

 The First Church and Parish in Dedham

[www.dedhamuu.org](http://www.dedhamuu.org)

Volume CXXXVII, No 3 January & February 2017

Worship in January & February

Worship at 10 am in the Dining Room

to reduce our carbon footprint

**Sunday, January 1, 2017**

**“What does it mean to you to be a person?”**

**Donna Dolham, Ministerial Intern will preach**

As we catch our breath from the business of the holiday season, what are the ways we can center ourselves toward the direction of what it means to us to be a “spiritual, faithful or religious person.” In the New Year, as we engage with the world, what intentions will we make, what do we need to let go of? Please join us for this multigenerational service filled with song, story and a ritual of intention and release.

**Sunday, January 8, 2016**

**Joseph Priestly**

**The Rev. Rali M. Weaver will preach.**

This Sunday we will explore the life and thoughts of the Rev. Joseph Priestly 18th Century theologian and scientist and his impact on the Enlightenment.

**Sunday, January 15, 2017**

**Facing the Inconvenient Truth**

**The Rev. Rali M. Weaver will preach**

What are the hard truths we must confront if we want to make the world a better place and how in this current climate can we tell the differences between truth and falsehood.

**Sunday, January 22, 2017**

**Magic and Merlin**

**The Rev Rali M. Weaver will preach**

What might the Myths of Merlin have to offer us and how might we be able to infuse our lives with more magic in the coming year?

\*After church at 12 pm Victor Kingsley will offer a presen-

tation titled the Senior Tsunami. Lunch will be provided.

**Sunday, January 29, 2017**

**In the Face of Doubt**

**Donna Dolham, Ministerial Intern**

**will preach**

Most of us have faced a time in our lives when we might have believed or been told that we wouldn’t be able to accomplish something, that what we hoped for was not within our reach. How do we embody our Unitarian Universalist faith as we live our lives in the face of doubt? This Sunday we will explore courage, determination and belief through the life of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell.

**Sunday, February 5, 2017**

**Collaboration and the Common Good**

**The Rev. Rali M. Weaver will preach**

How might collaboration in local communities help to liberate us from the negative effects of globalization? What avenues are available for working together for the Common Good of all? We will collect Guest at your table boxes during worship on this Sunday.

**Sunday, February 12, 2017**

**Faith of a Larger Liberty**

**The Rev. Rali M. Weaver will preach**

What does our liberal faith offer us to feed our souls for the future? And how might we spread our liberal faith for the betterment of the world?

**Sunday, February 19, 2017**

**Hymn Sing**

Come sing your favorite hymns. You choose!

**Saturday, February 26, 2017**

**Signs Symbols and Ritual**

**The Rev. Rali M. Weaver will preach**

What are the benefits of signs and symbols and ritual to ground ourselves and spur us to living more fully?

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If you do not receive the Weekly Email or would like an electronic version of the Parish Record or a print-out of an Order of Worship, please contact the church office: firstchurch@dedhamuu.org or 781-326-7463

**From Our Minister**

In January we will be facing some hard truths; truths about the future of our country and our environment and our world. Let’s start the New Year right by considering the things we can change and the historical truths that will help us forge a bright future.

As many of you know I had taken a year off my PhD studies at the California Institute of Integral Studies. Well, this semester I am going back to begin my dissertation proposal. I am working on a study of how small church vitality is improved by collaboration and grass roots organizing. I have seen how our church community has grown as we have been more involved in our community and I hope to write a dissertation that will support the truths we have discovered as we have become a more hospitable presence in our community. If you have collaborations you would like to propose in the coming year, I am all ears.

Our Church community is also engaged in growing deeper. I hope most, if not all, of you have been able to attend a Friendship Dinner this fall and early winter and I hope you are well on your way to attending your second. Reaching out requires that we also reach in, so that we may offer a strong and sustainable church community for all of us. Church is not just what we do in worship but it happens everywhere and that is why we must all be involved in deepening our bonds so that when new people enter there is something to hold them. If you have not been involved in a Friendship Dinner but would like to, be please contact me or the church office.

The Parish Committee has set a goal of reviving and sustaining the Committees of this church. On February 5th we will have a Community College of Committees giving each of you a chance after worship to witness what happens in the Committees. We hope you will plan to stay after worship on that day. The Parish Committee has also been working to set up a Leadership Training for all members of the church. A District Executive will be here to lead us and I hope everyone will plan on participating whether that have served in the past or are currently involved in a committee or have never yet been involved. This leadership workshop will help us to explore the meaning of leadership in a community like ours and how to make the work of the church more sustainable for our future.

