

# Meeting House News

June 2016

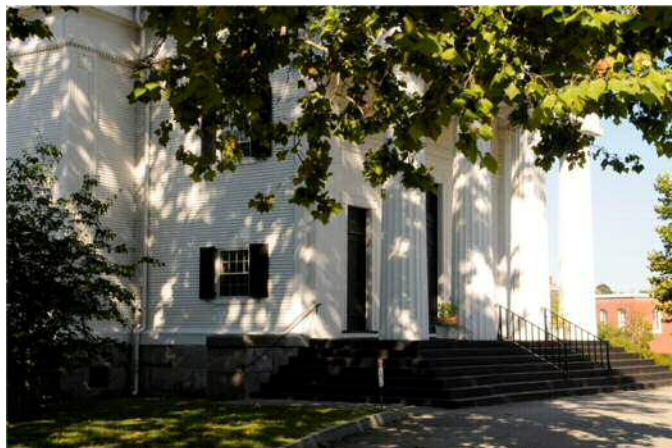


Photo by Don Cohen

***This is the last issue of the MHN until September.***

***Don't miss any news over the summer.  
Sign up for FP Announce emails at  
<http://www.firstparish.org/cms/about-first-parish/e-mail-lists>.***

***Need to let the church community know about an event? Send summer submissions to FP Announce.***

***The deadline for September's MHN is August 16.***

***Submission Guidelines***

See [Editor's Notes](#)

## Table of Contents

Sundays at First Parish	3
Worship-at-a-Glance	3
Summer Worship-at-a-Glance	4
Sunday Forums	4
October Forums	4
Ministerial Intern	5
Usher and Sound Team	5
Homecoming Picnic	5
Café Off for the Summer	5
MUUsings	6
REflections and RE News	7
Summer 2016 Program for Kids	7
Creative Adventures with Ms. Aimee	7
Kids Yoga with Laura Grundstrom	7
Drumming with Tom Foote	8
RE Sundays At-a-Glance	8
Pastoral Care	9
Ministers and Meals	9
Volunteers Luncheon	10
First Parish Rides	11
Standing Committee News	11
Thank you!	11
Pledge Campaign	11
Auction Team	11
Outgoing Members	11
Fiscal Year 2017 Budget	12
Annual Meeting 2016	12
Important Dates	12
We Want to Hear from You	12



Photo by Pam Dritt



Photo by Wendy Wolfberg

Social Action Community	13
Amnesty International Group	15
Boston Pride Parade	13
Environmental Leadership Team	14
Holly Near Concert	14
Partner Congregation News	14
Thank You	14
Travels to Székelykeresztúr	14
Plan for Future Action	15
Current SAC Board	15
UUCSJ Learning Trip	15
Denominational Affairs Committee	16
General Assembly 2016	16
Arts at First Parish	16
Upcoming Events	16
Purpose	17
Women's News	17
Moms' Night Out	17
Moms' Night Out Party	17
MNO Listserv	17
MNO Purpose	17
Women's AM/PM Book Group	17
Women's Parish Association	18
Our Wonderful Gardens	18
Other Cool Stuff	18
Concord Area Humanists	18
Dessert Lecture: "Thoreau and Money"	19
First Tuesday Group (65+)	19
Musical— <i>Grub's Place</i>	19
Website Wonder	20
Is Your Web Content Up-to-Date?	20
Double-Check	20
Website Quiz Question	20



*Lisa Steigerwalt as Ellen Emerson at the WPA Celebratory Tea. Photo by Lois Whitney*

Editor's Notes	21
Submission Guidelines	21
<i>MHN</i> Schedule for 2016-2017	21
First Parish General Information	22
Summer Hours	22
Contact Us	22
Church Calendar	22
FP Announce	22
FP Facebook	22
Reserve a Room	22
Extra Pictures	24
Schedule of Services, Summer 2016	25

## Summer Office Hours – June 21 through September 2

First Parish Summer Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon), begin Tuesday, June 21, and continue through Friday, September 2. Regular office hours, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., will resume on Tuesday, September 6.

Next *Meeting House News* **Deadline: August 16, 2016**

Next Publication Date: **August 30, 2016**

## Sundays at First Parish

All Sunday Worship Services are held at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

## Worship-at-a-Glance

### Sunday, June 5 – “Ours to Follow: Judith Sargent Murray”

Rev. Howard N. Dana  
First Parish Choir

### Sunday, June 12 – “Charity or Change”

Rev. Howard N. Dana  
Combined Choirs of First Parish



*Continued next page.*

## **Sunday, June 19 – “Flower Communion”**

Last official service of this church year.

Rev. Howard N. Dana

The Conchords

## **Summer Worship-at-a-Glance**

Please see the [Schedule of Services, Summer 2016](#) for service leaders in July and August at the end of this Newsletter.

## **Sunday Forums**

**Returning in October. Do you have suggestions? Can you help? We need you!**



Our 23 Forums this season ended with “Mediation Matters” by Eric van Loon. We look forward to another busy season starting in early September.

