

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

..... grow spiritually
to foster community
..... serve others

MUSIC DIRECTOR and CHOIR

Kathryn Rosenbach, 617-821-0385

Christina Grandy de Oliveira, Soprano

Nicole Plummer, Mezzo Soprano

TBD, Tenor

Guanghao Yu, Baritone

ADMINISTRATOR

26Suffolk@gmail.com

SEXTON

Dana Flynn, 617-680-0702

FOR THOSE IN NEED THIS MONTH

Please contact Rev. Mark via email (mjtcaggiano@gmail.com)

Church Telephone 617-566-6237



the first church in chestnut hill

October 2026

[UNITARIAN]

26 SUFFOLK ROAD OFF HAMMOND STREET



Rev. Mark J. T. Caggiano, *Minister*
Kathryn Rosenbach, *Music Director*

VERITAS, CARITAS, ET RISUS

My message this month is to provide an update about Diego, our outgoing intern and soon to be incoming assistant minister. On a happy note, Diego has passed his review by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association. This means he may become a fellowshipped minister, which is essentially being formally welcomed into the “guild” of ministers. Congregations to Diego.

Less happily, Diego’s application for a “green card” was denied for very technical reasons. He is therefore refileing his application with immigration, a surprising exercise in bureaucratic duplication and expense, but such is life. For this reason, Diego cannot work at the church as our assistant minister, at least not yet. He is, however, a member of the church and will be present at church events and on Sundays as any member might be. We are supporting him and his husband Jon, and I invite anyone with questions about that to reach out to me. And a few prayers for them would be meet and right, as the saying goes.

My thanks to members of the church, and particularly members of the Standing Committee, who have been pitching in to help with the administrative tasks and helping Diego. As a congregation aspiring to follow Jesus, it is worth recalling his repeated message to love and to help our neighbors. Sometimes that neighbor is directly within our midst and so it is a blessing to love and to help them now. Again, many thanks.

God bless, Rev. Mark

BELOVEDNESS

Beloveds, *amadas*, this is a small message while I have my morning glass of chia seeds to start the day. You might not be a fan of chia, and I won’t proselytize about its gut-friendly promises. I want to reflect instead on smallness.

Have you seen chia seeds? Like the mustard seed in the Gospel, they are tiny, but mighty.

I wonder if we have considered the importance of smallness rather than always aspiring to greatness. Could smallness be countercultural? Could we aspire to it instead of building arches of triumph?

Chia has something to teach us. Its name comes from a Mayan word associated with strength. Warriors and runners valued these tiny seeds for energy. Who in your life has been like chia, someone whose small action changed your life?

When you add water to chia, each seed absorbs it and forms a soft, almost gooey layer. But there is also a warning: dry chia can expand quickly when it meets liquid. Small things can have consequences. A joke can become a slur. A small coffee conversation can become a family. A single vote joins millions of others in electing a president. Community, we are chia seeds.

The Unitarian Universalist Association is a large basket holding hundreds of churches, congregations, and fellowships like ours: small seeds of heretics, changemakers, dreamers, lovers, and beloveds.

I am grateful for each message of support and each small action. They may seem small against the enormous picture of a country and a world, but they are mighty when they germinate compassion, courage, and hope.

Gracias,

Rev. Diego.

SAVE THE DATES

Sunday, October 4 – 10:30 AM

Homecoming Sunday & Picnic

First Church in Chestnut Hill

Join us as we begin the fall season together with worship, fellowship, and our Homecoming picnic.

Sunday, October 25 – 12:00 PM

Annual Meeting of the First Church in Chestnut Hill

The Annual Meeting will take place immediately following the Sunday service. There will be no coffee hour that day.

Sunday, November 1 – 10:30 AM

All Souls Communion

On All Souls Sunday, we remember those who have died, particularly those who have died during the past year. You are invited to bring a photograph of a loved one, which we will place together in front of the chancel. Please email Rev. Mark with any names you would like mentioned during the prayers.

Sunday, November 8 – 10:30 AM

Blessing of the Animals

On Sunday, November 8, we hold our blessing of the animals. On that day, we will bless the smaller (hopefully) loved ones in our families. Please be sure your animal companion plays well with others; otherwise, we can bless a photo of them. And the same is true for any pets of blessed memory—we can honor and bless a photo of them.

Tuesday, November 17 – 7:00 PM

Newton Transgender Day of Remembrance

First Unitarian Universalist Society in Newton (FUUSN)

1326 Washington Street, West Newton

Join our neighbors at FUUSN as we remember and honor transgender people whose lives have been lost to anti-transgender violence.

November – Date TBD, 9:00 AM

Capuchin Mobile Ministries Sandwich Making

Join us as we prepare sandwiches in support of Capuchin Mobile Ministries and their outreach to our unhoused neighbors in Boston and Cambridge.



MOVIE NIGHTS AT FCCH!

