

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

September 11, 2016

This Week

Sun., Sept. 11	Intergenerational Homecoming Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary 11:30 Mother/Daughter Planning Meeting 11:30 Sunday Forum 6:00 Standing Committee Meeting
Mon., Sept 12	2:00 Pastoral Care Council 7:00 Crop Walk Recruiters
Tue., Sept. 13	9:30 WPA Board Meeting 10:00 Flower Committee Fall Planning Meeting 1:30 Tuesday Group Steering Committee 2:00 Shawl Ministry
Wed., Sep. 14	9:30 Buddhist Group 5:45 The Conchords Rehearsal 7:45 Adult Choir
Thu., Sept. 15	7:30 Buddhist Group 7:30 By Your Side Singers
Fri., Sept. 16	7:00 Jewish Affinity Group 7:30 Organ Dedication Concert
Sat., Sept 17	9:00 Organ Master Class 5:00 Organ Celebration Dinner
Sun., Sept. 18	9:00 Chalice Choir 9:00 Gospel Choir Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Junior Choir 11:30 Sunday Forum

Parish Notes

Sunday Forums

Today, September 11—"Organ Open House." Our Forum season opens with the celebration of our new organ at First Parish. Our organist, Eric Huenneke, will talk about our new Russell and Company, Opus 54, organ before playing Bach's Toccata in D minor at 12:00 noon sharp, simultaneously with organs at Trinitarian Congregational and Trinity Episcopal churches. The intent of the Pipe Organ Open House is to open our doors for all the community to see, hear, and play each of these different pipe organs in joyful anticipation of the organ dedication concerts the following weekend. We hope you will join us.

Organ Celebration Week

Don't forget to join in on this week's festivities!

Sunday, September 11

Concord Organs Open House, 2016

"An opportunity to see inside, hear, and play diverse organs."
12:00-2:00 p.m.

First Parish in Concord, Trinitarian Congregational,
Trinity Episcopal Church

Friday, September 16, 2016

Organ Dedication Concert

David Briggs, Concert Organist
8:00 p.m. at First Parish in Concord
Russell & Company, Opus 54, III/46

Saturday, September 17, 2016

Organ Master Class with David Briggs

10:00 a.m., First Parish in Concord

Gala Celebration Dinner-Don't forget to buy your tickets!

6:30 p.m., First Parish in Concord

Sunday, September 18, 2016

Organ Dedication Service

10:00 a.m., First Parish in Concord

Organ Dedication Concert

Peter Sykes, Concert Organist

4:00 p.m., Trinitarian Congregational Church

Last Day to Reserve Gala Dinner Tickets

Today is the last day to make your reservations for the Gala Organ Dedication Dinner, Saturday, September 17, at 6:30 p.m. You are invited for a festive evening celebrating the completion of Russell & Co. Opus 54, our new pipe organ, with catering by Cafe UTEC, a cash bar, entertainment and appreciations. Reservations, \$35 per person, can be made by cash or check at coffee hour or by credit card online at firstparish.org/galadinner.

Pastoral Care

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

Buddhist Group

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.; Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Come explore Buddhism with us Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. (or Thursdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m.). Even if you have no previous experience with Buddhism, consider joining one of these groups. A typical session usually starts with some chanting and meditation to help us calm our minds and focus our thoughts. Then, after a brief reading or lecture, we discuss how to apply what we have learned to our daily lives. Questions are always welcome. We are a friendly, welcoming group. Check out a session or two.

Jewish Awareness Affinity Group

Friday, September 16, 7:00 p.m., Brooks Room

Jews and Judaism at General Assembly 2016

At our September meeting, we will hear about some issues of interest to Jews and Judaism that came up at GA in Columbus, Ohio, with a special focus on the divestment/screening business resolution on occupied Palestinian territories. Each month, this affinity group gathers to share some bread, wine, and conversation. All are welcome. For more information, contact Dana Snyder-Grant, dana.snydergrant@gmail.com, or 978-760-1129.

Finance Committee Seeking New Member

The Finance Committee is looking for one individual to serve a three year term to replace an outgoing member. We seek to find an individual who has particular interests in the financial policies and programs of First Parish to fill this role. The Finance Committee is a subcommittee of the Standing Committee. The Finance Committee serves in a resource, policy and advisory role to the Standing Committee, the Senior Minister/Head of Staff and the Director of Operations. The full charter for the committee can be found under Standing Committee reports at firstparish.org. If you have an interest and wish to contribute to our future, please send your name to Tom Wilson (twilson@wilsongroup.com), Treasurer, and please indicate why you are interested in the Committee. Someone will contact you to set up an interview with a representative from the Standing Committee.

