

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

May 12, 2019

This Week

Sun. May 12	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
	12:15	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble
Tues. May 14	2:00	Annual Photo Club Exhibit
	8:30	Finance Committee Meeting
	2:00	Shawl Ministry
Wed. May 15	7:00	Standing Committee Meeting
	8:00	Trustees Meeting
	9:30	Buddhist Group
Thu. May 16	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
	7:00	Membership Committee Meeting
	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri. May 17	7:30	By Your Side Singers
	7:00	Jewish Awareness Affinity Group
Sun. May 19	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
	11:30	Sunday Forum

Parish Notes

May "Share the Plate": Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

Our Share the Plate offering this month is for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). This means that half of what you give this morning will support UUSC and half will support First Parish in Concord. UUSC is a 78-year-old human rights organization grounded in UU values, that advances human rights and social justice through advocacy, research, and partnerships with grassroots organizations in more than 20 countries around the globe, including the United States. Prioritizing local needs and initiatives, UUSC collaborates to advance migration justice, bolster environmental justice, and respond to humanitarian crises. Become a UUSC member or learn more at www.uusc.org.

Pick Up Your Offering Envelopes

New Offering Envelopes are here and will be available to pick up after the service today!

Submit Your 2018-2019 Annual Reports for the 2019 Annual Meeting And to Retain Chartered Group Status

Deadline: Friday, May 31 at 12:00 Noon

To have your group's annual report included at Annual Meeting, please submit a text file to Sarah Burns, Church Administrator, at sburns@firstparish.org, by noon on Friday, May 31. While the document circulated at the Annual Meeting will not be the full Annual Report, we ask that all submissions be made in final form. With questions, please call Sarah Burns at the church office at 978-369-9602, ext. 410. To maintain your group's chartered status, please submit an annual report, including the group name, current leadership contact information, approximate membership count, and a description of your group's activities during the 2018-2019 church year, to Fifi Ball, Director of Operations, at fball@firstparish.org. Maintaining chartered group status allows free use of FP space for meetings and events, and access to FP communication channels and website. Deadline for chartered group 2018-2019 annual reports, in time for the new church year, is Friday, August 30. Please contact Fifi with questions. Submitting to both Fifi and Sarah at the same time is easiest.

Photo Club Annual Exhibit, Today, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Bring your family and friends to the Annual First Parish Photo Club Show and Reception today from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. 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.

First Parish Photo Club Field Trip to Plum Island

The First Parish Photo Club is planning a field trip to Plum Island on Tuesday, May 14. Want to join us and know more about what we do? Get a sneak preview of club activities and outings. For more information about this upcoming photo club trip, and/or other club happenings, contact Barbara Olson, BOinBoston@aol.com, or call 781-646-5015.

An Evening with David Blight

Wednesday, May 15, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Renowned historians David Blight and John Stauffer discuss Frederick Douglass, the escaped enslaved man who became the greatest orator of his day and one of the leading abolitionists and writers of the era. Free to public, register through the Concord Museum at concordmuseum.org/events/frederick-douglass-prophet-of-freedom/.

Jewish Awareness Affinity Group

The Issues Dividing Israeli and American Jews.

Friday, May 17, 7:00 p.m., Brooks Room

We'll gather to discuss how circumstances—both long-standing and current—have fueled a political division between the American and Israeli Jewish communities. Let us know if you're interested in attending and we'll e-mail you a couple of articles which we'll use as the material for discussion. We'll share challah, wine, blessings, and conversation. All are welcome. Contact Jessica Bethoney, at 781-259-8680 or at jessicabethoney@gmail.com.

Meeting House News June Issue

Deadline Tuesday, May 21, Noon; Published May 29.

This issue will cover the summer months June through the first week of September. Please plan accordingly. Send final form entry and images as attachments to the Editor at wolfberg@post.harvard.edu. Word limit is 100; content can be Word or Text files (not PDFs); and images can be JPEG or PNG. Please use formatting guidelines. Thank you.

Congregational Conversation Regarding Annual Budget

Sunday, June 2, 11:30 Brooks Room

Please join Fifi Ball, Director of Operations; Michelle Fortier, Treasurer; and Members of the Finance Committee for a Congregational Conversation about the proposed budget for the July 2019 to June 2020 church year.

"Our Fathers, Our Selves—A Men's Spirituality Retreat"

Saturday, June 15, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., Chapel

We will gather to reflect on our fathers and on the lasting impact of our relationship. The retreat will help men understand their fathers' behavior patterns, (both positive and negative), the lasting impact on their lives, and on their friendships with other men. Bring in a picture of your father and an object strongly associated with your father, something he owned or made. No late arrivals or early departures, please. The retreat is open to all male-identified members and friends of FP. Sign up in the Church Office.

Sweet & Savory Garden Party with The Conchords

Join hosts Barry and Carolyn Copp and Dean and Vivienne Aldrich for a lovely summer concert fundraising party in Carlisle on Saturday, June 29, at 7:00 p.m. The Conchords, made up of our FP friends Bob, Larry, Lauren, Rick, Pam, and Rex will perform an eclectic repertoire that covers 1930s to the present, with styles ranging from jazz, to the great American songbook, barbershop, doo-wop, and gospel, to popular music. Savory appetizers, sweet desserts, and delightful music will create a magical evening. Tickets are \$25 each, please pay in the office.

