

West Parish of Barnstable
The Rooster Crows Newsletter



WORSHIP AT WEST PARISH

SATURDAY 4:30 pm

- March 7 Thirsty Voices, John 4:5-42
- March 14 Restore Our Souls, John 9: 1-41
- March 21 Breath of Hope, John 11:1-45
- March 28 Liturgy of the Palms, Matthew 21:1-11

SUNDAY 10:00 am

- March 1 “Fear Not!” On finding courage
- March 8 “Is Water Always just Water?”
- March 15 “Breath of Hope”
- March 22 “Abraham Did It, Moses Did It, Jesus Did it, and so Will You”
- March 29 Palm Sunday “When God is Not ‘Just Pretend’”

MILESTONES

MARYLOU MacFADYEN

April 28, 1937 - January 29, 2026

GET TO KNOW WEST PARISH SESSION MARCH 29

NEW MEMBERS JOINING EASTER

All those interested in possibly becoming members of West Parish are invited to join with Pastors Reed and Christie and a few church members for a brief orientation session on **Sunday, March 29**, at coffee hour.

It will be a chance for your questions about West Parish to be answered, to learn a bit about what we believe, how we “be church” together, and how we engage in ministry together. We will be *receiving new members on Easter, April 5*, in worship, and this will be an opportunity to learn more about what is involved.

NEXT MEN’S BREAKFAST

March 12, 8:00
Jack’s Outback

Contact the office or Bob Wyman to let us know if you can join us. Or just show up.



YOUR OUTREACH, WHO YOU SUPPORT

Thanks to your giving, we support many organizations locally, nationally, and globally, who do good – Jesus tells us to love our neighbor, and this is just one way you do that!

This month we highlight **One Great Hour of Sharing** - The oldest special mission offering of the United Church of Christ, One Great Hour of Sharing, has been transforming lives around the world since 1949. Each year UCC members, through gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, make it possible for the UCC to provide disaster relief, refugee assistance, development aid and more.

YOUR SURVIVORS WILL THANK YOU

... and you will sleep better, knowing that everything is taken care of.

Available in the office is a simple, three-page form which you might like to have, “Information and Instructions at the Time of My Death.” Its purpose is to collect in one place important information about you, who to contact in event of an emergency, and information about your wishes with respect to funeral arrangements. If you so desire, a copy can be kept on file at the church.

It is said that there are only two sure things in this life – death and taxes. You likely keep a file of important information for the latter – why not do the same with the former? If you have any questions on this, contact Pastor Baer.

THE GREATEST GIFT

This story was contributed by Andy Gustafson of the Townsend Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, former Associate Conference Minister for the Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ.

Sadie was the oldest resident of the town and the holder of the Boston Post Cane. She and her sister had owned the local café and they both lived their lives in the house their grandfather had built in 1847. Sadie used to teach Sunday school and in her younger years was active in the church Ladies Benevolence Society.

After her sister died, who was the prior holder of the Boston Post Cane, Sadie continued to live in their home alone. In her last years Sadie lived in poverty. Members of the church would deliver meals, and made sure she had heating fuel in the winter.

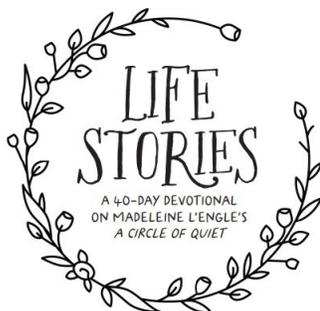
When Sadie died, it was discovered she had left her estate, which only consisted of the old, ramshackle house, to the church. After all the estate expenses were paid, the church received \$55,000 – the largest single bequest it had ever received, from one of its poorest members.

For Sadie, her will was a fitting end to a life of faithful stewardship. The greatest gift was not the money, it was the example Sadie gave us of how to honor God both during our lives and at our deaths.

**WOMEN IN THE SPIRIT:
A Lenten Evening
of candles, stories and hope**

Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m.
8 Earl Road, East Sandwich

Join together as we reflect on the meaning of Lent for each of us in the various stages of our lives. I will provide a Lenten devotional if you haven't picked one up in the Meetinghouse called "Life Stories: A 40 Day Devotional on Madeline L'Engle's A Circle of Quiet". There is no need to have spent any time with this material before our meeting. There will be light refreshments and laughter for the journey.



