

**Welcome Guests!** We're glad you're here. You can learn more about us via the brochure in the back of the seat in front of you, or at [www.firstparishyork.net](http://www.firstparishyork.net).

**Restrooms:** Restrooms are located on the lower level of this building, which is accessed by stairs in the foyer. Wheelchair accessible restrooms can be found across the drive in Fellowship Hall. For access during the worship service, please see a Deacon.

**Nursery Care:** *Our downstairs nursery is not currently staffed*, but you are welcome to accompany your child to the nursery at any point during the worship and spend time there as a family if you feel that you need to.

**Video and Streaming:** We stream our worship services live and archive them on [www.youtube.com/@firstparishyork](https://www.youtube.com/@firstparishyork). If for privacy reasons you do not wish to have you or your children's faces appear on video, you can sit in pews that are marked on the ends with blue tape. Feel free to ask a deacon to show you what those markings look like.

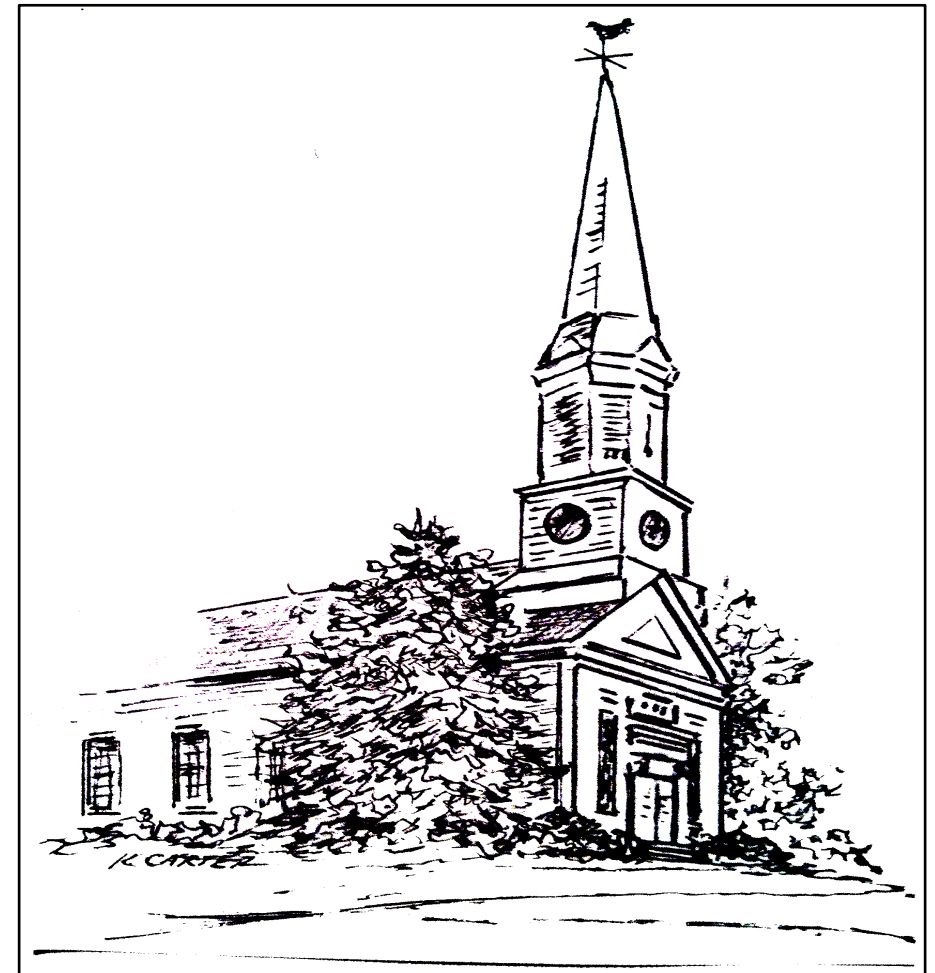
**Photos:** We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

**Sunday School:** During the school year, anyone age 4 through 8th grade is welcome to attend Sunday School. We ask that parents/guardians fill out a registration form on the first visit; our Deacons will be happy to connect you with someone from Sunday School before the children make their way outside. Partway through Sunday services, children are invited to meet with their teachers in the church foyer. Together, students and teachers will make their way to the Fellowship Hall to take part in fun and faith-based activities centered around a theme from the Bible. (Family members are always welcome to attend Sunday School if you wish!) After worship is over, families can go across the drive to sign out their children with the teachers. Sunday School is free of charge.

**No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are On Life's Journey,  
You Are Welcome Here!**

We covenant with God and with one another as members of First Parish Church to be an Open and Affirming Church. We affirm the dignity and worth of every person created in the image of God. We are one body with many members: people of every age, marital status, family structure, faith background, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, racial and cultural identity, and socio-economic status. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we invite all into the full life, ministry, and sacraments of the church. We honor the guiding principle that discrimination is incompatible with Christ's message of unconditional love.