To increase community outreach, we also recruit speakers from outside the Parish. Some of our best Forums come from outside our committee. Most Sundays next year (September through May) are still open, except for the five in October that will highlight Parish history and activities.

If you have suggested topics or speakers, or would like to help, please contact: Patrick Everett, [pne@aol.com](mailto:pne@aol.com) ; Alan Whitney, [awhitney@haystack.mit.edu](mailto:awhitney@haystack.mit.edu) ; or Jack Nevison, [jmn@newleafpm.com](mailto:jmn@newleafpm.com) .

## **October Forums**

Over the summer, many people will be working with Barbara Wheeler to put together a kickoff Forum series for October that will help us “. . . open our eyes to see what is beautiful” at First Parish. Forums will cover the history of the meeting house; architecture of the church; elements of worship; the paintings, photos, gardens, and sculptures; and our international connections. Save Octobers’ dates! We hope to see you there.



## Ministerial Intern

**Welcome Jan Hutslar!**  
**Sunday, September 4**

Please warmly welcome our ministerial intern for the next year, Jan Hutslar. Jan will be arriving in Concord in early August and will lead worship September 4. She wrote: "I am looking forward to getting to know you all and to learning and serving alongside you. I bring curiosity, an open heart and enthusiasm for this journey we will share."



As a teaching congregation, First Parish is charged with partnering with Howard to guide student ministers as they follow their path toward UU ministry. Contact Kate Keleher with any questions at [kate@rkeleher.com](mailto:kate@rkeleher.com).

## Usher and Sound Team

### Help Needed

Are you friendly and helpful? If so, please come join the usher/greeter team operating each Sunday in the Sanctuary. It's an easy, once-a-month commitment to welcome fellow parishioners, hand out an Order of Service and pass the collection plate. We particularly need help for the third, fourth, and rarer fifth Sundays ("easy-peasy" training provided). It's a flexible commitment, as ushers switch among themselves to fit the job into their lives. It's a great way to learn faces and make friends! Contact volunteer head usher Maile Hulihan at [mailehulihan@earthlink.net](mailto:mailehulihan@earthlink.net) or 978-443-7020.



## Homecoming Picnic

**Saturday, September 10, 5:30 p.m., on the Lawns of First Parish**

Save the date and mark your calendars for our annual gathering in of all parishioners: family, friends and new acquaintances. If weather is tricky, we'll be in the Parish Hall.

## Café Off for the Summer

The last First Parish Café of the year will be on Sunday, June 19. Look forward to the fellowship and light fare before services when the Café resumes on Homecoming Sunday, September 10.

## MUUsings

*The sweet June days are come again, once more the glad earth yields  
Its golden wealth of rip'ning grain, and breath of clover fields,  
And deep'ning shade of summer woods, and glow of summer air,  
And winging thoughts and happy moods of love and joy and prayer.*  
—Samuel Longfellow, 1819-1892



*All beautiful the march of days as seasons come and go;  
The hand that shaped the rose hath wrought the crystal of the snow;  
Hath sent the hoary frost of heaven, the flowing waters sealed,  
And laid a silent loveliness on hill and wood and field.*  
—Frances Whitmarsh Wile, 1878-1939

The opening stanzas of these poems elicit a variety of responses. Those attuned to the rhythms of the seasons might think of the summer and winter solstice. Those who notice the rhythm of the verse will distinguish metrical similarities. Those who are musically minded might recognize two hymns in *Singing the Living Tradition*: No. 65, “The Sweet June Days,” and No. 57, “All Beautiful the March of Days.”

I love the seasonal symmetry of these two hymns. Surely, it is no accident that the winter and summer texts share a tune in our 1994 hymnal. Both are set to FOREST GREEN, an English folk melody harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams. This was not always so. Both texts appeared in the 1937 *Hymns of the Spirit* but were set to different tunes. They share FOREST GREEN for the first time in our 1964 hymnal *Hymns for the Celebration of Life*, balancing opposing seasons on a musical fulcrum.

I have superstitiously come to call “All Beautiful the March of Days” the “snow hymn.” Generally, on December Sundays when we’ve sung the hymn, Mother Nature has provided the “white expanses” of snow described in the second verse, once or twice cancelling church altogether. By that same logic, I could call “The Sweet June Days” the “summer hymn.” Longfellow’s original title for the 1859 poem was “Summer Rural Gathering.” We only sing it in June and it is definitely summer by the end of the month! What is true of both hymns is that they herald happy anticipation and acceptance of the new season.

*O how our cup o’erbrims with good these happy summer days;  
For all the joys of field and wood we lift our song of praise.”*

May it be so for all of us this summer.

Blessings, Beth  
Beth Norton, Director of Music  
Contact at [music@firstparish.org](mailto:music@firstparish.org) or 978-369-9602.

## Reflections and RE News

### Summer 2016 Program for Kids

**Sundays, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. (except July 3)**

Children and youth of all ages are invited to drop in for our fun summer program. Each Sunday will feature a professional teacher assisted by a teen and adult volunteer. This program is designed to make it fun and enriching for the whole family. Our goal is for you to feel energized and renewed! Details below.



