

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

September 22, 2019

This Week

Sun. Sept 22	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	6:00	Youth Group
	7:00	Aardvark Jazz Ellington Concert
Mon. Sept 23	7:30	Women's Book Group
Tues. Sept 24	9:30	Women's Book Group
Wed. Sept 25	9:30	Buddhist Group
	11:30	WPA Luncheon
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Sept 26	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri. Sept 27	7:30	Rise Up Singing
Sun. Sept 29	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal

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—24 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

Worship Sharing Circle

A lay-led opportunity to extend the experience of worship with some shared reflection. Come by any Sunday, in the Senior Minister's office, or outside on the terrace if the weather allows. Each meeting starts after the end of service and finishes by 11:30 a.m. Come join fellow parishioners to listen and be heard.

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 to 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 at ellington.brownpapertickets.com. Price at the door is \$25.

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

Monday, September 23, 7:30-9:00 p.m., Brooks Room

Tuesday, September 24, 9:30-11:00 a.m., Brooks Room

The Women's A.M./P.M. Book Group begins the year with the acclaimed novel, *Where the Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens. 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.

Women's Parish Association (WPA) Luncheon Program Wednesday, September 25, 11:30 a.m., Parish Hall

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 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 \$12. Contact the office at 978-369-9602 or Dian Pekin at pekinc@comcast.net by September 22 for reservations. All are warmly welcome.

First Tuesday Group

Building Connections: World Café with Liz Tuesday, October 1, 1:30-3:00 p.m., Parish Hall

At the first First Tuesday Group gathering, our new Minister for Pastoral Care, Liz Weber, will discuss how building connections has been a part of her life's journey. Liz will lead a dialog on how building connections can play an active role in the First Tuesday Group, First Parish, and the wider world. Come ready to share what's on your mind and in your heart, and leave with stronger connections! (While our focus is seniors, please come if you are interested, whatever your age.)

YOU are invited to Sunday Supper!

Sunday, October 20, 6:00-7:30 pm, Parish Hall

Please join us every third Sunday of the church year for a casual community meal. This is part of a year-long pilot program intended to build community and deepen connections amongst First Parish members and friends. Feel free to bring a beverage of your choice and/or a dessert to share. There is no pressure to bring anything. Suggested donation is \$5 per person, maximum of \$20 per family. Youth Group members eat FREE. All ages are welcome. Please RSVP if you can—it helps your cooks know how much food to provide. If you have not RSVPed, we'd still love to have you! Questions? Contact Sue Ryan, susanryan101@comcast.net; Lora Venesy, venesy@comcast.net; or Kate Svrcek, katesvrcek@hotmail.com.

Pastoral Care Needs a Rides Coordinator

The job of the Rides Coordinator is to match parishioners who need a ride to an appointment or to church with ride providers. The Coordinator emails or calls available rides providers from a list to find a match. This not a difficult job, but an important one. Please consider volunteering. For more information, please contact Judy Dembsey at judydembsey@gmail.com.

Concord-Székelykeresztúr Student Scholarship Program

Please consider sponsoring a student at our partner congregation in Transylvania. This program provides essential support, making it possible for Hungarian minority students from rural villages to cover the costs of room and board in the dormitory at the Unitarian high school in Székelykeresztúr. Donors from First Parish in Concord give \$400 to a sponsored student each year, all of which goes to the student. This is a big help to the students, their families, and the school! Individuals, families, and groups can share sponsorship of one student. This year, there will be eight to 12 incoming students in need of sponsorship. If you or your First Parish group would like to learn more about this program, please contact Kathy Spang, katalinspang@yahoo.com.



Social Action

Sing & Drum with Soyinka Rahim, Artist, Activist, Musician Friday, October 4, 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Join us for an all-ages event, "I Let My Light Shine," with a dessert potluck at 6:30 p.m. and a celebration at 7:00 p.m. Learn uplifting songs that explore themes of racial transformation and equity. Hopeful and heart-filled, Soyinka's music and leadership will inspire healing, strength, and joy. Invite young ones and elders. If you can bring a dessert or lend a hand, please contact CC King at cking.interplay@gmail.com. Sponsored by RE and RJAG. Learn about Soyinka at www.bibolove.us. Changing the Race Dance follows on Saturday, October 5, at First Parish in Milton. Workshops 10:00 a.m.-noon, and 1:00-3:00 p.m.

