



The First Church and Parish in Dedham

www.dedhamuu.org

Volume CXXXX, No 6

July and August 2020

Worship in July and August 2020

Worship at 10:00 am online. You can find the link at www.dedhamuu.org

11:00 am Zoom Social Hour <https://zoom.us/j/684365896>

Sunday July 5, 2020

Faith in the time of the Extreme

The Rev. Rali M. Weaver will preach

Rev. Weaver will reboot the first sermon she ever wrote (in seminary) on Psalm 23 and ask what might be the benefits of holding to faith in times of trial.

Sunday July 12, 2020

The Preponderance of the Small

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach

Rev. Weaver will reboot the first sermon she gave during candidating week in May of 2007 and consider again the importance of small things.

Sunday July 19, 2020

The Importance of Dreams

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach

This sermon first given as her final Sermon at the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco in June of 2005, will revisit how dreams drive our conscious action.

Sunday July 26, 2020

Love the One You are With

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach

It is from Self Love that all other loves are born. This Sermon first given in February of 2005 at the First UU Society of San Francisco will be rebooted and revised for the times we are in now.

Sunday August 2, 2020

Whom do We Worship

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach

UU's have a tendency to disavow any higher power which begs the question whom do we worship? This Sunday Rev. Weaver will revisit her 2007 sermon in light of this year's UU General Assembly.

Sunday August 9, 2020

Thomas Merton

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach

We will explore again a theme from the 2015 sermon about Thomas Merton and consider what this great theological thinker may have to teach us today.

Sunday August 16, 2020

Radical Love

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach

What would it mean to love the Hell out of the World in a time of Covid? Rev. Weaver will reboot her 2015 sermon in light of the conflicted times we are facing.

Sunday August 23, 2020

Science and Philosophy

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach

We will revisit Rev. Weaver's 205 sermon and the ages old battle between science and philosophy and ask how either science or philosophy thinking has led to some of the pandemic issues.

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Revisiting the Commons

The Rev Rali Weaver will preach

We will revisit the 2007 sermon given at the First Church and Parish Dedham and ask again how focusing our sights on the common good might make the world a much better place.

September 6, 2020

There will be no youtube worship or Zoom social Hour on Labor Day weekend.

September 13, 2020

10 am In the Meeting House?

Hopefully Homecoming

The Rev. Rali Weaver will Preach

It is hard to know what will happen between now and September 13 but we hope we will be back together.

This will be a celebration of our community followed by a church potluck on the green.

From Our Minister: The Rev. Rali Weaver



This Summer I will be revisiting old sermons in part to give myself a break but also to consider how much the world has changed since I trained for ministry.

I was in seminary in 2001 when the 9/11 events took place, so I knew that the world was in turmoil but I could have never predicted the awakening and conflicts we see now. Even our town elections are filled with vitriol.

I hope we can find a way to live our values in the midst of this pandemic and every day after. How we might love the hell out of this world from our couches.

I do hope we can return to worship together in the Fall, but there is much to consider about how to do this safely and how to support even the most vulnerable among us as we come back together.

I have recently become more involved with the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization whose mission is to build power by developing local leaders so we can act together on issues that matter to our communities. This is not a group just for ministers and I hope as time goes by those of you interested in supporting Black Lives Matter, who care about health care for all and want to make our communities safe for all might consider joining with me at these virtual meetings. I will also be sharing with you all in our weekly church email opportunities to call and email your legislators on collective issues that emanate from this group. I am also exploring opportunities to collectively buy covid 19 masks and gloves for our church from black owned business through this group. If you are interested in getting involved with the GBIO please let me know.

In the meantime, I hope you all are able to stay healthy and well as you enjoy parts of the summer. I am just a phone call, text or email away. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have an idea, a need or just want a friend to listen.

I plan to be in Vermont for most of July but will return to Dedham for most of August.

If you would like a social distant walk or talk or zoom meeting feel free to set up an appointment with me by email or at revraliweaver.youcanbook.me.

