

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

## September 8, 2019

### This Week

Sun. Sept 8	10:00	Homecoming Sunday Service
	5:30	Homecoming Picnic
Tues. Sept 10	2:00	Shawl Ministry
	7:00	Standing Committee Meeting
Wed. Sept 11	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Sept 12	8:00	Finance Committee Meeting
	7:30	Buddhist Group
	7:00	By Your Side Singers
Sat. Sept 14	9:30	Photo Club
Sun. Sept 15	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	6:00	Community Dinner
	7:00	Aardvark Jazz Ellington Concert

#### September's Share-the-Plate:

##### Vadrózsák Youth Folk Dance Group Visit

Our Partner Congregation Committee is bringing the Vadrózsák youth folk dance group and musicians from Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania (Romania) to tour New England this fall, performing and teaching Hungarian folk dances, accompanied by several delegates from our partner congregation—25 travelers in all. We'll provide airfare, lodging, meals, transportation, and cover all expenses while they're here. This wonderful cultural and partnership exchange is an expensive undertaking, and we're raising funds from various sources to cover the costs of our hospitality; Share-the-Plate is one of these. Please stop by the PCC table at coffee hour for more information.

### Parish Notes

#### New Head Usher

Keith Wortman is the new Head Usher, overseeing the teams of Sunday volunteers who welcome, direct, and look after parishioners, as well as the sound volunteers who record Howard Dana's sermons for dissemination to the wider world. As Keith's job entails safety, CPR training, and showing kindness, his organizational skills, gentlemanly nature, and considerable charm make him a perfect fit. He replaces Maile Hulihan, who after 5 years as Head Usher will take Keith's place on the Membership Committee.

#### First Parish Homecoming Picnic Today, September 8, at 5:30 p.m.

All ages. All First Parish. Bring your whole family. Visit with your friends and catch up on the summer news, enjoy the music, and meet other First Parish folk. This is an evening for everyone. Potluck Dessert. Please bring a finger food dessert to share, as well as your own picnic, food, and beverage. No admission charge.

#### "Nature—A Walking Play" Returns to The Old Manse September 13-29

The Trustees of Reservation and TigerLion Arts present "Nature," the mythic telling of Emerson and Thoreau's mutual love affair with the natural world. If you missed it in 2017, here's another chance to see this amazing production. Members of the First Parish Choir are featured in the chorus. Tickets available through [thetrustees.org](http://thetrustees.org).

#### Choirs for Children and Youth

Our choirs for children and youth will begin rehearsals on September 15. All are welcome. There is no need for any singing experience! Children and youth are welcome to "try it out" for September.

Junior Choir (grades 1-3) meets Sundays from 11:30 a.m. to noon.

Chalice Choir (grades 4-6) meets Sundays from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m.

Gospel Choir (7-12) meets Sundays from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. in the Emerson Room.

Please note: Registration for choirs is combined with RE registration and may be completed on line through RE registration. Contact [music@firstparish.org](mailto:music@firstparish.org) with any questions.

#### First Parish Choir—Open Rehearsals in September

**Wednesday Evenings from 7:45 to 9:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary**  
The First Parish Choir begins each season with "open rehearsals" on Wednesday nights. Rehearsals are from 7:45 to 9:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Adult and teen singers of all voice parts are welcome to attend with no obligation during this time. Please contact Beth Norton at 978-369-9602 x420 or [music@firstparish.org](mailto:music@firstparish.org).

#### Third Sunday Suppers—Begins September 15

Please join us every third Sunday of the church year (6:00 to 7:30 p.m.) for a casual community meal in the Parish Hall. The menu will include pasta (regular and gluten-free), a choice of vegan red sauce, meatballs, and pesto, salad, and garlic bread. Feel free to bring a beverage of your choosing, and/or a dessert to share, if you wish (no pressure to bring anything). Suggested donation is \$5 per person, with a maximum of \$20 per family. All ages are welcome. It helps your cooks know how much food to provide if you RSVP here [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfApPZWRGWctO7V3zFZwKy3UK25w81u30vOC\\_XmqpcYw5M4Jw/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfApPZWRGWctO7V3zFZwKy3UK25w81u30vOC_XmqpcYw5M4Jw/viewform?usp=pp_url). If you have not rsvp'd, we'd still love to have you!