### Creative Adventures with Ms. Aimee

**Five Sundays: July 10, 17, 24; August 14 and 21; from 10:00-11:00 a.m.**

Join us for some good, messy fun outside (weather permitting). We'll be creating in all sorts of ways, including:

- Giant marble painting
- Flyswatter painting
- Shaving cream marbling
- Pool noodle and found object printmaking
- Sharpie tie-dying
- Dance painting
- And *more!*

Aimee Ledwell is cofounder of [smARTroom](#) in Maynard. She has a BFA from MassArt in 3D Fine Arts, and an MAT in Art Education from Tufts and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, with 15-plus years of teaching experience. She lives in Maynard with her husband Josh, and son CJ. Her mom will tell you she has been a teacher since she was 12 years old, and would bring [Sticks and Stones and Ice Cream Cones](#) with her to babysitting gigs. Ms. Aimee is looking forward to playing with everyone at Summer RE. Look for her candy-color hair and you'll know you're in the right place!



### Kids Yoga with Laura Grundstrom

**Sundays, July 31 and August 28, 10:00-11:00 a.m., Emerson Room**



Children and youth are invited to stretch, find their balance and enjoy moving with yoga poses and games. No experience necessary. You are welcome to bring a yoga mat if you have one. Laura is looking forward to connecting kids with their natural passion for yoga and fun.

Laura Grundstrom has taught children in many different capacities for the past 15 years. She has a degree from Franklin Pierce College in

*Continued next page.*

social work and a minor in dance. Laura has had the privilege to train with Marsha Wenig, founder of the YogaKids program. As a mother of two young girls, Laura works to find balance, playfulness, and of course the bravery to try new things.

## Drumming with Tom Foote

**Sunday, August 7, 10:00-11:00 a.m., Chapel**

Rhythm Kids will bring the drums and the fun for a wild journey. Children enjoy 45 minutes of fun that includes drumming, improvisation, and lots of movement and silliness as they prepare to form their own village-style drum circle. We like to bring enough drums for children to have their own or to share with another drumming buddy. With any Rhythm Kids program, get ready to sing, dance, drum and play!

Tom is a professional drummer and studied at Shepherd College, Berklee College of Music, and Drummer's Collective. He is versed in all musical styles and has studied classical, world percussion, African drumming and drum set. Tom currently studies with Malian master drummer Moussa Traore. He is the founder and developer of [Rhythm Kids](#), a program that offers multicultural music, movement and drumming for children and schools. Tom brings his djembe and guitar to class and it's a nonstop party as he breaks into "Move It, Move It," "Shake It Off" or "Let It Go" in his classes. You've been warned!



## RE Sundays At-a-Glance

Date	Event	Details
June 5	RE Field Day	Following the Children's Message, children and youth with permission will go to Emerson Playground for Games, Bubbles, Relay Races and Face Painting. Families are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch and join us for outdoor fun following the service. Little RE available.
June 12	Improv Drama Games	All ages are invited to a fun morning of improvisation games led by Amy. All levels of acting experience and participation welcome! Little RE available.
June 19	Flower Communion Intergenerational Service	All ages are invited to bring a flower from your yard or the store for our annual ritual. Little RE available.
June 26	UUA General Assembly Service	Child care available
July 3	Independence Day!	<i>No Little RE or RE Program</i>
July 10	Creative Adventures	Aimee Ledwell



Date	Event	Details
July 17	Creative Adventures	Aimee Ledwell
July 24	Creative Adventures	Aimee Ledwell
July 31	Kids Yoga	Laura Grundstrom
August 7	Drumming	Tom Foote
August 14	Creative Adventures	Aimee Ledwell
August 21	Creative Adventures	Aimee Ledwell
August 28	Kids Yoga	Laura Grundstrom
September 4	Blessing of the Backpacks	On Labor Day weekend, all ages will create special tokens to hang on our backpacks. We will offer our good wishes for a positive new school year.

Blessings,  
Amy

Rev. Amy Freedman, Minister of Religious Education  
Contact at [afreedman@firstparish.org](mailto:afreedman@firstparish.org) or 978-369-9602.

## Pastoral Care

*Walking with One Another through the Changes Life Brings*

### Ministers and Meals

**Minister for Pastoral Care**, Rev. Marion Visel

Email: [mvisel@firstparish.org](mailto:mvisel@firstparish.org)

Church: 978-369-9602, ext. 414

Cell: 203-931-5329

**Senior Minister**, Rev. Howard N. Dana

Email: [hdana@firstparish.org](mailto:hdana@firstparish.org)

Church: 978-369-9602, ext. 411

Cell: 717-412-8543



**June 1-5 – Pastoral Care Lay Minister**, Sue Dobbie

Email: [susandobbie@gmail.com](mailto:susandobbie@gmail.com)

Phone: 978-456-8432

Cell: 978-501-6969

**June 6-10 – Pastoral Care Lay Minister**, Sally Brandon Bemis

Email: [sgbrandon@me.com](mailto:sgbrandon@me.com)

