

## LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE...FOREVER

BY DAVID KNIGHT

Right after we joined First Parish I found myself on the Prudential Committee, quickly learning more than enough to make my head spin.

But in so many ways I was also getting a great history lesson. I absorbed the names of people I never would know but who had made our church part of their legacy.... forever. And I, a newcomer, was already the beneficiary ...from the music we hear every Sunday, to the upkeep of the sanctuary and the pews we sit in, to Fellowship Hall as the gathering place people go to for a wide variety of experiences. It made an unforgettable impression. And, these legacies actually keep us financially whole.

Fostering legacies at First Parish is a mission of the Deferred and Planned Giving Committee. Our small but mighty committee (Wanda Webber Snyder, Chris Simonson, Barbara Hamlin and me) sees our job as making it easy for people to learn about legacies, and how to get help creating one. Not just for a selected few, but for all of us.

As I write this, attorney John Moncure is giving an invaluable review to a group at the home of Joy and Greg Johnson on the importance of estate planning primarily for the benefit of one's family, but also as an opportunity of leaving a legacy to an organization that means something to you. He'll warn: if you choose to do nothing, the only real winners are Augusta and Washington, D.C. They get it, tax it, and distribute it as they see fit. It is as if your wishes never existed.

The two small steps people can take to avoid this are:

1. Make or update your will (just plain smart), and

2. Begin a conversation with an attorney or an accountant you trust, or whom a trusted friend recommends.

How big do someone's holdings have to be so it makes sense to do this? Well, this is another example of "size doesn't matter" -- estate holdings can be small or large. Face it -- taxes are taxes.

Bill Mangum, one such financial professional, was part of the kickoff for the winter series, *Windows on Death and Dying*. He has taken the time to help us put together a sheet of facts and benefits of estate planning. Your free copy is over in Pilgrim House. This is good advice and insight from someone who knows a lot about taxation and good planning -- and he keeps up-to-date because tax laws are always in flux.

One last thought. For years we have all witnessed what we could call a living legacy. How often have you heard comments on what a wonderfully dramatic and reassuring sight it is to see First Parish all lit up at night? Thanks to an endowment set up by Jan and Bill Bodwell, it always will be. It symbolizes what a legacy can do for neighbors, for fellow parishioners, for our community. Forever.



## IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY...

YOU DON'T NEED TO HAVE WHITE HAIR TO THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT PLANNED GIVING AND YOUR LOVE FOR FIRST PARISH CHURCH. HERE ARE JULEY AND MIKE SALISBURY WHO ARE AHEAD OF THE CURVE.

We started dating in high school and after college got married in 1993. With two teenage sons, life is busy with school activities, skiing, work and participating in the life of First Parish Church.

First Parish is very important to us. We have valued the community of faith and the opportunity to share Christ's love with others. We have been active in the past in the youth choirs and have served on search committees, Deacons and the Christian Education Committee.

Juley is currently very involved in promoting Pilgrim Lodge to the church membership, organizing the youth group and producing worship art for the sanctuary. Mike helps run the church's website and participates on a communication committee.

Mike's father had a year-long struggle with cancer and passed away in 2009. Daniel was only 65 years old and his wife Lorna

could not live on her own. While Daniel had some estate planning pieces in place, we realized he was not fully prepared. We learned that when someone is facing the end of life and doesn't feel well, it is very difficult to put the proper pieces in place to make the estate transition easier.

Based on this experience, we took a fresh look at our wills and estate plan in 2010. First Parish Church plays a central role in our life and faith. We named both First Parish and Pilgrim Lodge as beneficiaries in our will.

We are in our early forties and there is still a lot of life left ahead of us! However, it is comforting for us to know if something unexpected happens that both of our children, First Parish Church and Pilgrim Lodge will benefit from our estate.

*Juley and Mike Salisbury*



## FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

MARY E. BAARD

Each time we gather in our sanctuary we sense the great cloud of witnesses who have been a part of the ministries of First Parish Church for almost three hundred years. In II Corinthians 9:6, the Apostle Paul reminds us, "*The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*"

Because of the bountiful sowing of those who came before us -- because of their generosity of time, talents, and treasures -- we are strengthened in our ministries of sharing the good news with the wider community. Be-

cause of the intentional planned gifts of some of our members who have already joined the cloud of witnesses, we are able to provide resources for maintenance of the sanctuary, offer special music ministry events, provide assistance to those in need in our community, utilize the skills of outside consultants, support new curriculum development in the UCC, develop the labyrinth ministry, and provide wireless internet in the Pilgrim House.

Over the next several months

we will be engaging in a Strategic Planning Process with the assistance of Larry Peers from the Alban Institute. In this process we will be asking the question, "What ministries are we called to at this time?" In these conversations we will imagine what ministries might be possible in the future with the support of planned gifts. If we sow bountifully today and in the future "*we will be enriched in every way.*"

(II Corinthians 9:11)

# ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE ADAMS SOCIETY?

BY WANDA WEBBER SNYDER

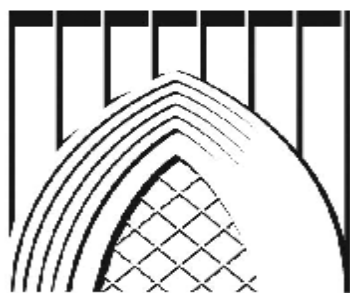
Dozens of First Parish members and friends are – sometimes without knowing it.

