

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 due to our pandemic restrictions*, 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.

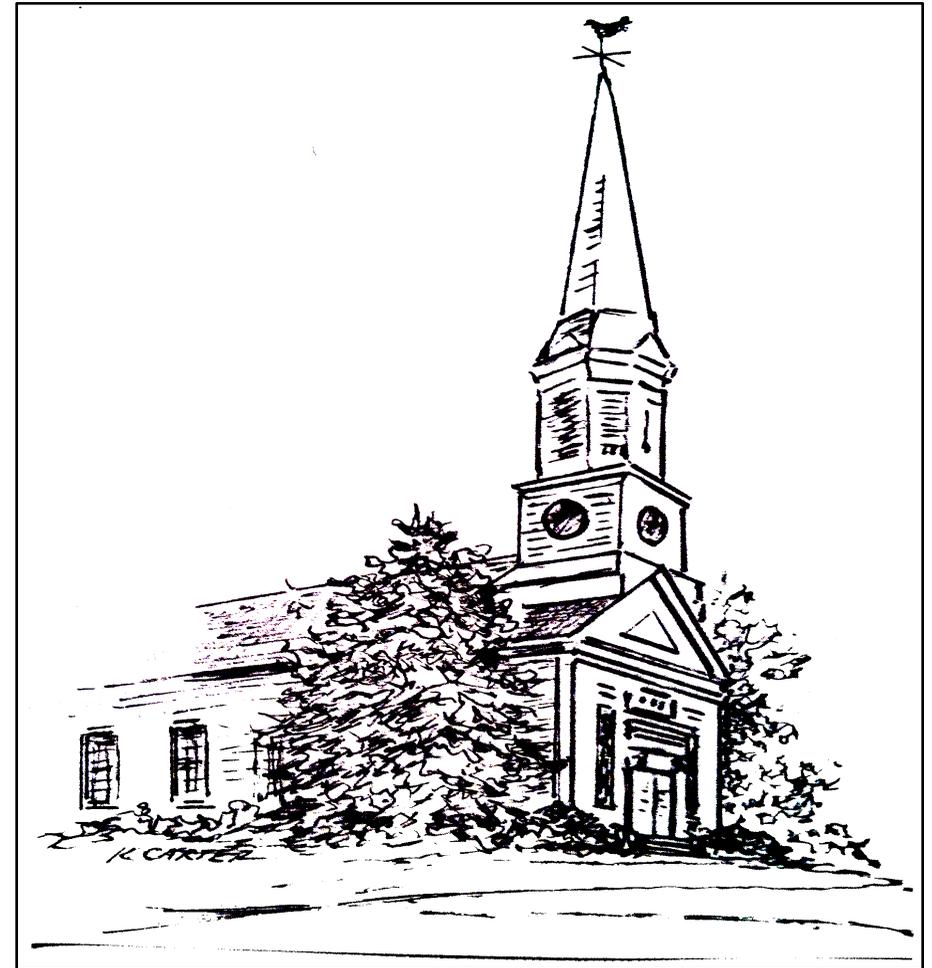
Video and Streaming: We stream our worship services live and archive them on www.youtube.com. If for privacy reasons you do not wish to have you or your children's faces appear on video, you can sit in pews that are marked on the ends with blue tape. Feel free to ask a deacon to show you what those markings 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: In response to the current state of the pandemic, our Sunday School programs look a little different than usual! For now, Sunday School will be taking place outside as often as weather permits, and when it doesn't, we will adhere to strict masking and distancing protocols inside the Fellowship Hall. 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.* During the worship service, following the Message for All Ages, children will be invited to meet with their teachers in the church foyer. Together, students and teachers will make their way outside 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 outside and sign out their children with the teachers. If you have any questions about the masking and distancing protocols practiced by First Parish's youth programs, please do reach out to Pastor Dan, any of our Sunday School teachers, or our Christian Education chair Jess Scapicchio (jess_scapicchio@yahoo.com). Sunday School is free of charge.

Pastoral Care: If you'd like to meet with a pastor, please call the office at (207) 363-3758, or send an email to eric@firstparishyork.net or dan@firstparishyork.net. The pastors are also available to make hospital visits, and we ask that you let us know if you or a family member would like a visit. Due to hospital confidentiality regulations, the hospital will not inform us unless you explicitly ask them to do so.