AWE Free First Friday Feminist Film Series Friday, October 4, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

AWE (Advocates for Women's Empowerment) kicks off the 2019-2020 First Friday Film Series with the movie, "Tracks." This is the remarkable true story of Robyn Davidson (Lily Pearl/Mia 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 (Adam Driver) who begins to photograph her voyage. Contact Lou Toussaint, mloutoussaint@gmail.com, for more information.

Join the IJTF at the South Bay Detention Vigil Sunday, September 29, 2:00 pm, 20 Bradston Street, Boston

Stand up for immigration justice! Join members of the Immigration Justice Taskforce (IJTF) at Suffolk County House of Correction (South Bay), 20 Bradston Street, Boston. Your support and presence are needed. For more information or to carpool, please contact Tony Rodriguez, trod.rodriguez@gmail.com.

IJTF shows "The Last Dream," documentary Saturday, October 5, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

This film was created by Boston-area children of adults with Temporary Protective Status (TPS). Originally a play, these 10-16 year-olds performed for members of Congress December 2018 in order to stop the scheduled end of TPS for their parents. 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 (IJTF) for conversation following the movie. Suitable for people ten years and older. Refreshments will be served at this free event.

Immigration Justice Taskforce Meeting Monday, October 7, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Brooks Room

There is much to discuss. Please join us. Subsequent meetings will be on the first Monday of each month, same time and place. For further information, contact Tony Rodriguez, trod.rodriguez@gmail.com.

Amnesty International, Group 15 Meeting Tuesday, October 15, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Greeley Room

We'll have updates on Massachusetts prison reform and the state of the death penalty in the U.S. as well as actions in support of immigration reform. With the release last spring of our two Azerbaijanian prisoners of conscience, we will begin work on a new case this month. Our monthly letter-writing supports individuals worldwide whose lives are in jeopardy because of their human rights work. Please join us. For more information, contact Nancy Lyons, nilyons22@gmail.com or 978-505-1936.



Religious Exploration

This Week, September 22: Religious Exploration

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 classrooms 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 Grade 1 – Lower Level

Grade 2 – Greeley Room

Grade 3 – Ripley Room

Grades 4 & 5 – Wright Tavern

Grade 6 – Emerson Room

12:30 p.m. Coming of Age group returns from Fall Retreat at Camp Takodah

High School Youth Group – 6:00 p.m., pizza in kitchen; 6:30-8:00 p.m., program in Wright Tavern

Next Week, September 29: Religious Exploration

Register Children and Teens for Fall Program

Our Fall Religious Exploration program is underway! Please register children and teens on our website, firstparish.org. Our cooperative program depends on parents, grandparents, and other First Parish members volunteering. You can sign up online or contact Amy, afreedman@firstparish.org, or Dawn, dvanpatten@firstparish.org to explore the possibilities. Thanks!

Join our Family Facebook Group

Religious Exploration is more than what our kids do for one hour on a Sunday morning. It is an opportunity to reflect together throughout the week. Rev. Amy Freedman and Dawn Van Patten will offer resources, inspiration, and ideas for families. Our Facebook group is a safe place for families to address life issues, strengthen relationships, deepen spiritually, and boldly live Unitarian Universalist values in our daily lives. On Facebook, see "First Parish in Concord Families."

Youth Group News

Sunday, September 22, Pizza 6:00 p.m., Kitchen; Youth Group 6:30-8:00 p.m., Wright Tavern

This Sunday we will cover pillows to make the Wright Tavern space more comfortable. Next week we will go apple picking in the afternoon. Questions or ideas? Contact Lead Youth Advisor, Madzie Burnham, 617-877-9858 (cell), mfburnham@comcast.net.

Rev. Howard Dana's email: hdana@firstparish.org

Rev. Liz Weber's email: lweber@firstparish.org

Church office: 978-369-9602

Visit our website: www.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.

The Sunday News can be read online at www.firstparish.org.