

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

May 26, 2013

## This Week

Sun., May 26	10:00 ONE SERVICE ONLY
Mon., May 27	<b>First Parish Closed</b>
Tue., May 28	9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 6:30 <i>T'ai Chi</i> 7:00 "A Place at the Table" Screening
Wed., May 29	9:30 <i>Buddhist Group</i> 4:30 Junior Choir 5:15 Chalice Choir 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., May 30	9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 7:30 <i>Buddhist Group</i>
Fri., May 31	9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 7:30 <i>Rise Up Singing</i>
Sat., Jun 1	7:30 Men's Group 6:30 Party for Elaine
Sun., Jun 2	6:30 Standing Committee 7:00 Environmental Leadership Team

*Listings in italics represent classes offered through the Wright Tavern Center ([www.wrighttavern.org](http://www.wrighttavern.org)).*

**Next Meeting House News deadline: Friday, August 23. Be aware that all items (including contact information) posted to the Sunday News or Meeting House News, or on First Parish–related e-mail lists, may be published online at [www.firstparish.org](http://www.firstparish.org).**

## Parish Notes

### Celebrating Elaine

It is time to recognize, thank, honor and applaud Elaine for the time she has spent with us as our Interim Senior Minister. On *Saturday, June 1, at 6:30 p.m.*, we will gather in the Parish Hall for light fare and festivities. If you can volunteer to help with the celebration, please contact Katharine Esty.

With the calling of Rev. Howard Dana, Elaine has brought us safely into port after a crossing that has had moments both stormy and calm. Through it all, she has kept a firm hand on the tiller and a watchful and caring eye on all of us. Come to thank and celebrate Elaine as she takes her leave of us after a successful interim ministry.

### Standing Committee Update: Come One, Come All, to the First Parish Annual Meeting!

On June 9 at 11:30 p.m., we will hold our 377th (give or take) Annual Meeting. Among other items of business, the budget for the 2013-2014 fiscal year will be presented. The priorities for this budget include raising staff salaries toward the midpoint for a church our size, and increasing First Parish's contribution to the UUA. Come listen and participate as we begin the next chapter in our church's history.

### Pastoral Care

"Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life." The Pastoral Care Lay Minister on call for June is Sue Dobbie. If you need a meal or support, please contact her at [susandobbie@gmail.com](mailto:susandobbie@gmail.com) or 978-456-8432.

### This Sacred Essential Moment , *Now Update*



Thank you to everyone who has pledged so far! We have received 370 pledges, for a total of \$677,612 —nearly 76 percent of our goal! The stewards are busy making calls and scheduling visits. When you receive a call from a steward, please open your heart to him or her and have a meaningful

conversation about First Parish and your pledge. We are one community, in this sacred essential moment, now, having called a new Senior Minister and working together to fulfill our mission. We can't do all we are meant to do without financial support—if you haven't pledged yet, now is the time!

### Summer Office Hours

The office at First Parish will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, beginning on Tuesday, June 11, and continuing through Friday, August 30. The office will be closed for Independence Day on Thursday, July 4. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, September 3.

### Flowers for Summer Services

Do you have flowers in your garden that you might be willing to share with First Parish this summer? Please consider providing an arrangement (or simple bouquet) for a 10:00 a.m. Sunday service this summer. Contact Ellen Whitney for more information—978-369-7434 or [ellewhitney@verizon.net](mailto:ellewhitney@verizon.net).

### Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for the new pledge year are in. They will be available downstairs after the service today and next Sunday.

### Time to Celebrate the Labyrinth!

Come celebrate the completion of our new First Parish Labyrinth immediately following the one 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, June 2 (rain date June 9). We will gather around the labyrinth, hear words of blessing and dedication, and enjoy a special coffee hour on the Keresztúr Porch.

### Play Reading Group Is Switching Format for the Summer

We will read poetry aloud on the first Friday of the month, with the exception of July 5. All are welcome. Bring poems to share and discuss. The pleasure of poetry is enhanced by sharing the story of the poet as well. In September, we will resume reading plays with themes of social justice, spiritual attainment and family conflict. Contact Linda Hardiman at [lmhardiman@gmail.com](mailto:lmhardiman@gmail.com) or call or text to 617-909-1196. The next meeting will be held Friday, June 7, from 7 to 9 p.m.

### Online Directory

Our First Parish Photo Directory is scheduled to be posted under password protection by the end of May. Every person listed will receive a private password by e-mail, or by U.S. mail if necessary, and will be able to change the password if desired. Before posting

the roster and pictures, we would like to give everyone the opportunity to remove part or all of their listing. If you wish to make such a change, please send a detailed e-mail message to Rachel Baker, Director of Congregational Life, at [rbaker@firstparish.org](mailto:rbaker@firstparish.org), or send your request to her in writing.

## Social Action Community

Go to [sac.firstparish.org](http://sac.firstparish.org) for news and calendar information.

