



# The First Church and Parish in Dedham

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

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Volume CXXXX, No 2

November & December 2019

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## Worship in September & October

Worship at 10:00 am in the Meetinghouse

**Sunday, November 3, 2019**

### **Radical Hope**

The Rev. Fred Smalls will preach  
Any contemplation of global climate change, its frightening consequences, and the tardiness and timidity of nations in response is necessarily a meditation on hope. When the earth and its peoples are in such distress, where do we find hope?

**Sunday, November 10, 2019**

### **Walk Humbly**

The Rev. Rali Weaver  
and The Rev. Cheryl Kerr will preach  
This is our yearly anniversary service. We will share our service this year in our church and explore what it might mean to 'do justly, love mercy and walk humbly' together.

**Sunday, November 17, 2019**

### **Safetyism for Good or Ill**

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach  
So often we are caught in a landmine of right and wrong words and actions, with thought police around every corner. On this day we will explore the gifts and complications of our times.

**Sunday, November 24, 2019**

### **Pilgrim's Progress**

The Rev Rali M. Weaver will preach.  
What are the effects of the pilgrim's impact on the Americas and how might we move beyond their influence to make the world a better place for all?

**Sunday December 1, 2019**

### **Holly and the Ivy**

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach  
Today we will explore the pagan influence on our December Celebrations and give homage to changing season with poetry and song..

**Saturday December 7th is our Annual Holly Faire  
Please sign up to help and come enjoy!**

**Sunday, December 8, 2019**

### **The Gift of Invention**

The Rev. Rali M. Weaver will preach.  
On the anniversary of George Washington Carver's death, we will explore the gifts of inventions and how innovation has changed the world.

**Sunday, December 15, 2019**

### **Would you Like to Hold the Baby?**

This is our yearly Christmas Pageant. Come enjoy the Christmas Story as told by our youth and young parishioners.

**Sunday, December 22, 2019**

### **To Mercy to Pity to Peace to Love**

The Rev. Rali M. Weaver will preach.  
We will explore the gifts of the advent season through the eye of the Romantic period in history and ask what our rational minds can learn from Romanticism in our time.

**Sunday, December 29, 2019**

### **Let the Old Year Die with a Fond Goodbye**

The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach.  
We will begin worshipping in the Dining Room this week to reduce our carbon footprint and in that intimate setting take some time to reflect upon the old year and let it go so that something new can take its place in 2020

From Our Minister: The Rev. Rali Weaver



Do you remember the Y2K hysteria approaching January of 2000? 2020 seems to have fit into the imaginations of several science fiction authors, making futuristic science fiction novels soon to be out of date. This does not create the same crisis as the Millennium Bug, or offer any reason for hysteria, but it can give us some pause. Are we where we wanted to be as we approach 2020? The answers might be different, whether speaking from the personal, professional, cultural or spiritual realm.

Did you think by now we would have reduced our reliance on fossil fuels? Did you expect drones to be around every corner? Are you surprised how ineffective public transportation continues to be or that we haven't quite fixed the wealth and inequality disparity? Not to mention the power of the NRA? Or the ever-present racism in our country. There are countless ways we might weigh and measure our progress against the utopian ideals set forth for this time. I imagine that we all feel some disconnect between our ideals and the real world as we approach the new year.

Even with the possibility of a new election on the horizon, the realities of the inadequacies of our legal, justice and political systems leave much to chance.

This is in part why I think our liberal faith is so important. With all the uncertainties in the world, building bonds of connections across differences has never been more important. Do I think that we alone can solve all the problems in the world by years end? Absolutely not. But by pulling together in diversity we set an expectation for others to do the same.

I hope in November and December we can start to look upon the past and future of our church with a loving eye toward the future and all that we can do together to make the world a better place.

If you would like more time with your fellow parishioners exploring transcendentalism and nature, please consider joining the Nature and Nurture Society that meets on the fourth Saturdays of the Month (November 23rd and December 28th at 9:30 am we meet at the Church). If you would like to receive the readings ahead of time and have not signed up, contact me or sign up on the bulletin board outside the Dining Room in the Parish House.

How we join together many not stop an apocalypse, if it ever came to that, but it will build our connections and spirit to weather any ups and downs we must endure.