In January we will begin our community read of: The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander. We will begin discussion groups in early March. If you would like to get involved in helping to lead a discussion group, please let me know.

We will also be continuing our Justice Film Series in February. If you would like to be involved in facilitating discussions after the films, please let me know.

There as many ways to get involved in our church as there are all of you. I look forward to seeing you all in church.

Rali

The Rev. Rali M. Weaver

Office Hours: (Monday Day off) Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9-2, Friday Sermon Writing

Rev. Weaver will be away from Christmas Day until New Year’s Day

And by appointment 617-459-5979 raliweaver@dedhamuu.org

**From Grace Peña- Acting Director of Religious Education**

The new Children’s Religious Education program has been running smoothly.  The children are now acclimated to our new routine.  It has been great to carry the theme of the Children’s Message that they get from Rali (which is also the theme of Rali’s service) through to our activities.  The best part is that the kids are also having a fun time!

Some of the themes in Children’s Religious Education in November and December were *Kindness*, *Serenity and Courage Beget Wisdom* before we moved into our Advent themes of *Hope, Joy* and *Love*. The rest of the Sundays were filled with such special events as our shared service with the Allin Church, crafts for the Holly Faire and rehearsal for and performance of *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. As you can see there was a lot to celebrate in November and December!

Another special event was our annual *Kids’ Holiday Shopping Night* on December 15, 2016. I have to thank Judy Barrington for organizing and hosting this event for 4-10 year olds every year.  The kids have a great night of shopping, gift wrapping, a pizza dinner topped off with hot chocolate and cookies!  This year they also all cut out snowflakes which now adorn the R.E. bulletin board.

*Neighboring Faiths* had their final study of Thai Buddhism.  They had two students who were visiting from Thailand and studying at Dana Hall come to their class to discuss their faith. The class followed that lesson with a visit to Wat Nawamintararachutis, a Thai Temple in Raynham. In January they will have their final class to discuss all of the faiths that they studied in 2016.

The Middle School Youuth Group gathered for a Disco Badminton Night which included decorating cupcakes.  The cupcakes were then sold at the following Sunday’s coffee hour as a fundraiser for the group.  As always, our kind and generous congregation helped the youth group raise $80 which will go towards their future events. They also had a fun night at Launch Trampoline Park in Norwood.

The High School Youuth Group went to a showing of *Nosferatu* which was accompanied by live music.  What fun!!

Both groups participated in the Dedham Food Pantry Turkey Give-away in November.  They spent a Friday night cooking delicious soup and apple crisp which they then served as a lunch for those patrons of the Pantry that were waiting to get their turkeys.  There was a special treat at that event with a musical performance by Brontide which included our own Jim Duncan!

To wrap up the youth groups activities in December, both groups will be going ice skating over the school break.  I want to give a big “Thank You” to Steve and Ria Davey for heading up the youth groups and organizing such wonderful events and awesome community service activities!

In January we will have the start of O.W.L. for grades 5-6 facilitated by Kerrie Gallagher and Tom Donaghey and O.W.L. for grades 7-9 facilitated by Lisa Pilat and Josh Langmead.  Lots to look forward to!

As always, if you have any questions, suggestions, and/or concerns regarding Children’s Religious Education, please feel free to contact me at gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org. My office hours are Sundays 8:30 am-12:00 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00 am-2:00 pm and Fridays 9:00 am-2:00 pm.

With love, Grace

Our Acting DRE is Grace Peña. You may reach her at gracepenadre@dedhamuu.org or at

781-801-9857

***January 22nd at 12 pm after worship***

***Victor Kingsley will offer a free workshop discussion on***

***Senior Life Transitions and Care Navigation:***

***A seminar on the realities of senior care transitions,***

***for seniors and adult children of seniors.***

***A light lunch will be provided.***

***Contact Rev. Rali Weaver for details 6117 459 5979***

***raliweaver@dedhamuu.org***

***From Donna Dolham our Ministerial Intern***

Greetings!

 Three months have flown by with you! As I wrap up my fall semester and prepare for the final classes of my Masters of Divinity at Andover Newton Theological School, I’ve been reflecting on what a journey it’s been. First Church and Parish has welcomed me into Sunday services, coffee hour, and work of social justice, the Holly Fair and congregational life in general. I’ve had opportunities to witness and feel the love you have for each other and the life of the church.

