

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

March 25, 2018

This Week

Sun. Mar. 25	9:00 Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00 Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 Palm Sunday Worship
	11:30 Junior Choir Rehearsal
	12:15 Contemporary Vocal Ensemble
Mon. Mar. 26	7:30 Women's Book Group
Tues. Mar. 27	9:30 Women's Book Group
	5:00 SAC Board Meeting
	6:30 T'ai Chi
	7:00 Annual Campaign Meeting
Wed. Mar. 28	8:00 Trustees Meeting
	9:30 Buddhist Group
	7:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Mar. 29	11:00 Maundy Thursday Service and Lunch
	1:15 Race Conversations with Kaia Stern
	7:30 Buddhist Group
Fri. Mar. 30	7:00 Tenebrae Service
Sun. Apr. 1	9:00 Easter Service
	11:00 Easter Service

Parish Notes

March Is Share-the-Plate Month for Centro Arte Para La Paz
Today, March 25, will be your last opportunity to Share the Plate with Centro de Arte Para La Paz (a matching grant of \$3,000 will double the impact of your gift). If you were fortunate enough to have heard Sister Peggy, you understand the importance of continuing our support of her work. She has spent over 30 years in Suchitoto: protecting the most vulnerable during the Civil War, caring for the refugees as they fled to Honduras, supporting them as they returned to their destroyed villages, and, ever since, helping the survivors heal from the effects of the trauma. Her work continues, helping the new generation of children who have grown, listening to the stories of the war. Sponsored by the IJTF. For more information, contact Tony Rodriguez at trod.rodriguez@gmail.com, or like us on the First Parish Immigration Justice Task Force Facebook page.

Results for 7.5% Social Action

Interested in the results of our Year for Reflection and Visioning? All the results will be shared at congregational discussions in April. But the question on our 7.5% social action allocation are available now at http://firstparish.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/7.5_surveyresults_web.pdf. (Link on homepage of the First Parish website) The full congregation will vote at Annual Meeting on whether to reaffirm, revise, or revoke the current policy.

First Parish Trustees Looking to Fill a Vacancy

The First Parish Trustees of Parish Donations need to fill a vacancy effective July 1, and are looking for anyone who might be interested in serving. The five Trustees meet seven to nine times per year, and their mission is to affirm and support the mission of First Parish in Concord to be a welcoming Unitarian Universalist congregation that seeks ways to deepen spiritually, build community, and make a positive difference in the world. In support of that mission over the long term, the Trustees are the stewards of the funds and properties donated to First Parish over more than two centuries. If you or someone you know would be

interested in joining the Trustees, or if you'd like to learn more about what the Trustees do, please email Trustee Victoria Rizzi at victoria@rizzi.us by March 31.

Share the Beauty of Spring

Deliver an Easter plant to a First Parish member or two. Pick up plants Sunday, April 1, after the 11:00 a.m. service. Bring good cheer to a parish member and perhaps meet someone for the first time. Contact Caitlin Selle at selle.caitlin5@gmail.com or 978-371-3915 to let her know you plan to delivery a plant or two, and meet her at the front of the Sanctuary on Sunday, April 1, immediately after the service (approximately noon).

Photography as Meditation

Rev. Marion Visel will lead this four-session program Monday afternoons in April, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., on April 2, 9, 16, and 23. Explore photography as a form of meditation practice through accessible contemplative photography and centering/meditation exercises. No experience is required, except knowing how to use your camera or smartphone. Sign up in the front office, or contact Rev. Marion Visel at mvisel@firstparish.org or 203-931-5239. This group is limited to 14 participants, and preference is given to those who can commit to all four sessions.

“Play It Again, Sam—Music Around the World”

First Tuesday Group (senior focus, but all are welcome) will gather around Jerry Hurley on the piano in the Parish Hall on April 3, 1:30-3:00 p.m., and sing songs celebrating foreign countries and cities (“Lady of Spain,” “Waltzing Matilda,” “I Love Paris,” etc.). At each stop on our journey, Anne Fortier will lead a quick exercise where participants can share (in a very few words) a personal experience from that stop on our round-the-world tour. There may well be time for your favorite song to be included, so come prepared to hum a few bars for the piano player!

First Parish Cooperative Passover Seder Saturday, April 7, Parish Hall, 5:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Our Passover Seder is a fun and meaningful ritual for all ages. Rev. Amy Freedman is leading our Seder with Dana Snyder-Grant and Zach Roe. Our gathering will include a retelling of the Passover story and a potluck dinner. Whether you have a Jewish background or never attended a Seder before, you are welcome. Each person is asked to choose a job (setup or serving or clean-up) and to bring one or two items. Sign up online: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e45aaa2baafa7-passover1> or on our website: firstparish.org. Contact Dana Snyder-Grant: 978-760-1129 or dana.snydergrant@gmail.com.

Mother-Son Cooking Class

Teach your son some basic cooking skills and enjoy a meal together. Join our mother-son cooking class on April 22 and 29 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the church kitchen. On April 22, we will make spaghetti and meatballs and brownies, all from scratch. On April 29, the menu is chicken, risotto, broccoli, and banana cream pie. Classes are taught by Olympia Wheeler, mother of three boys and first generation Greek-American with cooking in her blood. Cost: \$30 for one class, \$50 for both. Limit: 12 boys in third grade or higher. RSVP to Leah Russell at leahkrussell@gmail.com.