With anticipation for 2020 with all of you! Rali

Rev Weaver is in the office Tuesday - Thursday 10-3 and by appointment  
<https://revaliweaver.youcanbook.me/> or 617-459-5979 or [raliweaver@dedhamuu.org](mailto:raliweaver@dedhamuu.org)



### From our Director of Religious Education: Grace Peña

On Sunday 9/15/2019 we launched the new church year of our Children's Religious Education program with a "Pancake Breakfast Kick-Off" with almost all of the classes (except for OWL 7-9 which had to start its workshops that same day in order to fit all of the remaining workshops into this last term). The kids cooked (which they always LOVE to do) and served the food. This was a great idea by Rali with a great recipe from Dale Meyer-Curley. Liza Arend helped out, too. We will definitely do this again next year.

Our classes in the 2019-2020 are as follows: *Nursery* (Infants & toddlers), *Spirit Play* (3 yr. olds-Kindergarten), *UU Explorers* (1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grades), *Worship Leaders* (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades), and *Our Whole Lives (O.W.L.)* 7-9.

Starting at the end of January 2020 we will also have: *Neighboring Faiths* (6<sup>th</sup> grade), *Our Whole Lives Kindergarten-1st Grade* and *Coming of Age*.

Alexas and Desi continue as our caregivers in Nursery.

We have a lot of new kids in *Spirit Play* this year. As it is a much larger class I have moved them into the larger room upstairs and put the Nursery in the smaller room. The R.E. Committee and I have talked about how to structure this class a little differently to accommodate for the larger amount of children. We want them to continue to feel safe, follow the structure of the curriculum, learn a little about our UU Principles and have fun. I hope to get all of the parents of the students in this class to teach at some point.

The *U.U. Explorers* will continue to explore our 7 Principles and 6 Sources through activities, stories and discussion. I will mainly teach this class through January 2020 along with parents who sign up to teach. *Worship Leaders* will continue to participate in our intergenerational services. Since this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year for most of the class, they will be assisting with more aspects of service as Miranda Grady did on Sunday 9/29 with the telling of the Children's Message. OWL 7-9 has the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of its curriculum. Allison Staton, Joshua Langmead, Lisa Pilat and Tyler Carpenter continue as the facilitators for this class. At the end of January this class becomes *Coming of Age* which I will be teaching along with Lisa Pilat and Paquita Bass (leaving *U.U. Explorers* to the parents).

Cindy Jones will come back at the end of January to teach *Neighboring Faiths*. I do not have a current co-teacher for that class, but may use a combination of the parents of the children in this class to work with Cindy. *Worship Leaders* will then become a smaller class since most of the class will move into *Neighboring Faiths*. *Worship Leaders* will continue to participate in inter-generational services.

Lastly, there will be *OWL K-1* with Kerrie Gallagher and Tom Donaghey teaching (January-May).

My plan for youth groups is to continue keeping the Middle School Youth Group mainly at church with different activities such as movie nights, cooking, game night, etc. I will take on some of the times we get together followed by a night where the parents help out. I hope to have more success with the High School Youth Group. They are all so busy most of the time so I think I will try to include more events/activities outside of church for them.

Thank you again for your continued support. I am looking forward to our new church year!  
With love, Grace

Grace has office hours  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-2:00pm,  
Thursday 10:30am-2:00pm, Sunday 9am-12:30pm or by appointment.  
You may reach her at [gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org](mailto:gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org)

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## From Our Music Director: Darry Dolezal

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We would welcome any volunteers who wish to participate in the service musically or sing in the choir. Please contact Darry if you are interested in sharing your musical talents.

**Concerts at First Church** will present its second concert of the 2019-2020 season featuring highly acclaimed classical guitarist **John Muratore** in a solo concert at First Church and Parish Dedham on Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:30 pm. There will be a reception with Mr. Muratore immediately following the concert in the dining room. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$15 for students and seniors, available at the door and online at [www.firstchurchconcerts.org](http://www.firstchurchconcerts.org).

The Boston Musical Intelligencer recently said “Muratore is surely one of greater Boston’s most gifted guitar virtuosos, and his broad range of repertoire is one of his most valuable attributes.” Mr. Muratore regularly performs as a solo recitalist, concerto soloist and chamber musician extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Russia. He has collaborated with numerous chamber ensembles including Emmanuel Music, the Spectrum Singers, Chorus Pro Musica, Alea III, Boston Musica Viva and Counterpoint. Recent appearances as concerto soloist have been with the Ridgefield Symphony, Vermont Symphony and Symphony by the Sea under the direction of Jonathan McPhee.

The Boston Globe has described him as “a fleet-fingered and musicianly performer” and has characterized his playing as...”unleashing so many different varieties of tone and color in quick succession...a kind of aural iridescence.” John’s live performances have often been featured on NPR and WGBH Radio’s Classical Performances, and he has recorded for Albany, Pont Nuef and Arabesque Records.

