

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

June 9, 2019

This Week

Sun. June 9	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Annual Meeting
Tues. June 11	8:30	Finance Committee Meeting
	2:00	Shawl Ministry
	7:00	Standing Committee Meeting
Wed. June 12	9:00	Cancer Support Group
	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:00	IJTF Training
Thu. June 13	7:30	Buddhist Group
Sat. June 15	1:00	Men's Spirituality Retreat
Sun. June 16	9:00	WPA Herb Garden Tea
	10:00	Flower Communion Service
	11:30	Forum Committee Meeting

Parish Notes

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.

"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.

Meet with Marion (A Note from Rev. Marion Visel)

I'm retiring in June, and there will be an opportunity to say goodbye on my last Sunday, June 16. It's been wonderful to talk with so many of you during appointments, meetings, and after services. I want you to know how much I value our time together. As June approaches, know that if you would like time to meet with me, I'm most available on Sundays, Mondays (including evening), and Tuesdays. Contact me at mvisel@firstparish.org or 203-931-5239 to arrange a time for us to talk.

Flower Communion Service

Sunday, June 16, 10:00 a.m.

All ages worship together in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited to bring a flower to the service. We will be joining many Unitarian Universalist congregations in celebrating a Flower Communion. Little RE for children 0-4 years will be available. We will also honor graduating seniors and say farewell to our Intern, Laurel Gray, and our Minister for Pastoral Care, Rev. Marion Visel.

Coffee Hour Herb Garden Party

Once again, the Herb Garden is calling us! The WPA will hold its popular Coffee Hour Herb Garden Party on June 16, immediately after the worship service. Among lovely and fragrant herbs, we'll celebrate the coming of summer and Father's Day as we offer heartfelt thanks to Rev. Marion Visel and Ministerial Intern Laurel Gray for their generous gifts of outstanding service to First Parish. The WPA warmly invites all adults, youth, and children to enjoy herb-flavored savorys and sweets and nourish their souls in one of the most beautiful outdoor sanctuaries in Concord. See you in the garden!

Summer Office Hours Start June 18

Our summer office hours go into effect on Tuesday, June 18, and will continue through Friday, August 30. During this time, the office will only be open Tuesday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The regular office hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. will return on Tuesday, September 3.

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, 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.

Our Partner Congregation Committee Has Started a Faithify Campaign!

We're bringing the Vadrózsák Néptáncsoport (Wild Roses) Student Folk Dance Group to tour New England from October 24 to November 5. They'll perform and hold dance workshops in Concord and Belmont, Mass., Portland and Ferry Beach, Maine, and Norwich, Vermont. They'll be accompanied by chaperones and several delegates from our Partner Congregation in Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania. There will be 25 travelers in all. We need to raise \$36,000 to bring them here; we have \$21,000 available so far. We've started a Faithify campaign to help raise some of the remaining needed funds. Please help us provide hospitality to them with your donation at: <https://tinyurl.com/yxlcw98n> or go to faithify.org and look for our project.

Are You Interested in Being a Substitute Office Volunteer?

Our church office is run by a group of savvy, friendly volunteers. They answer the phone, greet visitors, and take care of small tasks for the church staff (such as stuffing envelopes and making photocopies). We are always looking for new names to add to our list of substitute volunteers; these are the people we call when a full-time volunteer calls out or is on vacation. Shifts are 3 hours and training is quick and easy. With summer approaching, we have more spots to fill than usual! If you are interested in adding your name to this list, please contact Church Administrator, Sarah Burns, at sburns@firstparish.org or 978-369-9602, ext. 410.

Social Action

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, elizabethnorton@gmail.com; Jim Synder-Grant, jim.snyder.grant@gmail.com; or Cindy Soule, cindysoule@gmail.com.

Space is Limited! Accompaniment Training, Open to All Wednesday, June 12, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Room TBD

Are you concerned about our immigrant neighbors? 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 Metro-west, and engage in authentic community with our neighbors. Whatever your schedule, language, or familiarity with these issues, you can make a difference! RSVP to framcompaneras@gmail.com. Sponsored by the Immigration Justice Taskforce with Metro-west Immigrant Solidarity Network

AWE Monthly Meeting

Saturday, June 15, 8:00 a.m., Art Gym

Meet us in West Concord at Art Gym (152 Commonwealth Avenue, above Nashoba Brook Bakery)! Grab a coffee and come upstairs to catch up and work through the creative process of our identity for a banner. Our meetings and events are open to women, men, and people of all gender identities and expressions. Contact Lora Venesy at venesy@comcast.net with any questions.

Immigration Injustice Doesn't Take a Summer Break

Your support and presence are needed. Please join us at one of these important events:

Jericho Walk: Tuesdays; June 18, July 16, and August 20. All walks begin at 1:00 p.m. and meet at ICE Office, 1000 District Ave in Burlington, MA.

South Bay Detention Vigils: Sundays; June 30, July 28, and August 25. All Vigils begin at 2:00 p.m. and meet at Suffolk County House of Corrections, 20 Bradston St., Boston. For more information, contact Tony Rodriguez, trod.rodriguez@gmail.com.

Another IJTF Training Opportunity:

Sanctuary Volunteer Training

Wednesday, June 24, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Room TBD

Learn how to support our guest in Sanctuary. A 24/7 presence is needed, all shifts are available. For questions or to sign up, contact Abby Buhle at abuhle68@gmail.com.

Attend an IJTF Meeting

To learn more, consider attending an Immigration Justice Taskforce meeting on Mondays, July 1 and August 5, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in the Brooks Room. For more information on any of the IJTF events, contact Tony Rodriguez at trod.rodriguez@gmail.com or Laurie Van Loon at lvanloon@comcast.net.



Religious Exploration

This 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,” multiage program – Wright Tavern

Next Sunday, June 16:

9:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level

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

Discovering Colonial Life at the Wright Tavern

Sunday, June 9, 10:15-11:15 a.m., Multiage 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 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 a colonial clothing try-on, colonial games, and crafts.

RE Registration Now Open!

New and returning families are encouraged to register children and teens for the 2019-2020 program year on our website. Our Religious Exploration program is year-round but we offer classes by age-group in the fall, winter, and spring seasons. Please sign up today so we can plan and be prepared to welcome your family! Register online at: firstparish.org/wp/learning/re/.

Volunteer RE Teacher Sign Up

Our program for children and teens is a cooperative model. We depend on each family signing up to teach or volunteer to support our Religious Exploration program. Please select Fall, Winter or Spring term and an age group that you would like to work with. There are 7 teaching Sundays in each term. Every group has two adult volunteers each Sunday, session plans, resources, and support from Amy, our Minister of RE, and Dawn, our Assistant Director of RE. Sign up online at: firstparish.org/wp/learning/re/.

Creating Spiritual Space with Margot Kimball Summer Sundays, June 23 and 30; July 7 and 14 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., During the Service

From cathedrals and mosques, to shrines and meditation rooms, people everywhere and throughout human history have created objects and spaces that evoke a sense of spiritual inspiration and centeredness. We will explore the making of spiritual images and the creating 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 First Parish member, as well as teacher of art classes for children and adults: villageartroom.com.

**The Sunday News deadline is Wednesday at 12:00 noon.
Sunday, June 16, will be the last issue until September 8.**

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.