

## GIVE THEM NOT HELL, BUT HOPE

by Rev. Annie Gonzalez

Sunday, February 1, 2026

*“Do not push them deeper into their theological despair, but preach the kindness and everlasting love of God.”*

-Alfred S. Cole

Senior Minister SM	Rev. Jamie Hinson-Rieger
Minister of Faith Development MFD	Rev. Annie Gonzalez
Worship Associate WA	Jenn McClain
Lay Pastoral Associate LPCA	Marge Heckman
Dir. of Faith Dev. For Children DFDC	Nate Sellers
Music Director MD	Brad Conner
Youth Choir Director LCD	Janet Welby
Music	Sandra LaBarge-Neumann, <i>organ</i> Nao Okamoto, <i>violin</i>

### A Warm Thanks to Today's Volunteers

Bob Batt, Bob Dorer, Sarah Dorer, Larry Foresman, Pam Foresman, Norm Heckman, Craig Jackson, Susan Lincoln, Cecile Mercado, Clayton Springer & Moriah Tumbleson-Shaw

### If you are visiting today, Welcome!

After services, all are invited to join us for fellowship and coffee in the Common Room. Stop by the Welcome Table and complete a blue card to be added to our email list.

### Assistance & Accessibility

Hearing assisting devices are located at the back of the Sanctuary and in Page Room. Large print bulletins and hymnals are available. All floors are accessible by our elevator at the Elm St. entrance. If you prefer privacy, the back two rows of pews and the upstairs Bacon room will not appear on zoom. Our masking & fragrance-free room is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Noise cancelling earphones are available. Ushers are on hand to help. Please wear a name tag. New tags can be requested at the Welcome Table.

### Youth

†All children, 4 to 14, are invited to join classes. Childcare for infants and children under 3 is available most Sunday mornings in our downstairs nursery.

### Today's FD Classrooms

PreK - 5 <sup>th</sup>	Rm L02
6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup>	Rm 204

## ORDER OF SERVICE

SOUND OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

“The Lover’s Waltz” by Jay Ungar & Molly Mason

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS WA

CHALICE LIGHTING

OPENING WORDS MFD

\*OPENING HYMN

“Wonders Still the World Shall Witness” No. 139

\*\*UNISON AFFIRMATION

TIME FOR ALL AGES DFDC

SINGING THE CHILDREN OUT

May your mind be open to new learning

May your lips bring truth into the world

May your heart know love, and your hands do the work of justice  
as you go your way in peace, as you go your way in peace.

JOYS AND CONCERNS LPCA

\*MEDITATION HYMN

“Spirit of Life” No. 123

READING WA

“When it Really is Just the Wind, and Not a Furious Vexation”  
by Kyle Tran Myhre (adapted)

SHARE THE PLATE

Sarah Baldiga, Executive Director of “Rise Above”

OFFERTORY

“Morning Invocation” by David Paxton

SERMON MFD

“Give Them Not Hell, But Hope” by Rev. Annie

\*CLOSING HYMN

“We’ll Build a Land” No. 121

BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISH CHALICE MFD

POSTLUDE

“Shall We Gather at the River” (*Hanson Place*)  
by Robert Lowry, arr. Utterback

\*Please rise in body or spirit. \*\*Please see back of bulletin.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

A post-service congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Feb 8. We will vote on a resolution to launch a \$1.5M capital campaign this spring. If approved, the campaign will run in parallel with annual stewardship. Campaign funds will be collected during 2026-2029. Resulting physical improvements will benefit current and future FPB generations for decades to come. The link below can be used to virtually participate on Feb 8:

Topic: Special Meeting of the Congregation

Time: Feb 8, 2026 11:45 AM Eastern Time

<https://zoom.us/j/95942597538?pwd=SaeledcFwj9PbhateuiqM2Rgs94uNu.1>

### BEDFORD LYCEUM

This Sunday, long-term First Parish member Sharon McDonald will give a Bedford Lyceum talk about her experiences as town historian. Her talk “Door Number Two: Historian” will begin at 9 a.m. in the Common Room and conclude in time for the Sunday service. She promises “a few props and a song or two”.

