

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

April 15, 2018

This Week

Sun. Apr 15	10:00	Sunday Service
Mon. Apr 16		Patriots' Day
	1:30	Photography as Meditation
Tue. Apr 17	5:00	SAC Board Meeting
	6:30	T'ai Chi
	7:00	Amnesty International
Wed. Apr 18	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Apr 19	7:00	Membership Committee Meeting
	7:30	By Your Side Singers
	7:30	Buddhist Group
Sat. Apr 21	8:00	AWE Meeting
Sun. Apr 22	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Choir
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
	11:30	Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary
	4:00	Mother/Son Cooking Class

Parish Notes

April's Share-the-Plate recipient is the Climate Disobedience Center. New fracked gas infrastructure has an estimated lifetime of 40 years. The CDC trains and educates citizens who want to take action around climate change. Give generously, and if you are making out a check, please make your tax-deductible contribution out to "Social Good with Climate Disobedience Center" written on the memo line.

Collecting New Socks

In conjunction with their trip to City Reach at the end of the month, the Youth Group is collecting new socks and backpacks to donate to the program. Please bring new (men's) socks you have purchased and put them into the box in the coatroom. Please do not bring used socks. We will be accepting donations up until April 26. For more information, contact Youth Coordinator, Rev. Jo VonRue, at jvonrue@firstparish.org.

Transcendentalist Talking and Walking

What is transcendentalism and how does it fit into modern life? Are you a transcendentalist? Come learn about transcendentalism from our own Concord transcendentalist, Rev. Dr. Jim Sherblom, author of *Spiritual Audacity: Six Disciplines of Human Flourishing* on Sunday, April 15, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at the new Walden Pond Visitor Center, 915 Walden Street, Concord. Following Jim's talk, join him for a transcendental walk in the wildness of Walden Pond.

Meeting House News Deadline

The May issue deadline is this Tuesday, April 17, and will be published on April 25. Please send your submission and images in final form as attachments to Wendy at wolfberg@post.harvard.edu, and let her know if you do not receive a receipt confirmation email. Word limit is 100 and images can be either JPEG or PNG. Please review the brochure "Publicizing Events at First Parish of Concord" for details and previous *MHN* issues for examples.

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 to 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.

Wondering What's Up with the Year for Reflection and Visioning?

Representatives of the Standing Committee will share results with the full congregation at two upcoming meetings—on Thursday, April 26, at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, May 8, at 7:00 p.m. Please plan to attend one. Analysis of the data gathered will provide the foundation for setting goals for the Senior Minister, Staff, and Standing Committee over the next five years. Your thoughts and input on interpreting the data are essential to this process.

Flea Market Update

Now's the time 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, vintage items, jewelry, etc. Donated items should be placed in the Rev. Peter Bulkeley Room, which is behind the stage, on April 25 from noon to 5:00 p.m. and on April 26 from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. Bring family and friends to socialize, have lunch, and shop for bargains at this fun event!

Mother's Day Walk for Peace—Sunday, May 13, 8:30 a.m.

All ages are invited to join the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's Mother's Day Walk for Peace! A free bus from First Parish in Concord will leave at 8:30 a.m. to take walkers to Boston and return by 1:30 p.m. We will walk three miles from Madison Park High School to City Hall. Register online for "First Parish Concord" team at <https://www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org>. All walkers are asked to register and contribute at least \$10 per walker. Come visit the Peace Walk table during coffee hour to sign up for the bus to the Peace Walk or contact Margie Saphier at margie.king.saphier@gmail.com or 781-424-2179.

Ferry Beach Retreat—Friday, May 25, to Monday, May 28 Registration: April 8 to 29

Join families, couples, and singles from our own congregation and First Parish in Lexington for this relaxed weekend on the beach at the UU Ferry Beach Camp and Conference Center in Saco, Maine, over Memorial Day Weekend. Registrations will be taken during coffee hours through April 29, and in the church office during business hours. The Registration Packet will be available at www.firstparish.org/forms as of April 8.

For questions or to inquire about scholarship assistance, contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com. Also, to check out the campus plus summer camps and conferences for all ages at Ferry Beach, see www.ferrybeach.org.

