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Eastertide  
April 7, 2024

**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  
**388 YEARS**  
ON THE WAY  
1 6 3 6 – 2 0 2 4

### April 7, 2024

<b>Preaching Today</b>	Emma Thomas, <i>Ministerial Intern</i>
<b>Liturgist</b>	Nora Willcutts, <i>Deacon</i>
<b>Leading Worship</b>	Carla Arevalo, <i>Pastoral Associate</i>
	Ahmaad Edmund, <i>Pastoral Associate</i>
	Lee Prouty, <i>tech support</i>
	Peter Sykes, <i>Music Director</i>
<b>Bulletin Cover Image</b>	Freddie Funck, <i>First Church member</i>

### Today's Programs and Events

9:30 a.m.	Adult Formation: Middler Book & Bible Study, Harter Room and via Zoom
9:30 a.m.	Confirmation Class for 8/9th graders, The Well
10:15 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and <a href="#">via livestream</a>
12:15 p.m.	Refreshments in Margaret Jewett Hall
12:30 p.m.	Leavetaking Gathering, Harter Room
7:30 p.m.	Night Song, Sanctuary and <a href="#">via livestream</a>

### New to First Church?

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

### Give to First Church

You can give electronically by using the QR code in the bulletin or explore more options for giving at: [www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give)

### 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)

### Minister On Call

If you have an urgent pastoral need, please call 617-547-2724 ext. 222. Your call will be routed to a First Church minister based on a rotating schedule that covers staff time off.

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

*For those participating at home, we invite you to bring bread or crackers and water, juice, or wine to your home altar, so that you may participate in Holy Communion. All are welcome at the Table!*

### VOLUNTARY

All Glory Be to God on High

J. S. Bach

### \*HYMN 212

Sing of One Who Walks Beside Us

### \*GREETING

Nora Willcutts

L: Siblings in the Spirit, grace and peace to you from God!

**C: From God the Life Giver, peace to you!**

L: Let us praise our God in the presence of Love —

**C: Love divine, stronger than death!**

L: Let us praise God in the companionship of the Risen Christ —

**C: The Risen Christ, source of gentleness, who abides with us now!**

L: Together, let us proclaim God's justice and love for all creation!

### WORDS OF WELCOME

### ANTHEM

Now the Green Blade Riseth

Traditional, arr. P. Sykes

## CONFESSING

### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

### SILENCE

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray for healing, pardon, and peace:

**All: God of Justice, when we settle for the way things are instead of the way you would have them be, forgive us.**

**When we are paralyzed by fear or limited in vision, increase our trust in you.**

**When we offer charity, but fail to work for justice, show us what your love requires.**

**When we walk ahead or behind, instead of with our neighbor, open our eyes to their humanity.**

**When we tire of the struggle, and tomorrow feels overwhelming, restore our hope and renew our courage,**

**In the name of Jesus, our brother, Amen.**

*\*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 FORGIVENESS

### \*GREETING OF PEACE

### \*HYMN 340

Peace Before Us

*Children up through 7th grade are now invited to Church School: Pastoral Care Sunday in Margaret Jewett Hall. Children will return to worship in time for Communion.*

## OPENING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

### READING

John 20:19-31

### SERMON

Emma Thomas

### \*HYMN 424

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

## SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ahmaad Edmund

### INVITATION TO OFFERING

*Our offering supports the many ministries of our church, with 10% for missions in the community and beyond. Please use our new [all-in-one link](#) for gifts from your bank account or by credit/debit card:*



### OFFERTORY

Bwana Awabariki

Swahili hymn

### \*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**O Jesus, risen now to bless,  
do thou thyself our hearts possess;  
that we may give thee all our days  
the willing tribute of our praise!**

## SHARING THE FEAST

### \*INVITATION

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

## REMEMBERING AND GIVING THANKS

Carla Arevalo

L: Friends, now we remember Jesus and his generosity to us.  
*(Silence)*

L: We remember how he fed the five thousand people with only a loaf of bread and a few fish.

**C: We remember how he never left anyone hungry.**

L: We remember how Jesus welcomed the children.

**C: We remember how he didn't turn them or anyone away.**

L: We remember that the women came, early in the morning, on the third day.

