



April 1, 2014  
Volume 50, No. 8

*Our fiftieth year!*

# The Meeting House News

## IN THIS ISSUE

### REVERIES

There is a conversation going on at First Parish that I want to include you in. We are talking about reshaping Sunday morning so that there would be more educational opportunities, small group sessions, and meetings. In our conversation we are imagining one worship service preceded by or followed by the Forum, adult religious education classes, covenant groups, and the like. We are excited to think about how Sunday morning might offer more than worship for many First Parish members. We are also excited to think how having one worship service could make the congregation feel more unified and more energized.

As a church's culture changes, so must its activities. Since 2006 or 2007, worship attendance at First Parish has been flat — including this first year of a new ministry. Simply put, every Sunday except Easter, we all could fit in the Sanctuary with one worship service. Yes, it would mean that we would all have to sit a little closer together. But it would also mean that the singing would be stronger, the Sanctuary would be livelier, and I would preach with more energy. I am one of those ministers who believes that having people in the church building on Sunday morning is important — whether they are in the worship service or not. To me, attendance at the Forum, other classes, covenant groups, or meetings (on Sundays or during the week) counts as active participation in the congregation.



I would love to see these opportunities expanded on Sunday morning.

Of course everyone in the conversation wants to know when the service would be! We don't know yet. What we do know is that that decision should be driven by our mission. In setting the service time, we should think about whom we are hoping to attract to the congregation and what might appeal to them. The two likely choices are 9:30 a.m. (better for families and better parking options) and 10:30 a.m. (better for folks who want a more leisurely Sunday morning.) We know that whatever time we would choose we would inconvenience some members. We hope the appeal of one service might overcome any personal preference as to the time of service.

On Sunday, May 4, there will be a chance to have a conversation with me and other church leaders about whether we should go to one service or not. I hope you will join me that morning after either service. Welcome to the conversation. See you in church.

Love,

Howard N. Dana

- Page 1** REVeries  
In This Issue
- Page 2** Worship Services Schedule  
Parish Notes
- Page 3** Parish Notes, continued  
Arts Corner Events
- Page 4** Parish Notes, continued  
Coming Up...  
Ministerial Intern
- Page 5** Standing Committee News  
Money Matters/Pledge Campaign  
New Facilities Committee
- Page 6** Congregational Life
- Page 7** Pastoral Care News
- Page 8** SAC News and Events
- Page 9** SAC, continued  
Women's News
- Page 10** REflections and RE News
- Page 11** RE News, continued  
Senior Youth News
- Page 12** MUSings and Music Note  
Transylvania Partnership News
- Page 13** April 2014 Calendar
- Page 14** First Parish Contact Info and Staff

There is one insert at the end of this newsletter:

- ◆ Coffee Hour Snacks Host List

**First Parish in Concord**  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
Gathered in 1636

*First Parish in Concord is a welcoming Unitarian Universalist congregation that seeks ways to deepen spiritually, build community, and make a positive difference in the world.*

## WORSHIP SERVICES AT FIRST PARISH

Sunday, April 6

*Our Wider Faith* — Rev. Howard N. Dana and Jim Key

9:00 – Gospel Choir

11:00 – First Parish Choir

Sunday, April 13

*Challenging Empire* — Rev. Howard N. Dana

9:00 – Chalice Choir and Contemporary Ensemble

11:00 – Junior Choir and First Parish Choir

Sunday, April 20

Easter

*Coming Back to Life* — Rev. Howard N. Dana

9:00 & 11:00 – First Parish Choir and Festival Brass

Sunday, April 27

*It's All a Pilgrimage* — Tony Fisher

One service at 11:00 – Lincoln Ringers

### Maundy Thursday and Chowder Lunch

Come join us on Thursday, April 17, for our traditional Maundy Thursday worship service at 11:30 a.m., followed by a catered chowder lunch. During worship we will share communion, using the congregation's decades-old silver. Bring a simple salad, a loaf of bread, or a dessert to contribute to the meal. Tickets for the chowder lunch will cost \$5.00 per adult and will be on sale during coffee hour by the Jewish Awareness Affinity Group.

### Sunday Flowers for the Sanctuary

If you would like to donate pulpit flowers in memory or celebration of a loved one, or are interested in arranging flowers for a Sunday service, please contact **Ellen Whitney** at 978-369-7434.

*The Meeting House News*, the newsletter of First Parish in Concord, is published monthly — online and in print, September to June — to provide parishioners and friends with information about our congregation and our larger community.

Please send address changes to:

First Parish in Concord

20 Lexington Road, Concord, MA 01742

Noon Deadline	Published
May: Friday, April 18	Tuesday, April 29
June: Friday, May 23	Tuesday, June 3

Newsletter items should be **brief — ideally limited to 100 words** — and may be delivered, faxed or emailed to the church office.

Editor's Note: *We are delighted that writers are so enthusiastic, but gently suggest using fewer exclamation marks. A former editor's rule was to use an exclamation mark only to announce the Second Coming — and only if He actually did come. Thanks.*

## PARISH NOTES

### Finding Your Minister

Howard Dana's hours are the following:

Tuesday 10:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday 10:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday 10:00 to 4:00 p.m.

You may contact Howard at [hdana@firstparish.org](mailto:hdana@firstparish.org), or at 20 Lexington Road, Concord, 978-369-9602, extension 411. His cell phone number is 717-412-8543. In addition to regular office hours, Howard makes appointments to meet with people at other times. Please call or email **Cassy Bosworth** at 978-369-9602 or [cbosworth@firstparish.org](mailto:cbosworth@firstparish.org) to schedule an appointment with Howard.

Howard is unavailable, and does not tend to email except for emergencies, on Monday, his day off, or Friday, his sermon writing day.

### Our Solar Is Online — We Are Greener!

On the first day of spring, March 21, at 4:15 p.m., First Parish's 70 solar panels went online, expected to produce approximately 25 percent of the electricity we need for our building annually. Take a look at our south facing roof to see them at work. Once again, we are so grateful to the generosity of this church community for contributing \$60,000 to this important move toward a more sustainable church campus.

### "Not Your Traditional Seder" Is Coming! Saturday, April 19, 5:00 p.m.

What kind of Passover "Seder" did Jesus experience? The Jewish Awareness group will attempt to help us understand the differences and similarities of the Passover story during Jesus' time and how the Seder, as we know it, evolved. Even the food will be different! Tickets available (\$18 for adults; \$5 for children 6-13 years old) at coffee hour, and work participation is expected for this cooperative Seder — sign up for a job when you purchase tickets. For more information, contact **Rhoda Miller**, [rhodamill@aol.com](mailto:rhodamill@aol.com); or **Dana Snyder-Grant**, [danasg@newview.org](mailto:danasg@newview.org).