180 York Street, York, Maine 03909 ♦ 207-363-3758  
office@firstparishyork.net ♦ [www.firstparishyork.net](http://www.firstparishyork.net)



**First Parish Church  
Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

**“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be  
called children of God.” Matthew 5:9**

*\*Indicates a time when you are invited to stand if you choose.*

<b>PRELUDE</b>	“THE STAR PROCLAIMS THE KING IS HERE”	Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)
	Impression on “WE THREE KINGS”	Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

**CHIMES FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION**  
*(Candles will be lit as a sign of Christ's light in the world.)*

**GATHERING PRAYER** *(together)*  
**God of perfect light, lead us as we proceed through life. Forgive us when selfish ambition makes us willing to hurt others. Forgive us when we refuse to follow the light you give us. Shine in our lives through the light of your Christ, in whose name we pray...**

**LORD'S PRAYER** *(together)*  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*(Children ages 4 and up are invited to go to the church foyer to meet with their Sunday School teachers immediately following the Opening Hymn.)*

**ANTHEM**

**“BORN TO BE THE BREAD”**

Words and Music: Ruth Elaine Schram (b. 1956)

*Thinking back upon your humble birth; such an unpretentious entrance,  
as your life began on earth. Growing in wisdom as you grew to be a man,  
knowing Calvary loomed ahead: this was God’s plan.*

*You were born to be the bread of life to my soul.*

*As we’re partaking once again of the blessed bread from heaven,  
giving life that never ends.*

*We thank you Jesus, that you came to earth for us.*

*And that in this bread and cup we know the depth of your love.*

**First Parish Sanctuary Choir**

**SERMON**                      “Jesus Christ is Lord”                      Rev. Eric Dupee

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF COMMITMENT** *(together)* No. 34  
*You are free to sing inclusive lyrics (below) or traditional lyrics (from the hymnal).*  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;**  
**Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**                      “WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE”                      No. 233

**CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN** Rev. Eric Dupee

**POSTLUDE**

Recessional on “WE THREE KINGS”  
Gordon Young (1919-1998)

*We invite the congregation to remain seated in order to enjoy the postlude.  
However, you are welcome to exit the sanctuary at any time.*

Communion flowers are provided by the Esther W. Hungerford fund.

## THIS WEEK

<b>Today, Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup></b>	10am Worship/Epiphany Sunday/Communion
<b>Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup></b>	11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
	8:30am Shake It Up
<b>Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup></b>	6pm Fellowship in Action
	8am Interval Training
<b>Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup></b>	6:30pm Church Council/Assessors Meeting
	8am Cardio/Strength
	9:30am Women's Bible Study
	6:30pm Deacons Meeting
	7pm-8pm Worship Workshop
<b>Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Zumba
	5:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Aerobics
<b>Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30am Christian Education Meeting
<b>Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup></b>	9:45am Hymn Sing
	10am Worship/Gospel Music Sunday
	11:15am Out to Lunch Bunch
	11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Meeting the Angels Workshop:** January 28 11:30am-1pm. Angels are mentioned hundreds of times in the Old and New Testaments! If they are THAT important shouldn't we seek to know more about them? You are invited to this workshop to learn more about God's purpose for angels in our lives.

Snacks and water provided. This group will include music, meditation and personal sharing. Please contact Kathie White via email at [kwhitemed@gmail.com](mailto:kwhitemed@gmail.com) with any questions or to reserve your spot. Space is limited.



### **Ministers**

*All the Members of the Congregation*

*Leading Worship Today:*

*Rev. Eric Dupee*

*Rev. Dan Hollis*

### **Staff**

*Wendell S. Purrington, Director of Music Ministries*

*Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate*

### **First Parish Church Lay Leaders**

*John Covino, Moderator*

*Kristin Schrimper, Vice Moderator*

*Ray Hamlin, Treasurer*

*Susan Mancinelli, Clerk*



First Parish Church  
Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
**FAITH FEATURES**

**Train Night Open House 2024:** Saturday, January 13 from 2pm-5pm at the Parton's at 17 Wavercrest Drive, York. An event for the young at heart. Watch the trains! Run the trains. See the lights! Have some refreshments.

**First Parish Church Visioning Forum:** If God were to identify a New Year's Resolution for First Parish Church, what would it be? This is the latest question we hope you will consider and submit a reply. You can write it on the newsprint in the entrance to the church or email Pastor Eric at [eric@firstparishyork.net](mailto:eric@firstparishyork.net).

**Dine with Nine Update:** We will be signing up for the DINE with NINE program via email for the next week. So take a look at the offerings (time/date/activity). We have LOTS of opportunities to join in the fun. Feel free to sign up for MORE THAN ONE activity and the January activities are coming right up....sign up SOON!! Select one and then email Linda Drew [[p.l.drew79@me.com](mailto:p.l.drew79@me.com)] with your selection. She will make sure there are openings available for that activity and email a confirmation to you. If it is "sold out", she will, of course, email that info to you as well. Then you'll have to select another venue. We are trying this method as the Drews are out of town during the first week of January and the first activity is January 13th! THANK YOU for your willingness to experiment!

