
SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord
Sunday, November 5, 2023**

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

Transylvanian Scholarships for New Freshmen Sign up at coffee hour TODAY!

We have received letters and photos from ten freshmen students at the Unitarian High School in Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania who are eligible for a scholarship this year. We need five more sponsors for these deserving and needy students. Please come to the scholarship table at coffee hour today and sign up to be a donor, and then you can pick your student and take their letter and photo home with you. You may contact [Kathy Spang](#) for more information.

Tyranny of the Minority with Authors Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt TODAY! 4:00 p.m.

Sanctuary and on Zoom

We are at a crossroads: America will either become a multiracial democracy or cease to be a democracy at all, say well known democracy authorities Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt in their newest book, *Tyranny of the Minority*. In the book, they offer a coherent framework for understanding these volatile times. We are very fortunate to have them join us here in Concord. There will be a presentation by the authors, Q&A, and a book signing. Co-sponsored by Reclaim Our Democracy at FPC and the Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ).

Rudi Scheiber-Kurtz's Memorial Service Thursday, November 9, 2:00 p.m.

Sanctuary and on Zoom

An avid member of First Parish and the choir for the past 20 years, Rudi Scheiber-Kurtz passed away on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 after a strong-fought battle with pancreatic cancer. Just as she lived, Rudi died peacefully with her family by her side, including her husband, her three children, and their spouses. Please join Rudi's family in celebrating her beautiful life on Thursday, November 9 at 2 p.m. Here is a link to Rudi's obituary:

<https://obits.concordfuneral.com/ruth-scheiber-kurtz>

Do Your Part to Save Our Planet Home Saturday, November 11, 10:50 a.m.

Church Front Lawn

All First Parishioners are invited to participate on the Church front lawn in 11th Hour Calling—called this because time is running out. The event is to bring awareness of the Climate Crisis to passersby. We hold signs (provided) and play musical instruments—bring yours! The Church bell rings at 11 a.m. Please arrive at 10:50. We finish by 11:45-12:00. This is a monthly event on the 11th of the month sponsored by the Environmental Team.

**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.**

**Donations for Kids' Bags
Through Sunday, November 19
Coat Room**

Open Table distributes up to 150 Kids' Bags each week as part of their mission to address hunger in our community. On Sunday, November 19, our young people will create Kids' Bags during RE time by decorating and filling them. You can help! Donations of the following items are appreciated: instant oatmeal packets, fruit cups, drinks, granola bars, packaged snacks, dried fruit, packaged cookies, and little non-food treats like pencils, stickers, or small toys. Please bring your donations to the November 19 service or drop off in the Coat Room anytime. Thank you!

**Difficult Conversations: Let's Talk about the
Israeli and Palestinian Conflict
Thursday, November 30, 7:00 p.m.
Parish Hall**

The goal of the Listening Circle event is to create space for shared emotional connection about the impact of the most recent violence and war in Israel and Palestine. We aim to support individuals and help communities who have been harmed by the violence to explore the collective experience together. This Listening Circle event will provide a space for people to connect, share their experiences, and look to the future.

Women's Retreat Update!

Our Women's Retreat at Rolling Ridge in North Andover for January 5-7, 2024 is FULL. We have begun a waiting list. To be placed on the waiting list, please contact [Lillian Anderson](mailto:Lillian.Anderson) or <http://bit.ly/FPWomensRetreat2024>. You will be notified of your status. Cancellations do occur and we often utilize the waiting list.

At Home Retreat: The At Home Retreat will take place at First Parish on Friday, March 8 and Saturday, March 9, 2024. We will begin registrations in January.