### First Parish Photo Club Annual Exhibit

The First Parish Photography Club will hold its 12th Annual Exhibit on April 27, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Parish Hall. More than 25 of our members will be displaying their work, both in the galleries and in a constantly running slideshow. Photographers from the club will be available to answer your questions and provide tips on taking great pictures. Cards and photos will be available for sale. There will be refreshments for you to enjoy while you are strolling around and taking in the wonders of the exhibit. And it's all free! Just come — and bring your family, friends and neighbors.

Parish Notes

continued on page 3

**Concord Area Humanists Meeting  
Wednesday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m.  
in the Parish Hall**

Dr. Catherine Caldwell-Harris will discuss “Differences between Secular and Religious Minds,” beginning with an overview of how temperament, personality, cognitive styles and family environment shape our thinking. Participants will discuss their own history and circumstances, and whether (or how much) their life story matches generalizations from scientific literature. We will then turn to why religious and secular minds differ, whether these are short-term artifacts of recent cultural changes, and implications for society and our lives.

Catherine is Associate Professor of Psychology at Boston University. She graduated from Harvard College in psychology and her Ph.D. is in cognitive science from UC San Diego. She has researched several areas within the cognitive and behavioral sciences.

**New UUA Moderator at First Parish —  
April 5 and 6**

On Saturday, April 5, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m., everyone is invited to meet the new moderator of the UUA, Jim Key, when he makes a special visit to First Parish. This is a rare and wonderful opportunity for us to learn firsthand from the UUA Moderator about what the UUA does, what’s new in our denomination, and what to expect at this year’s General Assembly being held in nearby Providence this June. This will be a Town Hall-style meeting for Jim to speak with us about these topics and anything you’d like to ask about the UUA and its role in our movement. For more information about the visit and Jim Key and the UUA Moderator’s job, please see the website: [www.firstparish.org/Moderator-Visit](http://www.firstparish.org/Moderator-Visit). If possible, please sign up at coffee hour or the church office for the Saturday event. For questions, please contact **Darien Smith**, [darien@smithquest.com](mailto:darien@smithquest.com) or 978-369-1471. Jim Key will also share the pulpit with **Rev. Howard Dana** on Sunday, April 6.

**Oriana Consort on April 4, at 8:00 p.m.**

The Oriana Consort, a Cambridge-based chorale, makes its fourth visit to First Parish on Friday, April 4, at 8 p.m. to present “Choral Reflections: Human Experience as Revealed in Choral Music Old and New.” The program includes madrigals from 16th- and 17th-century Italy and England, English part-songs, and the East Coast première of Abbie Betinis’s “The Waking.” The concluding work is “The Unicorn, the Gorgon, and the Manticore: A Madrigal Fable” — Gian Carlo Menotti’s 1956 send-up of hypocrisy, sham and social conformity. Director Walter Chapin and Assistant Director Caroline

**First Parish Arts Corner — Fostering  
Community through the Arts**

Each month, in this “corner,” the First Parish Arts Council will highlight arts events in the upcoming month that offer opportunities to participate in the ministry of the arts at First Parish. Unless otherwise noted, questions may be directed to [music@firstparish.org](mailto:music@firstparish.org).

**April 1-24** – Altshuler Gallery – First Parish Young Artists Exhibit

**April 2 at 6:00 p.m.** – Arts Council Meeting

**April 4 at 8:00 p.m.** – Oriana Consort Concert

**April 12 at 9:00 a.m.** – Photo Club meeting – open to all First Parish adults

**April 25 at 7:30 p.m.** – Rise Up Singing, First Parish’s monthly song circle.

**April 27 at 3:00 p.m.** – Photo Club Exhibition Opening and Reception

For more information on these events, check the *Meeting House News*, FP Announce and the *Sunday News*.

The purpose of the First Parish Arts Council is to further the mission of First Parish through facilitating, promoting and coordinating a diverse arts ministry that inspires and celebrates creativity and connection. The council is open to all interested parishioners. Contact **Lillian Anderson**, chair, for more information: [lillianand@comcast.net](mailto:lillianand@comcast.net).

Harvey will conduct. Tickets at \$20 and \$15 will be available at the door, or online at [www.orianaconsort.org](http://www.orianaconsort.org).

**Flea Market/Recycle Sale —April 5**

The Women’s Parish Association will hold its Flea Market/Recycle Sale on Saturday, April 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. To rent a table, contact **Pat Kane** at [cstmcloth@yahoo.com](mailto:cstmcloth@yahoo.com) or 978-369-8418 right away. Table rentals are \$35.00 each. We will also collect high quality gift items in good condition to be sold at the WPA table. Bring items to the WPA table at 8:00 a.m. on April 5, or contact **Marilyn Lowitt** at 978-793-0267 or [Marilyn.Lowitt@verizon.net](mailto:Marilyn.Lowitt@verizon.net) to arrange for pickup of items.

**Ferry Beach Registration Is April 13 and 27**

Mark your calendar now for the annual Ferry Beach Retreat Weekend, May 23-26 (Memorial Day Weekend). Join families, couples, and singles from our own congregation and First Parish in Lexington for a relaxed weekend on the beach at the UU Ferry Beach Camp and Conference Center in Saco, Maine. Registration for the weekend will be taken at the Ferry Beach table at coffee hours on April 13, 20 and 27, or in the church office during those two weeks. For questions or to inquire about scholarship assistance, contact **Darien Smith** ([darien@smithquest.com](mailto:darien@smithquest.com), 978-369-1471). As of April 13, the registration packet can be

downloaded from [www.firstparish.org/forms](http://www.firstparish.org/forms). Also, check out the excellent summer camps and conferences for all ages at Ferry Beach, at [www.ferrybeach.org](http://www.ferrybeach.org).

**WPA Luncheon Program — April 16**

**Howard Dana**, Catherine Senghas and **Becky Blodgett** will join us to explore UU engagement in urban community ministry. Catherine is Senior Minister and Executive Director at the UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury. First Parish has a long history of deep engagement in this ministry. She will report on current activities. Howard will share the experience of his congregation’s outreach in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Becky will talk about her community ministry experience as a chaplain. Social time: 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch and the program. Everyone is welcome. Cost is \$10.00. Contact the office by April 13 or **Dian Pekin** at [pekinc@comcast.net](mailto:pekinc@comcast.net) for reservations, or for food and transportation needs.

COMING UP...

**IN MAY**

**Why did the Unitarian Universalist cross the road?**

**Come to “A Yankee Home Companion” and find out!**

**“A Yankee Home Companion” — May 2 and 3, at 8:00 p.m.**

Modeled (loosely) on the radio show “A Prairie Home Companion,” First Parish’s own Yankee version will present songs, stories, poems, jokes, live music and radio-style sound effects. Host **Doug Hardy** describes a quiet week at First Parish; **Gail Carey** directs a live band. Performers include **Anna Huckabee Tull**, the **Con-Chords**, and Rise Up Singing.

“A Yankee Home Companion” is designed both to celebrate the 20 years of **Beth Norton**’s music ministry and to raise funds for the Music Reserve Fund, which allows us to undertake major musical presentations. It lets us hire musicians for special services such as Jazz Sunday or holiday offerings. Most importantly, it gives Beth the ability to undertake ambitious musical offerings without having to wonder whether there will be funds, and where they will come from.

