

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

## October 30, 2016

### This Week

Sun., Oct. 30	9:00 Chalice Choir 9:00 Gospel Choir <b>Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.</b> 11:30 Junior Choir 11:30 Sunday Forum in the Parlor 12:00 The Conchords Meeting
Mon., Oct. 31	7:30 Finance Committee Meeting
Tues., Nov. 1	9:30 WPA Board Meeting 1:30 First Tuesday Group 3:00 Tuesday Group Steering Committee 6:30 Tai Chi 7:30 RE Council Meeting
Wed., Nov. 2	9:30 Buddhist Group 9:30 WPA Baking Workshop 5:45 The Conchords Rehearsal 6:00 Arts Council Meeting 7:00 Concord Area Humanists 7:45 Adult Choir
Thur., Nov. 3	7:30 By Your Side Singers 7:30 Forum Committee Meeting 7:30 Buddhist Group
Sat., Nov. 5	9:00 WPA Artisan Fair
Sun., Nov. 6	9:00 Chalice Choir 9:00 Gospel Choir <b>Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.</b> 11:00 WPA Boutique Sale 11:30 Junior Choir 11:30 Sunday Forum in the Parlor 11:30 Congregational Conversation About Finances 11:30 Mother/Daughter Book Group 11:30 Environmental Leadership Meeting 12:15 Contemporary Vocal Ensemble 7:00 Sarasa Concert

### Sunday Forums

*Today, October 30—“Paintings and Sculptures.”* Renowned sculptor Daniel Altshuler will be here! He will create an original piece of art, while telling us about the three busts on the mantelpiece in our Parlor, which he created—those of Dana McLean Greeley, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Henry David Thoreau. A gallery talk on Ezra Ripley and the life and paintings of Elizabeth Wentworth Roberts will be presented by Barbara Forman, artist and licensed Concord Guide. She will tell us fascinating stories about the lives of two individuals. Elizabeth Wentworth Roberts, Impressionist landscape painter, a friend of John Singer Sargent, and founder of the Concord Art Association, was “a woman ahead of her time, an accomplished artist, businesswoman, and patron of the arts.” Ezra Ripley served as minister of First Parish longer than any other—63 years, from 1778 to 1841—and led the congregation in 1826 away from the trinitarian doctrine to that of the unitarian. The painting of Ezra Ripley, which is now over the mantel in the Parlor, was one of those saved from the fire in 1900.

### Holiday Artisans Fair—November 5

Our annual Holiday Artisans Fair is coming up fast! Over 40 outstanding artists and artisans will be selling their latest handmade items. Our WPA Boutique at the fair is looking for donations of handmade items, as well as high-quality, like-new, special regifting general items as well as jewelry and nice accessories. Please contact Marilyn Lowitt at [marilyn.lowitt@verizon.net](mailto:marilyn.lowitt@verizon.net) or 978-793-0267 for questions and to arrange for collection of your donations.

### Daylight Savings—November 6th

Do not forget to “fall back!” At 2:00 a.m. on November 6, set your clocks back one hour, to become 1:00 a.m.

### The First Tuesday Group (65+)

**Tuesday, November 1, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**

#### *Volunteering: What and Why*

Five First Parish members will speak about volunteer experiences they have had since retiring—what they did or do, why they chose it, and what satisfactions they have found in it. John Lang: formerly from Analog Devices, volunteering at Household Goods Recycling Ministry; Margie King Saphier: U.U. Minister supporting the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute; Sue Dobbie: former hospice nurse volunteering at the Nature Conservancy; Richard Fortier: engineer and developer of medical devices, now at the Restoration Project; and Anne Gibbs: former psychiatric nurse, now at Jumpstart. Come prepared to share your own experiences in a small group! Contact Virginia Taylor at [virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net](mailto:virginiarosstaylor@verizon.net).

### First Parish Moms' Night Out Wine Tasting

**Friday, November 4, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

First Parish Moms' Night Out: Come share company and a favorite bottle of wine (or other beverage) with us. We will meet in one of our member's homes; spouses/significant others are invited! For more information and to RSVP, please contact Anne at [annee5678@yahoo.com](mailto:annee5678@yahoo.com). To join the MNO Listserv, send an email to [valvallancourt@gmail.com](mailto:valvallancourt@gmail.com).

