

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

November 25, 2018

This Week

Sun. Nov 25	9:00 Chalice Choir
	9:00 Gospel Choir
	10:00 Sunday Service
	11:30 Junior Choir
Tues. Nov 27	8:30 Finance Committee Meeting
	6:00 Racial Justice Action Group
Wed. Nov 28	9:30 Buddhist Group
	7:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Nov 29	7:30 Buddhist Group
	7:30 By Your Side Singers
Sat. Dec 1	1:30 Children's Crafts Workshop
Sun. Dec 2	9:00 Chalice Choir
	9:00 Gospel Choir
	10:00 Sunday Service
	11:30 Junior Choir
	11:30 Legacy Giving Conversation

Parish Notes

November's Share the Plate Recipient: Camino Verde
Camino Verde (Green Road) reclaims and protects threatened rainforest in the Peruvian Amazon by planting native trees—over 30,000 (400 species) so far—a concrete answer to climate change. Camino Verde also works with farmers to regenerate forests, and with indigenous communities to distill essential oils as sustainable products—a model others can emulate. CV also partners with a private corporation to plant 100 acres and manage 400 wild rain forest acres. Its Peruvian staff of 10 includes 4 women (2 university-educated). Founded and directed by a First Parishioner, it was seed-funded by a SAC grant. To learn more, go to www.CaminoVerde.org.

The Children's Holiday Craft Workshop Saturday, December 1, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Join the fun at the Children's Holiday Craft Workshop! First Parish children are invited to create beautiful handmade gifts for the holidays, with the help of a merry band of elves. Cost is \$15/child; \$45/family max. To volunteer, contact elf@firstparish.org or Kristin Moore, Kimberly Brainerd, or Jeanne Williams.

"A Congregational Conversation: Financing Our Future, and Expanding our Horizons"

Sunday, December 2, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary

The Legacy Giving Committee is hosting a panel discussion on our Legacy Giving Program. Three First Parish members who've made legacy gifts will share how and why they gave to the Legacy Investment Fund (First Parish's "endowment"). We hope to, over time, meaningfully increase the LIF so that it can finance more of First Parish's annual operations, sustain our properties, provide a safety net, and expand our reach. Hear about alternative ways of making this commitment, and how you can generate current income, make a gift now and

see it at work, and more. Questions? Contact Tom Wilson, Chair of the Legacy Giving Committee, at twilson@wilsongroup.com or 617-281-1198.

"Winter Holiday Photos and Song"

Tuesday, December 4, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

The First Tuesday Group (65+) will meet for a Winter Holiday Celebration that begins with winter photographs from three First Parish Photo Club members, followed by small groups sharing personal photos of the winter season. The afternoon concludes with everyone joining Gerry Hurley at the piano for holiday songs and refreshments. Please come with a winter holiday photo that you are willing to share. Refreshments will include eggnog, cookies, coffee, tea, and your favorite holiday treat if you bring a plate to share (welcome, but not required). Come celebrate the winter holidays and share a photograph at our December meeting! (*While our focus is seniors, please come if you are interested, whatever your years.*)

Concord Area Humanists

Wednesday, December 5, 7:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall

"The Humanist Creation Story" is a fascinating one that is still evolving. It started 13.5 billion years ago with the Big Bang, and each year we learn a little more. Pat Everett will walk us through how we, the world, and modern Humanism, have developed to the present day. We will be guided by author Yuval Noah Harari's two books, *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*, and *Homo Deus, A Brief History of Tomorrow*, along with other sources. There will be opportunity for discussion. Could Artificial Intelligence replace us as dominant species?

Come to Cook

The Caring Connection provides delicious meals for parishioners during times of transition. It is time to fill the freezer again. We are going to cook on Friday, December 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the First Parish kitchen. If you are willing to help, please RSVP to Judy Dembsey at judydembsey@gmail.com or 978-263-3272. Email preferred.

Moms' Night Out Annual Holiday Cookie Swap

Friday, December 7, 7:30 to 9:30 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 for the holidays! RSVP to Leah Russell at leahkrussell@gmail.com or 978-266-1216 (email preferred).