Social Action

SAC Giving Team Now Accepting Requests for Share the Plate Nominations

In Share the Plate collections, half of the funds raised (other than those designated as fulfilling pledges), will go to the designated recipient organization and the other half will go to First Parish. The congregation has an opportunity to learn about the organization, including ways of getting more involved. The Nomination Form is online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/FPCSACForm. The team will be selecting nominations for September through December. Applications are due by May 13. Questions, please contact Liz Rust (liz@therusts.net), Ted Bayne (tedbayne@comcast.net), Sue St.Croix (sue@suestcroix.com), or Stephanie Liu (liuhortonfamily@gmail.com).

AWE Monthly Meeting—Saturday, May 18, 8:00 a.m., Art Gym

We'll have a quick business meeting, then we'll discuss white feminism, guided by the articles below. Read one or both! Our meetings and events are open to women, men, and people of all gender identities and expressions. New Location: Art Gym, 152 Commonwealth Avenue in West Concord (above Nashoba Brook Bakery). Contact: Lora Venesy at venesy@comcast.net. www.bustle.com/articles/120684-7-things-feminists-of-color-want-white-feminists-to-know and www.harperbazaar.com/culture/politics/a22717725/what-is-toxic-white-feminism.

Sunday Forum—May 19

First Parish Annual Meeting Article to Endorse Green New Deal

Join members of First Parish's Environmental Team on Sunday, May 19, at 11:30 a.m., in the Sanctuary, to learn about their annual meeting article to endorse the aspirational goals of the Green New Deal.

Jericho Walk: A Silent Interfaith Prayer, Walk, and Act of Solidarity—Tuesday, May 21, 1:00 p.m.

ICE Office, 10 District Avenue, Burlington, Mass.

The walk draws inspiration from the Battle of Jericho in which the community marched around Jericho seven times causing the city walls to fall. Our walk is a silent, peaceful, and prayerful walk to bring down the walls of our unjust immigration system and is open to all. Please join members of the IJTF for this peaceful protest. We will gather in front of the ICE Office along District Ave. For information, contact Pamela Chester, pgachester@gmail.com.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Greeley Room

We continue to work on immigration issues, including joining local efforts; the abolition of the death penalty; and Massachusetts prison reform. Our monthly letter-writing supports individuals worldwide whose lives are in jeopardy because of their human-rights work. Please join us. For more information: Nancy Lyons, njlyons22@gmail.com or 978-505-1936.

Support Immigrant Rights in MA

Wednesday, May 22, 10:00 a.m., at the State House

ICE actions and immigration policy are becoming increasingly cruel.

Basic protections passed this legislative session are in jeopardy! Help keep families together, allow the renewal of driver's licenses for access to jobs and appointments, and hold the line on protections for this vulnerable population. Join the Immigration Justice Task Force and UU Mass Action Network—we'll divide into teams and cover 33 offices in the State House. Questions, contact Laura Wagner, Lwagner@uumassaction.org.

“Declaring Independence: Then and Now”: Sponsored by SAC Sunday, June 2, at 12:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary

What does the Declaration of Independence mean today and what did it mean to citizens throughout the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area when it was conceived and debated during their lifetime? The thought-provoking public performance piece, “Declaring Independence: Then and Now,” seeks to answer this question by integrating a reading of the Declaration of Independence with first person accounts presented by living-history performers. As the 18th-century words and ideas are performed, the narrator explores their meaning to challenge the audience to consider their relevance and power for today.

Did You Miss Beloved Conversations?

Are you interested in continuing the dialogue on race in our community? Several parishioners have asked if there would be another Beloved Conversation offering soon. The Racial Justice Action Group is planning for next year and we want to know what our fellow congregants want. If you would like to participate, have questions, or other ideas, please speak to us at coffee hour or send us an email. We look forward to hearing from you. Sue St.Croix, sue@suestcroix.com; Ted Bayne, tedbayne@comcast.net; Beth Norton, elizabethhnorton@gmail.com; Jim Synder-Grant, jim.snyder.grant@gmail.com; or Cindy Soule, cindysoule@gmail.com.

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, May 12:

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

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service for all ages – Sanctuary

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

Next Sunday, May 19: Religious Exploration

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

10:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

Little OWL – Lower Level

Middle OWL – Wright Tavern

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:15-11:15 a.m.

“Connecting with Nature,” Multiage (K-5)– Upper Level

Neighboring Activists, Grade 6 – Chapel

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

“The Wilderness,” A Family-Friendly Show

Saturday, June 8, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall Stage

Save the date! The Neighboring Activists are staging a play written by our very own Sam Vallancourt. Our 6th graders are putting on this original show to benefit Tomten Farm and Animal Sanctuary in Haverhill, New Hampshire. The show features fun animal characters. Admission is pay what you like to support this worthy cause.

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.