OUR MISSION STATEMENT

to
grow spiritually
foster community
serve others

MUSIC DIRECTOR and CHOIR
Kathryn Rosenbach, 617-821-0385
Christina Grandy de Oliveira, Soprano
Nicole Plummer, Mezzo Soprano
David Rivera Bozon, 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

the first church in chestnut hill

November 2026

[UNITARIAN]

26 SUFFOLK ROAD OFF HAMMOND STREET

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

VERITAS, CARITAS, ET RISUS

I will be starting my sabbatical on January 1. What does that mean? For me, it means I will be away for six months reading, writing, and traveling. For the church, it means that we will have sabbatical ministers covering for me. Rev. Andrea Greenwood served as sabbatical minister twelve years ago and we welcome her back. She will be joined by her husband, my internship supervisor and mentor, Rev. Mark Harris. They both served in the Watertown church for many years before retiring. Rev. Diego will also be here covering where needed and in the pulpit once or twice per month. I will be back on July 1.

What is the purpose of a sabbatical? It is a time away from the responsibilities of ministry. Like the weekly sabbath, it is intended to be a time of rest and reflection. I have not always taken that particular advice to heart, having started my doctorate during my last sabbatical. In my defense, the pandemic made most travel and recreation impossible and, honestly, I have always liked school. That is perhaps the definition of sabbatical I follow: to engage in the activities that I enjoy.

Diego and I were at the library a few months ago, the enormous Widener Library in Harvard Yard. I was looking for some books. We had to travel through the stacks, then underground through the old steam tunnels over to an adjacent library. I said to Diego that most people heading off on sabbatical plan to climb the Andes to Machu Picchu or to swim in the waters of Bali. I would instead be wandering underground looking for Spinoza's *Ethics* or Kant's *Dreams of a Spirit-Seer* (I found both of those, by the way).

Why do something like research and study, when many young people crave the day when they get to leave school? I have always taken pleasure in learning. I realize we live in a time when people call up artificial intelligence programs to research for them. I think that is comparable to hiring someone else to do your push-ups and sit-ups. There may be a day coming when reading paper books is quaint and heading off to the library is a distant memory. But off I go to the caverns of Cambridge anyway. Joy takes many forms and I would rather learn something new than fall down a mountain in Peru.

God bless, Mark

BELOVEDNESS

Gente bella, this is Diego. You all make church happen. Thank you to those who responded to Kathryn's emergency on our Annual Meeting. Thank you to those who have volunteer to help me get groceries biweekly. Thank you for those who have prayed for the results of these elections and those who pray with their votes.
Well, Lula won in Brazil. On Friday, I was invited to pray for The Allston Car Wash one year anniversary in my neighborhood. This season of transition and changes is inviting us to be prepared for the winter, for our minister's sabbatical, and to be open for what is waiting for us. I invite you to pray for every migrant that you encounter, for the unhoused, for our sick congregants and for those who are growing up in this timeline. You are not alone.

PS. I want to remind you to give us a five star review on Google Maps, Yelp, Facebook and to tell us in which ways you think church should be present for you. I want to send you a blessing for the blue times ahead.

Gracias, Rev. Diego.

SAVE THE DATES

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 annual 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. The same is true for pets of blessed memory—we can honor and bless a photograph 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.

Sunday, November 22 – 4:00 PM
Brookline Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
Temple Sinai, 50 Sewall Avenue, Brookline

Thursday, November 26
Thanksgiving Day Service at First Church

Sunday, November 29 – 9:00 AM
Capuchin Mobile Ministries Sandwich Making

Join us before worship as we prepare sandwiches for **Capuchin Mobile Ministries**, a ministry of presence and spiritual care serving people experiencing homelessness in Boston and Cambridge. The Capuchin friars and volunteers bring sandwiches, coffee, necessities, conversation, and pastoral care directly to people on the streets. We will gather at First Church to help prepare food for their outreach van. All are welcome to help.



MOVIE NIGHTS AT FCCH!

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

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

November 1

Scriptures:	Rev 7:9–17; Mt 5:1–12 *(All Souls)*
Reader:	Lisle Baker
Usher:	Lisle Baker
Flowers:	Given in loving memory of John Munro Morss by Jennifer Morss Drayton and her family.
Coffee Hour:	Jennifer Drayton

November 8

Scriptures: Jos 24:1–3a, 14–25; Mt 25:1–13
(Blessing of the Animals)

Reader: David Brooks

Usher: David Brooks

Flowers: The flowers are given in loving memory of Sandy Batchelder by his family.

Coffee Hour: Sally and Bert Dane

November 15

Sermon: (Meant to be delivered at Annual Meeting)

Scriptures: Jgs 4:1–7; Mt 25:14–30

Reader: Ryan Singh

Usher: David Cornish

Flowers: In loving memory of Nan and Walter St. Goar, by their offspring.

Coffee Hour: CeeCee and David Cornish

November 22

Scriptures: Ez 34:11–16; Mt 25:31–46

Reader: Carol Lohe

Usher: Werner Lohe

Flowers: In loving memory of Joan Cave by her family.

Coffee Hour: Susan and John Welch

November 26 — Thanksgiving (Thursday)

Sermon: Rev. Michael B. Dangelo

Scriptures: Dt 8:7–18; Lk 17:11–19 *(Thanksgiving)*

Reader: Rev. Mark

Usher: Mark Chadbourne

November 29

Scriptures: Is 64:1–9; Mk 13:24–37

Reader: Mark Chadbourne

Usher: Mark Chadbourne

Flowers: In loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Welch by the Welch family.

