

Caring Connection Services

The *Caring Connection* volunteers provide a number of pastoral care services.

The **Rides Coordinator** arranges rides for members to appointments, First Parish worship and events, and for other needs.

Contact: Pat Brinkman

Pabrinkman@comcast.net 781-259-9639

Please contact one of the ministers or lay ministers to request these services below.

FP Meals brings meals to parishioners during illness, injury or bereavement.

By Your Side Singers are a pastoral choir that helps through life's transitions by singing rounds, chants, lullabies, choral music, hymns and spirituals to parishioners in their homes or at the hospital.

Friendly Visitors are matched with members and friends of First Parish who would like to be contacted regularly.

Shawl Ministry provides shawls to those who are experiencing a time of loss, difficult transition, illness or injury.

Pastoral Care Contacts

Primary contact: Marion Visel, Minister for Pastoral Care, mvisel@firstparish.org
978-369-9602, cell 203-931-5239

Senior Minister: Howard Dana,
hdana@firstparish.org 978-369-9602,
cell 717-412-8543

Ministerial Intern: Laurel Gray
lgray@firstparish.org 401-932-7855
cell 570-899-0457

Minister of Religious Education: Amy Freedman, afreedman@firstparish.org

Pastoral Care Lay Ministers are trained to provide support during hospitalizations, bereavement, illness, and to families in crises.

Paula Adelson apauladog@comcast.net
508-485-1030

Sally Brandon Bemis sgbrandon@me.com
cell 978-505-0492

Diane Clapp dianebamclapp@gmail.com
781-257-5025 cell 781-257-5025

Sue Dobbie susandobbie@gmail.com
978-456-8432 cell 978-501-6969

Lori Gill-Pazaris lpazaris@gmail.com
cell 978-505-2720

Peter Nobile peter.nobile@gmail.com
978-369-5857 cell 617-872-4365

Dana Snyder Grant danasg@newview.org
cell 978-760-1129

Virginia Taylor
virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net
978-263-9777 cell 978-727-3619



Pastoral Care

First Parish in Concord

Pastoral Care

Supports people through crises, transitions and difficult situations

Listens compassionately and helps individuals sort out what can and cannot be changed

Is present with people in their pain, loss, struggle, anxiety, and joy

Relates gently to individuals as whole people

Offers encouragement and comfort in times of trouble

Is available to everyone at any stage of life

Seek pastoral care

During crises and transitions such as divorce, health issues, retirement, death of someone close to you, marriage, family concerns, mid-life crises, coming to terms with sexual identity, losing a job, making a career change or financial distress

You need to talk confidentially with a compassionate listener, even if you are not sure what is bothering you

You are facing a major life decision

You are grieving or hurting and need emotional and spiritual support

Pastoral Care Process

1. A First Parish member or friend contacts a minister or lay minister to express his or her concerns.
2. The minister or lay minister talks with the member to better understand his or her needs.
3. Together, the member and the minister or lay minister decides what type of support or referral would be helpful, and initiate support.
4. The minister or lay minister follows-up with the member to see if the pastoral care support has been beneficial and whether further support is needed.