



First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ

THE MESSENGER

VISION

Following the Way of Jesus, we aspire to authentically invite, courageously include, and generously serve all with compassion and grace.

MISSION

Following the Way of Jesus, we celebrate **inspirational worship**; create **life-changing experiences** for children, youth, families, and individuals; and practice meaningful **congregational care**.

While respecting our diversity, we courageously advocate for **justice and mercy**, and intentionally respond to the needs of our **community and the world**.

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SHARING GOOD NEWS – JUNE/JULY 2019

Dear friends,

You've heard it said that "Life is a journey, not a destination." In a similar manner, I think that Christianity is a journey of discovery. We become transformed by the presence of God and we become more comfortable, more trusting, and more hopeful when we are in sacred relationship.

On Thursday May 23rd, over a dozen folks gathered to lift up Thursday Worship. We spoke of particularly memorable games and projects, shared meals, music, and the sense of truly getting to know one another. It was noted that every single person contributed to the experience at each gathering. Over and over, we heard about the relationships forged during the tenure of this alternative worship service.

Thursday Worship engaged people of different ages and from different backgrounds. It made no difference whether someone was there every week or whether someone was new to the fold. All were welcomed into community. Not everyone in the room had the same views or values--and the differences didn't matter. Inclusion was a given and there was a deep sense of connection among participants. For all these gifts and more, I give thanks to God and to First Parish for the last two years of Thursday Worship.

Over the summer, we'll have other opportunities to be together in community and it's my hope that they will also help foster a deeper connection to church--for church isn't a building, but a gathered body of people. On June 22, those who are interested can be part of Portsmouth Pride as First Parish joins St. George's and the York-Ogunquit Methodist Church for the parade and a shared booth. Beginning July 11, and for three consecutive Thursdays, we'll offer Parish Green Concerts.

At our Calendaring Event (after worship on June 9), we'll get a broad view of all of the upcoming events for the next several months. Board and committee chairs are particularly encouraged to

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attend as we'll discern ways that we can work together to amplify our efforts and make the most efficient use of congregational energy. Additionally, we'll consider ways we can broaden and deepen a sense of community in and beyond First Parish. For example, would you be interested in getting together to paint river stones which can be given away at the concert series...or in a summer book club...a potluck...a beach day...a picnic...a 'stroll for the soul' walk...a volunteer day...a yard sale...a movie night... And, if we were to implement any of these potential offerings, would you be likely to bring a friend too so that others could come to know our faith community?

Jesus encouraged us to 'love our neighbors as ourselves' and in order to love our neighbors, we must first get to know them. Our neighbors are those in the next pew...and those in the next aisle at Hannaford...and those in the next lane on Route 1...and those in the next town.

If you feel encouraged by this community, lifted up when you come to church, and if your faith fuels your week; would you please share that with someone else? Here's your holy homework: Would you please invite, pick up, and bring a friend to worship? If that sounds daunting, would you invite a friend to one of our events this summer?

Blessings,

Rev. Estelle

Message from the Moderator

Reverend Estelle reminded us in her sermon on Sunday, May 26, that "God calls us to be in relationship with Him and each other." I have been thinking about our congregation at First Parish in the context of this "sacred bond." We are all connected to a variety of groups in our lives. Your list and mine are lengthy: clubs, teams, civic and volunteer organizations, alumni groups, peer groups, and high on the list, family. Why is being part of a faith group different from other affiliations on our list? For one, there is no selection process or criteria that needs to be met to be part of our church. No tryouts or special skills required – all are welcome. Jesus taught us to be accepting of each other-weaknesses, foibles, peculiarities, eccentricities and all. God wants us to be our best selves with each other. At the Annual Meeting in 2013, members of First Parish approved a Behavioral Covenant. This Behavioral Covenant is printed in back of the current Annual Report. A Covenant is a "solemn agreement between members of a church to act together with the precepts of the Gospel." We are reminded in our Covenant to walk together as God walks with us. We should all feel safe with each other as we explore our faith together. Do take a moment to review our Behavioral Covenant. It helps at times when we are frustrated or impatient to have helpful guidelines. It also helps to refer to the best of all guidelines- the teachings of Jesus.

