

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

October 6, 2019

This Week

Sun. Oct 6	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
Mon. Oct 7	7:00	IJTF Meeting
Tues. Oct 8	8:00	Finance Committee Meeting
	2:00	Shawl Ministry
	7:00	Standing Committee Meeting
Wed. Oct 9	9:00	Cancer Support Group
	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Oct 10	7:30	Buddhist Group
Sat. Oct 12	9:30	Photography Club
Sun. Oct 13	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	3:30	Vigil for Migrant Children

Parish Notes

October's Share The Plate: Partakers' College Behind Bars

Partakers' College Behind Bars (CBB) is a nonprofit helping to reduce recidivism by promoting higher education and providing mentoring for incarcerated women and men. The power of the Partakers mentoring can be seen in the success of our graduates and the trusting, caring relationships the mentors and students build with each other. The long-lasting benefits of Partakers' CBB Program are evident in their success after they graduate. Come to the Forum on October 27, at 11:30 a.m. to hear the stories of 3 successful graduates and consider creating a First Parish in Concord Mentoring Team(s). More information at partakers.com. Contact margie.king.saphier@gmail.com or 781-424-2179.

Catnip Ball Workshops

Have fun making catnip balls for the Holiday Artisans Fair WPA Boutique. These popular items are some of the best fundraisers in the history of the fair! No experience is necessary. Workshops will take place on Thursday, October 10, and Wednesday, October 23, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. For further information, contact Irmi Doane and igdoane@gmail.com.

WhaleCoast Alaska UU Trips Presentation

Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., in the Emerson Room

Have you ever wanted to visit Alaska and see the sights, but also get to know the people? The four Unitarian Universalist Congregations of Alaska sponsor two such tours every summer, called WhaleCoast Alaska. You get to see all the sights and animals, and have home stays with UU's along the way. Learn more about these trips at First Parish and still watch the debate. Two members of the Fairbanks UU Fellowship will be here to describe the tours, along with nine recent participants from First Parish. Light refreshments (maybe salmon) will be served. Sponsored by the Denominational Affairs Committee.

Confluence: John Brown, Harpers Ferry, and the Concord Connection

Friday, October 18, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall

Experience the whirlwind of abolitionist John Brown through the words of his contemporaries. Join award-winning authors Dennis Frye, retired Chief Historian of Harpers Ferry National Historic Park, and Catherine Mägi, Publications Director of the Harpers Ferry Park Association, as they share excerpts from their new book, "Confluence: Harpers Ferry as Destiny," examining John Brown (and his Concord connections) through letters, journals, and personal voices from the past. Concord historian Richard Smith will moderate the discussion. Sponsored by the Transcendentalism Council of First Parish.

Higher Ambition: How Great Leaders Create Economic and Social Value

Saturday, October 19, 7:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall and Parlor
Despite capitalism creating dramatic economic world-wide growth, trust in business has declined precipitously due to many unintended consequences. One cause is the emergence of shareholder value creation as the only purpose of corporations. Many CEOs are pursuing "higher ambition," adopting a multi-stakeholder perspective, leading their companies in a way that builds trust and commitment with employees, customers, business partners and society. Michael Beer, Prof. Emeritus, Harvard Business School, will report on how many such CEOs are organizing, managing and leading differently. Presented by the WPA. For reservations, contact the office at 978-369-9602 or pekindc@comcast.net.

Crop Walk for the Hungry on October 20

The Concord Crop Walk for the Hungry will start at First Parish on Sunday, October 20, at 1:30 p.m. Stop by the Crop table at coffee hour for more information or to pick up walk papers. Rev. Howard Dana will be walking and would appreciate sponsors; you can sign up to sponsor him at coffee hour. You can also make a donation for him, or register to walk with the First Parish team online at:

<https://tinyurl.com/yxc7teds>. The funds raised help feed the hungry around the world through the disaster relief and development programs of Church World Service, and closer to home through nine local food pantries and supper programs the Walk supports.

You Are Invited to Sunday Supper!

Sunday, October 20, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., in the Parish Hall

Please join us every third Sunday for a casual community meal in the Parish Hall. Feel free to bring a beverage of your choosing, and/or a dessert to share, if you wish. The suggested donation is \$5 per person, with a maximum of \$20 per family. Youth Group members eat free. All ages are welcome! It helps your cooks know how much food to provide, so RSVP at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfApPZWRGWctO7V3zFZwKy3UK25w81u30vQC_XmqcVw5M4Jw/viewform. If you have not RSVP'd, we'd still love to have you! Questions? Contact Sue Ryan, susanryan101@comcast.net, Lora Venesy, venesy@comcast.net, or Kate Svreck, katesvreck@hotmail.com. Save the dates: Third Sunday Suppers is part of a new year-long pilot program intended to build community and deepen connections among First Parish members and friends.

Two Evenings of Spirituality

"The Spiritual Experience," Monday, October 21, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

"The Spiritual Journey," Monday, October 28, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
"The Spiritual Experience" looks at the spiritual experience of oneness, belonging, and peace received as grace. We will look at the intensities of this experience, what it does for us, and what we do with it. "The Spiritual Journey" looks at the "once-was-lost-but-now-am-found" experience of exploring unknowns, dying, and being reborn. On this universal journey one receives spiritual support with which to be clearly oneself. The evenings would include conversation, personal reflection, and a presentation. We will meet in the chapel. Hosted by Rev. Ken Reeves.

