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Regathering Sunday  
September 11, 2022

**FIRST CHURCH  
IN CAMBRIDGE**

Congregational 1633-1636  
United Church of Christ  
Garden and Mason Streets  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

# WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE...

Grounded in God • Growing in Community • Acting in Love

We're glad you are worshiping with us today! First Church is a vibrant, multi-generational, engaged, urban church. We care a lot about each other and what's happening in the world around us. Wherever you are on the journey of faith, you are welcome here.

FIRST CHURCH  
IN CAMBRIDGE  
CONGREGATIONAL  
**386 YEARS**  
ON THE WAY  
1 6 3 6 – 2 0 2 2

## September 11, 2022

### Preaching Today Leading Worship

Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*  
Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*  
Karen McArthur, *Minister of Stewardship & Finance*  
Kate Layzer, *Minister of Street Outreach*  
Jaz Buchanan, *Pastoral Associate*  
Sarah Higginbotham, *Director of Creative Worship & Arts*  
Peter Sykes, *Director of Music*  
Bappu Antony, *liturgist*  
Audrey Bellinger, *offering a Ministry Moment*  
Lee Prouty, *tech support*  
Freddie Funck, *First Church youth*

### Bulletin Cover Image

### Today's Programs and Events

- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Godly Play and Bible 101 Classes
- 12:15 p.m. Regathering Luncheon, church lawn and [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour
- 12:45 p.m. Confirmation Class (9/10th graders) and Youth Group (9-12th graders)  
Orientation for students and parents, Harter Room
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)

### New to First Church?

Have you just begun joining us for worship? Consider filling out a visitor card found on the small clipboard in the pews or this ["virtual visitor card"](#) so that we might reach out and connect with you about our community.

### Give to First Church

You can give online: [www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give) or by texting "\$\_" to: 1-844-996-0982.

### Contact a Pastor or Staff Member

Find [contact information](#) for our ministerial, program, and building staff on our website.  
For general information and inquiries: [info@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:info@firstchurchcambridge.org)

Have a church program or event to promote?  
Complete the [First Church Communications Request](#) form.

Have an edit or update for our website? Complete the [FCC Website Changes](#) form.

## GATHERING

### VOLUNTARY

All Creatures of Our God and King

James Woodman (2000)

### \*HYMN C-25

Let There Be Life in This House

### \*GREETING

Bappu Antony

L: Siblings in the Spirit, come in, and know the goodness of God's love!

**C: Enter into this sanctuary of rest and healing.**

L: Come in, and know this community of justice of joy.

**C: Come in, and hear stories of hope and challenge;  
drink of God's beauty and mercy!**

L: Friends, gather and regather, from near and far,  
enter anew into this space of wonder and grace,

**All: and let there be life in this house!**

### WORDS OF WELCOME

### ANTHEM

Psalm 84

Patricia Van Ness (2022)

(How Dear to Me Is Your Dwelling)

*How dear to me is your dwelling; how I have longed for your holy place.  
The joyful sparrow and the swallow have found their nests beside your altar.  
Happy are we who dwell in your house; we will always be praising you!  
Happy are we whose strength is in you! Our feet are set upon your path.  
One day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room!*

## CONFESSING

### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

### SILENCE

### SUNG PRAYER

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for you!**  
*(sing twice through)*

*\*You are invited to stand. Hymns preceded by a "C" are found in the beginning section of the hymnal. This section contains hymns written and composed by current and past members of First Church in Cambridge.*

## DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

## GREETING OF PEACE

## BLESSING OF CHURCH SCHOOL CHILDREN AND TEACHERS

Sarah Higginbotham

### \*HYMN 403

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

*Children up through 6th grade are now invited to Church School classes. Godly Play (PreK-4th grade) and Bible 101 (5/6th grade) students can meet their teachers at the side door by the Children's Book Corner. Children and teachers will return to the Sanctuary at the end of worship for the brief introduction to our Regathering season.*

## OPENING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Lexi Boudreaux

### READING

Psalm 84:1-8

### READING

Hebrews 10:19 -25

### SERMON

Dan Smith

## SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MINISTRY MOMENT

Audrey Bellinger

### \*A LITANY OF BLESSING FOR OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Kate Layzer and Jaz Buchanan

L: ...hear our prayers, and

C: **keep us grounded in God, growing in community, acting in love.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*(Please pray this prayer in words most meaningful to your heart.)*

