

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

November 1, 2015

This Week

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
Mon., Nov. 2	7:00 Dream Work Group
Tue., Nov. 3	7:30 Finance Committee 1:30 First Tuesday Group
Wed., Nov. 4	9:30 Buddhist Group 4:30 Junior Choir 5:15 Chalice Choir 5:15 Gospel Singers 6:00 Arts Council Meeting 7:00 Concord Area Humanists 7:30 Environmental Leadership Meeting 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., Nov. 5	7:00 Special Forum Committee Meeting 7:30 Buddhist Group 7:30 By Your Side Singers 9:00 Waking Up White Book Group
Fri., Nov. 6	10:00 - 4:00 Artisans Fair
Sat., Nov. 7	Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. 11:15 Worship Sharing Circle 11:30 Being White in the Black Lives Matter Movement 11:30 Congregational Conversation 11:30 Drop In Small Group Ministry 11:30 SAC Listening Session 6:00 Standing Committee 7:00 Sarasa Concert
Sun., Nov. 8	

Parish Notes

Pastoral Care

“Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life.” The November Pastoral Care Lay Minister is Dana Snyder-Grant. Dana can be reached at danasg@newview.org or 978-760-1129.

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.

The Shawl Ministry at First Parish

The Shawl Ministry is part of our Pastoral Care program’s “Caring Connection.” The shawls provide congregational comfort and care to those who are experiencing hard times and challenges. The shawls are created with the intention of kindness, fellowship, support and love. The shawls are created by members either on their own, or during monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of every month from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. All are welcome to the group; lessons are available. Contact Regina Hugendubler at ode2joy@usa.net or 802-310-9507 with your questions or interest.

2016 First Parish Directory Photos

Appointments Still Available on November 13, 17, 18, 19

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. Sign up online at <http://tinyurl.com/FPphoto>. Two additional days of photo sessions have been added in November to accommodate demand. Log in and reserve a photo session as soon as possible to ensure that you will be in the 2016 First Parish Directory. Photo session get filled quickly. Don't delay!

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 anne5678@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.

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

As part of Crosby’s Markets Community Commitment Program, First Parish will earn five 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.

Women’s AM/PM Book Group

As usual, the Women’s Book Group will discuss just one book for November and December. The selection is *Poems, New and Collected*, by Wislawa Szymborska. All women of First Parish are warmly invited to read the book and join a discussion. The evening session, will be held on Monday, December 7, 7:30-9:00 p.m.; and the morning session on Tuesday, December 8, 9:30-11:00 a.m.,

both at First Parish in the Brooks Room. If you would like to be added to the Women's Book Group email list, please contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com.

Social Action

Final SAC Listening Session

Sunday, November 8, 11:30 a.m.

How do you feel about the 7.5 percent allocation for social action? Do you want to see more (or less) social action in our RE programming? Due to some requests, there will be an additional SAC Listening Session to go over these questions and more on Sunday, November 8, at 11:30 a.m. Babysitting will be available—meet in the Ripley Room. Please plan to attend so we can hear from you!

SAC Survey

As part of the continuing SAC Conversations project this year, the SAC Council has published a survey for members and friends of First Parish. The aim of this survey is to collect information about our current social action programming so that we can make it better. If you want to contribute to this re-visioning of social action, please take the survey. Results will be combined with comments gathered from the SAC Listening Sessions and published publicly in December. The survey will take 15 to 20 minutes. Paper copies are available in the front office. The survey will be open until November 20. Find the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FPSACSURVEY>.

“Being White in the Black Lives Matter Movement”: Course on Sundays in November

Do you have a desire to get more involved in the Black Lives Matter movement as a white ally? The Race Conversations group at First Parish is sponsoring a four-part series of courses on “Being White in the Black Lives Matter Movement.” These will be held on four consecutive Sundays in November (1, 8, 15, 22), from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Enrollment is limited to 20 people. Sign up with Bethany Russell-Lowe (Blowe@firstparish.org) to reserve your space. This course is free and open to anyone hoping to be a white ally in the movement for racial justice.

UU Mass Action Story Slam at First Parish in Bedford Saturday, November 7, 7:00 p.m.

Don't miss this opportunity to build relationships with your fellow UU's and hear stories you won't hear anywhere else—all while supporting UU justice organizing in Massachusetts! The second annual Story Slam (similar to NPR's “The Moth”) will be hosted by First Parish in Bedford and will feature a stellar line-up of UU ministers. The theme is “Out of the Pulpit and Into the Frying Pan: Stories at the Intersection of Hindsight, Hope and Humor.” Tickets are \$30 each, or \$25 when buying two or more. Purchase tickets at <http://tinyurl.com/p9tgac4>. All proceeds will support UU Mass Action, our state's UU advocacy network.

Americans for Economic Fairness Group Collecting Signatures

Did you know? The richest households in Massachusetts (incomes over \$860,000) pay 6.5% of their income in state and local taxes, while the rest pay almost 10% (9.4%). Learn about a proposed amendment to the Massachusetts constitution that would raise taxes on incomes in excess of \$1 million to make these rates more equal and raise additional funds to be invested in education and infrastructure. Members of First Parish's Americans for Economic Fairness group will be at coffee hour for the next three weeks to gather the signatures needed to put this on the state ballot.

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)

Religious Education News

This Week, November 1 – 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 – Sleepy Hollow tour with Rev. Gary Smith

8th Grade – Parish Hall, 4:00 p.m.

9th Grade – Coming of Age, 4:30 p.m.

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

Next Week, November 8 – RE Classes*

*Please note new room assignments and welcome our new teachers!

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 – Greeley Room

3rd Grade – Emerson Room

4th Grade – Brooks Room

5th Grade – Bulkeley Room

6th-7th Grades – Chapel

8th Grade – Parish Hall, 4:00 p.m.

9th Grade – No Coming of Age session

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

Sock Puppet “Palooza”!

Do you have any extra socks? If you have any spare socks that you are willing to donate for puppet making, we promise to put them to good use. Please drop them off in the RE Office. Thanks!

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