

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

April 3, 2016

This Week

Sun., Apr. 3	Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Drop-In Small Group Ministry 11:30 SAC Listening Session 11:30 "Waking Up White" Book Group A 11:30 Sunday Forum 5:00 Oriana Consort Concert 7:30 "Waking Up White" Book Group B
Mon., Apr. 4	1:30 First Tuesday Group
Tue., Apr. 5	7:00 "Waking Up White" Book Group C 9:30 Buddhist Group
Wed., Apr. 6	12:00 "Waking Up White" Book Group D 4:30 Junior Choir 5:15 Chalice Choir 5:15 Gospel Singers 6:00 Arts Council 7:00 Concord Area Humanist 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., Apr. 7	7:30 Buddhist Group 7:30 By Your Side Singers 7:30 Environmental Leadership Committee
Fri., Apr. 8	8:30 "Waking Up White" Book Group E
Sat., Apr. 9	9:00 Photography Club 7:00 Lunafest
Sun., Apr. 10	Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Parent Circle 11:30 Nominating Committee 11:30 SAC Listening Session 11:30 Sunday Forum 6:00 Standing Committee Meeting

Parish Notes

Pastoral Care

"Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life"
The April Pastoral Care Lay Minister is Dana Snyder-Grant. Dana can be reached at danasn@newview.org or 978-266-9409 or 978-760-1129 "cell."

Small Group Ministry Drop-In Session Today

There will be a Drop-in Small Group Ministry session from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today, in the Brooks Room. Explore a topic of meaning and get to know a few folks better. No need to sign up; just show up.

Sunday Forums

Sunday, April 3—Jack Nevison on "How Walden Pond Works."
Sunday, April 10—Lee McIntyre on "Truth and Willful Ignorance in the Internet Age"

Concert by Oriana Consort—Today, April 3, at 5:00 p.m.

Cambridge's Oriana Consort (orianaconsort.org) returns to First Parish today at 5:00 p.m. Walter Chapin and Caroline Harvey will direct "Choral Reincarnations: Old Latin Lives Anew," in which the Mass, an antiphon, and a medieval poem reawaken in Ralph Vaughan Williams's *Mass in G Minor* and four choral works by Ola Gjeilo. A reception in the Parish Hall will follow.

Auction Tickets for Sale Now!

Don't miss out! There are tons of exciting items to bid on! Join us on Saturday, April 30, for a festive evening of cocktails, dinner and music. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m. Live auction at 8:00 p.m. \$40/person. Adults only. Tickets are available

every coffee hour in April and in the church office during regular office hours. Cash or check only. Buy your tickets today! For ticket questions, contact Leanne Baxter at leanne_gauthier@yahoo.com. Note: the Online Auction runs Wednesday, April 20, through Thursday, April 28. For more details, go to FirstParish.org/Auction.

First Tuesdays Meeting—Technology for Communicating: Getting More Out of Your Computer and Smart Phone Tuesday, April 5, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

E-mail is everywhere, but what are some of the other options? Bob Bratzler, who conducts programs in computer technology for the Concord Council on Aging, will discuss other ways to stay in touch using your computer and your smartphone. He will review Skype, FaceTime, 23 Snaps, and smartphone messaging. The presentation will include live demonstrations as well as references to other community opportunities to further your individual skills. Come with your charged-up laptop, cell phone and a healthy curiosity!

Concord Area Humanists—Wednesday, April 6, 7:00 p.m.

Concord Area Humanists steering committee member Dr. Abby Hafer is going to speak to us about her new book, *The Not So Intelligent Designer: Why Evolution Explains the Human Body and Intelligent Design Does Not*. Suggested donation: \$5 at the door. All regular attendees are encouraged to bring refreshments to share. For more information, visit www.ConcordAreaHumanists.org.

