



First Parish in Concord  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
Gathered in 1636

## The Meeting House News

### *REVeries*

Thank you to everyone who helped this big ship called First Parish stay afloat and steaming ahead this year. Thank you to those who taught Sunday School, brought food for coffee hour, signed the book, made a pledge, worked on a committee, sat in worship, visited someone in the hospital, cooked dinner for a church supper, sang in the choir, played with the babies, mentored the teens, chaperoned a trip. Thank you to everyone who came to our Annual Meeting on June 11.

It was great to be away on a three-month sabbatical this spring, and it's good to be back. I did a lot of the things that were on my list: a wonderful trip to Italy, where I retraced Emerson's steps on his 1833 trip to Rome and spent time with my brother and his family. I took a bookbinding class and sewing lessons. I spent time at home and time in the garden (in the rain!). But it turned out that what made me feel most alive and new was not on my list at all: time in the library diving into the froth sea of transcendentalism. I discovered a little nook at the Concord Free Public Library called, I kid you not, the "transcendental alcove" and spent many a rainy May morning there. Margaret Fuller, Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, Emerson and Alcott: I had so much fun reading about their lives. I love Bob Richardson's biography of Emerson. He called it *Emerson: A Mind on Fire*, and if you want to get started with Emerson, there's no better place to start. To me, all these transcendentalists had minds that were on fire. When we walk into their world, we catch a little of that flame.

We're moving into the summer months. Although the rhythms of First Parish change during the summer, we are a 12-month church. We are not "closed" during the summer. We worship on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. and have invited some wonderful preachers. I am in the office in July while Gary Smith is on vacation. Gary is in the office in August while I am on vacation. We meet with people, plan for next year, respond to pastoral calls and crises. Next fall, we will welcome a number of new staff people and we'll be getting ready for that. Summer is a bit slower than the rest of the year, so if you've thought of coming by to introduce yourself or chat, I encourage you to do so. Call or e-mail ahead of time (revjenny@comcast.net) and I look forward to visiting with you. If summer takes you to new places, or to a bit more time to enjoy your usual places, I wish you well.

—Jenny Rankin

### Sunday Worship Schedule

**July 2**  
**Mr. Shawn Newton**  
Harvard Divinity School student  
**Robert Castillo, classical guitar**  
**TBA, organ**

**July 9**  
**Rev. Karen Lewis Foley**  
Former Associate Minister for  
Pastoral Care, First Parish in Concord  
**La Jouissance, Early Music**  
**Sally Slade Warner, organ**

**July 16**  
**Rev. Margie King Saphier**  
Associate Minister for Pastoral Care  
First Parish in Concord  
**Joan Esch, cello**  
**Sally Slade Warner, organ**

**July 23**  
**Rev. Karen Lewis Foley**  
Former Associate Minister for  
Pastoral Care, First Parish in Concord  
**John Hayes, tenor**  
**Sally Slade Warner, organ**

**July 30**  
**Ms. Marjorie Matty**  
Harvard Divinity School student  
**Tamasin Foote, soprano**  
**Robert Noble, organ**

See page 11 for August/September  
Worship information.

### COME BUILD A DREAM!

See page 6 for updated  
information about the  
First Parish Capital  
Campaign.



## In This Issue...

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- Page 1** REVeries  
Sunday Worship Schedule
- Page 2** In This Issue  
Our Meeting House Family  
Sunday Forum
- Page 3** Thanks from Margaret  
Parish Notes
- Page 4** Money Matters  
Pastoral Care News
- Page 5** Music Notes  
MUSings
- Page 6** SAC News and Events  
Capital Campaign Update
- Page 7** Parish Notes, continued  
Wright Tavern Center
- Page 8** Reflections  
and RE News
- Page 9** Senior Youth News  
RE News, continued
- Page 10** Women's News  
Miscellaneous  
Classified
- Page 11** Summer 2006 Calendar  
August/September Worship Info
- Page 12** First Parish Staff  
Summer Office Hours

There are no inserts with this newsletter.

*The Meeting House News*, the newsletter of First Parish in Concord, is published monthly September to June, to provide parishioners and friends with information about our congregation and our larger community.

Please send address changes to:  
First Parish in Concord  
20 Lexington Road  
Concord, MA 01742

<u>Noon Deadline</u>	<u>Mailing Date</u>
Monday, Aug. 21	Wednesday, Aug. 30
Monday, Sept. 18	Wednesday, Sept. 27
Monday, Oct. 16	Wednesday, Oct. 25

Newsletter items should be limited to 100 words and may be delivered, faxed or e-mailed to the church office.

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## *Sunday Forum*

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Forums are held Sunday morning between 10:10 a.m. and 10:55 a.m. in the Chapel. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact **Dian Pekin** if you wish to recommend a topic or speaker.

There are no Sunday Forums during the summer months.

## THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES...

Dear Members and Friends:

As I write this last note of transition for the newsletter, it is tempting to go well over the recommended/ allotted 100 words! How shall I condense all the memories, and thank everyone with whom I've worked, worried, worried, planned, sung, cooked, laughed and walked our common paths, both literally and metaphorically, for 21 years? During this "year of the last time" I have been deeply touched by the number of you who remember my greeting and welcoming you in your first visits to First Parish. In truth, I don't remember those moments as well as you do, but I clearly and fondly remember the first person who welcomed me, now almost 30 years ago, and remembered my name from one Sunday to the next! So my parting wish and hope for this fantastic congregation is that as our numbers continue to grow, we always remember that the fabric of our community is maintained in our relationships, and the importance of making newcomers — and "oldcomers", too — feel welcome cannot be overestimated. That, and one final plea to ILLUMINATE THE FRONT OF THE SIGN in front of the meeting house!

With love, hope and profound thanks!

*Margaret Stewart*  
Parish Administrator

## Parish Notes

### RENT THE FIRST PARISH EVENT TENT FOR YOUR SUMMER PARTIES

The FP event tent, which has been up for Patriot's Day parade and Opening Sunday, is available for rent. It is a 20' x 40' elegant tent without sides. For more information, contact **Lillian Anderson** at 978-369-1468 or e-mail [lilliand@comcast.net](mailto:lilliand@comcast.net).

### FAIR TRADE PROGRAM UPDATE

Thanks to a dedicated Fair Trade Committee, our program this year was a great success. In addition to providing over \$690 worth of product to coffee hour, we were able to add over \$3,000 to the church's operating budget. The Sunday sales crew and **Lillian Anderson's** team of gift basket wizards wish to thank all of you who support Fair Trade. Please help us to make First Parish a completely Fair Trade church by using our coffee, tea or cocoa at all church events. Committee chairs can contact **Sue Beck** to get a discount price on any Equal Exchange product. In addition to providing a better wage and safe conditions to the workers who provide these products, our coffees support sustainable agriculture that preserves the forest canopy, providing shelter for migrating birds. By asking for Fair Trade products whenever you shop, you help workers across the globe.

### FIRST PARISH SENDS DELEGATES, STAFF TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At our Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, June 11, the Denominational Affairs Committee brought to the Parish for unanimous ratification the following delegates to the 2006 General Assembly: **Donna Davis, Val Holt, Rhoda Miller** (our WPA delegate), **Cricket Potter, Mark Richards** and **Mary Lou Toussaint**. The delegates met with the DAC on June 6, to consider both the Parish's priorities and their individual areas of interest. Delegates will be reporting back to the Parish in each *Meeting House News* on their experiences. Our vital parish will be reminded monthly of the force of our UU continental mission. **Sophia Suarez-Friedman** will be at GA, singing with the GA Children's Choir. First Parish staff who are attending GA are **Beth Norton, Gary Smith, Jenny Rankin** and **Karen Foley**. **Tracey Hurd** represents the UUA staff and **Rachel Holt** is delegate for All Soul's in Washington, D.C. — **Nancy P. James**, D.A.C. Chair and **Margaret Stewart**, Parish Administrator

### OPENING SUNDAY — LOOK FOR THE TENT!

The Special Events Committee will be hosting a Welcome Back Picnic on Sunday, September 10, the Opening Day of the '06-'07 church year. The picnic will begin after the second service, around 12:30, with games for kids, live music for everyone, and simple lunch fare to purchase, or you can bring your own lunch. This will be a great way to start the year, with a festive, intergenerational gathering!

### YEE HAW — HOWDY, PARDNERS! SAVE THE DATE...

Saturday, November 18, 2006 — Experience the wild, wild West at the First Parish auction! You won't want to miss this fun event. If you want to join this enthusiastic, energetic Auction Committee, contact **Eric Read** or **Phyllis Savage** at 978-663-3987.

PARISH NOTES continued on page 7

## Money Matters

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As we come to the close of my first fiscal year here at First Parish, I am happy to say that we expect to come in within budget for the year. Although total income is expected to come in on budget, note that our subscriptions may come in lower than expected.

Fortunately, higher than expected income in other areas will help compensate for subscriptions that were not fulfilled. If you have not fulfilled your pledge, it is still very important to do so! Pledges received in FY '06 will directly impact how we budget for next year.

Looking ahead to next year, the FY '07 budget was approved at the Annual Meeting a couple of weeks ago. I want to congratulate the fundraising team on exceeding the pledge campaign goal of \$940K in pledges. They have worked extremely hard and are still hoping to achieve their goal of 100 percent participation. So, if you haven't pledged yet, please help them to achieve this goal by submitting your pledge for FY '07.

As many of you know, **Tim Jacoby** will be handing over the job of Treasurer to **Rob Richardson** next year. I enjoyed working with Tim and appreciate all the help he has given me in my first year here at First Parish. I look forward to working with Rob and am most appreciative that he is willing to step up to this important position.