**Daisy's Children:** The York Association has offered a matching challenge up to \$5000 by January 2024. Our Mission board has been supporting this program for nearly 20 years. There is a loose change jar in the Narthex through the end of January. Please make your checks payable to First Parish Church with Daisy's Children in the memo line.

**Beginner's Bible Study:** Introducing a four-part Beginner's Bible Study led by Pastor Eric. This will be held on January 9, 16, 30, and February 6 from 10am -11:15am in Pastor Eric's office. If you are someone who would never go to a Bible study because you're intimidated or you're concerned about how little you know, this is for you. We will start with the most basic introduction to the Bible and interpret some passages together. Just come as you are. Bibles will be provided if you don't have one. Contact Pastor Eric with questions.

**Worship Workshop:** Are you creative? Do you find the season of Lent meaningful? You are invited to what I call a "Worship Workshop." We will do some planning, brainstorming, and coordinating regarding worship and our observance of Lent. Join the Deacons on Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, in the basement of the church at 7:00pm. Contact Pastor Eric with questions.

## THIS WEEK

<b>Today, Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup></b>	10am Worship/Epiphany Sunday/Communion 11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
<b>Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30am Shake It Up 6pm Fellowship in Action
<b>Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Interval Training 6:30pm Church Council/Assessors Meeting
<b>Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Cardio/Strength 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Deacons Meeting 7pm-8pm Worship Workshop
<b>Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Zumba 5:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Aerobics
<b>Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30am Christian Education Meeting
<b>Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup></b>	9:45am Hymn Sing 10am Worship/Gospel Music Sunday 11:15am Out to Lunch Bunch 11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Meeting the Angels Workshop:** January 28 11:30am-1pm. Angels are mentioned hundreds of times in the Old and New Testaments! If they are THAT important shouldn't we seek to know more about them? You are invited to this workshop to learn more about God's purpose for angels in our lives.

Snacks and water provided. This group will include music, meditation and personal sharing. Please contact Kathie White via email at [kwhitemed@gmail.com](mailto:kwhitemed@gmail.com) with any questions or to reserve your spot. Space is limited.



**Ministers**  
*All the Members of the Congregation*  
*Leading Worship Today:*  
Rev. Eric Dupee  
Rev. Dan Hollis

**Staff**  
Wendell S. Purrington, Director of Music Ministries  
Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate  
**First Parish Church Lay Leaders**  
John Covino, Moderator  
Kristin Schrimper, Vice Moderator  
Ray Hamlin, Treasurer  
Susan Mancinelli, Clerk



First Parish Church  
Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
**FAITH FEATURES**

**Train Night Open House 2024:** Saturday, January 13 from 2pm-5pm at the Parton's at 17 Wavercrest Drive, York. An event for the young at heart. Watch the trains! Run the trains. See the lights! Have some refreshments.

**First Parish Church Visioning Forum:** If God were to identify a New Year's Resolution for First Parish Church, what would it be? This is the latest question we hope you will consider and submit a reply. You can write it on the newsprint in the entrance to the church or email Pastor Eric at [eric@firstparishyork.net](mailto:eric@firstparishyork.net).

**Dine with Nine Update:** We will be signing up for the DINE with NINE program via email for the next week. So take a look at the offerings (time/date/activity). We have LOTS of opportunities to join in the fun. Feel free to sign up for MORE THAN ONE activity and the January activities are coming right up....sign up SOON!! Select one and then email Linda Drew [[p.l.drew79@me.com](mailto:p.l.drew79@me.com)] with your selection. She will make sure there are openings available for that activity and email a confirmation to you. If it is "sold out", she will, of course, email that info to you as well. Then you'll have to select another venue. We are trying this method as the Drews are out of town during the first week of January and the first activity is January 13th! THANK YOU for your willingness to experiment!

**Daisy's Children:** The York Association has offered a matching challenge up to \$5000 by January 2024. Our Mission board has been supporting this program for nearly 20 years. There is a loose change jar in the Narthex through the end of January. Please make your checks payable to First Parish Church with Daisy's Children in the memo line.

**Beginner's Bible Study:** Introducing a four-part Beginner's Bible Study led by Pastor Eric. This will be held on January 9, 16, 30, and February 6 from 10am -11:15am in Pastor Eric's office. If you are someone who would never go to a Bible study because you're intimidated or you're concerned about how little you know, this is for you. We will start with the most basic introduction to the Bible and interpret some passages together. Just come as you are. Bibles will be provided if you don't have one. Contact Pastor Eric with questions.

**Worship Workshop:** Are you creative? Do you find the season of Lent meaningful? You are invited to what I call a "Worship Workshop." We will do some planning, brainstorming, and coordinating regarding worship and our observance of Lent. Join the Deacons on Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, in the basement of the church at 7:00pm. Contact Pastor Eric with questions.