Jan Jonas, Moderator

PLEASE NOTE: There will not be a Maretfest or Village Faire this year. Other fundraising opportunities are being explored.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC JUNE 2019

Sunday, June 2, 2019

Communion

“Room at the Welcome Table”
Sanctuary Choir

Sunday, June 9, 2019

9:15am Hymn Sing

Pentecost

New Member Sunday

“Spirit of Comfort, Spirit of Hope”
“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”
Sanctuary Choir

Sunday, June 16, 2019

Music Sunday

Father’s Day

Handbells, Sweet Spirit, Bow Tie Guys, Sanctuary Choir

Sunday, June 23, 2019

Children’s Sunday

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”
Quartet

Sunday, June 30, 2019

Solo

JULY 2019

Sunday, July 7, 2019

Communion

Solo

Sunday, July 14, 2019

9:15am Hymn Sing

Solo

Sunday, July 21, 2019

Shawn McCartee, Solo

Sunday, July 28, 2019

Bow Tie Guys

from the Music Director



A View from the Bench

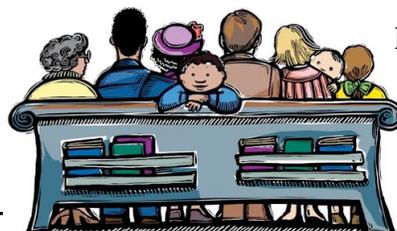
We experience the presence of God and the Holy Spirit at various times and places in our lives. Today was one of those days for me. It was a picture perfect day for a run. (Yes... "Little Red Running Hoodie" is back—so please, feel free to give a wave or a "toot " of your car horn when you see him!) The temperature was in the mid 60's, the birds were singing, and the sky was clear. On my way, I was thinking that the element of "wind" is a funny thing. It is defined as "air in motion." We can't really *see* it...we can only *feel* its invisible power, and observe its impact on things like the leaves and branches on trees.

During my run today, there was a warm wind at my back from the west which felt like the presence of God urging me on to my goal. The wind on my face on the return home felt like the Holy Spirit that the early believers may have experienced on the day of Pentecost. I try to listen to that still, small voice inside me, and follow the inspiration of the Holy Spirit—urging me to be kind and loving with every step that I take.

Come to church to worship the God who blesses us by giving us the wind and the rain, the sun and the moon, and the capacity to be kind and loving. At First Parish we begin the month of June with Communion; on the second Sunday we focus on Pentecost and begin with our traditional hymn-sing at 9:15 AM,: on Father's Day we offer special music featuring anthems by each of our four choirs for Music Sunday; and Children's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, June 23. July will feature special music each Sunday offered by soloists from the choirs and members of the congregation.

Join us in worship each Sunday this summer: sing praises to God...feel the warmth and presence of Christ and the Holy Spirit...listen to the Word...and find peace, joy, and love.

"Long Live Love" ...because love always wins!
WSP



A T T E N D A N C E
May 2019 Worship
5/5/19: 148
5/12/19: 175
5/19/19: 142
5/26/19: 116



HolyCow!

An important message from your Search Committee

The Senior Pastor Search Committee is currently working on the Church Profile which provides extensive information about our church to prospective candidates....and your help is needed!

The Church Profile includes demographics, membership and attendance numbers, and information about worship style, outreach, etc... The profile includes your input on the key questions of "Who Are We?" and "Who is Our Neighbor". In March and April, the Search Committee held discussion groups around these key questions.

The next step is a congregational survey from HolyCow Consulting that will come to your email inbox in June! It will provide us with additional critical information. If we have a current email address on file for you, you will receive an email with a unique web link to the online survey. Please complete the survey within two weeks of receiving the link. If you do not have email or would prefer a hard copy (paper survey), you may pick one up in the church office. We'll also provide a stamped, addressed return envelope.

