
SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Parish in Concord

Sunday, March 2, 2025

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

Difficult Conversation Resilience Circles: On Democracy

TODAY! 11:30 a.m.

In-Person

The goal of this Listening Circle event is to create space for shared emotional connection about the impact of the current Federal Administration on our lives. Our aim is to support this community in exploring our collective experience together. When participating you have the responsibility to listen and an opportunity to be heard. Please see *FP Weekly* for more information and registration.

A Conversation with Rufus Gifford: What is happening in DC, and what can we do?

TODAY! 4:30 p.m.

Sanctuary

Join Reclaim Our Democracy and Concord Indivisible as Concord's own Rufus Gifford leads us in a discussion about what's happening in DC, what the consequences look like, and how we can marshal an effective and productive response. Rufus, a political insider over several administrations (ambassador, presidential campaign finance chair), is deeply familiar with the way power, politics, and government work. He knows how the sausage gets made and can help us pull back the curtain, understand what's

going on, and fight back. He writes regularly about domestic and foreign policy issues.

Concord Choral Evensong

TODAY! 5:00 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church in Concord

Come hear five Concord church choirs, including our First Parish Choir, at a Choral Evensong this evening, 5-6pm! The Evensong service will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm Street in Concord, and is open to all, free of charge, and will be followed by a reception replete with refreshments. Presented as part of Concord250 programming, our choir will join those of Holy Family Parish, Trinitarian Congregational, West Concord Union Church, and Trinity Episcopal Church. All the choirs have been preparing special music and hope you'll join us for this rare combined choral event!

Dignity Not Deportations

TODAY! During Coffee Hour

Stop by the IJTF coffee hour table today to sign your support for the proposed Dignity Not Deportations Act, Massachusetts House bill HD.3596. By limiting detention space available to ICE in state and local facilities, this act will limit Massachusetts' role in mass deportations. Both Simon Cataldo and Carmine Gentile (Concord representatives) are supporting this

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.

bill, and Simon says there are other similar ones being discussed.

Red Mugs at Coffee Hour for Visitors and Newcomers

If you are new here and you wish, please take a red mug for your beverage at coffee hour, which is a signal that you would appreciate a friendly welcome and conversation. Please visit the Welcome Table for more information, to request a name tag, or sign up to receive our FP Weekly email newsletter. To our parishioners - if you see someone using a red mug, we encourage you to approach them, say hello, talk with them, and make them feel welcome.

Metta for Mindfulness

Series begins Tuesday, March 4, 9:30 a.m.

Zoom Only

Metta for Mindfulness will return for a Zoom only drop-in six week session, beginning on Tuesday March 4, 2025 from 9:30 am-10 am and continuing through April 8, 2025. I believe that this is a time in our world for metta or loving kindness. Drop by any Tuesday, starting March 4 at 9:30 am. The Zoom link will be listed in *FP Weekly*; I believe that the value of the meditation is improved with consistency, so if you can, I recommend you come to most or all of the Tuesdays. I hope to see you in metta, Dana.

Revolution of Historical Examination

Thursday, March 6, 6:00 p.m.

Zoom

The UU Urban Ministries has been undertaking research to better understand the benefit their parish has received from the institution of slavery and historical marginalization. This month's UUUM Community Conversation will discuss why uncovering, examining, and understanding Black and Brown history matters in 2025. They

are presenting a number of local historians and activists: Aabid Allibhai, Mary Snyder, Michael Curry, Collin Knight, and Reggie Walker. Join us to hear their comments. Zoom at: us02web.zoom.us/j/82902440676, or check FP Weekly for the direct link. There is no need to register.

First Parish Women's Gathering

Friday, March 7, 6:30 p.m.

Parish Hall & Parlor

All FP women are warmly invited to an evening of exploring Our Voices with social time, focused sharing, song, and dance. Please bring a contribution to our potluck reception, beverages are provided. Free of charge, no rsvp required. Sponsored by the Women's Retreats Committee. Questions? Contact Bozena Smith at bozenasmith@mindspring.com.

Fentanyl Awareness with Birdie Light

Wednesday, March 12, 7:00 p.m.

Parish Hall

Dr. Beth Weinstock, Founder of BirdieLight, an organization that aims to address the persistent crisis of fentanyl overdoses, will come and speak about the dangerous reality of fentanyl in our communities. This event is appropriate for teens, college students and parents, and is a companion event to the talk Dr. Weinstock will give to all students at Concord Carlisle High School earlier in the day. Join us in a grassroots effort to increase fentanyl awareness, treatment and prevention. Co-Sponsored by First Parish Concord, Tricon Church, Kerem Shalom & Safeguard OD.