Flea Market Update

Get ready to donate to this important fundraiser, organized by the Women's Parish Association. It will be held on Saturday, April 28, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Contact Melita Teichert at mmtconcord1@gmail.com to arrange for donations of household goods, collectibles, antiques, jewelry, etc. Contact Marilyn Lowitt at marilyn.lowitt@verizon.net or 978-793-0267 if you need items picked up. Contact the office at 978-369-9602 or Dian Pekin at pekindc@comcast.net to rent a table. Rental fee is \$35. Tables are going fast, so rent one now! Bring family and friends to socialize, have snacks and lunch, and shop for bargains!

Social Action

Support Lowell's Displaced Puerto Rican Families

More than 300 hurricane-displaced Puerto Rican families have arrived in Lowell and live temporarily in motels funded by FEMA—with no transportation, cooking facilities, or money. Please consider helping these families by donating the following: toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush), Uber gift cards, Spanish- and English-language books, diapers of all sizes, backpacks with basic school supplies, and Instapots. You may also write a check to the Jericho Road Project, which is sponsoring this drive. Drop donations in the coatroom and checks in the church office. Visit our coffee hour table in March or contact Katharine Roberts at katharine@goodstory.works to learn more.

Toiletry and Feminine Hygiene Collection Drive for Women

Starting April 1, we are collecting unopened full- and travel-size shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, lotion, lip balm, combs/brushes, and hygiene items (pads, tampons) for Rosie's Place and Open Table. Please bring only items on the list (no makeup, razors, mouthwash, etc.). Leave items in the marked box in the coatroom starting April 1, or bring them to LunaFest on April 6 at Concord Academy. Sponsored by the Advocates for Women's Empowerment. Contact Suzie Weaver at skatesuzie@aol.com or 978-369-5352.

LunaFest Is Coming Again!

Friday, April 6, 7:00 p.m. at Concord Academy

Join us at LunaFest—a fundraising film festival by, for, and about women—to benefit reproductive health access. The evening will include refreshments for purchase and a 50/50 raffle. Online ticket sales will begin soon, and tickets can also be purchased at the door (\$15 for general seating). Hosted by Advocates for Women's Empowerment, along with Concord Academy's student groups—Women of Color Alliance and Women's Org. Contact Lora Venesy at venesy@comcast.net.

Tawakkol Karman—2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Sunday, April 8, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

The First Parish in Concord Social Action Community, in conjunction with the Greeley Peace Scholar Program, presents Tawakkol Karman. Karman (this year's Greeley Peace Scholar) was the first Arab woman and the second Muslim woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize. She was also the youngest. She is a women's rights activist and does peace building work in the struggle for human rights in Yemen. She is the cofounder of Women Journalists Without Chains. The topic will be "My Experience in the Revolution and Making Change." This event is free and open to the public.

Volunteer at Rosie's Place

We are looking for volunteers (age 12+) to join us to cook and serve dinner at Rosie's Place on Sunday April 22. We'll carpool from church at 1:30 p.m. and return by 6:30 p.m. Rosie's Place is

a sanctuary for poor and homeless women in Boston and serves 3 meals a day, 365 days a year. Past volunteers have found this a meaningful way to do direct social action work. Sponsored by the Advocates for Women's Empowerment (AWE). Please contact Suzie Weaver ASAP at skatesuzie@aol.com to sign up.

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, March 25: Religious Exploration

9:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
10:00 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths (Grade 7) – Brooks Room
10:00 – 11:15 a.m. – Middle OWL (Grade 5) – Wright Tavern
10:00 a.m. – Worship Service
10:15-11:15 a.m. – Religious Exploration
Kindergarten & Grade 1– Lower Level
Grade 2– Emerson Room
Grades 3 & 4– Ripley Room and Greeley Room
Neighboring Activists (Grade 6)– Chapel
4:00 - 6:00 p.m. – OWL (Grade 8), Session 8– Emerson Room
6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Coming of Age with Mentors– Parish Hall
6:00 – 7:30 p.m. – Youth Group– Loft

Next Sunday, April 1: Happy Easter!

8:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
9:00 a.m. – Easter Service for all ages
10:00 a.m. – Easter Egg Hunt, Meet on the Terrace
10:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
11:00 a.m. – Easter Service for all ages

Easter Egg Decorating

Sunday, March 25, 10:15-11:15 a.m.

During our regular RE time, Kindergarten and Grades 1, 2, 3, and 4 will decorate Easter Eggs. Families are asked to bring one dozen hard-boiled eggs (if you can). Everyone will be able to take four eggs home. We will decorate eggs for our First Parish Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 1, at 10:00 a.m. (between the two services). We will have a rainbow of colors and other supplies ready for you to join in the fun.

Youth Group

Sunday, March 25, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

If you are a teen in grades 9 to 12, join Youth Group on Sunday evenings in the Loft. We are currently working on some social justice projects and will be looking ahead to our trip to CityReach on April 27 and 28, pizza dinner is provided. Questions? Contact our Youth Coordinator, Rev. Jo VonRue, at jvonrue@firstparish.org.



The Sunday News deadline is Wednesday at 12:00 noon.

Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to Sarah Burns at sburns@firstparish.org.

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

May 2018 Meeting House News Deadline

Tuesday, April 17, 12:00 Noon

Keep the article length to 100 words and send to the Editor, Wendy Wolfberg, wolfberg@post.harvard.edu.

The May 2018 edition will be published April 25.