

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

October 27, 2019

This Week

Sun. Oct 27	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	11:30	Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary
Mon. Oct 28	7:00	"The Spiritual Journey"
	7:30	Women's Book Group
Tues. Oct 29	9:30	Women's Book Group
	3:00	Open House with Liz Weber
	6:00	RJAG Meeting
	7:00	Open House with Liz Weber
Wed. Oct 30	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Oct 31	10:00	Open House with Liz Weber
	10:00	Open House with Liz Weber
	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri. Nov 1	7:00	AWE Movie Night
Sat. Nov 2	10:00	Holiday Artisans Fair
Sun. Nov 3	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	11:30	Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary

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.

Sponsor needed for Concord-Székelykeresztúr Student Scholarship

This scholarship program provides essential support 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 give \$400 to a sponsored student each year. This is a big help to the students, their families, and to the school. Individuals, families, and groups can share sponsorship of one student. We still have one incoming freshman in need of sponsorship this year. If you would like to learn more about this program, please contact Kathy Spang at katalinspang@yahoo.com, or come to the PCC table at coffee hour.

Are You Interested in a Deeper Understanding of Race?

Beloved Conversations is a small group ministry approach following a structured curriculum to explore your own experience and beliefs about race, as well as the ways that our congregation centers the white experience. The Racial Justice Action Group is assessing congregational interest in participating in another round of Beloved Conversations, to start in February. Please speak to us

at coffee hour or send us an email by Monday October 28. We look forward to hearing from you. Sue St.Croix, sue@suestcroix.com; Ted Bayne, tedbayne@comcast.net; Beth Norton, elizabethhnorton@gmail.com; Jim Synder-Grant, jim.snyder.grant@gmail.com; or Cindy Soule, cindysoule@gmail.com.

Open House Visits with Rev. Liz Weber

Tuesday, October 29, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., in the Parlor

Tuesday, October 29, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., in the Parlor

Thursday, October 31, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., in the Brooks Room

Thursday, October 31, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., in the Brooks Room

Come get to know Rev. Liz Weber, our new Minister for Pastoral Care! She looks forward to continuing to connect with First Parish. Stop by for conversation, to share some of your story or life at First Parish, or to ask Liz more about who she is. Drop in for a few minutes or an hour. For more information, contact Liz at lweber@firstparish.org.

Holiday Artisans Fair Donations Needed

For our Holiday Artisans Fair, which will be held on Saturday, November 2, please set aside nice handmade items as well as like-new, giftable items such as 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 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., 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. Wonderful door prize and raffle items! Bring family, friends and neighbors for a great day of browsing, shopping and socializing. To volunteer to help for an easy and fun couple of hours contact the office at 978-369-9602 or Dian Pekin at pekindc@comcast.net.

All Souls Service

Sunday, November 4, 10:00 a.m.

"A People of Memory and Hope"

Rev. Amy Freedman and Rev. Liz Weber

Music: Contemporary Vocal Ensemble

During our All Souls service we will create a Communal Altar of Remembrance. Bring a small photo (or copy of a photo) of loved ones who have died. There will be an opportunity for you to place them on our Communal Altar. For those who don't have a photo, there will a slip of paper in the order of service on which you can write their names to place on the altar.

"Natural Foods and Supplements as We Age"

Tuesday, November 5, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

The First Tuesday Group will host Registered Nurse, Grace Pintabona, who will update the group about what we need to know today about "natural" foods and supplements. Do our nutritional needs change as we age? What do we really need to stay healthy? Come hear some answers to these and other questions from Nurse Grace. (While our focus is seniors, please come if you are interested, whatever your age.)

The Open Door: Evening Contemporary Worship
Every First Tuesday of the Month, Starting November 5
6:00 p.m., in the Chapel

Come gather with us for vibrant evening worship and real connection! Please join us the first Tuesday of each month—starting November 5 (6:00 to 7:00 p.m.), in the chapel. Services will be led by Gail Carey, Assistant Director of Music Ministry, and Rev. Liz Weber, Minister for Pastoral Care. Musicians from the Contemporary Vocal Ensemble will help lead congregational singing. First Parish leaders will share reflections on their call to social justice work. Learn what inspires us forward together in kindness. Come as you are.