Mr. Muratore is an active educator in classical guitar and is on the faculty at Boston University, Dartmouth College and is the coordinator of the guitar program at the All Newton Music School.

First Church and Parish Dedham Unitarian Universalist was first gathered in 1638 and is located in Dedham Center. Its lively music program includes its choir at Sunday services, the Parish Players theater group and the **Concerts at First Church** concert series.

If you are interested in joining the choir or sharing your musical gifts  
Darry can be reached at [darrycello@gmail.com](mailto:darrycello@gmail.com)

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### Coffee Hour Teams

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Our Coffee Hour Teams project has been a great success! This project has helped to create a network of people to provide all of the necessary pieces to this special and “sacred” time in the life of the congregation. It helps to lighten the load and create opportunities to meet and get to know others. We will be reaching out to revitalize the teams in the coming weeks. If you are not on a team, but would like to participate, please contact the church office at either 781-326-7463 or [firstchurch@dedhamuu.org](mailto:firstchurch@dedhamuu.org).

Our Homecoming Sunday will be followed by a picnic Sandwiches, Paper Products and Drinks will be provided- Sides, Salads and Desserts are welcomed.

Our second Sunday at church will be followed by a pancake breakfast in honor of our Church School Kick off! Anyone who does not teach in our church school program and willing to help with cooking and clean up can sign up on the bulletin board.

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### Cause for Celebration!

**Kevin Carson has at last received Preliminary Fellowship with the UUA. We hope to potentially ordain him or assist with his ordination in on Saturday, December 21st . Watch your email and the Order of Service for details. We hope everyone will be on hand to celebrate with Kevin on this important day!**

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### Care and Concern

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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.

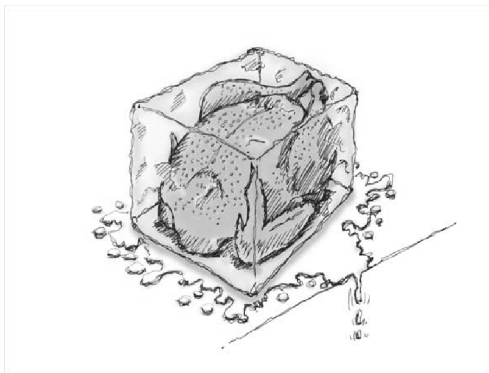
If you are interested in contacting any of these people please contact Vicky Berg chair of the Parish Community Network at [v.berg@juno.com](mailto:v.berg@juno.com) or by phone at 781-326-3723

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).

## **Civic Engagement**

### **Dedham Food Pantry**

First Church & Parish in Dedham will be staffing the Dedham Food Pantry 1st Sat in November and February and the fifth in May of 2020. Please sign up to help stock shelves and to help the DFP clients shop. A Sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. If you have any questions about signing up or helping out, please contact Pam Aist at [pfaist@gmail.com](mailto:pfaist@gmail.com).



### **Turkey Delivery Days**

Sunday November 24th and Sunday December 22nd First Church and Parish hosts the Dedham Food Pantry Turkey Give-A-Ways. The Women's Alliance helps to host a reception for clients starting at noon after church. The event is usually over by 2:30 pm. If you can help with the reception or give-away please sign up on the bulletin board outside the dining room or contact the Church Office.

### **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 [ssennott1@gmail.com](mailto:ssennott1@gmail.com) or check them out online at <http://www.uuum.org/>

## **Adult Religious Exploration**

**New UU:** Are you new to Unitarian Universalism or want to find out more? Join a small group at the Dedham Coffee House at noon on the third Sundays of the Month (November 17th and December 15th)

**Nature and Nurture Society:** Would you like to learn more about Transcendentalism and explore nature with friends? Join the Nature and Nurture Society that will meet on the fourth Saturday of every month starting at 9:30 am and heading out to a local spot to explore.

Sign up for these events on the bulletin board outside the dining room in the Parish House, by contacting Rev. Weaver at [raliweaver@dedhamuu.org](mailto:raliweaver@dedhamuu.org) or 617-459-5979

**Our November 3rd Visiting Minister:**



Cited by Bill McKibben as “one of the true stalwarts in the fight against climate change” and “one of the key figures in the religious environmental surge,” Rev. Fred Small is Minister for Climate Justice at Arlington Street Church, Boston (<http://ascboston.org/>). He serves on the Steering Committee of the Faith Science Alliance for Climate Leadership (<http://faithsciencealliance.org>).

