

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

October 25, 2015

This Week

Sun., Oct. 25	Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. 11:15 Worship Sharing Circle 1:00 Crop Walk
Mon., Oct. 26	7:00 Small Group Ministry 7:00 Dream Work Group 7:00 Women's Book Group
Tue., Oct. 27	9:30 Women's Book Group 7:00 Ushers' Meeting 7:30 Economic Fairness Meeting
Wed., Oct. 28	9:30 Buddhist Group 4:30 Junior Choir 5:15 Chalice Choir 5:15 Gospel Singers 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., Oct. 29	7:30 Buddhist Group
Fri., Oct. 30	7:00 Coping with Climate Change
Sun., Nov. 1	Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. 11:15 Worship Sharing Circle 11:30 Being White in the Black Lives Matter Movement

Parish Notes

Pastoral Care

"Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life." The October Pastoral Care Lay Minister is Sarah Brandon Bemis. Sarah can be reached at sbrandon@me.com or 978-505-0492.

Worship Sharing Circle

In Rev. Howard Dana's study or on 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, around 11:10 a.m., and is open to everyone. First Parish volunteers are present to help facilitate this event.

Concord Crop Walk—Today at 1:30 p.m. at First Parish

The Concord Crop Walk for the Hungry will take place this afternoon, starting here at First Parish. Registration is at 1:30 p.m., with music by the CCHS Pep Band on our front steps—please consider joining us! You may pick up a registration form, or make a donation to sponsor Howard, who will walk, at the Crop table at coffee hour—or you may sponsor him online at www.concordcrop.org. *If you are parked in the circle in front of the church, please move your car by 1:00 p.m.*, as the band will be setting up for the opening ceremony there.

Wanted: Volunteer Human Resources Professionals

Do you find health insurance fascinating? Want to help First Parish explore the Massachusetts Unemployment Tax system? Understand Section 125 or the Mass. Form 3ABC? If so, your Director of Operations needs you. Fifi Ball would like to form an HR committee for help with these topics and more—a working group to research, propose, and implement improvements to our current benefits and other HR systems. Time commitment? As little or as much as you've got—occasional consults and/or ongoing work would all be valuable. Please contact Fifi Ball at fball@firstparish.org. Thank you.

Small Group Ministry: Groups Forming Now

Small Group Ministry provides an opportunity to listen and to share our own experiences and beliefs in committed groups of 8 to

10 members. Topics of meaning and purpose are considered in a way that supports connection and community. Participants agree to **regular attendance** and to guidelines on how the group will be together (a covenant).

Small Group: "Ourselves, Our World, Our Faith"

We gather to affirm, practice and express our Unitarian Universalist faith as we read and explore a short piece of contemporary writing about a local, regional, or world challenge. As we look through the lenses of self, group, and UU values, we will listen, observe, think and share our common human challenges.

Facilitator: Merrill Comeau

When: Alternating Monday evenings, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
(6 Sessions: 10/26, 11/9, 11/23, 12/7, 12/28, 1/4)

Where: First Parish

Small Group: "Topics of Meaning in Everyday Life"

We'll explore our experiences and beliefs that underlie topics of meaning in everyday life: Friendship, the Practice of Gratitude, Joys and Challenges of the Winter Holidays, and Endings and Beginnings.

Facilitator: Marian Stanley

When: Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.- noon

(5 Sessions: 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/16, 1/6)

Where: First Parish

How to Sign Up: On the clipboard in the front office. At the Small Group Ministry table in the Parish Hall after the service on Sundays, October 25, contact Rev. Marion Visel, mvisel@firstparish.org or 978-369-9602, x414.

2016 First Parish Directory Photos

November 12, 13, 14, 17 and 18

Sign up for your 2016 First Parish Directory photo as soon as possible. Each family/individual who has their picture taken will get a free directory. A limited number of copies will be on sale for people who don't have their pictures taken by the directory publisher. To be guaranteed a directory, you must have your picture taken. You can sign up in the office, at coffee hour, or online at <http://tinyurl.com/FPphoto>.

First Parish Moms' Night Out—Wine Tasting Night

November 7, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

First Parish Moms' Night Out (MNO): Come share company and a favorite bottle of wine (or other beverage) with us on Saturday, November 7, from 7 to 9 p.m. We will meet in one of our members' homes; spouses/significant others are invited! For more information and to R.S.V.P., please contact Anne at annee5678@yahoo.com. To join the MNO Listserv, send an email to valvallancourt@gmail.com.

