

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

May 19, 2019

This Week

Sun. May 19	9:00	Chalice Choir
	9:00	Gospel Ensemble
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Nominating Committee Meeting
	11:30	Sunday Forum
Mon. May 20	7:30	ELT Meeting
	7:30	Women's Book Group
Tues. May 21	9:30	Women's Book Group
	7:00	Amnesty International Meeting
	7:00	SAC Board Meeting
Wed. May 22	8:00	Trustees Meeting
	9:00	Cancer Support Group
	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thu. May 23	7:30	Buddhist Group
Sun. May 26	10:00	Sunday Service

2018-2019 church year, to Fifi Ball, Director of Operations, at fball@firstparish.org. Maintaining chartered group status allows free use of FP space for meetings and events, and access to FP communication channels and website. Deadline for chartered group 2018-2019 annual reports, in time for the new church year, is Friday, August 30. Please contact Fifi with questions. Submitting to both Fifi and Sarah at the same time is easiest.

Meeting House News June Issue

Deadline Tuesday, May 21, Noon; Published May 29.

This issue will cover the summer months June through the first week of September. Please plan accordingly. Send final form entry and images as attachments to the Editor at wolfberg@post.harvard.edu. Word limit is 100; content can be Word or Text files (not PDFs); and images can be JPEG or PNG. Please use formatting guidelines. Thank you.

Parish Notes

May "Share the Plate":

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

Our Share the Plate offering this month is for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). This means that half of what you give this morning will support UUSC and half will support First Parish in Concord. UUSC is a 78-year-old human rights organization grounded in UU values, that advances human rights and social justice through advocacy, research, and partnerships with grassroots organizations in more than 20 countries around the globe, including the United States. Prioritizing local needs and initiatives, UUSC collaborates to advance migration justice, bolster environmental justice, and respond to humanitarian crises. Become a UUSC member or learn more at www.uusc.org.

Pick Up Your Offering Envelopes

New Offering Envelopes are here and will be available to pick up after the service today!

Submit Your 2018-2019 Annual Reports for the 2019 Annual Meeting And to Retain Chartered Group Status Deadline: Friday, May 31 at 12:00 Noon

To have your group's annual report included at Annual Meeting, please submit a text file to Sarah Burns, Church Administrator, at sburns@firstparish.org, by noon on Friday, May 31. While the document circulated at the Annual Meeting will not be the full Annual Report, we ask that all submissions be made in final form. With questions, please call Sarah Burns at the church office at 978-369-9602, ext. 410. To maintain your group's chartered status, please submit an annual report, including the group name, current leadership contact information, approximate membership count, and a description of your group's activities during the

Congregational Conversation

Regarding the Annual Budget

Sunday, June 2, 11:30 Brooks Room

Please join Fifi Ball, Director of Operations; Michelle Fortier, Treasurer; and Members of the Finance Committee for a Congregational Conversation about the proposed budget for the July 2019 to June 2020 church year.

"Meditation, Mindful Practices, and Their Benefits"

First Tuesday Group—Tuesday, June 4, 1:30 p.m.

Meditation and other mindful practices recharge your body, mind, and spirit while defusing stress. On June 4, from 1:30-3:00 p.m., at the First Tuesday Group, Rev. Marion Visel will engage participants in simple meditation and mindful practices that help sharpen focus, lower blood pressure, reduce chronic pain, and make a real improvement in one's everyday life. The day will also include a list of likely topics for next year's programs, and our traditional June ice cream social. Come participate in this stimulating mix of end-of-the-year activities! (While our focus is seniors, please come if you are interested, whatever your age.)

Meet with Marion (A Note from Rev. Marion Visel)

I'm retiring in June, and there will be an opportunity to say goodbye on my last Sunday, June 16. It's been wonderful to talk with so many of you during appointments, meetings, and after services. I want you to know how much I value our time together. As June approaches, know that if you would like time to meet with me, I'm most available on Sundays, Mondays (including evening), and Tuesdays. Contact me at mvisel@firstparish.org or 203-931-5239 to arrange a time for us to talk.

Social Action

Sunday Forum: First Parish Annual Meeting Article to Endorse Green New Deal—Today, May 19, 11:30 a.m.

