



# The First Church and Parish in Dedham

[www.dedhamuu.org](http://www.dedhamuu.org)

Volume CXXXVIII, No 5

July and August 2018

## Worship in July and August

Worship at 10:00 am  
in the dining room of the Parish Hall

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Please join us for service this summer in the dining room of the Parish Hall.

Services will be led by members of our congregation.

July 22<sup>nd</sup> is still available. If you would like to lead a service on that date,  
please contact Judy Barrington at [judys\\_house@hotmail.com](mailto:judys_house@hotmail.com) or

Pam Aist at [pfaist@gmail.com](mailto:pfaist@gmail.com).

You can also contact the church office at  
781-326-9463 or [firstchurch@dedhamuu.org](mailto:firstchurch@dedhamuu.org).

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**Sunday, July 1, 2018**

No Worship

**Sunday, July 8, 2018**

Kate Martin

**Sunday, July 15, 2018**

Kayla Schneider

**Sunday, July 22, 2018**

Open

**Sunday, July 29, 2018**

Sharon Lane

**Sunday, August 5, 2018**

Joshua Langmead

**Sunday, August 12, 2018**

Karen Donaghey

**Sunday, August 19, 2018**

Jennifer Atkins

**Sunday, August 26, 2018**

No Worship

### From our Peripatetic Minister

Well, we saw Linnea off with flying colors. Thanks to Meg and Virginia and the Choir who led our flash mob. I hope we will have some video online soon for you to revisit that beautiful day. Many also attended Donna Dolham's ordination and we saw her off with love.

As we look forward to the summer months we are fortunate to have Cookie Duncan to play the piano for our summer services. Even if we don't find a preacher on the open date, we may be able to offer hymn singing. If you have time on Sunday mornings and want to connect with your church friends, I hope you will attend a summer service.

I am still in limbo with my situation. DCF has cancelled several planning meetings and is playing a bit of a shell game with providers. They have recently told me that as I live out of state, they will not certify me as the foster care provider. So, now the goal is to find someone to help my father to care for the girls so that they can stay in family care, if not return them to the mother as soon as possible. The Connecticut Department of Children and Families is clearly a broken system and I feel an urge to push for laws that will make the system accountable to children while I feel an equal draw to return to Dedham where I know things aren't as dysfunctional.

No matter what happens on this end, I will be in the pulpit every Sunday in September and will be back full time in October.

I am grateful for all the love and support I have received as we have tried to make Lemonade out of some very sour lemons.

In the meantime, if you need anything please don't hesitate to call me (617-459-5979 or email me [raliweaver@dedhamuu.org](mailto:raliweaver@dedhamuu.org)).

I will try to lend a hand from a distance or find someone to help you.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer.

Love,  
Rali

Contact Rev. Weaver any time at  
617-459-5979 or [raliweaver@dedhamuu.org](mailto:raliweaver@dedhamuu.org)

## From Grace Peña- Director of Religious Education

During our Children's Service this year, I asked each member of the congregation to write on a sticky note his/her answer to the following questions: *How has your life been brightened by a relationship with a child?* Here are the responses:

- ~ It's great to know that my own kid can handle a basketball way better than I!
- ~ My heart grew with more joys and laughter, sharing concerns, wonders, mysteries and watching him grow up.
- ~ Every time a child smiles and offers to help, I am "filled with the spirit."
- ~ The view of the world through the eyes of a child can teach all so much.
- ~ Having a daughter has taught me to put another person at the center of my life.
- ~ Parent... Teacher....
- ~ Love and laughter!
- ~ Remembering to look forward.
- ~ Opened my eyes and heart to the beauty and mysteries of this world.
- ~ By the excitement on their faces.
- ~ It has taught me what unconditional love means.
- ~ My relationship with my grandchildren has brightened my life by re-kindling my love of music and art – they love both!
- ~ Our children see the world without bias and without preconception. They see the world as it could & should be... to share that vision broadens all love... horizons.
- ~ Our 3 children make every single day brighter and happier.
- ~ Children brighten my life by being themselves. They are non-judgmental and truly love you with everything they have.
- ~ Since I started working here, the children have brightened my mornings.
- ~ Gave my life meaning.
- ~ I love the innocence of childhood and the acceptance of so many things without blinders.
- ~ Christmas is 100 times better with kids.
- ~ My children make me laugh and make me so very proud.
- ~ My children give me laughter when laughing seems impossible.
- ~ The contacts have kept me running in circles for many years.
- ~ Makes my life sparkle.
- ~ Seeing the joy in discovery
- ~ Sharing Riva with the children of First Church has brought all involved great joy!
- ~ Overwhelming, unconditional love.