NOTE: Each member of your household (adults and youth who have been Confirmed and are living at home) should take the survey. If we have only one email address for you, please *share the additional email address(es) with Search@firstparishyork.net or request hard copies of the survey from the office.* INDIVIDUAL INPUT is key to our gaining insight into overall perceptions and experiences of the congregation.

Please set aside enough time to answer all the questions in one sitting. We estimate that the survey can be completed in 30 minutes. All survey responses are strictly anonymous.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the members of the search committee or email your questions to: search@firstparishyork.net

With thanks,

Your Search Committee: Jeri LeConte, Sherry McConnell, Scott Stevens, Jonn Schrimper, Nelson Walter, Cheryl Pinder, John Covino, Laura Lindop, Per Jonas



CHURCH SCHOOL

HAPPENINGS

June/July 2019

Dear members and friends of First Parish,
Thank you for your continuing support for our programs for the children and youth of our beloved First Parish Church. Your commitment and support have made a great difference in our ministry.

Our year winds down now with two big events in June:

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

Sunday, June 23

children & youth take part in the worship service at 9:30

"FILL THE VAN"

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

donations for the Center for Wildlife in Cape Neddick.

Check the Oasis on Wednesdays for details.



KIDS CAMP

Tuesday, June 25

through

Thursday, June 27

9am-12noon

Theme - "Caring for God's Creation"

THERE IS NO FEE FOR THIS CAMP

**KIDS CAMP IS OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN AND
YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH AND THE COMMUNITY**

CAMPERS - grades K-5 as of September

CREW - grades 6-12 as of September

PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE - Caring for our environment, animals, and each other. Many hands-on activities and featuring a visit from the CENTER FOR WILDLIFE - Raptors, Reptiles and Mammals. Also Music, Bible Adventures, Imagination Station, Outdoor Games, and KidVid. AND our fabulous snacks! Bring a water bottle.

CALL or EMAIL the PARISH OFFICE to REGISTER

363-3758

office@firstparishyork.net

There will be no Sunday School classes in July or August.

They will resume in September.

Nursery will be continue to be open every Sunday.

Thank you, Janet Cassidy, Christian Education Coordinator



First Parish Youth Group June 2019

April and May were very exciting months at Youth Group, full of fun events that engaged youth in our community in socializing, critical thinking, spiritual themes, and service. We raced the clock and each other to **win it in a minute**, we worked together to learn just how easy it is to **cook a delicious meal** for ourselves and others, we played **games**, overcame **challenges**, discussed **film**, went on a **secret mission** to recover a stolen Biblical artifact, and **escaped** the clutches of a terrifying monster.

We also began an exciting partnership with other churches in York—namely St. George’s Episcopal Church and York-Ogunquit Methodist Church—to allow our youth opportunities to meet and have activities together, to discover what unites us, and to do some good for the world together. Our first joint event was called “**A Splash of Kindness**,” and youth from each church joined forces to make and decorate flower pots for the assisted-living residents of Sentry Hill here in York. We then went over together and hand-delivered the flowers to residents, and our youth took time to have some really inspiring conversations with the folks there, bringing joy to all sides!

It has been really inspiring to work with my counterparts in the other churches, and we’re looking forward to doing other joint events in the future. They’ll be coming with us on the Middle School hike in June!

As the school year begins to wind down, the schedules of youth and families in our community gets very hectic. As such, in May and June we have been offering slightly fewer events (as you will see reflected in the May numbers below), and we will be taking the rest of the summer off, as usual! But for now, if you or someone you know has someone from 5th to 12th Grade who could use a safe place to have fun and grow, send them my way!

