

THE SUNDAY NEWS

February 16, 2014

This Week

- Sun., Feb. 16 **11:00 One Worship Service**
12:15 Contemporary Singing Ensemble
12:15 Worship Reflection
- Mon., Feb. 17 **First Parish Closed**
- Tue., Feb. 18 9:30 *Music Together*
2:00 Needleworkers Affinity Group
6:30 *T'ai Chi*
7:00 Evening Worship
7:00 Amnesty Group
7:30 "Emerson Reminisces"
- Wed., Feb. 19 9:30 *Buddhist Group*
4:30 Junior Choir
7:30 Forum Committee
7:45 Adult Choir
- Thu., Feb. 20 10:00 Creative Practice Affinity Group
1:30 Lincoln Ringers
7:00 Pastoral Thursdays
7:30 *Buddhist Group*
7:30 By Your Side Singers
- Fri., Feb. 21 1:00 Transcendentalism Council
- Sat., Feb. 22 7:30 Men's Group
7:00 Story Slam
- Sun., Feb. 23 **11:00 One Worship Service**
12:15 Contemporary Singing Ensemble
12:15 Worship Reflection
12:30 Transylvania Pilgrimage Presentation

Note: Terrific Tuesdays are coming in March!

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

Next Meeting House News deadline: Friday, February 20.
Be aware that all items (including contact information) posted to the Sunday News or Meeting House News, or on First Parish-related email lists, may be published online at www.firstparish.org.

Parish Notes

First Parish Banner Parade

The First Parish Banner Parade is coming in March at the launch of the annual financial pledge appeal! The parade is a wonderful visual celebration of all the many colorful activities of First Parish. Take a sneak preview during coffee hour today as members of First Parish committees and groups pick up their banners for possible repair. If you are a member at a First Parish committee or group, please check to see how your banner is doing. Does it need to be replaced or repaired? Or if your group needs a banner, touch base with Rachel Baker, who will help facilitate that process.

Contemporary Singing Ensemble Forming

Our new contemporary singing ensemble is starting rehearsals today, Sunday, February 16. We will be rehearsing from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m. in Wright Tavern. Right now, we are looking for commitments to March 9 and March 16 services. Rehearsals for

Pastoral Thursdays—7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Rev. Howard Dana and the Pastoral Care Ministers will be holding evening programs on certain Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m.
February 20—Dealing with Aging Parents
March 6—The Challenges of Parenting Teenagers
March 20—Dealing and Living with the Death of a Spouse
April 3—Infertility, Pregnancy Loss and Family Building Issues
April 17—Job Insecurity

these services will be today, February 23, and March 2 and 9. The Sunday prior to worship will be critical in bringing singers and instrumentalists together. We will always plan to warm up/run through pieces the morning of the service. Any questions, feel free to contact contemporary ensemble director Gail Carey at improvgail@gmail.com.

Calling All First Parish Young Artists

Calling First Parish young artists ages one to twenty-one, to display a work of art in the Sue Altshuler gallery in March. We welcome drawings, prints, photographs, paintings, collages, or any 2-D art. If your item is not framed for hanging, then please note that we may put small holes in the edges to hang it. This is a way to share your talent with our parishioners and beautify our church. Please include a note with your name, the medium used and a way to contact you. The show will be hung March 4. Art can be stored in Doug Baker's office the week before. Questions? Contact Marcia Schloss 978-371-2751 or marcialou28@gmail.com.

Follow Up to Tony's Sermon on Patriarchy

Film Date Changed to Sunday, March 2, at 12:45 p.m.

Because of scheduling difficulties, the film "Gods of Our Fathers" originally scheduled to be shown today, has been postponed to Sunday March 2 at 12:45. On that day, I hope you'll stay after coffee hour to watch the film, which explores the roots of our patriarchal culture. A discussion will follow. The patriarchal order wasn't inevitable—it was merely functional but the world is different now and it's time to find alternatives to hierarchies and militarization.

"Emerson Reminisces," Tuesday, February 18, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Wendell Refior, in period costume, portrays Ralph Waldo Emerson reflecting on his life events: marriages, births and deaths, travel, relationships and accomplishments. Refior draws upon Emerson's letters to his brothers and friends, with brief excerpts from "Nature" and "Self-Reliance." \$10 donation. Sponsored by the Transcendentalism Council and the Thoreau Society.

First Parish StorySlam! February 22 at 6:00 p.m.

Theme: Moments That Moved You. There will be a \$10 cover charge, proceeds to benefit Funderburg Scholars. Come and tell (or listen to) a personal story that changed your perspective—in under five minutes and with no notes or props. Modeled on "The Moth," themoth.org, a nationwide storytelling phenomenon. Tell your story or listen to your First Parish friends tell theirs. Storytellers put their names in a hat, and the first ten will be drawn at random. Host:

Sean Kavanagh, seanjkavanagh@yahoo.com.

