

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

December 30, 2018

This Week

Sun. Dec 30	10:00	Sunday Service
Tues. Jan 1		First Parish Closed on New Year's Day
Wed. Jan 2	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:00	T'ai Chi
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Jan 3	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri. Jan 4	7:00	AWE Film Series
Sat. Jan 5	10:00	Songleading for Justice workshop
Sun. Jan 6	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
	11:30	Amnesty International, Group 15
	11:30	Forum Committee Meeting

Parish Notes

December's Share the Plate Recipient: The International Rescue Committee

The International Rescue Committee responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises, helping restore health, safety, education, economic well-being, and power to people devastated by conflict and disaster. Founded in 1933 at the call of Albert Einstein, the IRC works in over 40 countries and 28 offices across the United States, helping people survive, reclaim control of their future, and strengthen their communities. They have won top marks from charity watchdog groups for efficiency and effectiveness. Learn more at www.rescue.org.

The Holiday Memorial Wreath

The Holiday Memorial Wreath, at the front of the Sanctuary, is a way to acknowledge the memory of a loved one who has died. Tie a colored ribbon to the wreath for those you wish to remember. You are invited to tie a black ribbon on the wreath in memory of black lives lost to injustice. The wreath will remain in the Sanctuary throughout the holidays.

First Tuesday Group

Capturing Memories on Paper: Our Lives in Words
SECOND Tuesday, January 8, 1:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Because New Year's Day falls on the First Tuesday, the First Tuesday Group will meet on the **SECOND** Tuesday, January 8, 1:30-3:00 p.m. The workshop will be led by Virginia Taylor, who has both written and taught memoir. When you write memories down, you create windows on your life, connect with the future, and

give your descendants an impression of your life and times. Write for the pleasure and insight that comes from reconstructing parts of your life in words. Virginia will show us how to write in response to a prompt such as my childhood best friend, the kitchen table, a turning point. Participants will gather in small groups and share their work if they choose. (While our focus is seniors, please come if you are interested, whatever your years.)

Concord Area Humanists: "Artificial Intelligence"

Wednesday, January 9, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Artificial intelligence (AI) will eventually surpass human intelligence, evolving its own software "DNA." If AI doesn't care about people, it may destroy everything we value. If we're careful how we build it, AI could deliver a vastly better world. Experts Carl Feynman, computer scientist, and Terry Riopka, researcher in deep learning, will introduce possibilities. Contact Franklin Davis for more information at franklin.davis@gmail.com.

UUA President to Visit First Parish in Concord Sunday, January 20, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)

Sermon: "Called to Beloved Community"
Unitarian Universalists are being called in this moment to live more powerfully and boldly into Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision of Beloved Community. What does this look like and how do we answer "Yes" to this calling in our lives and in our congregations?

Sunday Forum

**January 20, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sanctuary
Conversation and Q&A with
Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, President of the UUA**
Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray was elected President of the Unitarian Universalist Association on June 24, 2017. Prior to her election, she served as Lead Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix, Arizona. Susan played a critical role in the long-term campaign to end constitutional violations by Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Susan received a Master's of Divinity from Harvard Divinity School and a Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She is a lifelong UU who grew up in the St. Louis area. She now lives in Cambridge, Mass., with her husband Brian and their son.

Social Action

AWE Friday Feminist Film

Friday, January 4, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

Made in Dagenham is based on a true story and explores a movement that caused significant law reform. In 1968, female workers walked out of the Ford Dagenham (England) factory in protest against sexual discrimination, demanding equal pay, and garnering public attention from around the world. The strike was successful and led to the Equal Pay Act of 1970. This event is free of charge. Contact Lou Toussaint at mloutoussaint@gmail.com for more information.

Songleading for Justice with Matt Meyer

Saturday, January 5, 10:00 a.m., Parish Hall

Join a two-hour fully participatory workshop designed to build skills and confidence in community songleading. Share best practices for invitational leadership and energetic singing encouragement. Expand your repertoire for singing without accompaniment and learn new songs for building a just, sustainable world. Enjoy leading and following, rhythm and words, and the sound of a community in harmony. Matt Meyer is a musician and community organizer who has led hundreds of services for UU congregations across the country. Contact Beth Norton at bnorton@firstparish.org for more information.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Sunday, January 6, 11:30 a.m., Coffee Hour

If you'd like to join the biggest human rights event in the world, Amnesty International's annual "Write for Rights" campaign, then stop by our table during coffee hour on January 6. We'll have information about women whose peaceful activism has led to harsh attacks on their basic human rights, as well as letters to officials and cards of support to the women themselves ready for your signature. We hope to see you there.

Three Kings Day with Santuario Luterano

Sunday, January 6, 5:00 p.m., Waltham

Join Zach Roe and members of First Parish as we visit Santuario Luterano in Waltham for the celebration of Día de los Tres Reyes (Three Kings Day). Mass will be at 5:00 p.m., and the event will begin at 6:00 p.m. Día de los Tres Reyes celebrates the arrival of the three kings in the biblical story of the nativity. There will be homemade Puerto Rican food, decorating of boxes for the youth, passing out of gifts and sweets, and an appearance by the Three Kings! Santuario Luterano is a Spanish-speaking Lutheran congregation led by the Rev. Ángel Marrero, who is Zach's husband. Space is limited, so please reserve a spot by RSVPing on the First Parish Social Action Community page on Facebook (facebook.com/fpcsac), or contact Zach at zroe@firstparish.org.

AWE January Meeting

Saturday, January 19, 8:00 a.m.

Join us for our monthly business roundtable meeting

where we'll discuss the status of upcoming events and volunteer opportunities at those events. Please come if you are thinking about a specific initiative to advocate for women, or would like to positively support our events. Ideas for new initiatives may bubble up! Our meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month. All meetings and events are open to women, men, and people of all gender identities and expressions. For more information, email Lora Venesy at venesy@comcast.net.

Religious Exploration

Today, Sunday, December 30

All Ages Service, No RE or Little RE

"What We Cast Off" and "What We Carry,"

Laurel Gray, Ministerial Intern

Music: Pamela Schweppe and Tamasin Foote, sopranos

Next Sunday, January 6, 2019

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:00 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths/Grade 7 – Brooks Rm.

10:15-11:15 a.m.

Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2 – Lower Level

Grade 3 – Ripley and Greeley Rooms – Upper Level

Special Presentation, Grades 4, 5, & 6 – Emerson Rm.

**Special Presentation: Tourette Youth Ambassador
Sunday, January 6, 10:15-11:15 a.m., Emerson Rm.**

During regular RE time on January 6, a Youth Ambassador from the Tourette Syndrome Association will speak to our 4th-6th graders. Tourette Youth Ambassadors educate, promote empathy and understanding, and provide a personal perspective on living with a neurodevelopmental disorder.

Rev. Howard Dana is on Sabbatical until March.

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

Church office: 978-369-9602

Visit our website: www.firstparish.org.

February 2019 Meeting House News Deadline

Tuesday, January 15, 12:00 noon

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

The February 2019 edition will be published
on January 23, 2019.

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.