

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

June 11, 2017

This Week

Sun., June 11	9:00 Chalice Choir Rehearsal 9:00 Gospel Choir Rehearsal Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Junior Choir Rehearsal 11:30 Mother/Daughter Book Group 11:30 Annual Meeting
Mon., June 12	6:00 Standing Committee Meeting 8:00 Finance Committee Meeting 1:30 Caregiver Support Group
Tue., June 13	2:00 Shawl Ministry
Wed., June 14	9:30 Buddhist Group 7:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu., June 15	7:00 Membership Committee Meeting 7:30 By Your Side Singers 7:30 Buddhist Group
Fri., June 16	9:00 Caring Connection Cooking
Sat., June 17	9:30 Mother/Daughter Book Group
Sun., June 18	Sunday Worship—Flower Communion at 10:00 a.m. 11:00 WPA Coffee Hour in the Herb Garden

Parish Notes

Annual Meeting—Today, June 11

11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Members who come to the Annual Meeting will hear reports from last year, vote on officers and committee members, and approve next year's budget. This year, there is also an informational presentation on Social Action spending and an advisory vote on the status of the "Black Lives Matter" sign in front of our Meeting House. We hope to see you there. For more information, please contact John Stevens, Moderator, at john_stevens43@comcast.net or 978-369-6061, or Kristin Haddad, Chair of the First Parish Standing Committee, at Kristin.haddad@gmail.com or 978-254-5012.

Send Sunday News Items to Fifi Ball

Wednesday June 14, 12:00 p.m.

Sarah Burns, our Church Administrator, will be away the week of June 12-18. In her absence, please send *Sunday News* submissions to Fifi Ball, Director of Operations, at fball@firstparish.org. The regular deadline of Wednesday at noon will still apply. This will be the last issue of the *Sunday News* until September.

Caring Connection Cooking

Friday, June 16, 9:00 a.m.

As a part of our shared Pastoral Care outreach, the Caring Connection of First Parish provides delicious meals for parishioners during times of transition. We are going to cook and you're invited to help. No experience or skills are necessary. Recipes and provisions are provided. Breakfast snacks will be served! (Note: This session was postponed from May 12.) Please RSVP to Judy Dembsey at judydembsey@gmail.com or 978-263-3272 (email preferred).

Men's Spiritual Retreat

Saturday, June 17, 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

The Second Men's Spiritual Retreat is titled "Walking the 'Amble': A Men's Spiritual Retreat in the Steps of Emerson and Thoreau." Our own Jim Sherblom will be leading us on our amble. Please sign up on the sheet in the office if you are interested and haven't done so already. The retreat will begin and end at First Parish. We will gather in the Parlor at 10:00 a.m. and return there by 3:00 p.m. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a bag lunch and some water. We look forward to an informative, rich, and fun experience.

Herb Garden Coffee Hour Party—June 18th

Several wonderful things will happen on Sunday, June 18 this year. The Women's Parish Association will hold its popular Coffee Hour Herb Garden Party on that date right after the worship service. Among all the lovely and fragrant herbs, we'll honor and thank Jan Hutslar for her outstanding service to First Parish during her ministerial internship with us; we'll celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Deborah Webster Greeley Garden itself and, of course, we'll celebrate Father's Day! Join your fellow parishioners to enjoy herb-flavored sweets and savories as you nourish your soul in one of the most beautiful gardens in Concord. See you in the garden!

First Parish Homecoming Picnic

Sunday, September 10, 2017, at 5:30 p.m.

All ages. All First Parish. Bring your whole family. Visit with your friends, catch up on the summer news, and meet other First Parish folk. Enjoy the music, labyrinth, and a family activity. This is an evening for everyone. Potluck dessert. Please bring: a finger food dessert to share; your own picnic, food and beverage; lawn chairs and blankets. The party will be on the lawns of First Parish, weather permitting; in the Parish Hall in case of rain. No admission charge. Mark your calendar now.