Much love,
Rali



From our Director of Religious Education: Grace Peña

Happy Summer! I know the children are probably very happy that school has finally ended. Congratulations to all of you! You guys (and your parents) did an awesome job during this crazy time. I know it wasn't easy. Hopefully the Summer will bring a continued lifting of Covid-19 restrictions and we will get to enjoy the outdoors and being with each other more and more.

Keep a lookout in your mail for something that I will be sending to your children to do during the Summer when the church is closed: A UU RE Passport! It will be filled with activities and ideas around our 7 UU Principles. My hope is that the kids will fill out each passport page with either a drawing or some words relating to the activities I will include. There will also be room to share whatever else they would like to with me.

Just as a reminder, our 7 *Principles* are:

- #1: We believe each and every person is important
- #2: We believe all people should be treated fairly and with kindness
- #3: We accept all people and we believe in learning together
- #4: We believe each person is free to search for what is true and right in life
- #5: We believe everyone deserves a vote about the things that concern them
- #6: We believe in working for a peaceful, fair and free world
- #7: We believe in caring for our planet Earth and every living thing that shares it with us.

I will be in the office during July and August on Wednesdays, 1pm-6pm, to support the Dedham Farmer's Market. If you are around, stop by and say "Hello." I would love to see you! Call me or text me first as I keep the doors to the Parish House locked as per Covid-19 restrictions.

Remember, if you do not receive our weekly church email, please contact me at: firstchurch@dedhamuu.org and I will make sure to add your email address to that contact list. The email usually goes out every Thursday afternoon.

With love, Grace

Care and Concern

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

We are happy to report that Jane Kelly has returned home! If you can help with rides for her treatment please contact Carol Dixon Hutton.

Please keep Arnie Sacks and his daughter Erin in your thoughts and prayers as they grieve the loss of Erin's partner and father of their two children, David, who died in a car accident in early spring.

If you have a care or concern to share, please contact our church office by calling 781-326-7463 or emailing firstchurch@dedhamuu.org or Susan White at sbsw6567@gmail.com.

If you would like to help out with your fellow parishioners please fill out the survey attached to the all church email and online at <https://www.dedhamuu.org/get-involved> or by going to <https://forms.gle/CsUKhn2rXLhD6DJW6>

Did you know if you miss worship you can listen to Rev. Weaver's Sermons at <https://soundcloud.com/weaverali>

Civic Engagement

Dedham Food Pantry

Dedham Food Pantry is accepting only limited volunteers at this time. If you can help please sign up by going to:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4caca829a2f49-20201>

The UU Urban Ministry

The UU Urban Ministry helps to serve those in the greater Boston area through afterschool programs, domestic violence support, community development and education. If you would like to find out more about UU Urban Ministry you can talk to Susan Sennott at ssennott1@gmail.com or check the UU Urban Ministry out online at <http://www.uuum.org/>

