



First Parish Unitarian Church of  
Hubbardston

# The Parish Press

Editor: Nancy J. Hubbard

Fall 2020

## “The Beauty of the Whole”

We gather to worship, our hearts alive with hope that here we will be truly seen, that here we will be welcomed into the garden of this community, where the simple and the elegant, the fluted and frilled, the shy and the dramatic complement one another and are treasured. May we know that here, each contributes in their way to the beauty of the whole. Come let us worship together, all genders, sexualities, politics, clappers and non clappers, progressive or conservative, may we root ourselves in the values of this faith: compassion and courage, transcendence, justice and kindness.

- by *Meg Barnhouse*

### IMPORTANT DATES:

<i>Cancelled</i>	<i>Field Day</i>
<i>Cancelled</i>	<i>Church and Sunday School begins</i>
<i>9-27</i>	<i>Short Service and Annual Meeting 10 am</i>
<i>9-27</i>	<i>Food Collection Begins</i>
<i>Cancelled</i>	<i>Fall Indoor Yard Sale Set-up</i>
<i>Cancelled</i>	<i>Fall Indoor Yard Sale</i>
<i>11-10</i>	<i>Food Collection Ends</i>
<i>11-27 to 11-28</i>	<i>Laurel Wreath Making 9 am to 4 pm</i>
<i>12-4</i>	<i>Gingerbread Fair Set-up 7 pm</i>
<i>12-5</i>	<i>Gingerbread Fair -Pre Order Pick Up 9 am to 3 pm</i>
<i>12-12</i>	<i>Pioneer Valley Brass Quintet 5:30 pm</i>
<i>12-24</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Service 5 pm</i>

Pianist: Nathan Legere  
Cancelled

Sunday School - Cancelled

Church -

**How to contact us:**  
01452

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Church Phone:  
978-928-5822  
Church email:  
fpuhoh@gmail.com



Websites:  
[www.hubbardstonunitarian.org](http://www.hubbardstonunitarian.org)  
[www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)  
[www.cbd.uua.org](http://www.cbd.uua.org)

**The Annual Community Giving Campaign for the 2020-2021 Church year is now underway** – This annual appeal USUALLY helps to determine the programs and projects in the next fiscal year. COVID has thrown us all for a loop – and meeting our basic expenses is our current challenge. Please return your community gift or pledge forms as soon as possible. We are very grateful for the financial support received during this crazy time. You may mail your tax-deductible contributions to the Church at: P.O. Box 509. For further information on giving and membership, please contact any Parish Committee Member.

We are so grateful to the generous donations received recently through the Annual Community Giving Campaign – as well as the donations received earlier in the late Spring to help meet our expenses – in our e-mail outreach.

**A big shout out of Appreciation** – to Lisa Kirk, DivM whose Ordination in May 2020 at our church would have been one of the highlights of the church year. Unfortunately, we agreed to cancel and hope to reschedule in May of 2021. Lisa kept our congregation in her thoughts and prayers by staying in contact and sending us and the local newspapers messages of hope and encouragement. We hope you saw them.

**Field Day** – a pared down event is planned for Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday Services Resumes** – Ok, not really. We are abiding with the recommendation received by the UUA to hold off on gatherings until 2021, including weekly services. Our attendees are mostly in the high risk COVID group, so for us this will be good advice.

**Sunday School Resumes** – again, fooled you! Our little Sunday School group has also decided to hold off until 2021.

**Annual Meeting – September 27<sup>th</sup>** – The Annual Meeting of the church will be held after a short lay led service – service at 10 am. The agenda includes election of officers, presentation of annual reports, membership review, ministerial concerns and new and old business. Please try to attend this meeting. This is the most important meeting for our Church governance. Weather dependent it will be held outside, or downstairs with appropriate distancing and mask wearing.

Other dates that we have tentative plans for include:

<b>Sept</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Short Lay Led Service And Annual Meeting</i>
<b>Dec.</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Gingerbread Fair Pre-Order Pick up</i>
	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Pioneer Valley Brass, SSVM</i>
	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Christmas Eve (5pm)</i>

**Fall Indoor Yard Sale** – cancelled

**Trick or Treat at the Church Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.** We are hoping that this fun town event does not get cancelled – but at this point it is unknown. Please contact the Hubbardston Police Department closer to the date for the exact time of Trick or Treat or a cancellation.

**Cord of Wood Raffle** – The Church is continuing our cord of wood raffle. The wood has been generously donated by Chris Pirner. The drawing will be held at the Gingerbread Fair – (NOTE THE CHANGE) on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. We have enclosed 4 tickets for the cord wood raffle. Chances are \$3/1 and \$10/4. Please return the sold ticket stubs or mail them to P.O. Box 509 before December 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Quilt Raffle**– A handmade baby crib sized quilt will be raffled this year. Our usual talented and generous quilt artist was unable to make the beautiful quilt we have all been used to seeing on our raffle. COVID required Carol to work all summer at the QRHS kitchens keeping students fed, another noble activity for our community.

We have received a beautiful crib sized quilt to raffle, with a touch of embroidery on the top.

