



First Parish Unitarian Universalist — Canton
A Neponset River Unitarian Universalist Community



**Transformative Interdependence:
A Gift from the UU Urban Ministry
Led by Rev. Stephen Shick**



Our Unitarian Universalist Faith Values

Land and Labor Acknowledgement

The First Parish Unitarian Universalist-Canton, MA
[Adopted at the FPUU Annual Meeting on 6/4/24]

The First Parish Unitarian Universalist-Canton is proud to be a major historical church of Canton, representing a consolidation of two of Canton's oldest churches – the First Parish Unitarian, founded in the 18th century and the First Universalist Church, founded in the 19th century. We recognize that our church's history is complicated by the combined legacies of colonialism and slavery in the United States context. We acknowledge the history of Indigenous peoples and the dispossession of their lands, including that these original lands in Canton and neighboring towns were named Ponkapoag by indigenous peoples. We pay our respects to the Neponset Band, among other bands, of the Massachusetts Tribe, who have stewarded this land throughout generations. We honor their continued presence here and throughout their diaspora. We also acknowledge that we in Canton do not exist independently from centuries of forced labor and economic extraction from enslaved and indentured Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC), including children, as well as poor white immigrants/residents suffering abusive child labor and economic exploitation. And we want to affirm that although we cannot change history, we can and will work for justice, and that justice first begins in direct relationship with mutual recognition and acknowledgment of our shared history, experiences, and interactions. We celebrate and work in solidarity with BIPOC organizations leading the movement for our collective liberation, and we choose to build a diverse, multicultural Beloved Community casting out racism and oppression in ourselves and our institutions.

Our Vision and Purpose

FPUU Canton is a welcoming, caring, and diverse faith community that seeks to nurture and inspire each person's spiritual journey while serving others in our commitment to peace and justice.

Minister & Staff

The Rev. Dr. Michelle Walsh, *Lead Minister*
The Rev. Dr. Clyde Grubbs, *Affiliate Community Minister*
The Rev. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson, *Minister Emerita*
James Chubet, *Music Director*
Carol Smith, *Office Administrator*

Parish Committee 2025-2026

Kitty McGregor, *President*
Dave Williams, *Vice President of Administration*
Debbie Radovsky, *Vice President of Member Services*
Larry Cotton, *Treasurer*
Jonette Nagai, *Clerk*
Felisa White, *Member-at-Large*
Don Seaman, *Member-at-Large*

Vision Ministry 2025-2026

Dave Williams and Kitty McGregor, *Co-Chairs*

Congregational Life and Stewardship Ministry 2025-2026

Don Seaman and Ashton Krasnow, *Co-Chairs*

Building Project Ministry 2025-2026

Kitty McGregor and Debbie Radovsky, *Co-Chairs*

Stewardship Ministry 2025-2026

Kitty McGregor

Contact Us

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Ministers' Email: minister@fpuucanton.org



<https://fpuucanton.org>

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May 31, 2026**

Gathering Music	Jonette Nagai
Centering Bell	John Donovan
Prelude	<i>Ashokan Farewell (Ungar-Mason)</i> Jonette Nagai
Welcome & Announcements	John Donovan
Call to Worship	Rev. Stephen Shick
Unison Chalice Lighting	John Donovan & Congregation <i>Written by Rev. Stephen Shick</i>

All that we need is here now.
From the ages of the earth
we have gathered energy in this Chalice.
All is ready,
Will you strike yourself
against life's hard surfaces and let the flame out,
or let it be born from your giving,
let it be eternally released
to spread the light?

Covenant John Donovan & Congregation
Love is the doctrine of this congregation. The quest for truth is its sacrament, and service is its prayer. To dwell together in peace with respect and understanding; to seek knowledge in freedom; to serve our fellows and humankind to the end that all souls shall grow together in harmony. Thus do we covenant with each other and with our God, by whatsoever name we worship.

***Opening Hymn** *#149 – Lift Every Voice and Sing*
First Parish Choir & Congregation

Reading Selection from *Our Seven Principles* by Rev. Ken Collier
read by John Donovan

Invitation to the Offering John Donovan

Offertory *Sonata in G, Op. 14/2, I-Allegro (Ludwig van Beethoven)*
Jonette Nagai

Joys and Sorrows Rev. Stephen Shick & John Donovan

Meditation & Prayer Rev. Stephen Shick

Musical Interlude *#128 – For All That Is Our Life*
First Parish Choir & Congregation

Sermon Transformative Interdependence:
A Gift from the UU Urban Ministry – Rev. Stephen Shick

***Closing Hymn** *#170 – We Are a Gentle, Angry People (vs. 1, 2 and 4)*
First Parish Choir & Congregation

Benediction Rev. Stephen Shick

Unison Chalice Extinguishing John Donovan & Congregation
Written by Rev. Elizabeth Selle Jones, SLT #456