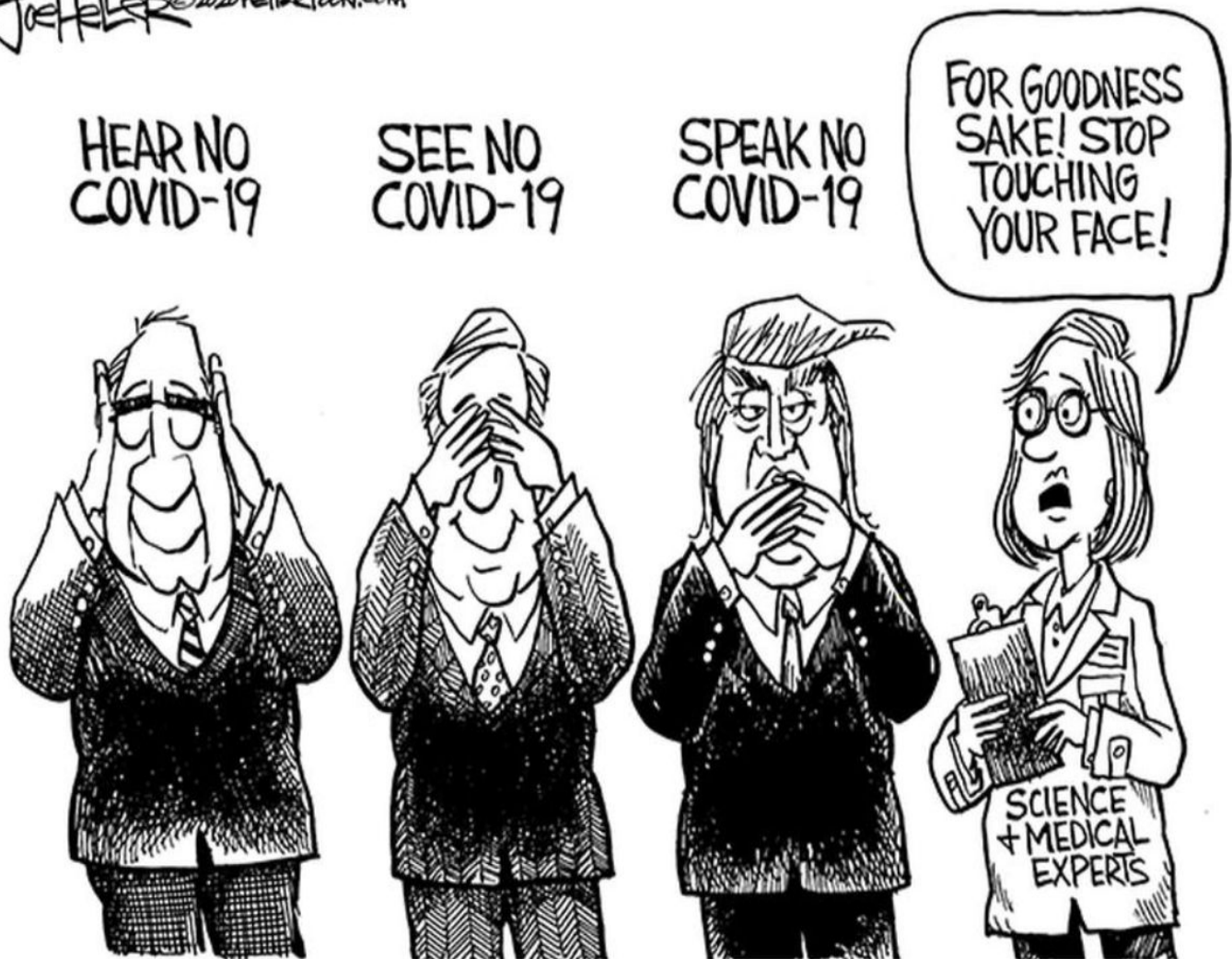
Religious Exploration

Nature and Nurture Society (Social Distancing walk): will pick up again in September. Watch your all church email for details.

Sunday Morning Meditations: Join Rali for 15-20 minutes of meditation 9:00-9:25 every day of the week on Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/684365896> (These meditations will continue throughout the summer and as we move on from the Corona virus and into regular life.)

Dismantling White Supremacy: July 1st and August 1st on Zoom - Contact raliweaver@dedhamuu.org for details.

JOE HELLER © 2020 HELLERARTOON.COM



April and May 2020 Parish Committee Minutes

Minutes of the Parish Committee April 8, 2020

Meeting held on Zoom

Present: David Miller, Peter Lutze, Rali Weaver, Ann Miranda, Alison Staton, Liza Arend, Jen Atkins, Joshua Langmead, Andrea Gilmore, Erik Meyer-Curley, Kathy Elefterakis and Susan White.

Meeting called to order at 7:10 by David Miller

Gratitudes

Review of Minutes from the March 4, 2020 Parish Committee Meeting

Motion to approve- seconded- So voted

Minister's Report

Rali is working hard to keep us all in touch during these unprecedented times. Virtual services are being attended- Darry is recording the music, Grace is also helping. Zoom sessions afterward are increasing.

DRE Report

Grace is working on how to engage the children since we will not have Children's Sunday or Coming of Age virtually. Will add Coming of Age to the Fall 2020 schedule.

