

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

February 17, 2019

## This Week

Sun. Feb 17	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
Tues. Feb 19	7:00	Amnesty International
	7:00	SAC Board Meeting
	7:00	Standing Committee Meeting
Wed. Feb 20	8:00	Trustees' Meeting
	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:00	T'ai Chi Drop-In Class
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Feb 21	7:30	Buddhist Group
	7:30	By Your Side Singers
Fri. Feb 22	7:30	Rise Up Singing
Sun. Feb 24	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir

of sand. If you or your family is willing to pick up a bucket from the RE Office, fill it with sand, and deliver it to a Concord home, please contact Amy at [afreedman@firstparish.org](mailto:afreedman@firstparish.org). The sand is available at two locations: Rideout Field in West Concord and Sewer Pump Station on Keyes Road, across from Millbrook Tarry. Thank you for helping us be kind neighbors!

**Looking for a Way to Lend a Hand? Be an RE Greeter!**  
Would you help us welcome families both old and new as they walk into church? Sign up to be an RE Greeter! You can be an RE Greeter on your own or with your family. This is an easy way to make a difference! Please consider volunteering for one 25-minute slot (or as many as you like) on Sunday morning from 9:45 to 10:10 a.m. For more information and to sign up online, visit [www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4CA5AD2CA5FC1-25minute](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4CA5AD2CA5FC1-25minute). Please contact Jean Chandler at [jeanjeanc2@aol.com](mailto:jeanjeanc2@aol.com) if you have questions. We would be grateful for your help!

## Parish Notes

### February's Share-the-Plate Recipient

The South Sudanese Enrichment for Families (SSEF), a nonprofit in Lincoln, serves the South Sudanese in Massachusetts. We have over 50 volunteers and welcome more! SSEF offers scholarships to a sleepaway camp, a preschool scholarship program, and a Saturday Bridges Program—an educational program for the whole family. We have volunteers who do everything from helping families with forms, becoming a friend of the family, or working alongside the once-refugees in our Saturday Program. Rachel Ater, a South Sudanese woman, will be at coffee hour. Please come by and learn about SSEF and meet Rachel, [SSEFBoston.org](http://SSEFBoston.org).

Donations for Share-the-Plate will be collected at Sunday services each month. Fifty percent of every non-pledge dollar will be given to the monthly Share-the-Plate organization, and fifty percent will go to supporting the work of First Parish. To make a separate donation to this month's organization, please contact them directly.

### March Meeting House News Deadline

**Tuesday, February 19, Noon; Published February 27**

Please send your final-form entry and images as attachments by February 19 or earlier to Wendy Wolfberg at [wolfberg@post.harvard.edu](mailto:wolfberg@post.harvard.edu), and contact her 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 in Concord" for details and upcoming dates, and previous *MHN* issues for examples. The April issue deadline is March 19.

### Join the Bucket Brigade

Our Neighboring Activists (Grade 6) and their families delivered 41 buckets of sand to Concord seniors before the holidays. The Concord Council on Aging was grateful for our help in guarding against icy paths. Five additional seniors have requested buckets

### An Evening Celebrating Victoria Saturday, March 9, 7:00 p.m.

You deserve to take a fun break from all your hard work for so many worthy causes! Don't miss this WPA program by Prof. Karen Antonowicz, who will discuss Victorian history, customs, and fashions. Whether or not you're following WGBH's *Victoria*, this event will provide an enjoyable time exploring a fascinating era. Feel free to dress in period costumes if you like. All women, men, and youth are warmly welcome. Invite family and friends for a fun night out! Refreshments will include Victorian desserts and beverages. Charge: \$10. For reservations, sign up at coffee hour or contact the office at 978-369-9602 or [pekincd@comcast.net](mailto:pekincd@comcast.net).

### Capturing Memories on Paper March 20 and 27; April 3, 10, 17, and 24 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., in the Emerson Room

Connecting with the future, and giving our descendants an impression of our lives is one good reason to write memories down. Perhaps even more important is the personal pleasure and insight that often comes from reconstructing parts of our lives in words. This six-week workshop invites participants to write their memories down—not as full-length autobiographies, but as short reflections in response to concrete writing prompts. Each week we'll start with a different memory prompt. We will discuss tips for writing vivid descriptions and look at samples of powerful writing. Mostly we will write. Participants will have an opportunity to share their writing with the group if they choose. Facilitated by Virginia Taylor, Ph.D., former professor of English and currently a private writing instructor. Maximum of 12 participants, so sign up soon in the front office or by contacting Rev. Marion Visel at [mvisel@firstparish.org](mailto:mvisel@firstparish.org) or 203-931-5239.

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

Please keep article length to 100 words and submit to Sarah Burns, [sburns@firstparish.org](mailto:sburns@firstparish.org). The *Sunday News* can be read online at [www.firstparish.org](http://www.firstparish.org).

## Social Action

### SAC Grants

Now is the time to support the groups you know are making a difference. Please nominate the organization where you've seen an impact. The SAC Giving Team is now accepting requests for the 2018-2019 church year annual SAC Grants nominations, through March 1. The easy-to-complete Nomination Form is available online at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/FPCSACForm](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FPCSACForm). Please check out the SAC Grant webpage on the First Parish website for more information. For more information, contact Ted Bayne ([tedbayne@comcast.net](mailto:tedbayne@comcast.net)), Liz Rust ([liz@therusts.net](mailto:liz@therusts.net)), or Sue St.Croix ([sue@suestcroix.com](mailto:sue@suestcroix.com)).

