



# The Parish Record

The First Church and Parish in Dedham

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

Volume CXXX, No. 1

September, 2009

## Sundays in the Meeting House

**September 13, 10:00 AM: "The Water is Wide"**  
The Rev. Rali Weaver will lead worship.  
This is an intergenerational Service- Sunday School  
Registration Begins.

Homecoming Sunday/Water Communion. We will reflect upon the water that surrounds us by bringing water from our summer vacations to our yearly water communion service. Symbolic or actual water from your sacred spots will be gathered to be used in child dedications throughout the year.

**We will have a picnic on the green following worship where a silent auction will take place. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Dessert and Salads are welcome. We hope you can attend.**

**September 20, 10:00 AM: "Doing Without Doing"**  
The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach.  
Sunday School Begins – Children will start in the Meeting House and be sung to their Sunday School classes.

Our society is focused mainly on the doing. We have all heard the old adage "anything worth doing is worth doing well". This Sunday we will reflect upon the ancient adage "Doing without doing and everything gets done" and strive to envision a year where without much effort we accomplish a great deal.

**September 27, 10:00 AM: "Situational Ethics".**  
The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach.  
Children will start in the Meeting House and be sung to their Sunday School classes.

In the 1960's Episcopal Priest Joseph Fletcher developed the concept of Situational Ethics. This Sunday we will explore this theory, its foundations and the ways it informs our liberal worldview.

### Calendar

**Homecoming Sunday: Sept 13**  
**Worship: 10:00 am**  
**Picnic: 11:00 am**

**Yard Sale: Saturday, Sept 26**  
**8:00am to 2:00pm**

#### **Also...**

Parish Committee: Sept 1, 7:00

RE Committee: Sept 8, 7:00

Welcoming Committee: Sept 22, 7:00

New UU Classes: Mondays at 6:30,  
starting Sept 28.

Youth Group: TBA

Aerobics: Mondays & Wednesdays, 6:30

Meditation: Thursdays, 7:30

**Please see our website  
for the complete and  
up-to-date calendar**

If you do not receive our weekly church emails and would like to please contact the church office at [firstchurch@dedhamuu.org](mailto:firstchurch@dedhamuu.org)

## From The Minister:

Its that time again when we return, water in hand for our opening Sunday. We bring our water as a way of reconnecting to each other, sharing and merging our summer experiences. Whether it is tap water from your staycation or pure spring water from your trip to a special place or the muddy water left from a puddle due to all of our summer rain it is in sharing that the water merges into one.

As we share our water this year and reconnect we have an oppourtunity to bring with our water our hopes for our community this year. Our hopes for the witness we share for each other's lives for the connections we will make. Our individual summer experiences were probably quite different. Some were shortened by rain or work some lengthened by heat and leisure. Whether your summer was rejuvenating or depleting it is in bringing them together and witnessing those life experiences together that we build our community.

This year we have many changes already afoot. Aoife Barrington will be serving us as our new half-time director of Religious Education Director and Seth Carrier will be joining us as a Student Minister. Adding new perspectives and ideas and new people will I believe broaden our community in ways we haven't even imagined.

I look forward to seeing you all again on Homecoming Sunday Sunday, September 13 and seeing where this church year takes us..

Rali

## The New Faces at Church

### **Aoife Barrington- Acting Director of Religious Education**

Aoife Barrington-Haber is thrilled to be joining First Parish as the new Acting DRE. Aoife attended First Parish from birth through high school graduation. She studied dance and theatre at Umass Amherst and Antioch College, and earned her Masters in Theatre Education at Emerson College. She has been teaching drama, performing, and caring for children in the Boston area since 1997. She lives in Belmont with her husband and daughter. Aoife's office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-2, and can be reached at 617-872-6960 for any questions about the RE program.

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### **Seth Carrier- Student Minister**

Seth Carrier is excited to be joining First Parish as the Student Minister for the upcoming church year. A Massachusetts native, Seth grew in the First Unitarian Society of Northampton and Florence in the western part of the state. After attending Deerfield Academy for high school, he went to Union College in Schenectady, NY for undergrad where he received a B.A. in East Asian Studies. Post-graduation, Seth lived for six months in London, before settling down in Philadelphia to work in telecommunications. Seth was an active lay-leader at the First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia, receiving the "Young Adult of the Year Award" from the UUA's Joseph Priestley District in 2007. In addition to working in London for six months, Seth has traveled and volunteered internationally, spending his junior year of college studying in Japan, and spending a month in China in the summer of 2006 volunteering as an English teacher for underprivileged high school students. Currently, Seth is a seminary student at Andover Newton Theological School where he is just beginning his second year of studies.

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please contact the church office at [firstchurch@dedhamuu.org](mailto:firstchurch@dedhamuu.org)

## Focus on Religious Education

This **Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>** is registration Sunday for our church school.

We hope you will be here for the picnic and to greet our new Acting Director of Religious Education Aoife Barrington.

We will start Sunday School classes on **September 20<sup>th</sup>**.

We will continue to begin in the Meeting House every Sunday this year and children will then be sung to their Sunday School classes. Children are **always** welcome to stay with their parents for worship but we hope you will consider church school for your children and register your children so that they can be informed of every event.

Welcome Back!

The Religious Education Committee Focus on Religious Education (continued)

### Our Whole Lives

We continue our grades 7-9 OWL classes this fall, with the first class to be held in Needham on Sunday, September 20. We look forward to seeing all of our students and reconnecting with our Needham counterparts. As the OWL classes will pick up very rapidly from where we left off last spring, we strongly encourage your child to attend the September 20 class, as we will move into some of the most intense sections of the year in the classes that follow, and this will allow your teenager to readjust to the subject matter and to the pace at which we teach it.