Concord Area Humanists: Dr. Nancy Murray

On Wednesday, November 6, Dr Nancy Murray will present “The Gaza I knew.” Social starts at 6:30 p.m. From the 1987 Intifada to the Great March of Return in 2018, Gaza Strip has dominated resistance to the Israeli occupation. “I would like Gaza to sink into the sea,” said Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, “but that won’t happen and a solution must be found.” It hasn’t. Gaza Strip has been largely sealed off for 12 years. The UN says it will soon be unlivable. Nancy first visited West Bank and Gaza Strip in 1988, and has long been a ‘peace with justice’ activist. Her BA is from Harvard and Ph.D. from Oxford. For more, contact Pat Everett at pne@aol.com.

Social Action

Partakers’ College Behind Bars Forum

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.

AWE Free First Friday Feminist Film Series
Friday, November 1, 7:00 p.m., in the Chapel

AWE (Advocates for Women’s Empowerment) will be featuring *Maiden* for the First Friday Film in November. *Maiden* documents the journey of Tracy Edwards, a 24-year-old cook in charter boats, and how she became the skipper of the first ever all-female crew to enter the Whitbread Round the World in 1989. Tracy’s inspirational dream was opposed on all sides: her male competitors thought an all-women crew would never make it, the chauvinistic yachting press took bets on her failure, and potential sponsors rejected her, fearing they would die at sea and generate bad publicity. But Tracy refused to give up and completed this amazing round the world race.

Winter Clothing Drive

The Immigration Justice Taskforce, in partnership with the International Institute of Lowell, is sponsoring a winter outerwear clothing and boot drive for refugees. This is a way to help someone in need stay warm this winter. If you have any of the following items to donate, please put them in the cardboard box in the cloak room by November 3: winter jackets, coats, boots, hats, gloves, and scarves for adults and children. Please make sure items are in very good condition or new.

Environmental Team Survey Results

The environmental team at First Parish invites you to stop by our table at coffee hour and view and discuss the results of our

interactive survey of what parishioners are doing at home, work, and church to combat the climate crisis. Our next meeting will be Monday, November 4, at 7:30 p.m., at First Parish.

Discussion with Attorney Heather Yountz

Monday, November 7, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in the Brooks Room

Join a discussion with Attorney Heather Yountz at the Immigration Justice Taskforce monthly meeting. Attorney Yountz will speak about her experiences as an immigration lawyer here and on the border. All are welcome.

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, October 27: Worship Service for all ages, Little RE available for 0-4 year-olds.

Next Sunday, November 3: All Souls Sunday, Worship Service for all ages, Little RE available for 0-4 year-olds. During our All Souls service, we will create a Communal Altar of Remembrance. All ages are welcome to bring a small photo (or copy of a photo) of loved ones who have died.

Youth Lunch and Craft with Transylvanian Guests

Sunday, October 27, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Emerson Room

Teens in 7th grade and older are invited to a special gathering with the 15 youth visiting with us from Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania. Following the all ages service led by our Partner Church and featuring their folk dance and music groups, we will have a special lunch in the Emerson Room. This afternoon is designed especially for our teenagers to connect. We will also be making necklaces and touchstones with symbols of our shared UU faith.

Three Cheers for Neighboring Activists Team!

Congratulations to our Neighboring Activists team of 6th graders who helped to end hunger one step at a time by participating in this year’s CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday. They won a prize in the banner contest. Keep up the good work!

Halloween Costume Drive for Transylvanian Youth

We are collecting costume items for the youth visiting from Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania later this month. Halloween is not celebrated in Transylvania and we are hoping to help our friends experience Halloween with pumpkins, trick-or-treating, and costumes! If you have wigs, glasses, hats, capes, or other costume items you are willing to donate, please leave them in the collection box in the coat closet. Thank you!

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.