

THE SUNDAY NEWS

September 21, 2014

This Week

Sun., Sept. 21	Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Sunday Forum 7:30 Sarasa Concert
Mon., Sept. 22	7:00 Fall Equinox Celebration 7:00 Diversity Committee
Tue., Sept. 23	9:30 Flower Committee 7:30 Transylvania and Its Unitarianism
Wed., Sept. 24	9:30 Buddhist Group 4:30 Junior Choir 5:15 Chalice Choir 5:15 Gospel Choir 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., Sept. 25	7:30 Buddhist Group
Fri., Sept. 26	7:30 Rise Up Singing
Sat., Sept. 27	7:30 Men's Group
Sun., Sept. 28	Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Sunday Forum

Next Meeting House News deadline: Tuesday, October 21.
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

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.

Sarasa Chamber Music Concert Tonight at 7:00 p.m.

This evening, at 7:00 p.m., Sarasa presents, "La Voix Française, French Baroque vocal and instrumental music." Sarasa invites you to delve into the rich tapestry of French Baroque music on an intimate scale. This concert includes works by composers at Louis XIV's court such as François Couperin Le Grand, Marin Marais, and the brilliant (and mysteriously murdered) violinist Jean-Marie Leclair. Come hear this delightful program, performed by world-class musicians. Help support their mission of bringing such performances to underprivileged and incarcerated youth. Visit www.sarasamusic.org for more information.

Fall Equinox Celebration

Celebrate the coming of Fall in community on Monday evening, September 22, with stories, songs, quiet and spoken reflections, a labyrinth walk, and seasonal decorations and refreshments. All are invited families especially welcome. Meet at 7 p.m. in the Brooks Room dressed for the weather. Presented by the Women's Goddess Covenant Circle. Questions? Contact bozenasmith@mindspring.com

Transylvania and Its Unitarianism: WWI – 2014

Tuesday, September 23, 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Come join Howard Dana and our First Parish pilgrims who are traveling to Székelykeresztúr in October-November. Enjoy a dessert buffet and presentations about Transylvania, and Unitarianism there, since WWI. Starting with Howard's summary of early Transylvanian Unitarianism (1500's), you'll hear post-WWI stories of shifting national boundaries, persecutions, ethnic strife, perseverance, Communist spies, UUA delegations, . . . up to today's vibrant, but threatened, Hungarian Unitarian minority culture. All are welcome.

New to Unitarian Universalism? New to First Parish in Concord? Considering Membership?

Come learn more about Unitarian Universalism, First Parish in Concord, and what it means to become a member, at two orientations (See below).

New to Unitarian Universalism Orientation

Sunday, October 5, 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

Participants will learn about the rich history of our Unitarian Universalist faith, gain an understanding of congregational polity, and better understand the role of the UU principles and sources in our values-driven religious movement. Child care is available. To R.S.V.P. or for questions: contact Rachel Baker, Director of Membership and Communications, at rbaker@firstparish.org by *Wednesday, October 1*.

New to First Parish in Concord Orientation

Sunday, October 26, 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

Participants will hear from the ministerial team, staff, and lay leaders, find out how to become engaged in congregational life at First Parish, and have the option to sign the membership book. Child care is available. To R.S.V.P. or for questions: contact Rachel Baker, Director of Membership and Communications, at rbaker@firstparish.org by *Wednesday, October 22*.

Rise Up Singing—Friday, September 26, 7:30 p.m.

Rise Up Singing is First Parish's monthly folk-song circle. It is an informal gathering of singers and instrumentalists from First Parish and the wider community. The circle is open to singers and players of all ages. No prior experience necessary. Copies of the Sing-Out songbook, *Rise Up Singing*, are available at each meeting. Those who own copies are encouraged to bring them along.

Social Action Community

People's Climate March, New York City

Sunday, September 21

From the People's Climate March organizers: "In September, world leaders are coming to New York City for a UN summit on the climate crisis. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is urging governments to support an ambitious global agreement to dramatically reduce global warming pollution. With our future on the line and the whole world watching, we will take a stand to bend the course of history. We will take to the streets to demand the world we know is within reach: a world with an economy that works for people and the planet; a world safe from the ravages of

climate change; a world with good jobs, clean air and water, and healthy communities. To change everything, we need everyone on board. Join Sunday, September 21, in New York City.” Contact a member of the Environmental Leadership Team to learn more.

Diversity Committee Meeting—Monday, September 22, at 7 p.m.

The Diversity Committee will plan some programs for this coming year, and work on refining their Mission Statement. They invite anyone who is interested in advancing the understanding of LGBTQ, disability, and race/ethnicity issues and rights, and helping to make First Parish a welcoming place for all, to join them. They will meet in the Greeley Room. Contact Sara Ballard at sara@sb.org with any questions.

SAC Candle Writing Workshop

Sunday, September 28, 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, and run 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 Area Crop Walk for the Hungry—Sunday, October 19

The Concord Area Crop Walk for the Hungry will take place on Sunday, October 19, starting at First Parish; registration begins at 1:30 p.m., step-off is at 2:15 p.m. Funds raised go to support several local hunger relief organizations, and the global disaster relief and development projects of Church World Service. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to walk or sponsor a walker. See www.concordcrop.org for more details, and look for the Crop Walk table at coffee hours starting in mid-September. You may register to walk, or make a donation online. This is a great social action project for families to participate in together.

Children's and Youth News

RE Families—A Gathering Place

We have arranged a play space for after Sunday services on the stage of the Parish Hall (and in the Bulkeley Room just off the stage). Please come and gather with other parents, meet new friends, and ask Pam and the RE Council any questions you might have about our programming. It is just nice to have a central place to meet after service time that is enjoyable for both kids and parents.

Child Dedication Ceremony

A special Child Dedication Ceremony will be part of the church service on November 23. This Child Dedication Ceremony encourages families who are part of our congregation to formally bless the life of their 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 the service. Child care for all ages provided. Please visit <http://www.firstparish.org/cms/religious-education> for more information including dates and commitment information. Contact Sarah Wilfert at firstparished@gmail.com.

This Week, September 21 – 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 Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to the Ripley Room, pickup in Emerson Room

3rd Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to the Greeley Room, pickup in Emerson Room

4th Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Bulkeley Room, pickup on Parish Hall stage

5th Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Brooks Room, pickup on Parish Hall Stage

6th & 7th Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary and dismissed to RE for walking trip to garden

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

9th-12th Grades, Youth Group – Retreat to Ferry Beach, September 19 to 21

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

2nd Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to the Ripley Room, pickup in Emerson Room

3rd Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to the Greeley Room, pickup in Emerson Room

4th & 5th Grades – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Children's Chapel

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

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

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

9th Grade COA Orientation – 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

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

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

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)