All are welcome, and friends from outside First Parish are always encouraged to join in the fun, fellowship, and formation. For more details and to sign up for events, contact dan@firstparishyork.net

Individual Youth Served April: 24

Individual Youth Served May: 13

As always, but particularly for these upcoming events, please sign up in advance so we know how many youth to prepare for! dan@firstparishyork.net

Saturday June 1st

9:30am - ?) 5th - 8th Grades

Mt. Major Hike (*Leaving from the First Parish Church Sanctuary*)

No hiking experience necessary; we're not climbing Everest, I promise! The hike can get pretty steep, though. Bring a backpack with lunch, at least two water bottles, rain gear (just in case!) and a change of socks. WEAR CLOSE-TOED, CLOSE-HEELED OUTDOOR SHOES. We'll take one trail up the mountain, eat lunch, take a different trail back down, and drive back to FPC when we're done. It won't take all day, I assure you, only a few hours. It is an hour drive to get there, so we'll text the fam our ETA before we head back. **Trail info:**

<http://belknapangetrails.org/mt-major/blue-trail/>

Sunday June 9th

1:30 - 3:30) 9th - 12th Grades

High School Cooking Competition (*FPC Fellowship Hall kitchen*)

A fun competition to see which teams can get creative and make something tasty out of the ingredients/recipes/tools you're given. No prior cooking experience necessary. Free-will donations to help cover the cost of ingredients gratefully accepted.

Friday June 14th

6:00 - 9:00) 5th - 8th Grades

Rock Climbing Party (*Indoor Ascent in Dover, NH*)

We will meet at Indoor Ascent's indoor rock gym in Dover for a fun evening of climbing to blow off some steam after a long school year! WEAR CLOSE-TOED, CLOSE-HEELED SHOES. We are asking for \$20 per youth to cover both their admission and dinner/drinks. (Financial aid is available to families if needed.) Staff will lead the group through a brief introduction to climbing at the gym. The adults who are present will learn how to belay, which is how to support climbers using the equipment. Youth are then free to climb at various stations, use the bouldering room, and take breaks. They generally tire after an hour, which becomes a good time to stop for pizza! They then climb again until they're too tired to continue, which usually isn't more than another hour. It is very important that everyone that is coming to the party (non-participants as well) have a waiver signed by a parent or guardian.

<http://indoorascent.com/Climbing-Info/Groups-Parties/Parties>



Women on the Move Fellowship Outing

Women on the Move
invites you to participate in a
Drum Circle Experience
Sunday, June 9th
4:30 to 6:00
Fellowship Hall.
All are invited

John Felice has been teaching and leading drum circles for 25 years. He is a patient and skilled teacher, especially enthusiastic about opening the world of rhythm and percussion to newcomers, and exploring the power of rhythm in personal healing and community building.

"No experience necessary. It's meditative, mindful and fun!"



\$10.00 per individual-drums provided
Minimum participants: 6
Maximum participants: 20

RSVP
Tricia Gosselin
508-259-3420
trishgoss2@gmail.com



Pilgrim Lodge

Maine Conference, United Church of Christ

SUMMER CAMP AT PILGRIM LODGE

Week-long and weekend programs available for everyone - includes families, grandparents & grandkids, adults of all ages. Weekly programs begin with 3rd graders (as of September).

Pilgrim Lodge is owned and operated by the Maine Conference of the UCC in West Gardner, Maine, just 2 hours north of Kittery.

Scholarships Available

www.pilgrimlodge.org

Information at Opportunity Table and the Parish Office.



CREATION CARE COMMITTEE NEWS

Lots of folks have stepped up to the plate to head up many new projects associated with caring for God's Creation.

Brian Wood hopes to offer a native plants/ soil health to a few people in hopes that they then will spread that news to their friends.

Richard Leigh and Linda Drew creating a banner that we hope will grace the church property to let the community know that we are on a "green mission" to become a zero waste church.

Dianne Goodwin is in charge of the upcoming tire pressure project May 26. Tires will be pumped to the recommended pressure while we are worshipping. Allen Norris' son, Greg is the project manager.

Philip Drew has been collecting the compostable organic material that is generated at each of the Table of Plenty suppers. It is being put in a composting bin provided by Mr. Fox Composting Services.

Gail Berneike is our liaison between community organizations promoting renewable energy, sustainable practices, etc. and this newsletter.

Gail Gilchrest is looking into our communion cups- whether biodegradable ones or glass ones are feasible and within budget. She is asking for the Deacon's help.

