

News from around the table

Thanksgiving Schedule

Turkey Distribution - November 19, 12:30-6:30pm
Turkey Distribution - November 21, 3-6:30pm
Thanksgiving Dinner - November 21, Concord
Special Monday Holiday Pantry - November 25, 3-6:30pm
Closed Tuesday, November 26 - Friday, November 29

So much Thanksgiving!

November is the month of giving thanks, and we have several activities in that vein. First up: Thanksgiving Dinner. If you want to celebrate the holiday with good friends and good food, our



Thanksgiving dinner is the place to be. It takes place one week before the actual Thanksgiving holiday, meaning you can join us and still make it to your family gig.

The dinner is November 21 at <u>First Parish in Concord</u>, 20 Lexington Road. Doors open at 4:45, dinner is served at 5:30; no one will be turned away. And it's all free!



Take-Home-Turkey

For those guests who would like to receive a turkey for the holiday, distribution will take place during our normal pantry hours on Tuesday, November 19 (12:30 - 6:30) and Thursday, November 21 (3-6:30 pm). For those who have requested a prepared

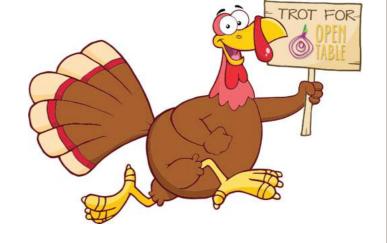
holiday meal, individual meals can be picked up during our special holiday distribution on Monday, November 25, 3-6:30pm.

We want to extend a special thanks to <u>Apellis Pharmaceuticals</u> for their donation of 100 turkeys and all the fixings!

Want to help fill the Thanksgiving larder? We can use donations of stuffing, cranberry sauce, store-bought pies, as well as our usual most-needed items listed here. Contact us at fooddonations@opentable.org for more information.

Turkey Trot

Work off your holiday calories BEFORE eating them with a Thanksgiving morning Turkey Trot! This annual 5k running event is organized by Marx Running & Fitness in Acton; a portion of the money raised goes to Open Table.



The run starts on Keyes Road in Concord at 8:30 am sharp. Day-of registration begins at 7:30 am, but we recommend avoiding the rush and registering ahead of time here. Then tuck into that meal with no regrets!



Empty Bowls filled our coffers!

This year's Empty Bowls fundraiser was a smashing success, bringing in close to \$13,000 for Open Table food and programs. The event took place at Newbury Court in Concord, and included a silent auction, sumptuous soup and delectable desserts, accompanied by Jeremy Silver on piano. Thanks to everyone who made this happen, including sponsors Newbury Court and The Umbrella Arts, the organizing team

from Open Table (Alannah Gustavson, Norma Frye, Patty Chambers), and the amazingly talented Newbury Court residents and Umbrella artists who created the stunning and imaginative bowls for sale. Shown here: Jonathan and the imaginative frog bowl that he won in the auction.

We Need You!

Are you a natural leader, a people person/extrovert who can hustle and motivate others? We're looking for Pool Coordinators: people who can organize the recruitment and scheduling of a team of volunteers to staff our pantry market during distribution days (Tuesdays & Thursdays). You don't have to know exactly how to do it, we'll train you! To learn more or to volunteer for this position, email us at volunteer@opentable.org.





Community Helpers

We could not feed as many people as we do without our generous community helpers. One of our most reliable helpers is the **Fenn School** in Concord. On November 1st they kicked off their annual Open Table food drive with the theme "Fuel for School", targeting donations of breakfast foods.

We are so grateful to be able to have the support and enthusiasm of these students!

And we are so very thankful for the numerous organizations and individuals who are organizing food drives or creating kids bags during the month of November. Additional currently planned drives include:

Food Drives

AB Community Outreach

aPriori Technologies

Blossom Station Day Care

Carlisle Friday Night Live

Concord-Carlisle Girl Scouts

Concord Middle School

Holy Family Parish

Kerem Shalom

Marx Fencing Academy

Milldam Nursery School

Nexus Dental

Red Wagon Food Drive - Nashawtuc

Neighborhood

TARIS Biomedical

Kids Bag Drives

Alcott Pack 147

Au Pair International

Concord Pack 133

Hanscom Air Force Base

Lexington High School Project 351

National Charity League Alumni

Maynard Pack 130

Scanio/Saia Families

Michelle Schmidt

Sweeney Family

If you have an idea for a food drive, or want to run one yourself, learn more or register at opentable.org/donate-groceries/ or contact fooddonations@opentable.org.

It's Annual Appeal time!

Every November we kick off our main fundraiser and the source of 40% of our budget. As a not-for-profit, our only source of income is donations. This year's theme: More Love, Less Hunger.



We're focusing on all the invisible ways hunger affects children and families. Look for our mailer and subsequent emails and read the stories of the people your donations help. And please give generously.



December events

Mark your calendar for these events in December:

ArtSpace Maynard Annual Holiday Gift
Sale December 6-8 – As part of
ArtSpace Maynards' weekend event,

they hold an art auction that benefits Open Table. More details can be found <u>here.</u>

Holiday Sip & Stroll December 14th – An annual event that energizes the holiday spirit with Maynard businesses throwing open their doors and offering holiday treats. Open Table will be there, so plan to come on down.

Holiday Dinner December 16 – Open Table will be hosting a holiday dinner at 33 Main Street, Maynard location. Doors open at 5:00, dinner served at 6:00. Watch our <u>Facebook page</u> for details.





Thanks in Many Languages

Twenty plus Au Pairs from <u>Au Pairs in America</u> met with us Sunday, October 10th for a day of kids bag decorating and painting our front window. Thailand, Germany, Columbia, Brazil, China were just some of the countries represented - and our window now reflects this cultural diversity. The Au Pairs had a great experience; as Wenjun (Ivy), from China said: "I enjoyed my time at Open Table and thanks for organizing the fantastic meaningful activity." And Open Table's storefront is even more welcoming for the Thanksgiving season. Thank you!











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