

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

January 26, 2020

This Week

Sun. Jan 26	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	12:00	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal
Mon. Jan 27	7:30	Women's Book Group
Tues. Jan 28	9:30	Women's Book Group
	6:00	Racial Justice Action Group
Wed. Jan 29	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thur. Jan 30	7:30	Buddhist Group
	7:30	GA Delegates Meeting
Sat. Feb 1	6:30	Funderburg Scholars' Dinner
Sun. Feb 2	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	12:00	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

Parish Notes

January's Share the Plate: UU Mass Action

Initiated in 2005 by UUSC funding; it was the first of 12 UU State Advocacy Networks (today 22). 50 UU Parishes in MA support it financially. It seeks to inspire 20,000 UU's and their congregations in our state. Justice projects are picked according to congregation priorities. There are four core action-legislative campaigns: ending Mass Incarceration, Immigrant Rights, Economic Rights, and Climate Change. In the spring of 2014, Laura Wagner became Executive Director. She will be visiting First Parish January 12th. For more information, visit uumasaction.org or call 508-308-9261.

Do You Like to Cook? Would You Enjoy Cooking with Others Who Enjoy Being in the Kitchen?

Third Sunday Supper is looking for cooks! We need a few people who would like to join us on the third Sunday of each month to prepare the meal we serve to the congregation. Join us in the kitchen once, or every month. It's up to you! We gather at 4:00 p.m. and prepare a simple meal for the 45-55 guests who attend. Teens welcome. Please contact Sue Ryan at susanryan101@comcast.net if you'd like more information.

Call for General Assembly Delegates

The UUA General Assembly will be June 24 to 28, in Providence, Rhode Island. "Rooted, Inspired, & Ready" is the theme of this ingathering of thousands of UU's from around the world. Whether or not you have ever been a GA delegate before, come join in our governance for a few days, and help inspire our future. To learn more, contact jimsherblom@gmail.com or join a GA exploratory meeting at church on Thursday, January 30, at 7:30 p.m. Use of the democratic process is a Unitarian Universalist principle.

A Visit from Rev. Ferenc Mikó

Rev. Ferenc Mikó, former Assistant Minister at our partner congregation in Székelykörtút, Transylvania, will visit Concord from January 30 to February 2. He will attend the worship service next Sunday, February 2, and would be very happy to greet friends and other parishioners at the First Parish Cafe for a half hour before the service and at coffee hour afterwards; please look for him there.

First Tuesday Group: "Winter Stories"

Tuesday, February 4, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

The First Tuesday Group (65+) will meet for a session of shared winter stories, each centering on a photo or personal object that you bring. Meeting in small groups with our items, we will share the story behind the object. We look forward to tales of ice and snow, cold winter days, hot chocolate, and warm fires in the fireplace. Groups will report back to the larger gathering and individuals will have an opportunity, if they to share their story with everyone. Bring a photo or a memento! (While our focus is seniors, please come if you are interested, whatever your years).

Concord Area Humanists Present:

"Darwin's Apostles" by Professor Abby Hafer

Wednesday, February 5, 6:30 p.m.

When the discovery of evolution by natural selection was announced, neither of the scientists who discovered it were present at the announcement! Who did the hatchet work for evolution? Why, Darwin's apostles, of course! Charles Darwin was a recluse in later life. He wrote earth-shattering books but preferred to have others defend them. Fortunately, scientists like Thomas Huxley, Joseph Hooker, Asa Gray, John Draper, and evolution's co-discoverer, Alfred Russel Wallace, were all willing to go to bat on evolution's behalf. They were colorful, distinguished, and tenacious. Come find out more about them.

WPA's Participation in Open Table's Community Dinner—February 6

On Thursday, February 6, the Women's Parish Association will participate in Open Table's monthly Community Dinner. There are several very rewarding volunteer opportunities where your assistance will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to work on this event or attend this community building dinner, please contact the office at 978-369-9602 or Melita Teichert at mmtconcord1@gmail.com.

Social Action

Racial Justice Action Group Potluck and Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, Potluck at 6:00 p.m.;

Meeting 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

RJAG will meet for a potluck, followed by a business meeting. We welcome all who are interested in joining us for a part or all of the evening. We have invited Adrienne Betancourt, our new Social Action Manager to this month's meeting. This is a warm and welcoming group with a serious commitment to deepening our understanding of racism within ourselves, our congregation, and our community, and turning that into action. Please join us.

Advocates for Women's Empowerment Meeting

Saturday, February 1, 8:30 to 10:00 am, Café Nero, Concord, MA

AWE (Advocates for Women's Empowerment) will meet to discuss upcoming initiatives and objectives for 2020. Join us for coffee, community, and brainstorming about how we can advocate for women in this election year! Contact Suzie Weaver (skatesuzie@aol.com) or Lora Venesy (venesy@comcast.net).

Funderburg Scholars Fundraising Dinner

Saturday, February 1, 6:30 to 9:15 p.m., Parish Hall

Help Roxbury youth attend and graduate from college—while you enjoy a delicious meal with great company! These engaging students will tell stories about their college experiences. No fixed "price"—donate what feels right to you at the dinner. Reserve your place at dinner by emailing Loretta Ho Sherblom at Loretta@LHSBenefits.com or by texting or calling Loretta's cell at 508-935-6750. Wine and cheese at 6:30 p.m., dinner by Caroline McCloy at 7:15 p.m., then dessert by Kristine Wiggins!

IJTF Meeting

Monday, February 3, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in the Brooks Room

The Immigration Justice Taskforce is a committed, action-oriented group that would love for you to try us out. The next meeting will be Monday, February 3. Monthly meetings are on the first Monday of each month. Mark your calendars! You are welcome and needed! A member of the IJTF can help with further information: Tony Rodriguez, Ted Bayne, Regina Corrao, or Carl Proper.

