



May 14, 2026

LIGHTING THE WAY FORWARD

It is better to travel well than to arrive.
Gautama Buddha

Let your curiosity be greater than your fear.
Pema Chodron



Photo by Allegra Highsmith

Awakening Curiosity: “A Curious Heart”

May 17, 2026, 10 a.m.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Tori Rosati and Jaylene Summers

Come in person or click below to join the service!

<https://uukennebunk.org/Sunday-Service-Access>

Or by cell phone (audio only) 929-205-6099, meeting ID 734 887 010,

Password: 02448

upcoming EVENTS

First Parish and Community

- Every Thursday, 4-5 p.m. Demonstration, Kennebunk
- Sun. May 17, 11:30 a.m. Bylaws session*
- Wed. May 20, 6 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting
- Sat. May 23, 1 p.m. River Celebration, Rogers Pond, if rain, Sun.*
- Sun. May 24, 11:15 a.m. Blueberry Festival & Craft Fair meeting
- Sun. May 31, 8:30 a.m. Annual Meeting, Sanctuary

*see below for more information

This Sunday: A Curious Heart

In this week's service we explore Buddhist wisdom and the way curiosity transforms our relationships and awakens us to the people around us. When we approach each other with openness and wonder something unexpected happens. Join us as we explore what it means to live with a curious heart, and what that simple practice might open up in our lives and in our life together. Rev. Tori leading with Jaylene Summers, Tory Leuteman, and music from Chris Staknys.



Photo by Tim Gainey



Daffodils, early spring bounty at Laurel Hill Cemetery, Saco.

Photo by Allegra Highsmith

Bylaws Listening Session this Sunday

An ad hoc team was appointed by the Board of Directors to review and update our FPUU Bylaws, and the Board has since approved them. Our first meeting was last Sunday. The final meeting to present the changes and answer questions will be this Sunday.

- Sunday, May 17, 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor.
- A vote on the acceptance of these bylaws will be taken:
- Sunday, May 31, 8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary at our Annual Meeting.

FPUU members will receive by email:

- The Bylaws as of 2018
- The revised bylaws

- A comparison of the two documents

Tom Veronesi and Linda Thompson, both board members, chaired this team. Team members included: Ruth Stackpole, Bob Wuerthner, Susan Jack, Ted Trainer, and Karen Carey.



Jeff Wentworth installs a new railing on the First Parish front steps.

Photo by Ted Trainer

Love is the Point

Friday May 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Multi-faith leaders from the Greater Portland Area invite people of every faith (or no faith) to join for *Love is the Point*, Friday, May 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at First Parish

Church, Portland, 425 Congress St. This event is an alternative to the *Turning Point USA* event at the Portland Expo, scheduled for the same date and time



**A Community Gathering of
Love, Acceptance & Welcoming**

**Local Music Acts
Loving MultiFaith Leaders
Solidarity & Support for All**

pro-trans/LGBTQ+, pro-immigrant,
pro-reproductive rights, pro-gun reform

**May 15 6:30-8:30PM
425 Congress St. Portland, ME**

and will offer a safe and welcoming space, and a reminder that Maine is a place that embraces all of its residents and their many gifts.

This free event shines a light on the love and community support for all those who feel that their lives, safety, and rights are oppressed, targeted, or at risk. It offers residents from across the state a safe, welcoming space, and a reminder that there are many people, leaders, and communities in Maine that embrace all of its residents and their many unique gifts.

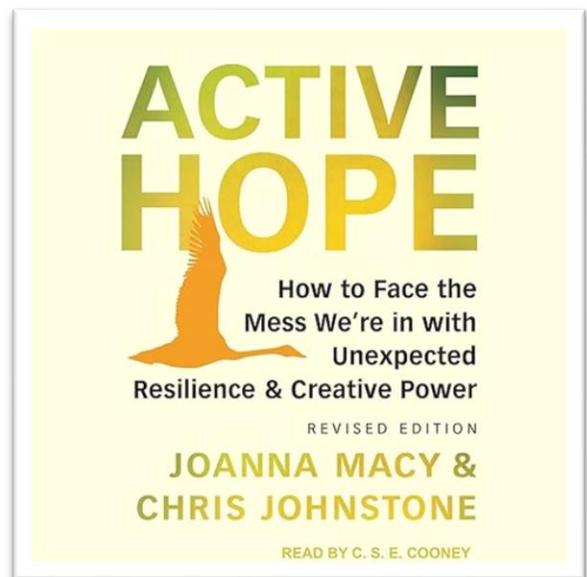
Faith and Spiritual Leaders are invited to rise in solidarity, showcasing how full our community is of safe, accepting and welcoming leaders, communities and spaces for ALL people. More details and sign-up can be found at loveisthepoint.eventbrite.com. People can come without signing up, but sign-ups are helpful!

