

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

October 13, 2013

## This Week

Sun., Oct. 13	10:30 Sunday Forum 12:15 Worship Reflection 7:30 Men's Group
Mon., Oct. 14	<b>First Parish Closed</b>
Tue., Oct. 15	9:00 Catnip Ball Making 9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 6:30 <i>T'ai Chi</i> 7:00 Amnesty Group 7:00 Evening Worship 7:30 <i>Essence of Buddhist Thought and Practice</i>
Wed., Oct. 16	9:00 Catnip Ball Making 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 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., Oct. 17	9:00 Catnip Ball Making 9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 1:30 Lincoln Ringers 7:00 <i>Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction</i> 7:00 <i>Vegan 101</i> 7:30 <i>Buddhist Group</i> 7:30 By Your Side Singers
Fri., Oct. 18	9:30 <i>Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction</i> 9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 6:00 Women's Potluck Dinner 7:00 <i>Concord Area Humanists</i>
Sat., Oct. 19	7:30 Men's Group 6:30 Square Dance
Sun., Oct. 20	10:30 Sunday Forum 12:15 Worship Reflection 12:30 Nominating Committee 1:30 CROP Walk 7:30 Men's Group

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

**Next Meeting House News deadline: Friday, October 18.**  
**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

### Catnip Ball Workshop

In preparation for the WPA Artisans Fair on Saturday, November 2, three catnip ball assembly workshops will be held—Tuesday through Thursday October, 15, 16 and 17, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Volunteers welcome, and no special skills are needed. Instructions, good fellowship and coffee provided. For questions, contact Becky Blodgett at [becky.blodgett@verizon.net](mailto:becky.blodgett@verizon.net).

### Transylvania Student Sponsorships at Coffee Hours

Twelve freshmen at the Unitarian high school in Székelykeresztúr have been approved as candidates for scholarships, making it

possible for them to attend the school. We have sponsors for three, and are looking for sponsors for the other nine. Stop by our table at coffee hours today to see photos and letters from these students. An individual, family or group can sponsor a student. Please consider participating. For more, see <http://bit.ly/15VoAlw>.

### All-Parish Women's Potluck Dinner Party Friday, October 18, at 6:00 p.m.

All First Parish women are invited to this evening of informal socializing in the Parish Hall, with a chance to learn about ongoing women's groups and activities. Please bring food and drink to share, and your own dinnerware. R.S.V.P. to Bozena Smith at [bozenasmith@mindspring.com](mailto:bozenasmith@mindspring.com). Sponsored by the Women's Retreats Committee.

### Square Dance—Saturday, October 19 From 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Beth Parkes, caller extraordinaire, will guide us through all the moves, so all levels of coordination are welcome. Please bring a snack or dessert and drinks to share. Free and open to all ages! For more information, contact Kate Svrcsek at [katesvrcsek@hotmail.com](mailto:katesvrcsek@hotmail.com). Sponsored by the Congregational Life Council.

### WPA Luncheon—October 23

Don't forget to make reservations for the Women's Parish Association's luncheon meeting on Wednesday, October 23. Featured speakers will be Rev. Howard Dana as well as Margaret Stewart and Lora Venesy. Social time will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at noon and the program thereafter. The price is ten dollars, payable at the door. Reservations are required. Contact the church or Dian Pekin at [pekinde@comcast.net](mailto:pekinde@comcast.net) by October 20 for reservations, as well as dietary requirements, child care and transportation requests. All women and men and their friends are warmly welcome.

### Standing Committee Update: Going Solar

The Standing Committee (SC) would like to alert you to an impending congregational meeting regarding adding *solar power* to our energy stream. This will be a chance for you to hear about the extensive background work on this subject by the Environmental Leadership Team (ELT). Due to the significant complexity and size of this project, the SC and our minister Howard Dana felt that the congregation as a whole should make the decision whether to adopt it. Therefore, this meeting will include a warrant article and the expectation of a vote. This meeting will be held on *Sunday, November 10*—watch for the time to be announced. Stay tuned for more information from the ELT.

Later in the winter, the SC will sponsor congregational discussion of our membership policy, in conjunction with a review of our bylaws. Stay tuned for that as well!

### Women's AM/PM Book Group

The October book for the Women's AM/PM Book Group discussions is *One Drop: My Father's Hidden Life — A Story of Race and Family Secrets*, by Bliss Broyard. The evening session will be held on Monday, October 28, 7:30-9:00 p.m. at the home of Steph Chiha. The morning session will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 9:30-11:00 a.m. at First Parish. All women of First Parish are invited to read the book and join one or both discussions. If you

would like to be added to the Book Group e-mail list, please contact Darien Smith at [darien@smithquest.com](mailto:darien@smithquest.com) or 978-369-1471.

