**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 Thurs 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

November 15, 2026
10:00 AM

75 Great Road
Bedford, MA

uubedford.org

**“Un-Making our Covenants Well”**

By Rev. Annie Gonzalez

November 15, 2026

*“The human being…, as Martin Buber says, is the promise-making, promise-keeping, promise-breaking, promise-renewing creature.”* –James Luther Adams

| | |
|---|---|
| Senior Minister SM | Rev. Jamie Hinson-Rieger |
| Minister of Faith Development MFD | Rev. Annie Gonzalez |
| Worship Associate WA | Cath Van Praagh |
| Lay Pastoral Associate LPCA | LPC Associate |
| Dir. of Faith Dev. For Children DFDC | Nate Sellers |
| Ministerial Intern MI | Teresa English |
| Choir Director CD | Brad Conner |
| Youth Choir Director YCD | Janet Welby |
| Music Personnel | First Parish Adult Choir |
| | Steve Sussman, *piano* |
| | Carol Epple, *flute* |
| | Elizabeth Connors, *clarinet* |
| | Nathan Kimball, *cello* |

**A Warm Thanks to Today’s Volunteers:**

Coffee: Dorothy Africa, Raquel Bauman

Focal Point: Sue Paradis, *in loving memory of Mike Robinson*

Wall Hanging: “Autumn” quilted by Eleanor Mertz

Tech: Bob Bass, Bob Dorer, Craig Jackson, Bill Rabinowitz

Ushers: Larry Foresman, Lee Vorderer

**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

**Ministerial Internship:** Judith Frediani

**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<br>minister@uubedford.org |
| Minister Faith Development: | Rev. Annie Gonzalez<br>ministerfaithdev@uubedford.org |
| Dir. of FD for Children: | Nathan Sellers<br>nsellers@uubedford.org |
| Ministerial Intern: | Teresa English<br>tenglish@uubedford.org |
| Minister Emeritus: | Rev. John Gibbons |
| Parish Administrator: | Brenda Rybicki<br>parishadministrator@uubedford.org |
| Assistant Admin: | Claudia Brooks<br>cbrooks@uubedford.org |
| Music/Choir Director: | Brad Conner<br>bconner@uubedford.org |
| Youth Choir Director: | Janet Welby<br>jwelby@uubedford.org |
| Organist: | Sandra LaBarge-Neumann |
| Custodian: | Joe Mitchell |
| Parishioner Editor: | Carla Bradford<br>editors@uubedford.org |
| Parish Board President: | Stacy Chandler<br>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**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** WA

**CHALICE LIGHTING** MFD

**RESPONSIVE READING** #661 The Hearth Knoweth

**OPENING HYMN*** #1023 “Building Bridges” (Round)

**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** “Shadow River” by Elaine Hagenberg
Text by E. Pauline Johnson

**OFFERING** WA

**OFFERTORY**

**READINGS**

**HYMN** #323 Break Not the Circle

**SERMON:** “Un-Making our Covenants Well” by Rev. Annie Gonzalez

**CLOSING HYMN*** #188 “Come Come Whoever You Are”

**CLOSING WORDS** on grace by Julián Jamaica Soto MFD

**EXTINGUISH CHALICE** MFD

**POSTLUDE** "Simple Gifts"
Shaker traditional, arr. Hayes/Conner

*Please rise in body or spirit

| UNISON AFFIRMATION | |
|---|---|
| Love is the spirit of this church<br>And service is its law.<br>This is our great covenant:<br>To dwell together in peace,<br>To seek the truth in love,<br>And to help one another. | El amor es el Espíritu de esta Iglesia<br>y el servicio es su ley.<br>Este es nuestro gran pacto:<br>Vivir juntos en paz,<br>buscar la verdad en espíritu de amor,<br>y ayudarnos los unos a los otros. |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Fire Drill: We will be having a fire drill immediately after the service on Sunday, Nov 15.** The fire department will be on site to help us conduct the drill. This is not a surprise drill--we will remind you at the beginning of the service and again just before the drill, and provide directions for everyone, including children, parents, those with noise and light sensitivity, and those who need elevator accessibility. You may consider keeping your coat with you during the service in case it is cold on this day.

Food for Thought: Join us on Saturday, November 21st, from 6–8PM for a fun and thought-provoking conversation about artificial intelligence, ethics, and what it means to be human in an increasingly AI-driven world!

Office Closed 11/26 & 11/27: Please note that the office will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 for Thanksgiving.

## WEEKLY EVENTS

| DAY | TIME | EVENT |
|---|---|---|
| SUNDAY | 10:00 AM | Worship Service |
| | 10:00 AM | OWL |
| | 11:00 AM | Fire Drill |
| | 11:15 AM | Fellowship & Coffee Hour |
| | 11:15 AM | Postcard Writing Campaign |
| | 11:30 AM | Continuing the Conversation |
| | 11:30 AM | Gallery Committee Mtg |
| | 11:45 AM | Junior Youth Group |
| | 1:15 PM | Faith Devs Volunteer Training |
| | 2:00 PM | Multi-Generational Games |
| | 3:00 PM | American Classics Concert |
| | 6:00 PM | Women's Book Group |
| MONDAY | 1:00 PM | Knot Committee |
| | 6:30 PM | Monday Mom's SGM |
| TUESDAY | 10:30 AM | Ops Meeting |
| | 7:00 PM | Vespers |
| | 7:00 PM | Tohline Small Group Mtg |
| WEDNESDAY | 7:00 PM | Parish Board Mtg. |
| THURSDAY | 9:30 AM | Short Story Group (Zoom) |
| | 5:00 PM | Youth Choir |
| | 6:30 PM | Worship Associate Mtg |
| | 7:30 PM | Adult Choir |
| FRIDAY | 4:00 PM | Youth Choir |
| | 4:45 PM | Violin Class Dress Rehearsal |
| | 6:15 PM | "On Courage" Book Discussion |
| SATURDAY | 9:30 AM | BFC Playgroup |
| | 10:30 AM | Public Witness Standout |
| | 6:00 PM | Food for Thought |