Treasurer's Report

We are 75% through the church year. Total income to date is 73% of budgeted. The Movie is saving us. Pledges are only at 50% of budgeted.

Discussion about certain line items that needed to be corrected on last month's budget.

Motion to approve budget with corrections requested within a week or so, seconded - so voted.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Andrea will check with the school, and will also check with the water and sewer bills because the sewer bill is very high

Discussion of Next FY budget

Dave feels we need another meeting to discuss next year's budget before our May meeting. We agreed to meet again April 29, 2020 to discuss the 2020-21 budget.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Erik will work with Cindy to prepare a draft budget to circulate to the Parish Committee by April 22, 2020. The draft budget will note items that would be cut if we need to decrease the overall budget by 20%.

Parish Record July and August 2020

2. Andrea will work on projections of solar electricity returns for next year's budget.

Review of Action Items from Last Month

Nominating Committee chair Andrea Gilmore reported that the committee has met, is working on a slate that will be ready for the Annual Meeting.

New Business

Annual Meeting

1. David checked with Olly Ames who thinks it is possible to have a virtual Annual Meeting. He sent the PC Chairs the requirements.
2. Discussion of getting a moderator and the need to adjust the Warrant.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. (David) work on getting a moderator
2. (David) Agenda and background materials posted to the committee in advance of a meeting on April 22, 2020 to discuss the Annual Meeting and to approve a process and accept the idea conceptually.

Church Finances

All church email went out this week with a letter regarding the need to send in pledges to families early this week from the Deacons and Parish Committee Chairs.

-The Payment Protection Program is a plan offered by the Small Business Association that will cover the salary of Full-Time employees for two months.

-Electronic payments for pledges- if anyone needs help with this. The following parish committee members will help:

Bank of America - Dave Miller

Needham Bank- Jen Atkins

ACTION ITEMS:

1. (Rali, Kathy, Grace) Paper mailings will go out in the next week or so. Everyone will get a letter and a pledge card and a stamped return envelope. If pledges have not been completed a letter with the amount due will be included in the envelope.
2. (Ann) Ann Miranda will gather and submit the information to apply for PPP.
3. (Erik) provide Ann with documents needed for PPP application.

-New Church Budget for 2020 -2021 including staffing

ACTION ITEMS:

1. (Rali) Prior to next Parish Committee meeting, follow up with Personnel Committee about staffing plan for 2020-21

Meeting adjourned 9 pm

Next Meetings: April 22 7-8 Discuss Virtual annual meeting, April 29, 7-8 Discuss budget for 2020-2021, May 6, 7 pm Parish Committee Meeting

Minutes of Parish Committee Special Meeting April 22, 2020

Present: Rali Weaver, Susan White, Dave Miller, Liza Arend, Peter Lutze,
Erik Meyer-Curley, Allison Staton, Ann Miranda, Kathy Elefterakis, Andrea Gilmore
And Josh Langmead
Absent: Jen Atkins

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm by Dave Miller

Is it officially ok to have. Virtual Annual Meeting? (See motion adopted by PC)

A virtual Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 31, 2020

Post Warrant, amended to reflect that it will a virtual meeting, on email and
send to some members.

Peter Lutze has agreed to be Moderator.

Meeting will be on Zoom-in order to make sure only members vote only send
Zoom password to members.

Quorum is 25 members.

Perhaps a Doodle poll to make sure 25 members agree to do Zoom Meeting.

Offer all members a dry run on April 17 to learn about Zoom and test using
Zoom. Rali will set this up.

Zoom has a telephone option.

How to keep track of the voting? For the voting procedure Ollie Ames thinks
the chat function would work well.

Motion to approve the emergency procedures adopted by the Legislature and use Zoom for the
2020 Annual Meeting at First Church and Parish in Dedham.

Seconded and SO VOTED.

