

THE SUNDAY NEWS

October 27, 2013

This Week

Sun., Oct. 27	10:30 Sunday Forum 12:15 Worship Reflection 7:30 Men's Group
Mon., Oct. 28	First Parish Closed
Tue., Oct. 29	9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 9:30 <i>Women's Book Group</i> 6:30 <i>T'ai Chi</i> 7:00 Evening Worship 7:30 <i>Essence of Buddhist Thought and Practice</i>
Wed., Oct. 30	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 7:00 Concord Area Humanists 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., Oct. 31	9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 1:30 Lincoln Ringers 7:30 <i>Buddhist Group</i>
Fri., Nov. 1	9:30 <i>Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction</i> 9:30 <i>Music Together</i> 7:00 Play Reading Group
Sat., Nov. 2	7:30 Men's Group 10:00 Artisans Fair
Sun., Nov. 3	10:30 Sunday Forum 12:15 Worship Reflection 12:30 Congregational Discussion on Finances 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's end. So, whether you are an existing sponsor or would consider your family's 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/15VoAlw>.

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 their experiences of the service. Join in any time. This is a simple, structured, facilitated event that will always end by 12:30 p.m.

Evening Worship and Labyrinth Walk

Tuesday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.

Join Tony Fisher, Bethany Lowe, Rachel Baker, Beth Norton and the By Your Side Singers for a contemplative, luminaria-encircled worship service of songs, poetry and silence in the Taizé* tradition. We will gather around the First Parish Labyrinth. All are welcome. Participants are welcome to walk the labyrinth, sing, and/or sit in contemplation throughout the simple service. Wear weather-appropriate clothing. Light blankets may be appreciated. If there is rain or ice we will gather in the Parlor with a fire.

*Taizé is an ecumenical monastic community in the south of France that was established in the 1940's. With a ministry especially focused on young adults, the Taizé community draws people from all over the world for week-long retreats. Through their contemplative worship practice, in which meditative singing plays a major role, participants seek to deepen the relationship between faith and action.

Play Reading Group—Friday, November 1, at 7:00 p.m.

For our meeting this Friday, we begin reading *Clybourne Park*, by Bruce Morris "Winner of the 2011 Pulitzer Prize and London's Olivier Award for Best Play, *Clybourne Park* is a bold new play about race, real estate and the volatile values of each. Inspired by Lorraine Hansberry's classic play *A Raisin in the Sun*, this acclaimed work explodes in two outrageous acts set 50 years apart. Copies are available within the Minuteman Library network. Contact Linda Hardiman at lmhardiman@gmail.com or 617-909-1196, call or text.

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.

Standing Committee Update: Finances and Clean Energy

On Sunday, November 3, from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m., the Standing Committee will hold another meeting to present an overview of the revenues, expenses, and priorities for our current operating budget, as well as year-to-date actual numbers. This is also an opportunity for parishioners to share their own priorities for *next year's* budget. Fifi Ball (Director of Operations) and Suzanne Lowe (Treasurer), will present, and members of the Standing Committee will attend as well. The first of these meetings, held on October 13, was well received. We are pleased to be able to offer this second chance for people to be informed and involved in the fiscal life of the church.

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.

First Tuesday Group

All are welcome at the First Tuesday group meeting on Tuesday, November 5, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Sue Dobbie will introduce guest speaker Margaret Hoag, an expert in Elder Law, who will speak about estate planning, financial matters and advance directives. Questions and discussion will be followed by refreshments.

Date and Time Change—New to Unitarian Universalism Workshop—Sunday, November 10, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Participants will learn about the rich history of our Unitarian Universalist faith, gain an understanding of congregational polity, and better understand the role of the UU principles and sources in our values-driven movement. Coffee, tea and a light snack provided. Participants are encouraged to attend worship at 9:00 a.m., followed by the workshop. R.S.V.P. by November 5 to rbaker@firstparish.org.

Date and Time Change—New to First Parish in Concord Workshop—Sunday, November 17, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Participants will hear from the ministerial team, staff and lay leaders, find out how to become engaged in congregational life at First Parish, and have the option to sign the membership book. Coffee, tea and a light snack provided. Participants are encouraged to attend worship at 9:00 a.m., followed by the workshop. R.S.V.P. by November 5 to rbaker@firstparish.org.

Reserving Tables to Distribute Information at Coffee Hours

All individuals or groups wanting to display or distribute information and or sign people up for various events need to make application through the facilities manager (Doug Baker). He knows most of the events that are approved by the Church and any that he has questions about he will pass to The Director of Operations and/or the Minister for their input. Anyone who asks people to sign petitions must have their sign-up sheets on a table and not carried around to individuals. There have been a few complaints about parishioners being approached by individuals carrying clipboards and aggressively insisting that people sign their petitions. Please respect people's rights to not have an interrupted social hour and not be pressed to join or sign-up for programs.

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 would like a meal or support, please contact Bev at bevbringle@yahoo.com or 978-369-4793.

Social Action Community

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

Listening Circle with UU Mass Action Today at 12:30 p.m.

UU Mass Action is hosting a listening circle to discuss a new program it is developing. Spiritual Activist Leadership Training (SALT) is a year-long program for young adults (18-35 years old) that is grounded in Unitarian Universalism. The SALT program will work to develop the skills and effectiveness of young adults in the area who are or want to be working for justice. The SALT program is modeled after a similar program of the same name in California. UU Mass Action is hosting this listening circle at First Parish because we supported the development of this new initiative through a SAC grant last spring. Come join the conversation as we imagine how the SALT program can be effective in Massachusetts. Light refreshments will be provided.

CROP Walk Thanks

Thanks to everyone who helped make last Sunday's Concord CROP Walk a success: the walkers, sponsors, and all the volunteers who participated in various ways. Congratulations to the 9:00 a.m. Neighboring Activists R.E. class for winning the banner contest! The preliminary total that the walk raised is over \$52,000, and we expect that total to go higher. You can still sponsor Howard Dana online at <http://tinyurl.com/mvhothc>.

Children's and Youth News

This Week, October 27 – 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.

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

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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 10:00 a.m.

9th-12th Grades, Teen Cook – 6:00 p.m. in the Kitchen

9th-12th Grades, Youth Group Band – 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Wright Tavern

9th-12th Grades, Youth Group – 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Wright Tavern



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

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

Visit our website at firstparish.org

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