### Reminder of the Holiday Artisans Fair—November 2

It's almost time for our annual Holiday Artisans Fair, which will be held on Saturday, November 2, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. This is a major fundraiser for First Parish and charities organized by the Women's Parish Association. Bring your family members, friends and neighbors for a festive day of shopping and socializing. Contact the church office or Dian Pekin at [pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:pekindc@comcast.net) to volunteer your help at this great community event. Also, contact the office or Marilyn Lowitt at [Marilyn.Lowitt@verizon.net](mailto:Marilyn.Lowitt@verizon.net) if you have handmade items or gift items to contribute to the fair's WPA boutique.

### Pastoral Care

"Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life." The Pastoral Care Lay Minister on call for October is Bev Bringle. If you need a meal or support, please contact Bev at [bevbringle@yahoo.com](mailto:bevbringle@yahoo.com) or 978-369-4793.

### Sunday Forum, October 20, 10:30 a.m. to Noon

#### "Regaining Balance—The Evolution of the UUA"

Once one of America's most influential Protestant denominations, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has imploded over the past 40 years, shrinking to 0.51% of the population. Why? Former AHA president Michael Werner ticks off the reasons, from a fuzzy obsession with pluralism to a disdain for the Humanist values that drove the UUA's rise to prominence in the first place. "Follow the money," Werner urges, as he analyzes one policy failure after another. Regaining Balance—The Evolution of the UUA is not an obituary for the UUA, but a prescription for recovery.

## Children's and Youth News

### This Week, October 13 – Vacation Weekend

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

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. – Regular Services, Children Welcome.

### Next Week, October 20 – Regular RE Week

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

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. – Services

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

2nd-5th Grades – Middle RE – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Ripley and Greeley rooms

6th-7th Grades – Neighboring Activists – Brooks Room, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., and at 1:30 p.m. for CROP Walk

8th Grade, 10:00 a.m. – A Year with Frog and Toad – Meet in the Wright Tavern at 10:00 a.m.

9th Grade, Coming of Age – 4:30-6:00 p.m. – Emerson Room

9th-12th Grades, YRUU Band – 6:00 p.m. in the Wright Tavern

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

### Spooky Haunted House! October 26

#### Come one, Come all, if you dare . . .

The Youth are hosting a ghoulish experience for ages five to ninety-five. They are raising money for a donation toward their Service Trip to West Virginia in April. There will be bobbing for apples, music, a witches brew, a feely station, fortune-tellers and other "not too scary" experiences. There will also be a *spooky upgrade* for older kids and adults who want to have a scarier experience! We are decorating *all* Saturday afternoon, and the doors will be open from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Our teens are counting on all of you to show up and have some fun with them. A haunted house is just not scary without someone to haunt. The cost will be between \$5 and \$10 a person. If you have

some Halloween decorations to loan or donate, please drop them off in the RE Office so our teens don't have to buy lots of extra stuff.

## Social Action Community

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

### 2013 Concord Area CROP Walk for the Hungry

Join us for the CROP Walk on Sunday, October 20, starting at First Parish. Registration is at 1:30 p.m., with music by the CCHS Pep Band; the step-off is at 2:15 p.m.. This walk raises funds for the global disaster relief and development projects of Church World Service, and for ten local food pantries and suppers. Our minister, Howard Dana, will walk; please consider walking with or sponsoring him. Go to [www.concordcrop.org](http://www.concordcrop.org) to sponsor him or another walker online, join the First Parish team, or get information. You may also sponsor Howard or pick up a form for yourself at coffee hour.

### Special Event with Climate Activist Craig Altemose Friday, October 25, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Save the date for a special event at First Parish with Craig Altemose, titled "The Climate Crisis: Why Only a Movement Can Save Us." Mr. Altemose, Executive Director of the Better Future Project, is the inspiring young activist leader of a strong climate action movement in Massachusetts. He became a climate activist after earning a law degree from Harvard Law School. He speaks knowledgeably and passionately about how much deeper the climate crisis is than many people understand; how it profoundly impacts human beings; what kinds of action are most effective; and how we can become part of that action. This is the kickoff for a new speaker series focusing on solutions to the climate crisis. The title of the series is "Climate Solutions: Meeting the Challenge." This speaker series is being organized by groups from around Concord, including our Environmental Leadership Team.

### Wright Tavern Center for Spiritual Renewal

To register, call the office at 978-369-9602.

Visit [www.wrighttavern.org](http://www.wrighttavern.org) for more information on the program listed below.

### Vegan 101—Marcia Schloss

Thinking of trying a healthy plant-based vegan diet but not sure where to begin? Come learn how to restock your pantry, to bake without butter and eggs, and to find recipes for delicious meals you and your family will love. We will sample common meat and dairy alternatives and strategize eating out, socializing and enjoying the holidays.

**Thursdays: October 17 and 24 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

**Fee: \$25**

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

**Howard's e-mail:** [hdana@firstparish.org](mailto:hdana@firstparish.org)

**Tony's e-mail:** [tfisher@firstparish.org](mailto:tfisher@firstparish.org)

Visit our website at [firstparish.org](http://firstparish.org)