



SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2009

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YOU'RE INVITED TO THE INAUGURATION!

Well, that is, **watching** the inauguration in our wonderful viewing room, The Commons, at First Parish. On Tuesday, January 20, before the swearing in at noon, bring your lunch if you wish, and join your First Parish friends to watch history being made, in style, on the Big Screen.

IN-HOME DINNERS IN FEBRUARY

Have you decided about hosting or attending an In-Home Dinner in February? Have you let Sue Carboni know, by email or phone?

In-Home Dinners are a wonderful opportunity for longtime and newer members and friends to become better acquainted. They are fun, informal potluck dinners that take place in the homes of First Parish hosts.

The dates for this year are: Saturday, February 7 evening, Sunday February 8 with a 1:00 brunch option and a dinner option, and Friday February 13 evening. Check your calendars, contact Sue C to let her know that you would like to participate, and let her know if you would like to host.

EXPERIENCE INTERPLAY AND SOULCOLLAGE

Half-day Retreat Saturday, Jan. 24, 1:00-4:30 in The Commons

Participants will explore the place of fruitful darkness within each of us. Leaders C.C. King and Pam Swing suggest that the retreat will help us ask: "When there is a deep quietness in nature, what does our spirit/body/soul crave? Can we get a peek at what be already incubating within, waiting for the return of the light to grow?"

Advanced registration is required and the fee for the retreat is \$45; scholarship money is available. To learn more about InterPlay and SoulCollage, call or email Rev. Katie Lee Crane. To register, call or email the First Parish Office.

This Sunday's Worship Service

Sunday, January 18
"ARE WE FREE?"
 Mr. Rob Kinslow

On the eve of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Barack Obama's inauguration as the nation's first African American president, Rob Kinslow will challenge you to ask yourself, "Am I free?" Is freedom merely a state of mind or is it impossible to be—and feel—free without certain laws and social mores in place? Music, magic and poetry will be featured in response to these questions at First Parish's Jan. 18 Sunday service, which will begin at 10 a.m. and is open to all.

The service will be led by Rob Kinslow, a member of First Parish as well as a writer and professional magician. Of the service, Kinslow writes, "Everyone wants to be free; it's a universal desire and, one might say, the core of all other desires. Even as the first decade of the new millennium winds down, people the world over continue to fight for freedom, and it sometimes seems as if very few of us feel truly free, even in the land of the free. We have so much yet feel limited. Why? As we anticipate the inauguration of our first black president and note its poetic proximity to Martin Luther King Jr. Day—and as we struggle with a recession and other historic tides that constrain us—now seems a good time to search our souls and ask: what does it take to liberate oneself? How can I rise above daily struggles, as Dr. King urged us to do? What do I need to be free?"

There will be a Hearthside Chat in the Brackett Room following social hour at 11:45 a.m. to continue the conversation on the day's topic and the issues it raises.



BOWLS TO BENEFIT

The Religious Exploration Committee and the Community and Hospitality Committee are teaming up to offer everyone the chance to decorate beautiful ceramics, **and** to make a difference by helping the Sudbury Area Food Pantry.

On Sunday, Jan. 25 at 11:30 come to the Multipurpose Room on the ground floor to paint a ceramic bowl, plate, or mug. All ages are welcome, and there will be helpers. **Each person who decorates a ceramic piece will also pay for it on that day.** The pieces will be fired, and brought back before the next Sunday.

On Sun., Feb. 1, people who painted and paid the week before can pick up their bowl, plate, or mug, and we will treat you to a scoop of ice cream to say thanks. Extra pieces will also be available on Feb. 1 for purchase (and ice cream) for those who weren't able to come on Jan. 25.

The mugs, plates, and bowls will cost between \$15 and \$20 which will cover the cost of the ceramics and provide a donation to the Sudbury Area Food Pantry. For more information, contact Roberta Altamari.

UUSC CALLS FOR DONATIONS TO THE GAZA HUMANITARIAN CRISIS FUND

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is especially concerned for the safety and well-being of the civilians in Gaza who are now caught in the middle of a destructive military operation and have no place to seek safety.

The humanitarian crisis in Gaza becomes more desperate with each passing day. More than 700 Palestinians have been killed, and hundreds of thousands more civilians are in grave danger not only from military action but from disease and hunger because of the lack of relief aid.