Social Action

"Black Lives Matter" Signs Available

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

Volunteer at Rosie's Place on Sunday, June 18

Would you like to cook and serve dinner at Rosie's Place in Boston on Sunday, June 18 (3:00-5:30 p.m.)? We are looking for 15 volunteers (adults and teens 12 or older) to participate. Rosie's Place is a sanctuary for poor and homeless women that serves 3 meals a day, 365 days a year. Sponsored by the Advocates for Women's Empowerment and funded by a SAC grant. Contact Suzie Weaver at skatesuzie@aol.com or 978-369-5352.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, June 20, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Greeley Room

Before summer break, in addition to writing letters supporting individuals imprisoned for peaceful human rights activities, we'll have updates on Massachusetts prison reform, death

penalty abolition, and the prevention of violence against women worldwide. We'll continue to focus on strategies to free two young Azerbaijanian student activists arrested in May 1916 on trumped-up charges of heroin possession. All are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Kathy Taylor at Kly.taylor@gmail.com or 781-718-7640.

AWE's Summer Book Group—Save the Dates

Start reading and join the Advocates for Women's Empowerment to discuss books on topics relevant to women. Join us for any or all of these dates (three Thursdays, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.): *June 22, at First Parish*, with "We Should All Be Feminists," by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie; *July 13, location TBD*, with "Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity," by Katherine Boo; and *August 10, location TBD*, with "Americanah," by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Contact Jennifer Izzo at jbizzo@hotmail.com.

Religious Education News

Summer Sundays at First Parish

Children and youth of all ages are invited to drop in for our fun Summer Program, held every Sunday during the service time, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (except on July 2). Join us for Creature Teachers, Messy Art, Yoga, and more. This program is designed to be fun and enriching for the whole family. Our goal is for you to feel energized and renewed!

This Sunday, June 11

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Children and youth begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Following our Children's Message, young people leave the Sanctuary for their classrooms with their teachers. 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.

10:15-11:00 a.m. – Religious Education Classes

Yoga, Kindergarten to 3rd Grade– Emerson Room

Kindness Rocks, 4th and 5th Grades– Brooks Room

Call to Arts, 6th to 8th Grades and Youth – Greeley/

Ripley Rooms or Outdoors

Flower Communion Service

Sunday, June 18, 10:00 a.m.

All ages worship together in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited to bring a flower to the service. We will be joining many UU congregations in celebrating a Flower Communion. Little RE for children 0-4 years will be available.

Yoga with Laura Grundstrom, Emerson Room

Kindergarten through 3rd grade will enjoy Yoga with Laura Grundstrom who is a certified YogaKids teacher.

"Kindness Rocks!"—Brooks Room

4th graders and up will make "Kindness Rocks" with Dawn Van Patten and Rev. Amy Freedman. Why are thousands of people painting rocks for strangers to find? Kindness is contagious! Come join the fun.

Call to Arts—Greeley and Ripley Rooms or Outdoors

Older kids and youth will participate in the "Call to Arts" for our UUA General Assembly in New Orleans later this month. We will make a banner of a First Parish sycamore

tree. Tree banners will be used during the General Assembly Opening Ceremony, "UU Climate Justice Collaboratory" Workshop, "Decolonization is Climate Justice" workshop, and for street theater during public witness.

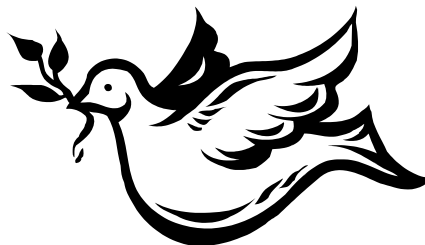
RE Registration Now Open!

New and returning families are encouraged to register children and youth for the 2017-2018 church year. Our program is year-round, but we offer classes by age- group in the fall, winter and spring seasons. Please sign-up today so we can plan and be prepared to welcome your family!

Registration for Children and Youth: <https://goo.gl/forms/nHIXFXbJUpXRb0B52>.

Teacher Sign-Up Now Open!

This year teachers will work in teams and each member will volunteer for eight Sundays across the church year. We hope that this new arrangement will give you more flexibility and help develop closer connections between children and co-teachers. Volunteer Sign-Up: <http://tinyurl.com/ConcordRETeacher2017-18>. Links are also on our website. Please contact our Assistant Director of Religious Education, Dawn Van Patten: dvanpatten@firstparish.org or our Minister of Religious Education, Amy Freedman: afreedman@firstparish.org for more information or to explore the possibilities.



The Sunday News deadline is Wednesday at noon.

Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to

Fifi Ball at fball@firstparish.org.

The Sunday News can be read online at

www.firstparish.org.

Rev. Howard Dana's email: hdana@firstparish.org

Rev. Marion Visel's email: mvisel@firstparish.org

Church Office—978-369-9602

Visit our website at firstparish.org.