

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

January 6, 2019

## This Week

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
Mon. Jan 7	11:30	Forum Committee Meeting
	1:30	Caregiver Support Group
Tues. Jan 8	7:00	Immigration Justice Task Force
	8:30	Finance Committee Meeting
Wed. Jan 9	1:30	First Tuesday Group
	2:00	Shawl Ministry
	7:00	Standing Committee Meeting
	9:15	Cancer Support Group
	9:30	Buddhist Group
Thu. Jan 10	7:00	Concord Area Humanists
	7:00	T'ai Chi Drop-In Class
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri. Jan 11	12:30	T'ai Chi
Sat. Jan 12	9:30	Photography Club
Sun. Jan 13	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
	11:30	Racial Justice Action Group

## Parish Notes

### January's Share the Plate Recipient:

Meet City Mission – our January Share the Plate recipient. For 200 years, City Mission has focused on rooting out poverty in Boston neighborhoods, with a strategic focus on preventing family homelessness. City Mission's programs include homeless prevention programs, such as Lift Up, for low-income single mothers and the Emergency Needs Network for unemployed, elderly, and/or disabled Boston residents; coordinating donations to low income children and families, through Coat Boston and the Christmas Shop; and teaching program participants and Greater Boston high school students about the systemic causes of family homelessness and advocacy skills, and recruiting them to advocate with the state legislature for measures to prevent and ameliorate homelessness.

### Women's Retreats — Registration Deadline Today!

The theme for this year's Women's Retreats is "Our Voices, Our Peace, Our Power." Register at coffee hour today! (Late registrations accepted on a space available basis. Forms available online at [firstparish.org/forms](http://firstparish.org/forms) and in the church office.) All women of First Parish are welcome to attend one of the Away weekends at Senexet House ([January 11 - 13](#) and [January 25 - 27](#)) or the At-Home retreat at First Parish ([February 8 and 9](#)). Questions? Contact registrar Darien Smith at [darien@smithquest.com](mailto:darien@smithquest.com).

### 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 fell on the First Tuesday, the First Tuesday Group will meet on the SECOND Tuesday, January 8, 1:30 to 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 into 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," and "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](mailto:franklin.davis@gmail.com).

### Spiritual Audacity: Six Disciplines of Human Flourishing

**Mondays, January 14 to February 25, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
**(No class February 18), in the Chapel**

Jim Sherblom will lead a six-session program based on his new book exploring these spiritual disciplines: Resilience, Ego Surrender, Gratitude, Generosity, The Unknowable Nature of Divine Mystery, and Spiritual Awakening. We will be doing and discussing exercises for self-realization from the book. The class is limited in size so preregister at [jimsherblom@gmail.com](mailto:jimsherblom@gmail.com) or in the front office.

### February Meeting House News Deadline

**Tuesday, January 15, at Noon; Published January 23**  
Please send your final form entry and images as *attachments* by January 15 or earlier to Wendy Wolfberg at [wolfberg@post.harvard.edu](mailto:wolfberg@post.harvard.edu), and contact her if you do not receive a receipt confirmation email. Word limit is 100, and images can be either JPEG or PNG. Please review the brochure "Publicizing Events at First Parish of Concord" for details and upcoming dates and previous *MHN* issues for examples. The March Issue deadline is Tuesday, February 19.

### Jewish Awareness Affinity Group

**Reverberations of the Holocaust, Beyond Its Victims**  
**Friday, January 18, 7:00 p.m., in the Brooks Room**  
We will always be shaken by the appalling inhumanity of the Holocaust. Descendants of the perpetrators—highly

placed and ordinary—struggle with the deeds of their forebears. Join a lively and wide-ranging discussion of this issue! We'll share challah, wine, blessings, and conversation. All are welcome. For more information, contact Laura (Nixdorf) Bernstein at [lrb1943@gmail.com](mailto:lrb1943@gmail.com), or 781 430-6115.

### **Save This Date: January 25**

The Women's Parish Association is planning another popular Friday Night with Friends event on January 25 at 6:00 p.m. which will include supper, crafting, and fun. All men, women, and interested children are warmly invited. Stay tuned for further details in FP Weekly announcements. For reservations, contact the office at 978-369-9602 or [pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:pekindc@comcast.net) by January 20.

### **Margaret Fuller and #Metoo**

**Tuesday, January 29, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Emerson Room  
Sponsored by the Transcendentalism Council**

Margaret Fuller [1810-1850] fought for women's equality and facilitated "conversations" encouraging women to develop their intellect. In 1845, she published *Woman in the Nineteenth Century*, a feminist classic. Men and women are invited to join Mary-Wren vanderWilden as she facilitates a "conversation" about Fuller and feminism today. We will discuss a short excerpt from Fuller's writings. To register, visit the First Parish office Tuesday to Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., or call 978-369-9602. Preregistration and prepayment of \$10 fee is required. Reading will be emailed. Contact: [Shelley\\_Hawks@msn.com](mailto:Shelley_Hawks@msn.com).

## **Social Action**

### **Amnesty International, Group 15**

**Today, 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**

**Today, 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, the 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 RSVP-ing on the First Parish Social Action Community page on Facebook ([facebook.com/fpcsac](https://www.facebook.com/fpcsac)), or contact Zach at [zroe@firstparish.org](mailto: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](mailto:venesy@comcast.net).

### **AWE Feminist Book Group Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 30, 7:00 p.m.**

We'll discuss *Persepolis*, an autobiography by Marjane Satrapi. The author depicts her childhood up to her early adult years in Iran during and after the Islamic Revolution, including how the Iranian Revolution shaped her life and the lives of her friends and family. The novel narrates "counter-historical narratives that are mostly unknown by a Western reading public." Join the discussion even if you have not finished reading the book! We'll meet at 14 Pleasant Street, West Concord. Contact Merrill Comeau ([14thebeesknees@gmail.com](mailto:14thebeesknees@gmail.com)).

## **Religious Exploration**

**This Sunday, January 6:** Religious Exploration

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:00 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths, Grade 7– Brooks Room

10:15 a.m. - 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 Room

11:30 a.m.-2:00p.m. – RE Team Winter Gathering– Emerson Room

4:00-6:00 p.m. – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade OWL: Session 1, Group Building & Values– Emerson Room

**Next Sunday, January 13:** Religious Exploration

### **Special Presentation by Tourette Youth Ambassador**

**Today, January 6, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m., Emerson Room**

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

### **RE Team Winter Gathering**

**Today, January 6, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Emerson Room**

This year we have working groups focusing on certain areas of our Religious Education program. These teams meet at First Parish in the fall, winter, and spring with a shared meal and child care. The teams also meet at other mutually agreeable times and/or communicate online to work together on their areas of focus. We have openings on the following teams: Social Action Team, Teacher Resource Team, and Welcome Team. Our Youth Team is full! If you'd like to join a team or learn more, you are welcome to attend this gathering or contact our Minister of Religious Education, Amy Freedman, [afreedman@firstparish.org](mailto:afreedman@firstparish.org).



***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](mailto:sburns@firstparish.org).  
*The Sunday News* can be read **online** at  
[www.firstparish.org](http://www.firstparish.org).