**All: Our Creator, 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.**

**Amen.**

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

Karen McArthur



Give by Text



Give Online



I've Given Already

## OFFERTORY

### What Gift Can We Bring

Jane Marshall

*What gift can we bring, what present, what token?  
What words can convey it, the joy of this day?  
When grateful we come, recalling, rejoicing,  
what song can we offer in honor and praise?*

*Give thanks for the past, for those who had vision,  
who planted and watered so dreams could come true.  
Give thanks for today, for study, for worship,  
for mission that bids us turn prayer into deed.*

*Give thanks for tomorrow, full of surprises,  
for knowing whatever tomorrow may bring,  
The Word is our promise always, forever,  
we rest in God's keeping and live in God's love.*

*This gift we now bring, this present, this token,  
these words can convey it, the joy of this day!  
When grateful we come, recalling, rejoicing,  
the song we now offer in honor and praise!*

## \*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Praise God, the source of life and birth,  
Praise God, the Word who came to earth,  
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame,  
All glory, honor to God's name! Amen.**

## GOING FORTH

### \*HYMN C-20

The Household of God

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

Thuma Mina

Hymn 344

### VOLUNTARY

Come, Holy Spirit

J. S. Bach

*Please stay for a brief introduction to our Regathering season,  
and then join us for lunch on the lawn or Zoom Coffee Hour.*

OPENING HYMN

Let There Be Life in This House C-25

1. Let there be life in this house,  
2. Let there be life in this house,  
3. Let there be life in this house,  
4. Let there be life in this house,

poured from the riches of God; treasure in so many  
tender and truthful and real; life of belonging, res-  
life of the Spirit and fire; sisters and brothers new-  
life of the Body - y - divine, kindly and pas-sion-ate,

vessels of clay, given for sharing, not hiding a way:  
pect-ed and free, honored for all God declares us to be:  
born from above, daring to love because we have been loved:  
ear - thy and odd, we are the Church, be - lov - ed of God:

Let there be life in this house!  
Let there be life in this house!  
Let there be life in this house!  
Let there be life in this house!

WORDS: Kate Layzer  
MUSIC: Peter Sykes

For First Church in Cambridge on the tenth anniversary  
of its declaring itself an Open and Affirming Church

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;  
 2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart;  
 3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;  
 4. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart, in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

CLOSING HYMN

C-20

The Household of God



1. The\_ house - hold of God has\_\_\_ room for us all, ev - ery -  
2. The\_ house - hold of God has\_\_\_ work for us all, by\_\_\_  
3. The\_ house - hold of God gives a voice to us all, we can  
4. The\_ house - hold of God has\_\_\_ hope for us all, in the



one has a place at the feast, the\_\_\_ best and the worst have\_\_\_  
man - y have seeds been\_\_\_ sown, in the har - vest of heal - ing, of  
sing in a cho - rus di - vine, we can hear ev - ery life as a  
dark - ness a hand holds our own, as we walk by that guid - ance our



hearts need - ing love, there is truth for the great - est and least.  
jus - tice and love, there is no need to la - bor a - lone.  
sto - ry of grace, ev - ery soul a mir - a - cu - lous sign.  
faith is the dawn, by its light our re - demp - tion is shown.

WORDS: John Evans-Klock

MUSIC: Peter Sykes



## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

We give thanks for First Church Staff Composer Patricia Van Ness for *Psalm 84: How Dear to Me Is Your Dwelling*, a new piece written for this Regathering Sunday! Joining Music Director Peter Sykes and the First Church Choir for the premiere are:

Berit Strong, *guitar*  
Molly Tucker, *violin*

Jackie Bartling-John, *flute*  
David Torrey, *percussion*



Audrey Bellinger

*Even the sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for herself,  
where she may lay her young.*