A Unitarian Universalist parish minister for nearly two decades, Fred is also a singer-songwriter and environmental lawyer. In 2015 he left parish ministry to devote his energies to creation care and climate advocacy.

Fred has studied with some of the wisest spiritual teachers of our time, including Thich Nhat Hanh, Eknath Easwaran, Joanna Macy, John Philip Newell, and Tara Brach. In 2018, Fred earned his Certificate in Spiritual Guidance from the Rowe Center. He is a member of Spiritual Directors International.

Educated at Yale (BA 1974) and the University of Michigan (JD and MS in Natural Resources 1978), Fred served as a staff attorney for the Conservation Law Foundation. In 1980, Fred left CLF to tour internationally as a folksinger and songwriter, releasing seven albums over two decades (<http://rounder.com/>). Pete Seeger called him “one of America’s best songwriters.” In 1999, Fred earned his MDiv from Harvard Divinity School, was ordained as a Unitarian Universalist minister, and began serving First Church Unitarian in Littleton, Massachusetts. In 2008, he was called by First Parish in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

One of the first to engage in civil disobedience to draw attention to climate change, Rev. Small was arrested with 21 others in prayer outside the US Department of Energy in Washington, DC, in May 2001. In 2007, he was one of the lead organizers of the Interfaith Walk for Climate Rescue from Northampton to Boston, Massachusetts. In 2016, he was twice arrested with other faith leaders in nonviolent civil disobedience protesting construction of Spectra Energy’s fracked gas pipeline in West Roxbury, Massachusetts.

In 2007, Grist Magazine named Rev. Small one of 15 Green Religious Leaders worldwide (<http://www.grist.org/news/maindish/2007/07/24/religious/>). In the July 26, 2015, issue of Boston Globe Magazine, Bill McKibben highlighted Rev. Small’s leadership in religious climate activism (<https://www.bostonglobe.com/magazine/2015/07/25/what-religion-can-teach-climate-scientists/LAZYZ6DBVHr1THqyWFXffO/story.html#>). In 2017, UU Mass Action honored him with the Ruth Rowan Award for his musical contributions to social justice movements.

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## August September Parish Committee Minutes

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Parish Committee  
August 5, 2019

Present: Allison Staton, Josh Langmead, Cindy Jones, Rail Weaver, Susan White, Jennifer Atkins, Liza Arend, David Miller, Ann Miranda, Andrea Gilmore, Kathy Elefterakis

Gratitudes and snack volunteers for the year. The sign up sheet was passed and the list will be posted in Dropbox.

Minutes reviewed. Dave noted that the Parish Committee Chairs have taken care of the signature cards at Dedham Savings Bank. Minutes were approved without changes.

### Treasurer's Report

Income to date: 10.01 % of budgeted

Pledges: 18.81% of budget

Most expenses are in line with budget. Full details are in the Treasurer's Report that was reviewed and approved.

Photographer for the Church Directory came out of publicity and membership.

Cindy is working with Grace to get her pension program set up.

Cindy is coordinating with Erik Meyer-Curley the transition of the Treasurer's responsibilities. They plan to work together for the next few months as this transition progresses.

It was recommended that we consider an outside audit of church funds, perhaps every five years. The cost of this type of audit would be between \$2,000 and \$5,000.

### Minister's Report

Jane Kelly is dealing with a recurrence of cancer

New computer for the office. Rali wants to use \$500. from a gift she received for this purchase, plus \$300 from church funds.

Grace and Rali will work to clean up the office and the playground. The full Minister's Report in in Dropbox.

### Building Projects

The summer building projects have been delayed.

Meeting House painting is scheduled to begin on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August. The carpentry repairs and painting of the Parish House will be postponed until next summer.

The installation of the solar panels has also been delayed due to permitting issues. We have also had to address and resolve transformed capacity issues. Installation is now planned for October



and will require coordination with the church office and Baystate Learning as this will be a time when there is much more activity in the building than there is during summer months.

**Goals for the Year**

- **Mother's Day Walk for Peace**
- **Theme for the Year**
- **Civic Engagement/Social Action**
- **Membership Engagement and Support**
- **Recognition of Congregational Service.**

These are topics that will be discussed further at future Parish Committee Meetings.

**Congregational Endorsement for Social Justice Issues/Environmental Issues (Green New Deal)**

Jen Atkins and Allison Staton reported on this issue.