Ginny Richburg and Richard Leigh are starting to look into organizing individuals, families or group to cleanup our streets.

James Kences, Jan Jonas, Nan Roberts are also working on scheduled beach cleanups this summer, replacing plastic fruit/veg bags with purchasable reusable mesh bags, and having a session to learn how to calculate our individual carbon footprints.

Janet Cassidy will be helping our children become much more aware of caring for our creation during the upcoming kids camp June 25-27.

There is much enthusiasm for serious work ahead...educating, raising awareness, changing our behaviors and spreading the word.

Tuesday, July 16 at 7PM

First Parish Church

CREATION CARE COMMITTEE

Presents

CLIMATE NEWS from SAN FRANCISCO



Kevin Drew

Senior Residential Zero Waste Coordinator

San Francisco Department of the Environment

over 35 years' experience, including directing non-profit recycling and reuse operations and shaping resource conservation policy at local and statewide level. For the past 5 years, Kevin has worked to connect the City's organics recovery program to a circular economic model with proven means of sequestering carbon. This collaboration holds promise as a way for cities to utilize their organics to pull carbon out of the atmosphere, an effective climate mitigation action.



Open to the public

First Parish Church

180 York Street

York, Maine 03909

207-363-3758

office@firstparishyork.net

Mission Team News

First Thursday Volunteer at York Community Services Thrift Store on Rte. 1 York. Sign up is open for Thursdays June 6, August 1, September 5. This is a chance to see what a volunteer might do at the Thrift store. You (and a friend!) can go from 2-3PM or so to experience what goes on.

Table of Plenty Team Here's a chance to help a team of 6-8 volunteers cook a meal every 8 weeks in our Fellowship Hall for anyone who lives in our community. First Parish cooks again Tuesday, June 25. If you're interested in trying it out, please contact Janet Cassidy (cassidywednesday@aol.com)
A rotation of 8 churches/organizations offer a meal every Tuesday.

Mission Team appropriated \$500. to Feeding Forward/ Daisy's Children for their use when they travel to Honduras in August.



YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2019 CAR WASH & TIRE PRESSURE CHECK SATURDAY, JUNE 1 9AM - 12PM

The Sr. High Youth group will be sponsoring a Car Wash this Saturday, June 1 from 9:00 AM to noon. And we'll be offering a free tire pressure check service as an added bonus. Inflating your tires to the correct pressure saves gas and lowers carbon emissions to help reduce global warming. It's good for your pocketbook and good for the environment - and your car will look great too.

MISSIONS AND MULTIPLICATION

Many years have passed since my third grade teacher announced we would be doing something new in "arithmetic" class. I liked working with numbers and was excited, yet a bit anxious, to move beyond the basics of addition and subtraction to a new concept she labeled "multiplication". Hour after hour and day after day we all practiced and learned our multiplication tables. At first, the process involved only the use of single digits such as $(2 \times 2 = 4)$ or $(2 \times 3 = 6)$. In future years of schooling, the teachers would introduce the use of double or triple digits. By the time I was in Junior High, I was very aware of how valuable those early lessons with Miss Blanchard truly were. Every September we were given three weeks off from school to help the local farmers with the potato harvest which in my family was known as "digging time". I remember working the numbers in my head as I put potatoes into my basket and then dumped them into the barrel. I was not counting the spuds but I was very interested in dollars and cents. If the farmer was paying me 25 cents for every barrel of potatoes I picked and I was filling 20 barrels a day, then my daily pay was \$5.00. Working 6 days a week, I knew that on Saturday the farmer's wife would hand me an envelope containing the marvelous sum of \$30.00. To my limited understanding, a known times a known would always equal a known.

It was at that time in my education when the teachers threw a curve ball into "mathematics" and called it "algebra". Often algebra, to me, involved a known times an unknown which meant uncertainty. Some times the math problem would include two unknowns which meant not just uncertainty but bewilderment. How is this all going to work out? Where is the process leading me? Giving to missions can have that same bewilderment.