— *Lisa Cole*

Business Manager

## Pastoral Care News

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As we said our benediction together at the end of the final worship service of the “regular” church year, I knew it was the last time I was saying it with you as a minister of First Parish. “These words are engraved on my heart,” I thought, “and always will be.” I’ll bet it’s like that for a lot of you.

Then came your beautiful send-off at the Annual Meeting, with **Toby Wesselhoeft**’s thoughtful, heartfelt words, and in my gift bag was a beautiful, framed calligraphy version of the benediction! It will be on a wall in our house as soon as our house is built, dear friends! I am grateful, too, for your generous monetary gift. I don’t think you will be surprised to learn that the “green” of your gift will turn into “green” and blossoms in our new garden in Maine!

As I’ve been saying good-bye to you, tying up loose ends of ministry, and packing for our moves to Concord for the summer and then to Maine, my mind has been occupied by too many thoughts and tasks at once — not surprising. It’s been hard to come to my daily morning prayer with a steady mind and open heart. One morning as I sat with my mind running around, ticking off to-do lists, I noticed the candle’s flame — straight, tall, and absolutely steady. This is unusual. Flames usually flicker and dance a little. Not this one — it was unwavering, and it stayed that way. Even more amazing, it’s been the same every morning since. “That,” I realized, “is what God’s love for me is like — when I’m unsteady, discombobulated, obsessed with my own little concerns, unable to pay attention to God, God stays present with me anyway, a steady and unwavering presence.” It did help me relax a little and trust that sometime in the future my mind will settle down (maybe when the packing is done?).

But then this struck me: Just as God is a steady presence in my life when my life doesn’t feel steady at all (even when I don’t notice that steady presence, which is often the case), so a caring congregation can be a steady presence in the lives of its members and friends when their lives are anything but steady and reassuring. And I thought of all the times and all the ways you have reached out to each other in difficult times. And all the ways you are present with each other in the ordinary course of things — which builds the basis for being there in the hard times. I hope you know you are an amazing congregation. I know you are going to keep letting your lights shine in each other’s lives and your congregational light shine as a steady beacon of faith in the wider world.

May blessings abound in your summer and into the year and years ahead.

— *Karen Lewis Foley*

## Music Notes

### MUSICAL PILGRIMAGE TO TRANSYLVANIA

The First Parish Choir and friends will undertake their second musical pilgrimage to Transylvania, including several days staying with members of our partner church in Szekeleykeresztur, from August 7 to 20, 2007. We plan to visit Hungary and Prague as well. We encourage those wishing to sing and travel with us to join the choir for the coming year; others who want to accompany our trip but not sing are also welcome to come. If you are interested in going on this trip, please download the interest survey form that is on our website ([firstparish.org](http://firstparish.org)) and send it in to the office. You may also contact **Sara Ballard** at [sara@sb.org](mailto:sara@sb.org) with questions or to indicate your interest.

### A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Dear First Parishioners,

It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter of appreciation and thanks to all my friends and acquaintances at First Parish. I have been blessed by many wonderful experiences since my early days of Sunday School (**Eric Smith** was one of my teachers) to the present day of retirement. What a beautiful life of music and friendship. Your recognition of me at the Annual Meeting, after the beautiful words said of me, was a very moving moment for me.

With my heartfelt appreciation and affection,

— *David Huston*

## MUSings

As I write this, I believe that summer has finally decided to come and stay. I am enjoying the sunlight that streams through the windows of my new office (the former nursery, just off the stage in the Parish Hall) and pondering Gary's sage advice to slow down, pay attention, give thanks and let go.

I plan to slow down in July, but before that there is General Assembly in St. Louis! Once again there will be lots of music for me to pay attention to during that week, most notably the music for the worship service on Sunday morning. I have been working with a wonderful worship team to plan this service over the past year, and I'm looking forward to seeing how it all comes together!



Another exciting musical event at GA will be the appearance of the third continental UU Children's Choir. This year we have one member of our children's choir participating. **Sophia Suarez-Friedman** will be traveling to St. Louis to represent First Parish in this inspiring group. The children's choir will sing at a special concert in St. Louis on Saturday night June 24, and again at the Closing Ceremony on June 25. There will be much to pay attention to in St. Louis!

OK, so I'm not doing so well with the slowing down — yet. But giving thanks comes easily. As I complete my twelfth year as music director at First Parish, I continue to appreciate the central role music plays in the worship and community life of this congregation. We have a long and strong heritage of musical excellence, one that continues to flourish with the dedication of singers and instrumentalists of all ages and with the support of the wider congregation. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to make music with you all in this place and this time.

In July and August, I think most of us look forward to letting go of the structured September to June schedule. I'm sure we will fall into new patterns over the summer, but I hope they will be patterns that allow time to slow down, pay attention, give thanks and let go, so that we all will find rest, refreshment and new energy for the seasons ahead.

Have a great summer.

