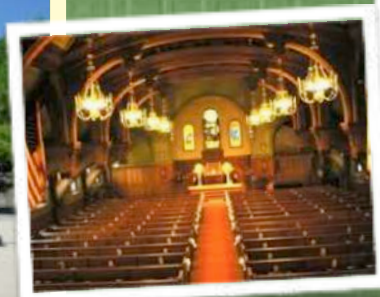


Top of the Square

JULY, 2016 NEWSLETTER



First Parish Plymouth Unitarian Universalist National Memorial Pilgrim Church

19 Town Square, Plymouth, MA 02360

www.firstparishplymouthuu.org 508-747-1606 office@firstparishplymouthuu.org

Minister: Reverend Ed Hardy

Director of Religious Education: Kim Caple

Pianist: Peter Dudensing

Director of Music Emerita: Lynne Wilkinson

WE HOLD THESE
TRUTHS TO BE
SELF-EVIDENT:
THAT ALL MEN
ARE CREATED
EQUAL, THAT
THEY ARE
ENDOWED BY
THEIR CREATOR



WITH CERTAIN
UNALIENABLE
RIGHTS; THAT
AMONG THESE
ARE LIFE,
LIBERTY, AND
THE PURSUIT
OF
HAPPINESS.

~ THOMAS JEFFERSON ~

Children's Sunday Celebration



Kim Caple, Director of
Religious Education



Hannah Stillman



Peter Dudensing
Pianist



Left to right - Kelly Palmer, Scout Jenks, Will Palmer, Lily Caple,
Seeger Creane, Andrew Melville, Hannah Caple, Emerson Snee, Hannah Stillman,
Addison Snee, and Jordan Melville



IN PHILADELPHIA, 13 ROCKETS WERE FIRED ON JULY 4, 1777 TO RECOGNIZE THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE 13 COLONIES. THIS SET THE TREND OF FIREWORKS DISPLAY EACH YEAR.



A Pilgrim's Journey

By Rev. Ed Hardy

I was just thinking. . .

July 20, 2012 Aurora, Colorado, Century 16 movie theater—12 killed and 70 wounded;

December 14, 2012 Newtown, Connecticut Sandy Hook Elementary School 20 children between 6 and 7 years of age fatally shot along with 6 adult staff members;

December 2, 2015 San Bernardino, California at the Inland Regional Center 14 people were killed and 22 were seriously wounded;

and now the Orlando, Florida, Pulse nightclub 49 killed and 53 wounded.

What do all these killings and wounding's have in common?



They were all committed with an AR-15-type semiautomatic rifle.

The AR-15-type semiautomatic rifle may be purchased legally in the United States. According to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Mr. Oman Mateen, purchased a long rifle “a few days before the shooting.”

What was the AR-15—type semiautomatic designed to do?

Exactly what Mr. Oman Mateen did—kill a lot of people quickly. There are estimated to be 3 to 10 million AR—15's and other similar weapons in the United States.

Wow! I think I better get one of these babies. I need to protect my family and property and the tomatoes in my garden! I might need to take out the Canada Geese down on the softball field. Or use it in the winter to keep the squirrels off my bird feeders.

Does America need a “Dope Slap”?

What is wrong with us? Why are we so impediment? So helpless?

JULY SERMONS

July 3 **“We the people. . . How do we work “Toward a more perfect union?”**

Rev. Ed Hardy

The government of the United States has operated under two different documents. The first, The Articles of Confederation, was in effect from March 1, 1781, when Maryland ratified it. The second, The Constitution, replaced the Articles of Confederation when it was ratified by New Hampshire on June 21, 1788. The founders replaced The Articles of Confederation with The Constitution “in order to form a more perfect Union” of the individual states ... the “Union” of the states is the “United” States of America. The Constitution forms a more perfect union of the states than the Articles of Confederation did. Do we need a new constitution? Is there a more perfect union to be formed?

July 10 **Wait. . . What?**

Rev. Ed Hardy

Dean James Ryan of the Harvard Graduate School of Education gave a commencement speech entitled **“5 Essential Questions In Life plus a bonus question.”** Over the next six weeks, we will investigate these questions. There won’t be a quiz, but maybe some time for dialogue and conversation. This question asks for us to take a break and seek clarification.

I Wonder Why? Or I Wonder if?

This question seeks to open the imagination.

July 17 **Couldn’t We at Least?**

Rev. Ed Hardy

Dean James Ryan of the Harvard Graduate School of Education gave a commencement speech entitled **“5 Essential Questions In Life plus a bonus question.”** Over the next six weeks we will investigate these questions. There won’t be a quiz, but maybe some time for dialogue and conversation. This question asks what the minimum is we can do to get started.

How Can I Help?

This question asks how to join and support the process.