- ~ Allow me to see life more clearly without the smog we collect as we go through life.
- ~ Feeling complete connecting heart to heart; laughing working, playing together; watching them grow...
- ~ Taught me to be more patient.
- ~ My life has been brightened. I get the ability to see the world through my granddaughter's eyes. I have more joy than I ever thought possible.
- ~ All children keep me feeling young.
- ~ Makes me feel joyful and hopeful...
- ~ The children and grandchildren are the center of my life. I would be empty without them.
- ~ So many beloved children, my own bring me joy and purpose every day.
- ~ The children make me smile and know that the future is bright.
- ~ Through my children's eyes I have learned new perspectives and refreshed my ability to be open minded.
- ~ The joy and pain of competitive youth sports.
- ~ There are no words! 😊
- ~ Remembering the first taste of ice cream through a child's eyes.
- ~ It is not just one but a double barrel of FUN!
- ~ We have been humbled by the trust that our children put in us. We see joy in moments that we would have taken for granted. All our love in you
- ~ To really try to see the world through a child's eyes helps to feel young and full of wonder again.
- ~ A young child who shares a home with my son always looks for me at the grocery store and gives me a big smile.
- ~ To remember that there are no questions too simple.
- ~ My life has been brightened by the ways I've learned to have fun and learn at the same time.

My wish is for all of us to hold these sentiments in our hearts and then open our hearts to the children at First Church and Parish in Dedham. Let us all reach out and connect with the children here in whatever way we can. What gifts we can give them and vice-versa!

Happy summer!!

With love, Grace

Grace has office hours in July & August on Wednesdays, 4pm-7pm.  
You may reach her at [gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org](mailto:gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org)

## Coffee Hour Pilot Project Update

A Pilot Project is underway to help create a network of people to provide all of the necessary pieces to this special and “sacred” time in the life of the congregation. The model is based off of one that several other UU congregations around our association have been using to lighten the load and create opportunities to meet and get to know others. The framework involves groups of 8 to 10 people with a team leader, these folks then break up the tasks involved in coffee hour: setting up tables and chairs, providing light food/snacks, cleaning up kitchen and returning the tables and chairs back against the walls at the end. Essentially, First Church is large enough to support 8 teams so every team only serves once every 8 weeks.

The Membership Committee is excited to announce the teams:

### Coffee Hour Teams:

#### **Team 1**

#### **Stephen Brayton (team coordinator)**

David and Gail Calandrella  
Meg Duncan  
Natalie Jensen  
Erik and Dale Meyer-Curley  
Lisa Pilat  
Nora Sotomayor  
Becca Vautour  
Judy Neiswander

#### **Team 2**

#### **Jenn & Liz Otto-Fagan (team coordinators)**

Judy Barrington (back-up coordinator)  
Susan White  
Kerrie Gallagher  
Virginia Hickey-Ferentinos  
Noreen King  
Ann & Mason Miranda

#### **Team 3**

#### **Kayla Schneider (team coordinator)**

Chris Schneider  
Pam Aist  
David Miller & Diane Barry  
Kathy Elefterakis  
Arnold Sacks  
Jennie & Steve Wilkinson  
Cindy Jones  
Geoff Tegnell and Kathy Widger

#### **Team 4**

#### **Julia Gecha (team coordinator)**

Diane Cullen Moore  
Jennifer Greaney & Michael Roberts  
Meredith & Joshua Langmead  
Anne Schiraga  
Lynne Flodin

#### **Team 5**

#### **Meg & Peter Lutze (team coordinators)**

Vicky Berg  
Karen & Tom Donaghey  
Matt & Anne Grady  
Beppy Martin  
Denny Peterson  
John Tocci  
Lisa Seibert

#### **Team 6**

#### **Liza Miller Arend (team coordinator)**

Audrey & Steve Cecil  
Andrea Gilmore  
Jane Kelly  
Sam King & Linda Meyer-King  
Holly Perry  
Allison Staton

**Team 7**

**Paquita Bass (team coordinator)**

Steve Davey & Ria Chase-Davey  
Kelly Downes  
Debbie Harrison  
Claudia Leone  
Mary Anne Osborn  
Eileen Sullivan  
Michaela & Russell Stuart