### Immigration Justice Task Force: Monthly Jericho Walk Tuesdays, February 19 and March 19, 1:00 p.m.

#### ICE Office, 1000 District Ave., Burlington, Mass.

If you're asking, "What can I do to stand with migrants in need?" please consider joining this silent, peaceful, and prayerful walk to bring attention to, and bring down the walls of, our unjust immigration system. Please bring signs calling for justice for those caught in this broken system. Suggestions include: "Keep Families Together," "Not One More/Ni Una Mas," and other supportive messages (that do not call out specific individuals). Gather in front of the ICE Office along District Avenue. For information, contact Pamela Chester at [pgachester@gmail.com](mailto:pgachester@gmail.com).

### Immigration Justice Task Force: Meeting with Lori Trahan, U.S. Representative for Massachusetts Third Congressional District

Several IJTF members will be sharing with Representative Trahan their recent experience on the border observing Operation Streamline. They will advocate for its abolishment and seek her support. Operation Streamline is a mass deportation machine and travesty of justice in which detainees are processed in groups, while shackled, often without translators. Time for each person before a judge averages 90 seconds. This inhumane and ineffective process costs taxpayers approximately one million dollars a day (paid to for-profit prisons). For more information, contact Jessica Bethoney at [jessicabethoney@verizon.net](mailto:jessicabethoney@verizon.net).

### Amnesty International, Group 15

#### Tuesday, February 19, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Greeley Room

Globally, our ongoing letter writing supports individuals worldwide whose dire situations require urgent action. We continue to work on behalf of two Azerbaijanian students imprisoned for peaceful protests. Nationally, we are focused on the abolition of the death penalty and immigration issues. Tracking prison reform in Massachusetts is also on our agenda. All are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Nancy Lyons, [njlyons22@gmail.com](mailto:njlyons22@gmail.com) or 978-505-1936.

### Say Their Names Observance

#### Sunday, February 24, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the Parlor

Members and friends are invited to join the Racial Justice Action Group in reading names of black people lost to lynching and other acts of racial violence. This is the first of three weekly sessions developed as part of a heartfelt collaboration with UU churches in Stow and Sudbury and the Maynard Anti-Racism Alliance. The intent is to hold hard truths with kindness, respect, and honesty. Subsequent sessions will address the realities of lynching and black resistance (Sunday, March 3, Greeley Room) and some actions white people can take in atonement (Sunday, March 10, Parlor). Contact Mary Ann Barton, [mabartonst@gmail.com](mailto:mabartonst@gmail.com).

### Immigration Justice Task Force: Protecting Our Immigrant Neighbors, A Conversation with Legislators

#### Tuesday, February 26, 7:00 p.m., First Parish in Wayland 225 Boston Post Road, Wayland, Mass.

Four local legislators, Senators Rausch and Eldridge and Representatives Gentile and Peisch, will discuss immigration issues on both the national and the local level and take your questions. For more information, contact Rachel at [rsideperson@yahoo.com](mailto:rsideperson@yahoo.com).

### AWE Free First Friday Feminist Film Series

#### Friday, March 1, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

We'll show *The Wife*, starring Glenn Close, 2018 Oscar-nominee for Best Actress. She plays a talented writer who starts to think about shared compromises, secrets, and betrayals as her husband is about to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. Men, women, and people of all gender identities and expressions are welcome.

## Religious Exploration

### This Sunday, February 17: PEACE: Multiage Program

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

*Children in Kindergarten and older begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Following our Children's Message, the children leave the Sanctuary for the Emerson Room 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. Older children and youth will be dismissed to coffee hour.*

10:15- 11:15 a.m. – Multiage Program, Emerson Room

### Next Sunday, February 24: Wah Lum Kung Fu

### PEACE: Multiage Program (K-8th grade)

#### Sunday, February 17, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m., Emerson Room

Following the Children's Message, we will begin planning for our participation in the Mother's Day March for Peace on Sunday, May 12. The walk is a beloved tradition and celebration of our potential to create more peaceful communities.

### Come Celebrate the Lunar New Year!

#### Sunday, February 24, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

#### Sanctuary and Parish Hall

We are delighted to welcome back Wah Lum Kung Fu and Sifu Evan Hughes to First Parish. As a way of blessing our Meeting House and welcoming the Year of the Pig, they will offer a Lion Dance at our service. Following the dance, children and youth are invited to a Kung Fu lesson in the Parish Hall. This is an energizing experience for all ages!

### Youth Group Lock-In and Movie Night

#### Friday, March 1, 6:00 p.m., to Saturday, March 2, 11:00 a.m.

Save the date for our overnight at First Parish in Concord. High School teens are invited to have dinner and play games, with a movie thrown in there too! We will cook breakfast together in the morning. No Youth Group this Sunday. Join us on Sunday, February 24, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Wright Tavern, for support and fun group games. If you have any questions, please let Lead Youth Advisor, Madzie Burnham, know at [mfburnham@comcast.net](mailto:mfburnham@comcast.net).