### WEEK AHEAD

<b>SUNDAY</b>	9:00 AM	Bedford Lyceum
	10:00 AM	Worship Service
	11:30 AM	Q&A W/Rev. Jamie
	11:30 AM	Fellowship & Coffee
	11:30 AM	SYG
	4:00 PM	Parish Council Mtg.-ZOOM
	6:00 PM	Women’s Book Group
<b>MONDAY</b>	1:00 PM	KNOT Committee
	7:00 PM	Capital Campaign- ZOOM
<b>TUESDAY</b>	7:00 PM	Meditation
	7:15 PM	Al-Anon Parent Group
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	3:30 PM	JYG
	7:30 PM	BFC Book Club
<b>THURSDAY</b>	9:30 AM	Short Story Group - ZOOM
	4:00 PM	Youth Choirs
	7:00 PM	EJC-ZOOM
	7:30 PM	Adult Choir
<b>FRIDAY</b>	5:00 PM	Youth Choirs
	6:00 PM	1st Friday Potluck Dinner

~check the website calendar for more details~

## OPEN GROUPS & PROGRAMS

### Faith Development

Sunday (PreK - 7<sup>th</sup>) during Sun Service  
Jr. Youth Group (6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>) Wed 3:30 - 5 pm  
Sr. Youth Group (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) Sun 11:30 - 1 pm

### Choirs

Adult Choir Thur 7:30 pm  
Sr. Youth Choirs (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) Thur 4:00-4:15pm  
Jr. Youth Choirs (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>) Thur 4:00-4:15pm  
KidSing (age 5-2<sup>nd</sup>) Contact Janet Welby

### Drop-In Meditation Group

1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & last Tue 7pm

### Vespers

2<sup>nd</sup> Tue 7 pm

### Women's Book Group

monthly Sun. 6 pm

### Short Story Group

Thur 9:30 am

### Join a Small Group

contact Rev. Annie

### Multigenerational Gaming Gathering

3<sup>rd</sup> Sun 2 pm

### Friday Night Potluck Dinner

1<sup>st</sup> Fri 6 pm

### Immigration Justice Committee

contact Cecile Mercado

## UNISON AFFIRMATION

Love is the spirit of this church  
And service is its law.  
This is our great covenant:  
To dwell together in peace,  
To seek the truth in love,  
And to help one another.

El amor es el Espíritu de esta Iglesia  
y el servicio es su ley.  
Este es nuestro gran pacto:  
Vivir juntos en paz,  
buscar la verdad en espíritu de amor,  
y ayudarnos los unos a los otros.

“Connect” with us to be added to our email list.



Volunteer



Connect



Donate

**Parish Office:** Monday to Friday, 10:AM - 2:00 PM  
781-275-7994

### Church Staff

**Senior Minister:** Rev. Jamie Hinson-Rieger  
minister@uubedford.org

**Minister Faith Development:** Rev. Annie Gonzalez  
ministerfaithdev@uubedford.org

**Dir. of FD for Children:** Nathan Sellers  
dfdc@uubedford.org

**Minister Emeritus:** Rev. John Gibbons  
**Parish Administrator:** Brenda Rybicki  
parishadministrator@uubedford.org

**Interim Assistant Admin:** Claudia Brooks  
cbrooks@uubedford.org

**Choir/Music Director:** Brad Conner  
bconner@uubedford.org

**Youth Choir Director:** Janet Welby  
jwelby@uubedford.org

**Organist:** Sandra LaBarge-Neumann  
**Custodian:** Joe Mitchell

**Parishioner Editor:** Carla Bradford  
editors@uubedford.org

**Parish Board President:** Stacy Chandler  
boardpresident@uubedford.org

**Parish Board:** Mark Bailey, Bea Brunkhorst,  
Ted Carlson, Peter Cho,  
Wendy Innis, Susan Lincoln

### Church Committee Chairs

**Environmental Justice (EJC):** Ginny Steel  
**Finance:** Wendy Innis, *treasurer*  
Gallery@FirstParish  
**Hospitality:** Maria Green, Doris Smith

**Immigration Justice:** Catherine Van Praagh

**IT:** Cecile Mercado

**Lay Pastoral:** Sandy Currier

**Membership:** Elizabeth Connors

**Music:** TBA

**Nominating:** Lisa Tohline

**Parish Council:** Sarah Dorer

**Partner Church:** Bea Brunkhorst

**Personnel:** Sharon McDonald

**Physical Plant:** Carol Gregory

**Stewardship:** Joel Parks

**Social Responsibility:** Sarah Dorer, Bill Rabinowitz

**Moriah Tumbleson-Shaw**

**UU Urban Ministry Delegates:** Cecile Mercado & Robert Schmalz

# FIRST PARISH IN BEDFORD

A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CONGREGATION



## ORDER OF SERVICE

**FEBRUARY 1, 2026**  
**10:00 AM**

75 Great Road  
Bedford, MA



uubedford.org