I know that the focus of common Hope's work in Guatemala involves education, housing, health care and family development. I know that \$35.00 a month will sponsor a child and his/her family. I do not know what the results will be for the unknown factor is the child and the particular circumstances of his/her life. But I give in faith, trusting the outcome to God who knows much more about multiplication than I could ever begin to imagine.

Graduation season in Guatemala is in November. here are some comments, some wishes, from recent graduates who received help from Common Hope throughout their school years: "I ask God that Common Hope continue helping needy people, like they helped me", "My wish is to find a job and be well with my family", "My wish is to support my family and i want them to see me graduate from college", and "My wishes are to buy a house, help my mom study nursing, support my siblings' education, and to go to university".

The "arithmetic" works this way: COMMON HOPE x YOUR PRESENTS, PRAYERS AND EVEN PRESENCE = THE DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S PRESENT AND FUTURE. Shari Blindt, Executive director sums it up this way: "Your gifts have not only made their dream of graduation possible, but that same generosity is reflected in their dreams for the future. Thank you you believing in them, and inspiring them to multiply our work."

Phil Woodman



Congregational Caregiving

Earlier this month, a dozen congregational caregivers recently got together to share information on all the nurturing things we do here at First Parish Church...which is LOTS. Did you know that, in addition to Pastoral Care and the prayer concerns raised in church on Sundays; we offer Lay Visitation in hospitals, assisted living, and member homes; Meal Preparation and Delivery when needed; a Card Ministry; Flower and Holiday Plant giving outreach; Mission@Home providing help with home projects; a Health Ministry of exercise classes; and also a group that helps to oversee and provide Funeral Receptions for members of our church? As you can see, this is quite a list and probably gives you an idea of the many types of valuable outreach of extending care we offer to our members and the community.

It's amazing what we all learned in our round robin discussion of care giving, many of us hearing of actions and outreach that we did not know existed within our church! We are a large and caring community...that became evident to us.

One of our Mission Statements is to "practice meaningful congregational care". There are a multitude of ways in which we can accomplish this and get involved. Is there an outreach listed above that you would like to be involved with? We are actively looking for new parishioners who want to make a difference in a person's day, or even a small part of their life. The rewards are immeasurable.

Lay visitation offers Christian connection, companionship, and active listening to those who may be ill, rehabbing, or facing a future as a homebound patient. It may be a one-time visit, or ongoing through a period of time. First Parish will offer training and guidance for this ministry and Pastors are available as resources. One of our church members has been visiting the same individual for years, once a week. They have become close friends, and their lives have become intertwined with stories and time that they have shared together. Their friendship has impacted both of their lives.

Pastoral Care is delivered by the pastors for acute and urgent situations during distressing times of health and life changing situations. As an example of how critical their ministry is for spiritual and emotional care to congregants, there have been 63 events within the congregation (and another 10 beyond the congregation) since January of this year. Many of these prayer requests are shared with the congregation, but only with the permission of the patient or person.

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Jesus showed us and taught us to have great compassion for one another. II Corinthians 1: 3-5 reminds us that “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ’s sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort also.”

If you are interested in either being connected with someone you can visit-or-if you would like to be connected with someone who will visit you, please contact the office at Office@FirstParishYork.net. Also, if you are currently involved with lay visitation and you were unable to be at the meeting on May 6, would you please let the office know who you visit? There will be a check-in and skills-building meeting Wednesday, June 26 at 6pm in the Parish Office.

Submitted by Nan Roberts

from the DEACONS

At our most recent meeting the Deacons voted to award scholarships to three graduating seniors: Addie Fagan, Gus Hogan, and Nevan Collins. We congratulate them on their accomplishments and wish them well as they go on to college in the fall.

The Deacons also awarded a campership to Gus Alexander to be used toward a week at Pilgrim Lodge. We hope that Gus enjoys his time as much as prior attendees have done.

Congratulations to all our awardees!



Also the Deacons would like to invite members of the congregation to participate in the scripture reading during the Sunday service. Each week the lead Deacon seeks a volunteer. If you are willing, Betty will send you a copy of the reading during the week so you can prepare. Although we have had some willing volunteers, we would like to involve more of the congregation. If you would like to participate, please speak to a Deacon, or sign up at the Opportunity Table in Fellowship Hall. If you have been a reader in the past and are willing to do so again, please sign up as well.