Cell: 978-505-0492

*Continued next page.*

**June 11-18 – Pastoral Care Lay Minister**, Dana Snyder-Grant

Email: [danasg@newview.org](mailto:danasg@newview.org)

Phone: 978-266-9409

Cell: 978-760-1129

**June 19-30 – Pastoral Care Lay Minister**, Virginia Ross Taylor

Email: [virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net](mailto:virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net)

Phone: 978-263-9777

Cell: 978-727-3619

**June Meals Delivery**, Pat Kane

**July Pastoral Care Lay Minister**, Virginia Ross Taylor

Email: [virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net](mailto:virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net)

Phone: 978-263-9777

Cell: 978-727-3619

**August Pastoral Care Lay Minister**, Sally Brandon Bemis

Email: [sgbrandon@me.com](mailto:sgbrandon@me.com)

Cell: 978-505-0492

**September Pastoral Care Lay Minister**, Dana Snyder-Grant

Email: [danasg@newview.org](mailto:danasg@newview.org)

Phone: 978-266-9409

Cell: 978-760-1129



## **Volunteers Luncheon**

### **Thank You**

Forty-one people attended the luncheon April 24 sponsored by the Pastoral Care Council in recognition of and appreciation for the many members of First Parish who care for those who are experiencing difficulties in life. Beautiful tables with yellow primroses hosted lovely food and warm conversations. Thanks went out to Anne Fortier, Suzanne Knight and Judy Dembsey for all the work in support of the luncheon, and to the many committees and over 100 people who participated in some aspect of pastoral care. Rev. Howard N. Dana spoke about how important it is that we care for one another.



## First Parish Rides

“The greatest luxury is not driving.”—Michael Caine



Do you need transportation help to come to First Parish on Sundays? First Parish offers rides to Sunday worship and other parish events, in addition to rides for medical appointments, etc., on weekdays. With a few days' notice we can usually fulfill a request for a local ride. Our drivers would love to help (Sorry, Michael Caine is not available! Neither is Shirin Ebadi.)



To request a ride, please contact our Rides Coordinator, Suzanne Hogan, [suzanne.hogan@comcast.net](mailto:suzanne.hogan@comcast.net) or 978-318-9035. Our back-up Rides Coordinator is Suzanne Knight, [suzanneknight@comcast.net](mailto:suzanneknight@comcast.net) or 978-369-9636.

## Standing Committee News

**Sunday, June 5, 6:00 p.m., Emerson Room**

**Sunday, June 12, 6:00 p.m., Emerson Room**

## Thank you!

### *Pledge Campaign*

Summer is almost here. As the formal church year comes to a close, the Standing Committee would like to express its gratitude to a number of parishioners and staff who have recently been involved in very high priority fundraising activities at First Parish. The Annual Pledge Campaign Team, led by Rev. Howard Dana, Director of Operations Fifi Ball, Treasurer Tom Wilson, and Project Manager Rebecca Curzon, and supported by a host of volunteers from across the First Parish spectrum, ran a wonderful campaign, engaging with all First Parish households to identify funding for next year's budget.



### *Auction Team*

Also, the First Parish Auction Team, led by Jennifer Izzo and Jeanne Williams, created an entertaining and financially successful “May Day” experience for all. Additional thanks to the very generous people who donated and bid on many attractive auction items. One of the keys to the success of both of these teams was the high level of planning and organization that allowed many volunteers to jump in and contribute a manageable amount of time and energy. Please express thanks to these dedicated individuals who have worked so hard to build our community.

### *Outgoing Members*

Standing Committee members would also like to thank outgoing members Alec Walker and Kate Crosby, who each served two three-year terms on the committee during a

critical transition time at First Parish. We wish them the best, and will greatly miss their passion and wisdom.

### **Fiscal Year 2017 Budget**

At the May 15, 2016 Standing Committee meeting, Howard and Fifi presented the first draft of the Fiscal Year 2017 budget. The budget is based primarily on the results of the Annual Pledge Campaign 2016-2017. Unfortunately, although there were many very generous pledges, we did not meet our initial fundraising goal. Howard and Fifi, using information gathered from the Standing Committee and from discussions with the congregation, are hard at work developing a budget that will address as many congregational priorities as possible, but the decisions will be difficult. The budget is scheduled to be approved by the Standing Committee at a special meeting on Sunday, June 5, at 6:00 p.m.

### **Annual Meeting 2016**

**Sunday, June 12, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary**

At the First Parish Annual Meeting, the congregation will receive reports from staff and committees, vote on officers and committee members, approve delegates to General Assembly, approve the budget for next year, and more. We will hear a report from the Social Action Council about the research they have been performing for the past year, and we'll receive a report from the Environmental Leadership Team on their climate justice plans for the coming year.

Who can vote at our Annual Meeting? Our bylaws state that First Parish members who have signed the Membership Book at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting may vote. All are welcome to attend, but to participate and vote, you must have signed the book before Friday, May 13, 2016.

