

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

December 22, 2013

## This Week

Sun., Dec. 22	12:15 Worship Reflection 3:00 Lincoln Ringers Concert 7:30 Men's Group
Mon., Dec. 23	<b>First Parish Closed</b>
Tue., Dec. 24	<b>First Parish Closed</b> Christmas Eve Services at 4:00, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 25	<b>Christmas—First Parish Closed</b>
Thu., Dec. 26	First Parish Office Open 9-1
Fri., Dec. 27	First Parish Office Open 9-1
Sat., Dec. 28	7:30 Men's Group
Sun., Dec. 29	11:00 One Service in Parlor and Parish Hall

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

**Next Meeting House News deadline: Friday, January 24. 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

### Holiday Memorial Wreath

The Holiday Memorial Wreath, located at the front of the Sanctuary, is a way to acknowledge the memory of a loved one who has died. Tie a ribbon to the wreath for those you wish to remember. The wreath will remain in the Sanctuary throughout the holidays.

### Hear the Bells—Today at 3:00 p.m.

This afternoon, at 3:00 p.m., the Lincoln Ringers, our handbell choir in residence this year, will present a one-hour concert of seasonal music in the Sanctuary. A festive reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

### Christmas Eve Services—Note New Times

**Four Services: 4:00, 5:30, 7:30\*, 9:30\*** Family-oriented service at 4:00, with lots of Christmas carols, Children's Choirs and the Christmas story tableau. Lessons and carols with Gospel Choir at 5:30. Chamber Choir at 7:30, and First Parish Choir at 9:30. Each service concludes with candlelighting and "Silent Night."

\*NOTE NEW TIMES.

### Give A Gift That Turns Our UU Values Into Action!

By adopting one of our soon-to-be-installed solar panels, you can make our church more sustainable, help improve our finances through reduced electrical costs, and teach our children about giving back to the community and putting our ideals to work. A win-win if ever there was one! Your tax-deductible contribution of \$1200 for a full panel (or \$300 or \$600 for a partial) also saves us from having to take out a loan for installation. Then your contribution keeps giving by reducing our carbon footprint for at least the next 20 years.

Contact **Berni Jenkins** [berni.jenkins@verizon.net](mailto:berni.jenkins@verizon.net) or **Kate**

**Crosby** [kate\\_crosby@newview.org](mailto:kate_crosby@newview.org) this week to participate.

**Bonus:** And if you're thinking about putting solar panels on your own roof, our vendor, Astrum Solar, is now offering to give both a \$500 gift to First Parish and a \$250 discount in price to any First Parish member who commits to buying solar panels following the November 10, 2013 congregational vote.

### Heifer Gift Cards

Heifer gift cards will be on sale at the coffee hours today, Heifer gift cards are a gift that keeps on giving and a wonderful nonconsumer holiday gift. Poor farmers in villages around the world are gifted animals after weeks of training in proper feeding of optimal crops vs. free-grazing, manure collection for fertilizer, marketing techniques, etc. After passing on their first female offspring to another villager, the farmer then owns the animal outright. Contact Mary Lou Toussaint by e-mail at [mlou512@yahoo.com](mailto:mLou512@yahoo.com) if you want to order gift cards. Patty Keane and Dave and Diane Clapp will be assisting the sale.

### Standing Committee Update: Got Financial Talent?

If you work in finance or accounting, especially if you are a CPA, and are willing to share your skills with First Parish, get in touch with Suzanne Lowe, Treasurer, at 978-590-6484 or [suzanne.campbell.lowe@gmail.com](mailto:suzanne.campbell.lowe@gmail.com).

### Women's Retreats 2014: Living Joyfully

All women of First Parish are warmly invited and welcome to attend this year's retreats, where we'll focus on "Living Joyfully" as we share our time together. Banish all cares as we relax, have fun and rejuvenate, and reflect on finding, creating and sustaining joy in our lives. Choose either of the two weekend retreats (Friday evening through Sunday lunch) at Senexet House in Connecticut, January 24-26 or January 31-February 2; or the mini-retreat at First Parish, Friday evening, February 7, and morning through afternoon Saturday, February 8. Registration forms at coffee hours or in the church office. Questions? Please contact Darien Smith at [darien@smithquest.com](mailto:darien@smithquest.com) or 978-369-1471.

