

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

## February 24, 2019

### This Week

Sun. Feb 24	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
Mon. Feb 25	7:30	Women's Book Group
Tues. Feb 26	9:30	Women's Book Group
Wed. Feb 27	9:00	Cancer Support Group
	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:00	T'ai Chi Drop-In Class
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Feb 28	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri. Mar 1	6:30	Enchanted Colonial Dinner
	7:00	AWE Film Series
Sun. Mar 3	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
	12:15	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble

### Parish Notes

#### Share-the-Plate Recipient

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.

#### Share-the-Plate Welcomes South Sudanese

Come meet the South Sudanese this Sunday at coffee hour! Currently they are immigrants, but once they were refugees from the genocide in South Sudan. They are survivors. Rachel Ater will speak at the service representing the South Sudanese Enrichment for Families as a Sharing the Plate recipient, Laper Kom, will sell African tablecloths and napkins and a former "Lost Boy" will be at the table to greet you. Please stop by the table to meet these courageous people and find out what the South Sudanese Enrichment for Families is doing to support the South Sudanese that live in the Boston area. ([SSEFBoston.org](http://SSEFBoston.org)).

#### The "Lost Boys and Girls" in Concord this Sunday

All the South Sudanese here in Boston are survivors of the genocide in South Sudan. The north attacked the South many times and for decades, but this genocide escalated in 1985. Because of this, many South Sudanese were forced to flee. The "Lost Boys" ran for months to the relative safety of refugee camps. Many others left before their villages were attacked: they went to Egypt or North Sudan itself. Life was not easy. In 2000, 150 "Lost Boys" and 5 "Lost Girls" were resettled in Boston. Their journey hasn't ended. During the last few years, many of the "boys" have gone back to South Sudan and have married. They have started families of their own in the Boston area. Helping your spouse and children acclimate to life in America is not easy. Resettling refugees is not a sprint; it is a marathon. We need your help to continue our work. ([SSEFBoston.org](http://SSEFBoston.org)).

#### World Day of Prayer Service and Luncheon

The Trinitarian Congregational Church, 54 Walden Street, will host Concord's World Day of Prayer (WDP) event on Friday, March 1, at 11:00 a.m. Concord's faith communities have been gathering on the first Friday in March for decades to engage in this worldwide event, which began in 1920. Women of Slovenia wrote this year's service,

reminding participants to expand their circles of love so that all are welcome. WDP's motto is "Informed prayer leads to prayerful action." After the service, a luncheon celebrating the people of Slovenia will be served. There is no charge for the luncheon. Reservations are not required.

#### Celebration Sunday, March 3!

Each household should have received a personalized letter in the mail by last week about "Reach High, Reach Wide," our 2019-2020 Annual Pledge Campaign. It has helpful information as you prepare to pledge next week during our Celebration Sunday. Pledge cards and pens will be available at the service. This year, our Celebration Sunday will celebrate two events: Rev. Howard Dana's return from sabbatical, and the kickoff to our Annual Pledge Campaign to support the mission and work of First Parish! See also the blue insert in your order of service.

#### 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 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: [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 Rd. 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 9:45-10:10 a.m. For more information and to sign up online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4CA5AD2CA5FC1-25minute>. Please contact Jean Chandler if you have questions: [jeanjeanc2@aol.com](mailto:jeanjeanc2@aol.com). We would be grateful for your help!

#### The Open Door: Evening Contemporary Worship Every First Tuesday of the Month, at 6:00 p.m., in the Chapel Starting March 5

Come gather with us for vibrant evening worship and real connection! Please join us the first Tuesday of each month, starting March 5, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., in the Chapel. Services will be led by Gail Carey, Assistant Director of Music Ministry, and Laurel Gray, FP Ministerial Intern. Musicians from the Contemporary Vocal Ensemble will help lead congregational singing. Lay leaders will share reflections on their call to social justice work. Learn what inspires us forward together in kindness. Come as you are.

#### Concord Area Humanists

#### "Higher Ambition: How Great Leaders Create Economic and Social Value"

#### Wednesday, March 6, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Capitalism has led to dramatic economic world growth, but Shareholder value creation has emerged as the only purpose of corporations. More CEO's are now pursuing "higher ambition," adopting a multi-stakeholder perspective as opposed to a shareholder-only perspective, leading their companies in a way that builds trust and commitment with employees, customers,

business partners, community, and the larger society. Who are these CEO's and how are they organizing, managing, and leading differently? Harvard Business School Professor Emeritus Mike Beer will report on this development.

