

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

## November 27, 2016

### This Week

Sun., Nov. 27

9:00 Chalice Choir

9:00 Gospel Choir

#### Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.

11:15 Sunday Morning Youth Discussion Circle

11:30 Junior Choir

11:30 Discussion on Partnership

12:15 Contemporary Vocal Ensemble

6:00 All-Congregational Potluck with the Partner Church Committee

Mon., Nov. 28

7:30 Reception for Transylvania Scholarship Donors

7:30 Americans for Economic Fairness Planning Meeting

Tues., Nov. 29

6:30 Tai Chi

7:00 Women's Circle

Wed., Nov. 30

9:30 Buddhist Group

1:00 WPA Tea for the Transylvanian Guests

6:00 Potluck with Choir and Transylvanian Visitors

Thur., Dec. 1

7:45 Adult Choir

7:00 Race Conversation Group

7:30 By Your Side Singers

7:30 Forum Committee Meeting

7:30 Buddhist Group

Fri., Dec. 2

1:00 SAC Board Meeting

7:00 Mitigating Local Climate Problems

7:00 Understanding Your Vegan Family Members

Sat., Dec. 3

9:00 Nonprofit Leadership Training

1:30 Children's Crafts Workshop

Sun., Dec. 4

9:00 Chalice Choir

9:00 Gospel Choir

#### Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.

11:30 Junior Choir

11:30 Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary

11:30 Mother/Daughter Book Group

12:15 Contemporary Vocal Ensemble

4:00 OWL Orientation

6:00 Youth Fellowship

6:00 Farewell Party for Transylvania Visitors

### New Rides Coordinator and Need for Drivers

One of the important programs that Pastoral Care provides is Rides. Suzanne Hogan, who has been our Rides Coordinator for years has stepped down from this. We sincerely thank her for her service! Pat Brinkman is our new Rides Coordinator. We find that we need more drivers who can be contacted when someone needs a ride to an appointment or to a First Parish service or event. Rides are arranged for by sending an email to a group of members who have volunteered to be contacted as potential Ride Providers. If there is a match, the Rides Coordinator connects the Ride Provider with the Ride Requestor. If you need a ride or are interested in volunteering, please contact Rides Coordinator Pat Brinkman at [pabrinkman@comcast.net](mailto:pabrinkman@comcast.net) or 781-259-9639.

### Holiday Memorial Wreath

The Holiday Memorial Wreath, located at the front of the Sanctuary, is a way to acknowledge the memory of a loved one who has died. Tie a colored ribbon to the wreath for those you wish to remember. You are invited to tie a black ribbon on the wreath in memory of black lives lost to injustice. The wreath will remain in the Sanctuary throughout the holidays.

### Quilt and Art Print Raffle Tickets

At today's coffee hour, the Women's Parish Association will be selling raffle tickets for a spectacular quilt and a lovely art print of Leonard Weber's Townscape of Concord.

### Come to Cook

The Caring Connection provides delicious meals for parishioners during times of transition. It is time to fill the freezer again. We are going to cook on Friday, December 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If you are willing to help please RSVP to Judy Dembsey at [dembsey@verizon.net](mailto:dembsey@verizon.net) or 978-263-3272. Email preferred.

### Potluck Supper Sunday for Transylvanian Visitors—November 27

The Transylvanian Partner Church members will be visiting Concord from November 25 to December 5. Please help us provide hospitality to our visitors from Székeleykeresztúr by attending an all-church potluck dinner in the Parish Hall on Sunday, November 27, at 6:00 p.m. There are other opportunities to engage with them, please visit the table at coffee hour for more information or to sign up for an activity.

### Communicating with Loves Ones about Veganism Friday, December 2; 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Please join the Reverence for Life committee for an evening with Dr. Casey Taft, Professor of Psychiatry at Boston University's School of Medicine, when he will speak about "Communicating with Loved Ones about Veganism." An internationally recognized researcher in the areas of trauma and the family, he has won prestigious awards from the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, the Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Taft has consulted with the United Nations on preventing violence and abuse globally. He sees the prevention of violence toward animals as a natural extension of this work. Cohosted with Vegan Metro West Network.

### The Children's Holiday Craft Workshop Saturday, December 3, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

The First Parish Elves are busy at work to make sure this holiday season is magical, with *many new crafts!* Here are ways to have fun at the Children's Holiday Craft Workshop.

- Be a child and make up to 16 different crafts, including woodworking, printed bags, soap, and candlesticks for your family, teachers, or friends.
  - Be a "Crafty Elf" (adults and teens) and help at one of the craft stations from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
  - Be a "Clean-Up Elf" (adults and teens) and help clean up from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
  - Volunteer to prep some things ahead of time, like the First Parish (secret recipe) gingerbread cookie dough, wood projects, etc.
- The cost is \$15/child, \$45/family. Snacks and drinks are provided. No need for children to sign up in advance. To volunteer, sign up at coffee hour or contact Patty Popov by email, [PPopov@wesleyan.edu](mailto:PPopov@wesleyan.edu), or phone 978-369-1990.

Your Planning Elves,

Marilyn Lowitt, Jan Goddard-Taylor, Dave Elwood, Patty Popov, Jeannie Williams, and Kristin Moore

### Poinsettia Sale Supports Flower Committee

Starting on next Sunday, December 4, come to the poinsettia table at coffee hour if you wish to donate a plant in memory of a loved one. Their name and yours will be included in a memorial listing in the December 18 order of service, and the poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary throughout the holidays. To donate, please visit the poinsettia table at coffee hour following the December 4 and 11 services, or stop by the Parish Hall before the services at 9:30 a.m.; contact Linda Reynolds at 978-371-0562 or [LSmithReynolds@aol.com](mailto:LSmithReynolds@aol.com), or leave a note and donation (suggested amount \$20) in the office before December 12. Your donation supports the work of the flower committee through the year.

