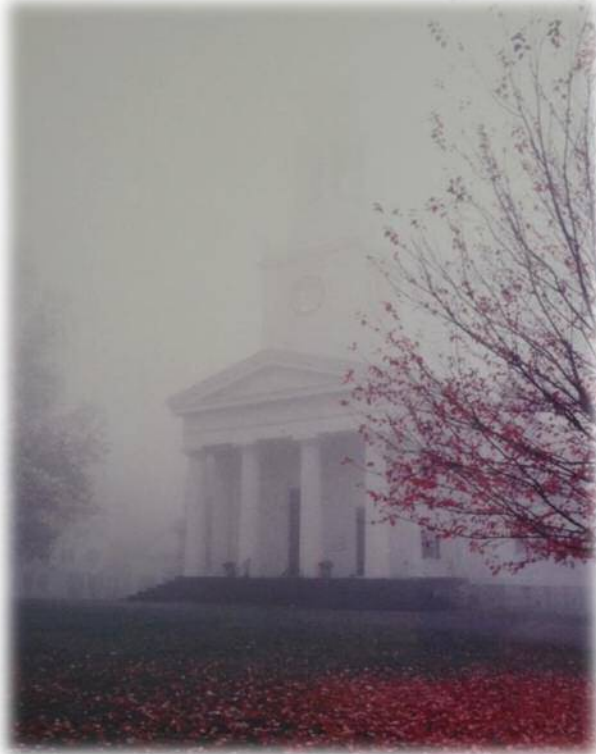




What's Happening at First Parish?

MEETING HOUSE NEWS

NOVEMBER 2018



Photograph by Daniel X. Coffey, 1991

SAVE THE DATES!

Holiday Artisans Fair

November 3

Children's Holiday Craft Workshop

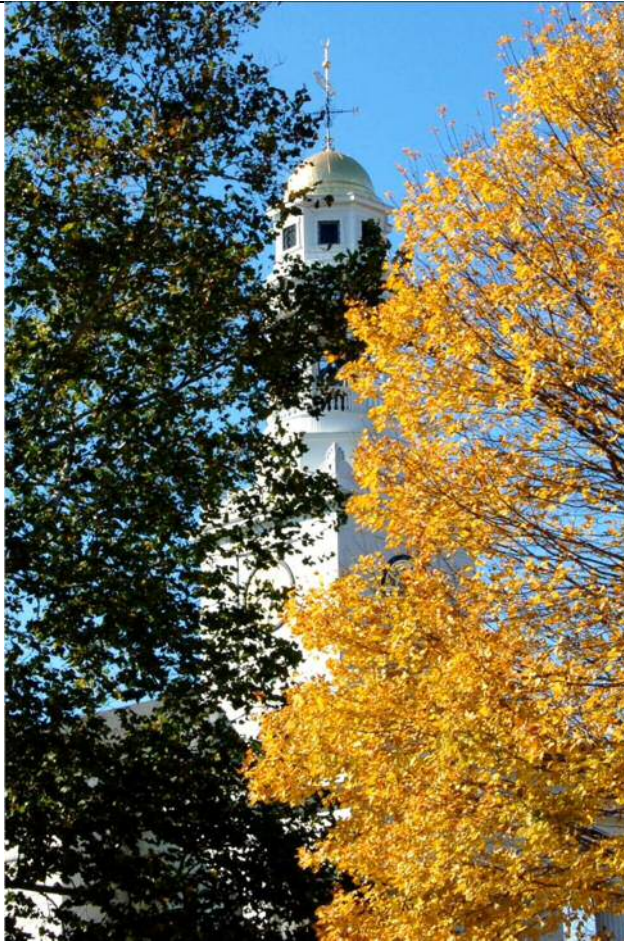
December 1

Holiday Concert and Tea

December 8

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Photograph by Don Cohen

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of the *Meeting House News***

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Publication: November 21, 2018

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**Due to significant technical difficulties, the Newsletter links are not live this month.*

Donations Needed for the Holiday Artisans Fair

Sundays at First Parish

*A welcoming Unitarian Universalist congregation that
seeks ways to deepen spiritually, build community,
and make a positive difference in the world.*

Worship-at-a-Glance

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

Sunday, November 4 – “All Souls”

Rev. Marion Visel
Contemporary Vocal Ensemble

Sunday, November 11 – “Colonial America’s Non-Christians”

Rev. Howard N. Dana
First Parish Choir

Sunday, November 18 – All Ages Thanksgiving Service

Rev. Howard N. Dana and Rev. Amy Freedman
First Parish Choir

Sunday, November 25 –

Ordination of Mark Richards to the Unitarian Universalist Ministry

Rev. Howard N. Dana and Rev. Maddie Sifantus
Lincoln Ringers; Diane Burke, director

Sunday, December 2 – “Hanukkah and Resistance”

Zachary Roe, Social Action Director
First Parish Choir
All Souls Service: Remembering Well



Communal Altar of Remembrance

Sunday, November 4

During our All Souls service this year we will create a Communal Altar of Remembrance. Bring a small photo (or a copy of a photo) of loved ones who have died. There will be an opportunity for you to place the photos on our Communal Altar. For those who don't have a photo with them, there will a slip of paper in the order of service on which you can write their names and place it on the altar.



