

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

May 6, 2018

This Week

Sun. May 6	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Choir
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
	11:30	Nominating Committee
	5:00	Oriana Consort
	6:00	Standing Committee Conversation
Mon. May 7	1:30	Caregiver Support Group
	7:00	HeatSmart Program
	7:00	Immigration Justice Task Force
Tue. May 8	8:00	Finance Committee Meeting
	2:00	Shawl Ministry
	6:30	T'ai Chi
	7:00	Standing Committee Presentation
Wed. May 9	9:30	Buddhist Group
	2:00	Meeting House Tour
	7:00	SAC Funding Conversation
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. May 10	7:00	Race Conversations Group
	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri. May 11	12:30	T'ai Chi
Sat. May 12	9:30	Photography Club Meeting
Sun. May 13	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Choir
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
	11:30	Congregational Conversation: Climate Justice
	11:30	Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary

Parish Notes

The Finance Committee Is Searching for New Members!

The Finance Committee is looking for two individuals to serve a three-year term to replace outgoing members. We seek to find individuals who have particular interests in the financial policies and programs of First Parish to fill this role. The Finance Committee is a subcommittee of the Standing Committee and serves in a resource, policy, and advisory role to the Standing Committee, the Senior Minister/Head of Staff, and the Director of Operations. If you have an interest and wish to contribute to our future, please send your name to Michelle Fortier, Treasurer, at mfortierhome@gmail.com, and indicate why you are interested in the committee. Someone will contact you regarding an interview with a representative from the Standing Committee or Finance Committee.

Oriana Consort at First Parish, Reception Following Sunday, May 6, 5:00 p.m.

In this concert, Oriana presents beautiful but infrequently-performed choral works by several lesser-known composers. Sixteenth-century Swiss composer Ludwig Senfl gives us a sacred motet and a lively mimetic piece that sounds like bells in a cathedral tower. The first half ends with three small-ensemble choruses by Boston's own Amy Beach. The program ends with Gerald Finzi's sensitive choral settings of seven poems of Robert Bridges (later England's Poet Laureate).

HeatSmart Program

Through the state-sponsored HeatSmart program, residents can purchase advanced air-source and ground-source heat pumps from installers selected for high quality work and competitive pricing. These systems can greatly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lower energy costs, and improve the comfort of your home. Please come to the HeatSmart Meet-the-Installers event tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. at First Parish to learn more and meet the installers. For further information, please visit HeatSmartCCL.org. HeatSmart Carlisle/Concord/Lincoln is a volunteer-led program supported by MassCEC, MassDOER, the Towns of Carlisle, Concord, and Lincoln, and has been endorsed by the First Parish Environmental Leadership Team.

Last Meeting of Year for Reflection and Visioning Results

The last meeting to hear what our congregation has said during this *Year for Reflection and Visioning* will be on Tuesday, May 8, at 7:00 p.m. Members

of the Standing Committee will review preliminary results from the massive data collected. Your thoughts on interpreting this data will help us set goals for the Senior Minister, Staff, and Standing Committee for the next five years.

Why Change 7.5%?

The Standing Committee has recommended a change to the way we fund social action at First Parish. Come learn more about the two-year study that's behind this new policy recommendation. Join us Wednesday, May 9, at 7:00 p.m. to become better informed about this important issue before Annual Meeting on June 10, when the full congregation will vote to reaffirm, revise, or revoke the current 7.5% policy.

Tour the Historic Fourth Meeting House Wednesday, May 9, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Senior Minister Rev. Howard N. Dana will show a group around the church grounds and building, explaining various aspects of the church's nearly 400-year history. Come learn about the Puritan founders, the church's role in the American Revolution, and its famous Transcendentalist members. The tour will take roughly 90 minutes, with plenty of opportunities to sit down and ask questions. Thanks to Freedom's Way National Heritage Area Hidden Treasures program, for grant support. Free and open to the public. RSVP: 978-369-9602. Meet in the church vestibule.

Mother's Day Walk for Peace—Sunday, May 13, 8:30 a.m.

