

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

## February 12, 2017

### This Week

Sun., Feb. 12	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
		<b>Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.</b>
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	11:30	Mother/Daughter Book Group
	11:30	Preparing for End-of-Life Decision Making
	11:30	Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary
	12:15	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble
	3:30	<i>Grub's Place</i> Rehearsal
Mon., Feb. 13	7:30	Denominational Affairs Committee
Tues., Feb. 14		<b>12:00 Newsletter Deadline</b>
	2:00	Shawl Ministry
	6:30	T'ai Chi
Wed., Feb. 15	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu., Feb. 16	7:00	Criminal Justice in Massachusetts
	7:30	By Your Side Singers
	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri., Feb. 17	12:30	T'ai Chi
	6:30	<i>Grub's Place</i> Rehearsal
	7:00	Jewish Awareness Affinity Group
Sat., Feb. 18	7:00	WPA Downton Abbey Event
Sun., Feb. 19	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
		<b>Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.</b>
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	11:30	Discussion of "The New Jim Crow"
	12:15	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble
	4:00	<i>Grub's Place</i> Rehearsal

### Parish Notes

#### Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary Today

The Trustees of Parish Donations and the Finance Committee have developed a new program to encourage and recognize bequests and other types of planned gifts to First Parish called the Legacy Giving program. The typical person who makes a legacy gift isn't independently wealthy. Rather, most legacy givers are simply members who want to make a commitment to the future of First Parish. At the Forum you will learn about the variety of legacy gift approaches that are available, and how making a legacy gift will help both you and First Parish. For more information, email Tom Wilson at [twilson@wilsongroup.com](mailto:twilson@wilsongroup.com).

#### Preparing for End-of-Life Decision Making

**Sunday, February 12, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Emerson Room**

An overview of end-of-life decision making, focusing on the Conversation Project Starter Kit that emphasizes having a conversation about values: what matters to you, not what's the matter with you. Copies of the Conversation Starter Kit will be provided to help you think and talk about your wishes for care at the end of life. We'll also explore how best to talk with family members about their wishes at the end of their life. This isn't about filling out forms, but rather about talking about end-of-life care based on values. Hosted by Rev. Marion Visel, minister for Pastoral Care. No need to sign up.

#### Denominational Affairs Committee

**Monthly Meeting, Monday, February 13, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. In the Brooks Room**

The agenda for this meeting will include preparation for the New England Regional Assembly in April and the General Assembly (New Orleans!) in June. Please join us as we plan for these two exciting gatherings and develop a leadership plan for the committee. All are welcome. For additional information, please contact Alice Van Deusen, [alicevandeusen@gmail.com](mailto:alicevandeusen@gmail.com) (much preferred) or 978-369-0435.

#### Newsletter Deadline

**Tuesday, February 14, 12:00 p.m.**

Submissions in final form for the March Meeting House Newsletter are

needed by noon, Tuesday, February 14. Please send your submission and images in final form as attachments to the Editor, Wendy Wolfberg, [wolfberg@post.harvard.edu](mailto:wolfberg@post.harvard.edu). For the latest on dates and guidelines, please check the Editor's Notes section in the most recent *Meeting House News*, or download from the website at <http://firstparish.org/wp/news/news-submission-guidelines/>. If you are new to submitting, please review the format used in previous newsletters. If you do not receive a confirmation email that your submission was received, please contact the Editor. If you submit regularly, please request a template file of your copy that you can edit and resubmit to reduce work for you and your committee.

#### Downton Abbey Event

**Saturday, February 18, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall**

Don't miss the WPA's fascinating program by fashion historian Karen Antonowicz, who will illustrate major changes in the lives and fashions of the residents of Downton Abbey throughout its intriguing history. Feel free to dress in period costumes. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. followed by dessert and beverages. Charge is eight dollars. For reservations, sign up at coffee hour; contact the office at 978-369-9602; or email [pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:pekindc@comcast.net) by February 15. All are warmly welcome. Invite family members and friends for a fun night out.