July 24 & July 31 **Worship Committee**

Coffee Hour Hosts



July 3 Anne-Marie Harnett, Ken Stone, Shelley-Jo Talvacchia

July 10 Del and John Hammond, Megan Snee

July 17 Marion Galvin, Linda Harding, Diane Stillman

July 24 Mary Ann and David Siersdale, Jan Palmer-Tarbox

July 31 Nancy Hinchey, Jenn Kanze-Eaton, Rick Sanchez

Kerry Considine is the coordinator for Fellowship Hosts and will call with a reminder the week before your scheduled time. If, for any reason you cannot perform the duties on the date assigned, please call someone else on the list and work out a swap.

If there is an error in the contact information, please contact the church office
(office@firstparishplymouthuu.org / 508-747-1606),
Conley Pierce (c.pierce1@comcast.net / 508-224-8063),
or Anne-Marie Harnett (amh36@hotmail.com / 617-750-9140)

JULY MEETINGS

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, July 2 & 16, 9:00 am
T-Bones, Plymouth Center

RESTORATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 6, 13, 20 & 27, 9:30 am
Parish House

BUDDHIST MEDITATION

Wednesday, July 6, 13, 20 & 27, 7:00 pm
Parish House

SINGING MEDITATION

Wednesday, July 6, 7:00 pm, Parlor

PARISH COMMITTEE

Monday, July 11, 7:00 pm, Parish House

HOSPICE CHOIR

Wednesday, July 13, 20 & 27, 7:00 pm, Parlor

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Sunday, July 17, 8:30 am, Parish House

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 19, 7:30 pm, Parish House

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, July 23, 9:00 am, 3A Café & Bakery
295 Court Street, North Plymouth Center



Jeanne will be in the Church Office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and will be checking the emails on a regular basis.

The Thursday eblasts will continue during the summer. If you have anything you would like in the eblast, please have it in the Church Office by 9:00 am on Thursday morning.

SCRIP CARDS



SCRIP Cards are available during Coffee Hour

If you have any questions or special requests,
please contact Amy Palmer at
apdpalmer@comcast.net

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY



**OUR NEXT COLLECTION OF NON-
PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS, PERSONAL
PRODUCTS AND HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS
FOR THE GREATER PLYMOUTH FOOD
WAREHOUSE WILL BE SUNDAY, JULY
17TH**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CONTACT KERRY CONSIDINE AT
KHCGARDEN1@MSN.COM**

**"There, I guess King George
will be able to read that."**

**John Hancock,
after signing the
Declaration of Independence**



As we begin the process of hiring a new custodian, we need some volunteers to take on simple cleaning tasks in the Church and the Parish House - taking out the trash, cleaning sinks & toilets, sweeping, vacuuming. Any task you can do, any time you can spare would be very much appreciated. For more information, please contact Mr. Building & Grounds, Ron Clarke at 508-866-2429.



HELP WANTED

- Do you have a little extra time each week?
- Would you like to learn more about our Meetinghouse?
- Would you like to make some new friends?
- Do you like to meet new people from all over the country and the world?

If you have 2-1/2 hours that you can spare on Friday or Saturday, First Parish Tours could use your help.

We would like to be able to keep the Meetinghouse open on Fridays and Saturdays. (It's actually a requirement of the Community Preservation Committee that funded the restoration of our stained glass windows that we open the Meetinghouse to the public.)

And it's important to bring as many folks as possible into the Meetinghouse to view its windows and exquisite architecture.

I would love to talk with you about our tours, if you think you may be able to help in any way. It doesn't have to be an every week commitment. Every other week or once a month would also work. Call me at 747-2552, email me at ctarbox38@comcast.net, or speak with me at coffee hour.

Jan Palmer-Tarbox

Tour Season is in Full Swing!



First Parish's 2016 tour season is upon us, and as we do every year, we are extending an invitation out to anyone who might be interested in joining us and volunteering a couple of hours each week or a month to help with tours of the Meetinghouse. Training is provided to all who are interested in conducting tours, or welcoming people at the front desk.

An information table will be set up during Sunday mornings during coffee hour. Please stop by and talk with us about what is involved in being a tour volunteer.

We will be conducting tours every Friday & Saturday (10am 12:30-pm or 12:30 to 3:00 pm) through October.

Julia Rose will be doing the scheduling of volunteers. If you can volunteer, please contact Julia at 508-830-0357. **THANK YOU!!**

The Stained Glass Windows in the “Back” of the Church (Behind the Pulpit)



The placement of the stained glass windows in the “back” of the church (behind the pulpit) is significant, according to the news article during the time of their installation. The center window depicts Pilgrims establishing religious liberty signing the Mayflower Compact. The window on the right is entitled “Religious Liberty, True Fruit of Pilgrim Sowing.” The window on the left states “Civil Liberty The Vital Air of Social Progress” and depicts a soldier. The soldier, however, is not aggressive, and will only draw his sword to defend religious liberty.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified Ads will be accepted for services offered by members and friends of First Parish. Inclusion will be at the discretion of the Administrator based on space available and the nature of the ad. The Church reserves the right to refuse an ad for any reason. Ads can be accepted for non-church related services, such as babysitting, rooms to rent, instructional classes, announcements, etc., and will be charged a nominal rate of \$5 for at 2" x 2" column. Ads for personal property for sale will be charged at the rate of 10% of the proceeds of the sale. (Maryann has generously offered 15%.)



