

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

April 9, 2017

This Week

Sun., Apr. 9	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
		Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	11:30	Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary
	12:15	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal
	6:00	Standing Committee Meeting
Mon., Apr. 10	7:00	Reclaiming Our Democracy
Tues., Apr. 11	2:00	Shawl Ministry
	6:30	T'ai Chi
Wed., Apr. 12	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu., Apr. 13	11:00	Maundy Thursday Service/Chowder Lunch
	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri., Apr. 14	7:30	T'ai Chi
	7:00	Good Friday Service
Sun., Apr. 16	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
		Easter Services at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal

Reproductive Justice) and the WPA (Women's Parish Association). There is no charge, but donations will be gratefully accepted at the door. Refreshments will be served. Stay tuned for further details and contact Lora Venesy with any questions at venesy@comcast.net.

Pastoral Care Caring Connection Cooking Rescheduled

The Pastoral Care Caring Connection Cooking date scheduled for Friday, May 12 is postponed. It is rescheduled for Friday, June 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the First Parish kitchen.

Ferry Beach Retreat

Memorial Day Weekend: May 26 to 29

Registration: April 9 to April 23

Registration begins today for the annual Ferry Beach Retreat! Join families, couples, and singles from our own congregation and First Parish in Lexington for this annual relaxed and fun weekend on the beach at the UU Ferry Beach Camp and Conference Center in Saco, Maine. Information and registration packets will be available, and completed forms can be turned in at the Ferry Beach table at coffee hour from April 9 to April 23 or in the church office during those two weeks. The Registration Packet can also be downloaded from www.firstparish.org/forms. For questions or to inquire about scholarship assistance, contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com.

Parish Notes

Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary

"Living the Seventh Principle: Activism to Protect the Planet." Speaker Hilary Clark's activism led her to the Healing Walk in Alberta, Canada two summers ago. There, she joined hundreds of people, many from First Nations, protesting the extraction of oil from the tar sands and the far-reaching effects of this process on people and wildlife dependent on the Athabasca River. Hilary has organized multiple rallies on topics related to climate change and has led groups to climate rallies in D.C. and New York. Hilary grew up in Concord as the daughter of First Parish member Debbie Clark.

New Caregiver Support Group

Providing care for a family member in need is an age-old act of love and loyalty. You may care for an aging parent (while also caring for your own children), a disabled spouse, or a young or adult child with a physical, mental, or addiction issue. Whether you provide direct care or oversee care at a distance, with support, you can be a good caregiver without sacrificing yourself in the process. The group will determine a future meeting schedule on Monday, April 3, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the Brooks Room. Facilitated by Marion Visel, Minister for Pastoral Care, and Diane Clapp, Pastoral Care Lay Minister. If you are unable to attend this meeting but are interested, contact Marion Visel at mvisel@firstparish.org or 203-931-5239.

Reclaim Our Democracy

Monday, April 10, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall

We will view a very important and informative 24-minute video "What the One Percent Don't Want You to Know," an interview with Paul Krugman by Bill Moyers that highlights and simplifies Thomas Piketty's work on the concentration of wealth and inequality. Our various small teams have made good progress on our new website, planning events, messaging, and research, which we will show and discuss. Finally we will brainstorm ideas for getting our message out to the broadest possible audience—that corporations, Super PACS, and billionaires have too much influence on our government, and we need to fix it. All are welcome. Please come even if you have not been to one of our previous meetings.

New England Regional UU Assembly

The New England Regional UU Assembly will be held in Woburn, April 21-22. Friday evening, April 21, is an opportunity to see and hear the candidates for president of the UUA (election to be held in June at General Assembly). The Candidates Forum is free of charge, but you must preregister by tomorrow, April 10. Saturday sessions include worship, singing, and workshops with outstanding UU leaders,—preregistration and fee required. For more information, see new-england.eventbrite.com or contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com.

Panel Discussion on Women's Health Access Issues

Hold the date of Friday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. for a special panel discussion on women's health and access to it. We will focus on what's at stake and what we can do about it. This timely and informative program and discussion is co-sponsored by AWE (Advocates for Women's Empowerment, formerly

Would You Like to March in the Patriots' Day Parade?

The Patriots' Day Parade is on Monday, April 17, and our First Parish group Reclaim Our Democracy will be marching this year. We welcome other groups or individuals that are aligned with our mission to march with us. "We are an inclusive, collaborative, bipartisan movement, whose goal is to limit the influence of money on elections and politicians, and to reclaim our democratic rights as citizens to have a government that truly represents and supports the needs and desires of all people." If you are interested in participating or want more information, please contact Lillian Anderson lillianand@comcast.net.