Blessings,

— *Beth Norton*

### MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE TO SENIORS IN THE CONCORD AREA

Can you give one hour a week or so to help Concord area seniors remain living independently and safely at home? Minuteman Senior Services Meals on Wheels drivers are urgently needed to deliver lunchtime meals once/twice a month, either on your own or with a partner



or a friend! Also, Friendly Visitors meet with lonely seniors on a regular basis for a chat or short walks. Grocery Shoppers pick up/deliver groceries for a homebound senior, or accompany a senior on errands or appointments; ideal for families to do together, or partner with a friend and help on alternate weeks. Questions? Call **Debbie Barr**, MSS Volunteer Services Coordinator, at 781-221-7023 or e-mail [d.barr@minutemansenior.org](mailto:d.barr@minutemansenior.org).

### JERICHO ROAD SEEKS INTERN

Do you know of a smart, energetic and skilled college graduate who is looking for an opportunity to help effect social change, while picking up new skills and nonprofit experience? Jericho Road is looking for an intern or VISTA-like employee for full-time employment and is hoping you might know someone who would fit the bill. While this job will not be highly paid (it offers an \$11,000 stipend for 12 months' service), it could provide invaluable experience to the right person. We will also consider a summer internship position if we don't get enough responses for a year-round position. If you or someone you know might be interested, please forward a resume to [lesliekopl@earthlink.net](mailto:lesliekopl@earthlink.net). The position is available July 1.

### MASSACHUSETTS CAMPAIGN FOR A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF PEACE

Sixty-five people, from 11 northeastern states, gathered for a conference in early June. The 9 children created a "Tapestry of Peace" quilt, to be displayed in churches. Perspectives presented, for weaving into our work, included, "Investing in Prevention: Educating Youth about Nonviolence," "Community Mediation" and "The Department of Peace, Military and Police: How Do We Work Together?" This inspiration and strategies from a Peace Alliance Coordinator guide our work. Massachusetts plans candidate forums in October, contin-

ued dialogue with police for developing youth mediation programs, and a benefit concert offered by the Aardvark Jazz Orchestra on December 17. Sponsorship of HR 3760 is now at 74. Senate lobby (Sen. 1756) is essential. If you are interested in participating, call Jason White at 978-621-0353, or **Pat Simon** at 781-373-1410.

### CROP WALK HELP NEEDED

Are you looking for a short-term but high-impact involvement in a social action project? The Concord Area Crop Walk for the Hungry, which takes place October 15 starting at First Parish, could use help with recruiting walkers and sponsors from our church. What is most needed is folks to staff the coffee hour tables in September and early October to sign up walkers and receive pledges. Contact **Sara Ballard** at [sara@sb.org](mailto:sara@sb.org) or at 978-371-0723 if you can help. You can find out more about the Crop Walk at [www.concordcrop.org](http://www.concordcrop.org).

### WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SOCIAL ACTION AT FIRST PARISH?

The First Parish Social Action Community (SAC) helps parishioners connect with a diverse and exciting range of social action projects. To find out more about what is going on, join our e-mail list by sending a blank e-mail to [SAC-join@lists.firstparish.org](mailto:SAC-join@lists.firstparish.org), see our website [www.firstparish.org/cms/content/view/97/70/](http://www.firstparish.org/cms/content/view/97/70/), or check out information on the SAC bulletin board downstairs in the church.

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

On June 11, 2006, we were pleased to announce at the Annual Meeting that the church has already raised \$811,275 from 21 leadership pledges. The congregation also affirmed its commitment to a \$4.5 Million Capital Campaign, which allows us to complete deferred maintenance (including the organ), establish a capital reserve fund to finance future maintenance, make the Meeting House accessible to all, and add some multipurpose space. A motion to reduce the size of the campaign was defeated by a vote of 118 to 32, with three abstentions.



Our architects, Taylor & Burns, have begun studying both our needs and the building itself. They will work with the Building Committee during the summer to create multiple design options that will be presented to the full Parish at meetings on September 20 and 23. We expect that a preferred design option will emerge from these meetings. The architects will then expand on that one preferred design and present it in more detail at two all-Parish meetings November 12 and 14. An all-Parish vote on whether to go ahead with the preferred design will take place at a Special Meeting on December 3, 2006. Please mark your calendars now with all these very important dates!

Throughout the summer, leadership fundraising will continue as schedules allow.

Please check the First Parish website for more updates during the summer. (Under the Programs menu; be sure you are logged in.)

**TRANSYLVANIAN GUESTS AT THANKSGIVING**

The Partner Church Committee, on behalf of First Parish, is excited to sponsor six visitors from our partner church in Szekelekersztur in November. For 10 days they will experience how we live, see how First Parish works and learn how our local government works.

At least 100 adults and young adults in our community have been warmly hosted by our Transylvanian friends over the past few years. It is now our opportunity to return their graciousness. Since partnering is a church-wide project, we are opening the welcoming and hosting to the entire congregation. You can help in the following ways:

- Be a host family, who would enjoy having one or two guests in your home for two to four days. Include them in your family activities and show them some of your favorite places in the area. Our committee will help facilitate this and coordinate with other host families.
- Make cash donations to help finance round trip airfares. Of the approximate \$6,000 cost, \$4,200 is still needed.
- Help with planning and executing two welcoming events.
- For all of the above, please contact **Bill Maxwell** at 978-369-5257 or [wimaxwell@comcast.net](mailto:wimaxwell@comcast.net)
- Please send cash donations to Bill at 149 Belknap Street, Concord, MA 01742. Make checks payable to First Parish in Concord, with "Transylvanian airfares" on the memo line.