Tickets may be requested and will be included in a later newsletter closer to the Holidays. The tickets are \$3.00 for one and \$10.00 for four. The drawing of the winning ticket will be Dec 5<sup>th</sup> at The Gingerbread Fair.

**Spring 1-20 Club Winners** – Spring 2020 \$50 winners were:

1. Beth Tupor
2. Sue Flagg
3. Steve and Bev Higley
4. Lodia Dembek
5. Diane Watkins
6. Elaine Rodecki
7. Jason Ward
8. Bill Shea
9. Lorna Rivers
10. Donna Shea
11. Cassie Cormier
12. Todd Marean

The final \$50 winner was David Girourd. The final two \$100 winners were Charlie & Pat Woodward and Carol Hubbard-Kelley. The final \$150 winner was Valerie Robinson. Thank you all for your continued support.

**Fall 2020 Round of 1-20 TICKETS ON SALE NOW** – Each ticket is \$20. One winner of \$50 will be drawn for each of 12 weeks. In addition to the 12 weekly drawings, there are 4 drawings done the final week for: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – \$150, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – \$100, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – \$100 and 4<sup>th</sup> Prize – \$50. You may contact Barbara Hubbard to purchase a ticket. This money benefits our Restoration and Renovation Fund.

**Gingerbread Fair** – Always the first Saturday in December – This year the fair is Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> Due to COVID we are planning a smaller Holiday Sale, with pre-orders of some of the usual items. How could we let the Holidays go by without being able to depend on the beautiful Wreaths, Swags, Holiday Boxes, and a few other things to be determined – spices, jelly, fudge and Finnish Coffee breads. A Pre-Order form will be included with the Holiday Parish Press for more information. Please help us spread the word and reserve your favorite items.

Pre-orders will be assembled, and you will be able to pick your items up during designated times, to be determined.

**Pioneer Valley Brass Quintet Free Concert** – The Church will host a free performance by the Pioneer Valley Brass Quintet on Saturday December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM. The quintet includes trumpets, horns, trombones and a tuba. The concert includes an array of our favorite holiday songs. These services are given to any church desiring a musical service of high quality at the vesper hour. This musical organization was formed when the towns of the Quabbin Reservoir were flooded. The First Universalist Parish of Dana established a trust fund to keep the memory of North Dana and their church alive. Light refreshments to follow. Let's hope for better weather, last year was a winter wonderland with low attendance.

We hope this tradition does not have to be cancelled. It is a wait and see situation concerning COVID.

**Contact updates** – Please send us your e-mail address, we are collecting them and hope to implement electronic newsletters and mailings to save money – once we get enough to make it work. If you change your address, either U.S. Mail or email, please let us know. You may email Nancy at: [hopkinson34@charter.net](mailto:hopkinson34@charter.net), directly to the church email at [fpucoh@gmail.com](mailto:fpucoh@gmail.com) or send a written note to the Church at P.O. Box 509, Hubbardston MA 01452. Thank you.

**Community Food Collection** – Beginning Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> and ending Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, the Church will be collecting food to be given out to Hubbardston families in need. You may drop off your canned and/or non-perishable foods any time the Church is open, or call 978-928-5822 to make arrangements

**Fuel Assistance** – With the high cost of fuel oil, many folks could use help paying their fuel bill. The fuel assistance office for North Central Massachusetts is located at 473 Main St. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Fitchburg, MA. For eligibility information call: 978-342-4520.

**Thank YOU** – Huge thanks to Bill Homans for obtaining and spreading more road pavement grindings from the Rte 68 improvements on the road and parking lot into the church. Great Job, Bill! We all appreciate the thoughtful work and effort.

**Joys & Concerns** – the past few months

Keep in your hearts the family of Evelyn Johnson, long time resident of town missed by her sister Roberta Kenda and their very large family. She had an amazing long run of 102 years. The family has requested donations in her memory to our church. Thank you to all who remembered Evelyn in this way. We are all grateful.

Sadly, we remember the passing of Marion King, Diane Watkin's mom at the amazing age of 91. Diane and family are extremely disheartened to lose this sweet woman, mom, grandma and great grandma to the COVID pandemic.

Earlier, this summer we remember our long-time church member and friend, Ken Green, who had been residing with his son Mark and family in North Carolina. He is missed by his very large family. We are grateful for the help he gave to the church over his lifetime.

On a happier note – Congratulations to Dr. Robin Hopkinson, who graduated this May from the MCPHS in Worcester with a degree in Pharmacy.

Also, Congratulations to Rose Kelly who obtained her BS from Fitchburg State University, Magna Cum Laude in Biology and Environmental Science.

**Parish Committee** – The Parish Committee continues to be very busy. They meet most every Tuesday at 4:30 pm over the Facebook Messenger platform and have been working out the details of the many issues that the Church has to deal with. If you need to contact any of them, please refer to the following list or send an email to [fpucoh@gmail.com](mailto:fpucoh@gmail.com).

Carol Whitney: Pres.	978-928-3748
Barbara Hubbard: Treas.	978-928-4475
Carol Hubbard-Kelley: VP	978-928-4473
Diane Watkins: VP	978-621-5523
Nancy Hubbard: Clerk	978-928-5964

