

Stewardship @ FPS

Stewardship at First Parish of Sudbury is deeply connected to the fifth Unitarian Universalist principle, "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large". Together, as a congregation, we make decisions. We call our minister and we elect officers and trustees. We decide how we will spend our money and vote on our annual budget at a congregational meeting. We also make our own individual decisions about our commitment to First Parish – how much we will pledge and what our volunteer work will be.

Living Abundantly was selected as the theme for the 2014-2015 Annual Pledge Drive because it honors the generosity of members and friends of First Parish – the financial commitment and the countless volunteer hours. It also celebrates our willingness to have big dreams – dreams of First Parish having even greater impact in the world through welcoming new members and through living our faith outside the meetinghouse walls.

Welcome ▪ Sustain ▪ Inspire ▪ Connect
Work for Justice

We are First Parish of Sudbury, a diverse and welcoming community of spiritual seekers; we strive to learn together and support one another as we celebrate life's important moments and serve the larger community.



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First Parish of Sudbury
Unitarian Universalist



Stewardship
2014 - 2015





Honoring the Past

Do you remember the first time you visited First Parish? For some that might have been last month; for others, it was decades ago.

Our history and traditions are important – regardless of how long ago you first walked through the door. Music Sunday, gathering together for in-home dinners, singing *Silent Night* by candlelight on Christmas Eve, the Coming of Age program, lighting the chalice, Flower Communion – these and other traditions continue. Some are unique to First Parish; others connect us to UU churches across the globe.



Celebrating the Present

What energy and enthusiasm are present this year as we begin the newest chapter of the congregation's life with our 44th settled minister!

First Saturday pot lucks, volunteering at Open Table, a redesigned website, creative worship themes, new programs such as *Ethical Eating* - these are just a few of the ways First Parish nourishes our spirits and our minds.

Creating the Future

One of most exciting new initiatives is developing ***a long term vision for our future***. The Trustees have begun the process and soon the entire congregation will be involved in envisioning what First Parish might look like in five years. What is your vision for how this community of seekers will enrich the lives of its members and the larger community in the coming years? With your support, we can make our vision a reality!



Facts & Figures

- The First Parish annual operating budget is slightly less than \$320K.
- Approximately 75% of our revenue comes from pledges.
- 130 households participated in the 2013 Annual Pledge Drive
- Sixty-five percent of our budget is salaries and benefits.
- We contribute approximately 2.5% of our budget to the First Parish Equity Fund to ensure ongoing care of our historic meetinghouse.

The 2014-2015 Annual Pledge Drive kicks off on March 2nd!

An increase in your pledge will help us ***begin the work to reach the shared vision of our five-year plan***. An increase in your pledge will also allow us to close our current budget gap; provide salary increases to our staff; fund initiatives such as website, increased outreach, Living Our Faith, and stewardship; and contribute fair share dues to the UUA and Clara Barton-Mass Bay District.

Questions? Contact us at
Stewardship@FPSudbury.org.