Pick Up Your 2016 Photo Directory by September 15

If you had your picture taken for, or submitted a photo to be included in, the 2016 First Parish photo directory, there is a directory reserved for you. Please stop by the front office during office hours or coffee hour to pick it up. Directories must be picked up by September 15 at 3:00 p.m. or they will be mailed to your home address.

A Few Tickets Remain for Auction Parties!

Contact Jennifer Izzo (jbizzo@hotmail.com) or 617-869-5563), to purchase.

Broadway Sing-Along,

9/17/16, 7:00p.m. (\$30), The Becks' Home.

Join the Becks at their home for a Broadway sing-along. Wine, beer and light refreshments served.

Theater Workshop, Four-Sessions

Fridays 10/14, 10/18, 11/11, and 11/18, 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. (\$90). Join Kate Srcek, CC King, and Doug Hardy for workshops designed to help you think on your feet and hone creative instincts.

Beginner's Knitting Workshop for Boys and Girls

10/1, time TBD (with 4 additional Sundays). (\$25).

First Parish Shawl Ministry members will lead a two-hour knitting workshop on October 1, followed by 4 lessons on Sunday mornings before church.

Social Action

SAC Update

On June 17, the Social Action Community (SAC) board hosted the annual SAC dinner for 50 First Parishioners and area social justice activists who have received grants from First Parish. We learned about what's happening at First Parish and beyond, networked so we can pursue social action justice more effectively, and dined on excellent food prepared by Sven Olson and his crew of helpers. It was inspiring to see all the energy and mutual support in the room. We very much appreciate everyone's efforts, big and small, to make a positive difference in the world.

Although it will be hard to fill the shoes of Bethany Lowe, we are moving forward in the process of hiring a new Social Action Director. A Search Committee has been convened to recruit candidates and recommend finalists to Howard, who will make the final decision. Committee members are Wendy Holt (chair), Tony Rodriguez, Jane Blumberg, John Caffrey, and Eric Moore. We hope to have someone in place by October. Please spread the word and refer any potential candidates or questions to Wendy Holt (wendyh@dmahealth.com) or any other member of the Search Committee.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, September 20, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Greeley Room

Sister Helen Prejean, October 7, Cancelled

Because of family illness, Sister Helen Prejean's scheduled October speaking engagement, "Dead Man Walking the Journey Continues," has been cancelled (to be rescheduled, Spring 2018). We will be finalizing alternative plans for a death-penalty-abolition community program this fall. Our other ongoing concerns include Massachusetts prison reform, violence against women, and global human rights. For more information, contact Kathy Taylor, 781-275-0791 or Kly.taylor@gmail.com.



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

Religious Education News

This Week, September 11 – Homecoming Service—

Intergenerational

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

11:00 a.m. – Youth Coffee Hour – Loft

RE Registration

Whether you are a returning family or new to First Parish in Concord, please register your child(ren) and youth for our Religious Education Program. Visit our new website firstparish.org and click on "Religious Education". If you have questions or ideas to share, contact Rev. Amy Freedman, our Minister of Religious Education: afreedman@firstparish.org

Youth Coffee Hour

with DONUTS! After the service, come up to the Youth Loft to hang out, eat donuts, and offer more ideas and opinions on what kinds of things we might do this year.

Next Week, September 18 – RE Classes Start

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

UU Explorers, Grade 8– Chapel

High School Youth Meeting– Loft

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 & Grade 1– Lower Level

Grades 2 & 3– Ripley & Greeley Rooms

Grade 4– Brooks Room

Grade 5– Bulkeley Room

Neighboring Activists, Grades 6 & 7– Emerson Room

Coming of Age Orientation

Sunday, September 25, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

The First Parish Coming of Age program is designed for 9th Graders to acknowledge the transition between childhood and adulthood. Coming of Age is a transformative experience. Please bring your favorite potluck appetizer or dessert to share! During this gathering, Rev. Amy Freedman will introduce our new Youth Program Director, Christa Champion and our Coming of Age mentors. This will be an opening celebration and an opportunity for everyone to learn the goals and expectations of our COA program.

The Sunday News deadline is Wednesdays at noon.

Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to

Sarah Burns at sburns@firstparish.org.

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

Next Meeting House News deadline: Tuesday, September 13.

Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to

Wendy Wolfberg at wolfberg@post.harvard.edu.

Be aware that all items (including contact information) posted to the *Sunday News* or *Meeting House News*, or appearing on First Parish-related email lists, may be published online at www.firstparish.org.