
SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord
Sunday, January 19, 2025**

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

Become a FP Member

TODAY! 11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary Foyer

Opportunity to Become a Member at First Parish - TODAY! Not a member but maybe you've been waiting and just didn't know how? We will have the membership book open after service today January 19, right in the front door foyer. If this is not convenient, please feel free to contact Liz Rust (Liz@Therusts.net) for questions or to make any other arrangements.

Rise Up Singing!

Friday, January 24, 7:00 p.m.

Parish Hall and 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.

True Story Theater

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

Parish Hall

"What Now? How Do We Keep Love at the Center?" Our country and our world are changing dramatically. Sharing our stories

together in community helps 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 in community. Witness important moments from our lives spontaneously transformed into improvised story-based theater. From our Spring 2024 performance, a First Parishioner shares this: "Sharing my true illness story was liberating. I let go of those shoulds and what you might think of me. It allowed me to know and embrace myself." Join your FP community for this poignant and joyful program! Suggested donation: \$20 (pay what you can).

TrueStoryTheater.com

Will and Harper Film

Friday, January 31, 7:00 p.m.

Parlor

The Diversity Committee will screen the documentary film "Will & Harper" at 7:00 pm in the Parlor. Will Ferrell and his good friend, Harper Steele, former Head Writer on Saturday Night Live, take a 17 day road trip as Harper, who is transitioning to live as a woman, reintroduces herself to the world as her true self. This film is a heartwarming testament to true friendship and love. Refreshments will be provided. A brief discussion will follow the showing.

**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.**

Funderburg Scholars

Saturday, February 1, 6:30 p.m.

Parish Hall

Funderburg Scholars – Meet the Students Fundraising Dinner at church or Zoom, Saturday, February 1st! Be at First Parish at 6:30 PM or on zoom at 7:30 PM. Help Roxbury youth attend and graduate from college! These engaging students will tell stories about their college experiences. Sign up for dinner (or request a zoom invite) by e-mailing Loretta Ho Sherblom at Loretta@LHSBenefits.com. More info at www.FunderburgScholars.org

Flowers at First Parish--Opening the Spirit to Time and Place

Saturday, February 8, 2:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

Ellen Whitney has been the leader of the flower committee at First Parish in Concord for over ten years. In this program, she will describe her spiritual and philosophical approach to flower arranging and demonstrate her process by creating an arrangement that will be displayed at the next day's Sunday service. Hosted by the Transcendentalism Council of First Parish in Concord. To register go to tinyurl.com/FPflowers or contact the office at First Parish in Concord: (978) 369-9602.

The First Parish Accessibility Justice Task Force wants to hear from you!

The newly formed FP Accessibility Justice Task Force spent time last spring and fall evaluating First Parish's building & grounds for accessibility. Formed to make full inclusion in the life of the church possible for people of all levels of ability, the task force wants to hear from the First Parish community about any accessibility challenges they have experienced or

observed at First Parish. To share your feedback, please access the survey via QR code, or write to accessibility@firstparish.org to request a link to the survey. Many thanks to those who have already responded!



2025 Women's At-Home Retreat

Friday, March 7, 7:00 p.m.

Parish Hall, Parlor, Kitchen, and more

Save the Dates! 2025 Women's At-Home Retreat. The At-Home Women's Retreat at First Parish will take place on Fri evening, March 7, and Sat morning through afternoon, March 8, all in person only. This year's theme is "Our Voices". The Friday evening segment is open to all First Parish women, free of charge, RSVP not required. Registration is required for the Saturday event, with a fee of \$90. Saturday event registration will open on Jan 31st. Watch for the registration link in FP Weekly and Sunday News in late January! Sponsored by the Women's Retreats Committee. Questions? Contact Bozena Smith.