Pennies count!

Today I would like to explore pennies and how something as small as a penny can be used by God to do good things for others. Pennies do not seem to be worth much. It cost the US government 1.7 cents to produce each penny. Several times government officials have suggested eliminating the penny, but the outcry has prevented this move, and studies have shown that most of the pennies produced are being hoarded.

There is a story in the Bible about a widow who had two pennies. She was very poor! Jesus saw her as she came to worship in the temple. Let's read the story to find out what she did with her few cents.

Mark 12:41-44 NRSV

41 He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. 43 Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you; this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. 44 For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

What do you think the lessons of this scripture story are? How much money did the rich people give? How much money did the widow give? Who does Jesus say gave more? Why?

I pray that we realize that God provides abundantly for all, that when everyone shares, there is enough for all, and that God appreciates our generosity even when we don't have much to give.

So how are you going to practice being generous with the pennies?
Give Generously!

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for all the gifts of food and money that you have given us so that we have the opportunity to share with others. Help us to always remember that when we share, there will be enough for all. Amen.

The Stewardship Committee has been sponsoring "Helping Through Loose Change" for the last several years. Through this effort you've contributed several thousands of dollars to First Parish Ministries: Senior Youth Mission trips, End 68 Hours of Hungry, Heifer International, York Community Services, Vacation Bible School, York Food Pantry and others. Your generosity has made a difference.

Stewardship Committee: Jalmar Dijkstra, Bob Myers, Sandy Nelson



Fun, Fabulous and a Great Workout!

***Friendly Exercise for All in our
Community***

Fitness Classes – Zumba, Yoga and Aerobics
Fellowship Hall – First Parish Church, York, Maine
Monday through Friday One-Hour Classes

All of our instructors are certified and experienced. Cost is \$5 for a drop in class, or sign up for unlimited classes for \$30 per month (over 65) or \$35 per month (ages under 65). Monthly rates can be prorated.

CURRENT CLASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY at 8am Zumba
TUESDAY at 8:30am Yoga
WEDNESDAY at 8:30 am Zumba
THURSDAY and FRIDAY at 8:30 a.m. Aerobics

JUST DROP IN
For information contact
First Parish Church 207-363-3758



**From the Creation Care Committee,
committed to becoming a “Zero Waste Church”**

As promised in May’s newsletter, here is updated information about York Ready for 100%’s June and July educational gatherings at the York Public Library.

“Solar Energy: Basics, Affordability and Possibilities for York”

Friday, June 14th

7 pm

York Public Library

Looking for information about solar power? Find answers at a discussion of sunlight as a source of clean, renewable energy. Jerry Robock, a founder of Northeast Smart Energy (CT) and now a Kittery resident, will lead a program on solar energy on Friday, June 14 at 7 PM at York Public Library. He will explain how solar installations convert sunlight to energy, utility billing, potential costs and savings, and solar installations that might be possible in our town. The program is offered by York Ready for 100% (YRF100), a citizens’ group that advocates for clean, renewable, affordable energy.

YRF100’s July meeting

on Friday, July 12th

7 pm at the York Public Library

will host state legislators reporting on the progress of energy-related bills through the Legislature.

All YRF100 events are free and offer refreshments. For more information, see yorkreadyfor100.org or info@yorkreadyfor100.org.



Saturday, June 22

Downtown Portsmouth

This year, First Parish will join St. George's Episcopal Church and the York-Ogunquit Methodist Church to march together in Portsmouth Pride. Pride is Saturday, June 22 and we'll meet at the Portsmouth Public Library at 11:45. The parade begins at 1:15 and is approximately 30 minutes in duration.

The route is from the Portsmouth Public Library through downtown Portsmouth to Strawberry Banke, where the three churches will have a "Welcoming Churches of York" booth. You're welcome to march in the parade and/or be at the booth. Booths are open 1-5. In order to have marchers in the colors of the rainbow, *organizers will give us a color to wear. We'll share that information in the bulletin, the Oasis, and on facebook.* All are welcome to participate.

