

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

February 9, 2020

This Week

Sun. Feb 9	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
Tues. Feb 11	2:00	Shawl Ministry Meeting
	7:00	Standing Committee Meeting
Wed. Feb 12	9:00	Cancer Support Group
	9:30	Buddhist Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thur. Feb 13	7:30	Buddhist Group
Fri. Feb 14	12:30	T'ai Chi
Sat. Feb 15	5:30	Painting Reception
Sun. Feb 16	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	12:00	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal
	6:00	Third Sunday Supper

Parish Notes

February's Share the Plate: Sanctuary Boston

Sanctuary Boston is a community of vibrant worship and real connection, grounded in Unitarian Universalism and open to seekers of all kinds. Sanctuary was formed by young adults looking to combine the progressive theology of UUism with worship alive in music and ritual. They are one of the largest UU ministries that caters to the needs of young adults through informal worship, small groups ministry, and other programs. Sanctuary Boston is an experiment in contemporary worship, a spiritual home for young seekers, and a model of innovative ministries amplifying the message of UUism. Visit sanctuaryboston.org.

Looking Back at New England

Over the past forty years of living in New England, Doug Baker has completed a few paintings of mostly landscapes and seascapes. A small selection of those paintings will be displayed in a retrospective exhibit at First Parish in Concord, Massachusetts. The paintings will be available for your viewing in the Sue Altshuler Galleries (on the stage and the stairway leading up to the Sanctuary) from Sunday, February 9, through Sunday March 8.

Reception For Doug Baker's Retrospective Art Exhibit

You are cordially invited to a reception on Saturday, February 15, for Doug Baker's retrospective art exhibit, Looking Back at New England, which will be on display in the Sue Altshuler Galleries (on the stage and the stairway leading up to the Sanctuary) from February 9 through March 8. Light refreshments will be served. There is no charge, but reservations are needed for planning purposes. Please contact pekiindc@comcast.net or the church office at 978-9602 by February 12.

Adult Drum Fusion Circle

Sunday, February 16, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Join our new drum fusion circle. No experience is necessary; beginners and experienced drummers are welcomed. We warm up with a variety of drums and percussion instruments, experiment with extended drumming, and then we lower the volume and play small instruments to accompany the didgeridoo (you might even hear a whale song). For additional information or questions, contact facilitator Daniel Shea at 781-439-8891 or CC King at ccking.interplay@gmail.com.

Pilgrimage to the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, Museum and Lynching Memorial

Sunday Forum, February 23, at 11:30 a.m., in the Sanctuary

In 2019, First Parish members traveled to Montgomery and Selma, Alabama to see the museum and lynching memorial started by Bryan Stevenson (Just Mercy). We joined 35 others from around Boston organized by Rev. June Cooper of City Mission. We heard from activists in Montgomery and walked the historic Edmund Pettus bridge in Selma. It was life-altering, heart-breaking, and inspiring. Please come and hear our stories: Wendy Holt, Lea Delacour, Cindy Soule, Sue St. Croix, and Ted Bayne, and CC King.

Women's A.M./P.M. Book Group

The next selection for the Women's A.M./P.M. Book Group is the novel *Circe* by Madeline Miller. The evening discussion will be Monday, February 24, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., and the morning discussion on Tuesday, February 25, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Please note that the evening group will meet in the Greeley Room this time, but the morning session will be held in the Brooks Room as usual (both at First Parish). All women of First Parish are warmly invited to read the current book and join a discussion—there's no need to sign up! If you would like to be added to the Women's Book Group email list, please contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com.

World Day of Prayer Service and Luncheon

On Friday, March 6, at 11:00 a.m., Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm Street will host Concord's commemoration of the 2020 World Day of Prayer (WDP). WDP Women of Zimbabwe wrote this year's service which is a call to act in love for peace and reconciliation. The luncheon will celebrate the people of Zimbabwe. If anyone has art objects, decorations, etc. from Zimbabwe which they will be willing to lend for this event, please contact pekiindc@comcast.net. No charge for the luncheon. Reservations are not required. A freewill offering will be accepted at the service. All men, women, and youth are warmly invited.

Get Ready for the Banner Parade!

Celebration Sunday is coming up on March 8 and will again include a Banner Parade of groups and committees of our congregation. If a committee or group you're involved with at First Parish would like to participate, now is the time to check and see if you have a banner (many are stored in the church attic) or to make one to be ready for the day. More information will be emailed to group/committee contacts as listed on the church website. Questions? Contact Darien Smith at darien@smithquest.com.