Coffee Hour: Judith Vanderkay

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 November we will continue the Gospel of Matthew. Contact Rev. Mark to be included on the Zoom list at mjtcaggiano@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**.

FCCH IN THE COMMUNITY

Transgender Day of Remembrance and Hope Interfaith Service

Thursday, November 19, 7:30-9:00 pm

First Unitarian Universalist Society in Newton, 1326 Washington Street, Newton

Join First Church and twelve other faith communities to observe the 2026 Transgender Day of Remembrance. This moving interfaith service will honor the lives of trans and gender-expansive people, mourn those lost to anti-trans violence, and celebrate the courage, resilience, and joy of our local trans community. Together, we will remember, affirm, and offer hope in challenging times. The service will feature religious leaders from diverse faith traditions, trans advocates,

and an interfaith chorus. There will be a special offering taken to support Out MetroWest, a social hub for LGBTQ+ youth. A reception will follow the service; **please bring a dessert to share.**

PHANTOM THANKSGIVING FAIR

It's autumn and the timely arrival of our bright orange flyer, signaling the Seventh Phantom Thanksgiving Fair. At this time of year, we continue to raise money to support two local food pantries, The Brookline Food Pantry and The Centre Street Food Pantry in Newton. While the traditional in-person Fair is no longer feasible, the need to provide groceries to the food insecure in our community is greater than ever. Both pantries have seen a significant increase in the number of families seeking essential provisions for their families. Please consider making a donation by sending a check in the envelope provided in the orange flyer.

BROOKLINE INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE
Sunday, November 22 — 4:00 PM
Temple Sinai, 50 Sewall Ave., Brookline

Join First Church and our neighbors from many faith communities for the annual Brookline Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Through readings, music, and prayer, we will gather in gratitude for our shared blessings and in fellowship with our wider community. An offering of food and monetary donations will support the Brookline Food Pantry. All are welcome.

THANKSGIVING DAY AT FIRST CHURCH
Thursday, November 26

Join us at First Church for our Thanksgiving Day service as we continue our tradition of worshiping together with our neighbors from the Church of the Redeemer. This year we are delighted to welcome **The Rev. Michael B. Dangelo, Rector of the Church of the Redeemer**, as our preacher. Come begin Thanksgiving Day with prayer, scripture, music, and gratitude in community.

First Church in Chestnut Hill
26 Suffolk Road, Chestnut Hill

MUSIC NOTES

On Thursday December 10 at 7pm, we will be hosting a Messiah Sing. Admission is free and all are welcome to bring your scores and sing along!

NOVEMBER MUSIC

11/1/2026

Prelude	Pater noster	Foote
Anthem	The Lord's Prayer	Arensky
Hymn 311	Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand	
Response	Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Prince of Peace	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Unser Lieben Frauen Traum	Reger
Hymn 352	Lift Up Your Hearts!	
Hymn 289	Father, We Thank Thee who Hast Planted	
Hymn 306	For All the Saints	
Choral Response	Twofold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Christus der ist mein	Coe

11/8/2026

Prelude	Reflection	Beaumont
Anthem	For the Beauty of the Earth	Rutter
Hymn 66	For the Beauty of the Earth	
Response	Lord Jesus Christ, My Life, My Light	Bach
Offertory Anthem	O vos omnes	Correa
Hymn 64	All Creatures of Our God and King	
Hymn 478	All Things Bright and Beautiful	
Choral Response	Fourfold Amen	Barrow
Postlude	Preludio	Bossi

11/15/2026

Prelude	On Wings of Song	Mendelssohn
	Arioso	Bach
	The Swan	Saint-Saens
	Sarah Freiberg, cello	
Anthem	Gloria in Excelsis Deo	Vivaldi
	Sarah Freiberg, cello	
Hymn 101	There's a Wideness in God's Mercy	
Response	If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee	Bach
Offertory Anthem	O Christ, who art the Light and day	Whyte
Hymn 358	Rock of Ages	
Hymn 381	My Faith, It is an Oaken Staff	
Choral Response	Old Irish Blessing	Agay
Postlude	Sonata in F major I Vivace	Telemann

11/22/2026

Prelude	Allein Gott in der Hoh' sei Her	Coe
Anthem	Cantate Domino	Ottavio Pitoni
Hymn 26	O Be Joyful in the Lord	
Response	Now Let Us Come before Him	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Give almes of thy goods	
Tye		
Hymn 10	Before Jehovah's Aweful Throne	
Hymn	Jerusalem	
Parry		
Choral Response	Threefold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Nun last uns Gott dern Herren	Pachelbel

11/26/2026 Thanksgiving Service- Nicole Plummer

Prelude	Andante	Bach
Anthem	Eternal Life	Dungan
Hymn 21	We Gather Together	
Response	Lord Jesus Christ, My Life, My Light	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Lord, Here Am I	Beck
Hymn 460	We Plow the Fields and Scatter	
Hymn 461	Come, Ye Thankful People, Come	
Choral response	Twofold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Canzona	Buxtehude

11/29/2026 1st Advent

Prelude	Prelude	Bach
Anthem	Behold, how good and joyful	Clarke-Whitfeld
Hymn 103	Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	
Response	Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow	Bach
Offertory Anthem	I sat Down under the Shadow	
Hymn 109	Watchman, Tell Us of the Night	
Hymn 110	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	
Choral Response	Sevenfold Amen	Stainer
Postlude	Nun freut euch, lieben Christen	Bach