

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

June 17, 2018

This Week

Sun. June 17	10:00 Sunday Service 11:00 WPA Herb Garden Coffee Hour
Mon. June 18	6:00 Women's Book Group Potluck 7:00 Cultural Competence Training
Tue. June 19	5:00 SAC Board Meeting 7:00 Amnesty International
Wed. June 20	9:30 Buddhist Group
Thu. June 21	7:00 Membership Committee Meeting 7:30 By Your Side Singers 7:30 Buddhist Group
Fri. June 22	7:30 Rise Up Singing
Sat. June 23	8:00 AWE Meeting (offsite) 9:00 Men's Spirituality Retreat
Sun. June 24	10:00 Sunday Service

Parish Notes

Herb Garden Coffee Hour Party—Today, June 17

It's been an unpredictable spring this year, and it will be a special treat to visit the Deborah Greeley Herb Garden again! The Women's Parish Association will hold its popular Coffee Hour Herb Garden Party today, immediately after the worship service. Surrounded by fragrant herbs, we'll have a chance to celebrate and thank Rev. Jo VonRue, our wonderful Minister in Residence, and honor Father's Day. Join fellow parishioners and enjoy herb-flavored savories and sweets as the surrounding herbs nourish your soul! All warmly invited.

Summer Hours Start This Week

Summer hours at First Parish begin on Tuesday, June 19. The office will be open Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The office is closed on Mondays. Regular office hours will resume Tuesday, September 4.

First Parish Directory, Fall 2018 (No Photos)

On Homecoming Sunday, September 9, 2018, an updated First Parish in Concord paper directory of active members and friends (photocopied, not including photos) will be available for First Parishioners. If you do not pick up your household's copy of the directory by Sunday, September 30, it will be mailed to you. To be included in the directory, you need do nothing. If your household would prefer NOT to be included in the directory, please email Fifi Ball, fball@firstparish.org, by Saturday, June 30, 2018.



“What Lies in the Muck of Walden Pond and What Can We Learn from It?”

Sunday, July 1, 12:00-1:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Climate historian and ecological researcher, Prof. J. Curt Stager, Ph.D., will discuss Walden Pond's ecological past and future, and the legacy of Henry David Thoreau. Stager is the author of the 2018 book *Still Waters: The Secret World of Lakes*. Books will be available for sale and signing. Sponsored by Walden Pond State Reservation, the Transcendentalism Council, and The Thoreau Society. Free and open to the public.

“Surely Joy is the Condition of Life: Art Inspired by Henry David Thoreau,” by children's author, illustrator, and educator Donna Marie Przybojewski Exhibit, July 12-15 and 17, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Altshuler and Parish Hall Galleries

Artist Talk, “Transcending Joy: A Personal Journey,” July 17, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Parish Hall, with reception

Donna Marie Przybojewski will exhibit and share her experience creating illustrations that “reflect the joy Thoreau radiated when he sauntered in nature.” She has written and illustrated three books and two coloring books during the past two years. A teacher at St. Benedict Catholic School in Garfield Heights, Ohio, Przybojewski served as a Thoreau Bicentennial Ambassador for The Thoreau Society, creating and implementing a multidisciplinary, all-school curriculum based on Thoreau's life and work. Books will be available for sale and signing after the Artist Talk on July 17. The exhibit and talk are free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Transcendentalism Council.

Social Action

Cultural Competence Training—Spots Still Available!

Monday, June 18, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Emerson Room

Join the Jericho Road Project for “Global Perspectives,” an experiential training that helps volunteers work effectively and respectfully in diverse communities. Cultural competence enables us to better understand “others” by exploring the lenses we use to view cultures, including our own. All First Parishioners, including Lowell volunteers, are invited to take part in this pilot program and learn new skills. To register or learn more, contact Katharine Roberts, 978-377-8898 or katharine@goodstory.works.

SAC Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 19, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Brooks Room

We welcome folks interested in participating in our Social Action program to join us at our Board meetings.

AWE Book Group

Tuesday, July 17, 7:00 p.m., First Parish

The Advocates for Women's Empowerment (AWE) will read and discuss *The Power* by Naomi Alderman. In a novel of speculative fiction, an award-winning author contemplates a world where teenage girls now have immense physical power—they can cause agonizing pain and even death, drastically resetting the balance of the world. All are welcome (even if you haven't yet read the book). The book group complements AWE's mission to advance women's rights through advocacy, direct action, and education. The book group aims to broaden our awareness, hone our empathy, nourish our spiritual selves, and spark action. Contact: Jen Izzo (jbizzo@hotmail.com) for more information.



Religious Exploration

Register Children and Youth for 2018-2019

Please register children and youth for the next church year on our website. Our Religious Exploration program is year-round, but we offer classes by age group in the fall, winter, and spring seasons. Please sign up online today so we can plan and be prepared to welcome your family! Registration link: <https://goo.gl/forms/KiwflrDqeT03am1il>.

Join a Religious Exploration Team

Our teachers work in teams, and each member volunteers for eight Sundays across the church year. This model gives you flexibility and helps develop closer connections between children and coteachers. Volunteer sign-up: <https://tinyurl.com/ya3jn5ta>. Please contact our Assistant Director of Religious Education, Dawn: dvanpatten@firstparish.org; or our Minister of Religious Education, Amy: afreedman@firstparish.org, for more information or to explore the possibilities!

Summer 2018 Kids Program

Sundays, 10:00-11:00 a.m., First Parish

Children and youth are invited to drop in for our fun Summer Program, held every Sunday during the worship service. Our goal is for your family to feel energized and renewed!

June 24: Kids Yoga, Jaime Andrews

July 1: JELLO Painting, Wendy Dalton

July 8: Nature Walk and Mosaics, Wendy Dalton

July 15: Two-Ingredient Playdough and Sensory Play, Wendy Dalton

July 22: Obstacle Course, Wendy Dalton

July 29: Fantastic Animal Crafts, Wendy Dalton

August 5: Nature Paintbrushes and Painting, Wendy Dalton

August 12: Giant Bubbles, Wendy Dalton

August 19: Whirlygigs and Windchimes, Wendy Dalton

August 26: Kids Yoga, Jaime Andrews

September 2: Blessing of the Backpacks, Rev. Amy Freedman and Dawn VanPatten

Next Sunday, June 24: Kids Yoga

10:00-11:00 a.m., Emerson Room

During the service, young people are invited to join Jaime Andrews for yoga in the Emerson Room. Jaime is a certified Kidding Around Yoga (KAY) instructor. This unique class incorporates singing, jogging, dancing, games, and so much more to improve strength, flexibility, and coordination. Children will learn how to focus and center themselves with various breathing and visualization techniques. They will also learn self-respect and respect for others with the practice of fun and challenging poses, partner and group poses, lots of yoga games, breathing, and basic anatomy. Yoga mats will be available for use or your child can bring their own.