Meeting adjourned. 7 50 pm

Next Meeting April 29 at 7 pm

APPENDIX

1. [Here is a link to emergency legislation enacted by the Mass. legislature allowing meetings of nonprofit corporate directors and members by teleconference or videoconference and also allowing members of nonprofits to vote by proxy:](https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2020/Chapter53)
[https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2020/Chapter53\)](https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2020/Chapter53)

Specifically, Chapter 53 includes the following language in SECTIONS 15 and 16:

SECTION 15. Notwithstanding [section 7.08 of chapter 156D of the General Laws](#) or any other general or special law to the contrary, as a result of the outbreak of the 2019 novel coronavirus,

Parish Record July and August 2020

also known as COVID-19 and the declaration of a state of emergency issued on March 10, 2020, for the duration of said state of emergency and 60 days thereafter, a public corporation, as referenced in said section 7.08 of said chapter 156D and otherwise consistent with the other provisions of said section, may conduct an annual or special meeting of the shareholders solely by means of remote communication.

SECTION 16. Notwithstanding any general or special law or any bylaw of the corporation to the contrary, for the duration of the governor's March 10, 2020 state of emergency and 60 days thereafter and unless the articles of organization provide otherwise, the board of directors of a corporation defined in [section 2 of chapter 180 of the General Laws](#) may: (i) provide notice of a meeting of the board of directors: (A) only to those directors it is practicable to reach; and (B) in any practicable manner; (ii) cancel a meeting of the members, as defined in section 2 of said chapter 180, with notice of cancellation given in any practicable manner; (iii) allow a director or officer to continue to serve during the governor's March 10, 2020 state of emergency and until the director's or officer's successor is elected, appointed or designated; provided that directors and officers whose term is extended pursuant to this section shall continue to serve until the director's or officer's successor takes office, despite the expiration of a director's or officer's term; (iv) allow a director to participate in a regular or special meeting by, or conduct the meeting through the use of, any means of communication by which all directors participating are able to simultaneously communicate with each other during the meeting; (v) allow members at a meeting of the members to vote in person or by proxy; provided that any member voting by proxy shall be considered present at the meeting for purposes of any quorum requirement; (vi) appoint successors to any of the officers, directors, employees or agents; (vii) relocate the principal office or designate alternative offices; and (viii) allow members to participate in any meeting of members by remote participation, even if not physically present at the meeting. Participation by remote communication at any meeting of the members shall constitute presence at such meeting only if: (i) reasonable measures are implemented to verify that each person deemed present and permitted to vote at the meeting by means of remote communication is a member or proxyholder; (ii) reasonable measures are implemented to provide such members and proxyholders a reasonable opportunity to participate in the meeting and to vote on matters submitted to the members, including an opportunity to read or hear to the proceedings of the meeting substantially concurrently with such proceedings, pose questions and make comments, regardless of whether the members can simultaneously communicate with each other during the meeting; and (iii) if any member or proxyholder votes or takes other action at the meeting by means of remote communication, a record of such vote or other action shall be maintained by the corporation.

Directors who participate in a meeting of the board of directors pursuant to this section shall constitute a quorum. In a corporation with members, the corporation shall notify the members, as soon as reasonably practicable, of any action taken by the board of directors pursuant to this section.

Parish Record July and August 2020

Parish Committee Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2020

Present: Peter Lutze, Allison Staton, Rali Weaver, Dave Miller, Jen Atkins, Liza Arend, Josh Langmead, Ann Miranda, Andrea Gilmore, Erik Meyer- Curley, Kathy Elefterakis and Susan White

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm by Dave Miller

Gratitudes

Review Action Items

Kathy:

Mailings went out regarding current pledges not completed along with pledge slip for 2021 and return envelope. Rali and Grace were a great help with mailing.

Ann - PPP second round

- Received loan approval for \$26,393.00 -\$21,000 for payroll - remainder for approved expenses - utilities

- Must be paid within 8 week window - May and June payrolls- both May and June bills from Eversource - lower electrical bills due to solar panels- Make sure oil is delivered.

- Money will go into Deacons account and then be transferred - to be listed on Line Item 4810 - Non pledge income

- Rali helped Ann gather the necessary records for submission to the bank-Ann suggested that all records should be readily accessible.

Bay State Learning:

Andrea spoke with John who said school will be back in September-not sure they will be at Parish House.

