
SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Parish in Concord

Sunday, April 14, 2024

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

Soul Work and Wiggle Room

TODAY! 10:00 a.m.

Sanctuary and Parlor

There is no Little RE or Religious Exploration program this morning due to April vacation. Children are welcome in the 10:00 a.m. service. There are “Soul Work” supplies in the vestibule including pipe cleaners, sewing cards, and coloring pages. There’s also plenty of wiggle room in the Parlor where young children may play with toys, Legos and puzzles, and our service is also live-streamed.

Earth Day Celebration

Sunday, April 21, 10:15 a.m.

Out back or Emerson Room

Following the Wisdom Story, we will gather outdoors to celebrate Earth Day. We’ll have choices of activities including making prayer flags for the Earth and her creatures, making a big WELCOME banner for our candidate for Sr. Minister, and active games. All ages will be together (except 8th graders who are in OWL). Come join the fun!

Patriots’ Day Pancake Breakfast is Tomorrow!

Monday, April 15, 7:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

Tomorrow is Patriots’ Day in Concord. Come enjoy the parade and bring your family and friends to have breakfast at our Patriots’ Day Pancake Breakfast fundraiser in Fellowship Hall. We will be serving pancakes and sausages along with coffee, tea, orange juice, and milk from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. You can either join us for breakfast before the parade starts or after the parade returns to town from the North Bridge.

Come join the fun and have a hearty breakfast while knowing you are supporting First Parish that morning.

Patriots’ Day at the Wright Tavern

Monday, April 15

Come celebrate Patriots’ Day at the newly-restored Wright Tavern! After the parade, we will serve food and drink from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and continue conversation at the Tavern. **Sam Adams beer tasting!** Boston Beer Company, one of the event sponsors, will be on site with beer tasting of seasonal brews. Sam Adams drank here - drink Sam Adams here! Svenfish, Concord's local fish supplier, will provide oyster shots and chowdah. **Concord Pub Sing on the First Parish lawn** at 12:15 p.m. Lunch, snacks, drinks, tours, and conversation with Minutemen, town notables, and your neighbors until 3:00.

Covenant Reflection Circles

Thursday, April 18, 7:30-8:30 online

Wednesday, April 24, 5:00-6:00 p.m. online

Sunday, May 19, 11:30-12:30 in person

Bringing the inspiring words of our First Parish Covenant into the life of the community invites each of us to consider our responses, hopes and concerns. We are creating space to process and think about what it really means to consider how we apply it in our lives. This is an opportunity to share our thoughts, hopes, feelings and struggles as we live into our Covenant together. This single session spiritual practice is a facilitated process, one hour long. To register, [click here](#).

**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.**

Share the Plate Submissions due by April 21

What non-profit groups or organizations do you support? Please consider submitting your commitments outside of First Parish for our Share the Plate program. Each month we share our collection with the organizations recommended by you and provide a minimum of \$3,000 to those organizations. This should be a 501-c3 organization that you have a relationship with or that you work with. Please fill out the short submission form for 2024-2025 at <https://forms.gle/oC5AqcTit8SZMFde6>.

Questions? Ask Paul, our Minister of Social Action.

Help Build the Democracy Movement

Sunday, April 21, 3:00 p.m.

Parish Hall

Join with the First Parish Reclaim Our Democracy team to help build a powerful, inclusive, collaborative Democracy Movement. If we are to defeat the MAGA movement, we need to build a Democracy Movement that is bigger and more powerful than theirs. Together we need to plant the seeds that will build this movement and save our democracy. It starts with all of us. Join us on April 21 at 3:00 p.m. We'll discuss and learn together what we can all do to help save our democracy. Let's see what emerges.

First Parish Passover Seder

Tuesday, April 23, 6:00 p.m.

Parish Hall

Whether you have a Jewish background or never attended a Seder before, you are welcome. Passover is both a meal and a re-telling of the Exodus story with readings, songs, and eating of symbolic foods. Children make the Seder even more special and fun! Our Cooperative Seder will include a potluck dinner. Each person is asked to choose a job (set-up or serving or clean-up) and to bring one or two items. Please sign-up online: <https://bit.ly/FPC24Passover>. Questions? Contact Dana Snyder-Grant (978-760-1129 or dana.snydergrant@gmail.com) or Rev. Amy Freedman (afreedman@firstparish.org).

First Parish Responds to Colonization and Slavery

Sunday, April 28, 11:45 a.m.

First Parish Sanctuary

How do we want to respond to First Parish's history related to colonization and slavery? First Parish was involved in the colonization of Concord, which proved harmful to Indigenous people. Two former ministers enslaved people. We have options. The Commission on Institutional Change (COIC) invites everyone to discuss our options. Please direct any questions to Ken Reeves at ken_reeves@hotmail.com.

The Gospel According to This Moment: The Spiritual Message of Henry David Thoreau

Monday, May 6, 7:00 p.m.

Sanctuary and on Zoom

Henry David Thoreau is best known today as an advocate for simple living, environmental preservation, and civil disobedience. Retired Unitarian minister Barry Andrews will discuss Thoreau's unconventional religious faith. Book-signing to follow in Parish Hall. To register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/ThoreauGospel> and click the Get Tickets button, then choose either In Person or Online.

Registration Open for Ferry Beach Retreat

Friday, May 24 - Monday, May 27

Find Ferry Beach Retreat and Registration info at firstparish.org/forms, including how to access the online Registration pages. For many years, we have gathered over Memorial Day Weekend, along with parishioners from First Parish in Lexington, for a retreat at the Ferry Beach Retreat & Conference Center in Saco, Maine. Our time there brings individuals, couples, and families together for fellowship, fun, and renewal. We invite you to join in this year! Questions? Contact Darien Smith (darien@smithquest.com).