

THE SUNDAY NEWS

October 20, 2013

This Week

Sun., Oct. 20	10:30 Sunday Forum 12:15 Worship Reflection 12:30 Nominating Committee 1:30 CROP Walk 7:30 Men's Group
Mon., Oct. 21	First Parish Closed
Tue., Oct. 22	9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 6:30 <i>T'ai Chi</i> 7:30 <i>Essence of Buddhist Thought and Practice</i>
Wed., Oct. 23	9:30 <i>Buddhist Group</i> 11:30 WPA Luncheon 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 7:00 Concord Area Humanists 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., Oct. 24	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>
Fri., Oct. 25	9:30 <i>Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction</i> 9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 7:30 Climate Change with Craig Altemose 7:30 <i>Rise Up Singing</i>
Sat., Oct. 26	7:30 Men's Group 4:30 Youth Haunted House
Sun., Oct. 27	10:30 Sunday Forum 12:15 Worship Reflection 7:30 Men's Group

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

Next Meeting House News deadline: Friday, November 15. 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

Transylvania Student Scholarships and Sponsors

We are looking to wire the scholarships by month-end. So, whether you are an existing sponsor or would consider your family sponsoring one of the nine deserving freshmen at the Unitarian high school in Székelykeresztúr, please stop by our table at coffee hours today. Photos and letters from freshmen are available. An individual, family or group can sponsor a student. For more information, see <http://bit.ly/15VoAIw>.

Post-Worship Reflection Time in the Parlor

After every 11:00 a.m. service, all are welcome to join the circle in the Parlor downstairs, to listen and share your experiences of the

service. Join in any time. A simple, structured, facilitated event that will always end by 12:30 p.m.

WPA Luncheon This Wednesday, 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 pekindc@comcast.net no later than 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: Encore! Encore!

The Standing Committee's (SC) latest act "The Budget for First Parish, Present and Future" starring Fifi Ball (Director of Operations) and Suzanne Lowe (Treasurer), with a supporting cast of Mark Richards and assorted SC members, opened to rave reviews last Sunday. Parishioner's were on the edge of their seats as the presenters shared an overview of the revenues, expenses and priorities for our current operating budget, as well as year-to-date actual numbers, and were then invited to share their own priorities for *next year's* budget. The event was such a success that there will be another one just like it on Sunday, November 3, after the 11:00 o'clock service. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be informed and involved in the fiscal life of the church. Later that evening the Standing Committee will hold its regular monthly meeting. Visitors are welcome to attend.

Mark Your Calendars!

On November 10, there will be a congregational meeting to decide whether to go forward with the plan to install solar panels on the roof of the church. The more of us who attend and vote, the more we as a congregation can truly own this decision.

Lincoln Ringers in Services on October 27

The Lincoln Ringers, from nearby First Parish in Lincoln, are the Bell Choir "in residence" here this year while their facility is undergoing renovations. Members of our handbell choir have been joining with them in rehearsal, and the group will offer music in services for the first time on October 27. People interested in learning more about handbell ringing are invited to rehearsals on Thursday afternoons from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

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 to volunteer your help at this great community event. Also, contact the office or Marilyn Lowitt at Marilyn.Lowitt@verizon.net if you have handmade items or gift items to contribute to the fair's WPA boutique.

First Tuesday Group

The First Tuesday group will meet next on Tuesday, November 5, 1:30-3:00 p.m. The guest will be Margaret Hoag, an Elder Law attorney, speaking about elder care issues.

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 or 978-369-4793.

Children’s and Youth News

This 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, Youth Group – 7:00 p.m. in the Wright Tavern making Sugar Skulls

Saturday, October 26 – 9th-12th Grade, Youth Group

1:00 – 6:30 p.m. – The Spooky Haunted House

Saturday, October 26 – All First Parish Children & Teens Invited

4:30 – 6:30 p.m. The Spooky Haunted House

Next Week, October 27 – Regular RE Week

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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.

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

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

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 feeley 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.

Teacher and Subs Needed in RE for First Grade

Because of our larger than expected group in K/1 Spirit Play at 9:00 a.m., we needed to split the group by grade level. As a result, we are

adding a First Grade Class at 9:00 a.m. and therefore need more teachers. One parent has already offered to move from the Winter Term to the Holiday term so we only **need one more teacher for the Holiday Term beginning November 17 for seven weeks**. Could you help? We will be doing the 1st Grade curriculum from the UUA called *Wonderful Welcome*.

If you can’t help with the Holiday term, we will **also need teachers for the Winter and Spring terms** as well. And, if you can only help in the short term, **we need substitute teachers for 9:00 a.m. 1st Grade on October 27 and November 3**.

Social Action Community

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

Concord CROP Walk for the Hungry Is Today

The Concord CROP Walk is today, starting here at First Parish at 1:30 p.m. If your car is parked in the front circle, please move it by 1:00 p.m., as it will be in the way of the CCHS Pep Band, who will play on the front steps during the opening ceremony. Howard, our minister, is walking and would appreciate sponsors; stop by the coffee hour table to sponsor him, or to find out how to participate in the walk. The money raised supports ten local food pantries and supper programs, as well as the global disaster relief and development projects of Church World Service.

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.

Humanist Celebration

On October 20, and 23, the Sunday Morning Forum Committee, FP Humanist Council, and Concord Area Humanists (CAH) will join in a *Humanist Celebration*, when Michael Werner will be in town. Michael is a past president of American Humanist Association and of the Charlotte, Virginia, UU Church. This morning at 10:30 a.m., in the Chapel, he will talk about his new book *Regaining Balance: The Evolution of the UUA*, in which he analyzes the history of the UU movement and addresses what he thinks has gone wrong. Michael will return on Wednesday October 23, at 7 p.m., and discuss *Ethical Dilemmas and Humanist Ethics*, in the Parish Hall.

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

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

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

Visit our website at firstparish.org