**C: They did not find him among the dead.**

L: We remember that disciples met him on the road.

**C: They knew him when he broke the bread.**

L: He gave thanks, and shared it with them—  
his body, surrendered for all.

**C: He gave thanks, and passed a cup to them—  
his life blood poured out for all.  
Do this, he said, and remember me.**

## PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

### 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.**

### SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*All who seek to follow Jesus' way of compassion, justice, and peace are welcome at this table. At the three stations in the front of the sanctuary, we invite you to take a piece of bread from the plate and dip it into the cup. The cup is filled with grape juice and the bread is gluten-free. Anyone who, for any reason, is not able to come forward will be served in the pews. For those here in the Sanctuary, please first approach one of the stations with your bulletins and then gather in the round for the closing hymn. We'll make the circle wide enough to include the front pews for those who need to stay seated.*

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

L: Let us give thanks!

All: **Thank you, God, for the gladness in this bread and cup,  
for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give,  
for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation,  
and for the mission of justice you have made our own.  
Give us the gifts of this holy communion —  
oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies,  
the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

## GOING FORTH

\*HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

see pg. 5

\*BENEDICTION

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### 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.*



SCAN ME

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



212 Sing of One Who Walks Beside Us

1. Sing of one who walks be-side us and this day is liv-ing still,  
 2. We have walked with him as strang-ers through the jour-ney of the day,  
 3. Ris-en one, stay with us, raise us, once a-gain the night is near.

one who now is clos-er to us than the thoughts our hearts dis-till,  
 and have told him of the ter-ror that has swept our hope a-way.  
 Dine with us and share your wis-dom, free our hearts from ev-'ry fear.

Christ who once up-on a hill-top, raised a-gainst the power of sin,  
 He has of-fered words of com-fort, words of en-er-gy and light.  
 In the calm of each new eve-ning, in the fresh-ness of each dawn,

died in love as his own crea-tures cru-ci-fied their God and Friend!  
 Did our hearts not blaze with-in us as he broke the bread this night?  
 if you hold us fast in friend-ship we will nev-er be a-lone.

PEACE HYMN

340

Peace Before Us



1. Peace be - fore us, peace be - hind us, peace be - neath our feet.
2. Love be - fore us, love be - hind us, love be - neath our feet.
3. Light be - fore us, light be - hind us, light be - neath our feet.
4. Christ be - fore us, Christ be - hind us, Christ be - neath our feet.



*Additional verses: joy, truth, hope.*

WORDS: David Haas, (b.1957), alt., based on a Navaho prayer  
MUSIC: David Haas, (b.1957); harm. FCC, 1997

PRAYER FOR PEACE  
445.447

Words, music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.  
Harm. © 1998 FCC Houston TX



- Peace with - in us, peace a - bove us, let all a - round us be peace.
- Love with - in us, love a - bove us, let all a - round us be love.
- Light with - in us, light a - bove us, let all a - round us be light.
- Christ with - in us, Christ a - bove us, let all a - round us be Christ.





424 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

1. We walk by faith and not by sight;  
 2. We may not touch Christ's hands and side,  
 3. Help then, O Christ, our un-belief;  
 4. That, when our life of faith is done,

no gra-cious words we hear from Christ who spoke as  
 nor fol-low where Christ trod; but in con-fess-ing  
 and may our faith a-bound to call on you when  
 in realms of clear-er light we may be-hold you

none e'er spoke, who still we know is near.  
 we re-joice: our Sav-ior and our God!  
 you are near and seek where you are found:  
 as you are, with full and end-less sight.

CLOSING HYMN

444

Lord of All Hopefulness

1. Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
 2. Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
 3. Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
 4. Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,  
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,  
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray, your  
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray, your  
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray, your  
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray, your

bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
 strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
 love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
 peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for the family and friends of longtime First Church member Alice Kidder, who died peacefully on March 10, surrounded by family and following an extended time of declining health.
- We pray for Claire Morgan's mother Dana Hunt, who is recovering from surgery as a part of her pancreatic cancer treatment.
- We pray for Mike Stevens, who is recovering from aortic valve replacement surgery.
- We celebrate the birth of Brent and Poppy Coffin's grandchild, Shiloh Grace Hurst, born on March 14, and we pray for the family as they welcome Shiloh into the world. We continue to pray for Brent and Poppy as Poppy experiences a significant decline in her struggle with Alzheimer's.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer and other ongoing health challenges: Carol Wilson-Braun, who is managing ALS; Carter West, who is experiencing a chronic neurological disorder; Dana Hunt, Claire Morgan's mother; Jim Rae, Ami Brenner's father; Ellen Smith, Devin Hansen's aunt; Judith Semmler, Alice Napoleon Jones's mother; Karen Anne Zee's daughter Becky Collet and her son-in-law Stewart Bailey; Beth and Polly, Ann McCann's sisters; Lisa DiNardo's friend Graziella Macchetta; and Abby Shuman's uncle Barry.
- We pray for the people of Baltimore as they recover from the collapse of the Francis Scott Key bridge. We pray especially for the families of the six construction workers who died.
- We pray for all impacted by the Israeli airstrike that accidentally struck and killed seven courageous aid workers. We pray that the urgent work of the World Central Kitchen and other aid organizations resumes quickly.
- We pray for the people of Taiwan and surrounding countries in the wake of a deadly 7.4 magnitude earthquake.
- We pray for the many families seeking emergency shelter in cities and towns across our state.
- We continue to pray for all who are recovering from recent natural and climate related disasters. We pray for our rapidly warming planet and for redoubled efforts to reduce fossil fuel emissions.
- We pray for the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where ongoing armed conflicts have led to more than 6 million people killed and more than 5 million people displaced from their homes. We pray also for those who have experienced devastating incidents of gender-based violence during the conflicts.
- We pray for all those impacted by the violence of war and political upheaval, throughout the Middle East, in Ukraine, and in Sudan. We pray especially for the people of Haiti, given the heart-wrenching turmoil and gang-related violence leading to the near-collapse of the government and human services sector.
- We pray for political and climate refugees and migrants who make often life-threatening border crossings over land and open water. We pray for wisdom and justice to prevail as our court system tackles issues of immigration in its rulings.

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for the wellbeing and safety of our trans and gender non-conforming siblings as they face the experience of vitriolic public discourse and of state laws that restrict and criminalize transgender health care, personal expression, and wider LGBTQ+ education.
- We continue to pray for those most affected by changes in reproductive rights: for all those struggling with the moral and political complexities of pregnancy and childbearing, and for patients and healthcare providers who are unable to give and receive care in their own states.
- We pray for the 14 men finding sustenance and protection in our First Church Shelter; and we pray for the guests of the Friday Café, who are finding resources and listening ears.

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



### **In Memoriam**

A memorial service for beloved First Church member Alice Kidder will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 20, in the Sanctuary and via livestream, with a reception to follow in Margaret Jewett Hall.

### **Prayer for Israel and Palestine**

As the war in Gaza and Israel continues, and as the threat of famine in Gaza looms, our hearts cry out in prayer. With the death of 1400 Israelis and over 33,000 Palestinians so far, we pray for an end to the war and immediate de-escalation of tensions in the region that are threatening a wider and more lasting conflict. We decry the horrifically violent Hamas attacks against Israel on October 7, as well as the disproportionate use of force by the Israeli government and military.

We hold that every person is made in God's image and that every life is precious. We pray for the safe return of all hostages. We pray for redoubled diplomatic efforts to address the already devastating humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the ongoing occupation of Palestinian territories. We continue to pray for a just peace in Palestine and Israel and throughout the region. We also pray for Jews and Muslims, nearby and around the world, who are facing increased threats and acts of anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim discrimination, hatred, and violence.

We continue to pray for ourselves, that we will be courageous, faithful, compassionate, and open to God's love and leading, and to all whom we encounter through these tension-filled times. Across whatever division or disagreement, may our words and deeds seek to honor the humanity and God-given dignity of every human being.



**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 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.

## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

### Middler Book & Bible Study

Today, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m., Harter Room and via Zoom

Join First Church's 5th graders to hear about their learning during this Church School year. Prepare by reading [Stella By Starlight](#), a middle reader novel set in rural North Carolina during the Jim Crow era that students have explored side-by-side with Biblical stories about Moses and his life experiences. All are welcome!