Social Action

Come March in the Patriots' Day Parade

Monday, April 16

The First Parish Reclaim Our Democracy group and its supporters will be marching in this year's Patriots' Day Parade in Concord. We will be gathering on April 16 at 8:30 a.m., on Stow Street near the Hunt Gym. Please join us and help support our cause! If you are interested in participating, please email Fred Van Deusen at fredvandeu@gmail.com.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, April 17, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Greeley Room

Ongoing projects include Massachusetts prison reform, death penalty abolition, the prevention of violence against women worldwide, and the freeing of two Azerbaijani student activists. All are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Nancy Lyons at njlyons22@gmail.com or 978-369-6109.

SAC Board Meetings

SAC Board Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, April 17, May 15, and June 19, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. We welcome folks interested in participating in our Social Action program to join us at our Board meetings.

AWE Monthly Meeting

Saturday Morning, April 21, 8:00 a.m., at First Parish

Are you burning to do something positive to impact women's lives? If so, please come on April 21 to the next meeting of the Advocates for Women's Empowerment! We'll discuss upcoming events and want to hear *your* ideas about actions and initiatives to advocate for women. All are welcome to our meetings and events (men, women, people of all gender identities and expressions). Our meetings are the third Saturday of the month. Contact Lora Venesy at venesy@comcast.net with questions or to join our mailing list..

UUSCJ Partners with Borderlinks

Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice (UUSCJ) partners with BorderLinks to offer journeys to the U.S.-Mexico border. Amid rising xenophobia and threats against basic human rights, UUSCJ's "Sanctuary and Solidarity" journey offers a timely chance to deepen your capacity to practice effective solidarity. Experience a 6-day immersion in the realities of the border, including both the deep injustices and the inspiring community responses to this ongoing crisis. The Immigration Justice Task Force is setting up a trip for November 2018. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Nancy Kerr at nancy.kerr@gmail.com.

Religious Exploration

A Trip Around the World, Led by Heather Packard Today, April 15, 10:15-11:00 a.m., Emerson Room

Come take a trip around the world with us and find out where immigrants are from in our neighboring communities. Following the Children's Message, children in Kindergarten through 7th graders will gather in the Emerson Room to learn about diversity and immigration right here at home! This program explores the values of the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and justice, equity, and compassion in human relations. Come and write letters or draw pictures of encouragement for a family whose mother has sought sanctuary in a neighboring church while working on obtaining asylum.

Fun with Tangrams

Led by Heather Koerber Nunes and Jake Nunes Sunday, April 22, 10:15-11:00 a.m., Emerson Room

Have you ever had a playful competition with a friend that turned in to more than you bargained for? We will read a story from China, *Grandfather Tang's Story*, by Ann Tompert and Robert Parker, in which a pair of young magical foxes find themselves in just such a situation. The story is told using Tangrams, an ancient Chinese puzzle made of geometric shapes that can be arranged and rearranged into an almost infinite variety of pictures. After the story, we will cut out our own Tangram sets and try making some of the animals and people from the story.

Heart Gallery in Parish Hall

The Heart Gallery is a portrait exhibit presented by the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE). Our Neighboring Activists (First Parish 6th graders) are seeking to raise awareness about adoption from foster care and connecting families to adoption. Please check out the exhibit on the Parish Hall stage; and to find out more about how you could make a difference, check out www.mareinc.org.

Youth Group

Our Youth Group is meeting this Sunday, April 15, and on Sunday, May 20, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Loft. High School teens are invited to come join us for some pizza, games, and community. There is a Youth Con scheduled for May 11 to 12 in Belmont. For more information, please contact our Youth Coordinator, Jo VonRue at jvonrue@firstparish.org.

This Sunday, April 15: Multiage Program

9:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
10:00 a.m. – Worship Service
10:15-11:00 a.m. – Multiage Program (Kindergarten- Grade 7) – Emerson Room
6:00-7:30 p.m. – Youth Group (High School teens) – Loft

Next Sunday, April 22: Multiage Program

9:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
10:00 a.m. – Worship Service
10:00-11:15 a.m. – Middle OWL (Grade 5) – Wright Tavern
10:15-11:00 a.m. – Multiage Program (Kindergarten- Grade 7) – Emerson Room

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.