Join members of First Parish's Environmental Team today at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary to learn about their annual meeting article to endorse the aspirational goals of the Green New Deal.

Discuss *Climate Church, Climate World*

The Social Action Council and the Environmental Leadership Team are sponsoring opportunities for small group discussion of *Climate Church, Climate World* by Jim Antal, who will be preaching at West Concord Union Church on Sunday, June 9, at 10:00 a.m., with a discussion to follow in the afternoon. Our book discussion groups will all meet at First Parish on: Sunday, May 19, 7:00 p.m., RSVP to Brad Hubbard-Nelson, hubbardnelson@gmail.com; Wednesday, May 22, 7:00 p.m., RSVP to Peter Lowitt, peterlowitt@devensec.com; Tuesday, May 28, 10:00 a.m., RSVP to Don Miller, donaldbmiller@comcast.net; and Sunday, June 2, 7:00 p.m., RSVP to Wendy Holt, wendyh@dmahealth.com.

What is the Immigration Justice Taskforce?

What do they do and why do they do it? If you're wondering what this group is and what it does, please ask one of the IJTF members, such as Tony Rodriguez, trod.rodriguez@gmail.com; Laurie Van Loon, lvloon@comcast.net; Abby Buhle, abuhle68@gmail.com; Jessica Bethony, jessicabethoney@gmail.com; Regina Corrao, reginacorraoconsulting@gmail.com.

Jericho Walk: A Silent Interfaith Prayer, Walk, and Act of Solidarity—Tuesday, May 21, 1:00 p.m.

ICE Office, 10 District Avenue, Burlington, Mass.

The walk draws inspiration from the Battle of Jericho in which the community marched around Jericho seven times causing the city walls to fall. Our walk is a silent, peaceful, and prayerful walk to bring down the walls of our unjust immigration system and is open to all. Please join members of the IJTF for this peaceful protest. We will gather in front of the ICE Office along District Ave. For information, contact Pamela Chester, pgchester@gmail.com.

Amnesty International, Group 15

Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Greeley Room

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: Nancy Lyons, njlyons22@gmail.com, or 978-505-1936.

Support Immigrant Rights in MA

Wednesday, May 22, 10:00 a.m., at the State House

ICE actions and immigration policy are becoming increasingly cruel. Basic protections passed this legislative

session are in jeopardy! Help keep families together, allow the renewal of driver's licenses for access to jobs and appointments, and hold the line on protections for this vulnerable population. Join the Immigration Justice Task Force and UU Mass Action Network—we'll divide into teams and cover 33 offices in the State House. Questions, contact Laura Wagner, Lwagner@uumassaction.org.

AWE Free First Friday Feminist Film Series

Friday, June 7, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

Join us for our final film of this church year for a fun feminist heist flick with an amazing cast, which includes Cate Blanchett, Helena Bonham Carter, Sandra Bullock, Rihanna, Mindy Kaling, Awkwafina, and Sarah Paulson. Contact: Lou Toussaint at mloutoussaint@gmail.com.

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, May 19: Religious Exploration

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

10:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

Little OWL – Lower Level

Middle OWL – Wright Tavern

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:15-11:15 a.m.

“Connecting with Nature,” Multi-age (K-5)– Upper Level

Neighboring Activists, Grade 6 – Chapel

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

Next Sunday, May 26: Memorial Day Weekend

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service for all ages

No Little RE or Religious Exploration

Connecting with Nature (K-5)- Puppets for Missa Gaia Sunday, May 19, 10:15-11:15 a.m., Upper Level

In preparation for the Missa Gaia service celebrating the Earth, we will “meet” some of the big puppets from the Umbrella Community Arts Center that will come to life on Sunday, June 2. We will also be creating smaller puppets of fish, birds and animals to be used by the congregation during the worship service. Come celebrate our planet home!

“The Wilderness,” A Family-Friendly Show

Saturday, June 8, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall Stage

Today at Coffee Hour our Neighboring Activists are offering tags with original artwork to promote their play. Please donate any amount to support their worthy cause, Tomten Farm and Animal Sanctuary in Haverhill, New Hampshire. “The Wilderness” was written by 6th grader Sam Vallancourt and features fun animal characters. Admission is pay what you like!

***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.