 As we continue to get to know each other I’d like to let you know who my teaching parish committee is: Geoff Tegnell, Susan White, Kathy Elefterakis, David Calandrella and Karen Donaghey. They are wonderful guides and supports as I find my way forward in this internship time.

 As the New Year arrives, I look forward to more opportunities like the “Out of Many, One; An interfaith call for Dignity and Diligence” event on December 11th, where a group from our congregation joined 2600 other people from around the greater Boston area at the Islamic Society of Boston Community Center. This was a powerful opportunity to witness with other people who are also interested in building bridges together toward community healing and resilience. As people shared their stories, prayers, hopes and work, my heart nearly burst. I was reminded of why I want to do ministry. It’s all about the people!

 If you’d like to meet with me, share conversation and/or stories about the life of the congregation please feel free to contact me by e-mail or phone. The spring semester, I will be spending Sunday through Thursday evenings in MA and I look forward to engaging with you.

**Adult Religious Education Opportunity! Discover your Spiritual Type**

When: Tuesday Evening @ 6 pm – 7:30 pm

Beginning February 7th for 4 consecutive weeks

Where: First Church and Parish

Class size: Maximum 10 to 12 people, please sign up by contacting Donna or signing the class notification sheet on our community bulletin board.

Topic: Discover Your Spiritual Type!

Based off of the work of Corinne Ware, Donna Dolham (ministerial intern) will facilitate an opportunity for you to appreciate and build upon your spirituality type. Corrine Ware poses this question: “Who am I as a spiritual person and what difference does it make?” This class will invite you into self-reflection, deep listening, and opportunities for sharing. Please contact Donna Dolham @ ddolham@tds.net or by phone: 207 701-1581 (note, this is my only phone and has an outgoing “business” message).

**Please watch our calendar in the Order of Worship and All Church email**

**and check the website** [**www.dedhamuu.org**](http://www.dedhamuu.org)

**to stay up to date about upcoming events.**

***The Founding of the Dedham Food Pantry***

Founding of the Pantry  at First Church, Corrinne Lewis was inspired by Bruce Kennedy's sermon on hunger on October 15,1989. On Nov 8th the Evening Alliance of First Church met with one of the founders of the Norwood Pantry to explain how they started. Members reached out to the community for support in starting a pantry. 0n January 24, 1990, representatives from schools, churches, social services and town departments met and formed committees to work out the details. The Dedham Food Pantry became a legal entity in Sept. and opened on October 6, 1990.

First Church has volunteered to help staff the pantry every year sincethen.  Our Saturday dates for the first half of this year are on February 4 and May 6. The pantry is open 8 to 11. We need 5 to 6 people to take the clients around to shop. If you have never helped before there will be training given that morning. Look for sign up sheets about a month ahead. We will do one more Saturday in the fall, but the date is to be determined.

If you are not able to do Saturday's, there are other ways to help. Shelves are stocked every Thursday from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. Just show up and they will put you to work. If you are free from 1:30 to 3:00 pm on the second or fourth Wednesdays, you can help seniors with their shopping. Contact Jack Sennott if you want help on those days. Food donations can be dropped off when the pantry is open or placed in the container in the Parish House lobby.

Students 14 and over who need community service credits can sign up online at [dedhamfoodpantry.org](http://dedhamfoodpantry.org/).

Fruitful Offerings started by Ann Miranda, offers the pantry clients plants and containers to grow their own vegetables and as well as cooking classes. Contact Ann if you like to help her with this worthwhile endeavor.

For more information contact the following people:

Pam Aist, First Church Volunteer Coordinator,

Carol Dixon, Trustee,

Ann Miranda, Trustee,

Dedham Food Pantry

**The First Church Women’s Alliance**

**The Women’s Alliance 1881 to 2016**

**135 Years of Service and Friendship**

**UU women getting things done!**

The Women’s Alliance has had a busy fall. Thanks to everyone who supported our Apple Pie Sale in November. The proceeds of our pie sale went toward increasing our Star Island scholarship from $800 to $1000. This scholarship is given to First Church members or groups who will be attending a conference on Star Island during the 2017 season. For more information on Star Island see: www.starisland.org.

On Sunday, February 5th the Women’s Alliance will be hosting a potluck lunch for the congregation. It will take place right after church in lieu of coffee hour. Everyone is invited, if possible, bring a dish to share. If not, please come, there’s always food for everyone. After lunch there will be a speaker from Star Island. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Star Island. If you are interested in applying for the Star Island Scholarship please contact one of the Alliance Board Members (Carol Dixon, Susan White, Pam Aist, Beppy Martin, Joan Wislocki, Jane Kelly, Susan Sennott, or Tam Johnson-Hellegers).

