

# First Parish Church, UCC

Brunswick, ME

## Introduction to Eastern Religions: A Fall 2010 Adult Religious Education Program



### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

<b>What?</b>	A seven-part <b>introductory</b> series covering the prominent Eastern religions of <b>Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism/Taoism.</b>
<b>When &amp; Where?</b>	The series is organized into seven <b>Thursday sessions, September 23 – November 4, from 12:00 to 1:00pm, in the Chapel</b> (9 Cleaveland Street, Brunswick). Bring a brown bag lunch if you wish.
<b>Register?</b>	Registration is not required but to help us set up the Chapel with enough chairs, we ask that you call the church office (729-7331) if you plan to attend a particular session. If you haven't called and decide at the last minute you want to come, please feel free to do so.
<b>Format?</b>	The series is designed so that you “ <b>mix and match</b> ” sessions depending on your interest. Four of the sessions will be lecture format, with three in discussion format. To get the most from the discussion sessions, we strongly encourage participants to read more about a tradition than was presented in the introductory session. The discussion sessions will be much more fruitful if those who attend have done additional reading** beyond the information provided in the introductory session. We will not revisit introductory material in the discussion sessions.
<b>Leader?</b>	<b>Gwen Moore</b> will lead the program. She concentrated on world religions as a part of her Master of Divinity program at Harvard Divinity School (M.Div., 2000) and she has taught classes on both Eastern and Western religions in a number of different venues.
<b>Questions?</b>	Email Gwen ( <a href="mailto:gibmoore@gmail.com">gibmoore@gmail.com</a> ) or leave a message for her at the church office.

### SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS

<b>SESSION</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>September 23</b>	<b>The World's Great Religions:</b> A <i>very</i> broad sweep of the historical context for the world's great religions.
<b>2</b>	<b>September 30</b>	<b>Hinduism Introduction:</b> Lecture format touching on origins, core tenets, sacred texts, key practices and celebrations, etc.
<b>3</b>	<b>October 7</b>	<b>Hinduism Discussion:</b> Open discussion of Hinduism based on lecture from the prior session as well as participant reading.**
<b>4</b>	<b>October 14</b>	<b>Buddhism Introduction:</b> Lecture format touching on origins, core tenets, sacred texts, key practices and celebrations, etc.
<b>5</b>	<b>October 21</b>	<b>Buddhism Discussion:</b> Open discussion of Buddhism based on lecture from the prior session as well as participant reading.**
<b>6</b>	<b>October 28</b>	<b>Confucianism/Taoism Introduction:</b> Lecture format touching on origins, core tenets, sacred texts, key practices and celebrations, etc.
<b>7</b>	<b>November 4</b>	<b>Confucianism/Taoism Discussion:</b> Open discussion of Confucianism and Taoism based on lecture from the prior session as well as participant reading.**

\*\*A reading list is available at the Church office or on the Church website (<http://www.firstparish.net/>).  
Look for the Adult Education program section.

August 20, 2010