



First Parish Unitarian Church of Hubbardston



The Parish Press

Editor: Nancy J. Hubbard

Fall 2021

“Blessings on Those Staying Home”

(shortened to fit this space)

We’re staying home.
Love has never asked this of us before.
We’re staying home, this is our gift to humanity.
Let us wish each other well.

May you grow a deeper understanding of your own worth. May you find moments of patience and grace in your relationships. May you remember to take breaks. May you find humor and compassion in your days. May you all remember the deep love that brought your family into being. May there be peace and understanding in your home.

May you be well.
May we be well.
May it be so.

- by **Linda Barnes**

IMPORTANT DATES:

9/18	Field Day
Cancelled	Church and Sunday School begins
9-26	Virtual Annual Meeting 10 am
Cancelled	Fall Indoor Yard Sale Set-up
Cancelled	Fall Indoor Yard Sale
11-26 to 11-27	Laurel Wreath Making 9 am to 4 pm
12-3	Gingerbread Fair Set-up 7 pm
12-4	Gingerbread Fair -Pre Order Pick Up 9 am to 1 pm
12-11	Pioneer Valley Brass Quintet 5:30 pm
12-24	Christmas Eve Service 5 pm

Pianist: Please Inquire

Sunday School - Cancelled

Church - Cancelled

How to contact us:

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

First Parish Unitarian Church, Box 509, Hubbardston, MA 01452



Websites:
www.hubbardstonunitarian.org
www.uua.org
www.cbd.uua.org

The Annual Community Giving Campaign for the 2021-2022 Church year is now underway – This annual appeal USUALLY helps to determine the programs and projects in the next fiscal year. COVID is still with us and it seems things will get worse again this fall. 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 very grateful to the generous donations received recently through the Annual Community Giving Campaign. Additional donations can still be sent to help with the expenses of the building. Even with no one there, the bills need to be paid – lawnmowing and insurance are our big expenses. Thanks in advance.

Field Day – is planned for Saturday September 18th. The Church will have a table with Spices, some homemade fudge and cookies as well as Quilt and Cordwood Raffle Tickets. Fall 120 Club tickets will be available for pick up, as well. Please consider taking a second ticket for more chances at winning and helping the church out at the same time. Being outside, as we know there is less risk of transmission of the Covid virus involved with gatherings, wearing a mask when interacting will reduce your risk even more -outside or inside.

The BABY CONTEST is ON!! The church sponsored event that all look forward to is happening at Field Day. Carol and Brianna Whitney are organizing the event with several categories which will be awarded certificates, including a King and Queen with \$25 prize for each top selection.

Sunday Services Resumes – Ok, not really. We are AGAIN abiding with the recommendation received by the UUA to limit gatherings. Our attendees are mostly in the high risk COVID group, so for us this will be good advice. We will reassess for the Holidays, so stay tuned.

Sunday School Resumes – again, fooled you! Our little Sunday School group has also decided to hold off for now, as well.

Annual Meeting – September 26th – The Annual Meeting of the church will a virtual meeting using facebook messenger – at 10 am. The agenda includes election of officers, presentation of annual reports, membership review, ministerial concerns, and new and old business. This is the most important meeting for our Church governance.

Other dates that we have tentative plans for include:

Dec.	4th	<i>Gingerbread Fair</i> <i>Pre-Order Pick up</i>
	11th	<i>Pioneer Valley Brass, SSVM</i>
	24th	<i>Christmas Eve (5pm)</i>

Fall Indoor Yard Sale – cancelled

Trick or Treat at the Church Sunday, October 31st.
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 annual cord of wood raffle. The wood has been generously donated by Chris Pirner. The drawing will be held at the Gingerbread Fair – again this year, on December 4th at the close of fair. Chances are \$3/1 and \$10/4.

Quilt Raffle– A handmade “Bits of Blue” Queen Size quilt will be raffled this year. Handmade by Dotty Higgins, a friend of Diane Watkin’s it is a beautiful treasure for any bed to showcase. The tickets are \$3.00 for one and \$10.00 for four. The drawing of the winning ticket will be Dec 4th at The Gingerbread Fair.

Call or email to request tickets if none are enclosed with your newsletter. We are trying to keep costs down and only enclosing tickets to those who typically buy them.

Spring 1-20 Club Winners – Spring 2021 \$50 winners were:

1. Carol Salmier
2. Carol Whitney
3. Ken & Judy Wiinikka
4. Fran Ward
5. Carol Whitney
6. Peter & Jayne Hallock
7. Sue Vaida
8. Amy Hopkinson
9. Gabby Watkins
10. Barbara Hubbard
11. Elaine Rodecki
12. Lori Comeau

The final \$50 winners were Greg & Joyce Crevedi and Lorna Rivers The final \$100 winner was Cindy Sama The final \$150 winner was Karen Marean. Thank you all for your continued support.

Fall 2021 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: 1st Prize – \$150, 2nd Prize – \$100, 3rd Prize – \$50 and 4th Prize – \$50. You may contact Diane Watkins to purchase a ticket.

Gingerbread Fair – Always the first Saturday in December – This year the fair is Saturday, December 4th Due to COVID we are planning a smaller Holiday Sale, with pre-orders of some of the usual items, as we did last year. 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 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 on the day of the Fair.

Pioneer Valley Brass Quintet Free Concert – The Church will host a free performance by the Pioneer Valley Brass Quintet on Saturday December 11th 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.

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

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, directly to the church email at fpucoh@gmail.com or send a written note to the Church at P.O. Box 509, Hubbardston MA 01452. Thank you.

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. 3rd Floor, Fitchburg, MA. For eligibility information call: 978-342-4520.

Thank YOU – Huge thanks to Heather Kenney for holding a TUPPERWARE FUNDRAISING PARTY – all proceeds were donated in May to the church. If you need more Tupperware, give her a shout. Thank you so much Heather and all who participated for your support.

Joys & Concerns –

Keep in your hearts the family of Dorothy Valley, who passed away last month. Sadly, her husband Paul also passed away in the spring. Our condolences to their children, Jay, Todd and Eric and their families for losing both parents so close together. Donations in both Dotty's and Paul's memory have been received by the church.

On a happier note –

Congratulations to Robb Ward and Tracy Caron on the arrival of Vera Caron Ward, her big sister Lucy is so proud.

Abigail Taylor and Justin Sevigny have a new bouncing Tristen Taylor Sevigny and big sister Layla likes him just fine.

Sarah and Michael Nichols welcomed an additional son Ean Paul Nichols, who has Ella, Ethan and Eli to teach him the ropes. Welcome, welcome to all the little ones. We can't wait to meet each one of you.

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 involve our Church. If you need to contact any of them, please refer to the following list or send an email to fpucoh@gmail.com.

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