Questions? contact Rev. Estelle at 363-3758



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8:30am Christian Education Committee Meeting 9:30am Youth Group-5/8 grade
2 9:30am Worship/Communion 11am Men's Ensemble Rehearsal 5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	3 8am Zumba	4 8:30am Yoga 5pm Table of Plenty 5:30pm Mission Committee Meeting 7pm Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting	5 8:30am Aerobics 9am Women's Bible Study 5pm Adult Bible Study 7pm Search Committee Meeting	6 8:30am Aerobics 9am Building & Grounds Committee Meeting 6pm Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	7 8:30am Aerobics	8
9 9:15am Hymn Sing/New Members 9:30am Worship 11am Calendaring Event 11am Men's Ensemble Rehearsal 11am Youth Group- High School 5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	10 8am Zumba	11 8:30am Yoga 5pm Table of Plenty 6:30pm Assessors Meeting	12 8:30am Aerobics 9am Women's Bible Study 5pm Adult Bible Study 6pm Women on the Move	13 8:30am Aerobics 6pm Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	14 8:30am Aerobics 6pm Youth Group-5/8 grade	15
16 9:30am Worship/Music Sunday 11am Men's Ensemble Rehearsal 5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	17 8am Zumba	18 8:30am Yoga 5pm Table of Plenty 7pm Deacons Meeting	19 8:30am Aerobics 9am Women's Bible Study 5pm Adult Bible Study 7pm Search Committee Meeting	20 8:30am Aerobics 6pm Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	21 8:30am Aerobics	22
23 9:30am Worship/Children's Sunday 11am Men's Ensemble Rehearsal 5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	24 8am Zumba	25 8:30am Yoga 5pm Table of Plenty 7pm Church Council Meeting	26 8:30am Aerobics 5pm Adult Bible Study 6pm Congregational Care Committee Meeting	27 8:30am Aerobics 6pm Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	28 8:30am Aerobics	29
30 9:30am Worship/Mission Sunday						

KIDS CAMP 9AM - 12NOON



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 8am Zumba	2 8:30am Yoga 5pm Table of Plenty 7pm Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting	3 8:30am Zumba	4 JULY 4TH PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	5 8:30am Aerobics	6 8:30am Christian Education Committee Meeting
7 9:30am Worship/Communion	8 8am Zumba 6pm Women on the Move	9 8:30am Yoga 5pm Table of Plenty 6:30pm Assessors Meeting	10 8:30am Aerobics	11 8:30am Aerobics	12 8:30am Aerobics	13
14 9:15am Hymn Sing 9:30am Worship	15 8am Zumba	16 8:30am Yoga 5pm Table of Plenty 7pm Kevin Drew-Climate Talk	17 8:30am Aerobics 7pm Search Committee Meeting	18 8:30am Aerobics	19 8:30am Aerobics	20 Youth Mission Trip Departs
21 9:30am Worship	22 8am Zumba	23 8:30am Yoga 5pm Table of Plenty 7pm Church Council Meeting	24 8:30am Aerobics	25 8:30am Aerobics	26 8:30am Aerobics	27 Youth Mission Trip Returns
28 9:30am Worship	29 8am Zumba	30 8:30am Yoga 5pm Table of Plenty	31 8:30am Aerobics 7pm Search Committee Meeting			

Ministers

All the Members of the Congregation

Rev. Estelle Margarones, Senior Pastor

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Rev. Dan Hollis, Associate Pastor

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Staff

Wendell S. Purrington, Director of Music Ministries

Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate

Janet Cassidy, Church School Coordinator

Betty Roker, Office Manager

Stacey Crowell, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor

Todd Frederick, Cemetery Superintendent

First Parish Church Lay Leaders

Jan Jonas, Moderator

Thom Kearns, Vice Moderator

Ray Hamlin, Treasurer

Susan Mancinelli, Clerk

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