### “A Place at the Table” Screening

**Tuesday, May 28, at 7:00 p.m. at First Parish**

Concord-based nonprofit Gaining Ground is pleased to present the film *A Place at the Table*, an important new documentary on the state of hunger in America. A distinguished and inspiring group of leaders in the field of hunger relief will join us for a panel discussion following the film. Along with Gaining Grounds president, Joe Rigali, we are honored to have Catherine D’Amato, president and CEO of Greater Boston Food Bank; Peter Hilton, board president of Open Table; and Selvin Chambers, executive director of the Food Project, join our panel.

### Help Nurture the First Parish Community Garden This Summer!

We are still looking for folks to volunteer to weed, water and harvest the First Parish Community Garden throughout the summer. This is a wonderful opportunity to get your hands dirty and help nurture a garden that provides fresh produce for people in need at Open Table and other local organizations. It takes only three hours per week to do your part. Visit <http://doodle.com/esp2dxagsbyfu55w> to sign up for a week (or two, or more!).

### First Parish Participation in the Boston Pride Parade Saturday, June 8, at Noon

The Diversity Committee will take a group of parishioners to march with our First Parish banner in the Boston Pride Parade on Saturday, June 8; the parade starts at noon. Please join us for this fun, family-friendly event and help us show our support for the LGBT community. E-mail Sara Ballard at [sara@sb.org](mailto:sara@sb.org), or sign up at coffee hour on June 2 if you’d like to participate. Those who wish may attend the Pride Service at the Arlington Street Church at 11:00 a.m. before the parade.

For those who are physically unable to walk the 3.2 mile route, Boston Pride will have an upper deck trolley. This upper deck trolley can hold up to 32 folks, plus 2 wheelchairs. Boston Pride will take registrations on a first come, first served basis. Seating is limited so please send your seating request, full name and phone number to [parade@bostonpride.org](mailto:parade@bostonpride.org). For anyone who signs up, we will contact you by Thursday, June 6, with the location of the Boston Pride trolley so that participants will know where to go to board the vehicle.

## Children’s and Youth News

**This Week, May 26 – 10:00 a.m., One Service Only**

9:50 a.m. – Regular Classes for Little RE, Babies-Preschool

**Next Week, June 2nd– 10:00 a.m. Service - YOUTH SERVICE**

9:50 a.m. – Regular Classes for Little RE, Babies-Preschool

10:00 a.m. – Service

K-1st Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the lower level classrooms

2nd-4th Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to the Emerson Room

5th-6th Graders – Attend Youth Service

10:00 a.m. -12:15 p.m. – 7th Grade Neighboring Faiths attends

Youth Service then closing class in Brooks Room

**Following Week, June 9 – 10:00 a.m., One Service Only**

9:50 a.m. – Regular Classes for Little RE, Babies-Preschool

### Senior Recognition on Sunday, June 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Our High School seniors will be recognized at our Youth Service on Sunday, June 2. We expect *all* of our seniors to attend. This is a chance for our congregation to see the young adults they have raised. It is an important ritual that demonstrates our covenant to raise our Unitarian Universalist youth together.

### Sign Up to Care for Our First Parish Community Garden

We need and want your help! We grow produce and flowers for Open Table, Pastoral Care and our RE program’s supplies. Please put your hands to work with others in supporting this important ministry. E-mail Pam if you’d like to share a week of care for the garden: [drepamhowell@gmail.com](mailto:drepamhowell@gmail.com).

## Wright Tavern Center



for Spiritual Renewal

### Inviting Applications for Fall Semester

The Wright Tavern Center for Spiritual Renewal is inviting applications to lead classes this fall. Wright Tavern offers a wide variety of opportunities for deepening spiritually and life-long learning. We welcome both new ideas and returning programs. Applications are due by June 14. For further information or to request an application form, please contact Lora Venesy, [venesy@comcast.net](mailto:venesy@comcast.net); Linde Ghere, [lghere@gmail.com](mailto:lghere@gmail.com); or Tammie Foote, [TamasinFoote@feete.com](mailto:TamasinFoote@feete.com).

### Concord Area Humanists (CAH)

Concord Area Humanists will present Alan MacRobert on the explosion of astronomical discoveries about the universe, the earliest moment, how everything got from then to now, and hints about other Big Bangs separate from ours. Origin questions that used to be philosophy and religion are becoming addressable by science and experiment. Get caught up on 21st-century cosmology with Alan MacRobert, a senior editor of *Sky & Telescope*, America’s leading astronomy magazine.

**Wednesday: June 5**

**7:00 p.m.**

**\$5 donation**

Questions or concerns about domestic violence?  
Call the Domestic Violence Services Network Help Line:  
888-399-6111

Elaine’s e-mail: [uurevdoc@gmail.com](mailto:uurevdoc@gmail.com)  
Tony’s e-mail: [tfisher@firstparish.org](mailto:tfisher@firstparish.org)  
Visit our website at [firstparish.org](http://firstparish.org)