Passover Seder

Saturday, April 22, 5:00 p.m., Parish Hall

The Passover Seder is an ancient celebration of freedom. Rev. Amy Freedman, our Minister of Religious Education is leading this year's service. This Cooperative Seder is a fun and meaningful ritual for all ages to eat, tell the Passover story and reflect on our lives together! Get tickets and sign up to help at coffee hour on Sundays, April 9 or 16. Suggested donation for dinner is \$20 for adults and is free for those over 80 or under 6, and \$5 between 6 and 12. For more information, email Del Friedman at gstodelfriedman@gmail.com or call Dana Snyder-Grant at 978-760-1129.

Thoreau Bicentennial Gala Celebration

Saturday, May 6, 4:00-7:30 p.m.

4:00 p.m.: "Walking, Working, Waking: What was Thoreau Seeking?" Lecture by historian Jayne Gordon in sanctuary. Free and open to the public, supported by a grant from Freedom's Way National Heritage Area.

5:15 p.m.: Family Trivia Night and Buffet Dinner in Parish Hall

Informal trivia on topics related to Thoreau's life. You don't need to be a history expert! Hosted by historian Richard Smith, as Henry David Thoreau. Buffet by Comella's; dessert by Boo's Creations. Bring your own beverage. Water/cider provided. Register by May 1. Cash or check at the door: \$20 per adult; \$10 for age 20 and under; maximum \$50 per family. Open to all ages. For reservations, contact Shelley_Hawks@msn.com or First Parish Office at 978-369-9602. Sponsored by the Transcendentalism Council.

Sunday, May 7, 10:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

Senior Minister Howard Dana will give a sermon entitled "Henry David Thoreau Skips Church, Again." Following the service, there will be a dedication of a marker for the steeple bell on the front lawn. Thoreau rang this bell in 1844 to announce Emerson's courthouse address against slavery. Marker has been donated by the Women's Parish Association. Free and open to the public. For information, contact [Marilyn Lowitt](mailto:Marilyn_Lowitt@verizon.net), marilyn.lowitt@verizon.net.

The Oriana Consort

Sunday, April 23, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., at First Parish in Concord

The Oriana Consort returns to First Parish to present "Endings and Beginnings: Choral Music as Remembrance," with music from 16th, 17th, and 20th centuries. Works concerning end of life are Claudio Monteverdi's "Lagrime d'amante" (tears of a lover), selections from Herbert Howells' "Requiem," and Thomas Tomkins' "When David Heard." Beginnings are

celebrated in Gerald Finzi's "My Spirit Sang All Day" (love), Clément Janequin's "Le Chant des Oiseaux" (spring), and the largest work, Aaron Copland's "In The Beginning" (genesis). A reception will follow. Tickets are available at <http://www.orianaconsort.org>.

WPA Craft Fair and Flea Market

Have you started your spring cleaning yet? Remember that the Women's Parish Association will be holding its Craft Fair and Flea Market on Saturday, June 3, and will be collecting items to sell at its table. So start collecting high quality items to donate—such as jewelry, household items, gift items, children's items, collectibles, antiques, etc. You may also want to rent a table yourself to sell your own treasures. Will you be thinning out your garden plants? We will be collecting plants for sale as well. To rent a table or to arrange for donations of high quality gift items to the WPA table, contact Dian Pekin at pekindc@comcast.net.

Peace Campaign Alert

Tuesday, May 2, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Filmmaker Jenny Phillips screens her new documentary, *Beyond the Wall*, with discussion to follow. Her work lays out the desperate situation of the flood of prisoners returning to our communities without guidance and support for transition to society. Set largely in Lowell and Lawrence, where once thriving textile mills have been replaced by poverty, crime, and drug addiction, the film bears witness to personal stories of reentry, relapse, recovery, and redemption. Filmmakers put a human face on the social, economic, and emotional barriers encountered by former prisoners who are among our most discriminated citizens. Contact Pat Simon at psimon4peace@gmail.com or 781-373-1410.

Unitarian Universalist General Assembly

June 21 to 25, New Orleans, Louisiana

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of the UUA, where attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the association through the democratic process. This year's theme of GA, "Resist and Rejoice!" will awaken and deepen the commitment of Unitarian Universalists to the power and possibility of working in solidarity with those on the margins. Registration and housing information are on the website <http://www.uua.org/ga>. The registration increases after May 1. Since this year we will elect the next UUA President, it is very important for us to fill all delegate spots. If you are interested in attending or being a delegate, contact Lillian Anderson, member of the Denominational Affairs Committee at Lillianand@comcast.net.