—For the PCC: **Lillian Anderson, Kathy and Dana Booth, Ivan Kristoffy, Rodger Mattlage, Bill Maxwell**

*Wright Tavern Center*

As many of you already know, I am leaving my position at Wright Tavern Center this September to start a new job. Guess where? Right here at First Parish! I am going to become the Director of Member Services, and I am really looking forward to it. The past eight years have been full of learning for me and I have so enjoyed being part of this wonderful staff. However, it is time to do something different and I can't wait to put on my new hat in the fall.

I am happy to report that **Mary Elizabeth Wheeler** will be taking over as the Wright Tavern Center director. She brings lots of new energy and ideas to the job and I think you will like her. Please stop by and meet her and then come over to my new office in the quad and say hello to me. Have a great summer. See you in September!

—*Caroline McCloy*

**SUMMER PROGRAMS AT THE WRIGHT TAVERN CENTER**

**Kripalu Yoga:** Kripalu Yoga, the yoga of compassion, teaches us the ultimate spiritual practice, to view ourselves without judgment. Practiced over time, Kripalu Yoga will increase mindfulness and compassion. Appropriate for beginners hoping to get into their bodies and more devoted practitioners wanting a deep practice, each class includes centering, gentle warm-ups, postures, breath work, meditation and relaxation. After only one class you will feel like you've taken a drink from the deep wellspring of yourself — and stretched and strengthened too! No prior experience necessary. All are welcome.

*Edi Pasalis is a certified Kripalu Yoga teacher, former Scholar in Residence at the Kripalu Center, and graduate of Harvard Divinity School. She leads yoga classes and retreats in the Boston area that bring to life the inner aspects of yoga and help students find a more comfortable relationship to themselves and their life experience. She is the founder of I Do Yoga, which supports people through the wedding process. (www.i-do-yoga.com).*

Wednesdays June 14–August 16 7:30-9:00 p.m. \$117

**Kundalini Yoga:** Kundalini Yoga is described as the yoga of awareness. Each class is designed to help strengthen your body, relax and focus your mind, bring harmony and balance, and lift spirit. A Kundalini yoga session includes exercise, postures, mantra, meditation and relaxation. The combination of body, mind and spirit exercises creates relaxing and uplifting effects that many people feel right away! All levels are welcome.

*Dharm Singh has been teaching Kundalini Yoga in the Boston area for nine years. He currently teaches at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital Wellness Center and The Cambridge School of Weston. For more information, contact him at [shabdguru@rcn.com](mailto:shabdguru@rcn.com).*

Tuesdays June 20–July 25 (no class July 4) 9:30–11:00 a.m. \$70  
August 1–August 29 9:30–11:00 a.m. \$70

Thursdays June 22–July 27 (no class July 6) 9:30–11:00 a.m. \$70  
August 3–August 31 9:30–11:00 a.m. \$70

### WORKSHOP ROTATION GRADES 2-6

Have you heard? There is a lot going on in RE this summer.

After years of thorough evaluation and thoughtful consideration by many, we are actually implementing Workshop Rotation this fall on September 17. This did not happen overnight. Many people worked diligently toward this goal for several years. We have been fortunate to have had the assistance of curriculum specialists, educators, actors, musicians, interior designers, seamstresses, painters, builders, potters, artists, plumbers, woodworkers and more. All are working toward making this program a reality for the upcoming fall.

As I write this, our physical classroom spaces are being created. Some of these are big changes. Change is exciting, but it may be a surprise to some. For this reason, we are having an Open House for our Workshop classrooms after both services on September 10. This will give parents and kids an opportunity to visit the spaces and meet the guides for their first rotation. We are so looking forward to inviting you all back for a visit on that day.

### STAFFING CHANGES COMING TO RE

I am so pleased to announce that **Jane Barnes** has accepted the part-time position of RE Administrator for next year. Jane is a member of First Parish and has two children in our RE program. We are incredibly fortunate to have landed on our feet with someone like Jane. If you need to contact Jane, her new e-mail is [jbarnes@first-parish.org](mailto:jbarnes@first-parish.org).

We are also adding two more staffing positions for RE next year. The first is a part-time position (13 hours per week, Sept.-June), supporting our new workshop rotation model for 2nd to 6th grades. This position would involve developing curriculum for our five pillars, helping with its implementation and working with RE teachers.

The second position is also part-time (13 hours per week, Sept.-June) working with our 7th to 9th grade programming. This position would also involve creating and sustaining strong programming for this important age group.

Interested? See the boxed item on page 9 or call the RE office to learn more.

