

THE SUNDAY NEWS

September 7, 2014

This Week

Sun., Sept. 7	Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. 5:30 First Parish Homecoming Picnic
Mon., Sept. 8	7:30 Denominational Affairs Committee
Tue., Sept. 9	9:00 WPA Board Meeting 2:00 Shawl Ministry 7:30 Reverence for Life
Wed., Sept. 10	9:30 Buddhist Group 4:30 Junior Choir 5:15 Chalice Choir 5:15 Gospel Choir 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., Sept. 11	7:30 Buddhist Group
Sat., Sept. 13	9:00 Photography Club Meeting
Sun., Sept. 14	Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal 11:30 SAC Candle Writing Workshop 11:30 Sunday Forum 6:00 Standing Committee Meeting

Next Meeting House News deadline: Tuesday, September 16.

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.

Parish Notes

Today's Homecoming Picnic at 5:30 p.m.

All ages. All First Parish. Bring your whole family. Visit with your friends, catch up on the summer news and meet other First Parish folk. This is an evening for everyone. Enjoy the Music, Labyrinth, crafts for all ages, and Rise Up Singing. This is an event for everyone. Please bring: A 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.

Pastoral Care

"Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life." The Pastoral Care Lay Minister on call for September is Sue Dobbie. If you need a meal or support, please contact Sue at 978-456-8432 or susandobbie@gmail.com.

Reverence for Life

Come join our Reverence for Life (RFL) team at our first fall meeting Tuesday, September 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Come to listen or to join in. We are a group interested in promoting the last line of our benediction, "Honor all beings." Currently we have vegan potlucks once a month, where all are welcome to enjoy a vegan evening together. We need ideas and energy to broaden and enhance our program, so please attend and see what you think . . . no commitment. Meetings may be once a month dependent on the

availability of the group. Please contact Diana Shoemaker Kelly,

shoefolk@comcast.net; Lyell Slade, llsrvd@netscape.net; or Brook Stevens, stevensbrady@comcast.net; with any questions or suggestions.

Women's Parish Association Luncheon Program Wednesday, September 17, 11:30 a.m.

The Women's Parish Association invites all women and men to its September luncheon and program featuring a presentation by Polly Peterson, who will talk about her latest book, *Missionaries, Builders and Pathfinders: Unitarians and Universalists Stories from the Midwest, West, and South, 1830-1930*. Sales and book signings of her latest two books will follow her talk. Lunch at noon, followed by the program and a brief annual meeting. Charge: ten dollars. Contact the church office or Dian Pekin at pekincd@comcast.net by September 13 for reservations and dietary restrictions.

Women's Book Group

Welcome to a new year of book discussions with the First Parish Women's AM/PM Book Group. All women of First Parish are warmly invited to read the current book, *Margaret Fuller: A New American Life*, by Megan Marshall. Join one or both discussions on Monday, September 29, at 7:30 p.m. or Tuesday, September 30, at 9:30 a.m. Please note that we are always open for drop-in, and you never need to sign up to attend. The morning session is facilitated by Darien Smith, and the evening by Siri Smedvig. If you would like to be added to the Women's Book Group email list, please contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com or 978-369-1471.

Social Action Community

Interfaith Environmental Potluck at Kerem Shalom, 659 Elm Street, on Monday, September 8, at 6:30 p.m.

The Environmental Leadership Team of First Parish in Concord invites everyone to an interfaith environmental potluck on Monday, September 8, at 6:30 p.m.. This is the fourth potluck we've had in the past year with representatives of five other Concord-area houses of worship. We will share resources with one another and discuss new projects we might initiate together. Please R.S.V.P. to Bethany Lowe (Blowe@firstparish.org) and bring your favorite dish.

SAC Candle Writing Workshop

Sunday, September 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Ever considered lighting the Social Action Community (SAC) candle? Wondering what you might say? Think you don't have a story to share? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, consider attending a SAC Candle Writing Workshop during the 2014-15 church year. Bethany Lowe, Director of Social Action, will lead small groups through the process of writing compelling, inspiring SAC Candle testimonials. After you attend one of these workshops, you will have the opportunity to sign-up to light the SAC Candle during a Sunday worship. Workshops will be held on September 14, December 14 and March 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Workshops are limited to ten participants. Sign up with Bethany (Blowe@firstparish.org) if you'd like to attend.