#### A Duke Ellington Celebration

##### Sunday, September 22, 7:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary

Boston's critically acclaimed Aardvark Jazz Orchestra (Mark Harvey, music director) opens its 47th season with a concert honoring Duke Ellington (1899-1974) in his 120th birthday year. The concert will celebrate themes important for Ellington—joy, justice, and love. Selections will range from hits like "Satin Doll," and "I'm Beginning to See the Light," to joyful music from Ellington's Sacred Concerts. Featuring the First Parish Choir and presented in cooperation with Robbins House. Advance tickets are \$20.00 at [ellington.brownpapertickets.com](http://ellington.brownpapertickets.com). Price at door: \$25.00.

#### Welcome to the Women's A.M./P.M. Book Group!

The Women's A.M./P.M. Book Group begins the year with the acclaimed novel "Where the Crawdads Sing," by Delia Owens. The evening discussion will be Monday, September 23, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., and the morning discussion on Tuesday, September 24, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Both sessions will be held in the Brooks Room. All women of First Parish are warmly invited to read the current book and join a discussion—there's no need to sign up! If you would like to be added to the Women's Book Group email list, please contact Darien Smith at [darien@smithquest.com](mailto:darien@smithquest.com).

#### Women's Parish Association Luncheon Program

On Wednesday, September 25, at 11:30 a.m., share a delicious meal with old and new friends. Catch up on the news and enjoy a celebration of First Parish's women's groups and a highlighting of their exciting plans for the coming year. During the WPA's Annual Meeting, the annual report will be distributed with a brief review of last and next year's interesting programs and events, followed by an election of next year's officers. Luncheon cost: \$12.00. Contact the office at 978-369-9602 or Dian Pekin at [pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:pekindc@comcast.net) by September 21 for reservations.

#### Save the Date: October 26

##### Potluck Supper and Dance Performance

We will host the Vadrózsák Néptáncsoport (Wild Roses) student folk dance troupe and musicians from Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania, (recipients of this month's Share the Plate) along with delegates from our partner congregation, from October 24 to November 5. Please come to a potluck supper to welcome them on Saturday, October 26, with appetizers and socializing at 5:30 p.m., and dinner served at 6:00 p.m. This will be followed by a performance of lively Hungarian folk dances in traditional costumes at 7:30 p.m.



## Social Action

### Tell Our Senators to Show Real Leadership to Help Avert the Climate Crisis

Momentum is building to address climate change, sparked by wide interest in a Green New Deal and the bold actions of young climate activists around the world. Congress is appropriating funds now so let's urge our senators to support and fund programs to build a green economy. Today coffee hour, please come by our UUSJ "Write Here! Write Now!" table to write our senators. Background material will be available. Letters will be hand delivered in Washington, D.C. by participants in the September 15-17 UU conference "Advancing Economic and Climate Justice as a Moral Issue: Building a Movement for A Green New Deal." Questions? Contact Fred at [fredvandeu@gmail.com](mailto:fredvandeu@gmail.com).

### AWE Monthly Meeting

#### Saturday, September 21, 8:00 a.m., First Parish

Join the Advocates for Women's Empowerment to discuss ideas and formulate plans for how we can advocate for women this year. We meet on the third Saturday of the month and our meetings and events are open to women, men, and people of all gender identities and expressions. Contact: Lora Venesy ([venesy@comcast.net](mailto:venesy@comcast.net)).

### AWE Free First Friday Feminist Film Series

#### Friday, October 4, 7:00 p.m., in the Chapel

AWE will be kicking off the 2019-2020 First Friday Film Series with the movie "Tracks." This is the remarkable true story of Robyn Davidson (Wasikowska), a young woman who leaves her life in the city to make a solo trek through almost 2,000 miles of sprawling Australian desert. Accompanied by only her dog and four unpredictable camels, she sets off on a life-changing journey of self-discovery. Along the way, she meets National Geographic photographer Rick Smolan (Driver) who begins to photograph her voyage. Contact: Lou Toussaint ([mloutoussaint@gmail.com](mailto:mloutoussaint@gmail.com)).

### Hold the Date!—"The Last Dream:

#### Saturday, October 5, at 7:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall

Come see "The Last Dream," a documentary created by children of adults with Temporary Protective Status. What is it like to live with the uncertainty and fear that comes with having a TPS mom or dad? Join these young actor activists and the Immigration Justice Taskforce. More information to follow.

