

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

November 12, 2017

This Week

Sun. Nov. 12	9:00 Gospel Choir Rehearsal Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary 12:15 Contemporary Vocal Ensemble
Tues., Nov. 14	6:00 Standing Committee Meeting 7:00 "Wild and Precious" Film 8:00 Finance Committee Meeting 10:30 Small Group Ministry 12:00 Meeting House News Deadline 4:00 Beginner Ukulele Class 6:30 T'ai Chi 7:00 Nami Family-to-Family 7:00 Amnesty International
Wed., Nov. 15	9:30 Buddhist Group 7:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu., Nov. 16	7:00 Membership Committee Meeting 7:30 By Your Side Singers 7:30 Buddhist Group
Fri., Nov. 17	7:00 Jewish Awareness Affinity Group 7:30 Rise Up Singing
Sat., Nov. 18	8:00 AWE Monthly Meeting
Sun. Nov. 19	9:00 Chalice Choir Rehearsal 9:00 Gospel Choir Rehearsal Intergenerational Worship at 10:00 a.m. 11:30 Junior Choir Rehearsal 11:30 Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary 12:15 Contemporary Vocal Ensemble

Parish Notes

Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary Today, November 12, 11:30 a.m.

"Are You Ready? Your Estate and Legacy Planning." When did you create your estate plan? Has anything changed? Do you not have one? Please come to the Estate and Legacy Planning Forum to hear, discuss, and address your questions. This workshop is sponsored by the First Parish Legacy Giving Committee and will be joined by Peter Johnson, attorney for Woodman & Eaton; and Patty Popov, partner of Nichols & Pratt. There will be brief presentations and time for discussion and answers to your questions. You'll also learn about our Legacy Giving Program and the Peter Bulkeley Living Legacy Program. Contact Tom Wilson, Legacy Giving Committee, with questions at twilson@wilsongroup.com.

Silent Auction for Thoreau Book

The Women's Parish Association is holding a silent auction for a delightful illustrated book by Helen Stoddard entitled, *H.D. Thoreau, Scenario of His Early Life*. The bidding sheet will be available at coffee hour today. Proceeds will be used for First Parish maintenance. Helen will match the highest bid up to five thousand dollars.

Scholarships for Students in Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania

We have letters and photos for the ten incoming freshmen, but need a few more donors to ensure that we can help them all. To select your freshman student and make you scholarship donation for a freshman, to make your scholarship donation for a continuing student, or to learn more, please visit our partnership table at coffee hour or contact Dana Booth at dana.a.booth@gmail.com (preferred) or 978-369-5702, or Kathy Spang at katalinspang@yahoo.com. Many thanks to all who have already

volunteered to support a deserving incoming freshman, or who have already sent in your scholarship donation. Your generous support is much appreciated.

December Meeting House News Deadline Tuesday, November 14, 12:00 p.m.

Submissions in final form for the December Meeting House News are due by noon, Tuesday, November 14. Please send your submission and images as attachments to the Editor, Wendy Wolfberg, at wolfberg@post.harvard.edu. For dates and guidelines, please review the brochure "Publicizing Events at First Parish of Concord" available on the small table outside the church office, or you can request a PDF from the Editor. After you email your submission and image(s), you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive a confirmation email, be sure to contact the Editor. For ideas and examples, you can download and review last year's kickoff newsletter and all newsletters at <http://firstparish.org/wp/news/meeting-house-news/>. Submission is limited to 100 words and sent as a Word or Text file. Images can be either JPEG or PNG. Please be sure to send all files as attachments. The December Meeting House News will be published on November 22, 2017. The deadline for the January edition deadline will be January 12, with a publication date of January 20.

Shopping for a Cause!

Friday, November 17, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

First Parish Moms' Night Out is sponsoring a private shopping party at the new woman-owned clothing and jewelry boutique Wish, located at 525 Massachusetts Avenue, West Acton. Come get a jump-start on your holiday shopping while enjoying a glass of wine and hanging out with friends. Fifteen percent of the proceeds will be used to support the Secret Santa program at First Parish, which helps people in our community during this holiday season. All are welcome! Contact Jen Izzo at jbizzo@hotmail.com or 617-869-5563 (email preferred) with any questions.

Next Sunday's Forum: "Living Transcendentally"

Sunday, November 19, 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

What would it be like to live transcendentally in Concord, Mass. as a spiritual pilgrim? This can be a fun and informative exploration for spiritual seekers to deepen their own spiritual journey while practicing living transcendentally. All human beings have a capacity for joy in the midst of suffering, resilience in the face of despair, love in the midst of strife, and peace in times of turbulence. Come hear Rev. Dr. Jim Sherblom, who has traveled as a spiritual pilgrim with Buddhist, Christian, Islamic, Shamanic, and Taoist mystics learning their techniques. Jim is an author, mystic, theologian, entrepreneur, investor, company creator, spiritual seeker, and Laughing Buddha living a transcendental existence with his wife Loretta in Concord, Mass.

Holiday Concert and Tea

Our Holiday Concert and Tea on December 3 will add special sparkle and delight to your holiday season. It features award-winning classical pianist Julia Zhou, who was a recent runner-up in the Concord Orchestra's Young Artist Competition. The concert begins at 3:00 p.m., followed by a festive tea. There is no charge for this event. Bring a plate of sweets to share, and invite family and friends for a joyful afternoon! Reservations are not required, but greatly appreciated for planning purposes. Contact the office at 978-369-9602, or Dian Pekin at pekindc@comcast.net by December 1 for reservations. All are warmly invited.