**Team 8**

**Sharon Lane (team coordinator)**

Jennifer & David Atkins  
Carol Dixon-Hutton & Jeff Hutton  
Betsy Hetzler  
Kate Martin  
Susan & Jack Sennott  
Adria & Richard Zessis

**Schedule:**

September 16, 2018: Stephen Brayton – Team 1  
September 23: Liz and Jenn Otto-Fagan – Team 2  
September 30: Kayla Schneider – Team 3  
October 7, 2018: Julia Gecha – Team 4  
October 14: Meg and Peter Lutze – Team 5  
October 21: Liza Miller-Arend – Team 6  
October 28: Paquita Bass – Team 7  
November 4, 2018: Sharon Lane – Team 8  
November 11: Stephen Brayton – Team 1  
November 18: Liz and Jenn Otto-Fagan – Team 2  
November 25: Kayla Schneider – Team 3  
December 2, 2018: Julia Gecha – Team 4  
December 9: Meg and Peter Lutze – Team 5  
December 16: Liza Miller Arend – Team 6  
December 23: Paquita Bass – Team 7  
December 30: Sharon Lane – Team 8

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## Care and Concerns

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We continue to have parishioners who are not feeling well and/or cannot make it to church and would love to receive a call, a card or a visit.

If you are interested in contacting any of these people please contact Susan White chair of the Parish Community Network at [sbsw6567@gmail.com](mailto:sbsw6567@gmail.com) or by phone at

If you have a care or concern to share, please contact our church office by calling 781-326-7463 or emailing [firstchurch@dedhamuu.org](mailto:firstchurch@dedhamuu.org).

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## Civic Engagement

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If you are looking for a way to offer support to those in need after any natural disaster or you are concerned about Immigrant Rights, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee is a good place to start. <http://www.uusc.org/>

Also if you are looking for other ways to get involved and want to make a difference in the world, UU Mass Action is a great way to start. Go to [www.uumassaction.org](http://www.uumassaction.org) for more details.

Also the UU Urban Ministry helps to serve those in the greater Boston area through afterschool programs, domestic violence support, community development and education. Find out more about UU Urban ministry at <http://www.uuum.org/>

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## May and June Parish Committee Meeting Minutes

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### **Minutes of the Parish Committee Meeting – April 2, 2018**

Meeting called to order 7:05 pm

Present: Audrey Cecil, Noreen King, Kathy Elefterakis, Matt Grady, Susan Sennott, Cindy Jones, David Miller, Ann Miranda, Susan White, Rali Weaver and Donna Dolham.

Gratitudes

### **Minutes of Parish Committee Meeting of March 5, 2018**

Motion to approve-seconded-so VOTED.

## **Ministers' Reports:**

### **Donna**

- Outlined preaching schedule for Rali and Donna
- Pastoral care update
- On-going thoughts –  
Process when Rali goes on planned sabbatical

### **Rali**

- Will continue sabbatical rest of church year-will preach some Sundays
- Will continue to need to be the primary foster parent until September hearing
- Will work on Safe Church Policy with Ministry Committee
- Donna will work with Geoff Tegnell to finish draft of Long Range Planning Committee
- Personnel issues- Pat will work 7 hours a week and Grace will work 30 hours a week-suggested adding to Church Personnel Policies that only a 40 hour staff person would be offered a benefit package
- Thanked Parish Committee, Donna and the congregation for their support during this time

### **DRE Report**

#### **Treasurer's Report**

- Bay State paid through March
  - received \$1725 of 2018-2018 pledge income
  - \$16,000 received from Parish Account
  - Parish House gas exceeded budget by \$500
  - Parsonage gas and electricity below budget but will most likely exceed annual budget amounts with next payments
  - Snow plowing over budget
  - We are \$5,896.07 over budget
- Motion to approve-seconded-so VOTED.

#### **Review Action Items**

- Geoff talked with George-no summer school-pay for 10 months
- Geoff met with nominating committee
- Cindy - date for Annual Meeting June 3- Meet on May 20 budget hearing and Long Range Plan

#### **Review Action Items**

- Dave Atkins co-chairing Stewardship with Steve
- Andrea-speaking with B&G re: window conversion -TABLED
- Rali sabbatical extended



### **Old Business**

- Debit/Credit Card –need SS numbers-Andrea will talk to the bank
- Donna –regarding Executive Session suggested a member of Ministry Committee be present at Executive Session

### **New Business**

- Playground: Steve Davey has a plan- buy a gift card from Loews with remaining budget-he would keep receipts etc. - \$5000 for playground
- Opening Words: Parish Committee members signed up for dates for Welcome and Announcements
- Service Auction: Need people to set up and clean up, red and white wine and beer, bartenders, auctioneer, Julia Gecha is working on program- Kathy and Susan will keep track of bids and take the money and of course we need food! Dinner prepared by John Tocci and his kids and Andrea Gilmore. Dinner will cost \$15. All jobs have volunteers.
- Christmas Safety Committee: Noreen, Andrea, Audrey and Rali
- Rali-could we set up a Social Action Committee and have a plan for Social Action-Susan Sennott will head this up
- Cindy reminded us of Repurposing Workshop on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 p.m.