Question- if BSL is teaching remotely next school year can we offer them a reduction? Perhaps offer them a \$1000 credit for utilities.

Erik- Prepare draft budget for 2021

New Business

New pledge income is \$68,733 - up to 65% of expected

Line 4701. - \$17,500 is it available for this year? What number is really applied to this year?

Stewardship Campaign Timeline

Have a tally of pledges for next year

Budget for next year-

Will be a challenging year

Should we plan on a target that is less for next year?

Trim by 30%

Parish Record July and August 2020

Consider delaying Annual Meeting into June -tabled until next week

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Rali – prepare to give an update to Parish Committee on May 6th about status of pledges
2. Erik – prepare a draft budget for 2020-21 that accounts for 30% lower expenses, and present that before May 6th meeting.
3. Discuss date for annual meeting at May 6 meeting

Adjourned 8:40 pm

Next Meeting May 6, 2020 via Zoom

Parish Committee Meeting May 6, 2020, on Zoom

Present: Liza Arend, Josh Langmead, Ann Miranda, Dave Miller, Andrea Gilmore, Kathy Elefterakis, Allison Staton, Peter Lutze, Rali Weaver, Susan White

Absent: Erik Meyer Curley and Jen Atkins

Held a brief Executive Session Meeting from 7:05 pm to 7:20 pm

Meeting called to order at 7:25 p.m. by Dave Miller

Gratitudes

Minutes of the Zoom April 8, 2020, Parish Committee Meeting

Motion to accept-seconded-So Voted

Minutes of the Zoom April 22, 2020, Special Parish Committee Meeting

Motion to accept-seconded- So Voted

Dave will get a copy of the emergency measures adopted by the Legislature and attach to minutes.

Minutes of the Zoom April 29, 2020, Special Parish Committee Meeting

Motion to accept- seconded-So Voted

Treasurer's Report

We are 83% through the church year

Pledges at 83% of the budget

Total income to date is 92% of the budget

Deferred approval of the report inasmuch as the treasurer could not attend the meeting.

Minister's Report

Working on Stewardship with Grace

Parish Record July and August 2020

To date we have 28 pledges and \$43,815 pledged money
Favorable response to pledging online. 11 pledges online
Officiated at a graveside service for husband of a parishioner
Will conduct summer services online
We will not have Children's Sunday or Coming of Age Sunday this Spring
Parish Players will delay their performance until Fall, 2020.

DRE Report

Grace is keeping in touch with all levels of RE program.

Review Action Items

Nominating Committee - Andrea

Thanked members who served on the Committee

Slate is as follows - Deacon - Debbie Harrison

Parish Committee 3 year term- Paquita Bass and Jonathan Pape

2 year term - Howard Ostroff

Clerk - Geoff Tegnell

Auditors - Sharon Lane and Cindy Jones

PPP-Payroll Protection Program - Ann

Andrea will let Ann know when money comes into the Deacons' account and is transferred into Church account. PPP period begins when the money hits the account.

Update of pledges for 2020-2021

As of May 3, 2020 pledges totaled \$43,815.

BSLC contract for 2021. Andrea

No further update- planning to return in the fall.

Personnel Committee. Susan

Met with Rali to discuss staffing issues should we have to cut the budget for next year.

New Business

Annual Meeting moved to early to mid-June

Special Parish Committee Meeting on May 20, 2020, to approve the budget for next year.

Send an approved budget to the congregation with a cover letter by email. Rali will take care of sending paper copies to those who need them.

Request that questions be sent to Parish Committee.

Custodian- discussed cleaning needs

Service Auction -Allison

How to do a virtual service auction? Rali will help with this hopefully for next year.

Meeting adjourned. 8:50p.m.

Next meeting. June 8, 2020

The Office will be closed for the remainder of the church year. Please feel free to contact us by leaving a voicemail message at 781-326-7463 or by emailing the office at firstchurch@dedhamuu.org. Someone will be picking up messages.



This Parish Record was printed on 100% recycled paper.
This is our new sustainability symbol. Every time we do something to become more sustainable we will highlight it with this symbol.