*Happy are those who live in your house,  
ever singing your praise.*

-Psalm 84:3-4

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- On this day, we remember all whose lives were lost and forever changed by the tragic events of 9/11. We ask God to endow us with divine wisdom, so that we may be instruments of Christ's peace amid the ongoing reality of terrorism, both at home and around the world.
- We pray for Pauline Fennel and her family. Pauline has decided to end treatment for her cancer and begin hospice care.
- We pray for Marian Smith, who fell this past Monday and is recovering from surgery for a broken hip.
- We pray for Lexi Boudreaux, who is grieving the loss of her grandmother Jeanette Beth Wall. We also pray for Lexi's father Jim Boudreaux, who was hospitalized this week for heart issues.
- We pray for Kathy Williams, who is grieving the loss of her husband Jim. Though Jim had been experiencing health challenges, he died unexpectedly on Tuesday, August 23.
- We pray for Nancy O'Connell, who is grieving the loss of her beloved husband Steve. Steve was diagnosed with cancer in July and died on Friday, August 19.
- We pray for Kirsten Manville's father Keith, who is recovering from a serious fall.
- We pray for Devin Hansen's Aunt Ellen, who is in hospital recovering from intestinal surgery.
- We pray for Anita Anger as she is treated for lymphoma and ongoing heart trouble.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Judith Semmler, Alice Napoleon Jones's mother; Penny Kilburn, Nancy Kilburn's mother; Karen Anne Zee's daughter Becky Collet, and her sons-in-law, Denis Collet and Stewart Bailey; Beth and Polly, Ann McCann's sisters; and friend of Homeless Ministries Brian O'Donovan.
- We pray for all who are facing severe, dangerous heat, droughts, and fires in Massachusetts, across the U.S., in Europe, and around the world. We also pray for those experiencing intense flooding in Pakistan and other parts of the world.
- We pray for the residents of Jackson, MS, who are experiencing a catastrophic water emergency stemming from years of neglect rooted in systemic racism.
- We pray for the family and friends of Donovan Lewis, a 20-year-old Black man shot and killed in his home by police in Columbus, Ohio. We grieve yet another senseless death caused by police, and we pray for true reform of our nation's policing systems.
- We pray for all who have been affected by the monkeypox outbreak around the world, and for our public health officials, that they might mitigate the harm done to our public and individual health. We pray that all may access medical care without shame.

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for those experiencing the loss of vital reproductive rights across the nation, and all those who care about them. We also pray for compassion, wisdom, grace, and courage, as the public discourse around abortion may cause each of us to wrestle with our own thoughts and feelings surrounding the complexities of this issue.
- We pray for the people of Ukraine and the global community, as experts struggle to secure a damaged nuclear power plant located in the middle of a war zone.
- We pray for all who are affected by COVID-19—those experiencing symptoms, those grieving the loss of loved ones, and those awaiting vaccines and boosters. We pray with and for anxious hearts, especially for educators, healthcare personnel, and other essential workers.
- We pray with immense gratitude for all climate justice activists across this nation. May the good news of recent climate action legislation sustain us and give us the hope we need to continue to do the green and holy work the world so desperately needs.
- We pray for the 14 men who are finding sustenance and protection in our First Church Shelter, and we pray for the guests of the Friday Café, who are finding food and listening ears. We pray for all who are experiencing deprivation and hardship in these uncertain times.
- We lift up gratitude and prayers for healing for Shelter guest M., as he continues a slow but steady recovery from a serious health crisis in May.

Join the [First Church List](#) to see and offer up more community prayer requests.



### Photography of First Church Community Sunday, September 18

[Theory One Design](#), our website developer and communications consultant, will be with us next Sunday with cameras in hand to snap a selection of photographs of our community. We are excited to add new images to our media library for use on our website and in our communications. If

you have questions about our use of photos or would like to request that we not use your image, please contact [Dan](#), [Lexi](#), or [Sarah](#).

### First Church Land Acknowledgment

*We, gathered here, acknowledge that we are meeting on land which has been the traditional ancestral homeland of the Massachusetts people. We acknowledge that this land is unceded and remains sacred to the Massachusetts, and to their close neighbors and relatives, the Nipmuc and Wampanoag peoples.*

You can find a longer version of this acknowledgment [here](#) or by scanning the QR code to the right.



## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH



*Audrey Bellinger*

### Shall We Gather?

**Regathering Sunday Hybrid Worship at 11:00 a.m. and Luncheon at 12:15 p.m.**

This fall, we are excited to be more intentional about how we gather! In worship, on retreat, and in our small group life, we will bring some First Church wonder and curiosity to this ancient, yet timely theme. In a season when many are already re-imagining what it means to gather, we ask:

#### ***How do we gather?***

- What makes for good gatherings, anyway?
- How can we be more intentional about our purpose for meetings?
- How do we open and close our times together?
- How do we ensure there are chances to share our stories and lives with another?
- Who are the hosts, really, and who are the guests, especially when we are at church?
- What attention to detail might make our gatherings all the more powerful, memorable, and true?

