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## SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord  
Sunday, December 22, 2024**

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

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### **Welcome Families!**

**TODAY! 10:00 a.m.**

#### **Sanctuary & Parlor**

As you enter our Sanctuary, you will find a table with “Soul Work” resources. Please help yourself to colored pencils, coloring pages, clipboards, and pipe cleaners for creating. Research finds that certain kinds of handiwork stimulate the same brain activity as meditation and prayer. You are welcome to take your creations home with you but please return the supplies to the table following the service. There's also plenty of “Wiggle Room” in the Parlor downstairs where children may play with toys, Legos, and puzzles and our service is live-streamed.

#### **Wright Tavern Book For Sale Coffee Hours until January 5th Parish Hall**

The Women’s Parish Association will be selling Tom Wilson’s book, Concord’s Wright Tavern at The Crossroads of the American Revolution, at Sunday Coffee Hours between now and January 5 so that you can give this special gift to loved ones during the holidays. The Wright Tavern Legacy Trust is in the process of enabling this iconic building and related programs to serve as a permanent reminder of what is required to establish and maintain democracies.

### **Join the Bucket Brigade**

**TODAY! 10:00 a.m.**

We have 10 buckets left! In partnership with Concord Council on Aging, First Parish delivers buckets of sand for Concord seniors to use on icy sidewalks, driveways and steps. All ages are welcome to help! Buckets are available for pick-up at First Parish today during Coffee Hour! The sand is available at two locations in Concord. A name, address, and drop location are provided for each bucket. Thank you!

### **Winter Clothing Drive**

**Deadline is Sunday, January 5**

In preparation for City Reach (an overnight urban outreach program), our Coming of Age group is holding a Winter Clothing Drive. The housing insecure community in Boston is in critical need of the following items: new socks, new underwear, hats, gloves, gently used clothing: warm coats, sweatshirts, sweatpants, sweaters, boots, small suitcases with wheels, blankets, sleeping bags, and travel-size toiletries. Large sizes are in high demand. Almost all guests want practical unisex clothing. Please drop off donations in the First Parish Coat Closet by Sunday, January 5.

**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.**

**New Year's Choir – open to all  
Sunday, January 5, 9:00 a.m.**

**Sanctuary**

Our first Sunday in 2025 we will have choir on ONE rehearsal – that morning at 9:00 am! Anyone is welcome to join us. We will learn simple songs to share in the service. If you've been thinking about singing with the choir, or if you're just wanting to try something new in 2025, here's your chance! Contact Beth Norton, [bnorton@firstparish.org](mailto:bnorton@firstparish.org), with questions and to let us know you're planning to sing.

**First Tuesday Group: Winter Haiku Talk and Workshop**

**Tuesday, January 7, 2:00-3:00 p.m.**

**Emerson Room**

First Tuesday Group (65+) meets January 7th, 2:00-3:30 p.m., for a Winter Haiku Talk and Workshop taught by Susan Paige. Discover your inner poet as Susan carefully explains and encourages our efforts. Susan will share some of her inspirational photos to fuel our creativity. You may be surprised by what we can achieve! Come celebrate the winter with a fresh haiku! (While our focus is seniors, please come if you are interested, whatever your years.) If you have questions, contact Anne Fortier at [randafortier@comcast.net](mailto:randafortier@comcast.net)

**Women's Retreat - A Few Places Available!**

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

**Rolling Ridge, North Andover, MA**

A few spaces have opened up; all FP women are invited to register for the Women's Away Retreat at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fp-womens-retreat-our-voices-registration-1046410781817>. The Retreat is set for Friday evening Jan 10 through Sunday lunch Jan 12, 2025 at Rolling Ridge in North Andover. This year's theme is Our Voices. 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.

Questions? Contact Susan See at [susan.b.see@gmail.com](mailto:susan.b.see@gmail.com)



**True Story Theater**

**Thursday, January 30, 7:00 p.m.**

**Parish Hall**

“What Now? How Do We Keep Love at the Center?” Suggested donation: \$20 (pay what you can). Our country and our world are changing dramatically. Sharing our stories together in community can help us meet the challenge of keeping love at the center of our lives, while welcoming both our tears and our laughter. Come experience this powerful way of being heard and known in community. Witness important moments from our lives spontaneously transformed into improvised story-based theater.

[TrueStoryTheater.com](http://TrueStoryTheater.com)