About fifteen years ago the Prudential Committee established the George Adams Society to recognize those who have made provision through planned giving for the ongoing mission and maintenance of First Parish Church. The members we know about are listed below. Most have included First Parish in their wills; others have made the church the beneficiary of an insurance policy, annuity, pooled income fund, or charitable remainder trust which will eventually benefit First Parish.

George Adams, who served us longer than any other minister in our nearly 300 year history, was pastor at the time our current meeting house was erected in 1846. His contribution to the church and town was commemorated by the stained glass window behind the pulpit, which was commissioned by his son-in-law, Joshua Chamberlain.

The following friends are member of the George Adams Society:

First Parish  
CHURCH  
BRUNSWICK, MAINE



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

## Adams Society Members

Anonymous (4)  
Doris Holbrook Allen\*  
Dorothy\* & James\* Bailey  
Flossie Baldwin\*  
Ann & William\* Barry  
Janet & William Bodwell  
Mary Lee Brooks\*  
Margaret Chandler\*  
Virginia Chaplin\*  
Allison & John Chapman  
Jeanne & Larry Clampitt  
Barbara Clark  
Sally Clifford  
Betsy & Philip\* Clough  
Chester Cooke  
Marilyn & Warren\* Dwyer  
Edith Evans\*  
Lois\* & Larry\* Forbes  
Betty & William Geoghegan  
Carolyn & Brick Gibson  
Eleanor Goodrich\*  
Nancy & Frank Goodwin  
Polly\* & A. LeRoy Greason  
Barbara Hamlin  
Alma Harrison\*  
Edna & Ray\* Harrison  
Marge & Robert Healing  
Ernst Helmreich\*  
Helen and James Hildebrandt  
Elizabeth & Edward Hillman  
David Hirth\*  
Ruth Hoffman  
Judith & William Imes  
Mildred Jones  
Margery Kerr  
Al Kilgour\*  
Alma and David Kilpatrick  
Margo & David Knight  
Elizabeth & William Knowles  
Adelaide Langbein\*  
Nancy & Ed Langbein  
Fran Lee  
Janet & David Leland  
Dana Little\*  
Pat Livesay  
Dorothy & Alvin\* MacKenzie  
Eleanor Means\*  
Robert Miller\*  
Nancy & John Moncure  
Abbie and Bruce Mott  
Priscilla Newgarden\*  
Gerry & Charles Orem  
Judy & John Parker  
Ruth Perry\*  
Ellie & Tom\* Peterson  
Mary & David\* Pitt  
Edwin Rich  
Audrey Rogers\*  
Susan & Jonathan St. Mary  
Mike & Juley Salisbury  
Philip Sargent\*  
Priscilla Sargent  
Helen Saunders\*  
Gil and Carol Schneidewind  
Alfred Senter\*  
Priscilla & Richard Smith  
Wanda Webber & Ervin Snyder  
Natalie Stanwood\*  
Edna Stoddard  
Ruth Storrs\*  
Anne & David Taft  
Carolyn\* & Carl Veazie  
Ellie & Harold\* Wagner  
Mary Lee & Jim Ward  
Dorothy White\*  
Emily White  
Robert White\*  
Bibbo\* & F. Burton\* Whitman  
Jacqueline Wild  
Lester Williams\*  
Jo Ann Withington  
Margaret & Howard\* Wright  
Janet & Robert\* York

\* deceased

If your name should be on this list, please notify Jane in the church office.  
([jconnors@firstparish.net](mailto:jconnors@firstparish.net))

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FIRSTPARISHCHURCHBRUNSWICK

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## SPECIAL EVENT

### *Looking Back*

One Hundred and fifty years ago this month, shots were fired on Fort Sumter and the War Between the States began. The town of Brunswick and First Parish Church have a surprising number of connections to the Civil War.

To honor Adams Society members, there will be a special program immediately after church on Sunday, May 1, in Fellowship Hall. John Cross of Bowdoin College (and son of Bob and Jeanette Cross) will speak on "Places Where History Happened: Brunswick Threads in the Fabric of the Civil War." Afterwards, participants will have the opportunity to tour the Chamberlain House across the street from First Parish Church.

All church and parish members are welcome to attend. Because light refreshments will be served, we ask that you let the church office know if you plan to attend – call 729-7331 or email [jconnors@firstparish.net](mailto:jconnors@firstparish.net).

### *Looking Ahead*

First Parish has several endowment funds available to donors that provide a variety of conditions controlling how gifts may be used. Gifts to an endowment fund insure that the principal will not be tapped; only the interest income will be used.

For instance:

Unrestricted Fund. Income will be used to meet whatever needs arise. Because this fund allows maximum flexibility for managing First Parish assets, gifts to this fund are particularly encouraged.

Programmed Upkeep Fund. Income

may be used for maintenance and/or capital improvements to any First Parish property, including both Pilgrim House and the Sanctuary.

Meetinghouse Fund. Income is used only for maintenance for or capital improvements to our 1846 meetinghouse. This fund is of particular interest to people who, even though not members of the church, have a concern for the historic and architectural value of the building. Designated Program Fund. Donors to this fund may select which church program they wish to assist, e.g., music, Christian education, or particular benevolences.

If you wish your gift to go to one of these funds, be sure to specify it in your will or other document. For further information, contact a member of the Planned Giving Committee.