### SPIRIT PLAY CONTINUES SUCCESS

Spirit Play, a Montessori-based program for experiencing spiritually moving stories, was very successful in this year's RE preschool program. Next year, it will be the basis for our combined K-1

classroom. Over the summer, we are creating stories based on the Hebrew Scriptures for the fall program. These stories will be told from a UU perspective, relating the difficulties humans faced in Biblical times, while stressing our own UU principles and values. We are also creating baskets from important children's literature like *The Giving Tree* and others. If you have a suggestion or are interested in creating a basket yourself, we welcome your participation. Please call the RE office for more information.

### MIDDLE-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

Our Young Activist (YA) and Ways of Worship (wow) leaders have already met and have made great progress in planning next fall's curriculum. These are dedicated individuals who bring a personal passion to each of these important programs for our middle-school youth. Both will be meeting at 11 a.m. this fall for a semester term. Young Activists will meet in the Parlor and wow will have their first meet in the Wright Tavern and at 51 Walden.

### COA WELCOMES NEW LEADER, MENTEES & VETERAN MENTORS

We are so pleased to welcome **Debra Dunnington** as our Coming of Age leader for next year's 9th graders. Debra brings much experience to this position and is spending the summer planning next year's program. Debra is gathering information from this year's terrific program as well as past years' programs.

COA will also have the support of **Mary-Wren vanderWilden**, our Senior Youth Director, as program supervisor. In addition, we are very fortunate to have many returning and veteran mentors. We are excited about welcoming our '07 mentees.

### ALL-IMPORTANT RE ORIENTATION FOR '06-'07

Because of the new programming next year, we will be doing orientation a bit differently. Orientation will be critical to the success of Spirit Play and Workshop Rotation. For each rotation, all leaders and guides are required to attend. If one person doesn't know the expectations, it could really throw the whole program off. Once you learn your teaching assignment, please record the date of your upcoming orientation.

### TEEN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Do you love young children and enjoy being with them? Are you at least 14 years old? If so, the Teen Assistant program may be for you!

Teen assistants play with children, help with art projects, wash up snacks, and clean up after class. You may choose to work with babies, 2's, 3's or 4-year-olds at either the 9:00 or 11:00 o'clock service. Also, the new Workshop Rotation in grades 2-6 may need a few assistants. Many teens sign up for the whole year, offering wonderful continuity for the children. However, signing up for one or two seasons is also acceptable. Compensation is \$8/per hour or you may earn community service credits.

Interested? Simply request an application by e-mail or by phone from our preschool program coordinator, **Carol Duane** (978-250-1816 or [clduane@netway.com](mailto:clduane@netway.com); ). Applications will be mailed out the first week of August and will also be available in the First Parish office. She will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

— Pam Howell

RE NEWS continued on page 9

## Senior Youth News

We had an incredible "Phishbowl" Lock-In as our last meeting together in June that went into the wee hours of the morning. Each youth takes a turn sitting in the middle with a blindfold on while everyone says what they like and appreciate about that person. It is an incredibly uplifting experience and I'm awed each year by the thoughtfulness and care of everyone's comments. What a terrific way to end the year!

Summer can mean rest and relaxation for some youth, an opportunity to get work experience for some and a chance to make money for others. My hope is that everyone comes back September 10 rested and renewed and full of stories. Personally, I will be in the office at First Parish on Thursdays preparing for our next church year. I welcome visitors to my new office in the main building of the church (the old music office). I'd love to show you our new youth space that the youth decorated in the basement of the Wright Tavern (affectionately now known as the Icy Cave).

This summer, the youth will get a chance to return some of the loving hospitality we received in Szekelykerestur when Istvan Csaka, a wonderful, friendly Szekely youth we got to know, comes to Concord for a few months. Istvan's home base while he's here will be with **Kathy** and **Dana Booth**, but we are trying to organize some home stays or vacations with some First Parish youth. If you would like to have Istvan visit with your family some time during the summer, please contact me.

We are already getting ready for our Youth Pilgrimage to Transylvania for July of 2007. **Deb Welch** will be coordinating the trip this year with help from a group of four to five chaperones. Look for applications on the First Parish website in September.

Happy Summer! See you in September!

—*Mary-Wren vanderWilden*

RE NEWS continued from page 8

### ORIENTATION SCHEDULE FOR '06-'07 RE

Babies and Preschool	September 9	10:00 a.m.
Spirit Play	September 9	10:00 a.m.
Workshop Rotation #1	September 7	7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Workshop Rotation #2	October 19	7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Workshop Rotation #3	December 7	7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Workshop Rotation #4	February 8	7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Workshop Rotation #5	March 29	7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER 2006 RE SCHEDULE

