
SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord
Sunday, November 19, 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 need two more sponsors for deserving and needy 9th grade students in Transylvania eligible for a scholarship of \$400 a year. If you would like 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 today and sign up to be a donor; you can pick your student and take their letter and photo home with you. Please contact Kathy Spang (781-273-0032) with questions.

Partakers' College Behind Bars Mentoring Program (CBB) needs volunteers! TODAY! 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 this morning 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.

Environmental Team Meeting Tuesday, November 21, 7:00 p.m.

Zoom only

All are welcome to our meetings. Upcoming meeting is Tuesday, November 21, starting at 7 p.m. We now hold alternating monthly meetings. Learn about and participate in our exciting, ongoing and new activities. Learn about 11th Hour Calling and an upcoming Forum. Please see *FP Weekly* or contact [Gail Kharidia](#) for the Zoom link.

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.

**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.**

Transcendentalism Council of First Parish in Concord

Tuesday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.

Sanctuary and on Zoom

Jeffrey S. Cramer is the Curator at the Walden Woods Project Library and a noted author. In this lecture he will discuss his life dedication to Henry David Thoreau. His books include *Walden: A Fully Annotated Edition* (Yale University Press, 2004) and *The Quotable Thoreau* (2001). He served as the historical consultant for the Ken Burns-produced documentary *Walden* created for the Walden Pond State Reservation in 2017. For more information, email Shelley_Hawks@msn.com.

Holiday Concert and Tea

Saturday, December 9, 2:00 p.m.

Sanctuary, Parish Hall, Parlor

The Women's Parish Association cordially invites all First Parish folks and their families to a special holiday concert by the Conchords in the Sanctuary followed by a festive tea in the Parlor and Parish Hall. There is no charge for this event. Reservations are not required but are very helpful for planning purposes. For reservations, contact [Dian Pekin](#).

Bring Awareness to the Climate Crisis – 11th Hour Calling

Monday, December 11, 10:45 a.m.

Front Lawn

Help bring awareness to the Climate Crisis by standing in front of the church with signs for 45 minutes to 1 hour. By holding signs (provided) and playing musical instruments (bring your own), we attract the attention of passersby. Titled "11th Hour Calling," we did this in October and November. Thirteen people participated each time and it was a lot of fun. The church bell rings at 11 a.m. This is a monthly event on the 11th of the month. Participate and help save our planet-home.

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](#) 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.