Women Rising - A Discussion to Jumpstart Activism

Thursday, March 20, 7:00 p.m.

Chapel

Advocates for Women's Empowerment (AWE) is hosting an event to kick start your activism. We will start by reading and discussing Part 1 (Forces that Hold Us Back) of the 3-part book by Megan Dalla-Camina that unpacks paradoxes and archetypes limiting our power to rise. Please join us, even if you haven't read or obtained the book-we will have excerpts available. We look forward to being in community, to discuss ways to recognize & resist ideas that limit us and light fires within us all. For more info, contact venesy@comcast.net.

Pathways to Belonging Class - 3 Part Series
Sundays, March 23, March 30, April 6, 11:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Brooks Room

Are you new to First Parish? Have you been coming for a while but haven't connected yet? This is your opportunity to share and explore your spiritual roots, how they connect to Unitarian Universalism and understand how First Parish works. Information about membership will also be discussed. A light lunch is provided. Childcare may be provided upon request. For more information or to register, contact Susan See at susan.b.see@gmail.com.

Trans Inclusion in Congregations Program
Webinars: March 6, March 20, April 3,
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Discussions: March 9, March 23,
and April 6, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



Brooks Room/Emerson Room

The Diversity Committee invites you to participate in the "Trans Inclusion in Congregations" program, developed by the Transforming Hearts Collective. The program includes six 45- to 55-minute recorded webinars, plus 3 discussion sessions. Watch the webinars on your own OR at First Parish on Thursday

March 6, March 20, April 3 from 7:00-9:00 pm. The discussion sessions will be at First Parish from 11:30 am-1:00 pm on Sundays March 9, March 23, and April 6. Registration is required by March 2 (scan QR code). For questions, contact Paul Langston-Daley (plangston-Daley@firstparish.org).

"Gen Silent" Film Screening and Panel Presentation

Sunday, March 30, 2:00 p.m.

Parish Hall & Parlor

Join us for this documentary that highlights the unique needs, challenges, and discrimination that LGBTQIA+ seniors face. This will be followed by a panel discussion with Julie Nowak of Springwell Elder Services, Dan Petitt from the Concord Council on Aging, and Joe Palumbo, member of Concord's DEI Commission. This is co-sponsored by The First Tuesday Group, the Diversity Committee, and the Concord Council on Aging. Contact Sara Ballard at sara@sb.org or Anne Fortier at 978-505-0799 with questions or to RSVP.

Host Families Needed April 24 - 28

As part of a U.S. concert tour forty members of the chorus of the Unitarian High School in Kolozsvár, Transylvania, along with five adult chaperones, will visit and perform in Concord. We will need volunteers to host them for four nights, which includes providing breakfast and transportation to and from First Parish each day. Each host will have two or more visitors stay with them. For more information or to volunteer to host, please contact Sara Ballard at sara@sb.org or visit the Partner Congregation table at coffee hour.

Concord Needs First Parish to help on April 19. Be a Concord250 Ambassador — sign up ASAP!

When: Saturday, April 19, 2025, 7 am to 7 pm, in 3-4 hour shifts. What: Volunteer in a small team, based right outside First Parish, to assist visitors on April 19. More specific information about the day's activities will be shared once it is fully developed. I am already helping with Concord250! You can still help, during a shift that does not conflict with your other plans for the day. How do I get involved? Please email 250celebration@concordma.gov and Nancy [McJennett nrm@newleafpm.com](mailto:McJennett_nrm@newleafpm.com). *****Be sure to specify that you want to work a shift at First Parish.

Red Cards - What Are They?

Red Cards/Rights Cards: These are business-sized cards stating basic rights, to tuck in your pocket in case you might be targeted. Most of us know someone who might need one. Carry some with you. Learn what they say. Examples: ICE agents cannot enter your residence without a signed order from a judge. Be aware: ICE agents' uniforms look like police officers'. Contact our Social Action Minister Paul Langston-Daley to find out how you might help. plangston-daley@firstparish.org.

Registration to UUA General Assembly 2025 is now OPEN

Registration is OPEN for the Unitarian Universalist Association's annual meeting: General Assembly 2025, June 18-22. GA will take place in Baltimore, MD, this year and can also be attended online. Attend workshops and vote on UUA business. Connect with other UUs from around the country and gather ideas to bring home to First Parish. Be inspired by uplifting music and spiritual community.

For more information about GA, see uua.org/ga. For more information about representing First Parish at GA as a delegate—or attending as a non-delegate—contact Jan Power at jpower6@gmail.com by March 30th.