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## SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord  
Sunday, November 26, 2023**

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

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

We have one remaining Freshman student at the Unitarian High School in Székelykeresztúr, Transylvania, who is deserving and needy, and eligible for a scholarship of \$400 a year, so we're looking for one more sponsor. If you would like to donate a half scholarship of \$200 a year, we can find someone to share that student with you. Please contact Kathy Spang at (781) 273-0032 or [katalinspang@yahoo.com](mailto:katalinspang@yahoo.com) with questions, or to volunteer to become a sponsor.

### **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.

### **Religious Exploration Outreach Sunday, December 3, 3:00-6:00 p.m.**

**Outside on the sidewalk beside Wright Tavern**  
Want to help spread the word about our fantastic Religious Exploration programs for children and youth? We need some volunteers at a table during the annual Town of Concord Holiday Tree Lighting and Parade on Sunday, December 3rd from 3pm to 6pm on the sidewalk beside the Wright Tavern. We will have literature, hot

cocoa, cookies, crafts, and games. Let's tell other families about First Parish's great RE programs! Hosted by the Membership Committee. Please email Heather Packard, [packard.heather@gmail.com](mailto:packard.heather@gmail.com) to volunteer.

### **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](mailto:Shelley_Hawks@msn.com).

### **Beyond the Notes Concert Friday, December 8, 7:30 p.m. Parish Hall**

Hailed as "Bold...edgy...totally engaging! Not to be missed!" Beyond the Notes is an immersive concert experience like no other, that changes the perceptions of traditional classical concerts. In addition to a creative and unexpected musical program, the audience is invited to submit questions to the artists which are drawn randomly and answered on stage throughout the evening. Violinist Sarah Whitney will be joined by guest artist Duo Cello e Basso with Emmanuel Feldman, cello and Pascale Delache-Feldman, double bass. Together, they will present an

**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.**

innovative program of solos, duos and trios. 10% of proceeds will be donated to Unicef to support the crisis in Gaza. Prelude music will feature students from Concord Conservatory of Music and artwork from Powers Gallery will be showcased on stage.

Tickets \$30 advance purchase/\$15 student/\$35 day of at the door.

TICKETS:

<https://BTNDecember2023.eventbrite.com>

First Parishioners receive 10% off advanced purchase price by using code FP10

### **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](#).

### **Volunteer Sign-up for Children's Holiday Craft Workshop**

**Saturday, December 16, 11:00 a.m.**

**Parish Hall, Brooks, Emerson, Ripley & Greeley Rooms**

Thank you for being part of this magical event at First Parish in Concord. Teen and adult elves are needed to help children make holiday crafts. The volunteer shift runs from 11:30am- 3:30pm on Saturday, December 16th (if you are able to arrive at 11am to set-up that would be great! There will also be a group of volunteers setting up the tables and signs on Friday December 15th from 3pm-5pm). Please sign-up online:

<https://forms.gle/tQMencAXGWWo5LPY7> If you

have any questions, contact

[craftsworkshop@firstparish.org](mailto:craftsworkshop@firstparish.org) or stop by the

Children's Holiday Craft Workshop table during coffee hour.

### **Children's Holiday Craft Workshop**

**Saturday, December 16, 12:00 p.m.**

**Parish Hall, Brooks, Emerson, Ripley & Greeley Rooms**

Join us for a magical afternoon of gift-making and holiday spirit! Children can choose from many crafts to make perfect gifts for family, teachers, or friends. No advance registration is necessary.

Families can just show up, but no drop-offs please - adult supervision is required. Cost: \$10/child, \$30/family. If you have any questions, please contact [craftsworkshop@firstparish.org](mailto:craftsworkshop@firstparish.org) or stop at the elf workshop table during coffee hour.

### **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.