

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

February 19, 2017

## This Week

Sun., Feb. 19	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
Mon., Feb. 20	<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
Tues., Feb. 21	All Day	President's Day Holiday
	7:00	Discussion of "The New Jim Crow"
	7:00	Immigration Task Force
Wed., Feb. 22	6:30	T'ai Chi
	7:00	Amnesty International Meeting
	7:30	Diversity Committee Meeting
Thu., Feb. 23	9:30	Buddhist Group
	10:00	Small Group Ministry
	7:00	Discussion of "The New Jim Crow"
Fri., Feb. 24	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
	7:30	Buddhist Group
Sun., Feb. 26	5:30	<i>Grub's Place</i> Rehearsal
	7:30	Rise Up Singing
	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	<b>Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.</b>	
	11:30	Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	4:00	<i>Grub's Place</i> Rehearsal
	7:15	Diversity Committee Film

## Parish Notes

### Reverence For Life, Supper and Film

#### Monday, February 27, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Please join us for the film *Forks over Knives*. The movie examines the profound claim that many degenerative diseases that afflict us can be controlled, or even reversed, by rejecting our present menu of animal-based and processed foods. The film traces the personal journeys of a pair of pioneering researchers, Dr. T. Colin Campbell and Dr. Caldwell Esselstyn. The event is free and includes supper. Supper starts at 6:00 p.m., and the film starts at 7:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Lyell Slade, [llsrvd@netscape.net](mailto:llsrvd@netscape.net) or 978-369-0636.

#### 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.

### 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).

### "Be the Change" Small Group Ministry—Starting Soon

#### 4 Sessions: March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4

We will gather to share our experiences and explore how to "be the change" in the world. This group is a response to the need for empowerment in the current socio-political climate. Regardless of where you stand on the issues, the need to stand up and be heard has never been so important. These sessions include meditations that help us create safe space and prepare us for the challenge of moving beyond it. Roselyn Romberg and Chuck McDonald will facilitate on the first Sundays of each month, from March to June, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Groups are limited to ten participants, so sign up ASAP via the clipboard in the front office, or contact Rev. Marion Visel at [mvisel@firstparish.org](mailto:mvisel@firstparish.org) or 203-931-5239. Please provide your name, phone and email address.

### 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.

### Operations—Financial Reports

Interested in First Parish finances? Do you have questions, such as how much did we budget for heating oil this year, or how much cash do people put in the collection plates? You can learn the answers to these and many more questions by perusing First Parish's monthly financial reports. Since our new website is not password protected, First Parish financials are no longer available there. To receive these reports by monthly email, contact the Operations Director, Fifi Ball, at [fball@firstparish.org](mailto:fball@firstparish.org). A current copy of the financial report is also available outside the church office.

### Sunday Bouillon—Volunteers Needed

We have had bouillon for the last few Sundays, but have no volunteers for today, March 5, or March 26. Remember how delicious the bouillon was on the snowy Sunday last week? And the smell, drifting upstairs? Can you help for one of these Sundays by buying, preparing, serving, and/or cleaning up? Kel Keleher will be there most Sundays to help clean up. If you would like, you could team up with a friend, with one doing the buying and preparation, both serving, and the other cleaning up. We will not have bouillon on the Sundays noted unless people step forward. Please email Kel Keleher at [kel@rkeleher.com](mailto:kel@rkeleher.com) or call him at 978-944-2734 if you are interested.

### 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 those of Treasurer, Clerk and Moderator. 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.

### There's a New Baby Coming to Renewal House!

A resident of UUUM, Renewal House in Boston is having her first child, a baby boy who will be named Malachi. If you are able to purchase a gift for the new baby, please drop it off in the church office.

Claudia Nimar will pick it up and deliver it to Renewal House. This is a wonderful way to support the work of Renewal House and to welcome a new American and his mother into our community. Contact Claudia at 978-771-8216 or [cnimar@aol.com](mailto:cnimar@aol.com) for questions. Please donate prior to March 14. The new mother's wish list includes a bassinet-style pack and play, a forehead thermometer, Dr. Brown's-brand bottles, a microwave bottle sterilizer, a bottle warmer, diapers in sizes 1, 3, and 4 (no 2 or N), a Boppy feeding pillow, nursing blankets or scarves, Aveeno Brand baby bath products, and gift cards for Babies-R-Us or Carter's.