Thu Sept 7	Orientation for Rotation #1	7:30 p.m.
Sat Sept 9	Orientation for Spirit Play and Pre-K	10:00 a.m.
Sun Sept 10	RE for Pre-K only	9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
	RE Open House	10:15 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.
Fri Sept 15	wow Movie Night	7:00 p.m.
	6th Grade Youth Group	7:00 p.m.
Sun Sept 17	Regular RE for Pre-K–6th Grade	9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
	Regular RE for 7th and 8th Grade	11:00 a.m.
Sat Sept 23	wow Gaining Ground Workday	12:30 p.m.
Sun Sept 24	Regular RE for Pre-K–6th Grade	9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
	Regular RE for 7th and 8th Grade	11:00 a.m.
Sun Sept 24	Junior High Youth Group	4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT FIRST PARISH

**Workshop Rotation Coordinator:** We have a part-time position (13 hours a week, September to June) for someone who enjoys developing curriculum, helping with its implementation and working with RE teachers. This position requires organizational and interpersonal skills. The hours are very flexible, but some Sunday hours (one service) would be required. The position begins September 1. Please send your resume to **Betsy Siebert**, [betsysieb@verizon.net](mailto:betsysieb@verizon.net). We will not be reviewing resumes until mid-July.

**7th–9th Grade Program Coordinator:** We have a part-time position (13 hours a week, September to June) for someone interested in sustaining and creating vibrant RE programming for our 7th, 8th and 9th graders. This includes developing program curriculum, creating program calendars, supporting RE 7th–9th grade leaders and helping with program logistics. The hours are flexible, but some Sunday hours (one service, 11:00 a.m.) would be required. Please send your resume to **Betsy Siebert**, [betsysieb@verizon.net](mailto:betsysieb@verizon.net). We will not be reviewing resumes until mid-July.

## Women's News

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### THE WOMEN'S AM/PM BOOK GROUP

The annual joint meeting of the morning and evening book groups on June 13 proposed and voted on a new list of books for the '06-'07 church year. Beginning in September the evening book group will meet on the fourth Monday evening of the month, except as noted, and the morning group will meet on the last Tuesday of the month, except December. The book for September 25 (P.M.) and September 26 (A.M.) is *The Peabody Sisters*, by Megan Marshall. If you would like to be added to the Women's Readers' e-mail list, please contact **Margaret Stewart** at [mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com](mailto:mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com).

Books and dates for the 2006-2007 year:

October 30 (P.M.) and 31 (A.M.) *The Master Butchers' Singing Club*, Louise Erdrich

December 4 (P.M.) and 5 (A.M.)  
*Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, Annie Dillard

January 29 (P.M.) and 30 (A.M.)  
*The Birth of Venus*, Sarah Dunant

February 26 (P.M.) and 27 (A.M.)  
*The Spiral Staircase*, Karen Armstrong

March 26 (P.M.) and 27 (A.M.)  
*Independent People*, Halldor Laxness

April 23 (P.M.) and 24 (A.M.)  
*The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*, Anne Fadiman

May 21 (P.M.) and 22 (A.M.)  
*Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, Lisa See

### WPA SEPTEMBER MEETING

Save this date: September 19. The Women's Parish Association will hold its September luncheon meeting and program beginning at noon on Tuesday, September 19. Watch for more details in the September *Meeting House News*.

### HOLIDAY ARTISANS FAIR — NOVEMBER 4

First Parish's annual Holiday Artisans Fair on November 4 promises to be fantastic this year! Start setting aside treasures for the white elephant table — the fair committee is looking for donations of high quality small gift items. If you would like to work on this fun event, please contact **Dian Pekin** at 978-263-0426 or [pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:pekindc@comcast.net).

## Miscellaneous

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### LIVING IN THE KINGDOM RETREAT PLANNED FOR OCTOBER 2006

Carl Scovel invites interested Christians of all sorts, but especially UU's, to a weekend of prayer, study, companionship and enjoyment of Benedictine hospitality and worship at Gladstonbury Abbey in Hingham, Mass. The retreat begins on Friday, October 13, at 7 p.m. and ends on Sunday, October 15, after lunch. The abbey is the scene of a simple, restoring life, with nature trails and a newly renovated chapel where the brothers chant the offices five times a day.

The work of the retreat will be studying the parables that Jesus taught, describing God's kingdom, and becoming familiar with his teachings about what it means to live in the kingdom here and now. Carl will be assisted by Karl Haakensen, Linda Stoker and Nan Stone, all of whom were part of last fall's retreat.

The cost of the retreat will be about \$130, plus a contribution (of whatever one chooses to give) to the King's Chapel Minister's Discretionary Fund for the benefit of a parishioner whom Carl has been helping to support over the past few years. Space is limited to 20 retreatants. We will try to help retreatants arriving at Logan Airport get to the retreat center in Hingham.