Priya Parker, author of [\*\*\*The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters\*\*\*](#), offers helpful tips on some of the above that we are eager to explore together. Not surprisingly, our scripture and tradition have a lot to say about this, too! Join us on **Regathering Sunday, September 11 for Hybrid Worship at 11:00 a.m. and for a Regathering luncheon on the lawn at 12:15 p.m.**, as we gather in the Spirit. Come Sunday, and come this fall—let's make some First Church art of gathering together.

## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

### **An Introduction to our Regathering Season and Luncheon on the Lawn or [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour**

At the close of worship today, you're invited to remain in the Sanctuary or on the livestream to hear a brief overview of our fall programs and activities. Then join us for lunch on the lawn or Zoom Coffee Hour. All are welcome!



### **Confirmation Class (9/10th graders) and Youth Group (9-12th graders) Orientation**

**Today at 12:45 p.m., Harter Room**

First Church high schoolers and their parents are invited to bring their lunch plates to the Harter Room to learn about Confirmation Class for 9/10th graders and Youth Group plans for 9-12th graders.

### **Faith Formation for Children & Youth - Register Now!**

We are very happy to welcome children and youth back to in-person classes, workshops, and social gatherings this fall!

[Register your children for this year's programs here.](#)

Parents and caregivers, make sure you are on the "First Church Families" email list. Sarah Higginbotham sends a "News for First Church Families" e-newsletter every Thursday afternoon.

[Contact Sarah to get on the list.](#)



### **Night Song**

**Sundays, 7:30 - 8:15 p.m., Sanctuary and via livestream**

Night Song resumes on September 11 at 7:30 p.m. with attendance in person or via livestream. Beneficia lucis, the ensemble of men, will sing under the direction of James Busby. On September 18, a new ensemble of women will sing, with Teri Kowiak as director.

Canticum vespertinum, the mixed ensemble directed by Jennifer Lester, will sing on September 25. Please join us and tell your friends!

Night Song is a worship opportunity that offers stillness and sublime music in a darkened sanctuary for respite and reset... [Read more about Night Song.](#)

## FALL AT FIRST CHURCH

### Family Night Reunion

**Tuesday, September 13, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., The Parsonage, 44 Garden St.**

For many years before 2020, First Church families with young children would gather on Tuesday evenings in Sage Hall for a simple pasta potluck dinner. Parents would linger over dinner as kids raced around our basement playspace on tricycles or built towers with blocks. Deeper reflection and connection amongst parents would take place during seasonal small group offerings during this time, including Bible study and book group discussion. Now, all those who participated in Tuesday Family Nights are warmly invited to a reunion! [Read more](#)



### Weekly Drop-In Bible Study this Fall

**Thursday evenings, 6:00 - 7:30, [via Zoom](#)**

Our weekly drop-in Bible study begins looking into a new Bible book on September 15, right in time for First Church's Regathering. Among other options, we're considering Second Isaiah (Chapters 40-55), where God promises restoration to a nation in exile, and the prophet reflects on the meaning of servanthood.

Steady attendance or Bible study experience aren't required; come when you want, as you are. You've been meaning to join us but haven't yet? This is your perfect opportunity! Begin this new season with us – we'd love to have you.

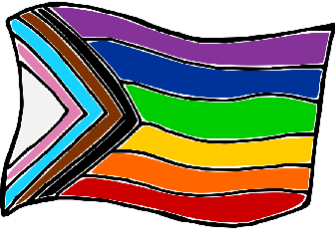
### Call for Fall Faith & Life Group Leaders by September 18

Are you interested in leading a small group over Zoom or in-person this Fall? [Contact Transitional Minister Lexi Boudreaux](#) to discuss your idea for a Fall Faith & Life Group. Led by First Church members, Faith & Life Groups are designed to encourage meaningful connections through shared interests, whether exploring a spiritual practice, opening our eyes to the beauty around us, delving into a challenging social issue, or attending to significant life stages (parenting, aging, job transitions, etc.). Faith & Life Groups involve making a short-term commitment (a single session to several weeks, depending on the group). Pitch your idea for a Faith & Life Group to [Lexi!](#)



***Deadline for proposals is next Sunday, September 18.***

## FALL AT FIRST CHURCH



### Celebrating Our ONA History—Faithfully (& Queerfully) Responding to the Present

Sundays, September 18 & 25, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)

Join us as we celebrate our history as an Open and Affirming (ONA) congregation since 1991! Grounded in our faith, we will discern together how we can continue to lovingly embrace our

LGBTQ+ siblings—especially our trans and nonbinary siblings, whose civil rights are under attack across our nation. We will talk about and give thanks to God for a wide breadth of sexualities and genders, and for every color on the rainbow that connects us all as beloved children, deeply cherished by our Creator. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Newcomers Meet and Greet

Sunday, September 18, 12:00 - 12:30 p.m., Church Lawn

Those feeling new to First Church, or interested in meeting (in person!) someone new to our community, are warmly invited to meet up directly after worship at Coffee Hour on the lawn. Some of what you can expect: friendly faces, new friends?, questions answered, snacks, and an informal atmosphere for conversation. Our first Joining Sunday of the season will be on October 30.