from *Maine Council of Churches*

Let's read and learn together

At our What Now? discussion last Sunday, we agreed it would be interesting regarding our quest for What (we can do) Now? to read a book over the summer and discuss it in the fall. Rev. Tori suggested *Active Hope: How to Face the Mess We're in ...* by Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone. She referenced it in a recent reflection, and several in our congregation expressed interest at that time.

Available in paperback, this revised, tenth anniversary edition shows us how to strengthen our capacity to face crises so that we can respond with unexpected resilience and creative power. The authors guide us through a transformational process informed by mythic journeys, modern psychology, spirituality, and holistic science. This process equips us with tools to face the mess we're in and play our role in the collective transition, or Great Turning, to a life-sustaining society.



Active Hope can be ordered from local bookstores! Let's resist the temptation to buy it online! If the cost of the book is a concern, please don't hesitate to reach out to Rev. Tori — we want everyone to be able to participate.

Your Social Justice Network and What Now?

LETTERS to the EDITOR If you have a care or concern you'd like to share with our newsletter community, please send it to our editor: vickigatesadams@gmail.com to be placed here.



Save the Date

Our beloved Joan O'Hara's service has been scheduled for June 13th at 10:00 a.m.

Men's Open Group

Also known as the *MOGers*, meet every week alternating between the church library and social coffee gatherings. Any man, member or friend, who accepts the group's covenant is welcome to participate. It's a wonderful chance to share our stories, concerns, and topics of general interest to men in a safe and confidential environment. FYI, contact Mark Gallup.



Photo by Allegra Highsmith

Community

Spring Plant Sale Festival The New School is having a grand plant/seedling sale on Saturday, May 16 from 10-2. In addition to plants there is fairy house making, brick oven pizza, Ben and Jerry's ice cream, garden tools, books and plant pots, a beekeeper, herbal teas, nature journals, and more vendors. It is fun and a potential treat for your yard and gardens. Come and bring children and friends!



*spring fever fest** '26
*and SEEDLING SALE

PLANT SALE
VEGGIES! HERBS! FLOWERS!
LOCAL AREA FARM VENDORS!
ALL THINGS GARDEN RELATED!

FEASTING
WOOD-FIRED PIZZA!
LEMONADE! ICE CREAM!

FAMILY FUN
KIDS CRAFTS AND GAMES!

LEARN HOW TO...
TURN YOUR YARD INTO A GARDEN
GROW, HARVEST, AND DRY HERBAL TEA
BECOME A KEEPER OF BEES
BUILD A FAIRY HOUSE
CREATE A TEA CUP BIRD FEEDER
...AND MORE!

THE NEW SCHOOL, 38 YORK STREET, KENNEBUNK
SATURDAY ♡ MAY 16 ♡ 10a-2p

MORE INFO AT TNSK.ORG



Come Celebrate Our **FISH AND RIVERS!**



World Fish **MIGRATION DAY**

Saturday, May 23rd • 1-4 pm

Rogers Pond, Kennebunk

All ages are welcome to join!

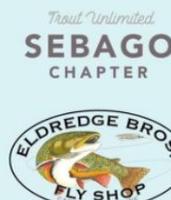
Free fly tying and casting demos and lessons!

Family activities!

RAIN DATE: Sunday, May 24th

Extra parking is available across the street beside
and behind the Kennebunk Sewer District offices.

Presented by:



Members Yellow Pages

Let's support each other!

When I, Lynn DuPont, was on crutches, I paid a fortune to Instacart to deliver groceries and had an endless array of strangers in the house. Perhaps they could have been from our church community and earned a bit of income: a win-win for both of us!

I am planning to put together a Services Directory for our church community. Services could include professional services such as dentistry, counseling, tax preparation, tutoring, etc. We could also offer doing errands, giving rides, babysitting, home healthcare, home maintenance, baking, gardening, etc.—all listed alphabetically. This would be practical, but also community-building! Please contact me to include your service at nanawood390@gmail.com
Deadline: May 31.

