

THE SUNDAY NEWS

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

February 16, 2020

This Week

Sun. Feb 16	9:00	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	12:00	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal
	4:00	Drum Circle
	6:00	Third Sunday Supper
Tues. Feb 18	7:00	Amnesty International
Wed. Feb 19	7:00	Trustees' Meeting
	9:30	Buddhist Group
	10:00	Coffee and Conversation Group
	7:45	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thur. Feb 20	7:00	Membership Committee Meeting
	7:30	Buddhist Group
	7:30	By Your Side Singers
Fri. Feb 21	7:00	Jewish Awareness Affinity Group
Sun. Feb 23	9:00	Chalice Choir Rehearsal
	10:00	Sunday Service
	11:30	Junior Choir Rehearsal
	11:30	Sunday Forum in the Sanctuary
	12:00	Contemporary Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

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.

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.

You are Invited to Sunday Supper!

Sunday, February 16, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., in the Parish Hall
Please join us every third Sunday for a casual community meal in the Parish Hall. Feel free to bring a beverage of your choice. The suggested donation is \$5 per person, with a maximum of \$20 per family. Youth Group members eat FREE. All ages are welcome! If

you have questions or would like to RSVP—we love RSVP's—contact Sue Ryan at susanryan101@comcast.net, or Kate Svrcek at katesvrcek@hotmail.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.

"The Gold Rush": Silent Movie Night with Rob Humphreville Saturday, February 29, at 7:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary

In this classic silent comedy, the Little Tramp (Charles Chaplin) heads north to join in the Klondike gold rush. Trapped in a small cabin by a blizzard, the Tramp is forced to share close quarters with a successful prospector and a fugitive. When the prospector needs help locating his claim, it appears the Tramp's fortunes may change. Organist Robert Humphreville accompanies silent movies all over New England and has been singled out several times by the Boston Globe for his inventive improvisations. Admission is FREE! Fun for all ages!

Important Pledge Calendar Dates

Each year we must raise the funds to keep our doors open and our ministries thriving. That amounts to \$1.4 million for the FY 20-21 operating budget. Like public radio, we want to do this quickly. Help us meet our pledge campaign goals, by noting these key dates: March 1—Decide your pledge amount. You could win a pledge raffle prize!
March 8—Celebration Sunday! Fill out your pledge card as we kick off the Pledge Campaign with a Banner Parade.
March 22—Attend the All-Church Pancake Breakfast before the service.
March 29—Expect a call from another parishioner if you haven't pledged.
April 5—Done! Pledge Campaign ends on Palm Sunday.
April 19—Oh dear, please spare us from nagging the stragglers to do their part. Thank you!
If you have any questions, please contact 2020-21 Pledge Campaign Project Manager, 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, souvenirs, etc. from Zimbabwe which they will be willing to lend for this event, please contact pekincd@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.

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.

**Upcoming Workshop: Capturing Memories on Paper
March 18 and 25; April 1, 8, 15, and 22; 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.,
Emerson Room**

Connecting with the future, giving our descendants an impression of our lives, is one good reason to capture memories on paper. Even more important is the personal pleasure and insight that come from reconstructing parts of our lives in words. This 6-week workshop will invite participants to write their memories as short reflections in response to concrete prompts and then share their writing with the group if they choose. Register by sign-up sheet in office, or by email at virginiarosstaylor@gmail.com or lweber@firstparish.org. Facilitated by Virginia Taylor, former English professor and currently a private writing coach. Maximum of 10 participants.

Social Action

**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 on critical issues. For example, over 400,000 immigrants who have Temporary Protective Status, many who have families and businesses and have lived here for decades, live in great uncertainty because they have no pathway to permanent residency. These neighbors need our help. Please hold the date and plan to join us! Materials, snacks, conversation, and community are all provided. Any questions, please talk to Jane Blumberg, Regina Corrao, Gail Kharidia or Tony Rodriguez.

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 Buhle, abuhle68@gmail.com.

Religious Exploration

This Sunday, February 16: Multiage Program

9:45 a.m. Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
10:15-11:15 a.m. Praying in Color (K-8) – Emerson Room

Next Sunday, February 23: Multiage Program

9:45 a.m. Little RE (0-4yrs) – Lower Level
10:15-11:15 a.m. Praying in Color (K-8) – Emerson Room
4:00-6:00 p.m. 8th Grade OWL – Emerson Room
6:00-8:00 p.m. Youth Group – Wright Tavern

Praying in Color: Multi-age 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.

Wonders of Water: Multiage Workshop (K-8)

Sunday, February 23, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m., Emerson Room

The Umbrella Arts Center has issued an Earth Month Call for Art. This year's theme is "Fresh Water and Our Watershed" and the exhibit will be displayed at the Umbrella in April. This Sunday, we will explore with Dawn Van Patten the wonder and power of water in all its forms and use paint, beads, fabric, and other materials to reflect on the aspects of water that speak to us as we begin our collaborative artwork for the exhibit.

Family Game Night

Friday, March 13, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

All are welcome to a Potluck Dinner and Game Night! This will be an opportunity for kids and adults to get to know one another beyond Sunday morning at First Parish in Concord. Please bring a dish to share and your favorite game(s) to play. As a part of our Green Sanctuary efforts, you may also wish to bring a table setting (plates and utensils) for your family. Questions? Contact Amy at afreedman@firstparish.org.

Discover More:

Each week, we send announcements about our program for children, teens, and families. Subscribe online: firstparish.org/wp/learning/re/

For more information, please contact:

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Visit our website: www.firstparish.org.