
SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord
Sunday, October 1, 2023**

*Please check our weekly e-newsletter, FP Weekly, for Zoom links
for events you are interested in attending virtually.*

Growing Congregations in the Digital Age TODAY, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Emerson Room and on Zoom

Join Peter Bowden for a 1-hour seminar that explores the impact of digital life on UU congregational growth, outreach, and membership development. Building on today's service, this seminar will engage with insights from Peter's work with UU congregations nationally. Will include a presentation, discussion, and Q&A. Sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee. Light refreshments will be provided. For the Zoom link, see 9/29 *FP Weekly* or email CLC@firstparish.org.

Sign up for Ministerial Search Listening Sessions In person and on Zoom

Please sign up for a listening session to help the Search Committee in the discernment process for your priorities in our search for a new Senior Minister. There are multiple opportunities, in person and on Zoom, through the end of October. Please see *FP Weekly* for the link with the schedule and to sign up. Feel free to contact [Lora Venesy](#) from the Search Committee or [Eric Moore](#) from the Transition Team with any questions.

Concord Stories

**Tuesdays through October 24, 7:00 p.m.
Parlor/Parish Hall**

What do you know about Concord's indigenous people, frontier settlers, farmers, militia, merchants, enslavers, authors, researchers, authors, immigrants, mothers, lovers, and friends? Rev. Jim Sherblom explores the history of Concord over three more nights from 7-9 pm. Email [Jim](#) to join.

10/3: Provincial and Revolutionary
Concord

10/17: Transcendentalist and Patriotic
Concord

10/24: Modern and Post-Modern Concord

Welcoming Walls Listening Session #2

Thursday, October 5, 7:00 p.m.

Brooks Room and on Zoom

The Welcoming Walls Committee invites you to join us for our second listening session. We are eager to share our thoughts and proposals with you. We will tell you more about our process and there will be an opportunity for you to share your support, concerns, excitement, fears. Please refer to *FP Weekly* for links to our Proposal document and the Zoom meeting. If you plan to attend by Zoom it is important that you have access to the document during the meeting since a paper copy won't be available to you. If you have trouble accessing the document, please contact Leslie Fisher at 978-287-0456.

The Holiday Artisans Fair is Almost Here!

Saturday, October 7, 10:00 a.m.

Front Grounds of First Parish

Get ready for this year's Holiday Artisans Fair which will be here before you know it. The front grounds of First Parish will be filled with your favorite and new artists, artisans, photographers, artisan food vendors, florists and the WPA Boutique. Come with family and friends and socialize while dining on special food served by Nosh of Concord. Rain date is October 14. See you at the fair!

**Welcome! We are so glad you are here. Please stop by the Welcome Table after service
or fill out a Connection Card located in your pew.**

First Parish Responds to Colonization and Slavery

Sunday, October 8, 11:30 a.m.

In person in the Sanctuary

How do we want to respond to First Parish's history of colonization and slavery? First Parish was involved in the colonization of Concord, which proved harmful to the Indigenous people living in this area. Two ministers of First Parish enslaved people. In response to this history, our community has options. On October 8, in honor of Indigenous People's Day, the Commission on Institutional Change is hosting a meeting to consider our options, in the sanctuary after services, at 11:30. All are welcome.

Diversity Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 6:30 p.m.

Zoom only

Are you looking for a way to get involved in social action at First Parish and support LGBTQ social justice? Then join us at our upcoming meeting of the Diversity Committee! Our mission is to build community awareness and support justice for the LGBTQ+ community with films, speakers, participation in the annual Boston Gay Pride Parade, and other initiatives. All are welcome at our meeting on Tuesday, October 10 at 6:30 p.m. (via Zoom). Contact [Suzie Weaver](#) for the Zoom link.

11th Hour Calling

Wednesday, October 11, 11:00 a.m.

Front Lawn of First Parish

Please plan to participate. We are gathering on the FP front lawn to bring awareness to the Climate Crisis. We will be holding signs (provided) and playing musical instruments to attract the attention of passersby. The Church bell will ring at 11 a.m. Please arrive 10 minutes early. We will be finished by 11:30 a.m. This will be a monthly event on the 11th day of the month.

Raising Consciousness and Confronting Social Bias in Concord

Thursday, October 12, 6:00 p.m.

Concord Academy, 166 Main St. Concord

The First Parish Commission on Institutional Change and the Racial Justice Action Group (RJAG) urges everyone to attend this event, where we will all learn more about bias within our own community. This is a unique opportunity to hear neighbors recount their personal experiences and we anticipate an enriching discussion. The program will be led by noted therapist, social worker, and Assistant Professor at Wheelock College, [Dr. Carlos Hoyt](#). Dr. Hoyt specializes in race, racial identity, and related topics. He was also a METCO student with his own experiences to share.

Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges Workshop

Saturday, October 14, 9:00 a.m.

In the Sanctuary and on Zoom

Please join Keith Kron, Transitions Director of the UUA, and the Ministerial Search Committee for this important three-hour, all-congregation workshop to help us identify barriers in our search process. Please sign up at coffee hour today or see *FP Weekly* for the sign-up link.

Climate Forum

Thursday, October 19, 7:00 p.m.

In the Sanctuary and on Zoom

Gilbert (Gib) Metcalf, a Professor of Economics Emeritus at Tufts University, climate economist and First Parish member, will speak on what can be done to address the growing impacts of global climate change and its role in exacerbating wildfires, hurricanes, rising sea level temperatures, and other destructive climatic events. Peter Lowitt will serve as moderator. Questions and comments will be aired following Professor Metcalf's talk. For the Zoom link, contact [Gail Kharidia](#).

**Jubilee Three Anti-Racist Training
Friday-Sunday, October 20-22**

In person and Zoom

Registration is open for JUBILEE THREE training, co-sponsored by First Parish—a way to deepen your understanding of racism.

Friday, October 20, 2023, 6-9 p.m.

Saturday, October 21, 2023, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Sunday, October 22, 2023, 12-6:30 p.m.

Paula Cole Jones leads an updated version of this unique and acclaimed program.

[Registration](#) is required. Financial assistance available by contacting [Rev. Paul Langston-Daley](#).

Transition Workshop on our Congregational Identity

Saturday, October 28, 9:00 a.m.

Parish Hall

Monday, October 30, evening

Zoom

What does First Parish see when it looks in the mirror? The Transition Team will be hosting two congregational workshops: in-person Saturday morning 10/29 and online Monday evening 10/30. These workshops will help us each better understand our whole community—who we are and what we value about our community.

First Parish Auction 2023

Saturday, November 4, 5:00 p.m.

Parish Hall and Zoom

Please consider sharing your talents, interests or tangible items for the FP Auction on November 4. Some ideas: party, dinner, walking tour, lunch and learn about your favorite topic, vacation home, frequent travel points, power-washing, handyman services, pet sitting, baked goods, antiques, event tickets, gift certificates... donation ideas are only limited by your imagination. To donate, please send a detailed description of the item to [Jen Izzo](#).