

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

April 14, 2019

This Week

Sun. Apr. 14	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Palm Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir
	12:15	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble
Tues. Apr. 16	7:00	Amnesty International Meeting
	7:00	SAC Meeting
Wed. Apr. 17	8:00	Trustees' Meeting
	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. Apr. 18	7:00	Membership Committee Meeting
	7:30	Maundy Thursday Service
	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri. Apr. 19	7:30	Tenebrae Service
Sun. Apr. 21	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	9:00	Easter Sunday Service
	11:00	Easter Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir

Parish Notes

Share the Plate: April's Recipient: The LGBT Asylum Task Force

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Asylum Task Force is dedicated to supporting and empowering LGBTQI individuals who are fleeing persecution and seeking asylum in the United States. Those who file for asylum in the United States are not permitted to work until they are granted a work permit and social security number, a process that can take more than a year. During that time, the Task Force strives to provide housing, legal assistance, financial support, and community for asylum seekers.

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.

First Parish Cooperative Passover Seder Saturday, April 27, Parish Hall, 5:00 p.m.

Passover is both a meal and a retelling of the Exodus story, with the readings, songs, and eating of symbolic foods. Whether you have a Jewish background or never attended a Seder before, you are welcome. Children are not only welcome—they make the Seder more special and fun. Our Cooperative Seder will include a potluck dinner. Each person is asked to choose a job (setup or serving or cleanup) and to bring one or two items. Please sign up online: signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4DA4A822A4F49-passover. Questions? Contact Dana Snyder-Grant at 978-760-1129 or dana.snydergrant@gmail.com, or visit the Passover table at coffee hour.

Are You Interested in Serving on the Standing Committee?

The Standing Committee is First Parish's board. Candidates must be Members of First Parish and should have an active interest in matters such as governance, budgets, finance, committee work, meetings, or other organization-wide perspectives on the life and policies of our congregation. Please contact Eric Moore at 978-254-5037 or eric.aaron.moore@gmail.com, or any other member of the Nominating Committee.

Ferry Beach Retreat—Register Now! Memorial Day Weekend, May 24-27

Join families, couples, and singles from First Parish for this relaxed weekend on the beach at the UU Ferry Beach Camp and Conference Center in Saco, Maine over Memorial Day Weekend. Registration is open now through Sunday, April 28, and will be taken during coffee hour and in the church office during business hours. The Registration Packet can also be downloaded from firstparish.org/forms. There is information in the packet about some changes to lodging choices, fees, and policies for our use of the campus this year. Contact Registrar Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com with questions or to enquire about scholarship assistance.

Nominations for the First Parish Nominating Committee

The Standing Committee is seeking people who would like to be considered to serve on the Nominating Committee. The primary function of the Nominating Committee is to solicit and nominate candidates for open positions on the Standing Committee, as well as the Treasurer, Clerk, and Moderator positions. We are looking for people who like to participate in many aspects of church life. The term is three years, with an option to do two consecutive terms. We typically meet every other month in fall, winter and spring, and the commitment is usually about two hours a month. If you or someone you know might be interested in serving, please contact Kate Svreck at katesvreck@hotmail.com or 781-472-0714 by Friday, April 26.

Concord Area Humanists: "Strengthening Voter Rights" Wednesday, May 1, 7:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall

Presented by Iván Espinoza-Madriral, Executive Director of Lawyers for Civil Rights (LCR). Under his leadership, LCR has become a hub for litigation and advocacy, racial justice, immigrants' rights, and LGBT/HIV equality. LCR filed the first lawsuits in the country against the Trump Administration to protect sanctuary cities and to block immigration arrests in courthouses. Iván has filed and won dozens of cases on a wide range of civil rights issues. We will also discuss implications of Census 2020. Contact Patrick Everett at pne@aol.com if you have any questions.

Lucy Stone—Fierce Abolitionist and Suffragist

Don't miss this event on Friday, May 10, at 7:00 p.m., about Lucy Stone—ardent abolitionist, supporter of general human rights, and a fierce fighter for women's right to vote. She inspired thousands of women to work tirelessly to secure the right to attend college, to vote, and have their voices loudly heard in the public square. Critically acclaimed actor Judith Kalaora, founder and artistic director of History at Play, will educate and inspire you by her powerful portrayal of Lucy Stone. Men, women, and youth will thoroughly enjoy this event. Refreshments served. Entrance: \$10. Children under 12, no charge.

Social Action

Participate in the Patriots' Day Parade—Monday, April 15

The First Parish Reclaim Our Democracy group and its supporters will be walking in this year's Patriots' Day Parade in Concord. We will be gathering at 8:30 a.m., April 15, on Stow Street between the Hunt Gym and the armory. Wear comfortable shoes and be ready to sing as we walk through the streets of Concord to celebrate Patriots' Day and democracy. This is a fun, family-friendly event. Please join us and help support this very important effort. If you are interested or have questions, please email Fred Van Deusen at fredvandeusen@gmail.com.