Sunday Forums

After worship, promptly at 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary

October 28 – Protecting Transgender Rights: YES ON 3 Campaign

The Diversity Committee will host speakers from LexPride to address the following:

- LGBTQIA+: What does it all mean?
- One young man's journey
- Impact of ballot question 3 on civil rights



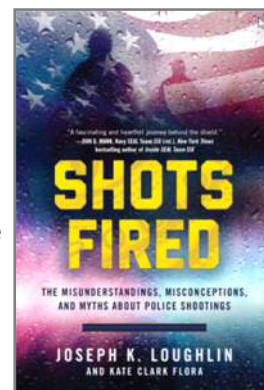
Valerie Overton, cochair of LexPride and lifelong civil rights activist, helps lead the local #YesOn3 campaign to ensure that transgender people are treated equally under the law. Daniel Overton, cochair of Lexington High School's GSA, speaks about LGBTQIA+ issues in high school health classes, teacher trainings, and public meetings. He is an ordinary person who finds himself in the extraordinary position of having to defend his right to exist in public places.

November 18 – “Shots Fired: The Misunderstandings, Misconceptions, and Myths about Police Shootings”



Written to illuminate the public's understanding of what happens in deadly force events, “Shots Fired” by Concord author Kate Flora and retired Portland Assistant Chief Joseph Loughlin explores common assumptions about police shootings. The book takes readers inside the minds of officers during actual events, detailing the analysis of whether to shoot, and the emotions and trauma experienced during and in

the event's aftermath—all important for a deeper understanding of police shootings.



Over her 25-year career, Flora has earned many awards for her fiction and nonfiction. Her works include 19 books and 20 short stories. See more at her website: <https://kateclarkflora.com/>.

If you have questions or to join the Forum Committee, contact Alan Whitney, awhitney@alum.mit.edu.

A Teaching Congregation

First Parish has traditionally mentored UU ministers as they grow into parish ministry. What is our role? Each intern we invite is well on his or her way to ordained ministry after years in seminary and clinical pastoral care work. They come to us seeking a mirror to reflect how their ministry is received. We are most helpful when we let the intern know how their prayer, message, or sermon impacted us. Please offer the intern gentle, constructive observations from the pews. Together—ministers, staff, and congregation—nurture a growing ministry. More information? Contact Kate Keleher, kate@rkeleher.com.

First Parish Café

The First Parish Café is a calm and lovely oasis on a busy Sunday. It opens on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Come enjoy the fellowship and light fare in the Parish Hall before the service.

Pastoral Care Ministry

Walking with One Another through the Changes Life Brings

Ministers

Minister for Pastoral Care, Rev. Marion Visel

Email: mvisel@firstparish.org

Church: 978-369-9602, ext. 414

Cell: 203-931-5239



Senior Minister, Rev. Howard N. Dana

Email: hdana@firstparish.org

Church: 978-369-9602, ext. 411

Cell: 717-412-8543

Ministerial Intern, Laurel Gray

Email: lgray@firstparish.org

Church: 978-369-9602, ext. 412

Cell: 401-932-7855



November Pastoral Care Lay Minister: Diane Clapp (with Paula Adelson)

Email: dianeclamclapp@gmail.com

Cell: 781-257-5025

Pastoral Care Programs

Cancer Support Group

Wednesdays: September 19, October 3 and 24, November 7 and 21, December 5 and 19; from 9:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Greeley Room

All cancer patients and survivors (First Parish member or not) are welcome to join this free, confidential, and caring support group at First Parish. The group provides gentle embodied support through the sharing of our stories while being present to others. Drawing on the practice of InterPlay®, we'll explore our experiences through simple movement, words, sound, and stillness, and engage in ways of moving through them. The emphasis will be on our present experiences to know better the next steps on our path. For more information on InterPlay, visit www.interplay.org.

With questions and to sign up, contact C.C. King, MA in Expressive Therapies, certified InterPlay® Leader and trainer, visual artist, teacher and workshop facilitator, ccking.interplay@gmail.com.

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Caregiver Support Group

New Members Welcome

Monthly on First Mondays, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Are you caring for a family member, an aging parent (perhaps while caring for your children), an ill spouse, a sibling or a child with physical or mental issues? Whether you are providing direct care or overseeing care at a distance, you don't have to sacrifice yourself in the process. Get support from others while learning new coping skills. We welcome new members to join this ongoing group. which meets in the afternoon of the first Monday of each month. To learn more or if you are unable to attend Monday afternoon meetings, contact Marion Visel, Minister for Pastoral Care, mvisel@firstparish.org, 203-931-5239, or Diane Clapp, dianebamclapp@gmail.com.