Harmony and Heritage Pilgrimage Presentation

Sunday, February 23, 12:30 p.m.

The excitement about traveling to Transylvania this fall as part of our ongoing connection to our partner congregation in Székelykeresztúr is building. If you were unable to attend previously, please join us at 12:30 on February 23 to see and hear about plans, costs and the fun that are part of this experience of being with fellow parishioners, and Beth and Howard, on a transformative journey. Refreshments served. Look for our table at coffee hour to pick up the itinerary. For more information, please contact Lillian Anderson at lillianand@comcast.net or Rodger Mattlage at rmattlage@mac.com.

“Emerson’s Divinity School Address: Controversy and Empowerment,” Tuesdays, February 25 and March 4, 7:30 p.m.

Bruce Blumberg leads this reading group to share thoughts, insights and questions about the Divinity School Address, which fundamentally reshaped American intellectual and spiritual thought. Free; enrollment limited to 12. A link to the text will be provided before the first meeting. Register at bruce_blumberg@me.com.

WPA Luncheon Meeting—February 26

The Women’s Parish Association cordially invites everyone to its luncheon and program on Wednesday, February 26. Social time will begin at 11:30, followed by lunch at noon. The program, which begins at 12:45, will feature **Dr. Katharine Esty** talking about her book about Nobel Laureate Mohammad Yunus and his groundbreaking work in microfinancing. Price for the lunch is ten dollars, payable at the door. Contact the church office at 978-369-9602 or Dian Pekin at pekincd@comcast.net by February 22, for reservations, transportation and dietary requirements. All women and men of First Parish and their friends are welcome.

“Yankee Home Companion” Performers Needed and Wanted! Thursday, February 27, 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Using the radio show “Prairie Home Companion” as a model, we are creating a show full of stories, poems, sound effects, songs and jokes to encourage everyone to participate. You may already have a song or poem you would like to perform, either as a solo or as part of a group, perhaps a new creation or resurrection of a previous performance. Come on February 27 to hear more about the show and sample some of the stories and songs. If you can’t make the meeting but would like to participate (performances are May 2 and 3), please contact Lillian Anderson at lillianand@comcast.net.

Howard Dana: The Art of Leadership at First Parish

A workshop on leadership, hosted by the Nominating Committee.

On Saturday, March 1, come at 8:30 a.m. for coffee and a light breakfast; workshop is 9 to 12. Anyone interested in getting involved (or learning about) church leadership is welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Sue Ryan, susanryan101@comcast.net.

Social Action Community

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

Showing of *Journey of the Universe*

Sunday, February 23, at Trinity Episcopal Church

On Sunday, February 23, at 4 p.m., Trinity Episcopal Church, Concord (81 Elm Street), will be showing the Emmy-award-winning documentary “Journey of the Universe—The Epic Story of Cosmic, Earth and Human Transformation,” followed by an in-person conversation with one of its creators, Dr. John Grim, of the Yale

Forum on Religion and Ecology. Starting with the birth of the universe 14 billion years ago, this film weaves a powerful story of the ability of matter to organize itself and to evolve into life, consciousness, and the amazing and powerful human species. It will leave you with a greater understanding of the deep connection and interdependence of humanity and Earth, and our calling to participate positively in the evolutionary process. The family event is free and open to all ages.

GLBTQ Potluck Dinner—February 28, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer (GLBTQ) people and families from Bedford and our surrounding communities are invited to a potluck dinner at First Parish in Bedford, 75 Great Road, Bedford, Friday night, February 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This event is geared toward sharing good food and conversation, and celebrating who we are. We encourage you to bring an appetizer, salad, entrée or dessert to share. Please note that this is not a religious event, but a warm and welcoming place for support and connection. Help us spread the word! For questions or more information, please contact Rev. Megan Lynes at mlynes@uubedford.org or call 781-275-7994.

Children’s and Youth News

This Week, February 16 – Vacation Week

One 11 a.m. Service ONLY

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

Next Week, February 23 – Vacation Week

One 11 a.m. Service ONLY

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

4:00 - 6:30 p.m. – 8th Grade – OWL at 4:00 p.m. in the Emerson Room

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. – 9th-12th Grades Youth Group

Tuesday, February 25

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. 9th-12th Grades – Youth Advisory Council

Friday, February 28

5:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. – 7th Grade – Neighboring Faiths visit to Temple Beth El

Friday, February 28 – March 1 – Youth Group goes to City Reach

Following Week, March 2 – Regular RE Week

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

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. – Services

K-1st Grades – 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 Grade – Visit to Jiffy Reed’s Farm from 9 to 12 p.m.

4:00 - 7:00 p.m. – 8th Grade – OWL in the Emerson Room

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