

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

June 2, 2019

This Week

Sun. June 2	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Choir
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Finance Committee Meeting
	12:30	Declaring Independence
	7:00	Climate Church, Climate World
Mon. June 3	1:30	Caregiver Support Group
	7:00	IJTF Meeting
Tues. June 4	1:30	First Tuesday Group
	6:00	“Open Door” Service
	7:00	Standing Committee Meeting
Wed. June 5	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:00	Concord Area Humanists
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. June 6	7:30	Buddhist Group
	7:30	By Your Side Singers
Fri. June 7	7:00	AWE Film Series
Sat. June 8	9:30	Photo Club
	7:00	“The Wilderness” Show
Sun. June 9	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Choir
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Annual Meeting

June ice cream social. Come participate in this stimulating mix of end-of-year activities! (While our focus is seniors, please come if you are interested, whatever your age.)

Open Door: Evening Contemporary Worship Tuesday, June 4, 6:00 p.m., Chapel

Gather with us for vibrant evening worship and real connection! Service will be led by Gail Carey, Assistant Director of Music Ministry, and Laurel Gray, Ministerial Intern. Musicians from the Contemporary Vocal Ensemble will help lead congregational singing. Lay leaders will share reflections on their call to social justice work. Learn what inspires us forward together in kindness. Come as you are.

Social Action

Microloans

Did you know First Parish is using \$1,100 in Social Action funds to make microloans to people all around the world? Each month, a member of the Microfinance Group selects loan recipients through the umbrella organization KIVA.org, based on interests identified within our congregation (women's equality, immigration justice, environmental justice, immigrant and refugee justice, and racism). Want to learn more? Interested in joining our group and selecting recipients? Email Toby Smith Ropeik at tobyasmith@gmail.com.

Write Here! Write Now!

Coffee Hour, June 2, 11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

Raise your voice—tell your senators to take action on healthcare costs! In 1992, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) passed a General Resolution to support universal healthcare. Since healthcare is currently making headlines, now is the time for UUs to add our voices to the public discussion. Stop by today at the UUs for Social Justice (UUSJ)'s *Write Here! Write Now!* Coffee Hour table to write a letter to your senator, telling your story and urging them to address healthcare affordability and support legislation to reduce the cost of prescription drugs. This effort is sponsored by Reclaim Our Democracy. All materials provided; bring your words and your will. On June 11, members of the UUSJ Advocacy Corps will hand-deliver your letters to your Senators in Washington, DC. Questions? Contact Kate Kavanagh katekav@gmail.com.

Declaring Independence: Then and Now

Sunday, June 2, 12:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary

The Social Action Council is pleased to sponsor *Declaring Independence: Then and Now*, in partnership with Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, the American Antiquarian Society, and the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati. What does the Declaration of Independence mean today and what did it mean to citizens when it was conceived and debated during their lifetimes? 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, a narrator explores their meanings, challenging the audience to consider their relevance and power today. For more

June's Share-the-Plate will go to Sunrise Movement.

Sunrise Movement is a movement to stop climate change and create millions of good jobs in the process. “We’re building an army of young people to make climate change an urgent priority across America, end the corrupting influence of fossil fuel executives on our politics, and elect leaders who stand up for the health and wellbeing of all people. We are ordinary young people who are scared about what the climate crisis means for the people and places we love. We are gathering in classrooms, living rooms, and worship halls across the country. Everyone has a role to play. Public opinion is already with us—if we unite by the millions we can turn this into political power and reclaim our democracy.” See sunrisemovement.org for more information.

Parish Notes

Congregational Conversation about FY20 Annual Budget Sunday, June 2, 11:30 a.m., 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.

“Meditation, Mindful Practices, and Their Benefits”

First Tuesday Group—Tuesday, June 4, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Meditation and other mindful practices recharge your body, mind, and spirit while defusing stress. On June 4, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., Rev. Marion Visel will engage participants in simple meditation and mindful practices that help sharpen focus, lower blood pressure, reduce chronic pain, and make a real improvement in one’s everyday life. The day will also include a list of likely topics for next year's programs, and our traditional

information, contact Marilyn Lowitt marilyn.lowitt@verizon.net or Peter Lowitt peter.lowitt@verizon.net.

What is the Immigration Justice Taskforce (IJTF)?

Join Our Next Monthly Meeting

This Monday, June 3, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Brooks Room

What do we do and why do we do it? If you're wondering, please come to the next IJTF monthly meeting. Or, ask one of the IJTF members. Here are a few: Tony Rodriguez, trod.rodriguez@gmail.com; Laurie Van Loon, lvanloon@comcast.net; Abby Buhle, abuhle68@gmail.com; Jessica Bethony, jessicabethoney@gmail.com; and Regina Corrao, reginacorraoconsulting@gmail.com.