We extinguish this flame,
but not the light of truth, the warmth of community,
or the fire of commitment.
These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

Postlude *Waltz in A Minor, Op. 34/2 (Frederic Chopin)*
Jonette Nagai

***Please rise in body and/or in spirit.**
Please join us for Coffee Social Hour after the Service

MAY Faith in Action

The UU Urban Ministry (UUUM) is a non-sectarian, non-profit social justice organization that has its offices at the historic First Church in Roxbury – a Boston landmark. Their **Mission** is to work across race and place to dismantle racism and white supremacy culture and to advance racial, social and economic justice. Their **Vision** is to envision a greater Boston where all people live with freedom and dignity and have equitable access to resources and opportunity to shape the present and the future.

To donate, use the envelopes in the pews, the PayPal Donate button on our website, or write a check. Be sure to add a note stating that the money is for Faith in Action (FIA). Please give as generously as you are able. Thank you!

Parish Committee Board Meeting & Today's Designated Representative

Parish Committee meetings are open to members and friends, and meetings generally are now on the second Thursdays – *next meeting June 11th, 1-2:30PM*. See *Kitty McGregor*, President during coffee social hours if you would like to attend a meeting. Today's Parish Committee representative for questions is *Debbie Radovsky*.

Opportunities for Community Meals with FPUU Friends

Sunday Brunch Potluck - First Sunday of the month, **June 7**; *Lunch With Friends* – will resume on the third Thursdays of the month in the Fall. Help with setup/cleanup appreciated! See Barbara Foley for more info, including *Thursday Evenings on the Lawn!*

Covenant Group Invitations

Contact *Linda Hamaker* at lindahamaker324@gmail.com if interested in joining a monthly Tuesday evening covenant group, open to all genders, or *Elaine Goldstein* at 781-784-5210 if interested in a Thursday morning women's group. Both occur on Zoom.

MAJOR SAVE THE DATES

FPUU Annual Meeting: Tuesday, **June 2** at 7pm via zoom, see information previously sent or a Parish Committee Representative.

Rev. Clyde's UUA Award and Celebration Party: Tuesday, **June 16** from 5PM-8PM, all are welcome! See Rev. Michelle.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEIGHBORHOOD SITE AT FPUU: We are a neighborhood site for our Five Points Cluster siblings for GA this year, **June 14th thru June 21st**. Come try it on and see what a UUA General Assembly experience can feel like! See Rev. Michelle & your newsletter.

FPUU SUMMER PLANS MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

We will be sending out a summer supplement newsletter soon! In the meantime, here's some save the dates that are definite (all Sunday summer activities are being moved to the afternoon): We will have an in person **weekly meditation group**, (Most Likely Tuesdays at 1PM); Barbara Foley is considering which dates to host **Thursday Evenings on the Lawn**; Bill and Linda Hamaker will host **Let's Laugh Today** on Sundays June 7th and July 5th from 4-5PM; **Matt Meyer** will be with us again on Sunday, July 19th from 3-4PM; Crystal Thorpe will host **Conversational Games** on Sunday, July 26th from 3-4:30PM; and **Sanctuary Band** will be with us on Sunday, August 23rd from 3-4PM.

We are in further coordination with the Five Points Cluster, and we know that Matt Meyer and Sanctuary Band will be two of four planned to be advertised shared events (the other two will be a free Sunday concert in Norwood with ice cream as well as a walk around Borderland State Park in Easton). However, we also know that we want to show **the musical "Suffs"** on a Sunday here for an additional activity, have a **Soul Matters** conversation on the booklet "Flourishing Together," **and some of us are interested in a trip to do ax throwing as well as a trip to Canton Tree Tops**. So stay tuned, lots of possibilities and see Rev. Michelle if you have a particular interest in one of these! Something every Sunday!

Neponset River Mind-Body-Spirit Center (May)

(a program of FPUU Canton: A Neponset River UU Community)

Zen Buddhist Meditation Hour! (with Rev. Michelle)

Feeling stressed? Meditation is known to help stress – join us for a combination of sitting and walking and mindful eating combined with a Buddhist reading and sharing. Thursdays online, bring a snack!

Weekly Tuesdays, 1:30PM (in person):

Final On-Line Thursday Meditation, 5:30PM

next June 2nd

June 4th

Let's Laugh Today Hour! (with Bill & Linda)

Finding it hard to laugh these days? Come join Bill and Linda Hamaker, Certified Laughter Yoga Master Trainers, as they help you to de-stress and decompress with some good hearty laughing practices. See <https://www.letsclaughtoday.com> for more information (and to register for free 45 minute on-line Wednesday night groups, 7:30PM).

First Sundays, 4-5PM (except August)

June 7th and July 5th