All First Church women are invited to join the Women’s Alliance. Please contact one of the board members listed above if you are interested in joining. Providing the reception for the Food Pantry Christmas Dinner Distribution was our December project and the Potluck will be our February project. *Our next general meeting is on Sunday, March 12th at 11:30 am in the Alliance Room. At this meeting Ann Miranda will be speaking about Fruitful Offerings.*

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**Membership Committee is reviving Friendship Dinners**

If you have not yet received an invitation please notify the church office.

firstchurch@dedhamuu.org

We want everyone to have an opportunity to participate.

**Civic Engagement at First Church**

The Dedham Food Pantry

First Church is signed up for volunteering on February 4 and May 6

Please watch the bulletin board and all church email for details

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**The Corruption in our Democracy**

Fred Van Deusen, a member of First Parish in Concord, Massachusetts, is looking for a member of our congregation who is interested in working on the latest UUA Congregational Study Action Issue (CSAI): The Corruption of our Democracy (voted on at General Assembly, 2016).

First Parish in Concord began studying this issue last year as an important part of the work they have been doing on the prior UUA CSAI of “Escalating Inequality”.  It has become clear to them that we need to raise everyone’s knowledge about the impact of big money on our political system, our democracy, and on our rights as individuals.  Many of our other social justice activities, including environmental activism, race relations and reducing gun violence, are hamstrung by the negative impact of money in politics.  We must change this to move forward.

They are hoping, by getting representatives from each congregation, we will build momentum that will move this issue forward.  They will be using email and an on-line video conference tool to enable our work together.

If you are interested in getting involved please contact Rev. Rali Weaver at 617-459-5979 or raliweaver@dedhamuu.org

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Coming in January:

Watch your All Church email and your order of service for our next All Church Reads of:

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness. Copies will be available for purchase or borrow in January.

If you would be interested in helping plan the February Justice Film Series please contact Rev. Rali Weaver raliweaver@dedhamuu.org. 617 459 5979

Our theme this year is Social Activism.

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 **Guest at your Table Boxes:** The Guest at your table boxes were given out in in December and will be collected during worship on February 5th.

### On January 21, 2017, 11 am – 3 pm We will join Boston to march in solidarity with communities most affected by the hate, intolerance and acts of violence being perpetrated throughout the nation—among many are communities of women, immigrants, people of color, and people who identify as LGBTQIA. Together, we will send a message to our leaders and the world that the United States of America stands for love. We will meet on that day at First Church at 9am for breakfast and then to head for the march. If you have questions contact The Rev. Rali Weaver 617-459-5979 or raliweaver@dedhamuu.org.

**February SUNDAY MATINEE Justice Film Series**

SUNDAY, FEBURARY 5, 2017 at 2 pm

FIERCE LIGHT: WHEN SPIRIT MEETS ACTION (1:30 pm) is a 2008 documentary film written and directed by [Velcrow Ripper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Velcrow_Ripper%22%20%5Co%20%22Velcrow%20Ripper) that focuses on Spiritual Activism. Fueled by the belief that “another world” is possible, Ripper explores the stories of people who have turned to spiritual activism as a means to cope with personal and global crises. The film contains interviews from [Daryl Hannah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daryl_Hannah), [Thich Nhat Hanh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thich_Nhat_Hanh%22%20%5Co%20%22Thich%20Nhat%20Hanh), [Desmond Tutu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desmond_Tutu), [Julia Butterfly Hill](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julia_Butterfly_Hill), [Van Jones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Van_Jones), [Alice Walker](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alice_Walker), [Joanna Macy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joanna_Macy), [Noah Levine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noah_Levine) and [John Lewis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Lewis_%28Georgia_politician%29). Others featured include [Michael Beckwith](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Beckwith), [Sera Beak](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Sera_Beak&action=edit&redlink=1), [Ralph Nader](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ralph_Nader) among many others such as the original inspiration for the film, [Brad Will](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brad_Will).