All ages are invited to join the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's Mother's Day Walk for Peace! A free bus from First Parish in Concord will leave at 8:30 a.m. to take walkers to Boston and will return by 1:30 p.m. We will walk three miles, from Madison Park High School to City Hall. Register online for "First Parish Concord" team at <https://www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org>. All walkers are asked to register and contribute at least \$10 per walker. Come visit the Peace Walk table during coffee hour to sign up for the bus to the Peace Walk, or contact Margie King Saphier at margie.king.saphier@gmail.com or 781-424-2179.

May 16 Visit to Walden Pond Visitor Center Postponed

The WPA May 16 special tour of the Walden Pond Visitor Center that was advertised in the May *Meeting House News* has been postponed until further notice. See the article below about the May 16 WPA Luncheon featuring the presentation by Shelley Hawks.

Program by Shelley Hawks Now at WPA May Luncheon

Rescheduled to Wednesday, May 16, at 11:30 a.m., the Women's Parish Association will introduce fellow parishioner Prof. Shelley Hawks who will give an illustrated presentation about her latest book, *The Art of Resistance, Painting by Candlelight in Mao's China*. Her findings present a compelling picture of what dedicated resisters against oppression can accomplish. For reservations, contact the office at 978-369-9602, sign up at coffee hour, or email Dian Pekin at pekindc@comcast.net by May 13. Note: You must RSVP again even if you reserved for the postponed March luncheon.

Photo Club Annual Exhibit

Sunday, May 20, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Bring your family and friends to the Annual First Parish Photo Club Show and Reception. Members' work will be displayed on the Stage Gallery, and two slide shows will run continuously. First, in the Parlor, ten of each member's photos, and second, on the Stage, Field Trip Highlights. Choose from an assortment of costumes and props and have your picture taken in the popular "Photo Booth." A variety of delicious foods and beverages will be served at no charge. Questions? Contact Fred Van Deusen at fredvandeusen@gmail.com.

Adoption Lunch and Learn

Sunday, June 3, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., Emerson Room

Please join us for a Lunch and Learn session with the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) on ways your small contributions can make a big difference in the lives of foster children. Our own Kristen Ferguson will be presenting for MARE. Lunch will be provided. This session will give you ways to help raise awareness about foster children, help make contributions for needed items like backpacks and toiletries, and

present information on ways to be a “buddy family” for foster kids. This event is sponsored by our Neighboring Activists (Grade 6). Please check out the “Heart Gallery” on the Parish Hall stage; and to find out more about how you could make a difference, check out www.marcinc.org.

Annual Meeting Is June 10

The Annual Meeting is on Sunday, June 10, at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. At Annual Meeting, the congregation receives reports from staff and committees, votes on officers and committee members, approves delegates to General Assembly, approves the budget for next year, and more. Our bylaws state that First Parish members who have signed the book at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting may vote. If you are considering joining our community and would like to participate and vote, you must sign the book by Friday, May 11. The warrant for this year’s meeting will be approved by the Standing Committee at its second May meeting. If you have any questions or ideas you would like to share about Annual Meeting, warrant articles, etc., please contact Kristin Haddad, chair, Standing Committee, at kristin.haddad@gmail.com or 978-254-5012.

Social Action

The Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival

Supported by both the UUA and the UU Ministers’ Association, the Poor People’s Campaign is uniting tens of thousands of people across the country to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, militarism, ecological devastation, voter suppression, immigrant rights, economic inequality, and the nation’s distorted morality. Rallies in Boston, 37 other state capitals, and Washington, D.C., will take place concurrently on five consecutive Mondays, starting on May 14. For more information please visit the Social Action table at coffee hour or contact Zach Roe at zroe@Firstparish.org.

SAC Board Meetings

SAC Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesdays, May 15, and June 19, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. We welcome folks interested in participating in our Social Action program to join us at our Board meetings.

Date Change: AWE Book Group

Tuesday, May 15, 7:00 p.m., at First Parish

To avoid a conflict with the *Year for Reflection and Visioning* results summary meeting, we are moving the Advocates for Women’s Empowerment book group date to one week later, on May 15, not May 8, as previously publicized. This month, we are trying something different. We will be reading articles on the topic of Women’s Bodies. We have provided links to ten articles grouped in three subject areas: reproduction, body image, and sport. Please read at least one article on each subject. The article links can be found in the First Parish Office or on the AWE Facebook page (www.facebook.com/concordwomen). There is also a hard copy (for photocopying) in the church office. One article, written by a local author who will attend on the 15th, is available only as a hard copy in the office. For questions, contact Jen Izzo at jbizzo@hotmail.com.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, May 15, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Greeley Room

Our years-long efforts working with others advocating for Massachusetts prison reform culminated in Gov. Baker’s signing the Criminal Justice Reform Bill in April, a huge victory. Our May agenda includes ideas for actions directed to death penalty abolition, the prevention of violence against women worldwide, and the freeing of two Azerbaijanian student activists. All are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Nancy Lyons, nilyons22@gmail.com or 978-369-6109.