### **Minutes of the Parish Committee Meeting – May 7, 2018**

Meeting called to order 7:05 P.M.

Present: Cindy Jones, Kathy Elefterakis, Matt Grady, Geoff Tegnell, Noreen King, Susan Sennott, Ann Miranda, David Miller, Donna Dolham, Susan White—Andrea Gilmore and Rali Weaver were available on the telephone. Julia Gecha was present as a guest.

Chalice lighting and Unison Affirmation

Gratitudes

**Presentation by Julia Gecha of three different solutions for a public announcement sign on church grounds:** The purpose of this sign is to replace the heavy broken board that requires two people to drag onto the lawn. This would be placed on or near the corner of High and Court Streets with the purpose of advertising church events. The options included a sign with the name of the church on top and a place to advertise a particular event below. A sign with granite posts would cost about \$3400 including installation. Discussed a cheaper advertising version. Julia will price out one using black poles and report back at our next meeting.

### **Minutes of Parish Committee Meeting of April 2, 2018**

Motion to approve-seconded-so VOTED

## **Ministers' Reports**

### **DRE Report**

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Bay State Learning two months behind on rent
- \$8500 of 2018-2019 pledges received
- Service Auction and Dinner made \$9365
- Parish House gas over budget
- Parsonage gas and electricity over budget
- Geoff will talk to George tomorrow
- Andrea said the contract is the same as last year

Motion to approve- seconded-so VOTED

### **Action Items**

- The current pledge total is less than budgeted-Cindy has prepared a revised budget of \$100,000 (a little conservative). Motion to approve revised budget of \$100,000. Seconded-so VOTED
- Budget Hearing May 20<sup>th</sup>
- Annual Meeting June 3<sup>rd</sup>: Auditors ready, Warrants to be posted, Committee Reports due in office by deadline to be set

### **Action Items Continued**

- Donna will check status of Long Range Planning Committee

### **Nominating Committee Report**

- Geoff reported the following people will continue in their roles:

Auditors-Ollie Ames and Claudia Leone

Treasurer-Cindy Jones

Clerk-Susan White

Parish Committee for three years: Liza Arend and Allison Staton

Deacon for six years: Jennifer Atkins

Andrea convert window to exit

### **New Business**

- New Music Director: We are lucky to have had Linnea and we want to get the best fit for our church. Discussion that Personnel Committee would take the lead - initial filtering - bring in appointed people from the choir. Have an interim if we cannot get one we like. Then the subject of a Search Committee was introduced. After much discussion it was agreed to have the job posting read "the position is a one year part time position eligible to apply for a permanent position. Noreen will notify Rali of the new wording in the job description. Geoff will prepare a survey for the congregation and he will constitute a Search Committee from the choir. After our long and thoughtful discussion we all agreed with this process.

Meeting Adjourned 10 p.m.

**Office Hours for July and August  
Wednesday 1 pm-7 pm**

Grace Peña, Acting Director of Religious Education &  
Building Use Coordinator  
Wednesday 4 pm-7 pm  
[gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org](mailto:gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org)

Pat Hawkins Office Administrator  
Wednesday 1 pm-4 pm  
[firstchurch@dedhamuu.org](mailto:firstchurch@dedhamuu.org)

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**Ongoing Calendar Events**

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**Fitness Opportunities**

**Older Adult Fitness**

**Nora Brown 781-329-3311**

Tuesday Mornings at 9:45 am\*

Thursday Mornings at 10:30 am\*

*\*Please check with the church office at 781-326-7463 and  
[firstchurch@dedhamuu.org](mailto:firstchurch@dedhamuu.org) to confirm class for specific dates  
as Nora may take vacation time during July and August.*

**AA Groups**

Sunday Dedham Village AA Meeting 5-10 pm

Private Women's Meeting Wednesday 6-8 pm