Honoring 20 years and building for the next 20 and beyond, suggested donations ranges from \$20 to \$2000. (As always, if this is a hardship, feel free to contribute what you can.) Tickets will be available at coffee hours starting April 6, or in the church office. In addition, contributions to the Music Reserve Fund will be gratefully accepted.

**Sunday, May 4**

**One Service Conversations with Rev. Howard Dana**

Join Howard, your fellow parishioners and church leaders for conversations about moving our Sunday worship to one service.

MINISTERIAL INTERN

One of the honored (and joyful!) duties of the Ministerial Intern here at First Parish is to officiate at the Passover Seder, which this year takes place on Saturday, April 19. Passover celebrates the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt more than 3000 years ago, as described in the book



of Exodus. As always, we will read from the Haggadah (the “telling”), which includes the story of the exodus from Egypt as well as a collection of anecdotes, songs and prayers. The Haggadah also contains instructions for the Seder (or “order”), a description of the traditional service and meal that takes place in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere, usually in the home; but in the case of our our First Parish Family, we get comfortable in the Parish Hall.

It is interesting to note that while Passover has been celebrated since the Exodus itself, the Seder, as it is celebrated today only began to take shape in the diaspora after the destruction of the great temple in Jerusalem in 70 CE. This begs the question of what the celebration looked like, let’s say, at the time of Jesus of Nazareth some 40 years before. Jesus was a Jew, a great teacher (rabbi), who would have celebrated Passover each year with those who were close to him. So it is that three of the four Gospels suggest the “Last Supper” was indeed the Passover meal, also known as the Feast of the Unleavened Bread.

At this year’s Seder we will explore this historic connection and also experience the food that Jesus and his disciples might have eaten during their last meal together.

I do hope you’ll come — in part to remember the bitterness of the Jewish people’s bondage in Egypt and the joy of their eventual freedom — but also to learn, to laugh, and to enjoy an evening of wonderful community. ♦

Blessings,

Tony

### Looking to the Future

March found the discussions of the Standing Committee (SC) looking to the future. We looked out a few years and asked on behalf of the congregation whether one worship service or two would best serve our mission, how our pastoral care might best be organized, and how the SC should be involved in the Annual Pledge Campaign. (To get a sense of the rich and varied points of view, please see our posted minutes.)

In the middle of our discussion about the next three to five years, **Howard Dana** made a spirited request that the SC members, in all their church activities, emphasize the need for a second minister at First Parish. Fulfilling this need is contingent, of course, on the demonstrated generosity of the Annual Pledge Campaign. Howard stressed that not just pastoral care, but the general demands of the Church will require an additional minister in the not too distant future.

### Regular News

The last part of our meeting reported on the progress of the many active task forces' work and a special report on what's going on at the UUA's President's Council. (Again, for the details, please see our posted minutes.)

### Annual Pledge Campaign Is Under Way

By the time you read this, most of our stewards will have completed their face-to-face meetings with potential pledgers. The Pledge Campaign literature has clearly shown us how our generosity can enable our strategic priorities. If you are reading this and have not made your pledge, please call the church office and pledge today!

In past years, First Parish has been challenged by the overlap of creating a draft budget while concluding the pledge campaign. This year, we have remedied this problem by concluding the Annual Pledge Campaign by May 1. Our budget will live within what has been pledged.

To repeat last month's concluding words, "Together, our commitment to stewardship ensures our continued healthy growth and the fulfillment our mission." ♦

**Jack Nevison**

Chair of the Standing Committee

Stay in touch with us at:

**Laurie Van Loon**, [lvanloon@comcast.net](mailto:lvanloon@comcast.net); **Kristin Haddad**, [Kristin.haddad@gmail.com](mailto:Kristin.haddad@gmail.com); **Jake Nunes**, [Jake\\_Nunes@shs.org](mailto:Jake_Nunes@shs.org); **Mark Russell Prior**, [mark.russell.prior@comcast.net](mailto:mark.russell.prior@comcast.net); **Suzanne Lowe**, [slowe@expertisemarketing.com](mailto:slowe@expertisemarketing.com); **Kate Crosby**, [kate\\_crosby@newview.org](mailto:kate_crosby@newview.org); **Andrea Siani**, [Andrea.Siani@gmail.com](mailto:Andrea.Siani@gmail.com); **Alec Walker**, [alecwalker@aol.com](mailto:alecwalker@aol.com); **Gretchen Nelson**, [ghnelson@me.com](mailto:ghnelson@me.com); **Patty Popov**, [PPopov@nichols-pratt.com](mailto:PPopov@nichols-pratt.com); **John Nevison**, [jmn@newleafpm.com](mailto:jmn@newleafpm.com).

### Annual Pledge Campaign 2014-2015: "Build On to What Is Good"

Our remarkable Celebration Sunday in March showed us stepping up to stewardship. That day, **Rev. Howard Dana's** "altar call" prompted some laughter — and then 148 families came forward to drop their pledges in a basket. More than two-thirds of those families increased their pledges. Combined with advance gifts, at the end of our first day we were touching the \$500,000 mark — nearly halfway to our most ambitious goal.



Pledging — funding our vision for our church — is simple. Your choices directly affect the future of First Parish. Every pledge matters. Every household matters. You matter. Show how First Parish matters to you through your generosity. It's that simple.

Now, stewards are getting in touch with many families. If you're contacted, please work with your steward to make your pledge. You may request a pledge card in the mail. The campaign will begin winding down shortly. Our pledge results on May 1 will determine our budget for 2014-2015. Have a stake in what next year will be like here. Participate. Pledge. Thank you!

— **Eric Moore** and **Jim Reynolds**, Campaign Cochairs

[Eric.arron.moore@gmail.com](mailto:Eric.arron.moore@gmail.com)

[Jim.reynolds@caringcompanion.net](mailto:Jim.reynolds@caringcompanion.net)

Learn more at [www.firstparish.org/cms/stewardship/pledge](http://www.firstparish.org/cms/stewardship/pledge).

### New Facilities Committee Being Formed

Parishioners are invited to join the new Facilities Committee (tentative name) being started by **Richard (Kel) Keleher** at the request of **Doug Baker**, our Sexton. This committee, acting under our present Policy Governance operation, will advise Doug on matters such as the performance of an energy audit, upcoming maintenance issues, priorities for building and grounds maintenance, budgeting, etc. If you can't join the committee, there will be opportunities to volunteer for individual hands-on projects. We'll keep the number of meetings minimal; much of the correspondence will be via email. If you are interested in either way of participating or need more information, please contact Kel at 978-944-2734 ([kel@rkeleher.com](mailto:kel@rkeleher.com)).

I walked up the grand staircase lugging my red wheely suitcase. I'd never been here before.

I put my hand out to the doorknob ... and pulled it back. I'd never done this before.

I put my hand out to the door knob again, reminding myself, "They said beginners are welcome."