First Tuesday Group

"Social Action Opportunities at First Parish in Concord"

Second Tuesday, November 13, from 1:30-3:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Because of members' get-out-the-vote activities on Election Day, November 6, the First Tuesday Group will meet on the second Tuesday this month, November 13. A panel will discuss the many exciting Social Action opportunities at First Parish, featuring:

- Zach Roe, Director of Social Action
- Tony Rodriguez, Chair of Immigration Justice Task Force
- Peter Lowitt, Chair of Environmental Action Team
- Margie King Saphier, Member of Racial Justice Action Group

Come learn how you can get more involved! While our focus is seniors, please come if you are interested, whatever your years. For more information, contact Virginia Taylor, virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net or 978-263-9777.

Meals Coordinator Needed

Prepare and Train, December 7

This is a very important part of the pastoral care program at First Parish. The Pastoral Care needs a Daytime Meals Preparation Coordinator, as Vivienne Aldrich will be retiring. The meals serve parishioners in times of transition: death, illness, divorce and times of emotional crisis. The meals are kept in the church's freezer and are prepared two to three times a year. Meals are delivered by lay ministers or can be requested by parishioners, if needed.

The coordinator must take a "Safe Serve Training for Kitchen Managers" course, which can be done by computer and is paid for by Pastoral Care. A folder of recipes for meals is available; and shopping, communication, and cooking are provided by church volunteers.

The next meals preparation will be on December 7. It's the perfect time to train with the current coordinator, Vivienne Aldrich. If interested, please contact Judy Dembsey, chair, Pastoral Care Council, judydembsey@gmail.com.



Adult Education

Men's Spirituality Retreat

"The Spiritual Practice of Realizing We Will Die"

Saturday, November 10, 12:00 - 4:30 p.m., starting in the Church Kitchen

Lunch together; bring \$5 to cover the cost

All men connected to First Parish in Concord are welcome. Join retreat leaders, Rev. Howard N. Dana and Jeff Clanon as we engage in spiritual practices related to our own mortality. We will ask questions such as: What would I do if today was my last? How do I want to be remembered? What is my relationship with those who have died? How might I live more easily with the inevitability of death?

We will eat lunch together, be in conversation with one another, and take a long walk. Please wear good walking shoes and weather-appropriate gear. We ask everyone to make a commitment to attend the full retreat—no late arrivals or early departures, please. Call the church office to sign up for this retreat. With questions, contact Jeff Clanon at jeff@systemspectivesllc.com.

Religious Exploration (RE) News

Day, Date, Time	Theme	Description
Sunday, November 4 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	7th UU Principle: We Care for Our Planet Earth	Religious Exploration
Friday, November 9 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Articulating Your UU Faith	Adult RE with Howard and Amy
Sunday, November 11 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Make your own chalice!	Multiage Program Little RE (0-4 years)
Friday, November 16 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Articulating Your UU Faith	Adult RE with Howard and Amy
Sunday, November 18 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Service	All Ages Worship Little RE (0-4 years)
Sunday, November 18 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Grade Eight OWL Parent Orientation	Both parents required to attend.
Sunday, November 25 10:15 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Kidding Around Yoga	Multiage Program Little RE (0-4 years)

Discover more: <http://firstparish.org/wp/learning/re/>

If you have questions about our programs for children and youth, please contact Dawn Van Patten, Assistant Director of Religious Education: dvanpatten@firstparish.org, or Rev. Amy Freedman, Minister of Religious Education: afreedman@firstparish.org.

Continued next page.

OWL Parent Orientation

Grade Eight

Sunday, November 18, 11:30 a.m.- 2:00 p.m., Emerson Room



“Our Whole Lives” (OWL), the comprehensive sexuality program, will be offered to eighth graders at First Parish in Concord beginning in January. The goals of the program are to help young people learn about safe sexual relationships in the context of Unitarian Universalist principles, to help them make responsible decisions, and to increase their understanding and respect for themselves and others.

In order for your child to be enrolled in OWL, both parents are required to attend a Parent Orientation on Sunday, November 18 from 11:30 to 2:00 p.m. at First Parish. This year’s 8th Grade OWL teachers will facilitate the orientation: Renee Lloyd, Louisa Paushter, Tim Peacock, Eric Read.

Child care is available if requested by November 11. Please let Amy know ASAP if you plan to enroll your 8th grader in this important program: afreedman@firstparish.org.

Articulating Your UU Faith

with Revs. Howard Dana and Amy Freedman

Fridays, November 9 and 16, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Space is still available in this class designed for people who are newer to the First Parish community. In these Friday evening sessions, we will explore what Unitarian Universalism is, what it means to you as an individual, and how to talk about it with others. Child care is available upon request. Please email Amy to register or with any questions:

afreedman@firstparish.org.



Blessings,
Amy

Rev. Amy Freedman, Minister of Religious Education
Contact: afreedman@firstparish.org or 978-369-9602



Music Ministry

MUUsings

Expressing gratitude is a year-round spiritual practice. But in November the United States Thanksgiving holiday and the story of the Pilgrims' first harvest meal with the Wampanoag people makes gratitude central. I am grateful to serve in a religious community where we take the time to pause and observe Thanksgiving while the rest of the world rushes toward the December holidays.

