir:**

## ***Easter Alleluias! John Behnke***

**The First Parish Ringers and Jeannie Goodwin, piano:  
*Hallelujah* from the *Mount of Olives* Ludwig van Beethoven  
Brass Quartet and Organ**

**Child care is available during the service.**

**ALL are welcome and invited to join us for festive Easter fellowship and refreshments following the service in the church Fellowship Hall.**

### **In Steeple Chat this week:**

- \*Easter Meditation**
- \*Installation of  
Conference  
Minister**
- \*Church Supper**
- \*All-Church  
Dinner**
- \*Quilt Show**
- \*Cookbook**
- \*Sign-Up Books**
- \*Coming Events**
- \*Find it At the First**
- \*Stephen Ministry**
- \*M&A**
- Scholarships**
- \*Applications for  
Director of Faith  
Programming**

### **In our Sunday School**

**Sunday  
School does  
not meet  
this Sunday.**



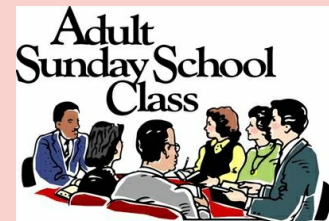
**We invite all children present for the Easter service to gather at 9:50 in the narthex to prepare for the processional of the flowers that will begin our Easter service.**

**Sunday school students will be bringing the flowers and other elements forward to adorn the sanctuary at the opening of the service.**



### **Adult Discussion Group**

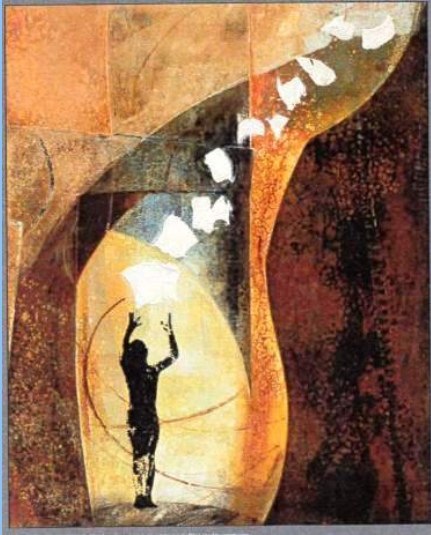
**Will NOT  
meet on  
Easter  
Sunday---see you in church!**



### **OUR MEDITATION FOR EASTER DAY...**

**Easter Sunday:** We travel with Mary to the tomb where she intends to conclude the story, instead, another chapter begins, with her at its center.

**A reflection:** Imagine that no one believed the story of Easter. It may be hard to imagine, and yet there are many who--for a wide variety of reasons--do not believe the story of the Resurrection. Does that matter? Do we need to



believe the historic tale, or are we able to experience the risen Christ present in our lives and our world, and know that resurrection happened, even if we do not know how?

## INSTALLATION of OUR CONFERENCE MINISTER

New Hampshire Conference  
United Church of Christ



**The Installation Service** for *Rev Gordon Rankin* as Conference Minister of the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ is Saturday, April 27, 1:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 155 South Main Street, Wolfeboro, NH. Our congregation is invited to attend this event in support of our new church member, Rev Gordon Rankin.

## NEXT CHURCH SUPPER



**Our next monthly Church Supper** is Saturday, May 4, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. The traditional menu will feature ham & homemade beans, cole slaw, green bean casserole, homemade breads & desserts and a few culinary surprises! Those willing to help with food donations for the church supper, please stop by the sign-up table this Sunday.

## ALL CHURCH CELEBRATION DINNER



**All-Church Celebration Dinner**  
Monday, May 13, at 5:30 p.m. ALL church members and friends are cordially invited to this annual event to honor and celebrate those very special people who have been members of First Parish for fifty or more years, along with our newest members who have joined in the past year. You need not bring anything; food and beverages will be provided by the Deacons, but please sign up in white binders for food planning purposes. Join us for this special evening of dinner, fellowship, entertainment and reminiscences.

This is an all church event!

## QUILT SHOW and SALE



**Quilt Show and Sale** Presented by the First Parish Artisan Quilters on Saturday, May 18 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Our sanctuary will be filled with color and patterns from the many quilts that will be on display. The show will feature quilts of all sizes, both new and old; family quilts, as well as other quilted projects such as table runners and placemats. There will also be a Cafe with the famous First Parish food during the event. The Artisans are seeking those willing to loan quilted items, large or small, for display at the Quilt Show. Please contact Judy Edwards (749-2130) or Marcia Dolley (842-5437) for details.

## COOKBOOK



**InReach Ministry News** Hannaford has selected many nonprofit organizations to partake in a fundraiser selling their **fresh Cookbook**. The cookbook contains the best *fresh* Magazine recipes that Hannaford customers have enjoyed for years. These recipes are perfect for everyday cooking and special occasions. Because of their generosity, the books were donated to us. Your donation of \$5 per book will be used by the InReach Ministry here at FPC. Stop by our table located in the Atrium! Buy a cookbook, buy two! They make great gifts and fabulous meals! Questions? Contact Betsy or Cindy at [fpc.inreach@gmail.com](mailto:fpc.inreach@gmail.com)

## CONTINUING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP...AND TO EAT!...

Our white **Sign-Up** books continue to connect folks who are willing to assist with church-related projects and ministries.

This Sunday, new signups are for the All Church 50 Year & New Member dinner on Monday, May 13. Sign ups continue for the May 5th Celebratory Luncheon, part of Stewardship Covenant Sunday. The white binders are circulated during the service, but if that time is not convenient for you to sign up, the books are also available at coffee hour, and on the table just outside the church office during the week.



First Parish Church of Dover

Sign Up Book

(Please bring to Fellowship Hour if you have this book at the end of worship!)



If you are organizing a church activity that needs sign ups, please feel free to add your sign-up sheets to each of the two Books!

## In the Life of our Church

### COMING EVENTS--SAVE THESE DATES!

**Installation Service of Rev Paige Besse-Rankin  
as the 35th Senior Pastor of First Parish Church  
Sunday, May 26 at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary  
Celebratory Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall**

**Children's Day This special service when we celebrate  
our Sunday School program and its accomplishments.  
Sunday, June 9 at 10:00 a.m.**

**The Annual Meeting of First Parish Church will immediately follow  
the worship service on Sunday, June 16.**

**Find it at the First Thrift Shop** is open on Thursdays, 1-4 p.m., and  
Fridays and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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.

### M&A ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS



Our **Mission and Action** Board presents  
several scholarships annually in June.  
These awards are available to graduating  
high school seniors and, to currently  
enrolled college students.

The application form and more information  
may be downloaded here:  
[M&A Scholarships](#)

The process has begun to find a new  
Director of Faith Programming for the  
coming church/school year. Applications  
are now being sought from suitable  
candidates for this position.

You may view the position posting and  
application process by clicking here:

**APPLICATIONS  
OPEN NOW**

[Director of Faith Programming.](#)



**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 in church!*

**First Parish Church Congregational**

The United Church of Christ  
218 Central Avenue  
Dover, New Hampshire 03820  
(603) 742-5664  
Visit our website: [www.firstparishdover.org](http://www.firstparishdover.org)