I opened the door, worrying, "How on earth do I figure out where I am supposed to go!"

I stepped through the door as silently as possible, carefully lifting my suitcase across the threshold. Very quietly I placed it just inside the door, made sure it was stable on its wheels and feet, shifted my body weight, began to look up, and then, CRASH, my suitcase fell over, smashing into the other door, bouncing sideways onto the bench, and sliding onto the floor. "Shhh!" I scolded my suitcase as though it were a young child and we were entering the library. Didn't I tell you not to speak in the library!" I leaned over, settled my suitcase down. All this happened in less than a second, but I still had time to worry about the mass of silent meditators I imagined were staring at me from their cushions. What a surprise when I finally looked up into the bright, open, sunny, spacious, uncluttered, glorious entranceway. As I inhaled a deep sense of peace and stillness, one person standing calmly near a small table off to the side, warmly said, "Welcome! I'm so glad you are here! How can I help you find your way?"

Being welcoming is opening our arms, our vestibules, our foyers, and our entranceways to whoever steps over the threshold. It is communicating both explicitly and implicitly that all are welcome. First Parish is a welcoming Unitarian Universalist congregation. You are welcome with your red, wheely suitcase that falls over noisily. You are welcome with your baggage. You are welcome by yourself or with your family. We are so glad you are here. You are welcome and I want to help you find your way. You are welcome and there is plenty of space for you and your suitcase. Our entranceway is bright and uncluttered. Come in, hang up your coat, put down your bags, and stay awhile. It is OK that you've never been here before. We understand that you don't know where to hang up your coat. Let me show you. Here is a clearly marked map. Let me help you find the restrooms, the elevator, the religious education classrooms, and the kitchen. How can I help you find your way?

Each one of us who steps over the threshold into the Meeting House becomes an expert on entering community and being a welcoming presence for those who come after. Think back to that moment when

you first stepped over the threshold into First Parish. What happened next? Now imagine turning back toward the doorway, reach out your hand, and welcome in the next person. "Welcome! I'm so glad you are here. How can I help you find your way?" ♦

In faith and fellowship,

—*Rachel Baker*

Director of Congregational Life

## Coffee Hour Cohosting and Snacks

Thank you, everyone, for participating in cohosting coffee hour this year.

Over the years First Parishioners have provided snacks for each other in a vast array of methods. We have signed up as individuals to cohost, we have assigned cohosting alphabetically, we have hosted with fellow committee or group members. We have tried it all!

Last fall I decided to experiment with some of the suggestions offered by the no-longer-active coffee hour taskforce. I split our friends and membership list into groups of 20 individuals and families and assigned each group of 20 to one Sunday during the year to cohost and provide snacks. This method has worked well for many of you and not so well for others. Sometimes we have too much food and sometimes too little. Sometimes we are a hungry bunch and eat it all, and sometimes there are leftovers. Is this not true in life as well?

This month I have doubled the number of individuals and/or families for each Sunday. Let's see how it goes.

## New to Unitarian Universalism? New to First Parish in Concord? Considering Membership?

At two workshops, come learn more about Unitarian Universalism, First Parish in Concord, and what it means to become a member.

### Sunday, April 6, 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., New to Unitarian Universalism workshop

Participants will learn about the rich history of our Unitarian Universalist faith, gain an understanding of congregational polity, and better understand the role of the UU principles and sources in our values-driven movement. Coffee and tea are available.

### Sunday, April 13, 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., New to First Parish in Concord workshop

Participants will hear from the ministerial team, staff and lay leaders, find out how to become engaged in congregational life at First Parish, and have the option to sign the membership book. Coffee and tea are available.

RSVP to **Rachel Baker** by April 2, [rbaker@firstparish.org](mailto:rbaker@firstparish.org).

## Pastoral Thursdays—7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Rev. Howard Dana and the Pastoral Care Ministers will be holding evening programs on these two Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m.

April 3 – Infertility, Pregnancy Loss, and Family Building Issues

April 17 – Job Insecurity

## We Would Like to Hear from You

Have you seen the two envelopes on the Pastoral Care (PC) bulletin board? Pastoral Care is interested in any suggestions or comments you have regarding the program. Fill out a card in the blue envelope and place it in the top compartment. The envelope will be checked on a weekly basis, and the information gathered will be given to the appropriate person.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the PC Team, fill out a volunteer questionnaire, also on the bulletin board, and place it in the Pastoral Care mail slot in the office.

— **Judy Dembsey**, team leader, Pastoral Care Council

## You're Invited — Come Cook!

The Caring Connection of First Parish provides delicious meals for parishioners during times of transition (often from illness or family loss) as part of our shared pastoral care outreach. It's time for us to cook and restock our freezer. Come help! No experience or skills necessary; we provide recipes and provisions.

When: Friday, April 25, 2013

Time: 9:00 to 12:00 noon

Where: First Parish kitchen

All welcome! Breakfast snacks are served. It's a fun way to help out and connect to others. Please RSVP to **Tracey Hurd** ([thurd@aol.com](mailto:thurd@aol.com) or 978-369-2366).

## The Pastoral Care Team at First Parish — Walking with One Another through the Changes Life Brings

The Lay Minister for April is **Diane Clapp**: [d.clapp@comcast.net](mailto:d.clapp@comcast.net) or 781-257-5025.

Minister: **Rev. Howard N. Dana** ([hdana@firstparish.org](mailto:hdana@firstparish.org))

Ministerial Intern: **Tony Fisher** ([tfisher@firstparish.org](mailto:tfisher@firstparish.org))

Or call the church office at 978-369-9602.

Lay Ministers:

Contact **Diane Clapp**, [d.clapp@comcast.net](mailto:d.clapp@comcast.net) or 781-257-5025.

Caring Connection, for meals or rides: Contact **Tony Fisher** ([tfisher@firstparish.org](mailto:tfisher@firstparish.org)), or **Suzanne Hogan** (978-318-9035), or call the office at 978-369-9602.

Pastoral Care Council:

Contact **Judy Dembsey** ([dembsey@verizon.net](mailto:dembsey@verizon.net)).

## The Intern and Pastoral Care

It has been a joy for me to participate so deeply in the Pastoral Care program at First Parish and to experience the level of commitment and love that this community offers to one another. Whether it is the Pastoral Care Lay Ministers, who do the bulk of the work visiting folks who are homebound or in a health care facility; the cooking crew, who keep our freezer stocked with great meals to deliver in times of difficulty; the friends who offer rides to and from important appointments; the knitters and crocheters who create those beautiful shawls that wrap parishioners in the warmth of community; the smiling faces who help our community welcome new babies (and their new parents); the By Your Side Singers, who offer the gift of their time and music to people at home or in nursing care; the folks who donate and those who deliver holiday flowers; or whether it's just simple acts of everyday kindness that happen on a regular basis, I have been blessed in seeing what a congregation can do for itself.