RSVP to associatepastor@westparish.org

**Join West Parish
Easter Choir**

SUNDAY APRIL 5, 10AM

JOIN OUR CHOIRS FOR COMMUNITY,
FUN & LEARNING

VOCAL CHOIR	11 AM	Attend 3 Practices in March
BELL CHOIR	4:30 PM	
	Tuesdays	

Questions? Email: music@westparish.org

2049 MEETINGHOUSE WAY,
WEST BARNSTABLE, MA 02668

<https://westparish.org/>

WHITE SOCKS DRIVE



Thank you to everyone who donated socks for our February, White Socks Sunday!! Thanks to your generosity, we are donating 331 pairs of socks to the Duffy Health Center in Hyannis. What an outpouring of love for our neighbors in need!

With Gratitude,
The Board of Outreach

DRESS A DOLL

Each year at Christmas, Outreach gets the name, age, and gender of a needy child in the Hyannis area. This is a big effort by the Salvation Army to make sure over 300 kids receive clothing and toys for the holidays. We budget \$200 for the child we help. Here is a picture of items donated by West Parish through your Outreach Board.

In addition, we buy ten \$50 gift certificates to local stores to be given out to teenagers as needed.

Sue Benwood for Outreach



CREATIVE CRAFTERS CORNER

*From the North to the South,
and the East to the West;
Nasty Old Man Winter
has tried his very best.*

*To bury us alive
in layers of white.
And create icy roadways
to give us all a fright...*

*Who wants to go on looking
like that fat Michelin Man?
We are tired of this snow
we've stood all we can stand.*

*So now with one objective
and in one accord;
We pray SNOW GO AWAY
In the name of our Lord...
AMEN*

These words from the poem **Go Away Snow** by Cheryl Davis Miller pretty much sums up at least one Rooster Crows crafter's feelings on the subject of this winter's weather.

Our well-intentioned Pop-Up crafting sessions fell victim to the February weather, but we are hopeful that March will be kinder to us. So, stay tuned for announcements of our totally random pop-up crafting events. We'll be watching the weather and will announce each session the Sunday before.

SOMETHING NEW FROM THE WEST PARISH KNITTERS!

You will find a new basket in the narthex of our 1717 Meetinghouse! It is filled with red hats! These are called "Melt the Ice Hats". In the 1940's, Norwegians made and wore red pointed hats with a tassel as a form of visual protest against Nazi occupation of their country. Within two years, the Nazis made these protest hats illegal and punishable by law to wear, make, and distribute.

In honor of the times and as purveyors of this traditional craft, many yarn shops across the country are revisiting this design. These hats are worn throughout our country in solidarity against illegal ice activity and to support all humanitarian efforts to help those in need.

We are providing these hats free of charge to members of our congregation along with little red hat pins (for those of you who don't want to wear a hat), to show we stand united.

Thanks,
Robin Fryer



OUR KNITTING GROUP

Each Friday from 10:00-12:00, knitters, needle-pointers, etc. gather in the Guild Room to stitch and enjoy some time away from everything else to be with one another. We have some 15 or so folk who enjoy this group, so come join them!

Talk with Robin Fryer if you want to learn more!

From the West Parish Library Shelves

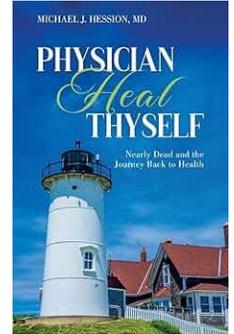
Our library has been given several new books recently.

Physician Heal Thyself- Nearly Dead and the Journey Back to Health By Michael J. Hession, M.D. (2024)

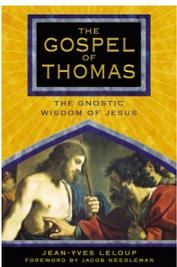
Given by Lynn Parker

Dr. Hession writes: This book is a powerful deeply personal memoir of my near-death experience and how I rebuilt my body, both physically and emotionally. My hope is that this book will resonate and help guide both survivors of near death and their loved ones through the agony of recovery and the herculean task of rebuilding your life.

Dr. Hession is a family friend of the Parkers.



The following books were given by Dr. Betsy Garland.

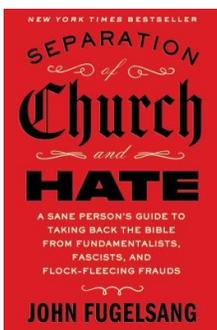
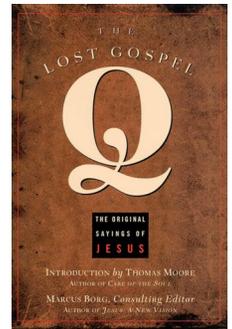


The Gospel of Thomas Translated by Dr. A Nyland (2011)

This volume contains both the Coptic and Greek translations of the Gospel of Thomas. The Nag Hammadi discovery of 1945 unearthed a complete version of the gospel in Coptic. This made it possible to identify its ancient Greek roots. New Testament parallels are included from Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

The Last Gospel Q – The Original Sayings of Jesus (1996, 1999) (2 Copies)

Marcus Borg, Ph.D. wrote a comprehensive Preface to this volume. It is believed that this gospel was written in the 50's of the first century. By comparison, Mark was written around the year 70, and Matthew and Luke 10 or 20 years later, with John in the last decade of the 1st Century. Its existence is thought to have been determined about 150 years ago. The most important matter for the Q community were the teachings of Jesus.