Concord Farm and Garden Fair on September 13 and 14

Come out to the Concord Farm and Garden Fair. This food-filled

weekend will include the Ag Day Farmer's Market on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Garden Tours on Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. and Farm Tours on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. Pre-register for Saturday tours at www.concordfood.ning.com. Both Saturday and Sunday, there will be bike tours of Concord's gardens and farms—email richard@playandlearntogether.com to join the bike tour. Finally, at the Stone Soup Dinner at Verrill Farm on Sunday at 4 p.m., diners will delve into local produce prepared by local chefs. Seating is limited for the Stone Soup Dinner; sign up beforehand at www.stonesoupconcord.com.

Join the Concord Area Amnesty International Group Tuesday, September 16

Refugees on your mind? Join Concord Area Group 15 of Amnesty International on Tuesday, September 16, from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. at First Parish. They will have a special guest from the Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights, a program of the Boston Medical Center. Those present will learn about the personal situations and stories that lie behind refugee statistics, the services the center provides, and volunteer opportunities. All are invited. If you'd like more information about the program on September 16 or our monthly meetings, contact Kathy Taylor at Kly.taylor@gmail.com or 781-718-7640.

Al Filipov Forum Featuring Dr. Jim O'Connell at Tri-Con on Wednesday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m.

First Parish members and friends are invited to the Thirteenth Annual Al Filipov Peace and Justice Forum at the Trinitarian Congregational church on Walden Street. This year the Forum speaker is Dr. Jim O'Connell, founding physician and president of the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program (BHCHP). Dr. O'Connell has written extensively in medical journals, serving as the National Program Director for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He was a guest for the ABC Nightline documentary "Give Me a Shot of Anything," and has received numerous humanitarian awards.

Children's and Youth News

This Week, September 7 – Intergenerational Service

9:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4years) – Lower Level

Next Week, September 14 – Regular RE Week

9:50 a.m. – Regular Classes, Babies-Preschool

10:00 a.m. – Service

Kindergarten – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the lower level classrooms

1st Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the lower level classrooms

2nd & 3rd Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Children's Chapel, pickup in Emerson Room

4th Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary and dismissed to RE in the Bulkeley Room.

5th Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary and dismissed to RE in the Brooks Room.

6th Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary and dismissed to RE in the Wright Tavern Left-Hand Room.

7th Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary and dismissed to RE in the Wright Tavern Sunporch

8th Grade – Drama – Meet in the Wright Tavern Sunporch at 4:00 p.m.

9th Grade Mentor Orientation – 4:00 -7:00 p.m. in the Emerson Room

9th-12th Grade, Youth Group – 7:00 p.m. in the Wright Tavern Sunporch

Child Dedication Ceremony

A special Child Dedication Ceremony will be part of the service on November 23. This Child Dedication Ceremony encourages families who are part of our congregation to formally bless the life of their young children (up to Grade 8). This dedication signifies their hopes as well as the congregation's promise to support and nurture our children throughout their spiritual lives. The RE Council will be hosting a Covenant Circle for parents, leading up to the Dedication. We are very excited about this opportunity to come together and contemplate parenting as UU families. An informational will be held on **September 28**, following service. Child care for all ages is provided. Please visit <http://www.firstparish.org/cms/religious-education> for more information, including dates and commitment information. Contact Sarah Wilfert at firstparishcd@gmail.com.

Seriously Needed in RE

Do you have an old Mac laptop hanging around? A Macbook Air or a MacBook Pro? Old is relative, so I guess something younger than four years. We need more portability with our new staff member and are hoping someone might have some unused technology hanging around. An iPad might also work. Thanks, and let Pam Howell know.

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)

Rev. Howard Dana's email: hdana@firstparish.org

Rev. Marion Visel's email: mvisel@firstparish.org

Brian Chenowith's email: bchenowith@firstparish.org

Visit our website at firstparish.org