The Ministerial Intern arrives at a church to “finish” the formation process, to smooth out the rough edges, and tug at the loose ends that they themselves have identified. The Intern drafts a Learning Agreement, which identifies those growing edges, and then works with the Minister and the Intern Committee to finalize the document. My Learning Agreement with First Parish didn't call for as much attention to Pastoral Care as I have been able to give, and still I have felt there is not enough time to cover all the bases.

Your next Intern will come with his own goals for growth and will work out a Learning Agreement suited to fulfill those goals. I trust that Pastoral Care, as one of the key competencies for ministry, will be included in his agreement, but not likely to the degree that I have been involved.

It is left to you both to participate in and support the active Pastoral Care Program here at First Parish, to take care of one another, and to show through your involvement in church governance, the level at which you feel the church as an institution should support this vital aspect of our community.

—**Tony Fisher**, Ministerial Intern

If you haven't heard yet, First Parish is officially getting about 25 percent of its electricity from the sun.



The day the solar panels were installed, I walked down the path that connects First Parish and Walden Street. Half of it was covered in slushy-ice, the other half slippery with mud. As I looked up and saw the panels on the roof, a flood of memories came over me.

*The moment Mike Jacobs first suggested that First Parish go solar.*

*The Brooks Room (literally) full of parishioners committed to bringing the solar project to the wider congregation.*

*Cardboard suns and electric plugs dancing in front of the Sanctuary.*

*Singing, "Here comes the sun, do-do-do-do..."*

*The question, "Can we keep a solar panel in your office for a while?"*

*The unanimous vote to install solar.*

*The young child who unloaded her piggy bank on the solar panel fundraising table at coffee hour.*

Alone, these might not look like social action. But together, all of these memories are part of the fabric of our community-wide social action. So many of us had a hand in making First Parish a solar church. It took all of us, but we did it. ♦

In faith,

—*Bethany Lowe*

[blowe@firstparish.org](mailto:blowe@firstparish.org)

**"Lives Worth Living" Screening Presented by the Diversity Committee on Sunday, April 6**

The Diversity Committee will present the documentary "Lives Worth Living" about the fight for disability rights in America on Sunday, April 6, at 4 p.m. in the Parish Hall. This fascinating film chronicles one of the great civil rights struggles of modern times, from the end of WWII to the present; the rise of the disability rights movement, and the challenges faced to get the Americans with Disabilities Act passed and enacted into law. The film is an hour long, and will be followed by a discussion. No admission charge.

**Vegan Potluck on Tuesday, April 8, at 6:00 p.m.**

Enjoy a delicious potluck dinner in the Parish Hall, April 8 at 6:00 p.m., hosted by Reverence for Life and the Environmental Leadership Team. Please bring your own beverage and a dish to share that is free of meat, fish, eggs, honey and dairy. Also, attach a card with the ingredients of your dish to help out those with allergies or special diets. Your \$2 donation helps to cover expenses. Don't have time to cook? A simple salad or a loaf of bread is just fine. Need a recipe? Contact **Marcia Schloss** at 978-371-2751 or [marcialou28@gmail.com](mailto:marcialou28@gmail.com).

**Open Table Celebrates 25th Anniversary with Iron Chef Competition and Fundraiser — April 12**

Celebrating 25 years of service, Open Table, now under the guidance of **Jeanine Calabria**, is holding an Iron Chef Competition and Fundraiser on April 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. at 300 Baker Avenue, Concord. Enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres, desserts and a cash bar while cheering on local teams, including First Parish's headed by **Caroline McCloy**. Emcee **Sean Kavanagh** will provide entertaining commentary with live video feed as professional area chefs judge the entries in the appetizer, entrée and cake icing categories. Tickets are \$55 online at [www.opentable.org](http://www.opentable.org) or at the following local merchants: Debra's Natural Gourmet, Concord Bookstore and Serendipity Café.

**South African Anti-Apartheid Champion and Mandela Colleague to Speak on April 13, 3:00 p.m. at Kerem Shalom**

Albie Sachs, an anti-apartheid activist appointed by President Nelson Mandela in 1994 as a judge on South Africa's first Constitutional Court, has been named the UMass Lowell 2014 Greeley Scholar for Peace Studies. On April 13, he will discuss his work and that of the anti-apartheid movement. Sachs' presentation, entitled "Finding Soft Vengeance in a Violent World: Walking the Path of Peace with Nelson Mandela," is free of charge and open to the public. Reservations are strongly encouraged, as seating is strictly limited. To reserve seats, contact Bob Rosenbaum at 978-263-5309 or [bob@littleoaklane.com](mailto:bob@littleoaklane.com).

**SAC Notes**

continued on page 9

**Learn More about Social Action at First Parish**



The First Parish Social Action Community (SAC) helps parishioners connect with a diverse and exciting range of social action projects. To find out more about what is going on, join our email list by sending a blank email to [SAC-join@lists.firstparish.org](mailto:SAC-join@lists.firstparish.org); see our website, [sac.firstparish.org/cms/sacemaillist](http://sac.firstparish.org/cms/sacemaillist); or visit the Social Action bulletin board.



**Event with Jenny Phillips on Saturday, April 26, at 7:00 p.m. in the Emerson Room**

On Saturday, April 26, the Massachusetts Campaign for a Department of Peace will host Dr. Jenny Phillips, film director, cultural anthropologist and psychotherapist, who will present “The Transformative Power of Meditation: Lessons from Prisoners.” Dr. Phillips will share the story of how she became involved in filming interviews with inmates in a maximum security prison in Alabama, resulting in her production of “The Dhamma Brothers.” Following clips of the film, she will demonstrate curriculum developed for high school students, “Teaching Peace in a Violent World” based on the experiences of inmates who had found inner peace in the ancient, intensive meditation practice of Vipassana.

**Fossil Fuel Divestment/Investing Group Forming**

Recently, petitions for divestment from fossil fuel companies have been brought before the Town of Concord, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Unitarian Universalist Association, among many other groups. A small group of parishioners is currently reviewing these proposals and researching the options of divestment and socially responsible investing. They are planning to host an educational event this spring to help First Parish articulate how and where we invest. The Trustees are participating in this process. At this stage, we need a committed group who will research the issues and options thoroughly. If you are interested in being part of this core group, please contact **Bruce Blumberg** at [bruce.blumberg@me.com](mailto:bruce.blumberg@me.com). If you cannot commit your time but have expertise to share, please contact Bruce.

**Be Part of the Coffee Grounds Composting Pickup Team**

If your green thumb is itching and you are ready to start your garden, now is the time to also think about the soil. Coffee grounds are great in your compost bin. To learn more about how you can participate in this ELT First Parish Sustainable Project, contact **Berni Jenkins** at [berni.jenkins@verizon.net](mailto:berni.jenkins@verizon.net).