#### Advocates for Women's Empowerment (AWE) Meeting

**Saturday, February 18, at 8:00 a.m., at Serendipity Café in Maynard**

Join us and come discuss what's important, share ideas, and hear updates. Contact Lora Venesy at [venesy@comcast.net](mailto:venesy@comcast.net) with questions or for more information.

#### Mom's Night Out—Ladies Night at the Theater

**Thursday, February 23; Reception 6:00 p.m.**

**Performance 7:30 p.m.**

Join us at Merrimack Repertory Theatre (MRT) in Lowell to see the comedy *Women in Jeopardy!* The complimentary dessert and wine reception begins at 6:00 p.m.; then enjoy the 7:30 p.m. performance and stay for "Ask the Artists" after the show. All are welcome. To read more about the play, visit <http://www.mrt.org/>. Discounted price of \$31/ticket. By February 1, contact Jeanne Williams at [courteje@bc.edu](mailto:courteje@bc.edu) or 978-578-7515. To learn about MNO events, join the listerv by emailing [valvallancourt@gmail.com](mailto:valvallancourt@gmail.com). Registration and payment due February 1.

#### Toiletry and Feminine Hygiene Collection Drive for Women

Starting March 1, we are collecting full and travel-size shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, and hygiene items (pads, tampons) for Rosie's Place and the Period Project. Leave items in the marked box in the coatroom starting March 1 or bring them to LunaFest on March 4. Sponsored by the Advocates for Women's Empowerment and RE. Contact Suzie Weaver at [skatesuzie@aol.com](mailto:skatesuzie@aol.com) or 978-369-5352.

#### LunaFest Is Coming Again!

**Saturday, March 4, 7:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall**

Join us at LunaFest—a fundraising film festival by, for and about women, to benefit the Breast Cancer Fund and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Women's Rights projects. The evening will include a cash bar and 50/50 raffle. Purchase tickets for \$15 online at <http://www.lunafest.org/concord0304> or at the door. Sponsored by the Advocates for Women's Empowerment. Contact Lora Venesy at [venesy@comcast.net](mailto:venesy@comcast.net).

#### Across the Kitchen Table—Families Divided by Politics

**Sunday, March 5, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the Loft**

The deep divisions in our world challenge us, especially when loved ones disagree on politics. If you are struggling with how to understand, accept, or make peace with loved ones with different political views, you are not alone. Please join as we share our struggles, support one another, and decide how best we might help each other move forward.

Please contact Rev. Marion Visel at [mvisel@firstparish.org](mailto:mvisel@firstparish.org) or 978-369-9602, ext. 414, or Trena Minudri at [ab1712@yahoo.com](mailto:ab1712@yahoo.com), 617-686-8235 if you plan to attend, or are interested in this topic but unavailable March 5. Drop-ins are welcome.

### **Mom's Night Out Game Night**

**Friday, March 10, at 7:30 p.m.**

We'll end the week together with a fun and relaxing evening of games, food, and drinks. Feel free to bring your favorite game, snack, or beverage—or just bring yourself! Sponsored by the First Parish Mom's Night Out (MNO) group. RSVP to Leanne Baxter at [leanne\\_gauthier@yahoo.com](mailto:leanne_gauthier@yahoo.com) or 978-799-9536.

### **"Grub's Place"—A New Musical at First Parish**

**March 31 and April 1, 7, and 8, at 7:30 p.m.**

"Grub's Place" is a musical starring Terry Rothermel as Grub and Simone Tricca as Mirabel. It is written and composed by Jane Blumberg, directed by Francene Amari, and produced by Claudia Nimar. This delightful musical, set in an ant colony, explores community life and is enlivened by a praying mantis, irreverent fireflies, a past-her-prime reclusive spider, turf battles, jealous hearts, and prejudice that threatens the colony's survival. Musical numbers "Dear, Dear, Friend" and "Community Hymn" will be memorable. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students, and can be purchased at coffee hour, the church office, or online at [MKTix.com](http://MKTix.com).