## 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 groups meet on alternate weeks, each for three sessions: Sundays at 11:30 a.m., next meeting today; Mondays at 7:00 p.m., next meeting February 20; and Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., next meeting February 22. Questions? Contact Don Miller at [donaldbmiller@comcast.net](mailto:donaldbmiller@comcast.net) or 978-610-6298.

### Immigration Justice Task Force Formation Meeting Monday, February 20, 7:00 p.m. in the Brooks Room

Are you troubled by Trump's executive order on immigration? Would you like to get involved but don't know where to start? Or you're already involved and would like to connect with other concerned parishioners? Join us to discuss the formation of an Immigration Justice group at First Parish. We will create a mission statement and brainstorm avenues for action. If you would like to be involved but cannot attend this first meeting, please email either Tony Rodriguez at [trod.rodriguez@gmail.com](mailto:trod.rodriguez@gmail.com), or Laurie Van Loon at [lvloon@comcast.net](mailto:lvloon@comcast.net).

### "Race, the Power of an Illusion," Part 2 Sunday February 26, 7:15 p.m.

The Diversity Committee will show part two of this documentary, "The Story We Tell." This episode explains that ancient peoples stigmatized others based on language, custom, class, and religion, but modern racial stigma traces back to European conquest of the Americas. Please join us for socializing and refreshments at 7:15 p.m.; the hour-long film will begin at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Sara Ballard at [sara@sb.org](mailto:sara@sb.org).

### Amnesty International, Group 15 Tuesday, February 21 and March 21, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. In the Greeley Room

In addition to writing letters supporting individuals who've been punished for peaceful human rights activities, we'll have updates on efforts to bring about prison reform, death penalty abolition, and the prevention of violence against women. We'll focus on strategies to free two young Azerbaijanian student activists, Giyas Ibrahimov and Bayram Mammadov, arrested in May on trumped-up charges of heroin possession. All are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Kathy Taylor at [Kly.taylor@gmail.com](mailto:Kly.taylor@gmail.com) or 781-718-7640.

### Join the "Jobs, Justice, and Climate" March

Get on the bus with First Parish to the big "Jobs, Justice and Climate" march in Washington, D.C. on April 29. This march is led by a broad coalition of 300 labor, racial justice, and environmental groups (same coalition that organized the big climate march in NYC in 2014). First Parish has booked two buses open to all. If you'd like a seat (\$110 per person), you can sign up at coffee hour or send email to Kate Crosby ([cfcrosby@gmail.com](mailto:cfcrosby@gmail.com)) or Berni Jenkins ([bernijenkins2@gmail.com](mailto:bernijenkins2@gmail.com)). More information to follow about art making together before the march.

### Next monthly Meeting House News deadline is Tuesday, March 14

To prevent 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, [wolfberg@post.harvard.edu](mailto:wolfberg@post.harvard.edu).

The April 2017 edition will be published on March 22.

## Religious Education News

### This Week, February 19, 2017

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

*Children in Kindergarten and up begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Following our Children's Message, the children leave the Sanctuary 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 the Emerson Room. Older children and youth will be dismissed to coffee hour.*

### 10:15 a.m.- 11:15 a.m. – Origami Boxes of Hope: Multiage Workshop

**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 when we are sad. Then we will create origami boxes and write/draw our memories or happy thoughts to keep inside.

### "Hey, Let's Put On a Show!" Multiage Workshop Sunday, February 26, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.

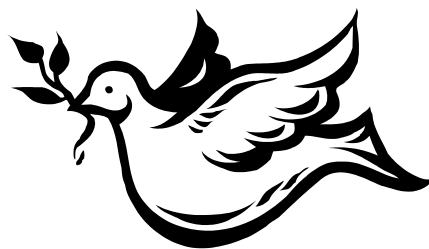
**With Jane Blumberg, Claudia Nimar, and Terry Rothermel**

*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.

### Note from Our Neighboring Activists

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Buddy Dog Foundation. Because of your generosity, we collected \$97 in cash and many collars, leashes, dog treats, toys, and dog bowls. After we collected the donations, we drove over to Buddy Dog. All the treats were delivered; and because of all our donations, all of the dogs will have enough supplies to stay in the shelter until the day they are adopted. Your donations made a dog's day.

From the First Parish 6th Graders



**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).