180 York Street, York, Maine 03909 ♦ 207-363-3758
office@firstparishyork.net ♦ www.firstparishyork.net



First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021 ~ 9:30AM WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE “BRETHREN, WE HAVE MET TO WORSHIP” – William Moore, arr. Cindy Berry

WELCOME Rev. Eric Dupee

CHIMES FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION

(Candles will be lit as a sign of Christ’s light in the world.)

CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Dan Hollis

OPENING HYMN “GOD IS GOOD!” No. 1

***GATHERING PRAYER** *(together)* Rev. Eric Dupee

Loving God, as we worship you today take our hearts hard as stone, and make us soft and pliable as clay. Strip the armor from our minds and make us as archway – open.

Unclench hands that cling to preconceived assumptions and set us free to grasp what you send us. We long to flow with your Spirit as a fallen leaf floats lightly on the surface of the stream. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who taught us to 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.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

ANTHEM “TIL THE STORM PASSES BY” – Mosie Lister
Shawn McCartee, soloist

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE Matthew 18:15-20 N.T. 17 Kathy McQueeney

SERMON “OUR CONGREGATIONAL WAY” Rev. Eric Dupee

RESPONSE Pastor Dan Hollis

OFFERING OUR GIFTS “IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL” – Philip P. Bliss, Arr. Cindy Berry

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF COMMITMENT** No. 34

CLOSING HYMN “AS YOUR FAMILY, LORD, MEET US HERE” *(verses 1, 3, 4)* No. 606

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN Rev. Eric Dupee

POSTLUDE “REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING” – John Darwall, arr. Cindy Berry

Flowers are provided by the Flower Committee.



THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, September 26th 9:30am Worship
 10:30am Special Church Meeting

Monday, September 27th 8am Zumba
 7pm Vitality Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 28th 8:30am Yoga
 6:30pm Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, September 29th 8am Cardio/Strength
 9:30am Women’s Bible Study

Thursday, September 30th 8am Zumba
 4pm Mission Committee Meeting
 5pm Handbells Rehearsal
 7pm Choir Rehearsal (tenors and basses)
 7pm Bible Study with Eric

Friday, October 1st 8am Aerobics

Sunday, October 3rd 8:30am Sanctuary Choir warm-up
 9:30am Worship/World Communion Sunday
 11am Bow Tie Guys Rehearsal
 5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (sopranos and altos)

Ministers

All the Members of the Congregation
 Leading Worship Today:
 Reverend Eric Dupee
 Pastor Dan Hollis

Staff

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



The Pumpkin Patch: The Pumpkins are here! Sign up to volunteer in the Pumpkin Patch on the First Parish website www.firstparishyork.net.

Wednesday Bible Study: 9:30 Wednesday Morning in the Pilgrim Room. Everyone should wear a mask, all windows will be open and chairs will be 6 feet apart. We will be discussing the reading from the Bible and sermon for the following Sunday. Remember to bring a bible and your laughter. Everyone is welcome!

YCSA Food Pantry: first Wednesday of the month October 6 from 10am-11am. Non-perishables and monetary contributions. Need a couple of volunteers, preferably ones who have never helped before. In front of Parish Office. For more information contact Linda Drew 207-351-8141 or p.l.drew79@me.com

UCC Neighbors in Need: Special offering Justice issues – from women’s rights to racial bias to income gaps – continue to be laid bare, making the Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering on October 3, 2021, even more critical.

FPC Pictorial Directory: First Parish will be publishing a new pictorial directory! Pictures will be taken on **Wednesday, November 17 and Thursday, November 18** in Fellowship Hall. We would like everyone to have their picture taken. You will have a professional photography session, schedule a ZOOM meeting to see your proofs on computer and have the opportunity to purchase extra portraits for family and friends. Sign up on the First Parish website: www.firstparishyork.net

Green Tip/News: Our obsessions with green expanses of lawns is costing us a THIRD of our public water supply, according to the EPA. This equates to 9 BILLION gallons of water per day, not to mention the 200 million gallons of gas burned by lawnmowers. In a world where population growth and drought spells are growing, we can no longer afford to waste one of our most precious resources. Consider another green ally..MOSS! A small moss lawn can absorb more carbon that 275 mature trees. They also produce a ton of oxygen, require significantly less water; rarely need weeding, don’t require fertilizer, absorb air pollutants and prevent soil erosion and runoff and you don’t have to mow them! www.theoxygenproject.com



First Parish Church
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FAITH FEATURES

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