
SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord
Sunday, October 8, 2023**

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

Little RE: Preschool-Kindergarten

TODAY! 9:45 a.m.

Milldam Nursery School

We are offering Little RE for our youngest children. Families are welcome to bring children to the Milldam Nursery School starting at 9:45 a.m. Enter by the back driveway, stairs or use the elevator. Little RE meets until 11:15 a.m. to give caregivers a chance to go to Coffee Hour and connect with others before pick-up.

Yoga: “The Circle of Life”

TODAY! 10:15 a.m.

Emerson Room

Kindergarten to 5th graders begin in the 10 a.m. service with their families. Following our Wisdom Story, we will go up to the Emerson Room together. Our special guest, Tara Rachel Jones, is a trained yoga instructor and educator. “The Circle of Life,” a Native American Tale, explores the sacred and mindful connection of people living in harmony with nature. We will journey through breathing, mindfulness, poses, group games and relaxation!

Help Make Signs at Coffee Hour

TODAY! 11:00 a.m.

Parish Hall

Help make signs on poster boards at Coffee Hour. Do you have printing or drawing skills? If so, we need your talent. These signs are for our “11th Hour Calling” events (being held each month on the 11th day of the month). See you at the Environmental Table, Gail Kharidia.

First Parish Responds to Colonization and Slavery

TODAY! 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.

Concord Shelter Coat Collection for Women and Children

Through Monday, October 9

We are supporting the Concord Shelter Program in collaboration with the Community Chest. We have been asked to collect and get 300 winter coats ready for distribution to the women and children in the shelter. We are looking for *new and lightly used coats cleaned and ready to wear*, in a variety of sizes. Coats should be dropped off in the coat room between the bathrooms on the first floor of the church. Last day for collection is October 9.

**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.**

A Service of Celebration for National Coming Out Day

Thursday, October 12, 7:00 p.m.

Chapel and on Zoom

Join us for a celebration of LGBTQ resilience and resourcefulness. We will sing, honor mentors and friends, and share the gifts we have received. This is an opportunity for us to reflect on what it means to part of a queer lineage. This celebration goes back to 1988. We look forward to sharing in this celebration of coming out alongside thousands of LGBTQ people around the country. We look forward to seeing you there.

Holiday Bags

Saturday, October 14, 1:00 p.m.

Parish Hall

First, Concord Prison Outreach (CPO) is offering gift bags to all incarcerated individuals in area prisons for the winter (Christmas) season. The winter holidays can be a challenging time of the year for many, and it is particularly difficult to be in prison during this season. Since the 1970's, Concord Prison Outreach has provided Holiday Gift Bags: simple, useful gifts to incarcerated individuals throughout Massachusetts. We will need volunteers to help us sort and pack the bags. We are looking for help from 1-3 p.m. Please [click here](#) to sign up to help!

Social Action Fair

Sunday, October 15

Coffee Hour

Join us October 15th during coffee hour for the Social Action Fair. Our Social Action committees will be hosting tables to inform the congregation of our ongoing activities and looking for folks who might be interested in participating in some way. We hope you'll take a few moments to stop by and say hello, pick up some information and perhaps find a new way to live out your UU values!

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.

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.

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 two more nights from 7-9 pm. Email [Jim](#) to join.

10/17: Transcendentalist and Patriotic Concord

10/24: Modern and Post-Modern Concord

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.

**Celebrating Halloween: All Ages Service
Sunday, October 29, 10:00 a.m.**

Sanctuary and on Zoom

All ages are invited to wear costumes to our Halloween Service and join the fun. This holiday stems from earth-centered traditions honoring the end of the Harvest season. As daylight shortens and darkness lengthens, Samhain marks a time when the veil between the world of the living and the world of the dead is thin. Through storytelling, music, and movement, we will enliven our spirits and play together.

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](#).