
SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord
Sunday, October 20, 2024**

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

Reclaim Our Democracy is Back! 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 are just over 2 weeks left until the polls close. Come by and get information on how to get out the vote and encourage our UU values. Action, especially working together, can help to quell anxiety. We are happy to talk with you about available 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.

Opportunity to Teaching English to Shelter Immigrants

Want to make use of your valuable fluency in English? Tutors are needed for new English learners: all materials provided. To find out more about working with shelter residents in Lexington, contact Connie at 781-929-3779.

Blue Boat Home Cluster Housing

Interested in Cluster Housing, but want to know more? Learn about this sequential housing model for migrants without shelter, and how you can help. Our Blue Boat Home cluster, FP Concord and FP Bedford, may receive a new family soon, and we need additional families to circle with us.

For more information, contact Regina Corrao at reginacorraoconsulting@gmail.com.

Fall Community Garden Clean-up TODAY! 10:15 a.m.

Hugh Cargill Community Garden

Let's help our neighbors and enjoy being outdoors together! Families will begin in the service. Following the Time for All Ages, we will walk together to the Hugh Cargill Community Garden on Walden Street. Children in Kindergarten- 5th grade must be accompanied by an adult. Caregivers of older children and teens are welcome but not required to attend. Please bring gloves, rakes, and wear sturdy shoes. Gardeners will meet us there to guide our work. We will return to First Parish around 11:30 am.

Boston Area Gleaners Info Table TODAY! During Coffee Hour

Come join the Boston Area Gleaners and learn more about how we fulfill our mission by building innovative partnerships with local organizations and businesses in order to bridge food distribution gaps, improve healthy food access, prevent on-farm food waste, and create new markets for locally grown produce! For more information, please contact: outreach@bostonareagleaners.org.

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

**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.**

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 for more information, or stop by the PCC table at coffee hour.

Fall RE Volunteers

We're looking for adults to volunteer for one or more Sunday morning sessions. Volunteering in Religious Education is a fun way to connect with our young people! We have four age-groups: Little RE, Elementary, Jr. Youth, and High School Youth. All volunteers receive support and work with other RE leaders. For more information, please contact Rev. Amy Freedman: afreedman@firstparish.org

Rise Up Singing

Friday, October 25, 7:00 p.m.

Parish Hall & Parlor

Rise Up Singing is an informal, monthly song circle that welcomes singers and instrumentalists of all ages and experience. Family groups are especially welcome! Whether you are a seasoned folk musician or a novice guitar player, there is a place for you! Copies of Rise Up Singing and Rise Again, with song lyrics and chords, are provided. Singing starts at 7pm and usually winds up by 8:30 or 9:00. You can stay for as long as you like. And you're welcome to bring snacks to share. Contact Beth Norton, Director of Music Ministry for more information: music@firstparish.org.

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.

Baked Goods from the Hakimi Kids Sunday, October 27, During Coffee Hour Parish Hall

Yum! Stop at the Hakimi kids' coffee hour table on Sunday the 27th and buy something sweet! They will donate proceeds to Lowell Youth Soccer Association, in appreciation for their waiving fees, providing free soccer equipment, and rides to practices and games for the three participating Afghan Hakimi boys. Do you and your kid want to help bake the day before? Contact Jane Blumberg at jane_blumberg@me.com.

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. We are reading:

- Nov. 13: Nature – Idealism.

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

Sharing Bread Stories
Sunday, November 24, 10:00 a.m.
Sanctuary & Zoom

Do you have a favorite kind of bread? What kind of bread honors your family heritage? Are there traditions or a funny story related to bread that you'd like to share? On Sunday, November 24 we will have a Thanksgiving Service celebrating the many kinds of bread that nourish and sustain us! All ages are invited to participate and bring bread to share at Coffee Hour. If you would like to share a story, please email Rev. Amy Freedman: afreedman@firstparish.org.

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.