

THE SUNDAY NEWS

September 15, 2013

This Week

Sun., Sept. 15	12:15 Worship Reflection 12:30 Nominating Committee
Mon., Sept. 16	First Parish Closed
Tue., Sept. 17	9:00 Shawl Ministry 9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 6:30 <i>T'ai Chi</i> 7:00 Evening Worship—Water Communion 7:30 <i>Talking about the Soul of Money</i>
Wed., Sept. 18	9:30 <i>Buddhist Group</i> 4:00 <i>Music Together</i> 4:30 Junior Choir 5:00 <i>Hum, Strum and Drum</i> 5:15 Chalice Choir 5:15 Gospel Choir
Thu., Sept. 19	9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 1:30 Lincoln Handbell Ringers 7:00 Transylvania Partnership Community 7:30 <i>Buddhist Group</i> 7:30 By Your Side Singers
Fri., Sept. 20	9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 7:00 Jewish Awareness Group
Sat., Sept. 21	7:30 Men's Group 6:30 International Day of Peace
Sun., Sept. 22	12:15 Worship Reflection

Listings in italics represent classes offered through the Wright Tavern Center (www.wrighttavern.org).

Next Meeting House News deadline: Friday, September 20.
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.

Parish Notes

Water Communion September 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Water Communion offered by Tony Fisher, Bethany Lowe and Rachel Baker in the Chapel. All are invited to celebrate the beginning of the church year with a meditative version of a Water Communion. We will bless the many rivers becoming one ocean and the many individual lives that join together to become the life of the congregation.

Pastoral Care

“Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life.” The Pastoral Care Lay Minister on call for September is Sue Dobbie. If you need a meal or support, please contact Sue at susandobbie@gmail.com or 978-456-8432.

Homecoming Picnic

We had a wonderful Homecoming Picnic last week. More than 100 people enjoyed abundant desserts. A variety of music – from kazoos and original songs to the Beatles and Rise Up Singing. Thank you to all those who made the evening possible—creating and hosting the different activities, sharing their music, providing all the desserts, and all the unseen tasks that made it work. And thank you to all who came—for it is always the people who make the party.

A First Parish “State” Event—Installing Our New Minister! Sunday, September 29, 4:00 p.m.

Our entire congregation is invited to participate as we install our new senior minister, Rev. Howard N. Dana. The service of Installation will be held Sunday, September 29, 2013, at 4:00 p.m., immediately followed by a festive reception. During the service, Howard and our congregation will formally covenant with each other for his time of ministry with us. There will be special guests and speakers and a processional of invited clergy from our UU District, the UUA, our partner congregation in Székelykersztúr, and Concord’s other faith communities. Please join us for this most special and historical event! Child care will be available.

The Installation Committee is hard at work planning for this special event and *we would love help from you*, especially with cooking hors d’oeuvres ahead of time, setup on the day, and clean-up afterward. Stop by the Installation Committee table at coffee hour today for more information and to sign up. Or you may sign up by contacting Caroline McCloy to help with cooking (cmccloy51@aol.com or 978-371-1039) or Darien Smith to help with other tasks (darien@smithquest.com or 978-369-1471).

All Parish Potluck Supper—Friday, September 27, at 6:30 p.m.

Please join the Transylvania Partnership Community (TPC) as we welcome the Rev. József Szombatfalvi—Senior Minister of our partner congregation in Székelykeresztúr. We will have an opportunity to hear about this summer’s family pilgrimage, Beth Norton’s UU choir tour, and we will celebrate our 20-year partner congregation connection. Please sign up at coffee hour or in the office and plan to bring a beverage and a dish to share.

Calling All First Parish Artists

We will have a group showing of 2-D work in the Althshuler galleries during November and December. Please contact Marcia Schloss at marcialou28@gmail.com or 978-371-2751 for more details.

Standing Committee Update: Call for Task Force Volunteers

As part of our continued governance improvement process, the Standing Committee is forming a special task force to refine and improve the existing Standing Committee Policy on Committees, which provides guidance on types of committees and their establishment, disbandment and general governance. The current policy is available on the First Parish website at the following link: <http://www.firstparish.org/cms/about-first-parish/policies>. The task force will research best practices, solicit ideas and discussion with the congregation, and prepare recommendations to the Standing Committee for updating our current policy. The team has room for up to two individuals, who will be able to work over the next six to eight weeks on this assignment. Currently on the team are Tom Wilson (who will serve as the chair), Suzanne Lowe, Jim Tenner, Richard Keleher and Mark Russell Prior. If you are interested in serving on this task force, please contact Tom at the following e-mail: twilson@wilsongroup.com. If you are interested more generally in the topic, there will be opportunities for congregational input and feedback. Please let Tom know if you are interested by this Wednesday, September 18. Thank you.

Jack Nevison, chair, the Standing Committee

Jewish Awareness Group

Come learn about and discuss the Jewish High Holidays—Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur—at the Jewish Awareness Affinity Group’s meeting on Friday, September 20, from 7 to 9 p.m. Sabbath blessings over wine and challah, and a discussion led by Jim and Dana Snyder-Grant.