### Piano Music Giveaway

Today, 12:15-12:45 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall

There will be a wide assortment of piano music (both sheet music and books) available after worship. Selections include adult and child level music, duets, Christmas music, etc. Everyone is invited to take a look, especially children, adult piano players, and piano teachers. The music is free, but if you feel so moved, a contribution could be directed to First Church's [Frobenius Organ Fund](#) or to the music program of the church.

### Transition at First Church: Leavetaking Gathering

Today, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m., Harter Room

As we move through a season of pastoral transition, the Leavetaking Team offers an opportunity to meet in a small group to hold each other's thoughts, worries, ideas, hopes, and feelings. See other dates and times for gatherings on page 8.



PETER SYKES

On Sunday, April 7 at 3 p.m., Peter Sykes, a 12-year-old sophomore at Rockton High School, will present a keyboard concert piano, harpsichord, and classical music. He will display the instruments and play compositions appropriate to each.

Sykes built his own harpsichord from a kit supplied by Zuckerman Harpsichords of New York. He also built the harpsichord from a kit supplied by Frank Stalder, author of "Three Centuries of Harpsichord Making," and the man

### Peter Sykes Celebrates Anniversary of First Recital

Today at 3:00 p.m., via YouTube Premiere

Fifty years ago, on Sunday, April 7, 1974, at 3:00 p.m., First Church Music Director Peter Sykes gave his first harpsichord recital. (He was a sophomore in high school.) To commemorate the occasion, Peter will present a virtual harpsichord recital on the very same instrument that he and his father built from a kit. Visit the church's [events calendar](#) to find the link to the virtual performance this afternoon.

### Night Song

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

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.](#)





## TRANSITION AT FIRST CHURCH

### Schedule a Meeting with Dan

As I share in [this followup letter](#) to my February 4 farewell letter, my last Sunday in worship will be June 9. I hope to see many of you there, and before as well! Starting in late April, I'm clearing much of my weekday schedule for 1:1s and small group meetings with as many of you as possible. This is time for whatever you may need—a last pastoral check-in, a chance to wrap up a shared project, a time to laugh and/or cry together, a goodbye hug. Please visit [my Calendly site](#) to pick a time and place, via Zoom or in person!



### Update from the Interim Search Team

As the Interim Search Team, we are tasked with finding a full-time interim minister, who will provide pastoral leadership after Dan leaves and as we seek to call a “settled” minister. We are following the UCC Call Process for interim ministers.

Thank you to those who answered our questionnaire. We received 49 responses, which offered us a variety of perspectives and allowed us to see some important common themes arising in many of the answers. This gave us guidance and information that we are finding useful as we continue the work to find our interim minister.

We have begun to review the ministerial profiles of the candidates sent to us from the Southern New England Conference office. We expect that we will begin initial interviews shortly. We are engaged and excited for our next steps in this process. We look forward to the time when we can share the successful conclusion of the interim search.

*- Jim Cairns, Claire Morgan, Stephen Weller, and Linda Ziebell*

## TRANSITION AT FIRST CHURCH



### Leavetaking Gatherings

The Leavetaking Team hosted the first gathering to discuss Senior Minister Dan Smith's upcoming departure from First Church, and now plan to proceed with offering opportunities to meet one-to-one or in small groups to hold each other's thoughts, worries, ideas, hopes, and feelings. See the times and places offered in the coming weeks; please **[USE THIS FORM?]** email the host if you plan to join.

We look forward to spending time with you.