### The IJTF is Deeply Troubled

In the year since the administration officially rescinded its family separation policy, more than 900 migrant children have been removed from their trusted adult at the southern border. Mental health professionals concern about long-term effects on children separated from their loved ones is mounting. If you are concerned about immigration injustice, or would like information on one of our events, please talk with an Immigration Justice Taskforce member including Janet Donovan, [jdonovan.donovan@gmail.com](mailto:jdonovan.donovan@gmail.com); Sharon Wyman, [nannyslww@comcast.net](mailto:nannyslww@comcast.net); Nancy Kerr, [Nancy.kerr@gmail.com](mailto:Nancy.kerr@gmail.com); Jessica Bethoney, [jessicabethoney@gmail.com](mailto:jessicabethoney@gmail.com); Rachel Wheeler, [staplescamp@gmail.com](mailto:staplescamp@gmail.com); or Ted Bayne, [tedbayne@comcast.net](mailto:tedbayne@comcast.net).

### Stand up against Immigration INJUSTICE!

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

**Jericho Walk, Tuesday, September 17, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.** Meet at ICE Office, 1000 District Ave in Burlington, Mass.

**South Bay Detention Vigils, Sunday, September 29.** 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](mailto:trod.rodriguez@gmail.com).

### IJTF Meeting

The next Immigration Justice Taskforce meeting will be on Monday, October 7, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in the Brooks Room; subsequent meetings will be on the first Monday of each month, same time and place. For further information, please contact Tony Rodriguez at [trod.rodriguez@gmail.com](mailto:trod.rodriguez@gmail.com).

Rev. Howard Dana's email: [hdana@firstparish.org](mailto:hdana@firstparish.org)

Rev. Liz Weber's email: [lweber@firstparish.org](mailto:lweber@firstparish.org)

Church office: 978-369-9602

Visit our website: [www.firstparish.org](http://www.firstparish.org).

## Religious Exploration

### This Week: Homecoming Service

#### Sunday, September 8, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

All ages come together for worship this week including a Water Communion ceremony. If you forgot to bring some water, you are still welcome to participate. Little RE is available on the Lower Level for our youngest children (0-4 years). Parents are welcome to bring their children downstairs 15 minutes before the service.

### Next Week, September 15: Religious Exploration Begins!

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

UU Explorers, Grade 8– Chapel

Neighboring Faiths, Grade 7– Brooks Room

*Children in Kindergarten through Grade 6 begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Following our Children's Message, the children leave the Sanctuary for their classroom with their teachers. All RE sessions are held until 11:15 a.m. Parents of children 0-Grade 3 are asked to pick up their children in their classrooms listed below. Older children and youth will be dismissed to coffee hour.*

Kindergarten and Grades 1– Lower Level

Grade 2– Greeley Room

Grade 3– Ripley Room

Grades 4 & 5– Wright Tavern

Grade 6– Emerson Room

11:15-11:45 a.m., Neighboring Faiths Parent Orientation– Brooks Room

4:00 p.m. – Coming of Age Orientation, Grade 9 and Parents, Emerson Room

### Cookies and Lemonade!—Today, September 8

Following the service, families are invited for cookies and lemonade in the backyard. Come learn more about our programs for children and teens! Rev. Amy Freedman and Dawn Van Patten will share about our exciting plans for Religious Exploration. Learn more about our Children's Choirs and Youth Gospel Choir from Gail Carey and Anderson Manuel. We look forward to welcoming you and answering your questions. This will be an opportunity to catch up with friends and meet other families. Hope to see you there!

### Youth Meet-up at Homecoming Picnic

#### Today, September 8, 5:30 p.m.

All High School teens are invited to a Youth Meet-up at the all-church picnic. Bring your own food for the picnic and a blanket or lawn chair if you wish. There are always lots of delicious desserts to share. We're excited to show you the new and improved Sunroom in the Wright Tavern that will be primarily for Youth Group! We moved in some comfortable furniture and welcome your ideas to make it even better. Lead Youth Advisor, Madzie Burnham: [mfburnham@comcast.net](mailto:mfburnham@comcast.net), 617-877-9858 (cell).

### Register Children and Teens for Fall Program

Our Fall Religious Exploration program begins next Sunday, September 16. Please register children and teens on our website: [firstparish.org](http://firstparish.org). Our cooperative program depends upon parents, grandparents, and First Parish members volunteering. You can sign up online or contact Amy: [afreedman@firstparish.org](mailto:afreedman@firstparish.org) or Dawn: [dvanpatten@firstparish.org](mailto:dvanpatten@firstparish.org) to explore the possibilities. Thanks!

### Coming of Age Orientation

#### Sunday, September 15, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Emerson Room

The First Parish Coming of Age program is designed for 9th Graders to acknowledge the transition between childhood and adulthood. Coming of Age is a transformative experience co-led by Kristin Moore and Gib Melcalf. Please bring your favorite potluck appetizer or dessert to share! We will review our plans and share a ritual to begin our year together.

**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).