Name Tags

Wearing a name tag is an act of generosity to those who forget names and a welcoming gesture to those whom you have not yet met. You may make a name tag at the Visitor Table in the entranceway to the Sanctuary, in the hallway downstairs to the right of the name tag holders, or at the Welcome Table in the Parish Hall during coffee hour. If you would like a printed name tag, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the hymnals in the pews or request one at the name tag sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.

The Women’s AM/PM Book Group

The First Parish Women’s Book Group will discuss *The Art of Fielding*, by Chad Harbach, this month. The evening session will meet on Monday, September 30, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (at a member’s home to be determined). The morning session will meet on Tuesday, October 1, 9:30-11:00 a.m. at First Parish. All women are invited to read the selection and join one or both discussions. If you would like more information or to be added to the Women’s Book Group e-mail list, please contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com. For the full list of dates and books for this year, please see the September newsletter.

Children’s and Youth News

This Week, September 15 – Regular RE Week

8:50 & 10:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. – Services

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

2nd-5th Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Emerson Room

6th-7th Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Brooks Room

8th Grade, 10:00 a.m. – Drama – Meet in the Wright Tavern

9th Grade, 4:30 p.m. – Coming of Age – Meet in the Sanctuary with parents

9th-12th Grades, Youth Cook – Vegan Tacos – 5:30 –7:00 p.m. in the kitchen (COA kids invited)

9th-12th Grades, Youth Group Band – 6:00 p.m. in the Wright Tavern – Bring your instrument/voice

9th-12th Grades, Youth Group – 7:00 p.m. in the Wright Tavern

Tuesday, September 17 – YAC (Youth Advisory Council at 7:30 p.m.)

Friday, September 20 – Youth Retreat to Ferry Beach (vans leave at 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.)

Next Week, September 22 – Regular RE Week

8:50 & 10:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. – Services

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

2nd-5th Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Emerson Room

6th-7th Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Brooks Room.

8th Grade, 10:00 a.m. – Drama – Meet in the Wright Tavern

9th-12th Grades, – Youth Retreat at Ferry Beach (9/20-9/22) no Sunday night programming

Social Action Community

Go to sac.firstparish.org for news and calendar information.

Join the Social Action Reflection Group

The Social Action Reflection Group (SARG) meets about monthly on a Sunday afternoon or evening to discuss books that connect our social action work to our theology and philosophy. We invite you to join us this year. Authors we have read include Rev. Richard Gilbert, Rev. Howard Thurman, Rev. Rebecca Parker, Sharon Welch, Karen Armstrong and the Dalai Lama. We have been meeting at members’ homes with a very informal format. If you would like to join us, please contact Mark Richards at marksrichards@comcast.net or 978-771-9823.

Honoring the International Day of Peace at First Parish on Saturday, September 21, at 6:30 p.m.

The International Day of Peace is on Saturday, September 21, and special activities and celebrations will take place all around the world. At First Parish in Concord, we will be celebrating the International Day of Peace with a participatory dance recital by Sacred Dance Global Outreach. In addition to music, inspiration, and practical insight into peace activism, the featured speaker will be Massachusetts State Senator Jamie Eldridge, sponsor of Senate Bill S52, “An Act Promoting Restorative Justice Practices.” Dance at 6:30 p.m. on the First Parish lawn; 7:15 p.m. speakers and discussion. Sponsored by the Massachusetts Campaign for a Department of Peace, a program supported by the First Parish Social Action Community.

Wright Tavern Center for Spiritual Renewal



Programing for the Fall

To register, call the office at 978-369-9602. Visit www.wrighttavern.org for more information on the programs listed below.

Talking about the Soul of Money

Lori Jacob and Kristi Scarpone

How does our relationship with money relate to, inform, serve or compromise our mission? Examining our attitudes toward money—earning it, spending it, and giving it away—can offer surprising insight into our lives, our values, and the essence of prosperity. All are invited to this inspiring, paradigm-shifting presentation by two nationally recognized fundraising practitioners, specialize in integrating effective mission-based fundraising into the core of social profit organizations.

Tuesday: September 17 7:30 p.m.

T’ai Chi—Sue Wood

Tuesday, September 17, through November 5 6:30-8:00 p.m.
\$120 for 8 Sessions or \$20 for drop-in Registration required

Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Program

Pamela Katz Ressler, RN, MS, HN-BC

Thursday: 9/26-11/21, 7:00-9:00 p.m. (no class 10/31)

Friday: 9/27-11/22, 9:30-11:30 a.m. (no class 10/4)

Cost: Tuition is \$300, plus an additional \$95 materials fee

For more information about the MBSR program, visit www.stressresources.com. To register, contact Pam Ressler: pressler@stressresources.com or 978-369-5243.

Howard’s e-mail: hdana@firstparish.org

Tony’s e-mail: tfisher@firstparish.org

Visit our website at firstparish.org