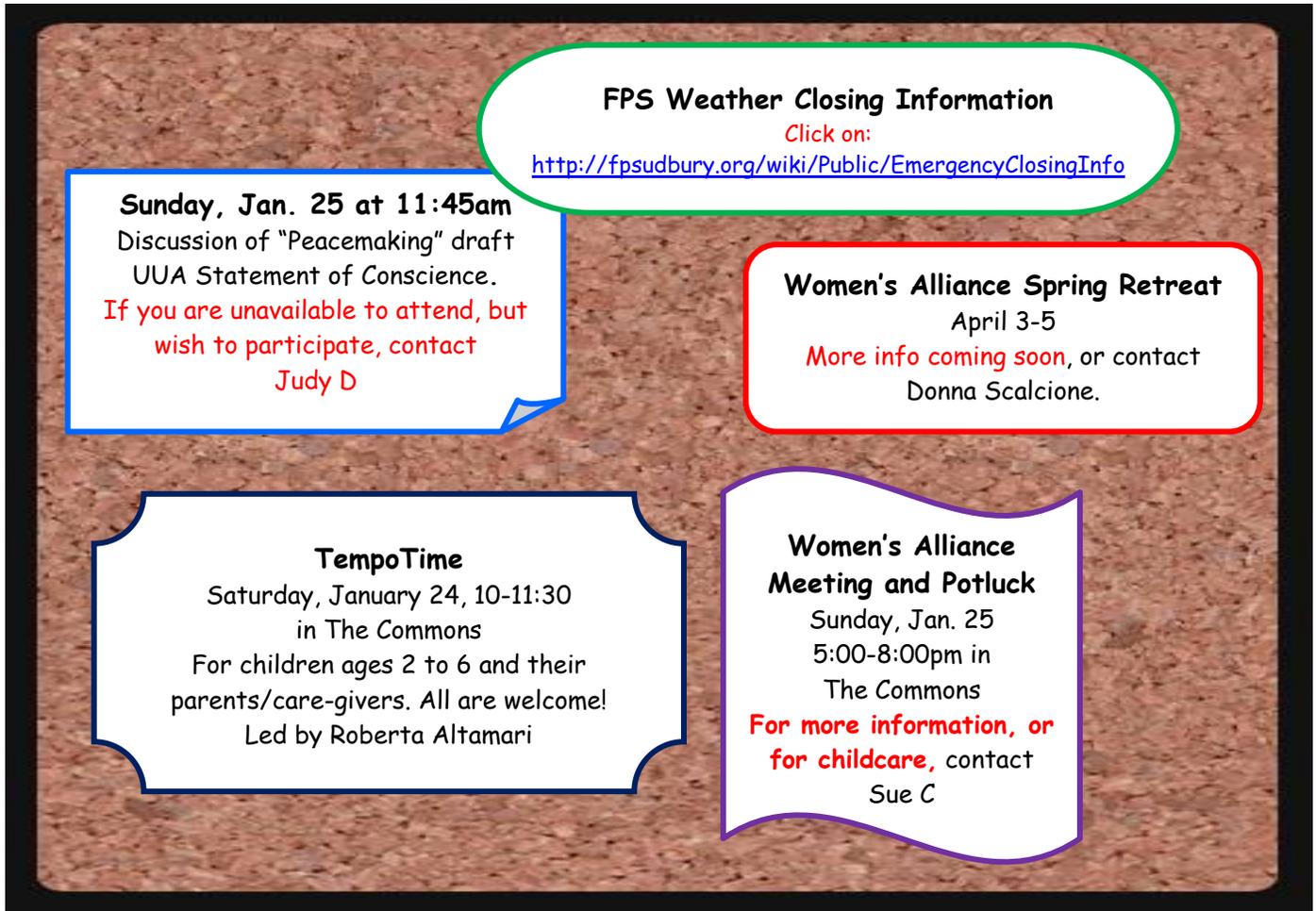
[Donate now to UUSC's Gaza Humanitarian Crisis Fund.](#)

To read the complete UUSC policy statement on the Gaza humanitarian crisis, [visit here](#).

A.A.R.P. TAX ASSISTANCE

Sudbury seniors who need help preparing their 2008 income tax documents can get assistance free of charge through the Sudbury Senior Center. AARP-trained tax preparer volunteers led by Tom Sifferlen are available to assist beginning Tuesday, February 16, and until mid-April. Call (978) 443-3055 for an appointment, and to get information about the process and what seniors need to bring to the appointment.

The Bulletin Board



FIRST PARISH OF SUDBURY'S PASTORAL ASSOCIATES

Annmarie A	Fred P
Audrey K	Paul R
Polly M	Dawn S
Bruce P	

*In the event of a pastoral need, please call
our minister or any of these Pastoral Associates.*