

THE SUNDAY NEWS

First Parish in Concord, 20 Lexington Road, Concord, MA 01742

March 29, 2015

This Week

Sun., Mar. 29	Palm Sunday Service at 10:00 11:30 Special Presentation Stephanie Leighton 11:30 The Conversation Project
Mon., Mar. 30	6:30 Interfaith Environmental Potluck 7:30 Women's Book Group
Tue., Mar. 31	9:30 Women's Book Group 7:00 Environmental Film Series
Wed., Apr. 1	9:30 Buddhist Group 4:30 - 9:30 First Parish Choirs 6:00 Arts Council 7:00 Concord Area Humanists 7:30 ELT Meeting
Thu., Apr. 2	11:00 Maundy Thursday Service and Lunch 1:00 Finding Meaning in Later Life 7:30 Buddhist Group 7:30 By Your Side Singers
Fri., Apr. 3	7:00 Tenebrae Service
Sun., Apr. 5	ONE Service Easter Sunday at 10:00

Parish Notes

Pastoral Care

"Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life." The April Pastoral Care Lay Minister is Carolyn Shohet. Carolyn can be reached at careshohet@gmail.com or 978-369-6231.

Worship Sharing Circle

After the service, parishioners are invited to gather in Rev. Dana's study to take turns sharing what stood out for them about the service. This simple event runs from 11:10 to 11:30 a.m. and is open to everyone.

The Conversation Project—Important Talk (Two sessions)

Rev. Marion Visel, Minister for Pastoral Care, will help us explore the Conversation Project Starter Kit. The Conversation Project (CP) emphasizes having a conversation about values; what matters to you, not what's the matter with you. Copies of the Conversation Starter Kit will be provided to help you think about and talk about your wishes for care at the end of life, and how to talk with family members about their wishes at the end of their life. This isn't about filling out forms; it's about talking about what you and they want for end-of-life care, based on values. The first session is today from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to review the CP Starter Kit and to talk about what holds us back from having the conversation (Emerson Room). We will meet again on Sunday, April 26, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Emerson Room to talk about our successes and stumbling blocks. No need to sign up; just show up!

Cooperative Seder Ticket Sales Today

Come on down to the Seder table at coffee hour in the Parish Hall, get your questions answered, sign up for a task, and buy a ticket for this April 11, 5 p.m.-9 p.m. event. Tickets are \$18 for everyone 13 to 80. Over 80 or under 7 are free; 7-12, \$5. New this year: two or more young people, half price. Join a celebration of freedom that's thousands of years old. No experience necessary. Price includes all-you-can-eat food, wine or grape juice for all, and the very popular "leftovers for sale" right after the meal. For more

information, contact Jim Snyder-Grant at 508-572-2985 or write to the team at fpseder@googlegroups.com.

Volunteers Wanted

Would you like to make a fun and loving connection with someone special on Easter Sunday? We are delivering Easter lilies and Hyacinths, as well as our love and support, to special folks. If you are interested in delivering a card and a beautiful flower to someone, please contact Caitlin Selle at selle.caitlin5@gmail.com.

Concord Area Humanists, April 1, 7:00 p.m.

David Niose, past President of the American Humanist Association will discuss his book "*Fighting Back the Right: Reclaiming America from the Attack on Reason.*" Is a new alliance forming?

Do You Speak Spanish—or Want to Speak It Better?

¿Hablas español, o quieres mejorar?

Please join *otros compañeros de First Parish* for *conversación, diversión, y comida*. Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 2, at 7 p.m., *jueves 8 de enero a las 7 en la casa de Laurie Van Loon, 95 Martha's Point Rd.*, Concord. Don't be shy. *¡No tienes que hablar bien!* English is allowed. There will always be someone who can translate. Please bring *comida y bebida* for a potluck supper. *Para más información:* for more information, *llama a call Laurie Van Loon, 978-369-8528. O manda* or send email to ivanloon@comcast.net.

Remembering Abraham Lincoln on the 150th Anniversary of His Death: A Milestone in First Parish History Sunday, April 12, 3:00 p.m.

Please join Brian Chenowith and the Transcendentalism Council on Sunday, April 12, at 3:00 p.m., for a remembrance of Lincoln and the Town of Concord's memorial service, which was held at First Parish. Concord author Rick Frese will deliver excerpts from Ralph Waldo Emerson's powerful eulogy, and there will be period music and readings.

Vegan Potluck Dinner, Chocolate Fountain and Raffle

Enjoy a delicious potluck dinner in the Parish Hall, Tuesday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m., hosted by Reverence for Life and the Environmental Leadership Team. Please bring a dish (4-6 servings) to share that is free of meat, fish, eggs, honey and dairy, and attach a card with the ingredients to help out those with allergies or special diets. Highlights this month are the return of the chocolate fountain and a raffle with your \$2.00 donation for one of two books: *Becoming Vegan* (Davis/Melina) and *How to Be a Vegan* (Castoria). Children are free, and creative fun at a craft table is provided. Need a recipe? Contact Lyell Slade at 978-369-0636 or lslrsvd@netscape.net.

Join the Tour of 24 Farnsworth—New UUA Headquarters!