This month, the music at First Parish is brimming with gratitude for the many ways in which we are blessed.

*"I ask all blessings,
I ask them with reverence,
Of my mother the earth,
Of the sky, moon, and sun my father . . .*

First Parish Choir will sing this anonymous Navaho prayer on a Sunday when we consider indigenous spiritual traditions that existed before Christian settlers arrived on this continent. While the people who shared that first harvest feast with the Pilgrims were Wampanoag, rather than Navajo, they shared a deep reverence for Mother Earth. As a descendent of some of those early Puritans, I am not often called to ponder the spirituality of those who greeted my ancestors. I am grateful the opportunity to do that this month.

On Thanksgiving Sunday, the combined First Parish Choirs will join in the spirited old gospel hymn *Sow it on the Mountain*. The text, adapted from the original, reminds us that if we reach out in compassion, generosity, and friendship "we're gonna reap just what we sow." And Lui Collins' beautiful anthem "Blessed" is a simple prayer of thanks for the blessings of earth and music: "Hallelujah, O blessed are we this day."

And then there's *The Immigrant Experience* that we will perform in a concert on November 18 with singers from several UU Congregations. This work conveys the complexity of our immigration history. It considers the experience of those who came to this country by choice or to escape oppression as well as those indigenous people who were "torn away from their lands to make room for others." It reminds us movingly of the aspirations and errors of our founders. The work is a call to live up to those aspirations even as we recognize the ways in which we have fallen short of realizing them.

I am grateful for words and music that allow us to express our gratitude, count our blessings, and renew our aspirations. And I look forward to sharing this music in November.

Blessings,
Beth
Beth Norton, Director of Music Ministry
Contact: music@firstparish.org or 978-369-9602, ext. 420



Standing Committee News

Meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 7:00 p.m., Emerson Room



October Meeting

At our October meeting the Standing Committee heard and approved plans for Howard's sabbatical leave, which commences at the beginning of December. We also approved an update to the Governance Subcommittee charter and established a Ministerial Support subcommittee. The Governance subcommittee reviews and updates First Parish policies and bylaws, and helps make sure the Standing Committee meets its obligations and conducts itself effectively by establishing useful goals and conducting a self-evaluation. The Ministerial Support Subcommittee will work with our senior minister on establishing goals, evaluating performance, and supporting his overall ministry.

We plan to begin organizing around themes developed during our Year of Reflection and Visioning. We will be seeking help to develop and execute specific plans around growing and diversifying our congregation, being more welcoming and kinder, connecting to the wider community and beyond, and living our benediction and UU values. Look for communications about ways to get involved. Minutes are posted at [Standing Committee Meeting Minutes](#).

We Want to Hear from You!



Standing Committee members are always ready 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. You can find the contact information for Standing Committee members, as well as meeting agendas and minutes, governing policies, operating procedures, and reports, at [First Parish Standing Committee](#).

Dave Elwood, chair, Standing Committee
daveelwood@hotmail.com

Mark Richards' Ordination

Sunday, November 25

"At their duly-scheduled meeting on September 4, 2018, the Standing Committee of First Parish in Concord voted to ordain Mark Richards to the Unitarian Universalist ministry. Mark has been a long-standing member of First Parish. The congregation supported him in seminary and on his journey through the UUA fellowship process. Because only a congregation can ordain a UU minister, Mark requested to have his ordination at First Parish, his home church. We are honored by this request and will enthusiastically celebrate with Mark on this momentous day. I hope you will plan to be in church on Sunday, November 25, 2018, to help ordain Mark."—Rev. Howard N. Dana

Ministering to the Community

A Long and Winding Road

I believe my path to ministry began on September 11, 2001. I could not get past the feeling that all we worked for in college to end the Vietnam war had been forgotten, and that this event will send us back into a generational war. With this on my mind, the Men's Solo Retreat of 2003 began as very intentional for me. I followed a formula for quests that led me to a very explicit call to ministry. The following fall I entered seminary.



My time at Andover-Newton was mixed. I was working full-time and studying part-time. My intention to study full time in my third year was derailed by the decision of the New England Subcommittee on Candidacy to deny me candidate status. Even though my process with the Ministerial Fellowship Committee was done, I finished my degree.

Over the next few years, after struggling to define myself as a lay community minister, I discovered that I needed some structure if this was going to be meaningful in any way. In 2015, I was accepted into the chaplain residency program at St. Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri. At the same time I applied for reinstatement with the Ministerial Fellowship Committee. With the sponsorship of First Parish in Concord, my application was granted and I was on my way to preliminary fellowship. The time I spent in Kansas City, with the help of members of both All Souls UU Church and Shawnee Mission UU Church, was fruitful in preparing me for my MFC interview. In December 2017, I met with the committee and was granted conditional preliminary fellowship. I met the conditions, and in April 2018 I was welcomed into fellowship.

Throughout this journey, the good folks at First Parish in Concord have offered me support and love. And now, you who walked with me such a long way on this path will ordain me into ministry. I am most blessed and humbled by the love I receive from you in this place.

Peacefully and in faith,
Mark Richards

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.