### Newcomer Sessions After Worship, September 18 & 25 12:30 p.m., Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)

We are hosting two drop-in opportunities to explore what membership at First Church in Cambridge means and to learn more about the history and values of our community. There will be time for us to wrestle with questions, build deeper connections with one another, and help each other feel more oriented to this place of belonging and becoming. Current members of First

Church who are interested in engaging in these conversations and in being a resource for those who are newer are invited to join! Come with your questions, your story, and your appetite for new connections. Light snacks will be provided.

Find all the information you're looking for in this post in the "Latest News" section of our website:

[\*\*\*Newcomers Events this Fall\*\*\*](#)

## FALL AT FIRST CHURCH

### Aging With Grace and Dying Well Reunion

Tuesday, September 20, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m., Harter Room & [via Zoom](#)

Join us as we regather the members of last year's group, where we offered each other companionship and spiritual resources for encountering the end of life. In this current season of regathering, let's again wrestle with the big questions together as we let God's presence and this community hold us. Let's learn together how we can find dignity, courage, grace, hope, and peace in our aging and in our dying. We will offer spiritual readings, time for conversation and reflection, along with a few practical resources for end-of-life planning. Folks who are new to the group are welcome to these gatherings. This group may continue on a monthly basis for ongoing support. New members are welcome. Please email [Lexi](#) or [Dan](#) if you have questions.



### SNEUCC 2022 Racial Justice Summit

Saturday, September 24, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

First Church of Christ, Congregational, Glastonbury, CT

(virtual options available)

Join First Church leaders, SNEUCC members, and partners at the **2022 Justice Summit**, a one-day in-person gathering (with virtual options)

focused on devising strategies to confront racial inequity in local congregations and communities. The Summit includes worship, a plenary presentation by [Rev. Dr. Velda Love](#), plenary conversations with our [Theologians in Residence Revs. Drs. Yvette Flunder and Diane Schmitz](#), workshops that help connect us and strategize together for the work ahead; and time dedicated to spiritually sustaining the work for the long-haul. [More info and the registration link may be found here.](#)

### Cambridge: Envisioning Reparations

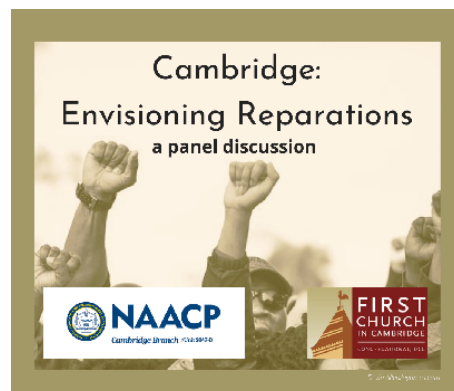
Sunday, September 25 at 2:00 p.m.

Sanctuary and via livestream

Join us for a panel discussion about reparations in our city - past, present and future.

Moderated by Richard Harding, Jr., Vice President, Cambridge NAACP, panelists include:

- Kris Manjapra, *Professor of History, Tufts University and Founder, Black History in Action for Cambridgeport*
- Rev. Irene Monroe, *Speaker, Theologian, Syndicated Columnist*
- Ken Reeves, *President, Cambridge NAACP*
- Rev. Daniel Smith, *Senior Minister, First Church in Cambridge*





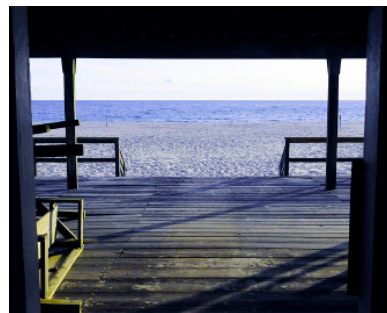
## FALL AT FIRST CHURCH



### **First Church Returns to Craigville for our All-Church Fall Retreat Friday, September 30 - Sunday, October 2**

After two pandemic cancellations (as well as the “year off” we took in 2019), First Church is returning to [Craigville Retreat Center](#) for our beloved All-Church Fall Retreat! All are welcome to join us for a weekend of community-building in fellowship, formation, and fun.