On Sunday, April 26, at 3:30 p.m., join our minister, Rev. Howard Dana, and fellow parishioners for a special tour of the new UUA Headquarters at 24 Farnsworth Street in Boston. Come and see how the space has been beautifully designed to honor our history as well as meet the needs of our denomination in the 21st century. For more information or to sign up, see the Denominational Affairs

table at coffee hour today through April 19, or call the church office. You can also sign up to carpool and/or to join others for an early dinner together following the tour.

Social Action

Special Presentation by Stephanie Leighton of Trillium Asset Management, Today at 11:30 a.m.

Please join us this morning at 11:30 a.m. for a special presentation by Stephanie Leighton of Trillium Asset Management. Ms. Leighton is a partner, portfolio manager and research analyst at Trillium, the oldest investment management firm focused exclusively on sustainable and responsible investing (SRI). Trillium is headquartered in Boston and was founded in 1982. Ms. Leighton is a Unitarian Universalist and served on the UUA's Committee on Socially Responsible Investing. She will address key issues such as long-term performance comparisons, effects of investment management fees, and SRI index-type funds. These issues are relevant to both FP investment funds and members' personal investments. Her visit is part of the congregational dialogue under way about SRI and fossil fuel divestment. Questions? Please speak with Bruce Blumberg (ELT) or Laura Bernstein (Trustees).

Concord Area Interfaith Environmental Potluck Monday, March 30, at 6:30 p.m.

First Parish is one of six local faith communities working together on sustainability issues. Come join our potluck dinner here at First Parish in Concord on Monday, March 30, at 6:30 p.m. We have more than one project under discussion from recycling our compost to building on Earth Day/Patriots' Day themes. Come hear about *The SHOUT Heard 'Round the World: Revere Our Climate*, the interfaith rolling rally for climate activism, April 19. It is never too late to join! R.S.V.P. to Laura Benedict at bremben@comcast.net, member of the Environmental Leadership Team.

Environmental Film Series—Tuesday, March 31, at 7:00 p.m.

Have you considered reducing your intake of animal products? Perhaps you're concerned about your health, or the environment, or the way animals are treated. Please join us on Tuesday, March 31, at 7 p.m. for a showing of *Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret*. While some object to the title, the film itself is an excellent exploration of the impacts of large-scale animal agriculture on our environment. Sponsored by the SAC Council and Reverence For Life as part of our Commit2Respond initiative.

“Putting Social Action into Practice,” with Sandy Wood Wednesday, April 1, at 9:30 a.m.

Sandy Wood, who grew up in this church, will tell us about the year she has just spent teaching at a children's community in northeastern India. She has truly gone out into the world. To learn more about the children's community where Sandy is teaching, see <http://jhamtseinternational.org/our-work/jhamtse-gatsal/>. This talk is part of the Wednesday morning Buddhist group that meets each Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Rain Barrel Program 2015—Conserve Water and Save Money

This spring, the Social Action Community is selling rain barrels to help our community conserve water and save money. In New England, a rain barrel can capture up to 1700 gallons of water during extended summer months. Rain barrels reduce pollutants from entering into the water supplies by reducing runoff—which helps towns manage the water supplies and keep costs down. Best of all, rain barrels are low cost and easy to install. The rain barrels available through First Parish in Concord are repurposed from a 60 gallon

shipping drum made from 3/16" polyethylene, which is UV protected and BPA-free. The barrel comes complete with overflow fittings, drain plug, screw-on cover, and a threaded spigot with a choice of two ports to use with either a watering can or a garden hose. Each barrel, \$75, comes in forest green, earth brown and Nantucket gray. Barrels will be available for pick up on Saturday, May 2, from 9 to 11 a.m. at First Parish. Orders must be received by April 25, 5:00 p.m. Rain barrel order forms will be available at coffee hour today through the end of April.

Children's and Youth News

This Week, March 29 — Palm Sunday Intergenerational Service. No Regular RE

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

10:00 a.m. – Intergenerational Service

8th Grade – OWL – 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Emerson Room

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

Next Week, April 5 — Easter Sunday Intergenerational Service No Regular RE

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

10:00 a.m. – Intergenerational Service

Easter Egg Hunt—Sunday, April 5

Easter egg hunt will be led by the Youth Group. Kids of all ages are invited to this Easter egg hunt after worship on April 5. Our high-school-aged youth will organize the hunt. Location TBD, depending on weather and the amount of snow still on the ground.

Potluck Dinner, Tuesday, April 7, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars: the RE Council is hosting a Community Potluck Dinner.

Volunteers Needed to Supervise Teens Providing Child Care

We would like to compile a list of adults who are willing to be contacted to supervise our teens while they provide child care during church events. Adding your name to the list will not commit you to any specific event; rather, you will be contacted on a case-by-case basis and can volunteer when it fits in your schedule. Ideally the list of potential volunteers will be long, so that each individual's time commitment will be minimal. If you are willing to add your name to this list of adult supervisors, please email Bridget Neale Paris, bridgetnealeparis@gmail.com. Thank you!

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

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

Brian Chenowith's email: bchenowith@firstparish.org

Church Office—978-369-9602

Visit our website at firstparish.org