### **Important Dates**

**Standing Committee Budget Approval Meeting – June 5, at 6:00 p.m.**

**First Parish Annual Meeting 2016 – June 12, at 11:30 a.m.**

### **We Want to Hear from You**

Standing Committee members are always eager to talk with First Parishioners. Please reach out to any of us—at coffee hour, at an event, by phone, or by email—to discuss your First Parish experiences. If you have an account on the First Parish website, you can go to the Standing Committee Web page and view our meeting minutes, contact information, meeting schedule, governance policies and more:

<http://www.firstparish.org/cms/committees/standing-committee>

Mark Russell Prior, chair, Standing Committee  
[mark.russell.prior@comcast.net](mailto:mark.russell.prior@comcast.net) or 978-369-4901



## Social Action Community

### Faith into Action

### Amnesty International Group 15

Tuesday, June 17, Greeley Room

Tuesday, August 16, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., at 20 Whits End Road, Concord



Sister Helen Prejean ("Dead Man Walking") is coming to Concord in October! Planning this community event will be our primary focus.

We celebrate the release of our two human rights activists in Azerbaijan. Leyla and Arif Yunus have joined their daughter in the Netherlands, where they seek asylum.

Our ongoing projects include work against solitary confinement in Massachusetts and violence against women globally. Please join us!

Contact: Kathy Taylor, [Kly.taylor@gmail.com](mailto:Kly.taylor@gmail.com) or 781-275-0791.



The Yunus being greeted by their daughter after their release.

### Boston Pride Parade

Saturday, June 11, 12:00 Noon, Boston



The Diversity Committee will take a group to march with our banner in the Boston Pride Parade starting near Copley Square at noon. All are welcome to join us for this fun, family-friendly event to show our support for the LGBT community. Contact Sara Ballard at [sara@sb.org](mailto:sara@sb.org) or 978-371-0723 to sign up or get more information (email preferred).





## Environmental Leadership Team

### Climate Change—What's Next for First Parish?



Inspired by the climate justice work of our fellow congregants in Bedford, the Environmental Leadership Team (ELT) has begun a conversation about developing our own climate resolution and action agenda for next year. Our goal is to develop a multifaceted agenda so that every member of the parish feels empowered to participate in a way that is comfortable and meaningful for them. You are cordially invited to join the conversation and help us develop our path forward. Look for announcements over the summer and early fall for more details.

For more information, contact Peter Lowitt ([peterlowitt@devensec.com](mailto:peterlowitt@devensec.com)), Brad Hubbard-Nelson ([bradhn@mindspring.com](mailto:bradhn@mindspring.com)), Kate Crosby ([kate\\_crosby@newview.org](mailto:kate_crosby@newview.org)), or Bruce Blumberg ([bruce\\_blumberg@me.com](mailto:bruce_blumberg@me.com)).

## Holly Near Concert



**Save the Date**  
**Sunday, October 9, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

Legendary folk singer and social activist Holly Near will perform at First Parish. Save the date for this special opportunity to hear her sing at our own First Parish along with her backup musicians. Look for more information in our September newsletter. Contact Richard Keleher at [kel@rkeleher.com](mailto:kel@rkeleher.com) or 978-944-2734 with any questions.

## Partner Congregation News

### *Thank You*

Heartfelt thanks all who attended the benefit concert helping us to bring members of our partner congregation and new minister and wife to visit us this November.

Additional support may be sent by check to Lillian Anderson, 149 Belknap Street, Concord, MA 01742, made out to First Parish in Concord with PCC Assistance Fund on the memo line.



### *Travels to Székelykeresztúr*

Tim Jacoby is representing us at the Keresztúr high school graduation June 2, and Rodger Mattlage is representing us at Rev. Tódor's installation June 22. For current PCC information, visit: <http://www.firstparish.org/cms/committees/partner-congregation>.

## Plan for Future Action

The Social Action Community (SAC) board, with support from Bethany Lowe and the Standing Committee, spent the last year researching, evaluating and formulating a plan for future social action at First Parish. A report on the project has been compiled to explain:

- Recent history of social action at First Parish
- Why we undertook the project
- What our research entailed
- What other churches do
- The proposed pilot for the next two years



The report will be posted on the [First Parish Social Action website](#) June 1, and a printed copy will be available in the church office. We encourage you to review and digest the report. Let us know your thoughts and if you are interested in getting involved in any aspect going forward.

## Current SAC Board

Janine Olson, [janine.olson@morganstanley.com](mailto:janine.olson@morganstanley.com)  
Roselyn Romberg, [roselyn.romberg@gmail.com](mailto:roselyn.romberg@gmail.com)  
Wendy Holt, [wendyh@dmahealth.com](mailto:wendyh@dmahealth.com)  
Leslie Fisher, [lesliefisher@treitman.com](mailto:lesliefisher@treitman.com)  
Tricia Haut, [triciahaut@gmail.com](mailto:triciahaut@gmail.com)  
Bob Brack, [brackrobert@gmail.com](mailto:brackrobert@gmail.com)

## UUCSJ Learning Trip

Fall of 2016 or during 2017

Would you or your high schooler be interested in joining the Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice (UUCSJ) for an experiential learning trip? UUCSJ offers trips for adults and/or youth to study social and environmental justice issues in Central and North America. The SAC Council is moving forward to sponsor a trip specifically for First Parish adults and/or youth to Nicaragua or Arizona/Mexico in either the fall of 2016 or during 2017.

