



First Parish History Wall

"If you will read again what is written, you will see how it was." Black Elk

What is the History Wall?

First Parish in Brookline is undertaking an exciting and important endeavor. An essential component of interim ministry - and indeed any transitional time - is understanding our history.

We stand in this building, gather to worship, work for social justice and care for one another and our world. But we do not start here from nothing. For nearly 300 years, First Parish in Brookline has been an important part of the fabric of this town and the surrounding community. Starting as the town hall, and soon thereafter as the first church in Brookline, it has stood the test of generations, and held and loved thousands of families and individuals. As we stand at this important juncture in the life of this congregation, let's do our best to stop and honor the history of who and what we have been.

How can I participate?

Add your name and the year that you first started coming to First Parish to the History Wall. We want to see as many names as possible -- all ages, friends, guests and members.

Each person is also encouraged to write an early positive memory of First Parish. When you think about your time here, however long or brief, what is a memory that makes you smile, or reminds you of why you are attracted to this congregation? Feel free to add your name to that memory, but it is not essential. We begin with these positive memories so we can bring forward into the future that which is best about who we are and who we have been. Stick your memory on the history wall near the year that this even occurred. (In order to save the wall, please do not write directly on the paper. Instead, use sticky notes.)

After that, feel free to add any additional historical moments to the wall that will help us to capture our history.

How long will this stay up?

The history wall will be in the making from February 20th – March 20th. Drop into Lyon Chapel any time and add your thoughts. Please encourage your friends to participate. If you know people who have moved away or are unable to get to the church, ask them tell you their memories and add them.

Everyone is invited to a congregational conversation; "First Parish: Through the Years" on Sunday, March 20th immediately following the worship service. Child care will be provided.

If you have questions or would like to talk specifically about a memory or thoughts that you have feel free to contact a member of the Transition Team listed below.

Anne Copeland, Co-chair	Rev. Rebecca Bryan, Co-chair
Lilly Marcelin	Mark Reynolds
Gene Thompson-Grove	Bob Williamson