

THE SUNDAY NEWS

June 15, 2014

This Week

Sun., Jun 15 **One Service at 10:00 a.m.**
Tue., Jun 17 7:00 Amnesty Group
Wed., Jun 18 9:30 Buddhist Group
Thu., Jun 19 10:00 Creative Affinity Practice Group
7:30 Buddhist Group
7:30 By Your Side Singers
Sun., Jun 22 **One Service at 10:00 a.m.**
Coffee Hour in the Herb Garden

Next Meeting House News deadline: Tuesday, August 19
Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to
Rachel Baker at rbaker@firstparish.org.
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

Flower Communion Service

Sunday, June 22, at 10:00 a.m.

Next Sunday, Rev. Howard N. Dana will lead the congregation through the traditional Unitarian Flower Communion created by Norbert Capek [1870-1942], who founded the Unitarian Church in Czechoslovakia. Please bring a flower or two to contribute to the service. The flowers may come from your garden, a field, or the roadside. One interpretation of the flower communion states, “Our common bouquet would not be the same without the unique addition of each individual flower, and thus it is with our church community; it would not be the same without each and every one of us. Thus this service is a statement of our community. By exchanging flowers, we show our willingness to walk together in our search for truth, disregarding all that might divide us. Each person takes home a flower brought by someone else—thus symbolizing our shared celebration in community. This communion of sharing is essential to a free people of a free religion.”

Herb Garden Coffee Hour Party—Sunday, June 22

The Women’s Parish Association will hold its popular annual coffee hour Herb Garden party on Sunday, June 22, following the 10:00 o’clock Sunday service. Everyone is welcome! Come and enjoy the beauty of the Deborah Webster Greeley Memorial Herb Garden and the herb-flavored sweets, savories and cold drinks. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the Parish Hall.

Herb Sale Postponed to Sunday, June 22

Due to the slow start of spring and the reduced inventory of herbs from our supplier, the Herb Sale has been postponed to June 22 at coffee hour. It now coincides with the date for our popular annual coffee hour Herb Garden party. All are cordially welcome.

Inaugural First Parish Organ Dedication Concert Sunday, June 22, at 4:00 p.m.

Dr. James Welch, former organist of Grace Episcopal Cathedral in San Francisco will present a concert on Sunday, June 22, at 4 p.m. This concert is one of several pre-convention events promoted for organists attending the national conference of the American Guild of Organists in Boston, June 23-25. Dr. Welch is a well-known concert organist and teacher, who regularly performs at venues such as the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City and the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris. He has been University Organist and lecturer in music at California’s Santa Clara University since 1993 and also serves as organist for St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Palo Alto, California. His concert will include a generous variety of shorter pieces that will show off the colors of First Parish’s new pipe organ.

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for the new pledge year are in. They are available downstairs after the service today.

Carpooling to General Assembly (GA)

Please stop by the GA information table at coffee hour to learn more about attending GA. There is a **Ride Exchange Board** if you would like to seek or offer a ride to Providence. Join fellow members of First Parish at the popular Waterfire event Saturday night or the Sunday activities. Or the Ware lecture. Or any of the hundreds of other activities. Carpooling is highly recommended! Stop by the table and learn more.

Creative Practice Affinity Group

The Creative Practice Affinity Group’s next meeting is this Thursday, June 19, 10 a.m. to noon in the Brooks Room. Join us each month for inspiration, discussion, support, and sense of community — *whatever* your creative outlet. This includes everything from Writing to Photography to C++ Programming. The group meets the third Thursday of every month; contact Derek McCarthy at dsm32@cornell.edu. Everyone is welcome!

Pastoral Care

“Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life.” The Pastoral Care Lay Minister on call for June is

Dana Snyder-Grant. If you need a meal or support, please contact Dana at danasg@newview.org or 978-266-9409.

Catnip Ball Time

Among the favorite attractions of the First Parish Artisans Holiday Fair each year are beautiful handmade catnip balls at the Women's Parish Association's booth. The balls make adorable gifts, appreciated by cat owners almost as much as their cats! The catnip ball covers are knitted by volunteer knitting "elves" over the summer, and the balls are assembled in October. If you would like to join the catnip ball brigade, you will find copies of the knitting directions in the First Parish office on the Exchange shelf. This is an ideal summer project, —light, easy and fun. Call or email Margaret Stewart for more information: 508-662-6348 or mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com.

Save the Date—First Parish Homecoming Picnic

Sunday, September 7, at 5:30 p.m. is the Parish Homecoming Picnic for all ages, all First Parish. Music and potluck dessert. Please bring finger food dessert to share, your own picnic, food and beverage, lawn chairs and blankets. The party will be on the front lawns of First Parish, weather permitting; in the Parish Hall in case of rain. No admission charge. Mark your calendar now. This is an event not to be missed.

Free Brochures about Unitarian Universalism and First Parish

The brochures are located in racks located to the left and right of the church office door and to the left of the front door as you exit the Sanctuary. Please feel free to take these home or pass them along to friends.

Social Action Community

Reproductive Justice—Feminine Product Drive Continuing through June

Believe it or not, there are women in our own community who do not have access to feminine hygiene products. With your help, we can change that. Here's how you can help. Buy a box for yourself and buy an extra one to put in the box marked "Women Helping Women" in the coatroom at church. This drive will continue for the month of June. All donations will be given out at Open Table on Thursdays. Questions: Contact Laura Benedict at bremben@comcast.net or Lora Venesy at Venesy@comcast.net.

Howard's email: hdana@firstparish.org

Visit our website at firstparish.org

Questions or concerns about **domestic violence** or **suicide**?

Call...

Domestic Violence Services Help Line: 888-399-6111

Suicide Prevention Life Line: 800-273-TALK (8255)