

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

May 17, 2015

## This Week

Sun., May 17	<b>Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.</b> 11:30 Forum 11:30 Divestment Subgroup 3:00 Photography Club Exhibit and Reception
Mon., May 18	7:30 Music Events Brainstorming Meeting
Tue., May 19	Newsletter Deadline 7:00 Vespers 7:00 Amnesty International Meeting
Wed., May 20	9:30 Buddhist Group 11:30 WPA Luncheon 4:30 - 9:30 First Parish Choirs
Thu., May 21	7:30 By Your Side Singers 7:30 Buddhist Group
Sun., May 24	<b>Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.</b>

## Parish Notes

### Pastoral Care

“Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life.” The May Pastoral Care Lay Minister is Bev Bringle. Bev can be reached at [bevbringle@gmail.com](mailto:bevbringle@gmail.com) or 978-369-4793.

### Name Tags

Wearing a name tag is an act of generosity to those who forget names and welcoming to those whom you have not yet met. Temporary name tags are available at the entranceway, in the hallway downstairs by the nametag holders, and in the Welcome Corner during social hour. Request a printed name tag at the Welcome Corner or to the right of the name tag holders. Recently requested name tags may be located in the small name tag holder or filed alphabetically.

### Worship Sharing Circle—Every Sunday, 11:10 a.m.

**In Rev. Howard Dana’s Study or the Keresztúr Terrace**  
Everyone is invited to gather in Rev. Howard Dana’s study or on the Keresztúr Terrace (weather permitting) to take turns sharing what stood out for them about the service. This simple opportunity to share, listen and get to know others starts soon after the service ends 11:10, and is open to everyone. First Parish volunteers are present to help facilitate this event.

### Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for the new pledge year are in. They will be available downstairs after the services today and on Sundays, May 24 and June 7.

### First Parish in Concord—Photo Club Exhibit and Reception

Please join us this afternoon, from 3 to 5 p.m., for fantastic photos, a 3D demonstration, a 30-minute slide show with seating, and more. Members will be glad to discuss their images and techniques, and to help you with your photographic questions. We look forward to seeing you, your family and friends. Yummy refreshments will be available as well as some items for sale. The First Parish Photography Club is a noncompetitive group for adults, from novice to professional. We meet to learn and socialize.

### The Wright Tavern’s Future—Monday, May 18, 7:00 p.m.

A forum on the future of the Wright Tavern will be held by the American Revolution Round Table on May 18, 7 p.m., at the Minute Man National Historical Park visitor center. Among the questions to be addressed: why the Wright Tavern is so important to Concord; and how and why First Parish in Concord became the owner of this celebrated historic site. A panel presentation will feature Concord historian Jayne Gordon, noted professor of early American history, and author Robert Gross, as well as a written historical commentary by the Curator of Special Collections Leslie Wilson of the Concord Public Library. Audience questions and comments will follow the panel. Those interested in attending should reserve a place with the moderator, Mel Bernstein, [mbern9@gmail.com](mailto:mbern9@gmail.com) or 781-259-9926.

### Evening Vespers—Tuesday, May 19, 7:30 p.m.

Please join us for a vespers service filled with original songs and story from Anna Huckabee Tull, and poetry and meditations from Bethany Lowe. We’ll sing, we’ll listen, and we’ll have time for reflection. All are welcome. We will start right at 7:30 p.m.

### WPA Luncheon—Skyloom Dancers—Wednesday, May 20

On Wednesday, May 20, the Women’s Parish Association is presenting, as part of the Beyond Mother’s Day Series, a special luncheon program by the Skyloom Sacred Dance Group, which will portray an escape from slavery to freedom and a woman’s journey of transformation. The program will follow a delicious lunch, at noon. The cost of the luncheon is ten dollars. Contact the office or Dian Pekin at [Pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:Pekindc@comcast.net) by May 17 to make reservations and to communicate food requirements. All women and men are cordially invited.

### Flea Market—Saturday, June 6

The Women’s Parish Association is holding a multi-vendor Flea Market on Saturday, June 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in our Parish Hall, rain or shine. Table rentals are \$35.00 per table. Snacks and lunch items will be sold throughout the day. Contact the office or Dian Pekin right away at [Pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:Pekindc@comcast.net) to rent a table or to arrange for donations of high-quality gift items to the WPA Table. Vendors will be selling a variety of items—including household items, jewelry, children’s items, antiques, collectibles, and so forth.

### Annual Meeting 2015

The First Parish Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 14, 2015. At the meeting, the congregation will receive reports from staff and committees, vote on officers and committee members, approve delegates to General Assembly, approve the budget for next year, and more. Who can vote at our Annual Meeting? Our bylaws state that only First Parish members who have signed the Membership Book by May 14, 2015 may vote. If anyone has any questions about the annual meeting or thoughts about warrant articles, please contact Mark Russell Prior by email at [mark.russell.prior@comcast.net](mailto:mark.russell.prior@comcast.net), by phone at 978-369-4901; or Moderator John Stevens by email at [john\\_stevens43@comcast.net](mailto:john_stevens43@comcast.net).

—Mark Russell Prior, chair, First Parish Standing Committee

**Save the Date—Sunday, June 7—History Project Coffee Hour**  
Please join us in celebrating the conclusion of the History Project on Sunday, June 7, at 11:30 a.m.

