

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

December 9, 2018

This Week

Sun. Dec 9	9:00 Chalice Choir 9:00 Gospel Choir 10:00 Sunday Service 11:30 Junior Choir 11:30 AWE Discussion 11:30 Conversation about Finances
Mon. Dec 10	1:30 Caregiver Support Group 7:00 Immigration Justice Task Force
Tues. Dec 11	8:30 Finance Committee Meeting 2:00 Shawl Ministry 7:00 Standing Committee Meeting 7:30 Environmental Leadership Team
Wed. Dec 12	9:30 Buddhist Group 7:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Dec 13	7:30 Buddhist Group
Fri. Dec 14	12:30 T'ai Chi 7:30 Copley Singers Concert
Sat. Dec 15	8:00 AWE Meeting
Sun. Dec 16	9:00 Chalice Choir 9:00 Gospel Choir 10:00 Sunday Service 11:30 Junior Choir

especially needed. We are collecting men's warm coats, jackets, sweatpants, hoodies, boots, and shoes, as well as gloves and hats, **new** women's bras and underwear in all sizes, and **new** men's underwear, undershirts, and socks. Please note: We are **not** collecting women's clothing! City Reach has an overabundance of women's clothing. We are collecting new women's bras and underwear in all sizes, as well as men's underwear and undershirts. These are very much needed. Please drop your donations off in the coatroom by Wednesday, December 12.

Don't Miss the Copley Singers Holiday Concert! Friday, December 14, 7:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary

Come to the Copley Singers Holiday Concert! Tickets are available at CopleySingers.org. Tickets can also be purchased at the door on the day of the concert. This event is sponsored by the Arts Council.

Winter Solstice Special Coffee Hour

Sunday, December 23, 11:00 a.m., in the Parish Hall

There will be a special coffee hour on Sunday, December 23, to mark the Winter Solstice, including special food, music, and crafts for children! Join the festivities as we celebrate the return of the sun! Hosted by the Women's Goddess Covenant Circle.

December's Share the Plate Recipient: The International Rescue Committee

The International Rescue Committee responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises, helping to restore health, safety, education, economic well-being, and power to people devastated by conflict and disaster. Founded in 1933 at the call of Albert Einstein, the IRC is at work in over 40 countries and 28 offices across the United States helping people to survive, reclaim control of their future, and strengthen their communities. They have won top marks by charity watchdog groups for efficiency and effectiveness. Learn more at www.rescue.org.

Call for Ushers

Christmas Eve Services:

3:00 (Children's Service), 5:00, 7:00, and 9:00 p.m.

Ushers are needed for all the Christmas Eve Services. Please contact Maile Hulihan, mailehulihan@earthlink.net; or Keith Wortman, wortman2@verizon.net by December 15. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Sunday Bouillon Volunteers Are Needed

We might begin making bouillon in early January again if we have enough volunteers. Remember how delicious the bouillon was on a cold winter Sunday? Can you help one Sunday a month by buying, preparing, serving, and/or cleaning up? Kel Keleher will be there most Sundays to help clean up. You could team up with a friend—one does the buying and preparation, both serve (and schmooze with parishioners enjoying the bouillon), and the other cleans up; or any other way you'd like. Please contact Kel Keleher at kel@rkeleher.com or 978-944-2734 if you are interested.

Parish Notes

Congregational Conversation Re: FY20 Budget Today, December 9, 11:30 a.m., in the Brooks Room

Please join members of the Finance Committee and Fifi Ball, Director of Operations, for a Congregational Conversation about finances at First Parish. Bring your ideas and questions regarding the annual budget process.

Men's Winter Clothing Drive

As they prepare for their upcoming participation in the CityReach program, our Coming of Age group is collecting warm winter clothing to distribute to Boston's homeless population. L, XL, and XXL sizes are

January 2019 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.

Social Action

AWE Informal Discussion Today

Sunday, December 9, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In the Emerson Room

What are your reactions to the #MeToo movement, to the Brett Kavanaugh nomination, and to the epidemic of sexual assaults on college campuses, in the workplace, and beyond? Join the Advocates for Women's Empowerment for an informal discussion, and for sharing and listening to each other's reactions and thoughts. Ideas for action and advocacy may arise from the discussion. We welcome the viewpoints of men, women, and people of all gender identities and expressions. Contact Lora Venesy at venesy@comcast.net.

Racial Justice Action Group (RJAG) Meeting Tuesday, December 11, 6:00 p.m.

RJAG meets on December 11. Join us for a delicious potluck at 6:00 p.m. and lively meeting at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. Questions? Contact CC King at ccking.interplay@gmail.com. You're also invited to bring donations for the Jamaica Drive during the month of December, which is looking for household goods and tools. Get a list at coffee hour and more information by emailing jamaicad49@gmail.com.

AWE Monthly Meeting

Saturday, December 15, 8:00 a.m., in the Parlor

Join us for our monthly business/planning meeting, where we'll discuss the status of upcoming events and volunteer opportunities at those events. Ideas for new initiatives may bubble up as well! If you are thinking about a specific initiative to advocate for women, please come so we can explore making it happen! Our meetings are the third Saturday of the month and are open to women, men, and people of all gender identities and expressions. Contact Lora Venesy at venesy@comcast.net.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, December 18, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Greeley Room

December is our annual Write For Rights meeting. This year, along with tens of thousands of people around the globe, we'll be writing in support of selected women activists suffering human rights abuses in their home countries. You can become a part of this, the biggest human rights event in the world, by stopping by our table during coffee hour on January 6. Hope to see you there. For more information, contact Nancy Lyons, njlyons22@gmail.com or 978-369-6109.

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.

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, December 9: Religious Exploration

9:45 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

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

10:00 a.m. – 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.

10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2 – Lower Level

Grade 3– Ripley and Greeley Rooms – Upper Level

Grades 4 and 5 – Wright Tavern

Neighboring Activists, Grade 6 – Emerson Room

6:00-8:00 p.m. – High School Youth Group baking cookies– Kitchen

Next Sunday, December 16: Religious Exploration

Holiday Tea Party

Sunday, December 23, 10:15 to 11:00 a.m.

Children are invited to a Holiday Tea Party during regular RE time. Children who play an instrument are welcome to bring it to accompany singing of "Jingle Bells" and/or "Deck the Hall." Amy Freedman and Dawn Van Patten will share their favorite holiday stories. There will also be crafts to enjoy. Tea and cookies will be served. For families with allergies—the cookies will be nut-free.

Neighboring Activists Bucket Brigade

The Bucket Brigade is a long-standing collaboration between First Parish and the Concord Council on Aging. Youth decorate buckets, fill them with sand/salt, and then deliver them to the doorsteps of seniors for their use throughout the winter. We will decorate buckets this Sunday, December 9. On December 16, following the Choir Anthem and Children's Message, youth will fill and deliver the buckets to 35 local seniors who requested them. If your child would like to participate, please complete a Permission Form download [HERE](#) and return forms to Amy in her mail slot or by email ASAP so we can arrange for drivers. Please be in touch if you have any questions at afreedman@firstparish.org.