### **Nominations for the First Parish Nominating Committee**

The Standing Committee is looking for people who would like to serve on the First Parish Nominating Committee, the primary function of which is to solicit and nominate candidates for any open positions on the Standing Committee, as well as the Treasurer, Clerk and Moderator positions. We are looking for people who are "connectors" and like to participate in many aspects of church life. The term is three years, with an option to do two consecutive terms. The Nominating Committee meets monthly on Sunday mornings, and the time commitment is two to three hours a month. If you, or someone you know, might be interested, please contact Patty Popov at [ppopov@nichols-pratt.com](mailto:ppopov@nichols-pratt.com) or 978-369-1990, by Sunday, March 5.

### **World Day of Prayer Service—Friday, March 3, at 11:00 a.m.**

First Parish will host Concord's 2017 World Day of Prayer Service. Women of the Philippines wrote this year's prayer service, which reminds people of social and economic justice needs in their country and elsewhere. Continuing this annual event, which has taken place since the 1800's, will be Concord's faith communities and hundreds of thousands of women in over 170 countries, engaging in informed prayers and prayerful actions to diminish injustices suffered by women and children around the world. The intergenerational dance group, *Skyloom*, will add interesting thematic sacred dance elements to the service. A festive lunch celebrating Filipino peoples and cultures will follow the service at noon. There is no charge and reservations are not required.

### **Social Action**

#### **"The New Jim Crow"**

Read and discuss *The New Jim Crow*, by Michelle Alexander, a devastating account of how the U.S. prison population grew from 300,000 in the 1970's to 2,300,000 in just 40 years—and the havoc that mass incarceration is wreaking on our people and our country. Obtain the book at coffee hour. Discussion group meet on alternate weeks, each for three sessions: Sundays at 11:30 a.m., next meeting February 19; Mondays at 7:00 p.m., next meeting February 20; and Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., starting next meeting February 22. Questions? Contact Don Miller at [donaldbmiller@comcast.net](mailto:donaldbmiller@comcast.net) or 978-610-6298.

### **Criminal Justice in Massachusetts: How It's Broken and Ways to Fix It**

**Thursday, February 16, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary**

Join State Senator Mike Barrett, Clarence Bevins, and Louellyn Lambrose for a panel discussion on the need for criminal justice reform in Massachusetts. Panelists will share personal experiences, explain legislative initiatives, and provide concrete suggestions on how attendees can help establish a more just system. Sponsored by the Race

Conversations Group. For more information, contact Leslie Fisher at [leslifisher@treitman.com](mailto:leslifisher@treitman.com).

### **Tonight's Showing of Diversity Committee Film Postponed**

The screening of part two of the documentary "Race: the Power of an Illusion" originally scheduled for this evening, has been postponed until February 26 at 7:15 pm. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Part three will be shown on March 12.

### **Religious Education News**

**This Week, February 12, 2017**

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

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

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 classrooms 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.- Religious Education Classes

Kindergarten & Grade 1– Lower Level

Grades 2– Greeley Room

Grade 3– Ripley Room

Grade 4– Emerson Room

Grade 5– Bulkeley Room

Neighboring Activists (Grade 6)– Chapel

4:00-6:00 p.m., 8th Grade OWL – Emerson Room

### **Next Week, February 19, 2017—Multiage Workshop**

#### **Origami Boxes of Hope: Multi-age Workshop**

**Sunday, February 19, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.**

**with Heather Koerber Nunes, Jake Nunes and Amy Rensko**

Following the Children's Message, all ages will gather in the Emerson Room. What brings us hope when we are feeling sad or discouraged? We will talk about the thoughts, memories, or ideas we store up for "winter" or times we are sad. Then we will create origami boxes and write/draw our memories or happy thoughts to keep inside. Little RE will also be available downstairs for children 0-4 years old.

#### **"Hey, Let's Put On a Show!" Multiage Workshop**

**Sunday, February 26, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.**

**with Jane Blumberg, Claudia Nimar and Terry Rothermel**

*Grub's Place* is a new musical, written and composed by Jane Blumberg, directed by Francene Amari, and produced by Claudia Nimar at First Parish in Concord. In this intergenerational musical, set in an ant colony, Grub creates a spot for everyone by commanding compassion rather than conformity. Following the Children's Message, all ages will meet with Jane, Claudia, and Terry (who plays the main character, Grub). Come discover what it takes to create a show! Little RE will also be available downstairs for children 0-4 years old.



**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).

**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).