### **Welcome Corner**

The yellow covered table in the Parish Hall during social hour is set with markers, temporary name tags, a name tag request form, and information about how to get involved at First Parish. Often someone will be near the Welcome Corner who will be available to help you find your way.

## **Social Action**

### **The Mother's Day Walk for Peace Was a Big Success!**

There were 15,000 folks of all races from Boston and the suburbs participating in the Walk for Peace. Over 25 First Parish members, along with their family and friends, participated. Total donations from this group were \$2635.00. Thank you for your generosity.

—In peace, Rev. Margie King Saphier

### **Divestment Discussion—Today at 11:30 a.m.**

Please join us on today at 11:30 a.m. to discuss the proposed warrant article on fossil fuel divestment that will be considered at the Annual Meeting on June 14. This is the final gathering scheduled before the Annual Meeting, so come find out what it's all about and share your thinking. This dialogue on social and responsible investing (SRI) and divestment is spurred by the fossil fuel divestment commitment adopted at the UUA General Assembly last June and other divestment discussions under way around the world. Questions and comments? Please speak with Bruce Blumberg, Laura Bernstein, Bob Andrews, Kate Crosby or Bethany Lowe.

### **Amnesty International (AI) Group 15 Meeting Tuesday, May 19, at 7:00 p.m.**

Did you know that asylum seekers can't work in the United States until they've been here six months? It's no surprise, then, that their greatest unmet need in the Boston area is housing—in short supply in the best of circumstances. That problem spurred two members of Group 15 to start a new nonprofit, Dignity in Asylum, that currently provides an apartment in Maynard for women asylum seekers. Please join us at our May meeting to hear more about this brand-new local project. AI Group 15 meets regularly on the third Tuesday of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. If you'd like more information about Group 15, please contact Kathy Taylor, the group's coordinator, at [Kly.taylor@gmail.com](mailto:Kly.taylor@gmail.com) or 781-718-7640.

### **"Bidder 70" Showing with Special Guest Tim DeChristopher Tuesday, May 19, at 7:00 p.m.**

**St. Anne's in-the-Fields Episcopal Church in Lincoln**  
Join us for a screening of "Bidder 70," the award-winning documentary about 33-year-old climate justice activist Tim DeChristopher, now a student at Harvard Divinity School, who was sentenced to two years in federal prison for an act of peaceful civil disobedience protesting fossil-fuel extraction on public lands in Utah. This will be followed by audience Q & A with Tim. The evening will be MC'd by journalist, activist, and St. Anne's parishioner Wen Stephenson of Wayland, a contributing writer for "The Nation" and author of a forthcoming book featuring Tim's story. Hosted by the Climate Justice Ministry at St. Anne's in-the-Fields, together with 350 Massachusetts Metro West, part of the statewide grassroots climate-action network 350, Massachusetts for a Better Future.

### **Volunteer Sign-Up for Social Action and an Immediate Need**

The SAC Council has a new way to distribute information about volunteer opportunities in the community. We have started a Sign-Up

Genius, which allows First Parishioners to sign up for one-time and regular volunteer opportunities in the local community. You can sign up ahead of time, or we will intermittently send last-minute calls to fill specific, direct-service opportunities to anyone registered with our group. If you'd like to stay in the loop about these local volunteer opportunities, contact Tricia Haut, [thaut@mac.com](mailto:thaut@mac.com), or sign up directly here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c44aaa82da13-first2>. On the Sign-up Genius, there is an immediate and urgent need for ten plus volunteers to help Household Goods collect small furniture and other household items on Boston College's move-out day, Monday, May 18. If you can volunteer that day, sign up through Sign-up Genius or contact Tricia.

### **Participate in Concord's "Green Your Heat" Program**

Concord's Comprehensive Sustainable Energy Committee, architect of the highly successful "Solar Challenge" in Concord, is now offering great savings in energy and energy expenses through its "Green Your Heat" program. If you heat your home with either oil or electricity, you are eligible to participate in this program, which provides partial rebates for a variety of weatherization services—such as insulation, sealing of air leaks, upgraded attic vents, and installation of programmable thermostats. With weatherization, most residents can save as much as 20 to 30 percent on their energy bills. Go to the Town of Concord's website for further details.

## **Children's and Youth News**

### **This Week, May 17 — Regular RE Week**

#### **Youth Sunday**

9:50 a.m. – Regular Class, 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 Emerson Room

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

4th Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Bulkeley Room, released to coffee hour

5th Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Brooks Room, released to coffee hour

6th Grade – Begin in the Sanctuary, dismissed to RE in the Wright Tavern

7th Grade – Neighboring Faiths – Classroom Sunday, 9:00 to 9:55 a.m., and attend Youth Service together at 10:00 a.m.

### **Next Week, May 24 — No Regular RE**

#### **Memorial Day Weekend**

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

10:00 a.m. – Service

**Rev. Howard Dana's email:** [hdana@firstparish.org](mailto:hdana@firstparish.org)

**Rev. Marion Visel's email:** [mvisel@firstparish.org](mailto:mvisel@firstparish.org)

**Brian Chenowith's email:** [bchenowith@firstparish.org](mailto:bchenowith@firstparish.org)

**Church Office—978-369-9602**

Visit our website at [firstparish.org](http://firstparish.org)