**Moms' Night Out Annual Holiday Cookie Exchange
Friday, December 8, 7:30 to 10:00 p.m., in the Parlor**

Bake a batch or two and come swap cookies and recipes with fellow members of our 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! RSVP to Leah Russell at leahkrussell@gmail.com (preferred) or 978-266-1216.

Social Action

"Wild & Precious" Film Prescreening

Today, November 12, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Congregant Steve Cadwell premiered his theatrical production of his poems, stories, music, and photographs at First Parish in 2014. It chronicles his journey growing up as a wild and precious boy in 1950's Vermont, then coming out, and his navigating life as a gay man and creating a family that landed in Concord. He's toured the country with it, and now he's made a film-memoir of it. The Diversity Committee will present a prescreening for friends and sponsors, followed by a talk-back with Steve. Substantial refreshments will be provided. Suggested donation is \$10, which will benefit the LGBT Asylum Task Force.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Greeley Room

This month we'll finalize our annual December Write for Rights tabling at various faith groups. Also on the agenda are updates and actions on Massachusetts legislation re: criminal justice reform, access to contraception, and child marriage. Ongoing advocacy includes death penalty abolition and the freeing of two Azerbaijani student activists. All are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Nancy Lyons at njlyons22@gmail.com or 978-369-6109.

AWE Monthly Meeting

Saturday, November 18, 8:00 a.m., at Trail's End Cafe

Calling activists and feminists interested in women's empowerment and social justice initiatives! Join us at our monthly meeting to discuss and plan upcoming events. This month we'll meet on Saturday, November 18 at 8:00 a.m. at Trail's End Cafe in Concord. All are welcome to our meetings and events (men, women, and people of all gender identities and expressions). Our meetings are the third Saturday of the month. Contact Lora Venesy at venesy@comcast.net with questions or to join our mailing list.

Secret Santa 2017

Make a difference this holiday season. Come to coffee hour on Sundays, November 19 and 26, or December 3 to pick names to receive Secret Santa gifts. Gifts will be collected during coffee hour on Sundays December 3 and 10 in time to be delivered to the recipients before Christmas. Be a part of this beloved First Parish tradition! These gifts truly matter to those receiving them at Renewal House, Walden Street School, and the Eliot Center. AWE is organizing the program this year. Questions? Contact Jen Izzo at jbizzo@hotmail.com or 617-869-55763 (email preferred).

AWE First Friday Feminist Free Film

Friday, December 1, 7:00 p.m., in the Chapel

We will be showing *Eagle Huntress*, a documentary film about Aishol-pan, a 13-year-old girl who trains to become the first female in 12 generations of her Kazakh family to become an eagle hunter. She rises to the pinnacle of a tradition that has been handed down from father to son for centuries. Many old Kazakh eagle hunters vehemently reject the idea of any female taking part in their ancient tradition, but Aishol-pan's father believes that a girl can do anything a boy can, as long as she's determined. Free and open to all (men, women, and people of all gender identities and

expressions). No RVSP required. Contact Lou Toussaint at mloutoussaint@gmail.com with any questions.

Religious Exploration News

This Sunday, November 12: Religious Exploration

9:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
10:00 a.m. – Neighboring Activists (Grade 6) – Fall Cleanup, Hugh Cargill Community Garden
10:00 a.m. – UU Explorers (Grade 8) – Chapel
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 classroom with their teachers. All RE sessions 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.

Kindergarten & Grade 1– Lower Level

Grade 2– Greeley Room

Grade 3– Bulkeley Room

Grade 4– Ripley Room

Grade 5– Wright Tavern

10:30 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths (Grade 7) – Meet in the Parlor; Visit Fo Guang Buddhist Temple in Cambridge, Jan Power, 978-764-8569

Next Sunday, November 19: Thanksgiving Service for All Ages

Little RE will be available for 0-4 year-olds on the Lower Level

Neighboring Activists (Grade 6)

Meet on the Front Steps at 10:00 a.m. to Walk Together

This Sunday, we will do some fall cleanup at the Hugh Cargill Community Garden on Walden Street. We will meet on the front steps and walk to the garden together. Please dress to work outside and if possible bring a rake and a pair of gardening gloves. If any parents would like to join us, you are welcome! We will return to First Parish close to the 11:15 a.m. end time for RE, and your child will meet you at coffee hour as usual.

Guest at Your Table Box

Over the holiday season, we invite a "Guest At Your Table," a traditional fundraising practice for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. UUSC's grassroots partners make a big difference in their communities, and so does your participation in GAYT. That is why this year's program theme is "Small Change Is Big Change." Boxes will be distributed during our Thanksgiving service on November 19 and will be available in the front office after that. Please return your box on Sunday, December 17, so our 5th graders can count your contribution. Or write a check for the amount, payable to UUSC. For more information, visit uusc.org. Questions? Email Rev. Amy Freedman at afreedman@firstparish.org.

The Sunday News deadline is Wednesday at noon.

Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to

Sarah Burns at sburns@firstparish.org.

The Sunday News can be read online at www.firstparish.org.