Take advantage of scheduled large group gatherings, small group sessions, supervised play/crafting time for kids, worship, group games, and more. Or, opt for a quiet walk on the beach, bird-watching at the marsh, or whatever your soul needs. Arrive on Friday evening, September 30, and stay through midday on Sunday, October 2, for the full event; or come for a portion of the weekend, for just one night or for a daytrip on Saturday. [Register now](#) to reserve your spot! Lodging and meals, plus all our First Church programming, are included; see the [registration form](#) for details.



## FALL AT FIRST CHURCH

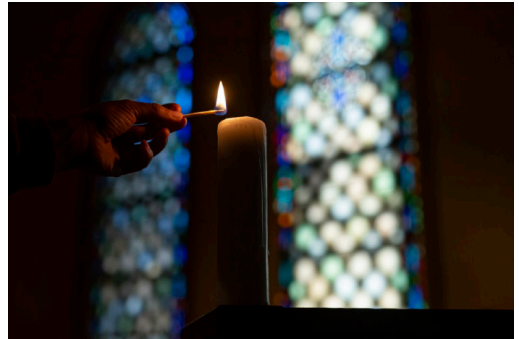
### Where Are We Now?

Perspectives on the American Church  
Sundays, October 9 & 16, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)

Behind all of the headlines about religion in the United States and all of the threats of polarization and evidence of dwindling church membership, there are deeper stories to tell. Picking up from our summer read of Bill McKibben's memoir, *The Flag, the Cross and the Station*

*Wagon*, we will look at the big picture of what researchers have learned about the strengths and weaknesses of American church life and what they've concluded about the future of main-line Protestantism. We will think together about what it all means for First Church and how we relate to that bigger story. First Church Deacon Peggy Bendroth will lead our exploration and discussion. Peggy is the former director of the Congregational Library and Archives, and a historian of American religion with an abiding interest in all of this—past, present, and future.



### Support the Fair Share Amendment

Do you know about the Fair Share Amendment, which will appear on the Massachusetts ballot this November? Fair Share is a proposed amendment to tax 4% of the portion of a person's annual income over \$1 million to fund public education and transportation in our state. If you would like to support this economic and climate justice initiative, the Missions & Social Justice Committee invites you to help get it passed by canvassing, making calls, and joining other volunteer opportunities throughout the fall. More information is available at:

[fairsharema.com/volunteer](https://fairsharema.com/volunteer)

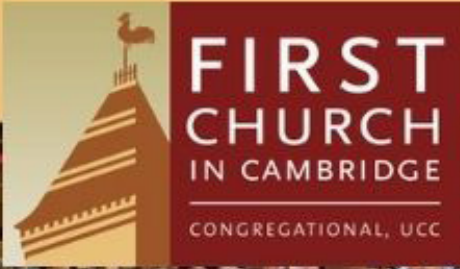


SCAN ME

**Do you want to follow the hyperlinks, but you're holding a paper bulletin in your hand?** Use your phone's camera to hover over the QR code to the left marked "scan me;" this will take you to the **Members & Friends** page of our website, where you'll find the bulletin online, as well as links to news, events, and more.

You can scan these codes to connect with First Church via social media:





# THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



## Monday, September 12

4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Gathering, via Zoom

See our [Events Calendar](#) for Zoom links and details.

## Tuesday, September 13

4:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Committee, via Zoom

6:00 p.m. Tuesday Family Night Reunion, The Parsonage

Sign up [here](#) to receive our weekly e-newsletter.

## Wednesday, September 14

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room and via Zoom

## Thursday, September 15

6:00 p.m. Drop-in Bible Study, via Zoom

6:00 p.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room

## Friday, September 16

9:30 a.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room

12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Tower Room and Lawn

## Sunday, September 18

9:30 a.m. Celebrating our ONA History, Harter Room and via Zoom

10:15 a.m. Coffee and Conversation, Hastings Common  
Choir Rehearsal, MJH

11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream

11:20 a.m. Church School: Godly Play (preK-4th graders) & Bible 101 (5/6th graders) classes

12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour on the Lawn and Zoom Coffee Hour

Newcomers Meet and Greet, church lawn

12:30 p.m. Newcomers Sessions 1, Harter Room

1:30 p.m. Our Whole Lives: Parent Orientation and Student Info Session, Old South Church

7:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary and via livestream

First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, UCC

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