WPA Special Feminist Tour of Robbins House

The Women's Parish Association will host a tour of the Robbins House on Wednesday, April 13, at 11:00 a.m., which will include highlights of the life story of Harriet Jacobs, who wrote the first "slave narrative" by a woman, detailing her quest to emancipate herself and her children. After the tour, people will gather at First Parish for a discussion led by tour director Elon Cook. Bring a bag lunch. Desserts and drinks will be provided. Space is limited. Reservations are absolutely required. Contact the office at 978-369-9602 or Dian Pekin at pekindc@comcast.net by April 6, or sign up at coffee hour today.

Douglas Baker Presents "Musings on Meeting Houses: First Parish in Concord"

Please join us in the Parish Hall on Friday, April 15, at 7:00 p.m. or Sunday, April 24, at 7:00 p.m. for showings of "Musings on Meeting Houses: First Parish in Concord," a video written and presented by Douglas Baker and made possible by donations from members of the congregation last year. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Sue Beck at sbeck345@comcast.net.

First Parish Cooperative Seder

Saturday, April 16, 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

The Passover Seder is an ancient celebration of freedom. Our Minister of Religious Education, Rev. Amy Freedman, is leading our service this year. The Parish Hall becomes our family dining room. At coffee hours, get tickets and sign up to help. Suggested donation for dinner: \$20 for adults, free over 80 or under 6, and \$5 between 6 and 12. All profits go to First Parish. Whether you have a Jewish background or never attended a Seder before, you are welcome! Questions: fpseder@googlegroups.com or Jim Snyder-Grant, 508-572-2985.

Women's AM/PM Book Group

The next book selection is *Shakespeare Saved My Life: Ten Years in Solitary with the Bard*, by Laura Bates. The discussions will be Monday evening, April 25, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. and Tuesday morning, April 26, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., both in the Brooks Room at First

Parish. All women of First Parish are welcome to read the book and join a discussion. To be added to the Women's Book Group email list, contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com.

Social Action Community

Social Action Community Listening Sessions—Congregational Proposal Feedback

After a congregation-wide evaluation last fall and winter, of current social action data, the Social Action Community board has drafted a proposal for how we will do social action going forward. This proposal includes a plan to prioritize our social action efforts; hire a new SAC staff person; fund social action; and communicate social action activities. Please come to a listening session on one of the following dates to help us firm up this proposal with your input: today, April 3, at 11:30 a.m., April 10 at 11:30 a.m., April 12 at 7:00 p.m., April 14 at 10:00 a.m.

SAC Candles during Climate Justice Month

From March 22 (World Water Day) through April 20 (Earth Day), the SAC Candle will be lit by members of our Environmental Leadership Team. If you would like to join the ELT and work on environmental action and climate justice at First Parish, contact Peter Lowitt (peterlowitt@devensec.com).

Conversation with Rev. Kathleen McTigue Tuesday, April 5, 7:00 p.m.—Emerson Room

Would you or your high schooler be interested in joining a UUCSJ experiential learning trip to Nicaragua or the Mexican border? Join Rev. Kathleen McTigue, Director of the Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice, who preached on January 24, to discuss these two alternatives for our trip. The Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice (UUCSJ) offers trips for adults and/or youth to study social and environmental justice issues in Central and North America. The SAC Council is moving forward to sponsor a UUCSJ trip specifically for First Parish adults and/or youth to Nicaragua or the Mexican border in the fall of 2016, or in 2017. Contact Tony Rodriguez (trod.rodriguez@gmail.com or 617-877-9542) or Leslie Fisher (lesliefisher@treitman.com) for additional information. This is an informational session only and does not require a commitment to join us on the trip.

Final 2 Weeks—Toiletry Collection Drive for Rosie's Place

The Reproductive Justice group is collecting toiletries and women's hygiene products for Rosie's Place, a sanctuary for poor and homeless women in Boston. Please donate full and travel-sized items, including shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, lotion, soap, lip balm, brushes and combs, feminine hygiene products, and new or gently used towels. Items can be left in the box in the coat room until Sunday, April 17, or brought to the Lunafest film festival on April 9. For questions, contact Lora Venesy at venesy@comcast.net, or Suzie Weaver at skatesuzie@aol.com.