AWE Free First Friday Feminist Film Series

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

Join us for *Ocean's 8*, our final film of this church year. This is a fun, feminist heist flick with an amazing cast, which includes Cate Blanchett, Helena Bonham Carter, Sandra Bullock, Rihanna, Mindy Kaling, Awkwafina, and Sarah Paulson. For more information, contact Lou Toussaint at mloutoussaint@gmail.com.

Attend Pride Service and March in the Boston Pride Parade Saturday, June 8, 11:00 a.m.

The Diversity Committee encourages our members to join Howard in attending the Pride Service at the Arlington Street Church in Boston, and marching together in the Boston Pride Parade on Saturday, June 8. Gail Carey will play in the band for the service and would love to see familiar faces there showing their support for the LGBTQ community. The service will start at 11:00 a.m. After the service, those attending can join the parade line-up. Contact Sara Ballard at sara@sb.org or 978-371-0723 for more information.

Space is Limited!

Immigrant Accompaniment Training, Open To All Wednesday, June 12, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Brooks Room

Are you concerned about our immigrant neighbors? Want to know how you can be supportive? Do your values include presence, solidarity, and compassion? Join us to receive training to accompany immigrants to district and federal courts for ICE/ISAP check-ins. Learn about this network of solidarity and support across the metrowest Boston region, and be in community with our neighbors. Whatever your schedule, language, or familiarity with these issues, you can make a difference! The event is sponsored by the Immigration Justice Taskforce (IJTF) with the Metrowest Immigrant Solidarity Network. Open to all, but space is limited. RSVP to framcompaneras@gmail.com.



Religious Exploration

Today, Sunday, June 2

9:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
10:00 a.m. – Worship Service for all ages
10:15 a.m. – Little OWL – Lower Level
10:15 a.m. – Middle OWL – Wright Tavern
11:00 a.m. – Neighboring Activists – table at Coffee Hour
11:00 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths serve at Common Cathedral in Boston, return ~3:15 p.m.
6:00 p.m. – Youth Group – Wright Tavern

Next Sunday, June 9

9:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
10:00 a.m. – Worship Service – Sanctuary
10:15 a.m. – *Discovering Colonial Life*, multi-age program – Wright Tavern

The Wilderness, a family-friendly show

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

Today (June 2), at Coffee Hour, our 6th grade Neighboring Activists are offering tags with original artwork to promote their play. Please donate any amount to support their worthy cause—Tomten Farm and Animal Sanctuary in Haverhill, New Hampshire. *The Wilderness* was written by 6th grader Sam Vallancourt and features fun animal characters. Admission will be pay-what-you-like at the door to support this worthy cause!

Discovering Colonial Life at the Wright Tavern

Sunday, June 9, 10:15-11:15 a.m., multi-age program

Children are invited to discover the fascinating history of our own Wright Tavern, the red building next to First Parish. With educators from the Concord Museum, we will open the first floor. A special guest from the past, Phebe (Walker) Bliss, will share about the history of the Wright Tavern and the important role it played in the events of April 19, 1775. Phebe was the wife of Concord's minister Daniel Bliss and after he died she married the new minister, Reverend William Emerson. Our morning will also include colonial clothing try-on, colonial games, and colonial crafts.

Creating Spiritual Space with Margot Kimball

10:00-11:00 a.m., during the service

Summer Sundays, June 23, 30, July 7, 14

From cathedrals and mosques to shrines and meditation rooms, people everywhere and throughout human history have created objects and spaces that invoke a sense of spiritual inspiration and centeredness. We will explore the making of spiritual images and the creation of an inspirational space with materials that mimic stained glass. Over four Sundays, we will make a stained glass like window to be enjoyed by all. Drop-ins are welcome! Our lead educator, Margot Kimball, is a long-time member of First Parish as well as an experienced teacher of art classes for children and adults. See villageartroom.com.

Flower Yoga and Cooperative Games

10:00-11:00 a.m., during the service

Summer Sundays, July 21, 28 & August 4, 11

Children are invited to drop in for a special morning of storytelling, yoga, and cooperative games. Tara Rachel Jones is a certified yoga teacher who has developed her own approach to children's yoga—a synthesis of education, developmental movement, and yogic teachings. Tara looks forward to sharing stories and creating space for a deliberate and positive *pause* from a very busy world. See www.floweryoga.com.



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.