As was the case last spring, we will continue to meet in Dedham at First Church at 10:00 and drive your teenagers over to class in Needham, which will start promptly at 10:15. Class will finish around Noon each Sunday, and we will return with them shortly after that. We will email a list of the class topics in the next several days, so that you will know exactly which class is being held each week and the leaders who will lead the classes. Please also reply to the email you received earlier in the week about snacks. We rely on parents to help feed the students!

Welcome back. We're sure it's been a summer of growth and change for you and for your children.

Tyler Carpenter  
Allison Staton  
First Church Leaders – OWL-2009

## All Around the Church Community

### Homecoming Sunday!

Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> is Homecoming Sunday there will be a picnic on the green following worship. Salads and desserts are welcome additions. We hope you can attend. And of course, while you're there, you can participate in...

### The Homecoming Fundraising Event!

We have a fundraising goal again this year. And we will kick off our stewardship efforts with a Silent Action at our Homecoming Picnic where the following tickets will be offered.

- New England Patriots Tickets:  
Sunday September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 1:00 pm. The Patriots will play the Atlanta Falcons at Gillette Stadium

2 Tickets Section 125 Row 31. The starting bid will be \$234 for the pair.

- Boston Red Sox Tickets (two pairs of tickets):  
Thursday October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 7:05pm. The Red Sox will play the Cleveland Indians at Fenway Park

2 Box Tickets 1st base line, Minimum Bid \$170 for the pair

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- New England Patriots Tickets:  
Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 1:00pm. The Patriots will play the Baltimore Ravens

2 Tickets at the 50 yard line, 3 rows behind the Patriots bench. You can yell at Bill Belichick from there, and he might even hear you! The starting bid will be \$338 for the pair.

These tickets are for Church members and close family/friends only.

All proceeds will go to support the 2010 operating budget.

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## All Around the Church Community

### Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!

#### First Church Yard Sale: September 26<sup>th</sup> 8am to 2pm.

Simplify Simplify (with apologies to Thoreau). Do you have things you need to get out of your house? Remember: one person's trash is another's treasure. Rent a table for \$30 if you have a lot, or bring your things to the church table if you only have a few items to sell. To reserve space contact the Church office 781-326-7463 or [firstchurch@dedhamuu.org](mailto:firstchurch@dedhamuu.org).

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#### Pizza Day – October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Pizzeria Uno/Chicago Grill, that is. Take your family, friends, and neighbors to Pizzeria Uno on Rt. 1 in Dedham anytime on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, eat in or take-out, and First Church will get a percentage of the check. We could be 15 or 20% depending on the total amount taken in on that day. The only requirement is that you get a coupon to give to the server, The coupons will be available at church on Sundays and in the office during office hours. Please take as many as you want, hand them out to neighbors, family members, etc. So, enjoy a yummy meal on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and know that you will help First Church's fund raising efforts.

Mangia!!

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#### Meditation Group

The Meditation Group will start meeting again now, each Thursday at 7:30pm. We encourage first timers to join us. Please let Carol Dixon know if you are interested or call the church office.

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#### R U A Nu U U?

(read that title out loud to understand) – Are you new to Unitarian Universalism? Would you like to know more? Do you love discussing our foundations and values? Or just examining your own? If so this would be the class for you. Join us Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8 from September 28<sup>th</sup> to November 16<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up in the Dining Room or by contacting Rev. Rali Weaver at [raliweaver@dedhamuu.org](mailto:raliweaver@dedhamuu.org).

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Watch the website and the Parish Record (now in its 80<sup>th</sup> year!) for Pet Blessing Sunday, The Boston Symphony Orchestra at First Church, and the Harvest Dinner.

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## **The Fall Fair needs YOU!**

First off, the Fall Fair needs YOU to mark your calendars and spread the word! The Fair will be held Saturday, October 17th between 10am and 2pm on the green. As always, it will feature many activities designed to ensure fun for all ages and stages. Highlights will include pony rides, a moonwalk, pumpkin and cupcake decorating, take-home foods and of course, the ever popular (and economical) Frank 'n Stine Lunch. Please plan on attending... and bring friends and family!

Second, the Fall Fair needs YOU to volunteer. Even if you cannot attend (Heaven Forbid!) the fair, there are many ways other ways to get involved. Putting up publicity posters, baking for the take-home foods or donating children's Halloween costumes or dress-up, for example, are just some of the invaluable ways to pitch in. When we return to regular service in September, sign-up sheets for the various volunteer opportunities will be available at coffee hour in the Parish House. Or, feel free to contact me via email ([lizziesim@mac.com](mailto:lizziesim@mac.com)) or telephone (781-461-9559).

Third, the fair needs YOU to consider taking on more responsibility. Over the years, my job is significantly lessened by those independently running certain activities. Even better, these events have always run incredibly smoothly, thanks to the consistency of experience and enthusiasm. However, some popular attractions do not or no longer have this type of leadership. Therefore, I am looking for a few good.... people.... who might like to oversee Pumpkin and Cupcake Decorating or the Children's Halloween Costume and Dress-up Corner (new this year).

And last, the Fall Fair needs YOU to connect! We need raffle items, and in the past, fair goers have been easily persuaded to pay for the chance to win a Maribu, Dedham Community Theater or Blue Bunny gift certificates. Therefore, it would be great for those who have relationships with or frequent various Dedham establishments to solicit their help for this year's raffle. I would really appreciate it!

If YOU are interested in helping out in any of the ways I have outlined above, please let me know. If you have any questions and want to discuss any of this with me, I am at your service! Anything you decide to do for the fair will be greatly appreciated and hugely helpful.

Thank you!