Separation of Church and Hate – A Sane Persons Guide to Taking Back the Bible from Fundamentalists, Fascists, and Flock-Fleeing Frauds – By John Fugelsang (2025)

Our Wednesday Bible Study Group is currently reading this volume. Its central message is that Jesus was a man of great love, compassion, and justice. We spend a great amount of time considering what would Jesus think and do if he saw what folks are seeing and doing in his name today. Another talking point has been that our forefathers felt strongly in the separation of church and State and wrote that into our Constitution. They felt that no religion should take precedence over any other religion in the United States.

Please sign out any of these books in the notebook provided.

Submitted by Shirley Stolte

BRUNCH OF LOVE



Alycia, Tripp and their crew do it again!



What will they think of next?
Stay tuned!

Stay Connected with West Parish online!

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/WestParishBarnstable>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/westparish/>

You Tube Prayer Group videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/@westparishofbarnstablevideos>

YouTube worship services:

<https://www.youtube.com/@WestParishofBarnstable-SatSunS/streams>

and our webpage at www.westparish.org

Going Over the Bridge?



Contact us with your dates
so we can keep you up to date
with West Parish's events
contact@westparish.org
508-362-4445



From the Office

Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 am-2:30 pm

Fri. 9:00 am-1:00 pm

508-362-4445

contact@westparish.org

Please note that the deadline for submissions for the Rooster Crows Newsletter is the third Thursday of the month. Submissions can be made by mail, email, calling or coming by and telling Susan.

**CALLING ALL WPFS FAMILIES
PAST AND PRESENT**

We are planning
the Family School's 50th Anniversary Gala
this coming fall
and are asking for folks to help with the planning

PLAN WITH US!

508-362-4967
director@westparishfamilyschool.org

We are turning 50 this year! We are looking for alumni and current families to be a part of the committee to celebrate with a big gala.

If you are interested in joining our committee, email Alycia at director@westparishfamilyschool.org

OUR PRAYER LIST

May the presence of Jesus Christ be with those on our prayer list and with those who care for them.

The prayers of the congregation are asked for:

Christopher Allen (Carol & David Allen's grandson)
Karolina Atsalis (friend of Rich & Lauren Abraham)
Betsy Eidem (friend of Carol Allen)
Emy and Yessica (friends of Christie Burns)
Sarah and Cody Hudspeth
 (Sharon Hunt's niece and her husband)
Clyde Hunt (brother of John Hunt)
Gina Jacinto (Joanna Wallace's friend)
Nelson Jenkins (Tripp Grohe's friend)
Dave & Barbara Kern (friends of Joanna Wallace)
Sue Maki (Joanna Wallace's friend)
Bill McEwen (Susan McEwen's husband)
David Mendelow (Sandy Clark's friend)
Jason Miller (Robin and Jim Miller's son)
Greg Opp (family member of Bobbie Jordan)
Randy Parker
Carol Polidoro
Gary Toye (Bobbie Jordan's brother)
Marvin Toye (Bobbie Jordan's brother)
Roy Urbach (friend of Karen Datlowe)
Rev. Dr. Craig Yohn

Please notify the church office of any additions, deletions, or changes you wish to make.

**Music and Arts
at West Parish**

Do you love to sing or enjoy playing an instrument?
Then come and share your talents with the Adult Choir or Bell Choir.

All ages and instruments welcome.
Let's be creative together!
If you have any great ideas about enriching the music program at West Parish, I would love to hear them.

(example - maybe a once a month "rock" or "pop" style service geared to those with a contemporary ear, instrumental groups, kid's bell choir, or liturgical dance set to music.)

for more info, contact:
Paula King
 music@westparish.org

Happy Birthday

to our West Parish members and friends

4 Jane Malcomson
 5 Aubrey Welch
 10 Laura Murphy
 11 Susan Moeller
 12 Doug Hayward
 12 Jeanne Douglass
 13 Joan Frederick
 14 Malcolm Sprague
 17 Steve Abbott
 18 Jackie Clayton
 18 Diane Juthe
 19 Holly Rogers
 19 Joan Perry
 22 Karen Shaw
 24 Sophia Susan Burchhardt
 24 Greg Williams
 25 Richard Abraham
 26 Lydia Swain
 29 Barbara Barrett
 31 Wendy Northcross

If you have any additions, please contact the office with your information.