AWE Free First Friday Feminist Film Series

Friday, February 7, at 7:00 p.m., in the Chapel

AWE (Advocates for Women's Empowerment) will be featuring *Queen of Katwe* for the First Friday February. *Queen of Katwe* is based on a vibrant true story and stars Lupita Nyong'o and David Oyelowo. A Ugandan girl's life changes forever when she discovers she has an amazing talent for chess, in this celebration of the human spirit.

More Huddles are Coming!

Join with others from First Parish and beyond to write to, text, and call legislators about the critical, time-sensitive issues you believe in including: allowing all Massachusetts residents access to drivers licenses so they can work and care for their families, actions for reproductive freedom, climate change, and voter rights. The Immigration Justice Taskforce is a regular sponsor of these events with Concord Indivisible. Mark your calendar for Sundays, February 9 and 23, and March 8 and 22, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center, 1276 Main Street, Concord. Postcards, scripts, and materials (and snacks!) will be provided. It couldn't be easier! For questions, talk to a member of the IJTF: Rachel Wheeler, Jane Blumberg, Janet Donovan, or Gail Kharidia.

Volunteer at Rosie's Place

Sunday, March 8, Boston, MA

Volunteers (age 12+) needed to cook and serve dinner at Rosie's Place on Sunday March 8. We'll carpool from church at 1:30 p.m. and return by 6:30 p.m. Rosie's Place is a sanctuary for poor and homeless women in Boston and serves 3 meals a day, 365 days a year. Past volunteers have found this to be a meaningful way to do direct social action work with an intergenerational group of volunteers. Sponsored by the Advocates for Women's Empowerment (AWE). Contact Suzie Weaver (skatesuzie@aol.com) to sign up (pre-registration required).

LunaFest Is Coming Again!

Saturday, March 28, 7:00 p.m., at Concord Academy

Save the date for LunaFest, a juried fundraising film festival for, by and about women, sponsored by the Advocates for Women's Empowerment (AWE). Proceeds will benefit causes to support women. If you'd like to join the planning committee or volunteer the night of the event, please let us know! Contact: Lora Venesy (venesy@comcast.net).

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, January 26: Religious Exploration

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:15-11:00 a.m. – Martial Arts Workshop, Kindergarten- Grade 3 with Wah Lum Wellness

– Parish Hall

10:15-11:15 a.m.

Bibleodeon, Grades 4 & 5– Wright Tavern

Neighboring Activists, Grade 6– Ripley Room

11:00 a.m. “Chinese Lion Photo Booth” – Parish Hall

11:30 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths, Grade 7, Meet in Parlor for visit to Islamic Center of Boston, Wayland. Return to First Parish ~2:30pm

4:00- 6:00 p.m. – 8th Grade OWL– Emerson Room

4:00- 6:00 p.m. – Coming of Age with mentors– Parish Hall

1/26- No Youth Group!

Next Sunday, February 2: Preparing for RE Service

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

10:00 a.m. – Neighboring Faiths, Grade 7 – Brooks Room

10:15-11:15 a.m.

Spirit Play, Kindergarten and Grades 1– Lower Level

Celebrating Our 6 Sources, Grade 2– Emerson Room

Celebrating Our 6 Sources, Grade 3– Greeley Room

Bibleodeon, Grades 4 & 5– Wright Tavern

Neighboring Activists, Grade 6– Ripley Room

12:00-3:00 p.m. Youth Group Service Planning– Wright Tavern

4:00- 6:00 p.m. – 8th Grade OWL– Emerson Room

Lion Dance and Martial Arts Workshop

Sunday, January 26, 10:00 a.m.

We are excited to welcome back Sifu Mary Driscoll and her students from Wah Lum Wellness in Methuen! Wah Lum is a world famous kung fu system dedicated to teaching, sharing, and preserving authentic Chinese martial arts including traditional kung fu, tai chi, and of course, Lion Dancing. Following the lion dance in our service, children in Kindergarten- Grade 3 will experience martial arts in the Parish Hall. Together we will explore the natural movements and spirits of animals underlying these arts. All ages are welcome to the “Lion Photo Booth” on the Parish Hall stage during coffee hour!

Middle OWL Parent Orientation

Sunday, January 26, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Wright Tavern

First Parish is pleased to offer comprehensive sexuality education not only to adolescents but also to 5th graders! This program will be offered in the Spring for eight Sundays and will begin a little earlier than our regular Religious Education time. These classes will meet from 10:00 to 11:15 a.m. One parent/guardian is required to attend the Orientation and both parents are required to sign the permission form to register. If you decide not to have your child participate, they will be included in another RE class during the eight-week program. For more information, contact Dawn: dvanpatten@firstparish.org.

“JOY!” Service for All Ages

Sunday, February 9, 10:00 a.m., in the Sanctuary

Our children chose “JOY!” as the worship theme and will help lead the service with Rev. Amy Freedman and Dawn Van Patten. Next Sunday, February 2 during Religious Exploration time, each age group will prepare to lead the service. We will reflect on what joy is and how we can experience and share joy in our lives.

Discover More:

For more information on our programs for children, teens, and families please contact:

Rev. Amy Freedman, Minister of Religious Education

afreedman@firstparish.org

Dawn Van Patten, Assistant Director of Religious Education

dvanpatten@firstparish.org

Madzie Burnham, Lead Youth Advisor

mburnham@comcast.net

617-877-9858 (cell)

Rev. Howard Dana's email: hdana@firstparish.org

Rev. Liz Weber's email: lweber@firstparish.org

Church office: 978-369-9602

Visit our website: www.firstparish.org.

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.