Disrupt ICE—Join an Interfaith Group to March Seven Times Around ICE Building in Burlington. Let’s Make Some Noise!

Monday, May 21, at 7:45 a.m. at the ICE building, 10 New England Executive Park, Burlington

Our immigrant neighbors are being rounded up and held for deportation. Many have been here for years, even decades. Most have no criminal record. Many have children born in the United States. Some have spouses and children who are U.S. citizens. They work, pay taxes, and support our economy and the vibrancy of our shared culture. Our government’s Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents are grabbing them when they come in for their regular reporting to ICE. They are being required to pay for their plane ticket back to a country they may barely remember. We will walk peaceably around the ICE building. With signs, with singing, with chanting. As in the Hebrew story, after seven times, a rabbi will blow the shofar. Please join us. The presence of many tells another story than the one ICE tells. For more information, contact Abby Buhle at

abuhle68@gmail.com or Laurie VanLoon at Ivanloon@comcast.net.

Religious Exploration

Coming of Age Service

Sunday, May 6, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

9th Graders and Their Mentors with Revs. Amy Freedman, Ken Reeves, and Howard Dana

Our Coming of Age Service will be the culmination of our 9th grade program. The youth will present their credos, personal statements of belief, to our congregations as well as leading other parts of the service. This is always a moving rite of passage. We encourage children who are in the 5th grade and older to attend the service. All ages are welcome!

Kids Yoga

Sunday, May 6, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Emerson Room

Following the Children’s Message, Kindergarten to 4th graders are invited to join guest teacher Jaime Andrews for yoga. Jaime is a certified Kidding Around Yoga (KAY) instructor. KAY creatively combines yoga, music, and games to teach children meditation, mindfulness, and stress management skills. Parents are asked to pick up their kids in the Emerson Room following the service.

Youth Justice Con at First Church in Belmont

Friday, May 11, 7:00 p.m., to Saturday, May 12, 6:00 p.m.

Ninth to 12th graders are invited to join youth from more than six Unitarian Universalist congregations. This overnight Youth Con is organized by the UU Boston Area Youth Staff (UUBAYS) including Rev. Jo VonRue. We have games, worship, workshops, and other fun stuff in store for participants. We will also have speakers from Black & Pink, which is an open family of LGBTQ prisoners and “free world” allies who support each other. To register, email Sana Saeed, Director of Youth Programs at Belmont: fbeyouthdir@gmail.com. Scholarships available; ask if needed.

RE Field Day at Emerson Playground

Sunday, June 3, 10:15 a.m. (Rain date: June 10)

Permission forms are now available for the RE Field Day at Emerson Playground. Children and youth are invited to a morning of outdoor fun, including Games, Bubbles, Relay Races, and Face Painting. Little RE will still be available for preschool children. Following the Children’s Message, all kids with permission will walk with RE staff and volunteers to 90 Stow Street, Concord. Please email or give your permission form to Amy. Questions? Contact Amy, afreedman@firstparish.org.

This Sunday, May 6

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

10:00-11:30 a.m. – Coming of Age Service (Grade 5 and older encouraged to attend. All ages are welcome!)

10:15-11:30 a.m. – Kids Yoga (Kindergarten- Grade 4), Emerson Room

Next Sunday, May 13

8:30 a.m. – Bus from First Parish in Concord to Boston for Mother’s Day Walk for Peace

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary

1:30 p.m. – Bus returns to First Parish from Mother’s Day Walk for Peace

June 2018 Meeting House News Deadline (Final Edition until September)

Tuesday, May 15, 12:00 Noon

Keep the article length to 100 words and send to the Editor, Wendy Wolfberg, wolfberg@post.harvard.edu.

The June 2018 edition will be published May 23.

The Sunday News deadline is Wednesday at 12:00 noon.

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