Moving ahead while honoring tradition

WPFS February Update

Our Pre-K and Preschool students participated in "Hearts Across America" sending out valentines to classrooms all over the country. We received valentines from all over including Texas, Wisconsin, Rhode Island, Arkansas, and more.



Robin Miller presented our students with an exciting talk on African American Culture. The students were exposed to history, pictures, a wonderful story and artifacts.



Both Pre-K classes celebrated the 100th day of school on February 11th. The students and teachers dressed up as if they were 100 years old and fun ways to celebrate! We counted 100 snacks by 10, built amazing structures with 100 solo cups and made some ridiculous 100 day monsters!



Easter Flowers

Interested in sponsoring a plant or two?
Please fill out the form below and drop it off or mail it to the church office with \$12 per plant by Tuesday, March 31, 2026.

Given by _____

(please circle one) in memory / honor / celebration of:

The plants will be available to take after the 10 a.m. worship service.

1 10 am Worship 5pm AA (f)	2 5 pm AA (f) 7 pm AA (f)	3 11 am Christie's Coffee Hours 11 am Choir Rehearsal (M) 4:30 pm Bell Choir (M) 5 pm AA (f) 7 pm WITS at Pastor Christie's	4 9 am FS Science (f) 1 pm Bible Study (G & Z) 4 pm FS Faculty (G & Z) 5 pm AA (f)	5 5 pm AA (f)	6 9 am FS Science (f) 10 am Knitting (G) 5 pm AA (f)	7 4:30 pm Worship
8 10 am Worship 5 pm AA (f)	9 5 pm AA (f) 6 pm Meetinghouse Farm Board (G) 7 pm AA (f)	10 11 am Christie's Coffee Hours 11 am Choir Rehearsal (M) 4:30 pm Bell Choir (M) 5 pm AA (f) 6:45 pm W.B. Festival Committee (G)	11 9 am FS Science (f) 1 pm Bible Study (G & Z) 4 pm FS Board (G & Z) 5 pm AA (f)	12 8 am Men's Breakfast at Jack's Out Back 5 pm AA (f) 5:30 pm FS 50th Gala Planning (G)	13 9 am FS Science (f) 10 am Knitting (G) 5 pm AA (f)	14 4:30 pm Worship
15 9:15 am Outreach (G) 10 am Worship 5 pm AA (f)	16 4:30 pm Finance (G) 5 pm AA (f) 7 pm AA (f)	17 11 am Christie's Coffee Hours 11 am Choir Rehearsal (M) 4:30 pm Bell Choir (M) 5 pm AA (f)	18 9 am FS Science (f) 1 pm Bible Study (G & Z) 5 pm AA (f)	19 Rooster Crows Articles Due 5 pm AA (M)	20 9 am FS Science (f) 10 am Knitting (G) 5 pm AA (f)	21 1 pm P.E.O. Reciprocity (f) 4:30 pm Worship
22 10 am Worship 5 pm AA (M)	23 5 pm AA (f) 7 pm AA (f)	24 11 am Christie's Coffee Hours 11 am Choir Rehearsal (M) 4:30 pm Bell Choir (M) 5 pm AA (f)	25 9 am FS Science (f) 1 pm Bible Study (G & Z) 5 pm AA (f)	26 5 pm AA (f)	27 9 am FS Science (f) 10 am Knitting (G) 5 pm AA (f)	28 4:30 pm Worship
29 10 am Worship 5 pm AA (M)	30 5 pm AA (f) 7 pm AA (f)	31 11 am Christie's Coffee Hours 11 am Choir Rehearsal (M) 4:30 pm Bell Choir (M) 5 pm AA (f)				



For the most up to date calendar go to
<https://westparish.org/calendar-2/>

Key: G = Guild Room; J = Jenkins Hall; M = Meetinghouse; FS = Family
School; Z = Zoom; MHF = 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation

West Parish of Barnstable

2049 Meetinghouse Way
P.O. Box 219
West Barnstable, MA 02668



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Jaquie and Don Martin styling the fun Valentines eyewear that came in their Valentines bags

Rooster Crows Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the April 2026 newsletter is Thursday, March 19.

Submissions can be made by mail, email, calling, or coming into the office.

P.O. Box 219, W. Barnstable, MA 02668 contact@westparish.org 508-362-4445