To get an idea of what these trips offer, please visit <http://uucsj.org/>. A number of parishioners have already expressed interest, and we have formed a Google email group to manage communications. If you have not already told us you are interested in exploring this opportunity, please contact Tony Rodriguez to be added to the Google group, [trod.rodriguez@gmail.com](mailto:trod.rodriguez@gmail.com) or 617-877-9542.



## Denominational Affairs Committee

**Monday, June 13, 7:30 p.m.**



Attend a Denominational Affairs Committee (DAC) meeting to hear and share your ideas about our greater denomination. The proposed slate of delegates to GA was nominated at the May 16 DAC meeting. All delegates are expected to attend the June 13 DAC meeting, which will focus on General Assembly. For more information, please contact Paula Vandever at [VandeverP@aol.com](mailto:VandeverP@aol.com) or 978-369-9268.

## General Assembly 2016

**“Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect”**

**Columbus, Ohio, June 22-26**



The proposed slate of delegates was nominated at the May 16 meeting of the Denominational Affairs Committee. All delegates are expected to attend the June 13 DAC meeting, which will focus on issues related to General Assembly.

Please note that registration fees for both on-site and off-site delegates increased on May 1. A description of fees, agenda, requirements for participation, and the responsibilities of a delegate are available at the UUA site (<http://www.uua.org/ga>).

For questions, please contact Alice Van Deusen at [alicevandeusen@gmail.com](mailto:alicevandeusen@gmail.com) or 978-369-0435 (email preferred).

## Arts at First Parish

**Fostering Community through the Arts**

Each month the First Parish Arts Council will highlight arts events in the upcoming month that offer opportunities to participate in the ministry of the arts at First Parish. Unless otherwise noted, questions may be directed to [music@firstparish.org](mailto:music@firstparish.org).



## Upcoming Events

Day	Date	Time	Event
Wednesday	June 1, August 3	6:00 p.m.	Arts Council Meeting (all welcome)
Saturday	June 11	9:00 a.m.	Photography Club
Friday	June 24, July 22, August 26	7:30 p.m.	Rise Up Singing (Note: third Friday)
Friday	July 8	7:30 p.m.	Thoreau Society Concert—Andrew Celentano, pianist

*Continued next page.*

For more information on these events, check this *Meeting House News*, FP Announce, and the *Sunday News*. Thank you for supporting the arts at First Parish!

## Purpose

The purpose of the First Parish Arts Council is to further the mission of First Parish through facilitating, promoting and coordinating a diverse arts ministry that inspires and celebrates creativity and connection. The council is open to all interested parishioners. For more information, contact Susan Page, chair, at [srpage10@verizon.net](mailto:srpage10@verizon.net), or 978-844-3855.

## Women's News

### Moms' Night Out

#### *Moms' Night Out Party*

#### **Second Annual End-of-Year Party**

**Friday, June 10, 7:30 p.m., Kristin Haddad's home**



Mom's Night Out (MNO) was created by moms as a way to get together to socialize, build a support network, and share resources and ideas about raising kids in today's world. All FP moms are welcome! Come join us as we look back on the past year, consider activities for next year, and socialize. Contact [kristin.haddad@gmail.com](mailto:kristin.haddad@gmail.com), or 978-254-5012. RSVPs are appreciated, but not required.

#### *MNO Listserv*

For details on this and other upcoming MNO gatherings, please join the MNO listserv by sending an email to [valvallancourt@gmail.com](mailto:valvallancourt@gmail.com).

#### *MNO Purpose*

The Moms' Night Out (MNO) group at First Parish was created by moms as a way to socialize, build a support network, and share resources and ideas about raising kids in today's world. All FP moms are welcome! Any mom can organize an event. If you have an idea and would like to host an event, contact Jeanne Williams, [courteje@bc.edu](mailto:courteje@bc.edu).



### **Women's AM/PM Book Group**

The Women's AM/PM Book Group will be determining next year's reading list at their annual potluck. Look for the new list over the summer via FP Announce to get a head start on some terrific reads, perfect for summer.

*Continued next page.*



All women of First Parish are warmly invited to read the monthly book and join a discussion during the church year. If you would like to be added to the Women's Book Group email list, please contact Darien Smith at [darien@smithquest.com](mailto:darien@smithquest.com).

## Women's Parish Association

### *Our Wonderful Gardens*

#### **Rejuvenate – Take Time to Visit**

Late spring and summer months are wonderful times to enjoy the general landscape and two very special gardens here at First Parish:

- ♥ Deborah Greeley Memorial Garden (herbs, lower gardens)
- ♥ Ruth Johnson Memorial Garden (near driveway and Wright Tavern)

The Deborah Greeley Memorial Garden has been prepared for the season and awaits your presence. Debbie was the very busy wife of the Reverend Dana McLean Greeley, the first president of the Unitarian Universalist Association and minister here at First Parish for 16 years. She was an extremely active member of the Women's Parish Association (WPA) and a dedicated herbalist.



