OPEN GROUPS & PROGRAMS

Faith Development

Sunday (PreK - 7th) during Sun Service

Jr. Youth Group (6th - 8th) every Sunday after the service

Sr. Youth Group (9th - 12th) every other Sun. after the service

Choirs

Adult Choir Thur 7:30 pm

Combined Youth Choirs Thurs. 5-6 pm and Fri 4-5 pm

Women's Book Group: monthly Sunday, 6 pm

Short Story Group: Thursday, 9:30 am

Join a Small Group: contact Rev. Annie

Multigenerational Gaming: 3rd Sunday, 2 pm

Friday Night Potluck Dinner: 1st Friday, 6 pm

Immigration Justice Committee: contact Luana Read

"Connect" with us to be added to our email list:

Volunteer

Connect

Donate

FIRST PARISH IN BEDFORD

A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

ORDER OF SERVICE

October 4, 2026

10:00 AM

75 Great Road

Bedford, MA

uubedford.org

“There is a Field. I’ll Meet You There.”

By Rev. Annie Gonzalez

October 4, 2026

“Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing,
There is a field. I’ll meet you there.” –Jalāl al-Din Muhammad Rūmī

Senior Minister SM	Rev. Jamie Hinson-Rieger
Minister of Faith Development MFD	Rev. Annie Gonzalez
Worship Associate WA	Stephanie Keep
Lay Pastoral Associate LPCA	LPC Member
Dir. of Faith Dev. For Children DFDC	Nate Sellers
Choir Director CD	Brad Conner
Youth Choir Director YCD	Janet Welby
Music Personnel	First Parish Adult Choir
	Steve Sussman, *piano*

A Warm Thanks to Today’s Volunteers:

Coffee: Heather Black, Carla Bradford, Paul Bradford, Stacy Chandler, Randi Currier

Tech: Bob Bass, Bob Dorer

Ushers: Sarah Dorer, Susan Lincoln

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 2nd 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

†Childcare for infants and children under 3 is available most Sunday mornings in our downstairs nursery.

Church Committee Chairs

Environmental Justice (EJC): Ginny Steel

Finance: Wendy Innis, *treasurer*

Gallery@FirstParish: Maria Green, Doris Smith

Hospitality: Catherine Van Praagh

Immigration Justice: Luana Read

IT: Sandy Currier

Lay Pastoral: Liz Connors

Membership: TBA

Music: Chris Tohline

Nominating: Sarah Dorer

Parish Council: Bea Brunkhorst

Partner Church: Sharon McDonald

Personnel: Carol Gregory

Physical Plant: Joel Parks

Stewardship: Sarah Dorer, Bill Rabinowitz

Social Responsibility: Moriah Tumbleson-Shaw

UU Urban Ministry Delegates: Cecile Mercado & Robert Schmalz

Parish Office: Monday to Friday, 10:00am - 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 nsellers@uubedford.org
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. John Gibbons
Parish Administrator:	Brenda Rybicki parishadministrator@uubedford.org
Assistant Admin:	Claudia Brooks cbrooks@uubedford.org
Music/Choir 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, Stacy Chandler, Tom Flannery, Marge Heckman, Wendy Innis

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

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SOUND OF THE BELL

PRELUDE "A Prayer for Peace" by Thomas Stumpf

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS WA

CHALICE LIGHTING MFD

OPENING HYMN* #188 "Come, Come Whoever You Are"

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

ANTHEM: "The Way of Peace" by Sheldon Curry
Text based on a prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

SHARE THE PLATE: Communities for Restorative Justice WA

OFFERTORY

REFLECTION: WA

HYMN: #1009 Meditation on Breathing

SERMON: "There is a Field. I'll Meet You There" by Rev. Annie Gonzalez

CLOSING HYMN* #1007 "There's a River Flowin' in my Soul"

BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISH CHALICE MFD

POSTLUDE

*Please rise in body or spirit

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Share the Plate: Communities for Restorative Justice: C4RJ's mission is to make justice transformative on both an individual and systemic level by providing a restorative alternative for all involved in a criminal case. At the heart of C4RJ's work is the restorative justice circle, which traces its roots back to indigenous peoples. The circle brings together the victim, the accused, and C4RJ's trained community volunteers to address the impact of the offense, and collectively develop an agreement to repair the harm. Rather than focusing solely on punishment, restorative justice holds the accused accountable, provides the victim a voice, strengthens relationships, rebuilds trust, and creates safer communities. After the service join C4RJ at our coffee hour to learn more about restorative justice.

Organ Gala Concert: First Parish will celebrate the restoration of its historic Hook & Hastings organ with a gala concert on Sunday, October 4 at 3 pm. Soloists Sandra LaBarge-Neumann, Heinrich Christensen, and David Carrier will perform works by J.S. Bach, Felix Mendelssohn, Gabriel Faure, Denis Bédard, Charles Ives, and P.D.Q. Bach. A reception will follow.

WEEKLY EVENTS

DAY	TIME	EVENT
SUNDAY	10:00 AM	Worship Service
	11:00 AM	Check-In Listening Circle
	11:00 AM	Continuing the Conversation
	11:30 AM	Fellowship & Coffee Hour
	3:00 PM	Organ Gala Concert
MONDAY	1:00 PM	Knot Committee
	3:00 PM	BIJAN Meeting
	7:00 PM	Internship Committee Mtg.
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	Ops. Meeting
	7:30 PM	Al-Anon Meeting
WEDNESDAY	7:30 PM	BFC Book Group
THURSDAY	9:30 AM	Short Story Group (Zoom)
	5:00 PM	Youth Choir
	7:30 PM	Adult Choir
FRIDAY	4:00 PM	Youth Choir
	4:45 PM	Violin Group Class
	5:00 PM	Public Witness Standout
	6:15 PM	"On Courage" Book Discussion
SATURDAY	NO EVENTS SCHEDULED	