

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.

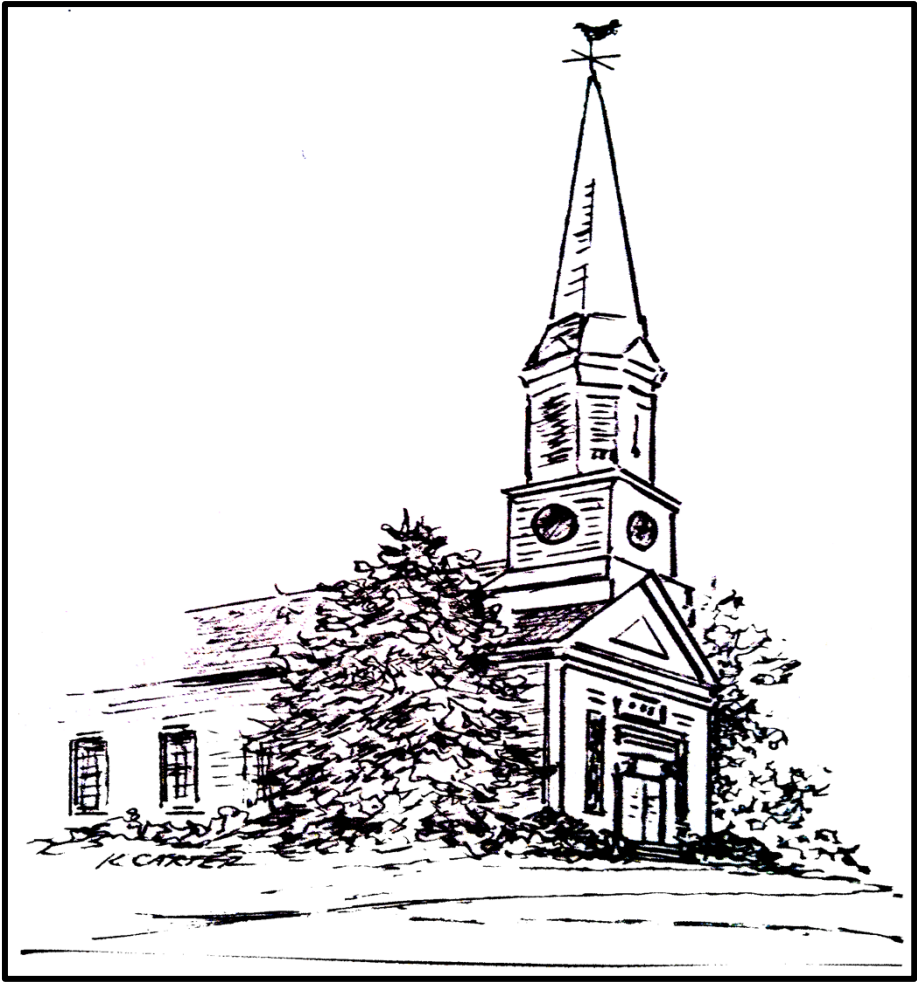
Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child’s image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

Sunday School: Church school will be taking the summer off. During summer worship Deacons can provide activity bags for kids, and nursery space is available downstairs if your family has need of it at any point. As always children of all ages are welcome in worship with us, and baby noises are a source of joy for us all. There is a rocking chair in the narthex if you and your child need to take a moment away and still hear the service on the speaker. Please be sure to return any activity bags at the end of the service. Sunday School will return in September!

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

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1Thessalonians 5:16-18

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025 ~ 10:00AM WORSHIP
BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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

9:45AM HYMN SING

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Eric Dupee

L: Let us praise God, who gives living water so we can flourish.

P: Like trees planted by the water are those who trust in the Lord.

L: Like trees with deep roots are those who place their faith in God.

P: Let us praise God, whose love for us has no beginning and no end.

PRELUDE FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION

Ayre of Four Parts John Dowland (1562-1626)

GATHERING PRAYER *(together)* Mary Nicol

Loving Seamstress, who formed our inward parts and knit us together in the womb: be present here and stitch us together with love. Let the fabric of our life together provide warmth in a cold world and protection for the weary. For Christ’s sake, 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** “SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD” No. 492

A MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

(Children ages 4 and up are invited to go to the church foyer to meet with their Sunday School teachers immediately following the Message for All Ages.)

ANTHEM “COME TO THE WATER” Arr., Jack Schrader (b. 1942)

O let all who thirst, let them come to the water.

And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord.

Let all who toil, and all who are weary, let them come to the Lord.

How can your soul find rest except for the Lord?