#### **Monday, April 8**

3:00 p.m., hosted by Alex Steinert-Evoy at her home in Watertown

5:00 p.m., via Zoom, hosted by Amy Matias

#### **Wednesday, April 10**

12:00 p.m., via Zoom, hosted by Alex Steinert-Evoy at her home in Watertown

#### **Thursday, April 11**

7:00 p.m., via Zoom, hosted by Beth Spaulding

#### **Friday, April 12**

3:00 p.m., Nubar in the Sheraton Commander Hotel, hosted by Beth Spaulding

#### **Sunday, April 14**

9:30 a.m., Harter Room, hosted by Bruce Hoppe

#### **Monday, April 15**

3:00 p.m., hosted by Alex Steinert-Evoy at her home in Watertown

5:00 p.m., via Zoom, hosted by Amy Matias

#### **Wednesday, April 17**

7:00 p.m., via Zoom, hosted by Alex Steinert-Evoy

#### **Thursday, April 18**

7:00 p.m., via Zoom, hosted by Beth Spaulding

#### **Friday, April 19**

3:00 p.m., Nubar in the Sheraton Commander Hotel, hosted by Beth Spaulding

#### **Sunday, April 21**

9:30 a.m., Harter Room, hosted by Bruce Hoppe

## REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT MINISTRY

### Opportunities to Help

We have some exciting news to share about a new initiative within our First Church Refugee Ministry (formerly known as Welcome Corps) – and we need your help!

We are collaborating with the recently-opened MA Safety Net Family Shelter located in the Registry of Deeds (RoD) Building in East Cambridge. This shelter is already at capacity and is housing 200 people from 60 families, all new migrants to the US. You may recall that the Welcome Corps refugees with whom we were matched have been indefinitely delayed. Given this, we decided to shift our efforts to support migrants already in our community during the current crisis and to utilize our resources in a relevant and engaged way.

After meeting with the East Cambridge Shelter, City, and State staff, we have two projects that we are taking on right away. Please note that details may change as we continue to collaborate with the East Cambridge Shelter.

### Teen Room

The East Cambridge Shelter has a space it would like to dedicate to its twenty kids aged 12 – 18. We plan to create a cool, cozy, and productive space for schoolwork, hang-out time, and fun. This will be an immediate and time-limited project. We need volunteers who are interested in:

- connecting with Shelter leadership to plan the space;
- brainstorm what should be there;
- source, purchase, and deliver items;
- and finally, set-up the space.



### Welcome Center at FCC

The Shelter is closed from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, leaving guests to find places to go during the chilly days. We would like to welcome them to our church building by providing Margaret Jewett Hall as a multi-purpose space to meet some of their needs, starting with a few Tuesday mornings in April. We need volunteers who can provide:

- greeting and general support during our open hours
- meal support - sourcing, buying, serving and cleaning up lunch
- translation in Haitian-Creole, Spanish, and French
- tutoring for ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages)
- job coaching
- childcare for little ones not enrolled in school

If you would like to volunteer or learn more, please reach out to Martha Mueller Cook at: [marthamuellercook@gmail.com](mailto:marthamuellercook@gmail.com).

We look forward to hearing from you very soon about getting involved!

## EASTERTIDE AT FIRST CHURCH



### Young Adults: Bowling!

**Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., Sacco's Bowl Haven, Davis Square**

Come join other young adults (20s and 30s) from First Church for bowling, pizza, and fun times at Sacco's in Somerville! Our budget will cover lanes and shoes for everyone who signs up. This event is open to anyone in the age group, whether you're just exploring First Church or have been here a while and are looking to meet some new folks.

### Ecclesiastical Council for Jaz Buchanan

**Tuesday, April 9, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., via Zoom**

An Ecclesiastical Council (EC) is the final step in the process leading to ordination in the United Church of Christ. The EC for First Church's former Pastoral Associate Jaz Buchanan is taking place on Tuesday, April 9, and you are invited to bear witness to her accomplishments. This gathering is a time to hear Jaz present her theological reflections and take questions from member churches in our geographic association of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ. If you wish to attend, please [RSVP here](#) to receive the Zoom link.



**MA STATEWIDE  
REPARATIONS  
CONVENING**

April 10th, 2024 | 6-7:30PM

**Harm  
Repair  
Justice**

HOSTED IN PARTNERSHIP BY:  
MA BLACK REPARATIONS COLLECTIVE



The MA Black Reparations Collective (New England N'COBRA, Black Mass Coalition, Reparations for Massachusetts, Embrace Boston, Encuentro Diaspora Afro, UMass Boston Africana Studies Dept & its partners) invites you to the Massachusetts Statewide Reparations Convening! This event is your chance to join a crucial conversation about reparations. Whether you're new to the topic or a seasoned advocate, this convening is for you. Get ready to engage with experts, activists, and community members from across the state. Together, we'll explore ways to address historical injustices and create a more equitable future. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be part of the movement for change! Register [HERE](#).