**Mother’s Day Peace Walk on Sunday, May 11**

The Mother’s Day Peace Walk invites us “to walk to make a difference, affirming that “Peace Is Possible.” The Mother’s Day Walk for Peace began in 1996 for families who had lost their children to violence. Through the years, it has also become a way for thousands of people to recognize and financially support the work of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. Please drop by the LDB Peace Institute table during coffee hour to learn more about the Walk, sponsor one of the FP participants, or sign up to participate in the walk. Last year we raised \$1791. This year let’s try for \$2014. Any questions? Contact **Margie King Saphier** at 781-424-2179 or [mksaphier@comcast.net](mailto:mksaphier@comcast.net).

**WOMEN’S NEWS**

**The Women’s AM/PM Book Group Meetings**

The Women’s Book Group selection for April is *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, by Rachel Joyce. The evening discussion will be Monday, April 28, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.; and the morning discussion will be Tuesday, April 29, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Both the morning and evening sessions will be held in the Brooks Room at First Parish. All women of First Parish are warmly invited to read the current book and join one or both discussions. If you would like to be added to the Women’s Book Group email list, please contact **Darien Smith** at [darien@smithquest.com](mailto:darien@smithquest.com) or 978-369-1471.

**Remaining Book and Dates for 2014:**

- June 2, 3 *Eighty Days: Nelly Bly and Elizabeth Bisland’s History-Making Race around the World*, by Matthew Goodman
- June TBD Potluck dinner and choosing books for next year

**Women’s Parish Association**

The Women’s Parish Association (WPA) is one of those many unsung hero groups around First Parish. A part of First Parish for some 130 years, originally the WPA ladies took care of the church “house,” much the way one would care for a home. Spring cleaning, mending soft goods and tending spring gardens were tasks that needed doing. Today the job may look a little different but the WPA continues to care for this house of worship. We buy chairs and tables, support the gardens and grounds, give flowers for Easter and other holidays, contribute to the labyrinth and solar panels, outfit the kitchen as needs arise, and more, as we can.

The WPA Flea Market on April 5 is a WPA fundraiser. Come sell or buy! In an important way, you will be contributing to spring spruce-up of this lovely house of First Parish, a spiritual home for many.

**Defibrillator Information?**

**Doug Baker** is presently requesting advice from people that have a medical background or experience with defibrillators. First Parish wants to purchase a unit and train our ushers in it’s proper use. Any suggestions you may have as to a quality manufacturer of a defibrillator is welcome. Please contact **Doug Baker** at; [dbaker@firstparish.org](mailto:dbaker@firstparish.org), thanks!

You never quite know what will show up on any given Sunday in our RE Program. Last month, it was a baby hedgehog named Millie.

Millie is shy. She is nocturnal by nature. I set up a little hedgehog habitat in the middle of the Emerson room, and then I went to fetch the Second through Fifth Graders. I told them there was a surprise in the Emerson room, but they had to be very quiet for me to bring it out. "Is it alive?" they asked. "Yes, it is alive."

I told the kids that living things can bring us great joy, but only if there is trust. I was trusting our kids to contain their excitement to make a



safe haven for the hedgehog to be her true self. Only if I believed our kids could create and maintain this safeness, would I bring Millie into our circle. We absolutely owe it to our animals to keep them safe.

Our kids did everything I asked of them and more. They entered calmly, created a circle and then...waited. We looked at each other and knew that the space we created was safe. I pulled down the shades to create a darkness and then...we brought out this gentle creature. The room was so calm that Millie, who is often shy, started crawling around and into our children's laps. They watched and let her be. There was, indeed, "Joy."

"Joy and Trust." That is what we are about here. We need both to create a kind place for our children to unwind from a trumped-up world and just be themselves. I am grateful to be a part of a place I can trust to do that, a place where joy shows up, each Sunday, trusting to unfold among us. Yes, it is alive. ♦

Love,

— Pam Howell

Director of Religious Education

**Second to Fifth Grades — Middle RE, Spring Term**

I want to send special thanks to all of the parent teachers who stepped up to take on the teaching of our children during the Winter Term. They really took on a new curriculum and more direct teaching with our children the last two terms. They made it look easy, but I know it was not at all easy; it was a lot of work.

**April 2014 RE Calendar**

- Sun., April 6 Regular RE for Babies-4 years
- Regular RE for 2-5th Grades (Emerson Room)
- 6th Grade – Neighboring Activists – FP Garden, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- 7th Grade – Neighboring Faiths, Union Baptist at 10:45 a.m.
- Sun., April 13 Regular RE for Babies-4 years
- Regular RE for 2-5th Grades (Emerson Room)
- 6th Grade – Neighboring Activists –FP Garden, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- 7th Grade – Neighboring Faiths, Cult Discussion at 11 a.m.
- Sun., April 20 Easter – ONE Service at 11:00
- Regular RE for Babies-4 years
- Sun., April 27 Regular RE for Babies-4 years

I noticed the kids loved being in smaller groups, and I also saw that parents made new friends teaching together. This brought me joy, seeing people I love getting to know one another better.

We also have learned a lot over the last two months. Parents have given us information to really improve our programming as we move forward. We are looking at the curriculum for next year and we are cycling some Chapel Services too, so that there is a bit of variety for our kids and teachers.

This community is really great at sharing the load and making things work out in ways that we grow. I marvel at what we can do together.

The spring term will be continuing with some of our UU curriculum, but we will also be writing to our Transylvanian pen pals, dyeing Easter Eggs and playing with a May Pole. It will be an interesting mix of activities and ... I am sure we will learn even more about ourselves!

**Registration for Next Year**

Our registration process for next year will begin on May 4. Based on what we have learned from this year, we will be adjusting our teaching assignments a bit. I am hoping you will really like the variety of teaching choices and the breathers between weeks. You will see more as the RE Council and I pull together this slightly new way of teaching our kids. We work hard together to create a program that teaches our children about values and about themselves, while not feeling like regular school. Church should be different and we are striving to make it so.

RE News

continued on page 11

### Sixth Grade Neighboring Activists

We had a great term during the winter season. Everything seemed to just magically fall into place.

The term focused on building community among our Sixth Graders while continuing to serve others and learn about the interdependent web. We focused on Animals and Manure and took long field trips to Drumlin Farm. We worked with Drumlin Farm to set up a whole program learning about organic compost and farm animals. The kids were outside, learning and understanding how our faith applies to every aspect of living, not just church.

Sixth Grade is a notorious age in most RE programs. It is when many kids say, "I'm not going to church!" I think we finally hit on something they love, while still fulfilling the mission of this place. Attendance was high; they showed up, and with big smiles. Nothing makes me happier.

Special thanks to the leaders that made these field trips possible: **Kristin Moore, Darlene Vanstone, John Petersen, and Louisa Paushter.**

Next month, the Sixth Graders will begin their work in the garden. Each garden session is from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and they will travel to the garden, RAIN or SHINE. Please dress for the weather.

### Our First Parish Community Garden

We are so lucky! **Regina Hugendubler** has offered to help us keep our garden organized this year. The garden has now passed from hand to hand for six years. **Dinny McIntyre** is helping us with our flowers that grace both the Open Table tables and our Sanctuary. Clearly, the garden is a ministry that is still valued in our parish. People of all ages and all skills step up to be involved, and I love seeing us come together in this unique way.