### Election Day

To encourage First Parish staff and congregants to participate in local and regional “get out the vote” efforts, First Parish offices will be closed on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8. The building will be open—with minimal staff on hand—for previously scheduled and volunteer activities (please see below).

### First Parish Helps Get Out the Vote!

First Parish will provide rides to the polls for Concord residents who need transportation on Election Day. In an arrangement with the Concord Council on Aging and the Concord-Carlisle Community Services Coordinator, Concord residents who contact either of those agencies and need a ride to the polls will be given First Parish's phone number (978-369-9602) as a ride resource. Any Concord resident needing transportation to the voting polls that day may contact First Parish for a ride from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. To volunteer to drive or to answer phones/dispatch drivers, please email Fifi Ball, FP Director of Operations, at [fball@firstparish.org](mailto:fball@firstparish.org), or call 978-369-9602, x456. If you, or someone you know, needs a ride to the polls that day, please contact Fifi Ball at First Parish on Election Day at 978-369-9602 x456.

### Post-Election Potluck Dinner and Discussion

Having feelings about the upcoming presidential election? After you've voted on Tuesday, November 8, watched the returns come in that evening, and (probably) heard the final results by Wednesday morning, come recap and discuss with other interested First Parishioners. Let's gather Wednesday evening, November 9, to talk about election results and ramifications over a potluck dinner in the Parish Hall at 6:00 p.m. Bring the whole family! Our time together will include a brief worship circle to lift up our prayers for our country.

### Congregational Conversation about Finances

**Sunday, November 6, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**Monday, November 7, 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.**

Come join the Finance Committee for a conversation about the First Parish financials and more. We'll review the results from last year and how we translated our priorities into our budget for this year. We want to discuss three important topics with you: any suggestions for priorities for 2017-2018, discussion about the initial plan for the First Parish Legacy Giving Program, and discussions about how to make the annual pledge campaign simpler, more meaningful, and more efficient. We would appreciate your thoughts and ideas on these topics. Contact Tom Wilson, Treasurer, at [twilson@wilsongroup.com](mailto:twilson@wilsongroup.com).

## Social Action

### “Down to Earth”: A Film Depicting Climate Activists’ Stories

**Sunday Nov. 6, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Emerson Room**

View an inspiring film about climate activists—of all ages and experience—in South Portland, Maine who protested an oil pipeline through their city. From the film’s producer: “Today I believe there is no bigger problem we face than global climate change. Here in Maine I’ve met a number of activists of all ages who are putting their values and



passion to work for climate justice. My experience in the Midwest has led me to believe in the power of stories to change hearts and minds. Now I’m working with videographer Charlie Hudson to bring these Maine stories, told by a new generation of activists, to audiences that might need a gentle nudge.” Among those featured in the film is Hilary Clark, daughter of First Parish member Debbie Clark. She tells of the experience participating in a Healing Walk at Tar Sands in Alberta, Canada, in 2014. We all need inspiration. We all need role models. We all need hope. This film offers all of these and is sponsored by the Direct Action subgroup of the Environmental Leadership Team.

### Our Schools in Transition: Making Progress on Racial Equity and Cultural Proficiency

**Monday, November 7, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.**

The Concord-Carlisle school committee is in the process of hiring a new superintendent and seeks public input during the month of November. This panel discussion will help us think about the qualities we might seek in a leader responsible for educating a diverse group of students and preparing them for a multicultural world. Panelists will include Jonathan Saphire (Founder and President of Research for Better Teaching, Inc.), Johnny Cole (Assistant Principal at Needham High School and former English Teacher at CCHS) and Jacqueline Hodge (Civil Engineer for the State Department of Transportation and mother of Concord METCO students). The program is open to the public so please invite anyone who might be interested. Refreshments and babysitting will be available; contact Marilyn Lowitt at [marilyn.lowitt@verizon.net](mailto:marilyn.lowitt@verizon.net) if you need babysitting.