Continued next page.

Upcoming Events

Day	Date	Time	Event
Friday	November 5	7:00 p.m.	AWE Movie Night
Wednesday	November 10	6:00 p.m.	Arts Council Meeting (all welcome)
Saturday	November 10	9:30 a.m.	First Parish Photography Club (open to all First Parish adults)
Friday	November 26	7:30 p.m.	Rise Up Singing (monthly song circle)

For more information on these events, check this *Meeting House News*, FP Weekly, and *The Sunday News*.

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.

Concert for Immigrant Justice

Sunday, November 18, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Cosponsored by the Music Ministry and the Immigration Justice Task Force of First Parish, this event will feature the cantata *The Immigrant Experience* by area composer John Kramer, as well as songs for soprano and piano. A coalition of singers from several UU churches will be directed by the composer. A suggested donation of \$20 will be collected for Boston Immigrant Justice Accompaniment Network. For more information, contact Tony Rodriguez, trod.rodriquez@gmail.com. A reception will follow.



Copley Singers Holiday Concert

Save the Date!

Friday, December 14, 7:30 p.m.



Tickets available at <https://copleysingers.org/>

Social Action Community

Faith into Action



Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, November 13, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Greeley Room



Amnesty International/USA's senior director of organizing and activism, Cynthia Gabriel Walsh, will bring the group up-to-date on national plans and priorities for the coming year. Ongoing activities include sending letters to support individuals whose dire situations require urgent action, efforts to end the death penalty, and the release of two Azerbaijani students imprisoned for peaceful protests. All are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Nancy Lyons, nilyons22@gmail.com or 978-505-1936.

Progressive Activists Afternoons

Sundays, September 23 to November 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The First Parish Social Action Committee is sponsoring a weekly space for you to plug into organized activities to support our values of inclusivity, compassion, social justice, and civic engagement. Partnering with Swing Left, Indivisible, Rock the Vote, MA Democrats, Moms Demand Democracy, Beto for Texas, and Ballot Questions 2 and 3, your options for activism will include phone banking, texting, post carding, local canvassing and voter registration. Join your neighbors and meet new friends to make a difference. The time is now!

Let us know you are coming! Register [here](#). Join us on social media: <https://www.facebook.com/VoteBlueNovember/>. Questions? Contact Kate Kavanagh, katekav@gmail.com or 508-397-6507.

Racial Justice Guest Speaker

**"How to Have Difficult Conversations about Race
without Losing Your Cool or Your Voice"**

Thursday, November 15, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Sanctuary



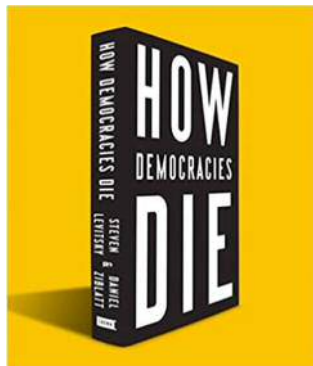
Come hear a talk by Dr. Amanda Kemp, author of *Say the Wrong Thing* and creator of the Racial Justice from the H.E.A.R.T. method. Join us for a rare opportunity to learn from an African-American racial justice mentor who offers clear advice for staying mindful and finding our voice as we navigate difficult conversations about race at home and in the wider world.



Sponsors: Racial Justice Action Group and Robbins House. Contact: Mary Ann Barton, mabartonst@gmail.com, 978-580-5852.

Reclaim Our Democracy

Upcoming Events



How Democracies Die Presentation

Sunday, November 11, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Donald Trump's presidency has raised a question that many of us never thought we'd be asking: Is our democracy in danger? Harvard professors Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt have spent more than 20 years studying the breakdown of democracies in Europe and Latin America, and have written this *New York Times* best-seller. They will be discussing the book, showing us how democracies die, and how ours can be saved.

Their book will be available for purchase, and there will be a book signing and refreshments. "Comprehensive, enlightening, and terrifyingly timely."—*New York Times* Book Review

Sponsored by [Reclaim Our Democracy](#). Questions? Contact Lillian Anderson, lillianand@comcast.net.

Share the Plate

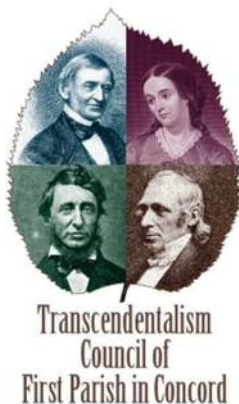
Nominations Due by Friday, November 9

The SAC Giving Team is now accepting requests for Share the Plate nominations through Friday, November 9. To nominate, complete the online form <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FPCSACForm>.



In Share the Plate collections, half of the funds placed in the collection plate, other than those designated as fulfilling pledges, will go to the designated recipient organization with the other half going to First Parish. If you are interested in joining the SAC Giving Team or would like more information, please contact Zach Roe, zroe@firstparish.org, or Liz Rust, liz@therusts.net.