### Creative Practice Affinity Group

Coming in January 2014: Join us every month for support, inspiration, discussion, resource sharing, accountability, and a sense of community—*whatever* your creative outlet. Everything from writing to photography to music is welcome. Meets on the third Thursday of every month in the Brooks Room, from 10 a.m. to noon. Contact Derek McCarthy at [dsm32@cornell.edu](mailto:dsm32@cornell.edu).

### Music Events Committee—Opportunity to Get Involved

The Music Events Committee is looking for a few new members to help coordinate and support upcoming music events. If you're a lover of music and would like to contribute to the vibrant music ministry at First Parish, this would be a great way to get involved. Particularly useful skills include selling tickets online, graphic design, contract negotiation, and an interest in attending and hosting weekend concerts. Call Rob Hamilton at 508-272-6850.

### Sunday Bouillon

It is that time of year again. We are thinking that we might begin serving bouillon the first Sunday in January, just as we did last year. Remember how delicious the bouillon was on a cold winter

Sunday? If this is going to happen, we need volunteers at both services. Can you help one Sunday a month, either by buying, preparing and serving for the 9:00 o'clock service, or serving and cleaning up after the 11:00 o'clock service? Please e-mail Kel at [kel@rkeleher.com](mailto:kel@rkeleher.com), or call him at 978-944-2734 if you are interested.

## Children's and Youth News

**This Week, December 22** – Regular RE Week – Angel Sunday

8:30 & 10:30 a.m. – Little RE (0-4 years), K and 1st Grade –

Lower Level – *Arrive early to don Angel Robes*

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. – Services

K-1st Grade – Begin in Lower Level this week, dismissed to RE in the lower level classrooms after message

2nd-3rd Grades – Middle RE – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Ripley Room

4th-5th Grades – Middle RE – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Greeley Room

6th-7th Grades – 9 a.m.– 12 p.m. – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Brooks Room for the Bucket Brigade.

**Next Week, December 29** – No RE, Holiday Weekend

**Following Week, January 5** – Regular RE Week

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

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. – Services

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

2nd-3rd Grades – Middle RE – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Ripley Room

4th-5th Grades – Middle RE – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Greeley Room

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

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. 9th Grade – COA attend Worship and then meet in the Wright Tavern

4:00 – 6:00 p.m. – 8th Grade – OWL at 4 p.m. in the Emerson Room

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. – 9th-12th Grades Youth Group – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Brooks Room

## Social Action Community

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

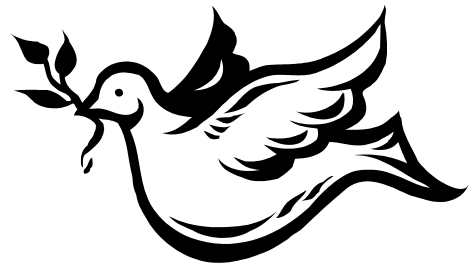
### Wild and Precious—Tickets on Sale at Coffee Hour

In this theatrical production of his poems, stories, music and photographs, Steve Cadwell shares what he's found it means to be a man: a wild and precious boy born in Vermont in the fifties, who becomes a hearty gay man in Concord, Massachusetts. The audience will find coming-to-terms themes that resonate with their own journey to adulthood. Engrossing entertainment for adults and mature teens. Performances are Friday, January 10, and Saturday, January 11, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 for adults, \$18.00 for seniors and \$15.00 for students. Purchase tickets by calling the First Parish church office at 978-369-9602. Cash or checks only, made out to First Parish in Concord. Sponsored by the Social Action Community.

### Want to Follow-up on Steve Cadwell's SAC Candle Lighting?

Here are 3 fun Social Action suggestions for your New Years List:

- 1) Hear Mil Milagros Director Margaret Blood at the Forum Talk Sunday, January 5 at 10:30 a.m.
- 2) See Steve's show "Wild and Precious" January 11, and 12, here in Parish Hall. (Tickets on sale at coffee hour or through the church office.)
- 3) Keep COMING OUT!



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)

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