It was a general discussion with the following points noted:

1. **Our 501C3 non-profit status precludes the church from supporting individual political candidates, but allows for advocacy and support of different issues.**
2. **Advocacy can include the support of Legislation. (St. Suzanna's endorsed Yes on Ballot Question #3 in the last election and they have been very supportive of Immigrant protection.)**
3. **Needham does not have Parish Committee authorization to take a stand representing the Church on different issues. They require congregational dialogue and possibly a congregational vote.**
4. **The church can definitely provide a format to educate people about issues, such as the Green New Deal.**

**Committee For Parish Concerns**

Andrea presented a draft of a mission statement for this new Committee and received a number of comments. It was agreed that the statement would be revised and reviewed at the October Parish Committee meeting. The goal is to introduce this new committee at the Fall All-Church Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea M. Gilmore



**Continued**

**Minister's Report**

**Wrapped up my time at King's Chapel on September 1**

**Will be working as the Interim Denominational Counselor at Harvard Fridays from 11-4**

**New Adult RE Programs-**

**New UU Class and Nature and Nurture Society**

**Four Handed Piano concert on September 27**

**Dismantling Bias Workshop September 28**

**October 13 I will be off- Ken Reeves will preach**

**Would like us to consider becoming a Partner Church again with a Transylvanian church**

**Review Action Items**

**Draft Process for Church Endorsements-still looking for templates**

**Committee for Parish Concerns-Andrea in October**

**Signups for welcome and announcements- October 6<sup>th</sup> Dave Miller -Rali will schedule further dates**

**Plans for Sharing the Plate**

**September- Minister's Discretionary Fund**

**October-St. Susanna's St. Vincent DePaul**

**November-Dedham Food Pantry**

**Parish Committee members come in October with charities of their choice**

**Next Meeting October 7, 2019 at 7 p.m.**

**Meeting adjourned                      8:30 p.m.**

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## Office Hours for November December

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**Church Office Hours**  
Tuesday – Friday 9-2  
Monday and Saturday Closed

Rev. Rali M. Weaver, Minister  
Tuesday-Thursday 9am-3pm  
and by appointment  
<https://revaliweaver.youcanbook.me/>  
617-459-5979 or [raliweaver@dedhamuu.org](mailto:raliweaver@dedhamuu.org)

Grace Peña, Church Administrator and  
Director of Religious Education  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-2pm  
Thursday 10:30am-2pm  
Sunday 9am-12:30pm  
[gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org](mailto:gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org)

Pat Hawkins, Bookkeeper  
Wednesday 1-6  
[firstchurch@dedhamuu.org](mailto:firstchurch@dedhamuu.org)

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## Fitness Opportunity

**Zumba:** Tuesday Nights 7-8 starting 9/10 in the auditorium. First Class Free to First Church Members. Then \$10 a class in advance or \$15 drop-in.  
This is a fun and invigorating workout for exercisers of all skill sets.

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## Adult Religious Education

**New UU Class-** Over Lunch Starting 12 Noon on the Third Sunday of Every Month (excluding holidays) Starting September 15th in the Minister's Office. Contact [raliweaver@dedhamuu.org](mailto:raliweaver@dedhamuu.org) for details or 617-459-5979 or sign up on the bulletin board outside the dining room of the Parish House.

**Nature and Nurture Society:** Experience more deeply the work of the transcendentalists by joining with church friends to read the works of the Transcendentalists and take walks in the woods. First Saturdays of the month beginning October 5th. Contact [raliweaver@dedhamuu.org](mailto:raliweaver@dedhamuu.org) for details or 617-459-5979 or sign up on the bulletin board outside the dining room of the Parish House.



Concerts at First Church presents

# John Muratore

## *Classical Guitar*

"A fleet-fingered  
and musicianly  
performer... A kind  
of aural iridescence."

— *Boston Globe*

"John Muratore is  
a true treasure; every  
note that he plays  
comes from the heart,  
and from heaven"

— *Gene Bertoncini*



**Saturday, November 9, 2019 at 7:30 pm**

First Church and Parish • 670 High Street, Dedham, MA

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

\$20 General Admission, \$15 Students and Seniors



**Jams & JELLIES**  
**Local HONEY**



gently used  
**TOYS**

delicious  
HOMEMADE  
**FOODS**



# HOLY FAIRS

First Church

**Sat**  
DECEMBER  
7<sup>th</sup>

**Fresh**  
BAKED  
GOODS



White  
**TRADING POST**  
ELEPHANT



**HANDMADE CRAFTS**



**SPECIAL**  
treasures



gifts  
**9 AM to 2 PM**



**670**  
**HIGH STREET**  
Dedham  
**Ma**

books



continental  
BREAKFAST



**Raffle**