Transcendentalism Council



Living Our History Discussion

Thoreau's Essay "Walking"

Monday, November 5, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., Emerson Room

Concord historian Richard Smith presents Thoreau's reasons for writing "Walking," and invites participants to discuss how the essay relates to modern life. Preregistration and a prepayment of \$10 is requested in the church office (978-369-9602). Limited to 25. Questions? Contact Dianne Weiss, diannemcweiss@comcast.net

Continued next page.



Communing with our Saints

Saturday, November 10, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Parlor

Local historian Barbara Forman leads this tour, rain or shine, of our early ministers' portraits and the Old Hill Burial Ground across Lexington Road. The terrain is steep, so comfortable shoes are recommended. Limited to 15. Questions? Contact Shelley Hawks, Shelley_Hawks@msn.com. (Image: Rev. Ezra Ripley)

Women's News

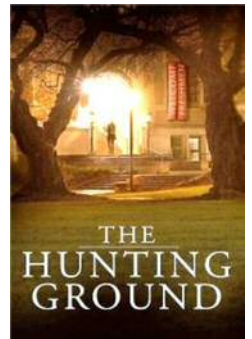
AWE Upcoming Events

Advocates for Women's Empowerment

- **First Friday Film Series:** Friday, November 2, 7:00 p.m., Chapel
- **November Meeting:** Saturday, November 17, 8:00 a.m., Parlor
- **Feminist Book Group:** See book list below – dates TBD
- **Cook and Serve at Rosie's Place:** Sunday, December 9, 1:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- **Bake It 'til You Make It Fundraiser:** Postponed. Stay tuned for new date!

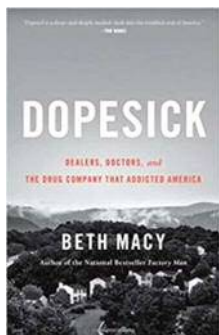
Free Feminist Film Series

We'll show *The Hunting Game*, a documentary that focuses on the epidemic of sexual assaults at U.S. colleges. This often-harrowing documentary combines the recollections of victims with disturbing statistics demonstrating the depth of the problem, while officials continue to downplay the issue. Contact: Lou Toussaint, mloutoussaint@gmail.com.



November Meeting

Join us for our monthly meeting, where we'll discuss upcoming events and initiatives to advocate for women! Our meetings are the third Saturday of the month and are open to women, men, and people of all gender identities and expressions. Contact: Lora Venesy, venesy@comcast.net.



Feminist Book Group

See the following list for the books chosen for the 2018-19 year. The aim of the book group is to broaden our awareness, hone our empathy, nourish our spiritual selves, and spark action. Dates are still being set, so if you are interested in the book group and would like to provide feedback on your date preferences, please contact Merrill Comeau, 14thebeesknees@gmail.com.

Continued next page.



Month	Book	Author
November 2018	<i>Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company That Addicted America</i>	Beth Macy
January 2019	<i>Persepolis</i>	Marjane Satrapi
March 2019	<i>Not That Bad: Dispatches from Rape Culture</i>	Roxanne Gay (Editor)
May 2019	<i>Good and Mad: The Revolutionary Power of Women's Anger</i>	Rebecca Traister
Summer 2019	<i>Map of Salt and Stars</i>	Jennifer Zeynab Joukhadar

Volunteers Needed to Cook and Serve Dinner at Rosie's Place

All volunteer slots are filled for December, but if you'd like to be added to the waiting list or be informed of our next date in 2019, please contact Suzie Weaver, skatesuzie@aol.com.



Bake It 'Til You Make It Fundraiser

The new date will be announced soon for this intergenerational, fun-filled event, which includes an onsite cookie "bake-off," family-friendly activities, music, prizes, plenty of baked goods, and a mental health resource fair. The event supports the publication of the first ever mental health resilience cookbook. If you would like to bake or volunteer, contact Suzie Weaver, skatesuzie@aol.com.

Mailing List

To join, contact Lora Venesy, venesy@comcast.net. Like us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/concordwomen>.

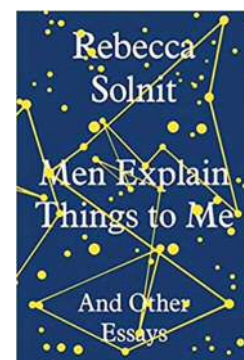
Women's AM/PM Book Group

Monday, December 3, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., Brooks Room

Tuesday, December 4, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., Brooks Room

As has been our custom, the book group will read and discuss one book for November and December. The selection is *Men Explain Things to Me*. All women of First Parish are warmly invited to read the book and join a discussion. There's no need to sign up!

If you would like to be added to the Women's Book Group email list, contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com.



Remaining Dates and Books for 2018-2019

Date	Book	Author
October 29/30	<i>Lab Girl</i>	Hope Jahren
December 3/4	<i>Men Explain Things to Me</i>	Rebecca Solnit
January 28/29	<i>Little Fires Everywhere</i>	Celeste Ng
February 25/26	<i>Euphoria</i>	Lily King

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Date	Book	Author
March 25/26	<i>Perfectly Miserable: God, Guilt, and Real Estate in a Small Town</i>	Sarah Payne Stuart
Apr 29/30	<i>The Little Paris Book Shop</i>	Nina George
May 20/21	<i>Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919</i>	Stephen Puleo

Women's Parish Association

Holiday Artisans Fair

November 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., First Parish



Come and bring family and friends to this year's Holiday Artisans Fair! Over 45 new and former artists and artisans will be offering unique, handmade items for all ages. Great holiday shopping, browsing and delicious food in the Café! Fees: \$3 for Adults, \$2 for Children. No charge for children under 6 years of age.



