



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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Facebook.com/
firstchurchboston**Kendrick Open House:****Sunday December 21 at 1:30 PM**

Members and Friends are welcome to come and enjoy great company at the Kendrick's home on December 21 at 1:30 PM. For more information, call 617-267-6730.

First Edition

Sermons

Sunday, December 14, "Unconditional Love", Rev. Stephen Kendrick
Also--a grateful salute to members who joined ten, twenty, thirty and even forty years ago--2004, 1994, 1984 and 1974!

Stephen writes... "This isn't a Christmas sermon as such (I like to hold off on that stuff as long as I can!), but there is no doubt that love is very much on our minds in the holiday season, love of all kinds and varieties. Last year, at the first Happy-Go-Potlucky event, your friend and mine, Catherine Bradfield was one of two people to "buy" the annual Sermon of Your Choice item from yours truly, and she then passed it on to her spouse, Sandra Castelluccio to select the topic. After months of deep rumination, she selected **Unconditional Love**--and as happens so often, it is a topic I have never confronted before. Oh, I have talked about love over and over--but Unconditional? It turns out to be a rich and deep theme, and even one that harkens back to the founding of our faith. See you in church!"

Sunday, December 21, "I Wonder as I Wander", Rev. Stephen Kendrick

Stephen writes... "Last year we tried something new--to select several lovely carols as a frame, and then let you the congregation select more carols in the center of the service. We liked the spontaneity of it, and the freshness--we all want (and need) to sing at this time of year. The service as well will be threaded with readings from our own Unitarian Universalist tradition. (Did you know that Jingle Bells was written by a UU? Just sayin') And I will offer a brief homily that connects to our preaching theme of the year, **World of Wonder**. There is no time of the year more full of wonder than now, and getting in touch with that spirit is, really, what we gather for every year."

Sunday, December 28, "Crisis and Opportunity", A New Year's Celebration, Rev. Stephen Kendrick

Stephen writes... "Join us for a joyful look ahead into the New Year--an unknown place we are all heading into, and going there together. There will be crisis and there will be opportunity awaiting, and navigating both will determine our happiness and our fulfillment in that new time awaiting us."

Holidays at First Church in Boston



Our
Ministerial
Team

Sanctuary Boston Service, December 17 at 6:15 PM

All are welcome to partake in this worship!

Winter Solstice Service: Thursday, December 18 at 6:00 PM

Welcome winter! We will embrace the season with candles and live Celtic music featuring Aine Minogue, seasonal poetry and guided meditation for the season of snowy days and new beginnings.

Service-Festival of Carols: Sunday, December 21 at 11:00 AM

A service of carols with brief Homily from Rev. Kendrick.

Kendrick Open House: Sunday, December 21 at 1:30 PM

Open house for members and friends of First Church in Boston

Back Bay Caroling: Sunday, December 21 at 12:30 PM

Sing Christmas carols on the streets of Boston en route to the Kendricks' open-house.

Christmas Eve Service: Monday, December 24 at 5:30 PM

A warm candle-lit service featuring Voices Rising Choral Ensemble, with traditional carols, ancient and new readings, and a message from Rev.

Stephen Kendrick.

Service and Celebration of the New Year: Sunday, December 28 at 11:00 AM

Lowering of the Wreath, We Three Kings and the Question Box Service: Sunday, January 4 at 11:00 AM



Aine Minogue



Voices Rising

Holiday Fun at World of Wonder

D E C E M B E R	14 Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights Rebecca Hsieh Susan Weaver	21 TOP SECRET: Making Holiday Gifts Rebecca Hsieh Susan Weaver	28 Childcare Only NO WOW KIDS

Sam's Circle

Sam writes..." Hey everybody, I am so pleased to announce that I will be beginning to host Sam's Circle, a monthly post-service discussion group here at First Church. Once a month at 12:15 we will all gather in the back of the sanctuary to hang out and talk about the service that we just experienced (and whatever else). This will be a great opportunity for new people at First Church to get to know each other (and to get to know the new intern). The next session will be held on December 14th! I hope I see you all there!"

Holiday Angels: There is Still Time!

Yes! It is that time of the year when First Church members, friends and neighbors make the holidays memorable for teens in Massachusetts. Simply make your check of no more or less than \$25 out to First Church in Boston and write Holiday Angels in the memo line and leave it in the plate. The First Church staff will do the rest! The goal is to raise \$1000. Will you be a holiday angel this year?

Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

This year members will have the opportunity to purchase their own Poinsettias for the Sanctuary and take them home after the Christmas Eve Service. Simply forward a check with your instructions to the office and the plants will be delivered to the church by December 21st 's service. The cost is \$20.00 per plant and you can order as many as you like, in the colors you prefer, ivory, pink or red. This is your chance to share in the decoration of the Church for the holidays and get your poinsettias at a great price. Any questions, please call Joyce Gnecco at 617-782-0169 and thank you so much for the support of our beautiful church.

House Meetings

You are invited to join the FCB Social Justice Community for our second round of small group discussions, or "House Meetings", after church on Sunday, January 25 at 12:15. We'll have lunch and then break up into groups of 8 to 10 people for discussion. We see this as a nutritious:) and thoughtful way to get to know First Church members better- our interests, concerns, worries, and ideas. Please join us! We aim for a 45" minute discussion and to be finished by 1:30/1:45 at the latest.