## **“First Tuesday's Winter Holiday Celebration: Personal Shared Stories”**

### **First Tuesday Group (65+) Winter Holiday Celebration December 6, 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Come with a small item or photograph that is connected to a personal three-minute story you are willing to share. Gather around the fire in the Parlor fireplace, listen to others' stories, sing a few seasonal songs, and see a skit or two. Refreshments will include eggnog, a table of cookies, coffee, tea, and your favorite holiday snacks (if you bring a plate to share). So come celebrate the holidays with a shared story at our December meeting!

### **First Parish Moms' Night Out Annual Holiday Cookie Exchange Friday, December 9, from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m.**

Come swap cookies and recipes with fellow members of the First Parish community. Please bring a dozen or more cookies (the amount you wish to exchange), a label listing the ingredients, and a snack or drink to share. Celebrate the season, enjoy a fire in the fireplace, and take home some delicious treats! Held in the First Parish Parlor. We hope you will join us. Kindly RSVP to Leah Russell at [leahkrussell@gmail.com](mailto:leahkrussell@gmail.com) or 978-266-1216, or Jean Chandler at [jeanjeanc2@aol.com](mailto:jeanjeanc2@aol.com).

### **Holiday Concert and Tea—December 10**

The Women's Parish Association warmly invites everyone to its annual Holiday Concert and Tea, which will take place on Saturday afternoon, December 10. The Winiker Brothers Trio will bring holiday cheer to attendees beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, followed by a traditional tea in the Parish Hall. There is no charge for this event, but attendees are asked to bring plates of sweets to share, if they wish. Contact the office or Dian Pekin at [pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:pekindc@comcast.net) by December 6 for reservations.

### **Guest at Your Table Box**

#### **To Be Returned to First Parish by Sunday, December 18**

Over the holiday season, we invite a “Guest at Your Table,” a traditional fundraising practice for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. UUSC advances human rights and social justice around the world. Boxes were distributed during our Thanksgiving service and are still available in the front office. A donation of \$40 or more is eligible for member benefits. Please return your box on Sunday, December 18 so our 5th graders who are learning about UUSC can count your contribution. Otherwise, please write a check for the amount payable to UUSC. For more information, visit [uus.org](http://uus.org) Questions? Email Amy: [afreedman@firstparish.org](mailto:afreedman@firstparish.org).

### **Sunday Bouillon—Volunteers Needed**

It is that time of year again. We are thinking that we might begin making bouillon January 3, the first Sunday in January, as we did last year. Remember how delicious the bouillon was on a cold winter Sunday, and the smell, drifting upstairs? If this is going to happen, we need volunteers. Can you help one Sunday a month by buying, preparing, serving, and/or cleaning up? Keleher will be there most Sundays to help clean up. If you would like, you could team up with a friend: One does the buying and preparation, both serve (and schmooze with parishioners enjoying the bouillon), and the other cleans up. Please email Kel Keleher at [kel@rkeleher.com](mailto:kel@rkeleher.com) or call him at 978-944-2734 if you are interested.

## **Social Action**

### **Black Lives Matter Items for Sale**

Black Lives Matter signs (\$10.00) and buttons (50¢ each, 3 for \$1.00) are for sale at the Social Action table every Sunday during coffee hour.

### **Nonprofit Leadership—One Session Remains**

We are thrilled to offer members of First Parish the opportunity to learn how to better serve their nonprofits. Jericho Road has been hosting a series of educational sessions for members this fall. The curriculum has built on the previous week's learnings and experiences, which can be applied as necessary, based on an individual's background and skill set. This session will be held at First Parish on Saturday, December 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please contact Dan Bush, [dbush@jerichoroadproject.org](mailto:dbush@jerichoroadproject.org), to register. The final session, *Strategic Revenue Generation*, looks at a variety of ways nonprofits can raise funds, some of the common benefits and risks associated with each method, and a focus on the best method of all. Participants then apply their storytelling skills to make a pitch to a prospective donor.

## **Religious Education News**

This Week, November 27

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

10:00 a.m.—Worship Service

10:15- 11:15 a.m. —RE Workshop – Emerson Room

### **RE Workshop: Welcoming and Celebrating Our Partner Church in the Emerson Room**

Following the Children's Message, all ages will gather for a multiage program. We will be welcoming guests from our Partner Church in Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania, Romania. Our Intern Minister, Jan Hutsler, and Rodger Mattlage will show us pictures and objects, and share stories from their recent visits to Transylvania. We will also make special gifts for our guests.

### **8th Grade OWL Parent Orientation**

#### **Sunday, December 4, 4:00-6:30 p.m. in the Emerson Room**

The comprehensive sexuality program, “Our Whole Lives,” will be offered to First Parish 8th graders beginning in January. The goals of the program are to help young people learn about safe sexual relationships in the context of Unitarian Universalist principles, to help them make responsible decisions, and to increase their understanding and respect for themselves and others. In order for your child to be enrolled in OWL, both parents are required to attend a Parent Orientation. Please let Amy Freedman know if you plan to enroll your 8th Grader in this important program by contacting [afreedman@firstparish.org](mailto:afreedman@firstparish.org).



Next *Meeting House News* deadline:  
Tuesday, December 13

To save extra work, please send your final submissions (with images, if possible) as email attachments. Keep article length to 100 words, and send to the Editor, Wendy Wolfberg, at [wolfberg@post.harvard.edu](mailto:wolfberg@post.harvard.edu).

**Rev. Howard Dana's email:** [hdana@firstparish.org](mailto:hdana@firstparish.org)

**Rev. Marion Visel's email:** [mvisel@firstparish.org](mailto:mvisel@firstparish.org)

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