WPA Fair Donations

Drop-Off Dates, Bulkeley Room (behind stage)

Wednesday, October 31 or Thursday, November 1

Please drop off your donations to the WPA Fair Boutique in the Bulkeley Room behind the stage on these dates. The WPA Boutique is looking for donations of nice handmade items as well as high-quality, like-new giftables such as jewelry, artwork, special home goods, and holiday and home decorating items. To arrange for your donations and if you have any questions, please contact the church office, 978-369-9602, or Melita Teichert, mmtconcord1@gmail.com. Our heartfelt thanks for your donations!



Holiday Concert and Tea

SAVE THE DATE AND TIME!

Saturday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m.

Lovely music by the Conchords and a delicious tea are being lovingly planned for you by the Women's Parish Association for our annual Holiday Concert and Tea. This is the WPA's gift to the entire community. All are welcome!

Women's Retreats 2019

Registration Begins December 2

The Women's Retreat planning group will offer three retreats in the winter again this year, but the timing is a bit different than usual. They will be:

- ♥ **1st Weekend Away:** Friday evening to Sunday afternoon, January 11 - 13, at Senexet House, Connecticut.
- ♥ **2nd Weekend Away:** Friday evening to Sunday afternoon, January 25 - 27, at Senexet House, Connecticut.
- ♥ **"At Home" Retreat:** Friday evening, February 8, and Saturday morning through afternoon on February 9, at First Parish.



Registration will begin at coffee hour on Sunday, December 2. Stay tuned to the Newsletter, the Sunday News, and FP Weekly emails for more information about the theme and registration. All women of First Parish are invited and welcome to join one of the retreats. If you would be interested in joining the planning group for this year's retreats, please contact Bozena Smith at bozenasmith@mindspring.com.

Other Cool Stuff

Children's Holiday Craft Workshop

Saturday, December 1, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Elves and Children: Save the Date!



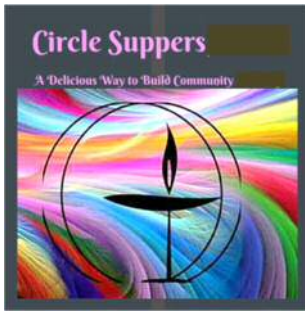
Helper elves, we need you! First Parish children spend the afternoon creating beautiful handmade gifts for the holidays. Be a part of our joyful community of crafty helper elves!

Right now, we are looking for folks willing to be a "Lead Elf," in charge of gathering supplies for that craft and leading it at the workshop, and woodworking elves to prep supplies beforehand.

Contact craftworkshop@firstparish.org, Kristin Moore at 978-254-5037, Kimberly Brainerd, and Jeanne Williams.

Circle Suppers Follow-up

Big success!



Coffee hour was abuzz the morning after the Circle Suppers. Comments included, “Big success! Great time! So nice to really get to know fellow parishioners. I thought I knew them but I learned so much more. Delicious food.” Thanks so much to all the hosts, guests, advisors and planning team who helped make this community building event happen again for First Parish. Keep a lookout for the next and last supper for this year to be held in the Spring.

Concord Area Humanists

“Saving Massachusetts Forests for Climate, Nature, and People”

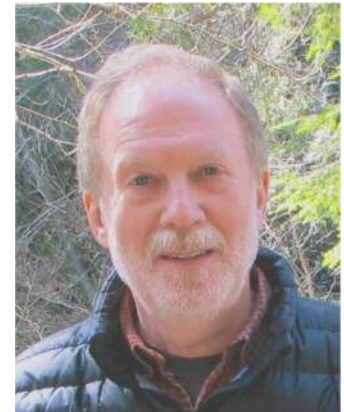
Wednesday, November 7, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Forests are vital in storing carbon to fight climate change; providing critical habitat for native plants and wildlife; preserving historic and sacred sites; and offering opportunities for nature-based recreation. Yet almost all of our forests are currently open to resource extraction. We must protect our forests.



Michael Kellett is cofounder and executive director of RESTORE: The North Woods, a

Massachusetts-based conservation organization. Having over 30 years of experience working to create national parks and wilderness, save forests, and protect wildlife, he will review our challenges and strategies for solving them. Questions? Email Pamela Dritt, pamela@dritt.net, and Franklin Davis, franklin.davis@gmail.com.



Jewish Awareness Affinity Group

“Raise the Roof” Documentary

Friday, November 16, 7:00 p.m., Brooks Room

The synagogues of 18th-century Poland were some of the greatest wooden architecture in history before the last ones were destroyed by the Nazis. Come watch “Raise the Roof” about how a Norwood couple at the Mass College of Art embarked on a 10-year pursuit with 300 artisans and students from around the world to recreate the roof of a synagogue from photographs using original hand tools and materials. All are invited.

