

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

January 5, 2014

## This Week

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|---------------|--|
| Sun., Jan. 5  | 10:30 Sunday Forum<br>12:15 Worship Reflection<br>7:30 Men's Group   |
| Mon., Jan. 6  | <b>First Parish Closed</b>   |
| Tue., Jan. 7  | 9:00 WPA Board Meeting<br>9:30 Music Together<br>2:00 Shawl Ministry<br>6:00 Minerva Gathering Potluck<br>6:30 T'ai Chi  |
| Wed., Jan. 8  | 9:30 Buddhist Group<br>2:00 Pastoral Care Lay Minister Meeting<br>4:00 <i>Music Together</i><br>4:30 Junior Choir<br>5:15 Chalice Choir<br>5:15 Gospel Choir<br>6:00 Arts Council<br>7:00 ELT<br>7:00 <i>Concord Area Humanist</i><br>7:30 Forum Committee<br>7:45 Adult Choir |
| Thu., Jan. 9  | 9:30 <i>Music Together</i><br>7:30 <i>Buddhist Group</i><br>7:30 A Mirror on Intolerance   |
| Fri., Jan. 10 | 7:30 "Wild and Precious" Performance   |
| Sat., Jan. 11 | 7:30 Men's Group<br>9:00 Photography Club<br>10:00 Department of Peace<br>7:30 "Wild and Precious" Performance   |
| Sun., Jan. 12 | 10:30 Forum<br>12:15 Worship Reflection<br>12:30 Nominating Committee<br>12:30 Harmony and Heritage<br>6:30 Standing Committee Meeting   |

*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

### Women's Retreats: Living Joyfully—Registration Due Today

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.

### Please Help! Any Amount and Every Gift Helps First Parish

Please help us all by *adopting* part of the soon-to-be-installed solar panels. We want to reach 100% congregational participation and right now fewer than 50% of the panels are spoken for. Your generous and *tax-deductible* contribution of *any* amount improves church finances, saves us from paying interest on a loan, and reduces our electricity costs and carbon footprint for the next 20+ years. Though each full panel costs \$1200 (including a portion for our operating budget) you can adopt any portion of a panel. Teach your children important lessons about sustainability and social action by asking them to contribute. Combine your contribution with family and friends or make a contribution on your own. 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.

### Concord Area Humanists—Wednesday, January 8, 7:00 p.m.

On Wednesday evening, January 8, Ellery Schempp will present "Thoughts on the 50th Anniversary of my Landmark Supreme Court Case." Ellery is famous for being the primary student involved in the landmark 1963 United States Supreme Court case of Abington School District v. Schempp declaring that required public school sanctioned Bible readings were unconstitutional." Bring refreshments to share? Program starts about 7:20 p.m., followed by discussion, then more socializing. At 9:00 p.m. an open steering committee meeting will be held, all invited.

### A Mirror on Intolerance—Thursday, January 9 at 7:30 p.m.

Understanding and overcoming prejudice is something we all strive to do, however we are not always aware of how our culture reinforces those biases. This is especially true when we travel abroad and we experience situations of anti-Semitism, homophobia, ethnic intolerance or racism. On *Thursday, January 9 at 7:30 p.m.* in the Parish Hall, the Transylvania Partnership Community, the Diversity Committee and the Social Action Community are co-sponsoring a panel discussion featuring the Rev. Harold Babcock, and others familiar with the complexities of Transylvania's many cultures. Rev. Babcock is the minister at the First Religious Society UU, Newburyport, the UUA's current ambassador to the Hungarian Unitarian Church's headquarters in Kolozsvár, and past President of the UU Partner Church Council. There will be discussion following the presentation which will allow for sharing of actual experiences and we encourage all to participate. This program is the first of two parts. The second part will be a workshop in the spring to examine our own beliefs regarding tolerance/intolerance and cultural difference so we can be better prepared to meet the unexpected both at home and abroad.

### Harmony and Heritage: A Transylvania Pilgrimage

Our trips to our partner church in Szekelykeresztúr have been transformative for those who have participated. We will be traveling again on October 30-November 10, 2014 and if you are interested in hearing about our plans or are considering joining us plan to attend one of the following meetings —*Sunday, January 12, at 12:30 p.m. or Wednesday, January 15, at 6:30 p.m.* to find out the details. We'll discuss the itinerary possibilities and possible travel extensions, costs and payment schedules, scholarship assistance, as well as the goals of the trip and the educational preparation before we go. We hope you'll consider joining Beth, possibly Howard (who hopes to go) and the planning committee

(Lillian Anderson, Sara Ballard, Val Holt and Rodger Matlage) on this important journey. If you are interested but can't attend either meeting we'll be happy to send you the information presented.

### Altshuler Gallery

On display in the Altshuler Gallery for January and February is a dual exhibit of photographs by photojournalist and First Parish member, Ivan Massar, of Martin Luther King's 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, along with illustrations from the book *Connected Wisdom* by Linda Booth Sweeney, Ed.D., which will be used at the First Parish MLK worship service on January 19 and workshop on January 23.

### 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).

### 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).

### Pastoral Care

"Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life." The Pastoral Care Lay Minister on call for January is Carolyn Shohet. If you need a meal or support, please contact Carolyn at [careshohet@aol.com](mailto:careshohet@aol.com) or 978-369-6231.

### 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.

### 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.

### Vegan Potluck—Tuesday, January 14, at 6 p.m.

Enjoy a delicious pot-luck dinner in the Parish Hall, January 14, at 6:00 p.m. hosted by Reverence for Life and the Environmental Leadership Team. Please bring your own beverage and a dish to share that is free of meat, fish, eggs, honey and dairy. Also, attach a

card with the ingredients of your dish, to help out those with allergies or special diets. Your \$2 donation helps to cover expenses. Don't have time to cook? A simple salad or a loaf of bread is just fine. Need a recipe? Contact Marcia Schloss at 978-371-2751 or [marcialou28@gmail.com](mailto:marcialou28@gmail.com).

## Children's and Youth News

### This 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 and dismissed to RE in the lower level.

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

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

6th-7th Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary and 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

### Following Week, January 12 – 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 and dismissed to RE in the lower level.

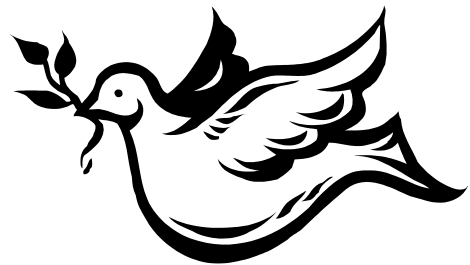
2nd-3rd Grades – Middle RE – Begin in the Sanctuary and dismissed to RE in the Ripley Room

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

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

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



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