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## SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord  
Sunday, October 13, 2024**

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

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### **Reclaim Our Democracy TODAY! during Coffee Hour**

The Reclaim Our Democracy team is back at coffee hour today with information about how we can all "Do Something" on behalf of democracy before the election. There is less than a month left before the polls close. Postcards and conversations can help to get out the vote and encourage our UU values. Come by and get information on how you can be involved. This is the last weekend we'll distribute postcards (they must be mailed by Oct 15). We are happy to talk with you about other opportunities for voter engagement. We hope to see you there!

### **Donations to the UUA Disaster Fund TODAY!**



Please scan the QR code or go to <https://www.uua.org/giving/disaster-relief> to provide support for those impacted by Hurricane Helene. A basket will also be available for collections during coffee hour.

### **Celebrating a Legacy**

Last week, the Mabel Center for Immigrant Justice launched the "Tony Rodriguez Border Project" with a donation provided by an anonymous donor to mark the anniversary of Tony's death. This project will allow Mabel Center attorneys to travel to the border to help migrants awaiting adjudication of their asylum claims.

### **English Tutors Needed**

Interested in helping refugees learn English? There is a need for tutors both daytime and evening for those who are sheltered at Aloft Hotel

located off 2A in Lexington. Materials are provided and no training is necessary. The contact person is Connie who you can call or text at 781-929-3779.

### **Cluster Housing**

Blue Boat Home Cluster: We are readying for a possible next migrant family. Sequential home stays of varying lengths guarantee that a family is off the streets. Or you can offer valuable help with other necessities. Interested? Contact Regina Corrao at [reginacorraoconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:reginacorraoconsulting@gmail.com).

### **October 11th Was National Coming Out Day**

National Coming Out Day supports anyone "coming out of the closet". The founders believed that homophobia thrives in an atmosphere of silence and ignorance. Coming out is a personal choice and is not a single event in time but may involve constant negotiation of deciding how to show up and what parts of one's identity can safely be revealed in a particular time and place. Coming out may be anxiety provoking and may not always be safe, particularly for those in marginalized communities. The Diversity Committee encourages you to celebrate and promote justice for the LGBTQ community.

### **Small Group Ministry Enrollment Deadline is October 15th!**

Small Group Ministry groups are a wonderful way to connect with others and deepen your own spiritual and ethical understanding. The groups meet for 90 minutes every 2 weeks from

**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.**

November until May. For more information contact Lillian Anderson ([lillianand@comcast.net](mailto:lillianand@comcast.net)). Registration link is in *FP Weekly*.

**Transylvanian Scholarship Program TODAY! Stop by during Coffee Hour**

Each year generous participants in our Székelykeresztúr Student Scholarship Program, overseen by the Partner Congregation Committee, help make high school and college education possible for 40-50 deserving students from the Hungarian minority population there and area villages. If you would like to become a scholarship donor for one of the new freshmen students in need of financial help, please contact Kathy Spang at [katalinspang@yahoo.com](mailto:katalinspang@yahoo.com) for more information, or stop by the PCC table at coffee hour.

**A Talk by Editor Geoff Wisner on this new book: A Year of Birds**

**Saturday, October 26, 7:00 p.m.**

**Wright Tavern and on Zoom**

In partnership with the 2024 Concord Festival of Authors, editor Geoff Wisner will discuss his new book, *A Year of Birds*, featuring 150 watercolors and field sketches by artist Barry Van Dusen and a foreword by naturalist Peter Alden, the author of numerous Audubon Field Guides. This is a hybrid event. Admission is free, but you must register at this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/ThoreauBirds>. In-person seating at the Wright Tavern is limited, and you will only be sent a link to the livestream on Zoom if you register. Contact Shelley Hawks via the First Parish office (978) 369-9602.

**Men/Masculine Identified folks: A Practical Exploration of Spirituality**

**Sunday, November 3, 11:30 a.m.**

**Emerson Room**

4 Monthly two-hour sessions. facilitated by Paul Langston-Daley and Jeff Clanon. Limited to 12 First Parish Men First Sunday of the month beginning Nov. 3. At our September Retreat a

group of men/masc identified folks focused on Spirituality. This program is a continuation of the in-depth conversation that occurred there. It is an opportunity for First Parish men and masculine identified folks to have a clearer sense of the value of spirituality in their lives and enhance their practice in whatever ways they find most meaningful and beneficial.

**Emerson Reading Group  
Second Wednesdays each month**

**7:15-9:00 p.m.**

Come read together, discuss and enjoy Ralph Waldo Emerson's essays. No homework required! Simply come with a copy of the essay assigned. Open to all. Charles Phillips, longtime fan of Ralph Waldo Emerson, will guide us and answer questions. Charles provides the essays by email, and they are also available at [rwe.org](http://rwe.org). We are reading:

- Nov. 13: Nature – Idealism.

To sign up or if you have questions, please email Charles Phillips at [ctphillips27@gmail.com](mailto:ctphillips27@gmail.com) or call the FP office at (978) 369-9602.

**Women's Retreats - Save the Dates**

**Friday, January 10, 5:00 p.m.**

**Rolling Ridge, North Andover, MA**

Save the Dates! Women's Retreats 2025

The Women's Retreats weekend at Rolling Ridge in North Andover will start on Friday evening, January 10 and run through Sunday lunch on January 12, 2025. All FP women are invited! Registration opens in mid-November.

Information coming soon about an At-Home Retreat being planned for early next year.

Sponsored by the Women's Retreats Committee.

Questions? Contact Bozena Smith at

[bozenasmith@mindspring.com](mailto:bozenasmith@mindspring.com).