### GBIO Housing Justice Lobby Day

**Thursday, April 11, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. [NOTE TIME CHANGE!]**

**Massachusetts State House, Beacon St., Boston**

Meet up with others from the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) at the State House steps to remind our legislators of their commitments from our In-District Meetings (IDM) campaign, and show them we won't back down! [REGISTER HERE!](#)

## EASTERTIDE AT FIRST CHURCH



### **Aging with Grace Monthly Meeting**

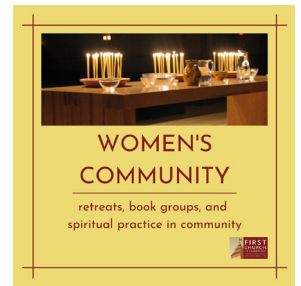
**Tuesday, April 16, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m., via Zoom**

Join Ginny Harlan, Martha Cook, and Dan Smith for a monthly support group where we offer each other companionship and spiritual resources as we grow into our elderhood. We are using Joan Chittister's book *The Gift of Years* as a starting point to conversation and reflection, and our reading for this month is "Relationships" (pp. 79-83). Please remember to come prepared to share a passage from the reading that is particularly compelling for you. You are also welcome to join at any time; homework is not a requirement for participation!

### **Women's Community Book Group**

**Tuesday, April 16, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., via Zoom**

Please join the women of FCC for a rip-roaring discussion of Drew Gilpin Faust's [\*Necessary Trouble: Growing Up at Midcentury\*](#). This is a memoir by the former president of Harvard that describes her life as "a privileged white girl in conservative, segregated Virginia [who] was expected to adopt a willful blindness to the inequities of race and the constraints of gender. The acceptance of both female subordination and racial hierarchy proved intolerable and galvanizing, [and] she found resistance was necessary for her survival." As we think of our own roles in society, Faust's book is a great inspiration!



### **Reparations in Cambridge**

**Sunday, April 21, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall**

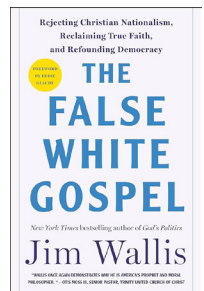
Learn about reparations in Cambridge and a new Reparationist Club. Join local community members for an interactive discussion on how the City of Cambridge is approaching reparations and pathways to repair harm from the racial caste system. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn further on transitional justice, human rights, caste, transnational solidarity, and reparations through monthly Reparationist Club meetings held by local reparative justice organization, [\*Grow to Consume\*](#). Please register here: [bit.ly/repaircambridgemarch](https://bit.ly/repaircambridgemarch)

### **Jim Wallis presents *The False White Gospel***

**Sunday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m.**

**University Lutheran Church, 66 Winthrop St., Cambridge**

Jim Wallis is a writer, preacher, and justice advocate who believes the gospel of Jesus must be transformed from its cultural and political captivities, and always be "good news" to the poor and oppressed. He is a *New York Times* bestselling author, public theologian, renowned preacher, and commentator on ethics and public life. For more information about this free public event, contact: [office2@unilu.org](mailto:office2@unilu.org).







# THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



## Monday, April 8

- 4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Gathering, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, Harter Room and via Zoom

## Tuesday, April 9

- 10:30 a.m. Communications Team Meeting, The Landing and via Zoom
- 6:30 p.m. Young Adults: Bowling, Sacco's Bowl Haven, Davis Square
- 7:00 p.m. Ecclesiastical Council for Jaz Buchanan, via Zoom

## Wednesday, April 10

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room and via Zoom
- 4:00 p.m. Gifts Discernment Committee, via Zoom
- 6:30 p.m. Faith & Life Group: Reparations Book Group, via Zoom

## Thursday, April 11

- 3:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Committee, via Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Drop-In Bible Study, via Zoom

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

## Friday, April 12

- 12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)

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

## Sunday, April 14

- 9:30 a.m. Leavetaking Gathering, Harter Room
- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream
- 12:15 p.m. Refreshments in Margaret Jewett Hall
- 12:30 p.m. Leavetaking Gathering, Harter Room
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary and via livestream

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