

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

May 8, 2016

This Week

Sun., May 8	Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Sunday Forum 3:00 Photography Club Exhibit and Reception
Tue., May 10	9:30 WPA Board Meeting 2:00 Shawl Ministry
Wed., May 11	9:30 Buddhist Group 4:30 Junior Choir 5:15 Chalice Choir 5:15 Gospel Singers 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., May 12	7:30 Buddhist Group 7:30 By Your Side Singers
Fri., May 13	7:00 David Brinkley Talk
Sat., May 14	9:00 Photography Club Meeting 3:00 WPA Celebration Tea with Ellen Emerson 7:00 Jazz Pianist Lazlo Gardony
Sun., May 15	Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Sunday Forum 11:30 Nominating Committee 3:00 Standing Committee

The Sunday News deadline is Wednesday at noon.

Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to

Fifi Ball at fball@firstparish.org.

The Sunday News can be read online at www.firstparish.org.

Parish Notes

Pastoral Care

“Being There for Each Other through the Changes in Life.”

The May Pastoral Care Lay Minister is Susan Dobbie. Susan can be reached at susandobbie@gmail.com or 978-456-8432 or 978-501-6969 (cell).

Sunday Forums—11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Today, May 8—Paris Climate Agreement. What Does it Mean for Us? Gilbert Metcalf, a climate and energy economist at Tufts University and a former official in the Obama Administration, participated in the Paris meetings, where negotiators from nearly 200 countries finalized a new agreement last December to limit global greenhouse gas emissions. The new agreement represents a sharp departure from the approach taken in the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. Come learn more.

Sunday, May 15—Mediation Matters: Rock Bands, Indian Tribes, Ball Parks, etc. Eric Van Loon has mediated and taught mediation in over 40 states and 9 countries. He cofounded the world’s largest mediation company and is a former Concord Town Moderator. He’s been labeled a “Best Lawyer in America,” an “Entertainment Industry Power Mediator,” and a “Distinguished Fellow” of the International Academy of Mediators. Eric will provide examples of intriguing mediations and insight into why businesses, governments, nonprofits and individuals have found it a superior way to resolve a wide variety of disputes.

These are the last Forums until October 2016. For more information or to suggest a topic or speaker for the next church year, contact chair, Pat Everett, at pne@aol.com or 978-369-1589.

First Parish Auction 2016—What a Party! Thank You!

The First Parish May Day Auction was a sensation! The Auction Committee would like to thank everyone who donated items, volunteered their time and talents, turned out for the evening, and bid so generously. The event wouldn’t have succeeded without all of you! The strength and spirit of our congregation truly shone that night. If you’d still like to contribute, it’s not too late! Openings for several parties, tours and workshops are yet available. At upcoming coffee hours, individual tickets will be sold to events scheduled for this spring and fall, such as a Henry David Thoreau brunch with Thoreau actor, a tour of the steeple and First Parish with Rev. Howard Dana, a family pool party and BBQ, an intergenerational party at Camp Sewataro, and many more. A full list is available at the Auction table during coffee hour. If you have any questions, please contact Jen Izzo at jbizzo@hotmail.com.

Annual Pledge Campaign Ends Today!

Today marks the end of the Annual Pledge Campaign that will serve as the foundation for FY2016/17 budget projections. It’s not too late to make your contribution to next year’s operating budget! Please join us by making your pledge today—and be as generous as you can so that we can continue sowing everyday miracles here at First Parish and in the wider world. Just click the “Pledge Now” button at www.firstparish.org, or call 978-369-9602. Thank you for your support.

First Parish Photography Club Annual Exhibit Today, May 8, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Come enjoy fantastic photos, have your picture taken in our fun photo booth, watch a 20-minute slide show of club members’ pictures, purchase greeting cards and more. Members will be glad to discuss their images and techniques, and help you with your photographic questions. Yummy refreshments will be provided.

This is a free event. Just turn up and bring your friends and family. For additional information, please contact Kathleen Elcox, kelcox1@verizon.net, 978-318-1970; or Fred Van Deusen, fredvandeu@gmail.com, 978-369-0435.

Environmentalist Author Douglas Brinkley Friday, May 13, 7:00 p.m.

The Transcendentalism Council of First Parish in Concord presents author Douglas Brinkley speaking about his new book *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America*, examining FDR’s role as the founder of the Civilian Conservation Corps and premier protector of America’s public lands. Douglas Brinkley is a professor of history at Rice University, the CNN Presidential Historian, and the author of *The Great Deluge: Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans and the Mississippi Gulf Coast*. Co-sponsored by the Environmental Leadership Team and the Thoreau Society (www.thoreausociety.org).

WPA Celebration Tea with Ellen Emerson

Join the Women’s Parish Association on Saturday, May 14, at 3:00 p.m. for afternoon tea as we celebrate our 135th anniversary with a special program. Tea expert Lisa Steigerwalt will appear as Ellen Emerson, one of the WPA’s founders, and explore the fascinating history of tea and the important role it can play in our social lives today. All First Parish folks are warmly invited. This is great opportunity to bring your children and grandchildren to share tea with you! Reservations: Sign up at coffee hour, or contact the office at 978-369-9602 or Dian Pekin at pekindc@comcast.net by May 11. There is no charge.

