

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

November 18, 2018

This Week

Sun. Nov 18	9:00 Chalice Choir
	9:00 Gospel Choir
	10:00 Sunday Service
	11:30 Junior Choir
	11:30 Racial Justice Action Group
	7:00 The Immigrant Experience Concert
Tues. Nov 20	7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal
Wed. Nov 21	8:00 Trustees' Meeting
	9:30 Buddhist Group
	12:00 Offices Closing at Noon
Thu. Nov 22	Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
Fri. Nov 23	Office Closed for Thanksgiving Weekend
Sun. Nov 25	9:00 Chalice Choir
	9:00 Gospel Choir
	10:00 Sunday Service
	11:30 Junior Choir

Parish Notes

November's Share the Plate Recipient: Camino Verde
Camino Verde (Green Road) reclaims and protects threatened rainforest in the Peruvian Amazon by planting native trees—over 30,000 (400 species) so far—a concrete answer to climate change. Camino Verde also works with farmers to regenerate forests, and with indigenous communities to distill essential oils as sustainable products—a model others can emulate. CV also partners with a private corporation to plant 100 acres and manage 400 wild rain forest acres. Its Peruvian staff of 10 includes 4 women (2 university-educated). Founded and directed by a First Parishioner, it was seed-funded by a SAC grant. To learn more, go to www.CaminoVerde.org.

Thanksgiving Hours and Publication Deadlines

First Parish will be limiting office hours in observance of Thanksgiving. The office will close at noon on Wednesday, November 21, and will be closed all day on Thursday, November 22, and Friday, November 23. The office will reopen with normal hours, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., on Tuesday, November 27. To accommodate the early closure of the office the week of Thanksgiving, any *Sunday News* submissions for the November 25 service are due to Sarah Burns, Church Administrator, by Monday, November 19, at noon, instead of the usual Wednesday deadline. Submissions received after noon on November 19 will not be included.

The Children's Holiday Craft Workshop Saturday, December 1, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Join the fun at the Children's Holiday Craft Workshop! First Parish children are invited to create beautiful handmade gifts for the holidays, with the help of a merry band of elves. Cost is \$15/child; \$45/family max. To volunteer, contact elf@firstparish.org or Kristin Moore, Kimberly Brainerd, or Jeanne Williams.

"A Congregational Conversation: Financing Our Future, and Expanding our Horizons"

Sunday, December 2, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary

The Legacy Giving Committee is hosting a panel discussion on our Legacy Giving Program. Three First Parish members who've made legacy gifts will share how and why they gave to the Legacy Investment Fund (First Parish's "endowment"). We hope to, over time, meaningfully increase the LIF so that it can finance more of First Parish's annual operations, sustain our properties, provide a safety net, and expand our reach. Hear about alternative ways of making this commitment, and how you can generate current income, make a gift now and see it at work, and more. Questions? Contact Tom Wilson, Chair, Legacy Giving Committee at twilson@wilsongroup.com or 617 281-1198.

Come to Cook

The Caring Connection provides delicious meals for parishioners during times of transition. It is time to fill the freezer again. We are going to cook on Friday, December 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the First Parish kitchen. If you are willing to help, please RSVP to Judy Dembsey at judydembsey@gmail.com or 978-263-3272. Email preferred.

Welcoming a Guest at Your Table

Return by Sunday, December 16

Over the holiday season, we invite a "Guest At Your Table," a traditional fundraising practice for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. UUSC's grassroots partners make a big difference in their communities, and so does your participation in GAYT. This year's program theme is "Justice Across Borders." Boxes will be distributed today and will be available in the front office after that. Please return your box on Sunday, December 16, so our UU Tweens class (Grades 4 & 5) can count your contribution. Otherwise, please write a check for the amount payable to UUSC. For more information, visit uus.org. Questions? Email Rev. Amy Freedman at afreedman@firstparish.org.

Spiritual Audacity: Six Disciplines of Human Flourishing Mondays, January 14 to February 25, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (No Class February 18), in the Chapel

Jim Sherblom will lead a six-session program based on his new book, exploring these spiritual disciplines: resilience, ego surrender, gratitude, generosity, the unknowable nature of divine mystery, and spiritual awakening. We will be doing and discussing exercises for self-realization from the book. The class is limited in size, so preregister by emailing Jim Sherblom at jimsherblom@gmail.com or by signing up in the front office.

The Sunday News deadline is Monday 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.