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2017 at 2 pm

THE SQUARE (1:35) is a 2013 Egyptian-American [documentary film](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Documentary_film) by [Jehane Noujaim](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jehane_Noujaim%22%20%5Co%20%22Jehane%20Noujaim), which depicts the ongoing [Egyptian Crisis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Egyptian_Crisis_%282011%E2%80%9314%29) until 2013, starting with the [Egyptian Revolution of 2011](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Egyptian_Revolution_of_2011) at [Tahrir Square](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tahrir_Square). The film was nominated for the [Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Documentary_Feature) at the [86th Academy Awards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/86th_Academy_Awards). It also won three Emmy Awards at the [66th Primetime Creative Arts Emmy Awards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/66th_Primetime_Creative_Arts_Emmy_Awards), out of four for which it was nominated.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2017 at 2 pm

 THE GARDEN (1:20) is a 2008 American [documentary film](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Documentary_film) directed by Scott Hamilton Kennedy. It tells the story of the now demolished [South Central Farm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Central_Farm); a community garden and [urban farm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urban_farm) located in [Los Angeles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Angeles), [California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California). The Garden details the plight of the farmers who organized and worked on the farm. The owner of the lot decided he didn't want to allow the farmers to use it anymore, and had the garden bulldozed. The film was nominated for an [Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Documentary_Feature) on January 22, 2009.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017 at 2 pm

DEFYING THE NAZIS: THE SHARP’S WAR (1:30) Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War tells the story of a daring rescue mission that occurred on the precipice of World War II. It tells the previously untold account of Waitstill and Martha Sharp, an American minister and his wife from Wellesley, Massachusetts, who left their children behind in the care of their parish and boldly committed to a life-threatening mission in Europe. Over two dangerous years they helped save scores of imperiled Jews and refugees fleeing the Nazi occupation across Europe.

**October/November Parish Committee Minutes**

Minutes of the Parish Committee Meeting

October 3, 2016

Present:

Julia Gecha, Natalie Jensen, Kathy Elefterakis, Geoff Tegnell, Andrea Gilmore, Cindy Jones, Debbie Harrison, Noreen King, Matt Grady, Audrey Cecil, Rali Weaver

Meeting called to order: 7:40 p.m. (following executive session)

Minutes of September 12, 2016

--Motion to approve minutes --seconded—voted---approved

Minister’s Report—Rali Weaver

--See written report

--Busy month; many visitors and returning friends; wedding; pet blessing; planning ahead

--Donna Dolham started listening circles to meet people

Director of RE Report—written report of Grace Pena

--New children’s RE curriculum started and going well

Treasurer’s Report—Cindy Jones

--Income:

 --Pledges on target

 --Parish House water high

 --Trash removal high (cleaned out basement)

 --No new significant changes

--Expenses:

 --Movie and bikers: good income

--No significant changes

--Overall: $7,000 over budget

--Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report--seconded---voted---accepted

Fundraising Committee update—Cindy Jones

--See written report

--Nov. 4 Coloring Night and Dec. 16 John Muratore Concert planned

Action Item Follow-up

--Cindy sent reports to Auditors; Deacons to send their reports soon

--Debbie wrote and signed letters for Kathy (for Dedham Savings Bank)

--Kathy to open accounts at Dedham Savings this week

--Geoff met with Bay State Learning: August rent is paid; 25 students; need upgrade electric box

--Rali asked Pat to request water/sewer inspection and to deposit money from movie people

--Committee completed chart regarding goal of strengthening committees

--Building Use Committee met tonight to review long term users; goal of more consistent policy

Committee Summer Reading Book: How The Way We Talk Can Change The Way We Work

--Discussion of quadrant chart ideas

---What next?

 --Terms for members; 3-year model; Agendas; mission statements; Drop Box;

Invite people directly; Committee on committees; More systematic approach; Committee Fair; Need a pitch; Video/podcast for committees

 --PC review committees and members

 -- More follow up at next meeting

--UUA Workshop on leadership—Webinar Nov. 10; Natalie to send link; PC watch together?

Parish Committee Chairs

--Iyabo offered and accepted job in VA for full year

--Natalie willing to continue as co-chair through June 2017

--Agenda item for fall congregational meeting (Nov. 6 or 13)

December Meeting

--Change to December 12

Action Items

--Deacons to send reports to auditors and secure congregational meeting date

--Kathy to open bank accounts

--Committee to consider committee information/ideas

--Natalie to send link about leadership webinar

Next Meeting: Monday, November 7 at 7:00p.m.

Meeting adjourned 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Harrison, Clerk

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Minutes of the Parish Committee Meeting

November 7, 2016

Present:

Julia Gecha, Kathy Elefterakis, Geoff Tegnell, Cindy Jones, Debbie Harrison, Matt Grady, Audrey Cecil, Rali Weaver

Meeting called to order: 7:11 p.m.