The Ruth Johnson Memorial Garden, between the driveway and Wright Tavern, has been recently updated and also made ready for the summer. It too awaits your presence. During her life at First Parish, Ruth was a very active member of the WPA, helping to provide numerous fundraising, educational and social events.

Feel free to bring a book, lunch or just yourself and relax on a bench in each of our gardens. Bathe your soul in the greenery, fragrances and colors of these sacred spaces. Enjoy conversations with a friend. Enjoy your summer!

## Other Cool Stuff

### Concord Area Humanists



Our meetings bring outside speakers to share interesting Humanistic topics. We socialize and enjoy refreshments, continue with the presentation, and follow with vigorous



discussion. For a current list of our upcoming events, visit [www.ConcordAreaHumanists.org](http://www.ConcordAreaHumanists.org) and click on "Events." Contact: Pat Everett, [pne@aol.com](mailto:pne@aol.com) or 978-369-1589.

### **Dessert Lecture: "Thoreau and Money"**

**Thursday, June 9, 7:30 p.m., Colonial Inn, Concord  
Reservations by June 1, with check for \$18**

Enjoy strawberry shortcake while parishioner Jim Sherblom describes how Thoreau's lifestyle and philosophy were affected by his attitudes toward money. As a longtime Concordian, Unitarian Universalist minister, transcendentalist, former Chief Financial Officer and venture capitalist, few people understand Thoreau and money like Jim.



Bring a friend and enjoy an evening out! Checks for \$18 can be made out to The Thoreau Society and mailed to 341 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742. Contact: [diannemcweiss@comcast.net](mailto:diannemcweiss@comcast.net)

### **First Tuesday Group (65+)**

**Tuesday, June 7, 1:30-3:00 p.m., Parlor**

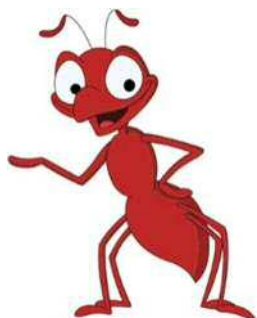
Topic: *The Blue Zone: Lessons from People Who Live to 100*. Is living a long time really living? What pleasures would you anticipate if you lived to be more than 100? The June meeting will feature a TED talk, followed by a spirited discussion, and concluded with our annual ice-cream social. Come explore new findings on aging and please remember to bring a favorite topping for the ice cream!



For more information, contact Virginia Taylor, [virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net](mailto:virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net) or 978-263-9777.

### **Musical—Grub's Place**

**Casting Call: Sundays, September 25 and October 16, 5:00 p.m., Parish Hall  
Performances in 2017 on March 31, April 1, April 7 and April 8**



*Grub's Place* is a new musical, written and composed by Jane Blumberg, directed by Francene Amari and produced by Claudia Nimar.

This intergenerational musical is set in an ant colony, Grub (played by Terry Rothermel) creates a spot for everyone commanding compassion rather than conformity. Turf battles, jealous hearts, death and prejudice threaten the colony's survival. There are roles for all

ages, a bug chorus, backstage, costume, choreography and front of house (FOH) opportunities for all.

Contact director Francene Amari, [francene99@gmail.com](mailto:francene99@gmail.com) for the audition materials, or producer Claudia Nimar, [cnimar@aol.com](mailto:cnimar@aol.com) or 978-771-8216. Save the dates!

## Website Wonder

### Is Your Web Content Up-to-Date?

While browsing the First Parish website for this newsletter section, I came across some outdated information. It got me wondering if you or a committee you serve on may have outdated information online. Just as you are responsible to make *and* cancel room reservations, please be sure that you let Victor Curran know when items can be removed from the website. Be sure someone on your committee is monitoring your content on the First Parish website.—The Editor

### Double-Check

After you request something to be posted to the website, be sure to double-check that your information is displaying correctly. Are all the dates there that you need? Start and end times? Room location? It takes a village and that's certainly true keeping our wonderful website information up-to-date and accurate. Thank you!



### Website Quiz Question

There are many special spaces at First Parish. Which offers a unique space for reflection and meditation to all ages for both parishioners and the public? Peruse the [website](#) for the answer. *(Then check the answer at the end of this newsletter.)*



## Editor's Notes

Next *Meeting House News* **Deadline: August 16, 2016**

Next Publication Date: **August 30, 2016**

We ask your help in reducing the rework of the over 100 monthly submissions received collectively for the *Meeting House News*, *Sunday News* and *FP Announce*.

## Submission Guidelines

Required:

- Event title, day of week (no abbreviations), month, date, no "th" or "rd", time and/or time range, **ROOM**.
- Description, including sponsoring committee/organization.
- Contact: name, email and phone (can state preference).
- Font: Arial; Size: 12; no boldface/italics/UPPERCASE/special spacing.
- 100 maximum word count, no formatting, and include picture, if possible.
- Send your submission only once after all information is *final and complete*; so be sure to plan ahead. We will need to return a submission if it is incomplete.
- Send submission and photo/image as attachment to email.