Women's Suffrage Centennial Celebration

Saturday, March 14, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary and Parish Hall

Don't miss this exciting and inspiring centennial celebration of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which gave women in the United States the right to vote. This event is sponsored by the Women's Parish Association, The League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle, Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House, and the Women's Suffrage Celebration Coalition of Massachusetts. Speakers, authors, dramatic historic portrayals, music of the times, women government officials, information tables, entertainment and refreshments will all serve to mark this important event in our history. No Charge. Everyone is warmly invited! Reservations: Contact pekiindc@comcast.net or call the church office at 978-369-9602.

Social Action

Stop by Environmental Team Table

Please stop by the Environmental Team table at coffee hour to learn about First Parish's carbon footprint and our plans to reduce it, in accordance with our 7th Principle.

50th Anniversary of Earth Day Events!

The 50th Anniversary of Earth Day falls during School Spring Vacation Week. We want to know if folks will be around to participate in the various Earth Day activities. Please drop by the Environmental Team table at Coffee Hour the next few weeks and let us know if you are interested in participating.

Protest the Treatment of Our Immigrant Neighbors!

Tuesday, February 18, 1:00 p.m.

This monthly gathering is at the ICE Office, 10 District Avenue in Burlington, MA. It may be a new year but sadly, the inhumane treatment continues. Please join the IJTF to protest the administration's cruel policies of immigrants, immigrant children in particular. Help make this the biggest gathering yet and march for all immigrants in need. For questions on this and other actions that make a difference, please talk to an IJTF member—Janet Donovan, Rachel Wheeler, Ted Bayne, or Laurie van Loon.

Small Actions Add Up!

Sunday, February 23, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the Harvey Wheeler Center in West Concord

The Immigration Justice Taskforce will again join Concord Indivisible for a letter and postcard writing Huddle. We will sponsor a table on two issues important to our immigrant neighbors. Further details will follow. For now, please hold the date and plan to join us! Materials, snacks, conversation, and community are all provided.

SAC Grants

Now is the time for First Parishioners to recommend organizations as recipients of next year's Share the Plate. You are encouraged to nominate a nonprofit group committed to social justice that would benefit from a donation from First Parish. Now through March 1, the SAC Giving Team is accepting requests for the 2020-2021 church year. The easy-to-complete Nomination Form is available online at surveyMonkey.com/r/FPCSACForm. Please check out the SAC Grant page on the First Parish website for more information. Need more information, please contact Ted Bayne (tedbayne@comcast.net), Liz Rust (liz@therusts.net), or Chris Miara (chrismiara@gmail.com).

Additional Sanctuary Volunteers Needed!

The UU church in Bedford has been home for the past two years to a person many of us have come to know and care for; separated from her children she remains there day after day. Almost a dozen area congregations provide volunteers who offer 24/7 presence to this Sanctuary guest through three/four-hour shifts of their choice. For a variety of reasons, our volunteer numbers have dwindled and the Immigration Justice Taskforce is actively recruiting new helpers. Are you at all interested in adding your presence and support? Do you know someone who would like to contribute in this small and meaningful way? Please contact Abby Bhule, abhule68@gmail.com.



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.

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).

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, February 9: RE Service for All Ages

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary

1:00-3:30 pm Youth Group Target Run!

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

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

Next Sunday, February 16: Multiage Program

“JOY!” Service for All Ages

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

Our children chose “JOY!” as our worship theme and will lead today's service with Rev. Amy Freedman, Minister of Religious Education, and Dawn Van Patten, Assistant Director of RE. Little RE is available for younger children up to four years old in the Milldam Nursery School space on the Lower Level.

Youth Group News

Sunday, February 9, 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

This afternoon High School teens will go on a Target run to pick up some things for our space in the Wright Tavern. Please have a parent/guardian fill out the online permission form:

<https://forms.gle/Mn5agAjZQEXuOsHR9>

Madzie Burnham, Youth Group Leader:

mfburnham@comcast.net; 617-877-9858

Praying in Color, Multiage Workshop (K-8)

Sunday, February 16, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m., Emerson Room

Praying in Color is a form of praying that uses doodles, drawings, colors, and words. Following the Children's Message, all ages are welcome to explore “Praying in Color”. Rev. Amy Freedman invites young people in Kindergarten- Grade 8 into an active, playful and meditative prayer practice.

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

mfburnham@comcast.net

617-877-9858 (cell)

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.