If you would like a registration form, please e-mail Carl with your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address, if you have one. For information, contact Carl Scovel at [carlscovel@comcast.net](mailto:carlscovel@comcast.net), 617-522-3681, or 36 Hampstead Road, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

### JUDAIC HISTORY PROGRAM TO BE OFFERED AT KEREM SHALOM

Kerem Shalom would like to cordially invite members of the First Parish to join them in the upcoming 100 hours of study of Judaic history, culture, philosophy from the biblical to the modern period. They are currently taking applications for the class, which will begin in October of 2006 and go on until April or May of 2008. The vacation periods will coincide with both Jewish and secular ones, and the meeting times will be Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:45 p.m. at Kerem Shalom. We expect to have widely acclaimed scholars and teachers for our journey together, which should be fascinating. No knowledge of Hebrew is required and one does not have to be Jewish to attend. For more information, contact Rosalie Gerut, Director of Adult Programs, Kerem Shalom, 978-579-2161.

## Classified

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### CAPE HOUSE RENTAL

West Yarmouth, 3 BR, fenced-in backyard, within walking distance of private community beach. For information, contact **Dian Pekin** at 978-263-0426 or [pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:pekindc@comcast.net).

## Summer 2006 Calendar

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*Listings in italics represent classes offered through  
the Wright Tavern Center for Spiritual Renewal.*

### Every Week...

<i>Kundalini Yoga</i>	Tuesday	9:30 a.m. (not 7/4)
<i>Tibetan Buddhism</i>	Wednesday	9:30 a.m. (not in August)
<i>Kripalu Yoga</i>	Wednesday	7:30 p.m. (not 8/23 or 8/30)
<i>Kundalini Yoga</i>	Thursday	9:30 a.m. (not 7/6)
<i>Tibetan Buddhism</i>	Thursday	7:30 p.m. (not in August)

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Mon Jul 3    Holiday—Office Closed  
Tue Jul 4    Holiday—Office Closed

Sat Jul 8    9:00    Photo Club  
Sat Aug 12    9:00    Photo Club

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### AUGUST/SEPTEMBER SUMMER WORSHIP INFORMATION

DATE	SERVICE LEADER	MUSICIANS
August 6	Mr. Marc Loustau Harvard Divinity School graduate	Fairhaven Four & Friends Janet Hunt, organ
August 13	Ms. Claire Phillips-Thoryn Harvard Divinity School graduate	Maddie Sifantus, soprano Janet Hunt, organ
August 20	Mr. Shawn Newton Harvard Divinity School student	Larry Gall, baritone Janet Hunt, organ
August 27	Rev. Margie King Saphier Associate Minister for Pastoral Care First Parish in Concord	Lauren Bedau Evans, alto Rob Humphreville, organ
September 3	Ms. Sally Hamlin Ministerial Intern First Parish in Concord	Nancy Ackerman, clarinet Ingrid Guttberg, organ



**First Parish in Concord**

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

20 Lexington Road  
Concord, MA 01742

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**JULY 2006 NEWSLETTER**

The next **Newsletter deadline** is **Monday, August 21**, at noon.  
The Newsletter mailing is Wednesday, August 30.  
**News items should be limited to 100 words.**

**Don't Miss...**

**SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!  
OPENING SUNDAY**

*Sunday, September 10  
Services at 9 & 11 o'clock*

**First Parish in Concord  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
Staff**

- Gary E. Smith, Senior Minister
- Jenny M. Rankin, Minister
- Karen Lewis Foley, Associate Minister for Pastoral Care
- Rebecca M. Blodgett, Affiliate Minister for Pastoral Care
- Pam Howell, Director of Religious Education
- Carol Duane, Toddler/Preschool Coordinator
- Mary-Wren vanderWilden, Youth Program Director
- Elizabeth Norton, Music Director
- Eric Huenneke, Organist
- David Huston, Bell Choir Director
- Judy Burrows, Acting Children's Choir Director
- Anderson Manuel, Music/RE Associate
- Caroline McCloy, Wright Tavern Center Director
- Dan Holin, Jericho Road Executive Director
- Leslie Koplou, Assistant to Executive Director, Jericho Road
- Margaret Stewart, Parish Administrator
- Douglas Baker, Sacristan and Curator
- Jane Johnson, Office Manager
- Peggy Gallo, Financial Secretary and Collector
- Lisa Cole, Business Manager
- Kate Keleher, Newsletter Editor
- Kaye Harvie, Jane Johnson, Margaret Stewart,  
Newsletter Staff

**DONT' FORGET: SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

The office at First Parish will be open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. from Monday, June 19, to Friday, September 1. Also note that the office will be closed on Monday, July 3, and Tuesday, July 4, for Independence Day; and on Monday, September 4, for Labor Day.

**Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00 to 1:00**  
**Phone: 978-369-9602**  
**Fax: 978-369-8701**  
**E-Mail: [fpconcord@aol.com](mailto:fpconcord@aol.com)**  
**Website: [firstparish.org](http://firstparish.org)**

**Ministers' E-Mail:**  
**Gary E. Smith: [garyesmith@firstparish.org](mailto:garyesmith@firstparish.org)**  
**Jenny M. Rankin: [revjenny@comcast.net](mailto:revjenny@comcast.net)**  
**Karen Lewis Foley: [revkfoley@comcast.net](mailto:revkfoley@comcast.net)**