All-Parish Art Exhibit

The annual display of parishioners' drawings, paintings and prints will be mounted during the second week of November. The display will run from November 10 until about December 15. Artwork may be delivered anytime during the first week of November and stored in Doug Baker's office. Each work should have a wire or hook installed so it can be hung. Also, please provide the name of the artist, title of the work and a phone number on the back. This display is open to high school through adult submissions, and is a noncompetitive and noncommercial exhibit for First Parish's artists to share their works.

The Women's AM/PM Book Group

The October book for the First Parish Women's AM/PM Book Group is *Being Moral*, by Atul Gawande. The evening session will be Monday, October 26, 7:30-9:00 p.m.; and the morning on Tuesday, October 27, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Both meet in the Brooks Room at First Parish. All women of First Parish are warmly invited to read the current book and join one or both discussions. If you would like to be added to the Women's Book Group email list, please contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com.

Shop Crosby's; Help First Parish: November 1-7, 2015

As part of Crosby's Markets Community Commitment Program, First Parish will earn 5 percent of pre-tax grocery purchases at Crosby's Market by people who **submit a voucher when shopping during** three weeks this church year:

November 1-7, 2015

March 6-12, 2016

June 5-11, 2016

Vouchers are available outside the church front office and from Peg Gallo. Peg works at First Parish Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to noon. You may email Peg at pgallo@firstparish.org. Thanks for supporting First Parish.

Holiday Artisans Fair—Saturday, November 7

Get ready for our annual Holiday Artisans Fair, which will be held on Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Over 40 outstanding artists and artisans will be selling their latest handmade crafts and fine art. Bring family members, friends and neighbors for a day of great browsing, shopping, and festive socializing at the café. Contact the church office or Dian Pekin at pekindc@comcast.net to volunteer your help at this fun community event. Contact Marilyn Lowitt at marilyn.lowitt@verizon.net or 978-793-0267 to arrange for collection of your donations to the fair's WPA Boutique. Items needed: handmade items and high-quality items for the regifting table.

Social Action

Living Deliberately in the Twenty-First Century Coping with Climate Change

You are invited to hear Bill Moomaw, Tufts University professor emeritus and IPCC lead author on Friday evening, October 30, 7:30 p.m. at First Parish in Concord. This event is organized by The Climate Solutions Speaker Series, of which our church is a co-sponsor. A reception will follow Dr. Moomaw's talk.

Costume Drive Update!

Girl Scout Troop 75010 participated in a Halloween Costume Drive this month. First Parish is home to three 5th graders in the troop—Margot Venesy, Lauren Friess and Ainsley Haut. With the help of First Parish members, they collected over 80 costumes that were then part of a giveaway in Lowell on October 18. Thank you for all of your costume donations!

Religious Education News

This Week, October 25 – RE Classes

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Children in Kindergarten through Grade 7 begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Following our Children's Message, the children leave the Sanctuary for their classroom with their teachers. All RE classes are held until 11:15 a.m. Parents of children 0-Grade 3 are asked to pick up their children in their classrooms listed below. Older children and youth will be dismissed to Coffee Hour.

Kindergarten – Lower Level

1st Grade – Lower Level

2nd Grade – Ripley Room

3rd Grade – Greeley Room

4th Grade – Brooks Room

5th Grade – Bulkeley Room

6th-7th Grades – Emerson Room

8th Grade – Parish Hall, 4:00 p.m.

9th Grade – Coming of Age, 4:30 p.m.

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

Next Week, November 1 – RE Classes, Daylight Saving Ends—

Fall Back One Hour!

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Kindergarten – 7th grade begin in service. All RE classes are held until 11:15 a.m.

Kindergarten – Lower Level

1st Grade – Lower Level

2nd Grade – Ripley Room

3rd Grade – Greeley Room

4th Grade – Brooks Room

5th Grade – Bulkeley Room

6th-7th Grades – Sleepy Hollow Tour led by Rev. Gary Smith

8th Grade – Parish Hall, 4:00 p.m.

9th Grade – Coming of Age, 4:30 p.m.

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

Sleepy Hollow Tour for 6th and 7th Graders

All Saints' Day! Extra Hour of Sleep! On Sunday, November 1, our Minister Emeritus, Rev. Gary Smith, will offer a special tour of Sleepy Hollow. We'll visit Anne Bush, Katharine Davis and Harriet Lathrop. Which one wrote the Christmas song, "Little Drummer Boy"? We'll visit Edward Nealy, Franklin Sanborn, and Daniel Chester French. Who sculpted the Lincoln Memorial? We'll visit Ephraim Bull, Sam Staples and William Wheildon. Who locked Thoreau in jail for the night? The Neighboring Activists class will walk and put roses on the graves of some of our ancestors.

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

Church Office—978-369-9602

Visit our website at firstparish.org