Lunafest Film Screenings in the Parish Hall Saturday, April 9, 7:00 p.m.

Lunafest, a film festival of short films by, for and about women. Admission: \$10-15. Proceeds benefit the Breast Cancer Fund and a local nonprofit for women. This event is hosted by the Reproductive Justice Group. At this event, toiletries and feminine hygiene products will be collected for Rosie's Place in Boston. Contact Lora Venesy or Suzie Weaver for more information.

Hope Out Loud Concert—Sunday, April 10, 3:00 p.m. At the UU Urban Ministry (15 Putnam Avenue, Boston)

Sam Martinborough, director of MssngLnks in Boston, will be conducting the UU Urban Ministry's annual Hope Out Loud concert on April 10. Roxbury residents, Roxbury Community College singers, and members of UU congregations across the region will participate in this concert. For more information, contact Rev. Rebecca Hinds (or call 617-318-6010, x 214) or Beth Norton (978-369-9602, x420). Directions at www.uuum.org/directions.

Religious Education News

This Week, April 3, RE Classes

9:20 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths (7th Grade) – Meet at FP for trip to Union Baptist Church, Cambridge; return at 1:15 p.m.

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Children in Kindergarten through Grade 6 begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Following our Children's Message, the children leave the Sanctuary for their classes with their teachers. Parents of children 0-Grade 3 are asked to pick up their children in their classrooms listed below. 4th-6th graders will be dismissed to coffee hour.

10:15-11:15 a.m. – RE Classes

Spirit Play (Kindergarten- 1st Grade) – Lower Level

Little OWL (1st Grade) – Lower Level

2nd Grade – Greeley Room

3rd Grade – Emerson Room

4th and 5th Grade – Brooks Room

Neighboring Activists (6th Grade) – Loft

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

Youth Group (9th -12th Grade) – Loft – 7:00 p.m.

Next Week, April 10, RE Classes

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:15- 11:15 a.m. – RE Classes

Spirit Play (Kindergarten-1st Grade) – Lower Level

Little OWL (1st Grade) – Lower Level

2nd Grade – Greeley Room

3rd Grade – Emerson Room

4th and 5th Grade – Brooks Room

Neighboring Activists (6th Grade) – Loft

Neighboring Faiths (7th Grade) – Chapel

8th Grade OWL and Celebration Dinner – Emerson – 4:00 p.m.

Youth Group (9th -12th Grade) – Loft – 4:00-5:30 p.m.

First Parish Parent Circles

What does it mean to be a UU parent? How can we be spiritually resilient in the face of life's challenges? Rev. Amy Freedman, our Minister of Religious Education, will offer three Parent Circles. This will be a chance for parents to connect with one another in a meaningful way and reflect on parenting from a Unitarian Universalist perspective.

Sundays, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Chapel:

April 3 – Nurturing Children's Spiritual Lives

April 10 – Beyond Pink and Blue

May 1 – Parenting in a Diverse World

Register for 1, 2 or 3 sessions: afreedman@firstparish.org. Child care will be provided in the Emerson Room. For planning, please let us know names and ages of children requiring child care.

Could You Volunteer One Sunday?

Little RE / preschool teachers are still needed on Sunday mornings from April through June. Adult volunteers work alongside our fabulous paid teen assistants and help care for our littlest First Parish congregants. This is a rewarding and easy way to make a difference in our community. Please contact Dawn Van Patten, dvanpatten@firstparish.org, for more information.

Please Give Magazines and Calendars to RE!

Our Religious Education program would love magazines, calendars, catalogs and greeting cards to use in collages and other art projects. So, as you tackle your spring cleaning, please consider any colorful and family-friendly images that you could donate to our children and youth. Drop them off in the new RE Office (main floor near restrooms) Thanks!

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

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

Church Office—978-369-9602

Visit our website at fi stparish.org