

FIRST PARISH OF WESTWOOD, UCC

Growing Faith + Sharing Love + Grounding Lives



January 21, 2021

This Sunday

This Sunday, January 24, we hear Jesus on the shore of the Sea of Galilee saying to the initial disciples, *"Follow me."*

That text will be used to wrestle with a question posed by the winner of the First Parish Auction during the *"Wreaths and More ..."* Christmas Fair. The "winner" asked for a sermon on *"how does one know"* God's call for one's life.



In consultation with our finalist, we looked at the lectionary texts for this winter and spring and thought this text with the disciples responding *"immediately"* may be revelatory. From the text, we do not know if these fishermen had ever met Jesus or not. Jesus certainly did not yet have a reputation as a teacher or healer or miracle worker or as one raised from humiliation, suffering, and death; so, *how did they know* to follow?

Join us for worship this Sunday. *And invite a friend!* We are worshipping virtually using the congregation's Facebook page. Even if you are not a Facebook member, when you click on <https://www.facebook.com/First-Parish-of-Westwood-120302557982716> you should be taken to the church's Facebook page. While on Facebook, please "share" the church's post on your Facebook page.

Jesse Aguilar, assisted by Fina, will ring the hour, the **Edens/Zimmer** family will lead you in a participatory story about the prophet Jonah, **Judith Thomson** will read the Warrant for the February 7 Annual Meeting, **Bob Deininger** will read the Gospel lesson, **Sarah Tocco** will offer music and the **First Parish Choir** will sing *Will You Come and Follow Me*, a hymn from the Iona Community in Scotland.

Please join us on Sunday morning at <https://www.facebook.com/First-Parish-of-Westwood-120302557982716>. And while on Facebook, please "share" the church's post on your Facebook page.

In faith,
Richard Edens

Annual Budget Meeting

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

Our 2020 Fiscal Annual Meeting will be held virtually after Zoom Communion on Sunday, February 7th. Please join us for this important discussion about our 2021 budget.

**SEVENTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING
THE FIRST PARISH OF WESTWOOD, UNITED CHURCH**



Under the authority of the constitution of First Parish, United Church, notice is hereby given that the

Under the authority of the Constitution of First Parish, United Church, notice is hereby given that the Seventy-Second Annual Meeting of the First Parish of Westwood, United Church will be held on Sunday, February 7th 2021 on Zoom following the service of Communion. The meeting will take action upon the following agenda:

1. To approve and accept the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting.
2. To hear and approve the Treasurer's Report for 2020.
3. To hear the proposed budget for 2021.
4. To hear and act on any other matters which may properly come before this meeting.

Judith A. Thomson
Clerk

Bible Study Continues...



Light Up Your Winter Bible Study

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 5PM

**Zoom Bible Study,
(<https://zoom.us/j/95721703863>)**

Join your pastors and other church friends for Bible study on Tuesday, January 26 at 5pm via

Zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/95721703863>).

We will look at the lectionary readings for Sundays, January 31 and February 7. Having just read about the beginning of Jesus' ministry in Mark's gospel, we will encounter Jesus being confronted by demonic powers [Mark 1:21-28] and then illness [Mark 1:29-34]. To begin the conversation, ponder these questions:

- Before we begin hearing "*Tubular Bells*" playing in the background, our nation has just been shaken to its core. How do we confront the legacy and allegiance that too many have to white supremacy?
- We have access to medicines and health care unimaginable in Jesus' day. Even so, are advances in medicine all that is needed to heal broken lives and a broken world?

Again, join us as we read together these texts in preparation for worship on January 31 and February 7 via Zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/95721703863>) and discuss the challenge of power turned in on itself and illness.

As we have learned no time is right for everyone. If you are able, please join us at this time. If you are interested, and this is not a good time, please let us know (jrichardedens@gmail.com or jillredens@gmail.com).

New Address

Stephen DeFoe moved on 1/18/2021 to

Smiley Derego moved on 1/18/21 to:

Pond Home
289 East St., Wrentham, MA 02093
Room E202
(C) 774-254-2653

She would love cards and phone calls from her friends at First Parish.



Local Girl Scout Troops Selling Cookies



It is Girl Scout Cookie Time.

Since girls cannot go door-to-door selling cookies this year or have the traditional booths, the Westwood Girl Scouts have organized a drive-thru, pick-up booth on Saturday, February 13 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Hanlon School in Westwood. Customers order and pay for their cookies ahead of time and have a contactless

pick up on February 13. This booth benefits multiple Girl Scout Troops in Westwood. You can also purchase and donate cookies, which will be given to the Westwood Food Pantry, the Senior Center and the staff at the BI Needham. If you are homebound for any reason and unable to pick up your order please email westwoodgirlscoutcookies@gmail.com to arrange for doorstep delivery. All orders can be placed online here:

<http://bit.ly/38CAzz5>

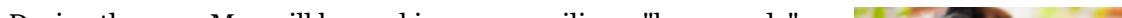
Welcome Videos Requested

We are currently seeking volunteers to do a "Welcome to service at First Parish" video. We encourage you to get creative and have fun.

If you have questions, contact Amie Colcord at amiecolcord@gmail.com. Please submit completed videos to Doug Hyde at dkhydema@gmail.com.



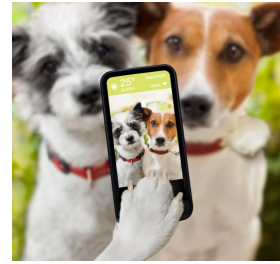
Send a Selfie!



During the year, Meg will be working on compiling a "homemade" pictorial directory as a gift for our new settled Pastor.

Pastors Rick and Jill Edens invite you to email Meg a "selfie" of you/your family. Please send all pictures to:
office@firstparishwestwood.org.

Feel free to get creative!



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www.firstparishwestwood.org

STAY CONNECTED



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