Important: Maximum 100 word count (double-check), no formatting or abbreviations, include a picture if possible, and be sure to spell-check. We go with what you send us. Most submissions forget to include the **ROOM**. This is the only check we use to remind you to make or cancel a room reservation. Questions? Contact the Editor, Wendy Wolfberg: [wolfberg@post.harvard.edu](mailto:wolfberg@post.harvard.edu) or 978-496-1397 (email preferred). Thank you!

## MHN Schedule for 2016-2017

Month	Deadline	Publication
September	Tuesday, August 16, 2016	Tuesday, August 30, 2016
October	Tuesday, September 13, 2016	Tuesday, September 27, 2016
November	Tuesday, October 18, 2016	Tuesday, November 1, 2016
December	Tuesday, November 15, 2016	Tuesday, November 29, 2016
January	Tuesday, December 13, 2016	Tuesday, December 27, 2016
February	Tuesday, January 17, 2017	Tuesday, January 31, 2017
March	Tuesday, February 14, 2017	Tuesday, February 28, 2017
April	Tuesday, March 14, 2017	Tuesday, March 28, 2017
May	Tuesday, April 18, 2017	Tuesday, May 2, 2017
June*	Tuesday, May 16, 2017	Tuesday, May 30, 2017

\*Include information for June, July, August, and first week of September

## First Parish General Information

### Summer Hours

**June 21 through September 2**

Flower Communion Sunday will be Sunday, June 19. That is the last official service of this church year. Summer hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon).

- Summer hours begin Tuesday, June 21, continuing through Friday, September 2.
- Regular office hours, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., resume Tuesday, September 6.

Front office volunteers for the summer, with occasional substitutions for vacations:

- Tuesdays: Kaye Harvie
- Wednesdays: Sue Dobbie
- Thursdays: Darien Smith
- Fridays: Kaye Harvie

### Contact Us

Address: 20 Lexington Road, Concord, MA 01742

Phone: 978-369-9602; Fax: 978-369-8701

Email: [Contact@firstparish.org](mailto:Contact@firstparish.org); Website: [www.firstparish.org](http://www.firstparish.org)

### Church Calendar

<http://www.firstparish.org/cms/about-first-parish/hours-directions-services/church-calendar>

### FP Announce

Sign up for emailed First Parish announcements:

<http://www.firstparish.org/cms/about-first-parish/e-mail-lists>

### FP Facebook

“Like” our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Parish-in-Concord-Unitarian-Universalist/343822177494>

### Reserve a Room

<http://www.firstparish.org/cms/reserve-a-room>

*First Parish in Concord, Massachusetts, is a welcoming congregation seeking ways to deepen spiritually, build community, and make a positive difference in the world.*

*A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association*

*Copyright © 2016 First Parish in Concord, Unitarian Universalist*

*All rights reserved. FPC MHN June 2016*

*Add us to your address book*





**Answer to the Website Wonder Quiz Question**  
The labyrinth.



*Photo by Susan Page*



## Extra Pictures

We have such talented photographers capturing what makes First Parish so special. Here are a few more photographs for you to enjoy. Can you figure out where the pictures were taken? They're each from a different location.





# First Parish of Concord

## Schedule of Services

### Summer 2016

---

DATE	SERVICE LEADER	SERMON	MUSICIANS
June 26	UUA General Assembly Worship Service	Service of the Living Tradition from GA	
July 3	Rev. Jim Sherblom	"Divine Mystery"	Anna Huckabee Tull; Grace Choi, keyboard
July 10	Rev. Dr. Barry Andrews	"The Whole Tenor of Our Lives"	Jane Barnes and Friends; Mary Jane Rupert, harp; Kimberly Brainerd, flute
July 17	Rev. Libby Tisdell	"Pilgrimage — Camino de Santiago"	The Conchords; Grace Choi, keyboard
July 24	Ben Happ, Member of First Parish	"Food For Thought"	Larry Gall, bass; Mary Jane Rupert, keyboard
July 31	Rev. Joanna Lubkin	"Prayer for Atheists"	Pamela Schweppe, soprano; Mary Jane Rupert, keyboard
August 7	Matt Meyer, Percussionist and Friend of First Parish	"Rhythm Revelations"	Matt Meyer; Rob Humphreville, keyboard
August 14	Wendy Holt and Race Conversations Group	"Race Conversations"	Beth Norton, vocalist; Rob Humphreville, keyboard
August 21	Rev. Howard Dana	"The Church of My Childhood"	Lauren Evans, alto; Rob Humphreville, keyboard
August 28	Rev. Howard Dana	"The Church of My Choosing"	Tammie Foote; Rob Humphreville, keyboard
September 4	Jan Hutslar, Ministerial Intern	"The Journey So Far"	Nancy Ackerman, clarinet; Eric Huenneke, keyboard