### **An Appearance by Mary Merrick Brooks**

**Wednesday, March 13, 2:30 to 4:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall**  
Historical reenactor Diann Ralph Strausberg will perform as Mary Merrick Brooks [1801-1868], a leader of Concord's abolition movement and a member of the First Parish. Presented by the Transcendentalism Council and the Concord Historical Collaborative. \$10 at the door, or register through Concord-Carlisle Adult and Community Education at <https://ccace.asapconnected.com/?org=4701 - CourseID=182256>. Questions? Contact Dianne Weiss at [diannemcweiss@comcast.net](mailto:diannemcweiss@comcast.net) or 978-505-3417.

### **Intro to Cuban Circle Dance**

**Friday, March 15, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall**  
Join our circle to smile and laugh as we learn the basics of Salsa Rueda de Casino. No knowledge or partner needed. Please bring indoor shoes or slippers. We'll warm up your cold feet! Sponsored by FP Spanish Affinity Group. For questions, contact [schivvis@comcast.net](mailto:schivvis@comcast.net).

## **Social Action**

### **Social Justice "All-Church Read"**

What book on a social justice topic do you wish all First Parish people would read and discuss? Please submit your nomination of a book or books that have inspired you by Sunday March 3. Find nomination forms and a box to collect them outside of the church office, or email directly to [wendyh@dmahealth.com](mailto:wendyh@dmahealth.com). We are also recruiting folks to help select the book or be a small-group discussion leader.

### **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).

### **IJTF: Crossing the Southern Border**

**Sunday, March 3, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Congregation Beth Elohim, 133 Prospect Street Acton**  
Would you like to increase your understanding of the humanitarian impact of U.S. policies at the southern border? A panel of experts and eye witnesses, including Dr. Avi Chomsky and Rabbi Mike Rothbaum, will share their knowledge and recent experiences there. All are welcome. For additional information, contact [sarahcoletti@verizon.net](mailto:sarahcoletti@verizon.net).

### **IJTF: Building Bridges, Vintage Music of Latin America** **Sunday, March 10, 2:00 p.m., First Parish UU Bedford**

Join us at a benefit concert (featuring Ken Burns pianist Jacqueline Schwab) that celebrates the spirit, expressive melodies, and dance rhythms of vintage music from the Caribbean and Latin America. This event is sponsored by the Bedford Sanctuary Coalition to support our efforts protecting our dear friend in sanctuary. Suggested donation is \$20. Any questions can be asked of Abby Buhle, [abuhle68@gmail.com](mailto:abuhle68@gmail.com).

### **Immigration Justice Task Force Monthly Meeting** **Monday, March 4, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Brooks Room**

Are you interested in learning more about the IJTF? We are the group that provides Sanctuary volunteers, silent Jericho Walks of prayer and solidarity at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office in Burlington, vigils at the South Bay Detention Center in Boston, and much more. Please join us on the first Monday of each month. Your thoughts, questions, and presence are welcome! For more information, contact Abby Buhle, [abuhle68@gmail.com](mailto:abuhle68@gmail.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.

### **AWE Monthly Meeting**

**Saturday, March 16, 8:00 a.m.; New Location: West Concord**  
Join us for our monthly business/planning meeting, where we'll discuss the status of upcoming events and volunteer opportunities at those events. 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. NEW LOCATION: ART GYM, at 152 Commonwealth Avenue in West Concord (above Nashoba Brook Bakery). Contact: Lora Venesy ([venesy@comcast.net](mailto:venesy@comcast.net)).

## **Religious Exploration**

### **This Sunday, February 24: Wah Lum Kung Fu**

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 Parish Hall with their teachers.  
10:15- 11:00 a.m. – Multiage Program, Parish Hall  
4:00-6:00 p.m. – 8th Grade OWL, Session 6: STI Facts and Prevention – Emerson Room  
6:00-8:00 p.m. – High School Youth Group – Wright Tavern

### **Next Sunday, March 3: Celebration Sunday**

### **Celebrate the Lunar New Year!**

**Sunday, February 24, 10:00 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 in 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.**  
We are looking forward to 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. Join us this Sunday, February 24, 6:00- 8:00 p.m. in the Wright Tavern for support, fun group games, and pizza. If you have any questions, please let Lead Youth Advisor, Madzie Burnham, at [mfburnham@comcast.net](mailto:mfburnham@comcast.net).

***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).