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

Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to

Sarah Burns, sburns@firstparish.org.

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

Holiday Concert and Tea

Saturday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m.

Beautiful music by the Conchords and a delicious tea are being lovingly planned for you and your family and friends by the Women's Parish Association at our annual Holiday Concert and Tea. This is the Women's Parish Association's gift to the entire community. All men, women, youth, and children are warmly invited! There is no charge for this event. Bring a plate of sweets to share if you wish. Reservations are not required but are helpful for planning purposes. For reservations, contact the office at 978-369-9602 or pekindc@comcast.net by December 4.

Congregational Conversation Re: FY20 Budget

Sunday, December 9, 11:30 a.m., in the Brooks Room

Please join members of the Finance Committee and Fifi Ball, Director of Operations, for a Congregational Conversation about finances at First Parish. Bring your ideas and questions regarding the annual budget process.

Welcoming a Guest at Your Table

Return by Sunday, December 16

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. This year's program theme is "Justice Across Borders." Boxes will be distributed today and will be available in the front office after that. Please return your box on Sunday, December 16, so our UU Tweens class (Grades 4 & 5) can count your contribution. Otherwise, please write a check for the amount payable to UUSC. For more information, visit uus.org. Questions? Email Rev. Amy Freedman at afreedman@firstparish.org.

Social Action

Secret Santa is Coming

At coffee hour on both December 2 and 9, you will have an opportunity to select a Christmas wish list from an individual identified by the Walden Street School, The Eliot Center, or UU Urban Ministries. You can review and select from the lists that will be posted on sandwich boards, circulating at coffee hour. Unwrapped gifts are tagged and returned by Sunday, December 16, so that our volunteers can deliver them to the organizations before Christmas. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Brack at brackrobert@gmail.com or 508-735-6394 (email preferred).

AWE Free First Friday Feminist Film Series

Friday, December 7, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

We'll show "The Hunting Ground," a documentary that focuses on the epidemic of sexual assaults at U.S. colleges. This often-harrowing documentary combines the recollections of victims with disturbing statistics demonstrating the depth of the problem, while officials continue to downplay the issue. There will be an opportunity for informal discussion following the film. Contact Lou Toussaint at mloutoussaint@gmail.com.

Goods for Jamaica

Got things you don't need? They are needed in Jamaica: clothing, tools, toiletries, dictionaries, canned foods, and more. Don't have stuff? Funds are also needed for

transport. We'll pack barrels in early December and Jennifer Burgess will take them to Jamaica. Get more information at ccking.interplay@gmail.com or 978-369-1543 (email preferred). Sponsored by RJAG and SAC.

Holiday Gift Bag Project for those in Prison

Once again, Concord Prison Outreach (CPO) is sponsoring the Holiday Gift Bag Project for our neighbors in the two Concord prisons. For information on how you can help, get the flyer at coffee hour, see them attached to the big green bucket in the coat room, or read the article in the Concord Journal or other towns' local papers. To learn more about the Holiday Gift Bag Project and other CPO programs, visit <http://www.concordprisonoutreach.org>. Additional information can be obtained from Don Miller at donaldbmiller@comcast.net or 978-610-6298.

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, November 25:

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

Parents and guardians are welcome to bring little ones downstairs to our Nursery Space 15 minutes before the service.

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:15 a.m. – Kids Yoga – Emerson Room (K-6)

6:00- 8:00 p.m. – High School Youth Group – Wright Tavern

Next Sunday, December 2: Religious Exploration

Kids Yoga

Today, November 25, 10:15 a.m.

Little RE Available for Ages 0-4 Years

Following the Children's Message, 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.



January 2019 Meeting House News Deadline

Tuesday, December 11, 12:00 Noon

Keep the article length to 100 words and send to the Editor, Wendy Wolfberg, wolfberg@post.harvard.edu. The January 2019 edition will be published December 19.

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

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

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Visit our website at firstparish.org.