

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.

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. 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.

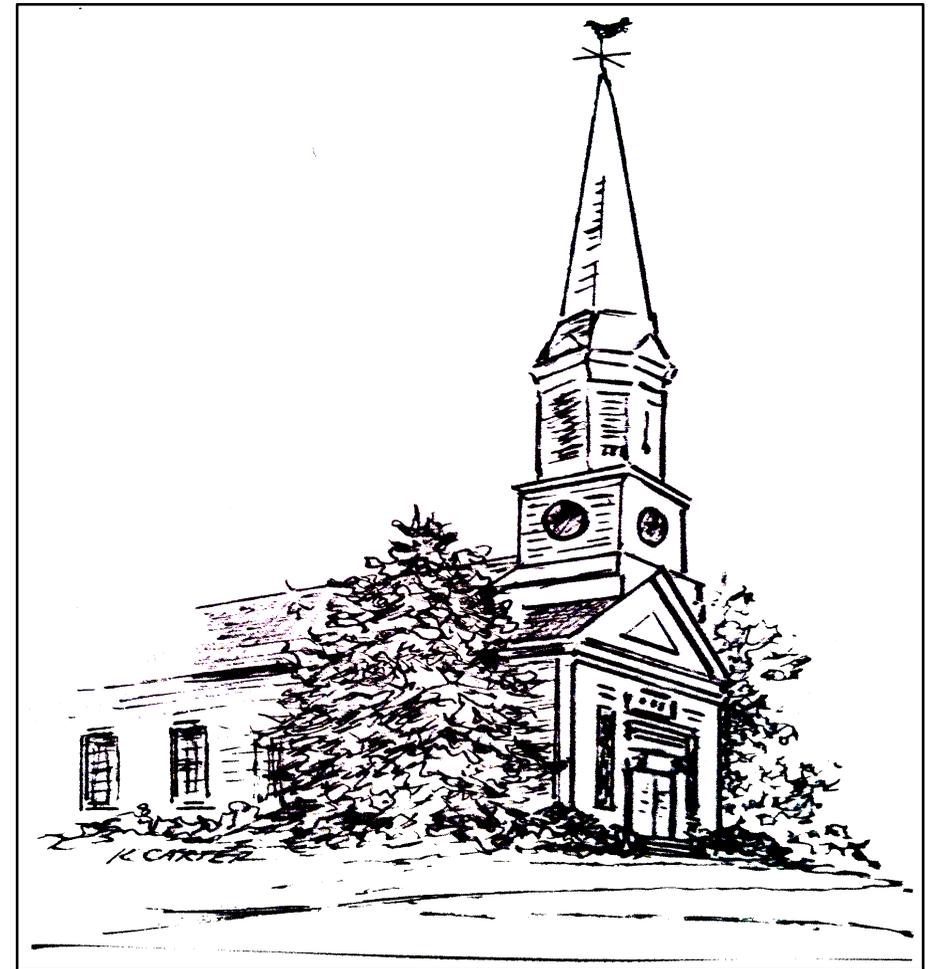
Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

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



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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023 ~ 10:00AM WORSHIP
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

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

PRELUDE Trumpet Tune in C Major David N. Johnson (1922-1988)
Hymn Setting on "THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION" (*Aurelia*)
Arr., Joyce Jones (1933-2022)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Eric Dupee

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

GATHERING PRAYER (*together*) Rev. Pat Smith
Holy God, upon a mountain you revealed the world's Savior. By his death and resurrection, Christ would fulfill the promises of the prophets who came before him. Allow the presence of Jesus to enlighten our path that we may suffer with him in the service of humanity and so share in Christ's everlasting glory. With peace in our hearts, 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.

***OPENING HYMN** "GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY" (*verses 1-3*) No. 569

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES Rev. Dan Hollis

(Sunday School will be closed today for February vacation. If families need to take a break at any point during the service, we have nursery rooms with toys downstairs.)

ANTHEM "EVERY TIME I FEEL THE SPIRIT" Arr., William L. Dawson (1899-1990)
*Upon the mountain my Lord spoke. Out of his mouth came fire and smoke.
Looked all around me, it looked so fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine.
Jordan River is chilly and cold. It chills the body but not the soul.
There ain't but one train upon this track. It runs to heaven and right back.
Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart I will pray.*
First Parish Sanctuary Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE Exodus 24:12-18 O.T. 65 Rev. Pat Smith

SERMON "Walking Into the Cloud" Rev. Eric Dupee

OFFERING OUR GIFTS "ON HOLY GROUND" Words and Music: Barbra Streisand
Gina Connolly, soloist

(Please sign and pass the maroon fellowship pads on the center aisle of each pew, look at the names as they are passed back and forth and greet one another after the service.)

***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** "IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE" No. 48

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE "MAJESTY" Arr., Douglas E. Wagner (b.1952)

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

*Flowers are given in loving memory of Catherine L. and Harold T. Stonemetz,
James T. and Dorothea H. Hill and Spencer J. Stonemetz.*



First Parish Church
 Congregational
 United Church of Christ
FAITH FEATURES

First Parish Church 2023 Annual Meeting
Sunday, February 26 after worship

Scripture Readers: If you are interested in reading Scripture at a Sunday service and would like to be added to the list, please contact Carolyn Dupre at cardup8@gmail.com.