Bring the ones who are laden, bring the children without might.

Easy the load and light: come to the Lord.

First Parish Sanctuary Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE Acts 8:14-17 N.T. 110 Mary Nicol

SERMON “How the Spirit Spreads”

CHOIR RESPONSE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS Dialogo per Organo
Adriano Banchieri (1567-1634)

***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** “RAIN DOWN” No. 444

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune *Bonduca*
Henry Purcell (c. 1659-1695)

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 with the message of Peace and Love to all
from Lynne Tocci.



First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ
FAITH FEATURES

THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, January 12th

9:45am Hymn Sing
10am Worship
11:15am Out to Lunch Bunch
11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Monday, January 13th

8am Cardio & Tone
6pm Fellowship in Action

Tuesday, January 14th

8:30am Yoga
6:30pm Assessors Meeting

Wednesday, January 15th

8am Cardio/Strength
9:30 Wednesday Bible Study
4pm Missions and Social Concerns Meeting

Thursday, January 16th

8am Zumba
5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
6pm Sweet Spirit Rehearsal

Friday, January 17th

Saturday, January 18th

Sunday, January 19th

10am Worship
11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
3pm Seacoast Community Chorus Concert



Ministers

All the Members of the Congregation

Leading Worship Today:

Rev. Eric Dupee

Staff

Wendell S. Purrington, Director of Music Ministries

Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate

First Parish Church Lay Leaders

John Covino, Moderator

Kristin Schrimper, Vice Moderator

Ray Hamlin, Treasurer

Susan Mancinelli, Clerk

Coffee Hour: Please come to Fellowship Hall, directly across the one-way road, for refreshments and conversation. All are welcome.

Mitten Tree Success Story: Thank you all for your contributions to the Mitten Tree, and thank you, Deacons, for facilitating the collection. Your kindness, through the hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and blankets, are spreading much needed warmth in York!
Mission Outreach Board

Open Sanctuary: 11am to 1pm everyday. We are excited to share that we have had a number of visitors from the community - not affiliated with our congregation. Some come to pray, to reflect or simply enjoy our historic building. Each person has shared how much they appreciate that we do this. We have a wonderful group of volunteers, if you would like to join us as a greeter, please contact me, Kim Clauson 207-361-7073.

First Parish New Office Hours: Tuesdays 9am-2pm, Wednesdays 9am-12noon, Thursdays 9am-2pm. The Office Manager, Betty Roker will be in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please remember when the office manager is not in the office you can contact her Monday through Friday 8:30am-4pm. Just call the office and leave her a message and she will get back to you immediately.

Fellowship In Action: Silk Art and Rug Hooking Exhibits in Portsmouth - Friday, January 17th

All are welcome to join "Fellowship in Action" (FIA) to see:

1. "Paintings on Silk" exhibit – at 100 Market Street Gallery, Portsmouth.

See varied artwork of 5 York artists, especially the 23 colorful silk paintings by our very own, Sue Wierzba. Then, those interested will go to lunch at 110 Grill, two blocks down the street.

2. "Seacoast Rughookers" exhibit – at Portsmouth Public Library.

After lunch, we will go see the delicate wall hangings and decorative rugs made with tiny strips of wool by Seacoast Ruggers members, including our very own Faith Webster and Susan Mancinelli.

Carpooling from Fellowship Hall at 10:30am. To sign up, contact Kathy McQueeney at 603-380-0598 or kathymcqueeney@hotmail.com by Monday, January 13.

Out to Lunch Bunch: It's the second Sunday of the month. You are invited to join others for lunch just after the service and coffee time (around 11:15am or so). Find someone with an Out to Lunch Bunch sign. Tell them you'd like to come! We will decide on Sunday where to have lunch together. We usually have 14 to 20 people join us and we always have a wonderful time. Hope you will come with us this Sunday.

Recipients of the College Book Stipend: First Parish Diaconate has awarded two recipients each a \$1,000 college book stipend to sisters, Amelia and Charlotte Waldrop, who are first year college students going into their second semester of study.

Charlotte is a student at Endicott College in Massachusetts, majoring in corporate law. Twin sister, Amelia, is studying at the University of Tampa, pursuing her studies as an oncology nurse. May God bless these young women on their journey.

Green News/Tips: Plastic Industry's \$1 million campaign to perpetuate recycling myth. Five reasons plastic recycling fails: 1) Plastic Waste is too widespread to collect. 2) Mixed plastic waste cannot be recycled together. 3) Plastic recycling is wasteful, polluting and a fire hazard. 4) Recycled plastic has huge toxicity risks. 5) Plastic recycling is not economical.