### “Just Mercy”

**Monday, November 28, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

**And One More Date (to be Determined)**

The Race Conversations group announces an “all-church read” of *Just Mercy*, by Bryan Stevenson. *Just Mercy* tells the story of this Harvard Law grad’s heroic work in Alabama to bring justice to poor defendants, particularly those on “death row.” He says, “The criminal justice system treats you better if you are rich and guilty than if you are poor and innocent.” The book can be bought at coffee hour. There will be two one-session evening discussions, on November 28 and a date in early December to be determined. Contact Don Miller at [donaldbmiller@comcast.net](mailto:donaldbmiller@comcast.net), or 978-610-6298.

## Religious Education News

**This Week, October 30—RE Program**

- 9:10 a.m. UU Explorers (Grade 8)—Day of the Dead Service, Meet in the Parlor, Visiting First Parish in Arlington, Expected return time: between 11:45 a.m. to noon Lead Teacher, Jan Power: cell 978-764-8569
- 10:00 a.m. Neighboring Activists (Grades 6 & 7)—Fall Cleanup, Meet on First Parish front steps to walk to Hugh Cargill Community Garden, Concord; returning 11:15 a.m.
- 9:50 a.m. Little RE (0-4yrs)—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.*

- 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Kindergarten & Grade 1—Lower Level  
Grades 2 & 3—Ripley & Greeley Room  
Grade 4—Brooks Room  
Grade 5—Bulkeley Room
- 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Youth Discussion Circle—The Loft

### Hiking Mount Monadnock!

Immediately following Youth Circle, we’ll hold a short planning session to discuss dates and organize for a trip to Monadnock (with a possible side visit to nearby Cathedral of the Pines). Anyone interested in hiking and/or helping plan the hike should come. 12:30 p.m. in the Loft. Questions? Contact Christa Champion, Youth Programs Director, [cchampion@firstparish.org](mailto:cchampion@firstparish.org).

### Interested in Volunteering for 15 Minutes on a Sunday Morning?

We need RE Greeters to welcome new families as they arrive in the front foyer on Sunday mornings. From 9:45 to 10:00 a.m., the greeter would help orient new families and show them how to find their RE classrooms. Please take a moment to sign up for one or more Sundays online: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0F4EA9AB22A3FF2-15minute](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0F4EA9AB22A3FF2-15minute) Questions? Contact RE Council members Jean Chandler [jeanjeanc2@aol.com](mailto:jeanjeanc2@aol.com), or Caroline Minkin, [carolineminkin@gmail.com](mailto:carolineminkin@gmail.com).

### Wanted: Nonperishable Food for Open Table Kids’ Bags

In early November, our Neighboring Activists (Grades 6 & 7) will be assembling Kids’ Bags for Open Table. As many of you know, Open Table provides a bag of snacks to each child who comes to dinner in Concord and Maynard (in addition to a bag of groceries for their family). Please help us gather items for the Kids’ Bags by bringing the following:

- Juice boxes
- Snack-size boxes of cereal
- Snack-size apple sauce, fruit cups, pudding (snack-size)
- Granola bars
- Snack-size bags of cookies, pretzels or crackers
- Boxes of macaroni and cheese
- Cans of Spaghetti-Os, chicken noodle soup or tomato soup

(No candy please!) Donations may be dropped off anytime in the Collection Box in the coatroom. Thanks so much! Preparing Kids’ Bags is a fun way for our middle schoolers to help others.

**Next Meeting House News deadline:**  
**Tuesday, November 15**  
**Please keep article length to 100 words**  
**and submit to**  
**Wendy Wolfberg at**  
**[wolfberg@post.harvard.edu](mailto:wolfberg@post.harvard.edu).**



**The Sunday News deadline is Wednesday at noon.**  
Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to  
Sarah Burns at [sburns@firstparish.org](mailto:sburns@firstparish.org).  
The Sunday News can be read online at [www.firstparish.org](http://www.firstparish.org).

**Rev. Howard Dana’s email:** [hdana@firstparish.org](mailto:hdana@firstparish.org)  
**Rev. Marion Visel’s email:** [mvisel@firstparish.org](mailto:mvisel@firstparish.org)  
**Church Office—978-369-9602**  
Visit our website at [firstparish.org](http://firstparish.org)