
SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord
Sunday, November 12, 2023**

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

Transylvanian Scholarships

Sign up at coffee hour TODAY!

We need two more sponsors for deserving and needy Freshmen students in Transylvania eligible for a scholarship of \$400 a year. If you prefer to donate a half scholarship at \$200 a year, we can find someone to share that student with you.

Please come to the scholarship table at coffee hour, where you can pick your student.

We also need a donor to sponsor a college student whose sponsor is in a nursing home and unable to continue the sponsorship. Please contact [Kathy Spang](#) for more information or come to the table at coffee hour.

Welcoming Walls Listening Sessions

TODAY! 11:30 a.m.

Emerson Room

Monday, November 13, 7:00 p.m.

Zoom

Please join the Welcoming Walls Committee after the service to hear an update on our work toward making our Parish Hall and Parlor feel more welcoming. We have narrowed down our recommendations and look forward to hearing your feedback. There will also be a Zoom session on Monday, November 13 at 7 p.m. Check *FPWeekly* for a link to our written update and the Zoom session.

Diversity Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, 6:30 p.m.

Zoom

Are you looking for a way to get involved in social action at First Parish? Come join the next meeting of the Diversity Committee! We will be chatting about an initiative on pronouns, what the scope of our committee is, and how we want to focus our efforts this year. Everyone is welcome at our meeting on Tuesday, November 14 at 6:30 p.m. (via Zoom). Contact [Suzie Weaver](#) to join our mailing list.

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!

**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.**

Partakers' College Behind Bars Mentoring Program (CBB) needs volunteers!

Sunday, November 19, 11:30 a.m.

Emerson Room

RJAG Sponsors: Partakers' College Behind Bars Mentoring Program (CBB) needs volunteers!

Arthur Bembury, executive director of Partakers, will be here on November 19 to answer questions about becoming a Partakers mentor. Arthur is a current Partakers mentor from FP and a former CBB student. Partakers provide mentors to people incarcerated in MCI Concord and Shirley who are enrolled in a degree granting program offered by Tufts University, Emerson University, or BC. Come learn about how rewarding and life-changing a mentoring relationship can be. If you have any questions, please contact Margie King Saphier.

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@fp.org) 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.