Jazz Pianist Lazlo Gardony—Saturday, May 14, 7:00 p.m.

The Partner Congregation Committee will present a benefit concert by acclaimed jazz pianist Laszlo Gardony on Saturday, May 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Born in Hungary, he has toured extensively, performed with many leading musical artists and groups, and teaches at Berklee College of Music. The proceeds of this concert will help us to bring Rev. Csaba Todor (the new minister of our partner congregation in Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania) and other members of his congregation to visit us in Concord this fall. There will be a reception in the Parish Hall afterward. Suggested minimum donation is \$25, and tickets can be purchased at coffee hour on Sundays and in the office during the week.

Denominational Affairs Committee

GA Delegates to Be Nominated at DAC Meeting

Monday, May 16, 7:30 p.m., Brooks Room

You are invited to attend a Denominational Affairs Committee (DAC) meeting. This year, the UUA General Assembly (GA) theme is “Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect.” If you wish to be a delegate, please contact Alice Van Deusen (Alicevandeusen@gmail.com). The proposed slate of delegates to GA will be nominated at the May 16 DAC meeting. All delegates are expected to attend the June 13 DAC meeting, which will focus on General Assembly. For more information, please contact Paula Vandever at VandeverP@aol.com or 978-369-9268.

Women’s AM/PM Book Group

Monday, May 23, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.; Brooks Room

Tuesday, May 24, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.; Brooks Room

The May book and final selection this church year for the Women’s AM/PM Book Group is *All the Light We Cannot See: A Novel*, by Anthony Doerr. All women of First Parish are warmly invited to read the book and join a discussion. If you would like to be added to the Women’s Book Group email list, please contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com.

Spring Craft & Flea Market—Saturday, June 4

The Women’s Parish Association will hold a Spring Craft & Flea Market on Saturday, June 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, rain or shine. Table rentals are \$35.00 per table for flea marketers, \$45.00 for crafters. Light food will be sold all day. Contact the office at 978-369-9602 or Dian Pekin at Pekinde@comcast.net right away to rent a table or to arrange for pickup or delivery of donations of high quality items for the WPA table. Juried crafters, flea market vendors and a plant/herb vendor will be selling a wide variety of items.

Social Action Community

National Association for Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk

Saturday, May 14

NAMI is dedicated to improving the lives of persons living with serious mental health conditions and those who want to support them. NAMI is like the public library it is open to *everyone* and all services are free. So now NAMI needs your support. The NAMI walk on May 14 funds 40 percent of NAMI MASS annual budget. NAMI helps millions of people every year. My family and I want to help NAMI continue with their good work. We are walking with our team called the Grateful Heads. Please consider donating or even walking, everyone is welcome. Donating is easy; please go to this address: <http://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=account.profile>. Contact Kristin Stiles-Hall for more information (kstiles@hall@gmail.com).

Join Us at the Boston Pride Parade on June 11

Members of the Diversity Committee will take a group of parishioners to march with our FP banner in the Boston Pride Parade on Saturday, June 11. The parade starts at noon near Copley Square. Please join us for this fun, family-friendly event and help us show our support for the LGBT community. Those wishing to attend the Pride Service at the

Arlington Street Church beforehand may join us afterwards before the parade starts. Email Sara Ballard at sara@sb.org, or sign up at coffee hour today if you’d like to participate.

Task Force to Formulate a Climate Action Agenda

The Environmental Leadership Team is seeking First Parish members interested in joining a task force to formulate a Climate Action Agenda for First Parish, including drafting a Climate Justice Resolution for the congregation to consider. This is intended to be a short-term time commitment, with the task force meetings beginning this spring and continuing through the fall until the Action Agenda and Resolution are completed. Those interested in joining the task force can sign up at coffee hours at the Environmental Leadership Team table beginning today, May 8, or contact peter.lowitt@verizon.net; bradhn@mindspring.com; or cfcrosby@gmail.com.

Religious Education News

This Week, May 8, 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) – Not meeting

Next Week, May 15, RE Classes

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:00 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths (7th Grade) – Brooks Room

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 – Chapel

Neighboring Activists (6th Grade) – Loft

4:00-5:30 p.m. – Youth Group – Loft

RE-FRESH Friday Feast

May 20, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., Parish Hall

All First Parish families and RE supporters are invited to a special event! The RE Council is hosting a celebration that will include dinner, child care and World Café-style conversations to help shape our 2016-2017 Religious Education program. We want to build on the offerings you love most and speak to the needs of our children, youth, parents and RE volunteers. What do you want your child(ren) to experience at First Parish? What do you want to experience with your family? How can we make our RE program more fun, engaging and meaningful? *Please save the date!* You will soon receive an Evite.

How Many Eggs Will Hatch? Special RE Program

Sunday, May 29, 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m., Outdoors

Join Kimberly Brainerd and her hen, Livvy, for a special program at First Parish for kids of all ages on Memorial Day weekend. She is sitting on a “clutch” of fertilized eggs from four different breeds that are due to hatch anytime! Come meet Livvy and some brand new chicks . . .

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