**Immigration Justice Task Force, Monthly Jericho Walk
Tuesday, April 16, 1:00 p.m., ICE Office, 1000 District Ave.,
Burlington, Massachusetts**

Immigration injustice continues: in the last weeks, hundreds of migrant families seeking asylum were released from detention without warning and without food, water, money, or a means to travel to their court hearings or reunite with any relatives in the United States. If you're eager to bring attention to our broken immigration system, please join this peaceful protest. Gather in front of the ICE Office along District Avenue. For info contact Pamela Chester, pgachester@gmail.com.

**Amnesty International, Group 15
Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Greeley Room**

Our advocacy on behalf of two Azerbaijani students, in prison since 2016, is over at last. They were released on March 16. We continue to work on immigration issues, including joining local efforts; the abolition of the death penalty and Massachusetts prison reform. Our monthly letter-writing supports individuals worldwide whose lives are in jeopardy because of their human rights work. Please join us. For more information, contact Nancy Lyons at njlyons22@gmail.com or 978-505-1936.

**Understanding the Crisis Beyond the Border: A Conversation with
Father Ismael Moreno, Human Rights Advocate
Wednesday, April 17, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.**

First Parish in Brookline, 382 Walnut Street., Brookline, Mass.
Under the current authoritarian regime, Honduras is in crisis resulting in mass migration of thousands of Hondurans via long, dangerous, exhausting, caravans to the United States. Join members of the Immigration Justice Taskforce and get a deep look at the causes and impacts here and in Honduras. Cosponsored by the UUSC. Refreshments will be served. For questions contact Tony Rodriguez at trod.rodriguez@gmail.com.

AWE Monthly Meeting—April 20 is Cancelled

The AWE meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 20, is cancelled to avoid conflicts with the Easter and Passover holidays. Contact: Lora Venesy (venesy@comcast.net).

**Roxbury Youth Program Tour of Eliot Square
Saturday, April 20, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

First Church, 10 Putnam Street, Boston
Carpool with us into Roxbury to learn about the rich history of the Highland Park neighborhood and support the Roxbury Youth Program at the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry. Cost is \$10. Sponsored by the Racial Justice Action Group. To register, stop by our coffee hour table or contact Leslie Fisher at leslifisher@treitman.com. (Note: If you cannot make April 20, there is another tour scheduled on April 27; contact Marcia Butman at mbutman@gmail.com.)

Update on March Vigil, Hold the Date for April!

Over 100 people from local faith communities, including many from FP, participated in the March 31 Vigil at the Boston House of Corrections for immigrants who are being unjustly detained. For the entire hour of our vigil, detainees pressed against their barred windows, tapped on the glass, and waved at us; some made signs with hearts and held them up for us to see. It was a powerful and moving experience. If you want to know more, just ask a member of the Immigration Justice Taskforce. And please consider joining us for the April Vigil, which will be held on Sunday, April 28, at 2:00 p.m., at the Suffolk County House of Corrections. Details to be announced.

**POTUS 1: The Next Fight for Democracy—Lawrence Lessig
Monday, April 29, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall**

Can we make the 2020 election about something more than simply electing a new President? Can it become an election that unites America? Can we leverage what unifies America, and get an (unrigged) democracy that could work? Professor, Lawyer, and Political Activist Lawrence Lessig will be presenting his thoughts on what we need to do to unify America and reclaim our democracy. He is the author of several recent books, including *America Compromised* and *Republic, Lost: How Money Corrupts Our Congress—and a Plan to Stop It*. Sponsored by Reclaim

Our Democracy. Contact Fred at fredvandeu@gmail.com for additional information.

**Louis D. Brown Walk for Peace
Sunday, May 12, 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 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. \$10 fee to register online at mothersdaywalk4peace.org. Go to the "First Parish Concord team" to make a donation. To get more information and sign up for the bus, go to the Peace Walk table during coffee hour or contact Margie King Saphier at margie.king.saphier@gmail.com or 781-424-2179.

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, April 14: Multiage Program

9:45 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Children in Kindergarten through Grade 6 begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Following our Children's Message, 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- 11:15 a.m.
Decorating Easter Eggs, Multiage – Upper Level
Neighboring Activists, Grade 6 – Chapel

Next Sunday, April 21: Easter

8:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
9:00 a.m. – Easter Service for all ages
10:00 a.m. – Easter Egg Hunt, Meet on the Terrace
10:50 a.m. – Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
11:00 a.m. – Easter Service for all ages

Next Sunday, April 14: Religious Exploration

Easter Egg Decorating

Sunday, April 14, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.

During our regular RE time, children in Kindergarten, 3, and 4 will decorate Easter Eggs. Families are asked to bring one dozen hard-boiled eggs (if you can). Everyone will be able to take four eggs home. We will decorate eggs for our First Parish Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 21, at 10:00 a.m. (between the two services). We will have a rainbow of colors and other supplies ready for you to join in the fun!

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 21, 10:00 a.m.

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children at 10:00 a.m. on the Church green. All are welcome!

Special Guests from Drumlin Farm

Sunday, April 28, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m., in the Emerson Room

We are excited to welcome special guests from Drumlin Farm! As part of our "Connecting with Nature" program (K-5), a naturalist will visit First Parish with live native wildlife. All living things are connected. We will observe native animals and learn about their adaptations, habitats, and interrelationships with each other, humans, and the environment. Come join the fun!

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.