Minutes of October 3, 2016

--Motion to approve minutes --seconded—voted---approved

Minister’s Report—Rali Weaver

--See written report

--Steady attendance except Columbus Day Weekend

--Donna Dolham smooth transitions; preached 2 sermons so far

--Thanksgiving Service: share with Allin Church there

--Christmas Day is on Sunday: no service

--Grace Pena’s mother died; Kathy Sevigny in intensive care

--To share info from sessions with William Barber and Jacquie Lewis

Director of RE Report—written report of Grace Pena

--Children’s RE going well

--Cool Deed: How to give to charity (Animal Rescue League and Food Pantry)

--Middle School group: Haunted Hayride, to help with turkey give-away

--High School group: activities planned, to help with turkey give-away

Treasurer’s Report—Cindy Jones

--Income:

 --Pledges on target; $200 additional received for 2015-16

 --Bay State paying $2,400—Rali to check with George for correct amount of $2,600

 --Yoga payments erratic—Rali to send letter Nov. 8 for outstanding amounts due Dec. 1

 --Money to reseed lawn received from film people

 --No new significant changes

--Expenses:

 --Parish House water bill back to normal

--No significant changes

--Overall: $9,885 over budget

--Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report--seconded---voted---accepted

Fundraising Committee update—Cindy Jones

--Steve Davey working on info for Muratore concert (Dec. 16)

--To set up ticket system for concert ($15 for concert; $10 for soup and salad)

Special Meeting November 13:

--Rali to ask Jen Greaney (Jeff Hutton back up) to be moderator

--Agenda to include need for Natalie to extend term in PC

Stewardship Committee:

--Nominating Committee to check on Stewardship committee members---who to continue

--Need for new Nominating Committee to be formed to nominate officers for next year (2017-18)

Revitalize committees:

--Committee lists are updated and on spread sheet

--Membership lists: Parish Committee to notify office of new members

--Finance Committee needs someone from PC

--Much discussion regarding recruitment and growth of committees, terms, leadership training, mission statements/committee descriptions

--Action: Rali to contact UUA for committee leadership training of congregation in January

 --Goals:

 --committee mission statements

 --training

--‘Open House’ Sunday meetings (15 minutes long) of several committees for people to observe—aim for Sunday, Feb. 5 (“Committee College”)

--Action: Cindy Jones to draft letter to committees about a mission statement to be due Dec. 15 to the PC, so PC can discuss statements at January PC meeting.

--Building Use Committee:

--extend function to oversee buildings (maintenance, etc.)?

Action Items

--Rali to share info from Barber and Lewis sessions with PC at future meeting

--Rali to ask Jen Greaney (or Jeff Hutton) to be moderator for special meeting

--Rali to contact UUA for committee leadership trainer

--Cindy to draft letter to committees for mission statement due Dec. 15

Next Meeting: Monday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. (pot luck and Yankee Swap)

Meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Harrison, Clerk

**January/February Calendar**

Worship in the Dining Room in the months of January and February

**Office Hours**

**Monday-Friday 9-2**

Grace Peña, Acting Director of Religious Education

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9-2

Pat Hawkins Office Administrator

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9-1

Rev. Rali M. Weaver

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9-2

Friday Sermon Writing

and by appointment

Donna Dolham

Ministerial Intern

Available by appointment 207-701-1581

Linnea Bardarson- Music Director

If you would like to join the choir contact her at linneabardarson@yahoo.com

**Ongoing Calendar Events**

**Fitness Opportunities**

**Older Adult Fitness**

 **Nora Brown 781-329-3311**

Tuesday and Thursday Mornings 9:30 am

**AA Groups**

Sunday Dedham Village AA Meeting 5-10 pm

Tuesday Beginners Meeting 9-11 am

Private Women’s Meeting 6-8 pm

**Save the Dates:**

January 15th

At Noon

Victor Kingsley will offer insights on **Senior Caregiving** for seniors and Adult Children.

Contact Rev. Weaver for details

January 20th at 9 am

 Join for breakfast than head to Boston for a

 **March against hatred and violence**. Contact the Rev. Weaver for details

First Church is signed up for volunteers at the **Dedham Food Pantry**

 on **February 4**and **May 6**

February 5th

**Return of the Guest at your Table Boxes**

Tuesday Evenings for four weeks @ 6 pm – 7:30 pm

Beginning February 7th

**Discover your Spiritual Self**

A class by Donna Dolham

**February Justice Film Series**

**Sundays in February at 2 pm in the Dining Room**