Social Action

"Black Lives Matter" Signs Available

"Black Lives Matter" signs for will be sold at coffee hour today until they are sold out. They are \$10 each, or three for \$20.

Help Fill Our Two Local Buses to Climate March in D.C.

Saturday, April 29

We have 70 seats to fill on our two Concord buses to the Climate March in Washington, D.C. Help us spread the word and hop on board! Friends and neighbors welcome—open to all. The cost is \$110, youth seats available for \$30 on request. Sign up at coffee hour and grab a flyer, or send an email to Kate Crosby at cfcrosby@gmail.com or Berni Jenkins at bernijenkins2@gmail.com. Jobs, justice, and climate are the focus of the march, led by a big bold coalition of 300 labor, racial justice, and environmental groups. Information is available at www.peoplesclimate.org.

Mother's Day Walk for Peace

Sunday, May 14, is the 21st Anniversary of the Mother's Day Walk for Peace. Come walk with families from Boston, as well as First Parish families and those from other UU congregations. The Peace Walk is the major fundraiser that supports the vital work of the Louis D Brown Peace Institute. On Sunday's, April 9, 16, 23, 30, and May 7, you can visit the Peace Walk table during coffee hour to make a donation and/or sign up to participate in the Peace Walk. If you have questions, email Margie King Saphier at margie.king.saphier@gmail.com or call 781-424-2179.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Greeley Room

We'll be finalizing arrangements for our April 30 fundraiser for the local nonprofit Dignity in Asylum (DIAS). Our ongoing actions include supporting individuals who've been punished for peaceful human rights activities, Massachusetts prison reform, death penalty abolition, and the prevention of violence against women. We continue to advocate for the release from prison of two young Azerbaijanian student activists. We welcome all to join us. For more information, contact Kathy Taylor at Kly.taylor@gmail.com or 781-718-7640.

Religious Education News

This Week, Sunday, April 9

9:45 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs)– Lower Level

10:00-11:15 a.m.

Little OWL–Lower Level

Middle OWL–Wright Tavern

Neighboring Activists (Grade 6)–Parish Hall and Parlor

Neighboring Faiths—Brooks Room

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Little OWL, Middle OWL, Neighboring Activists, and Neighboring Faiths start in their classrooms listed above. 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 11:15a.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. – Bunnies and Easter Eggs

Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5–Emerson, Greeley and Ripley Rooms

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

7:00-8:30 p.m. – Sunday Night Youth Fellowship (SNUUYFF)—Parish Hall

Eggs & Bunnies

Today, Sunday, April 9, 10:15 to 11:15a.m.

Today during regular RE time, children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade (who are not in OWL) will decorate eggs for our First Parish Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday. Everyone will be able to take four eggs home today. There is a rainbow of colors and other supplies ready for you to join in the fun. Also, Kimberly Brainerd has brought in her bunnies, Milo and Dilly, to join our festivities.

Protest Art Pop-Up Gallery

Sunday, April 9, 11:00 a.m.

Following today's service, there will be a Pop-Up Gallery in the First Parish Parlor featuring Protest Art by our Neighboring Activists. With guidance from arts educator Catherine Karp, Jan Goddard-Taylor, Kristin and Ayres Stiles-Hall, our 6th graders created art to express their concerns and promote positive change. Check out this special exhibit today.

Celebrating Easter

Sunday, April 16

On Easter Sunday, we will hold two services: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Rev. Howard Dana will preach. Music by the First Parish Choir and Festival Brass will be featured. Celebrate the story of Jesus' resurrection. Rejoice with his friends that love is stronger than death. Feel the places in your life where you can come alive again. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on the church grounds between the two services.

First Parish Parent Discussion Circle

"Parenting Children with Special Needs in our First Parish Community"

Sunday, May 7, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Wright Tavern

Parent Circles are an opportunity for parents to connect and share with one another in a meaningful way and reflect on parenting from a Unitarian Universalist perspective. This one is intended for parents of children with special needs—physical, emotional, and learning. Our Minister of Religious Education, Amy Freedman, will join us for spiritual guidance and support. Child care available upon request. This program is free, but registration is appreciated: afreedman@firstparish.org or Leslie Pelton Nichol, lpelton@ljpcconsult.com.



The Sunday News deadline is Wednesday at noon.

Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to Sarah Burns at sburns@firstparish.org.

Next monthly Meeting House News deadline is Tuesday, April 18.

Keep article length to 100 words and send to the Editor, Wendy Wolfberg, wolfberg@post.harvard.edu. It is recommended committees schedule a week for the committee review so the final submission is ready by deadline.

The May 2017 edition will be published on April 26.