Wednesday, October 21 – 7:00 PM

Movie Night: *The Maltese Falcon*

Wednesday, October 28 – 7:00 PM

Movie Night: *The Nightmare Before Christmas*

Wednesday, November 4 – 7:00 PM

Movie Night: *Dial M for Murder*

Wednesday, November 18 – 7:00 PM

Movie Night: *Inside Out*

WEAVERS & CRAFTERS

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM every Tuesday

October 20 — Mandala weave

October 27 — Poetry Workshop

November 3 — Linocut printing

November 17 — Mandala weave

November 24 — Poetry Workshop

December 1 — Linocut printing

December 15 — Mandala weave

December 22 — Poetry Workshop

December 29 — Linocut printing

Supporting Rev. Diego Garrido:

While Diego's application for permanent residency is ongoing, he is not authorized to work and cannot be paid. Many people have inquired how we can support him during the process. One way is to take him food shopping (he does not have a car) or to underwrite some or all of the expense of a biweekly trip to the market.

I am ready to set up a schedule for anyone who wants to participate either directly or by contributing to a "grocery fund."

Sally Baker, 617-584-7548, sallybbaker@comcast.net

October 4

Sermon:

Neoclassical Art (1750–1850)

Scriptures:

Ex 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20; Mt 21:33–46

Reader:

Lisle Baker

Usher:

Lisle Baker

Flowers:

In loving memory of William Rollow by his family.

Coffee Hour:

Church Picnic (A. Welch, Grillmeister)

October 11

Sermon:

Romanticism (1798–1837)

Scriptures:

Is 25:1–9; Jn 8:1–11

Reader:

Patricia Schneider

Usher:

David Cornish

Flowers:

In loving memory of Ernest P. and Annette Caggiano by his family.

Coffee Hour:

Mark Chadbourne

October 18

Sermon: Post Impressionism (1867–1886)
Scriptures: Ex 33:12–23; Lk 10:25–37
Reader: Mark Chadbourne
Usher: Mark Chadbourne
Flowers: In loving memory of Pat Timothy.
Coffee Hour: Jen Looper

October 25

Sermon: American Realism (1865–1914s)
Scriptures: Lv 19:1–2, 15–18; Mt 22:34–46
Reader: Susan Welch
Usher: Werner Lohe
Flowers: In loving memory of William and Irene
McCandless by the Welch family.
Coffee Hour: Annual Meeting

ALTAR FLOWERS

Our Church Year is almost full. Our Fall 2026 - June 2027 list is ready. If you would like to reserve a spot to remember your beloved ones, please contact our church administrator at 26suffolk@gmail.com.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Mark hosts bible study at 3:00 PM on Wednesdays on Zoom. In October we will continue the Gospel of Matthew. Contact Rev. Mark to be included on the Zoom list at mjtccaggiano@gmail.com. All are welcome.

BIBLE STUDY IN ESPAÑOL

Rev. Diego is inviting Spanish speakers to a bible study that brings our contexts and vulnerability first, to read each Monday at 6:30 PM the gospel in preparation for Sunday. Invite your Spanish speaking friends!

DONATIONS

If you feel called to give, you may do so via Zelle or by mailing a check to the church (Attention: Treasurer, 26 Suffolk Road, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467). Thank you for your generosity and care for this community. We are currently developing additional online giving options to better support this process.

BOOK CLUB

The Name of the Rose by Umberto Eco

Join us this spring for our next book club as we read Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose*, a rich mystery set in a medieval monastery that opens conversations about faith, knowledge, power, heresy, books, and the Middle Ages.

All are welcome, whether you attend one session or the full series. No expertise in medieval history required.

Some Sundays, after coffee hour in the Parish Lounge.

For more information, email 26suffolk@gmail.com.

OCTOBER MUSIC

10/4/2026

Prelude	Voluntary	Zeuner
Anthem	De profundis	Mozart
Hymn 439	Not Alone for Mighty Empire	
Response	9 From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Tanquam ad Latronem Existis	Haydn
Hymn 441	Once to Every Man and Nation	
Hymn 443	Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory	
Choral Response	Twofold Amen	
Postlude	Orgelstuck	Traditional

Kehrer

10/11/2026

Prelude	Communion	Dubois
Anthem	Ruhrt die Cymbal	Schubert
Hymn 352	Lift Up Your Hearts!	
Response	In God, My Faithful God	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Locus Iste	Bruckner
Hymn 397	Lord, Speak to Me, that I May Speak	
Hymn 236	Life of Ages, Richly Poured	
Choral Response	Threefold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Voluntary	Taylor

10/18/2026

Prelude	Piece pour Orgue	Franck
Anthem	Cantique de Jean Racine	Faure
Hymn 7	Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise	
Response	Draw Us to Thee	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Salve Regina	Poulenc
Hymn	Amazing Grace	
Hymn	Thou I May Speak With Bravest Fire	
Choral Response	Threefold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Piece pour Orgue	Gigout

10/25/2026

Prelude	3 Miniatures	Peeters
Anthem	Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem	Stanford
Hymn	May Nothing Evil Cross This Door	
Response	All Depends on Our Possessing	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Simple Gifts	Copland
Hymn 391	Be Thou My Vision	
Hymn 494	We Would Be Building	
Choral Response	The Lord Bless You and Keep You	Lutkin
Postlude	Miniature	Peeters

MUSIC NOTES

Thursday, October 29 – 7:00 PM

Opéra à la Française

First Church in Chestnut Hill

Join us for an evening of French opera at First Church in Chestnut Hill, directed by Kathryn Rosenbach. Enjoy beautiful music in an intimate setting on Thursday, October 29 at 7:00 PM. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