Planet Aid: Great news! The bright yellow Planet Aid bins for textiles, clothes and shoes will be residing again on our front lawn for the month of April. A prompt to start your spring cleaning early. Bring your towels, old linens, curtains, unsellable clothing and shoes to the bins right here instead of depositing at the Transfer Station. The bin will be emptied every Tuesday. Tell your friends and neighbors; this opportunity is for everyone in our town! Pass it on!

Fellowship in Action: Visit “The Embrace” sculpture in Boston. We will carpool from First Parish after worship on Sunday, March 5 and have lunch at the Union Oyster House. To sign up contact Kathy McQueeney at 603-580-1184 or kathymcqueeney@hotmail.com by March 1.

Green Tip/News: February 18 is National Battery Day! Americans purchase nearly 3 billion dry-cell alkaline or lithium batteries every year to power toys, cellular phones, watches, laptops and portable power tools. These batteries can have a second life with proper disposal. Tips on handling batteries:

1. DO NOT PUT THEM IN THE BLUE RECYCLING BIN. Batteries can cause fires or injuries in the recycling centers.
2. Keep your used batteries in a separate container until you are ready to recycle them. That way they won't find their way into your blue recycle bin.
3. Bring batteries to a drop-off center for recycling or bring them to a battery collection site. You can also save money and reuse batteries hundreds of times in your home by buying a charger and rechargeable versions of AAA and AA batteries. www.CSWD.net www.Call2Recycle.com Call Staples, Lowes and/or Home Depot, York DPW to confirm.

THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, February 19th 10am Worship/Transfiguration Sunday
 11am Informational Session-Annual Meeting

Monday, February 20th 11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
 8:30am Shake It Up
 6:30pm Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 21st 8:30am Yoga
 6:30pm Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, February 22nd 7am-8:30am Drive Thru Ashes
 8am Strength Training
 9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom
 6pm Sanctuary Choir-warm up
 7pm Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, February 23rd 8am Zumba
 5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 6pm Sweet Spirit Rehearsal
 7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 24th 8am Aerobics
 6pm Youth Group-grade 5-8

Sunday, February 26th 10am Worship/Lent I
 11am FPC Annual Meeting



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
 Amy Burke, Vice Moderator
 Ray Hamlin, Treasurer
 Susan Mancinelli, Clerk



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 Susan Mancinelli, Clerk*



**AMENDED ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT
FIRST PARISH CHURCH, YORK, MAINE**

Meeting Date: Sunday, February 26, 2023 Time: 11:10 a.m.

To: Susan Mancinelli, Clerk, First Parish Church, York, Maine:

You are hereby required in the name of the State of Maine to notify and summon the members of the First Parish Congregational Church in York, Maine, qualified to vote in church affairs, to assemble in the Sanctuary of the said Church on Sunday, February 26, 2023, at 11:10 a.m., for the Annual Meeting of the congregation of said Church.

The meeting will open with a prayer.

The purposes of the meeting will be the following:

First: To consider for approval the minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting (February 27, 2022) and the Special Meeting (December 18, 2022).

Second: To conduct the annual review of the Reports of First Parish Church for the year 2022.

Third: To consider the Report of the Nominating Committee and vote on the proposed slate of officers and board and committee members.

Fourth: To vote on whether to authorize the Board of Assessors to enter into two related easement agreements with the Town of York, as part of the Town Hall renovation project, as follows:

1. A Temporary Construction Easement, which would grant the Town a temporary easement for about 3 months over about 3,000 square feet of Church property (equivalent to about 60 feet x 50 feet) behind the church to install stormwater drainage infrastructure, store materials and equipment, and regrade the area for drainage purposes, with repair and restoration to prior condition; and
2. A Drainage Easement, which would allow the direction of stormwater through stormwater drainage lines, pipes, and other means for drainage purposes to go from an underground stormwater storage tank located on Town property down the side near the flagpole to the street in front of the Church down to the road.

The Town will pay the Church \$9,000 for these easements.

Fifth: To vote on whether to authorize the Board of Assessors to draw an additional 2%, for a total of 6%, from the Church's unrestricted endowment funds, which will be added to the Church's income figure in the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2023, and to authorize the Board of Assessors to make, in the future, an identical additional draw of 2% from said funds for the same purpose for Fiscal Year 2024.

Sixth: To vote on the question of the acceptance of the proposed First Parish Church, York, Maine, Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year 2023.

Seventh: To consider such other business as may rightfully come before the meeting.

The meeting will conclude with a prayer.

Pursuant to Section 10.6 of the Church Bylaws, at least 30 Active Members must be in attendance at the Annual Meeting in order to reach a quorum.

Pursuant to Section 10.8 of said Bylaws, any Active Member may cast a proxy vote for a non-attending Active Member on any and all questions on which a vote will be taken at the Annual Meeting, provided that the Clerk has received, from the attending Active Member, a Proxy Voting Certificate (PVC) in paper copy prior to the calling to order of the Annual Meeting. The Clerk shall provide a PVC to a non-attending Active Member upon request. An attending Active Member may only be the proxy for one non-attending Active Member. Proxy votes do not count toward the reaching of a quorum.

John Covino, Moderator

In accordance with the Bylaws of the First Parish Church, York, Maine, I have notified and summoned the Members, qualified to vote in First Parish Church affairs, to assemble in the Sanctuary of said Church on February 26, 2023, at 11:10 a.m., by posting an attested copy of the above amended warrant in a visible location on the Church House on February 11, 2023.

Attest: Susan Mancinelli, Clerk