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## SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### First Parish in Concord

### Sunday, November 10, 2024

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

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#### **Transylvanian Scholarship Donors Needed**

Help! Your wonderful generosity is needed! We have just two remaining Transylvania scholarship students, both in their first year of college, who need financial assistance. Please stop by the scholarship table after the worship service, or contact Kathy Spang at [katalinspang@yahoo.com](mailto:katalinspang@yahoo.com) for information.

#### **Annual Pledge Campaign Brainstorming Wednesday, November 13, 6:00 p.m.**

##### **Brooks Room**

Have ideas about our annual pledge campaign? Feedback? Complaints? Do you know what we could do better? Are we respectful and efficient? Our annual pledge campaign is months away but we will convene an open brainstorming session Wednesday, Nov. 13, 6:00-7:30 pm (Brooks Room). Pledge campaign stewards, past pledge team members, those with fund-raising experience, those with ideas – come and give us your input! Let Dave Elwood know if you are interested ([daveelwood@hotmail.com](mailto:daveelwood@hotmail.com) or 508-572-0490). Could only attend by Zoom? Can't attend but have some input? – email or text Dave.

#### **Emerson Reading Group**

**Wednesday, November 13, 7:15-9:00 p.m.**

##### **Emerson Room**

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.

#### **Richard Higgins discusses his book *Thoreau's God***

**Tuesday, November 19, 7:00 p.m.**

##### **Sanctuary & Zoom**

Come hear author Richard Higgins discuss his new book *Thoreau's God*. Thoreau devoted his life to communicating his experience of an infinite, wild, life-giving God. By recovering this vital thread in Thoreau's life and work, *Thoreau's God* opens the door to a new understanding of an original voice in American religion. Higgins is a former staff writer at the Boston Globe and the author or editor of four books, including *Thoreau and the Language of Trees*. Registration required. \$10 per person, Register at: <https://thoreaufarm.org/thoreaus-god/>

#### **Thanksgiving Food Drive**

**Sunday, November 24, 10:00 a.m.**

##### **Sanctuary**

As a part of our Thanksgiving Service, First Parish will host a food drive to help our neighbors. Open Table supplies many of the "fixings" for a Thanksgiving meal. They are looking for the following food items to round out this holiday feast. Baking: Flour, Sugar, Baking Powder, Chocolate Chips, Chopped Nuts, Quick Bread Baking Mix, Brownie Baking Mix, Cornbread Baking Mix Beverages: Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Herbal Tea All ages will be invited to bring forward donations during the service. Thank you for any help you can offer!

**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.**

### **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](mailto:afreedman@firstparish.org).

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

**Saturday, December 7, 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

#### **First Parish**

Save the Date! First Parish children and teens are invited to join us for a magical afternoon of crafting, gift-making, and holiday spirit. You can simply show up, no registration needed, and friends are welcome; but parents should stay with young children. \$15/child, \$45/family. Calling All Elves: Adults and older teens can join the fun by volunteering to be elves, just visit our table at Sunday Coffee Hour or email

[jeannie4of7@hotmail.com](mailto:jeannie4of7@hotmail.com).

### **Women's Away Retreat Registration and At-Home Retreat Dates**

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

#### **Rolling Ridge, North Andover, MA**

The Women's Retreat weekend at Rolling Ridge in North Andover will start on Friday evening Jan 10 and run through Sunday lunch on Jan 12, 2025. All FP women are invited! Registration opens on Nov 15, online only. Find the registration link in FP Weekly on that date. Space is limited and we expect to fill quickly. The At-Home Retreat at First Parish will take place on Fri evening Mar 7 and Sat Mar 8, 2025. Registration info TBA. Sponsored by the Women's Retreats Committee.