Our Sixth Graders will plan and plant the garden during their spring term with their parent leaders. After that, it will be up to all of us to maintain it. I will be putting a doodle poll together for people to sign up for a week or two of care. You can make a point of signing up with other families too. Our "Companion Gardening" time will be on Thursday mornings from 9 to 10 a.m., beginning on June 5. During this time, anyone at all can show up and just help weed and pick vegetables for Open Table. We'd love to have you share this outdoor fun with us.

### STILL looking for a Director for the Eighth Grade Play

Without a doubt, getting leadership for the Eighth Grade Play is critical. You might wonder, Why do we have a play in Sunday School? There is something about creating a dramatic performance with other people that bonds people like nothing else. I believe a

sacred trust develops because people are counting on one another. Developing such trust in our teens carries them into OWL and Coming of Age as a strong and dedicated cohort of committed Unitarian Universalists.

Last year, **Tom** and **Sue Beck** did a tremendous job of bringing our Eighth Graders together, and created a touching performance of "A Year with Frog and Toad." The performance entertained all ages in our parish with three packed shows in our Parish Hall. It also gave our Eighth Graders a chance to "give back" to their community and be seen as leaders.

Now is the time to look for next year's leader. Could you do this? If you want to grow in this amazing way and get to really know our kids, come and share your gifts.

### Eighth Graders' Gift to First Parish and the 52nd Street Project

Thank you to all who attended the December Eighth Grade play, "A Year with Frog and Toad." Thanks to your generosity, the Eighth Graders were able to send \$1165 to the 52nd Street Project, the nonprofit organization founded by the play's lyricist Willie Reale, which brings the theater experience to teens living in New York City. In addition, a portion of the proceeds were used to purchase new black curtains for the stage in the Parish Hall, replacing our poor old tattered curtains that date back to 1992. These curtains will be used for many future First Parish productions. Thank you to all of the Eighth Graders for their gifts to First Parish — and to teens in New York!

## SENIOR YOUTH NEWS

We're almost there. After two fundraisers, a construction workshop, and months of planning and learning about Appalachia, the Youth Group is almost ready for its service trip to West Virginia.

The last time I took a youth group to West Virginia, I was transformed by the stories I heard. Storytelling, through spoken word and music, is a strong tradition of Appalachian folk culture. These stories tell of tradition and family, mountains and rivers, poverty and struggle. John, a banjo-plucking poet and storyteller, was the one who transformed my concept of poverty a few years ago. I wonder who the "John" will be for our youth.

I know that we will hear great stories in Appalachia; and I hope you'll come listen to some of them when we get back. ♦

In faith,

— *Bethany Lowe*

[blowe@firstparish.org](mailto:blowe@firstparish.org)

## MUSINGS AND MUSIC NOTE

Recently, as I neared the end of a particularly fruitful day, I impulsively updated my Facebook status with these four words: “I love my job.” This post led to a startling number of “likes” from colleagues, friends and congregants. It also prompted a phone call from one colleague who asked, “Are you OK? I saw your post and wasn’t sure of the tone.”

It could have been an ironic statement. How many times have you made it through a tough day repeating the mantra, “I LOVE my job, I LOVE my job, I LOVE my job.” much like The Little Engine That Could? But I assured this colleague that my statement was made without irony.

The past several days had included energizing rehearsals, a remarkable variety of wonderful music, thoughtful and creative conversations with parishioners and trusted colleagues, some stimulating and provocative meetings, a lovely home visit with the By Your Side Singers, and some hours to “geek out,” doing research on UU hymnody and J. S. Bach. This music ministry engages all my faculties and gifts. And it demands growth from me — even after all these years.



Back in September I wrote about my enrollment in the UUA’s Music Leader Certification program as a candidate on the Portfolio Path — a route to credentialing designed for “seasoned” UU music leaders. I am pleased to report that after a year of steady work and evaluation on the portfolio components, which included demonstrating knowledge of UU history and heritage, leadership and interpersonal skills as well as musical skills, I have completed the program and earned the certificate. I will be acknowledged as a Credentialed Music Leader at General Assembly in Providence, Rhode Island, during the Service of the Living Tradition.

I am grateful for having had this opportunity to reflect on my music ministry and especially to note the significant contributions of First Parish in Concord to my formation on this path. I really could not have done this without you!

Frederick Buechner has written, “The place where God calls you is the place where the world’s deepest hunger and your greatest gladness meet.” In music ministry I stand at this crossroads. I am blessed to serve through the source of my greatest gladness, and to witness music’s power to nourish our human hunger for meaning, beauty, community and love. ♦

Blessings,

— *Beth Norton*

Music Director

## TRANSYLVANIA PARTNERSHIP NEWS

Eighteen parishioners plus **Howard Dana**, **Beth Norton** and **Rachel Baker** are going on our fall Harmony and Heritage Pilgrimage. They will begin meeting this month, and many of our travelers are attending the Cultural Competency training on April 12. (The latter is open to everyone; contact **Bethany Lowe**, [Blowe@firstparish.org](mailto:Blowe@firstparish.org) for more information.)

The permanent site for the kopjafa was approved by the Concord Historic Districts Commission on March 20. We are now working on details for the installation.

**Rodger Mattlage** will be our annual delegate to the Keresztúr high school graduation in May and can bring greetings to graduating seniors and scholarship students.

The next PCC meeting is April 3, at 6 p.m. at the Ballards’ house. Please contact **Sara Ballard** at [sara@sb.org](mailto:sara@sb.org) if you wish to join us.

See the TPC on the Web at <http://bit.ly/xc0nvc>

Minden jót, [Best wishes,]

**Rodger Mattlage** and **Lillian Anderson**

Partner Congregation Committee (PCC) Cochairs

### Dust Off Those *Messiah* Scores! Easter Is Coming!

Singers from the congregation are invited to come to the choir loft during the final hymn on Easter Sunday, April 20, and join the choir, organ and brass in our traditional Easter postlude, G. F. Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus.” If you have a copy of the *Messiah*, please bring it with you. If not, there will be some extra music available, and choir members are always willing to share.

Even if you don’t wish to make the climb (or take the elevator) to the balcony, feel free to join in this joyous chorus on Easter morning.

### Piano Recital to Benefit Open Table

Dr. Margaret King Patterson, prizewinning pianist and co-founder of Open Table, will return to Concord in April to participate in Open Table’s 25th anniversary celebration. Among the celebration activities, Dr. Patterson will present a piano recital to benefit Open Table on Friday, April 11, at Trinitarian Congregational Church, 54 Walden Street, Concord, at 7 p.m. The program will include: “Eight Piano Pieces, Op. 76” (1878), by Johannes Brahms and “Sonata, Op. 111 in C Minor,” by Ludwig van Beethoven. A reception will follow. Tax-deductible donations to Open Table, suggested at \$20, will be gratefully accepted at the door.