Partakers' College Behind Bars (CBB) Mentoring Program

Partakers' College Behind Bars (CBB) Mentoring Program has been transforming lives and building futures since 1997. At the Forum on Sunday, October 27, at 11:30 a.m., Arthur Bembury, Executive Director of Partakers and a former participant in CBB, will talk about the program and how FPC can become involved. In addition, two graduates will share the transformation that education can foster, as well as the impact of building trusting relationships through mentoring. Please come and learn how members and friends of First Parish in Concord can be a part of this dynamic program. Questions? Contact margie.king.saphier@gmail.com.

Women's A.M./P.M. Book Group

The October book for the Women's A.M./P.M. Book Group is Michelle Obama's memoir, *Becoming*. The evening discussion will be Monday, October 28, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., and the morning discussion on Tuesday, October 29, from 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.

All-Parish Potluck and Dance Performance on October 26

Help welcome our 25 Transylvanian visitors on Saturday, October 26, with dinner in the Parish Hall; appetizers and socializing at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish and beverage to share. Please sign up at coffee hour or in the office to help us anticipate how many tables and chairs we'll need to set up. Dinner will be followed by a performance of Hungarian folk dances at 7:30 p.m. by the youth dance troupe and band who will be among our visitors. You may attend the dinner, the performance, or both.

Holiday Artisans Fair Donations Needed

For our Holiday Artisans Fair, which will be held on Saturday, November 2, please start setting aside handmade items, as well as high-quality, like giftable items like jewelry, artwork, home goods, holiday and home decorating items, etc. These items are important fundraisers! You can drop these items off at the Bulkeley Room (behind the stage) on Wednesday, October 30, from 10:00 a.m. until noon and from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Please contact Melita Teichert at mmtconcord1@gmail.com if you have any questions. Heartfelt thanks for your donations!

Holiday Artisans Fair

Saturday, November 2, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Our annual fair will be here before you know it! Over 40 artists and artisans with many new vendors will be selling their latest creations. Food served throughout the day. Great door prize and raffle items! Bring family, friends, and neighbors for a fun day of browsing, shopping, and socializing. To volunteer to help, contact the office at 978-369-9602, or Dian Pekin at pekindc@comcast.net.

Social Action

Immigration Justice Taskforce Meeting

Monday, October 7, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Brooks Room

The next Immigration Justice Taskforce meeting will be on Monday, October 7. Please join us. 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.

Mark Your Calendars!

Sunday, October 13, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., at First Parish

Join IJTF and our neighbors from other faith communities to stand for children separated and detained by heartless and damaging practices at the southern border. There will be information on the current situation with actions you can take, remarks from a variety of supporters, music and singing, crafts for children, and a candlelight vigil. All are welcome. Please stand with us and let our voices be heard.

Stand up against Immigration Injustice!

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

Jericho Walk, Tuesday, October 15, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Meet at ICE Office, 1000 District Avenue, in Burlington, Mass.

South Bay Detention Vigil, Sunday, October 27, 2:00 p.m.

The Vigil begins at 2:00 p.m. and meets at Suffolk County House of Corrections, 20 Bradston Street, Boston, Mass. Your support and presence are needed. For more information or to carpool, contact Tony Rodriguez, trod.rodriguez@gmail.com.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in the 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: Nancy Lyons, nilyons22@gmail.com or 978-505-1936.

Secret Santa 2019—We Need Your Help!

Every year, First Parish helps three local organizations with gifts for their guests at holiday time. Eliot House, The Walden Street School, and Renewal House depend on the generosity of First Parish. Many hands are needed to make this effort a success! There are many jobs, and it is a fun way to work with others here at First Parish! If you'd like to help, please contact Bob Brack at brackrobert@gmail.com for more information.

Religious Exploration

This Week, October 6: Religious Exploration

9:40 a.m. – UU Explorers, Grade 8– Meet in the Parlor, visit First Parish in Weston, return ~ 12:50 p.m.

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

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.

Spirit Play, Kindergarten and Grades 1– Lower Level

Living Our 7 UU Principles, Grade 2– Greeley Room

Living Our 7 UU Principles, Grade 3– Ripley Room

Bibleodeon, Grades 4 & 5– Wright Tavern

Neighboring Activists, Grade 6– Emerson Room

4:00- 6:00 p.m., Coming of Age–Emerson Room

6:00 p.m. Youth Dinner in Kitchen, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Youth Group– Wright Tavern

UU Explorers

This Sunday, October 6, our 8th graders are visiting First Parish in Weston to attend their service to get a feel for how similar and different a neighboring UU congregation can be! We will meet in the Parlor at 9:40 a.m. to depart at 9:50 a.m. We will return to First Parish in Concord around 12:50 p.m. Lead UUX teacher, Jan Power: jpower6@gmail.com, 978-764-8569.

Welcome Families!

Every Sunday, the stage is set up for children and families to connect. There are muffins available on the stage especially for families. Parents and kids are welcome to stop by during coffee hour for coloring pages, mazes, and friendly conversation. Our website has descriptions of our program for children and youth, including schedules for each age group. Please subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter at: <http://firstparish.org/wp/learning/re/>. If you have questions, please contact Dawn Van Patten, Assistant Director of Religious Education, at dvanpatten@firstparish.org, or Rev. Amy Freedman, Minister of Religious Education, at afreedman@firstparish.org.

Next Sunday, October 13: Multiage Program, in the Emerson Room

Children in K-7 are invited to create care packages for First Parish Youth who are away at college or who have embarked on other adventures. Please join us in writing letters, making pictures, and filling boxes with treats for our far-away family.

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.