Social Action

Informal Discussion on Issues of Racial Justice

Today, November 18, at 11:30 a.m., the Racial Justice Action Group is hosting an informal gathering for conversation in the Bulkeley Room after coffee hour. All with an interest are invited. Bring your coffee and share what's on your mind—from ideas introduced by Dr. Amanda Kemp, to where the election leaves us in working for racial justice. Look for more opportunities for such discussions in the future.

Make a Roxbury Connection

Join members of our Racial Justice Action Group and UU's from other congregations at 2:00 p.m. on the Sunday afternoon after Thanksgiving to visit and shop at the Black Market in Dudley Square. Black Market is the most diverse Pop-Up Market in New England, with local vendors offering a stunning variety of clothes, jewelry, art, and artisanal holiday gifts. Founders Chris and Kai Grant will welcome us and share their goals. Contact wendyh@dmahealth.com for additional details and for the options of organizing some carpools.

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

We'll show *The Hunting Game*, a documentary that focuses on the epidemic of sexual assaults at U.S. colleges. This often-harrowing documentary combines the recollections of victims with disturbing statistics demonstrating the depth of the problem, while officials continue to downplay the issue. There will be an opportunity for informal discussion following the film. Contact Lou Toussaint at mloutoussaint@gmail.com.

A Concert for Immigrant Justice

A Concert for Immigrant Justice will take place at First Parish on Sunday evening, November 18, at 7:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary. Cosponsored by the Music Ministry and the Immigration Justice Task Force of First Parish, this event will feature the cantata *The Immigrant Experience*, by area composer John Kramer, as well as songs for soprano and piano. A coalition of singers from several UU churches will be directed by the composer. A suggested donation of \$20 will be collected for Boston Immigrant Justice Accompaniment Network. For information, contact Tony Rodriguez at trod.rodriguez@gmail.com. A reception will follow.

AWE Book Group Discussion

Wednesday, November 28, 7:00 p.m.

Our November book is *Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors and the Drug Company That Addicted America* by Beth Macy. Come to discuss this important issue whether or not you have finished the book. Feel free to invite interested friends. We'll meet at the home of Merrill Comeau (14 Pleasant Street, West Concord). Please RSVP to Merrill if you think you will attend: 14thebeesknees@gmail.com.

December 2018 Meeting House News Deadline Tuesday, December 11, 12:00 Noon

Keep the article length to 100 words and send to the Editor,
Wendy Wolfberg, wolfberg@post.harvard.edu.
The January 2019 edition will be published December 19.

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, November 18: Thanksgiving Service for All Ages

9:45 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
Parents and guardians are welcome to bring little ones downstairs to our Nursery Space 15 minutes before the service.

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:00 a.m. – UU Explorers, Grade 8– Chapel

10:30 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths, Grade 7– Visit Fo Guang Buddhist Temple, Cambridge, Return to First Parish around 1:15 p.m.

11:30 a.m.- 2:00 p.m., 8th Grade OWL Parent Orientation– Emerson Room

4:00- 6:00 p.m. – Coming of Age: “Where have I been on my journey?”– Emerson Room

4:00- 6:00 p.m. – CoA Parents Small Group– Loft

6:00- 8:00 p.m. – High School Youth Group– Wright Tavern

8th Grade OWL Parent Orientation

Sunday, November 18, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., in the Emerson Room

“Our Whole Lives” (OWL), the comprehensive sexuality program, will be offered to 8th graders at First Parish in Concord beginning in January. The goals of the program are to help young people learn about safe sexual relationships in the context of Unitarian Universalist principles, to help them make responsible decisions, and to increase their understanding and respect for themselves and others. For your teen to be enrolled in OWL, both parents are required to attend a First Parish Parent Orientation. Questions? Contact Rev. Amy Freedman at afreedman@firstparish.org.

Coming of Age Parent Gathering

Sunday, November 18, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., in the Loft

The CoA parent gathering is an informal opportunity to connect and share perspectives as our young people continue their journey together. All CoA parents are invited to attend today at 4:00 p.m., in the Loft (across the hall from the Emerson room).

Next Sunday, November 25: Kids Yoga (Kindergarten-Grade 6)

Little RE Available for Ages 0-4 Years

Over Thanksgiving weekend, young people are invited to join Jaime Andrews for yoga in the Emerson Room. Jaime is a certified Kidding Around Yoga (KAY) instructor. This unique class incorporates singing, jogging, dancing, games and so much more to improve strength, flexibility, and coordination. Children will learn how to focus and center themselves with various breathing and visualization techniques. They will also learn self respect and respect for others with the practice of fun and challenging poses, partner and group poses, lots of yoga games, breathing, and basic anatomy. Yoga Mats will be available for use or your child can bring their own.