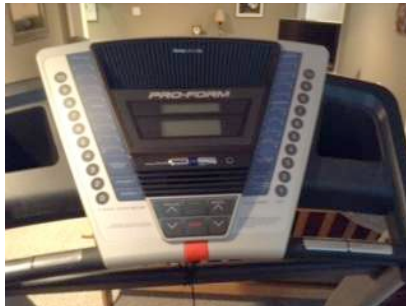
Wrought iron book/ magazine end table. Asking \$25



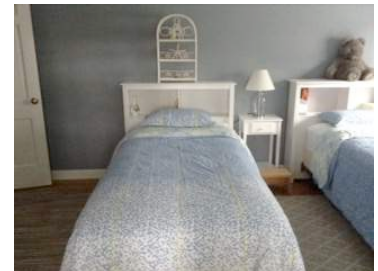
Ladies, left handed Dunlop Nancy Nancy Lopez golf clubs with cart and umbrella! Aslomg \$75 or BO Asking \$75 or BO



Turn of the century Breakfront hutch, 3 glass sides. \$650/BO



Pro Form, Model 680 LT. Has ifit enhanced capability for more programs. All 3 fan speeds work, speaker cable for your personal device, music, movies, etc. Best treadmill ever! If I could take it with me, I would!



Pottery style bookcase headboards with high quality Extra Long Twin mattresses and steel frames. Rarely used by grandkids visiting from out of state. Sheets, comforter set included if you want. Asking \$285 each.



Left: Solid oak antique dresser with original swing beveled mirror and brass hardware, \$250 or BO.

For more information, please contact Mary Ann at mahergen@gmail.com



Brand new flush mouth lamp, \$12

DISTRICT AND OTHER UU EVENTS

RENEWAL HOUSE

Saturday, August 13 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Pinewood Lodge Campground, Plymouth



Join with the UUUM (Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry) for their Annual Renewal House Picnic!

First Parish Duxbury and First Parish Plymouth will once again join forces with First Parish Kingston to help out with this very special day for families that have experienced domestic violence.

The day will begin with a Continental Breakfast at 10:00 am and a Spiritual Fellowship-Friendship Circle. At noon, there will be a cookout and lots of activities throughout the day including: Arts & Crafts for All Ages; Water Play – Swimming, Kayaks, Canoes; Nature Discover; Games; Fishing; and lots more!

ALL ARE WELCOME! There are usually 50-60 guests, and volunteers are needed to help in the activities and to contribute food (salads and desserts are always welcome). Come for the day, or part of the day, and bring your family! Contributions of money toward the purchase of food and activities is also welcome and can be sent to First Parish Church, 222 Main Street, Kingston, MA 02364.

There is an entry fee: 5 and under are free; 5-12 is \$5, 13 and older is \$10. Pinewood Lodge Campground is located off Carver Road (Route 44A) on Pinewood Lake.

Please contact First Parish Kingston at 781-585-3051 or email at kingstonuu@comcast.net



ONE DAY FLASH FICTION WORKSHOP

With Judith Campbell

Saturday, July 9, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

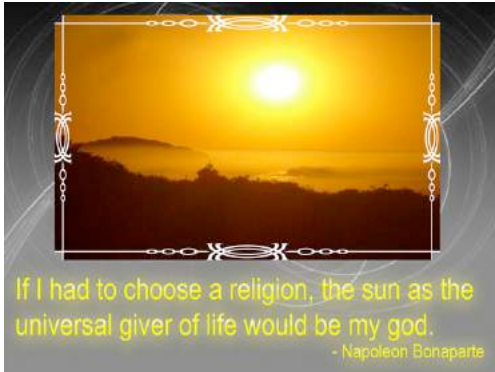
Plymouth Guild for the Arts

11 North Street, Plymouth Center

The flash fiction technique is amazing for getting the “bugs” out of your thinking and your writing as well as jump-starting your creative spirit. In this workshop, you will write a short story in a day. (Yes, you can do it!) There is nothing quite like blasting through a story with the help and support of a season instructor. Bring your laptops (or your notebooks if you prefer to write by hand), your sense of humor and adventure, and your creative spirit. Leave your inhibitions and your negative editor at home.

For more information or to register, please go to <https://plymouthguild.org/classes/session/6/flash-fiction-one-day-workshop-w66676>.

***First Parish in Plymouth
19 Town Square
Plymouth, MA 02360***



***First Parish in Plymouth
“Love is the spirit of this congregation and service its law.”***

***Welcome to First Parish Unitarian Universalist
1606 - 2016***