Church Directory

A new church directory will be sent out after our New Member Ceremony at the end of May. Be on the lookout for an email from First Parish with just your contact information to review. If you have any changes to your information, please let Allison know.

Every week at First Parish

All Are Welcome Table

Sundays, 11–11:30 a.m. in the Parlor

Looking to connect, meet new people, or learn more about what's happening at FPUU? Join members of the Membership Committee, in the Parlor during coffee hour for relaxed conversation and community. Everyone is welcome—just pull up a chair! For more information, contact Heidi at uuheidi@gmail.com, or simply stop by—no RSVP needed!

Sunday Bookcase & Links

- [Living the Questions, Krista Tippett](#)
- *The World According to Mr. Rogers: Important Things to Remember*, Fred Rogers
- *Moral Ambition: Stop Wasting Your Talent and Start Making a Difference*, Rutger Bregman
- *Meditations of the Heart*, Howard Thurman
- *The Art of Gathering*, Priya Parker



Listen Up!

You can listen to entire reflections given at our Sunday services at uukennebunk.org. See Sundays at FPUU–Sermon archive.

Our monthly Soul Matters themes come with a musical playlist to help us deepen into the messages. Playlists are organized as a journey, so you can listen from beginning to end and use them as a musical meditation.

- Click [here](#) for the May Spotify playlist on **Awakening Curiosity**
- Click [here](#) for the May YouTube playlist on **Awakening Curiosity**

Minister's Discretionary Fund

In light of rising prices and increased economic pressures, many in our community are facing unexpected financial hardship. The Minister's Discretionary Fund is available to help members of our congregation and the wider community who are struggling to make ends meet, particularly during this difficult time. If you, or someone you know, could use some support, please reach out to Rev. Tori. All requests are received with care and handled in strict confidence. Contact: uukennebunkminister@gmail.com or 978-238-8210

Note from the Editors

What's on your mind or in your camera? Send a picture, write an article or letter, for First Parish News! Email the FPUU Office:

uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com

FPUU News Crew:

Vicki Adams, editor

Allegra Highsmith, photo editor

Allison Lazos, production

Rev. Tori Rosati, advisor

First Parish UU Church Kennebunk

MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
MAY 31 8:30 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting 10 a.m. Worship Service Led by Rev. Tori 11:30 Special BOD Meeting					1 9-12 Office Open	2
3 8:30 a.m. Bylaws Pres. 10 a.m. Worship Service led Rev. Tori 11:30 Music Team	4 9-12 Office Open	5 9-12 Office Open 10:30 a.m. Pastoral Care 5:15 p.m. Sangha 7 p.m. Properfies	6 9-12 Office Open 5:30 p.m. Worship Team	7 9-12 Office Open 5:00p.m. Choir	8 9-12 Office Open 6:30 p.m. Song Swop	9
10 10 a.m. Worship Service led by Rev. Tori 11:30 a.m. What Now? Social Justice Discussion	11 9-12 Office Open 7 p.m. Finance	12 9-12 Office Open 5:15 p.m. Sangha 5:30 p.m. Family Small Group Ministry 6:30 p.m. W.F.A.S. 6:30 p.m. M.O.G.	13 9-12 Office Open 5:30 p.m. Vespers	14 9-12 Office Open 5:00 p.m. Choir	15 9-12 Office Open	16
17 10 a.m. Worship Service Led by Rev. Tori 11:30 a.m. Bylaws Presentation	18 9-12 Office Open 5:30 p.m. Membership Team	19 9-12 Office Open 5:15 Sangha	20 9-12 Office Open 6 p.m. Board of Dir.	21 9-12 Office Open 5:00 p.m. Choir	22 9-12 Office Open	23
24 10 a.m. Worship Service 11:15 a.m. Blueberry Fair Meeting	25 9-12 Office CLOSED	26 9-12 Office Open 10 a.m. Small Group Ministry 5:15 p.m. Sangha 6:30 p.m. W.F.A.S. 6:30 p.m. M.O.G.	27 9-12 Office Open 10 a.m. RE Team 5:30 p.m. Small Group Ministry	28 9-12 Office Open 5:00 p.m. Choir	29	30

Please note, the calendar is subject to change.