Continued next page.



Come share challah and companionship. For more information, contact Dana Snyder-Grant, dana.snydergrant@gmail.com or 978-760-1129.

Partner Congregation News

Scholarships

Seeking New Donors for Transylvanian Students

Since 1996, our congregation has provided scholarships for deserving students to attend the Unitarian High School in Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania. If you are a



continuing donor, please send your donation, either by credit card on the church's website or by check to Kathy Spang, 5 Williams Circle, Burlington, MA 01803. We're seeking donors for ten new freshmen students at \$400 per student per year. We'll have the students' names and introductory letters with pictures of each at the Partnership Table at Sunday coffee hours. You can choose a student to sponsor or contact Kathy Spang at katalinspang@yahoo.com.

Communications at First Parish

To whom and by when do I send my submission?

Are you wondering when to use *The Sunday News*, FP Weekly emails, and/or the *Meeting House News*? Are you looking for the year's MHN deadlines to put in your calendar? Well, pick up a copy of the brochure "Publicizing Events at First Parish in Concord" on the table outside the church office, and distribute it to new committee members for the latest and greatest!

Update to *The Sunday News*

Some people with an upcoming event several weeks out, request an entry in the *Sunday News* every week to publicize their event. Due to limited space and the increasing number of requests for *Sunday News* entries, we are limiting to three the number of times an article can be printed in *The Sunday News*.

If you need more than one week in *The Sunday News*, when you submit it to Sarah Burns, let her know the three Sundays you want to run your publicity, whether in a row or spaced out. There is no limit to the number of times a request can appear in the FP Weekly email. Questions? Please contact Sarah at sburns@firstparish.org or 978-369-9602.

Publicizing First Parish Events

Editor Information

FP Weekly (formerly "Announce"), *The Sunday News*
Sarah Burns, Office Administrator and Editor
978-369-9602
sburns@firstparish.org

Meeting House News (MHN)

Wendy Wolfberg, Editor
978-578-1077, cell
wolfberg@post.harvard.edu (email preferred)

We are glad to answer any questions. Please review the "Publicizing Events at First Parish in Concord" brochure! Thank you.



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Steps to Send Entry

1. Plan ahead; then add a “fudge factor”—extra time for committee review and for Editor’s questions. We recommend a week. We need you to adhere to deadlines.
2. How much lead time does the Editor need? Which Editor?
 - a. **Weekly** email – FP Weekly; send to Sarah Burns by Friday noon
 - b. **Sunday** insert – *Sunday News*; maximum three times for one event; send to Sarah by Wednesday noon
 - c. **Monthly** newsletter – *Meeting House News (MHN)*; send to Wendy by the deadline noted in the first two pages of your last *MHN* or below.
3. Write draft, send for review, rewrite, and send final form **as an attachment** to the Editor before deadline. We cannot use copy when sent within an email, due to the many added characters and additional editing required.

Publicity Deadlines

Next *Meeting House News* deadline: **November 13, 2018**

Next Publication Date: **November 21, 2018**

- **FP Weekly Deadline** – Noon Friday for Monday email, which includes two weeks of upcoming events.
- **Sunday News Deadline** – Noon Wednesday before the Sunday service. Please note that the order of service insert, or *Sunday News*, is compiled, formatted, printed, folded, and inserted on Fridays. As you can imagine, it takes time to pull this all together in an already busy office, and last-minute submissions are problematic. Please plan ahead. Your insert copy **MUST** be received by noon.

Meeting House Newsletter Deadlines

Issue	Deadline	Publication	Holiday*
Dec-2018	13-Nov-2018	21-Nov-2018	T, 11-22-2018
Jan-2019	11-Dec-2018	19-Dec-2018	C, 12-25-2018
Feb-2019	15-Jan-2019	23-Jan-2019	
Mar-2019	19-Feb-2019	27-Feb-2019	
Apr-2019	19-Mar-2019	27-Mar-2019	
May-2019	9-Apr-2019	17-Apr-2019	P, 4-19-2019 E, 4-21-2019
Jun-2019**	21-May-2019	29-May-2019	

*Holiday = (C)Christmas, (E)Easter, (P)Passover, (T)Thanksgiving

**June: Please include information for June, July, August and the first week of September.

First Parish General Information

Office Hours

Regular office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday through Friday. (The office is closed on Mondays.)

Contact Us

Address: 20 Lexington Road, Concord, MA 01742

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

Email: Contact@firstparish.org; **Website:** www.firstparish.org

Church Calendar: <http://firstparish.org/wp/news/calendar/>

FP Weekly: Sign up to receive announcements by email, <http://firstparish.org/wp/news/>

FP Facebook:

"Like" our Facebook page:

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

Reserve a Room: <http://firstparish.org/wp/connection/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 © 2018 First Parish in Concord, Unitarian Universalist. All rights reserved. FPC Meeting House News November 2018. Add us to your address book.