## APRIL 2014 CALENDAR

### Every Week...

Music Together	Tuesday	9:30 a.m.
T'ai Chi	Tuesday	6:30 p.m.
Buddhist Group	Wednesday	9:30 a.m.
Music Together	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.
Junior Choir	Wednesday	4:30 p.m.
Chalice Choir	Wednesday	5:15 p.m.
Gospel Choir	Wednesday	5:15 p.m.
Adult Choir	Wednesday	7:45 p.m.
Music Together	Thursday	9:30 a.m.
Lincoln Ringers	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
	Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction	Friday	9:30 a.m.
Men's Group	Saturday	7:30 a.m.
Worship Reflection	Sunday	12:15 p.m.
Men's Group	Sunday	7:00 p.m.

Tue Apr 1	1:30	First Tuesday Group	•	Tue Apr 15	2:00	Needleworkers Affinity Group
	6:00	Minerva Potluck	•		7:00	Evening Worship
Wed Apr 2	6:00	Arts Council	•	Wed Apr 16	11:30	WPA Luncheon
	7:00	Environmental Leadership Team	•	Thu Apr 17	10:00	Creative Practice Affinity Group
	7:00	Concord Area Humanists	•		11:00	Maundy Thursday Service
Thu Apr 3	7:00	Pastoral Thursdays	•		12:00	Chowder Lunch
	7:00	Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction	•		7:00	Pastoral Thursdays
	7:30	By Your Side Singers	•		7:30	By Your Side Singers
Fri Apr 4	9:30	Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction	•	Fri Apr 18	12:00	Newsletter Deadline
	8:00	Oriana Consort	•	Sat Apr 19	5:00	Seder
Sat Apr 5	9:00	WPA Recycle Sale	•	<b>Sun Apr 20</b>	<b>Easter</b>	
Sun Apr 6	10:30	Forum	•	Fri Apr 25	9:00	Caring Connection Cooking
	4:00	Diversity Committee Film: "Lives Worth Living"	•		7:30	Rise Up Singing
Tue Apr 8	4:00	Shawl Ministry	•	Sat Apr 26	7:00	Dharma Brothers Film
	6:00	Vegan Potluck	•	<b>Sun Apr 27</b>	<b>One Service at 11:00 a.m.</b>	
Wed Apr 9		Rise Up and Call Her Name	•		3:00	Photography Club Exhibit
	7:30	Forum Committee	•	Mon Apr 28	7:30	Women's Book Group
Sat Apr 12	9:00	Photography Club	•	Tue Apr 29	9:30	Women's Book Group
	9:00	Cultural Competency Training	•	Thu May 1	7:30	By Your Side Singers
Sun Apr 13	12:30	Nominating Committee	•	Fri May 2	8:00	"A Yankee Home Companion"
	6:30	Standing Committee Meeting	•	Sat May 3	8:00	"A Yankee Home Companion"
			•	Sun May 4	10:30	Forum
			•	Tue May 6	1:30	First Tuesday Group
			•		2:00	Shawl Ministry
			•		6:00	Minerva Gatherings Potluck

## APRIL 2014 NEWSLETTER

The May Newsletter deadline is Friday, April 18, at noon.  
The Newsletter will be published Tuesday, April 29.

**Office Hours:** Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.\*

Phone: 978-369-9602

Fax: 978-369-8701

Email: [FPConcord@firstparish.org](mailto:FPConcord@firstparish.org)

Website: [www.firstparish.org](http://www.firstparish.org)

\* **PLEASE NOTE:** The office is CLOSED on Mondays.

- 
- **Minister's Email:**
- Howard N. Dana: [hdana@firstparish.org](mailto:hdana@firstparish.org)
- 
- **Ministerial Intern's Email:**
- Tony Fisher: [tfisher@firstparish.org](mailto:tfisher@firstparish.org)
- 
- 
- 

---

### First Parish in Concord • UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

#### Staff

Howard N. Dana, Senior Minister

Tony Fisher, Ministerial Intern

Fifi Ball, Director of Operations

Rachel Baker, Director of Congregational Life

Bethany Lowe, Social Action Community Director

Gary E. Smith, Minister Emeritus

Tina Storey, Assistant to Director of Operations

Becky Blodgett, Affiliate Minister for Pastoral Care

Pam Howell, Director of Religious Education

Emily Wheeler, Religious Education Administrator

Bethany Lowe, Youth Program Director

- 
- 
- Elizabeth Norton, Music Director
- Eric Huenneke, Parish Organist
- Anderson Manuel, Youth Gospel Choir Director
- Gail Carey, Children's Choir Director
- 
- David Huston, Music Director Emeritus
- 
- Dan Holin, Executive Director, Jericho Road
- 
- Douglas Baker, Sacristan and Curator
- 
- Cassy Bosworth, Office Manager
- 
- Peggy Gallo, Volunteer Collector
- 
- Kate Keleher, Volunteer Newsletter Editor
- Kaye Harvie, Volunteer Copy Editor
-

## Coffee Hour Co-Hosting

April 2014

<b>04/06/14</b>	Rymer
	Sabine
	Samour
	Samuelson
	Santoro
	Saphier
	Satterthwaite
	Saxenian
	Scanlon
	Scheiber-Kurtz
	Schloemann
	Schloss
	Schmidt
	Schumacher
	Schweppe
	Seale
	Seaver
	See
	Selle
	Semple
	Sgarzi
	Shane
	Shapland
	Sharakan
	Sharpe
	Sheehan
	Sheffield
	Shepard
	Sherblom
	Shipe
	Shohet
	Siani
	Sieberts
	Siegel
	Simon
	Simpson
	Smedvig
<b>04/13/14</b>	Smiths
	Snyder-Grant
	Soper
	Sorett

	Sousa
	Spivey
	Stanley
	Sterns
	Stevens
	Stevensons
	Stewarts
	Stiffler
	Stiles-Hall
	Stoddard
	Sturges
	Suarezs
	Sullender
	Sullivan
	Supovitz
	Svrcek
	Sweeney
	Taverner
	Taylor
<b>04/20/14</b>	Temby
	Tenner
	Terwilliger
	Thompsons
	Toussaint
	Townsend
	Trinkle
	Truter
	Tsang
	Tull
	Tyrer
	Urban
	Valentine
	Vallaey
	Van Deusen
	Van Dyck
	Van Loon
	Van Orman
	Van Patten
	vanderWilden
	Vandever
	Venesy

	Vilain
	Villers
	Vogt
	Walkers
	Wallis
	Walls
	Walworth
	Wanzer
	Wards
	Warner
	Warrens
<b>04/27/14</b>	Waters
	Weaver
	Wedge
	Weiss
	Welch
	Weltner
	Wesolowski
	Wesselhoeft
	Westcott
	Wheeler
	Whites
	Whitehead
	Whitneys
	Wilfert
	Wilkins
	Willard
	Williams
	Willie
	Wilson
	Wolfberg
	Wolossov
	Woods
	Wortman
	Yans
	Yerby

*Thank you for your generosity, everyone!*