

First Parish in Lexington



Weekly Update

Worship Service at 10:30am Sunday, April 1, 2018

This Easter Sunday at 10:30am, Reverend Anne Mason will speak on what it means to "Cultivate Joy"



"Joy", said Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "is much bigger than happiness. While happiness is often seen as being dependent on external circumstances, joy is not." Let us gather on this Easter Sunday and rediscover the seeds of joy in our lives, in our religious teachings, and in each other.

We will celebrate the Easter message with festive music for brass, organ, choir and soloists. The sanctuary choir will sing Handel's energetic "Hallelujah, Amen" from his powerful oratorio Judas Maccabeus and Vermont composer Gwyneth Walker's deeply moving "Hymn of Resurrection" accompanied by organ and brass trio. For the offertory, Elizabeth Walsh and Julia Jaffe will sing Antonio Vivaldi's jubilant "Laudamus Te" (from Gloria). For the centering music, Trumpeter Alex Tung will play Purcell's joyful "Sonata in D Major for Trumpet and Organ." He will be joined by Tim Hoeller (trumpet), Erik Svensen (horn), and Rip Jackson (organ) in playing a festive Renaissance brass piece "Victimae Paschali Laudes" by Volckmar Leisting for the postlude.

There will be Sunday school for Pre-K through eighth grade. The nursery will be open for infants and toddlers.

All are welcome!

Rev. Anne Mason, Minister

Lisa Maria Steinberg, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, and Rip Jackson, Music Director

UU Urban Ministry's "Fair Foods"

The next date to help unload the food trucks for Fair Foods at the UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury will be **this Saturday, March 31st**. This is a fun activity for everyone, families, youth, etc. We pack bags with fresh vegetables, fruit, salad mix, bread, etc., and these are subsequently distributed at several food pantries in the city. Meet in the FP Lex church parking lot at 9:45 AM on Saturday and return by 1 PM. Please contact [Elaine Lytle](mailto:Elaine.Lytle@uu.org) for more information.

First Parish Annual Drive 2018

Have you returned your pledge card?

As we embrace the interconnected threads that connect us to the shared our love and dreams for First Parish, it's been an inspiration to see our members celebrate the commitment we share to sustain our community to do important work in the world.

Thank you to all who have already responded!

We still have several outstanding pledges and we have a dedicated team of volunteers reaching out to contact families to ensure that our Pledge Drive is finished by March 30th.

If you have not pledged yet, please visit our Stewardship page and contribute to the annual budget which supports everything we do and everything that we want to do in the future!

Communities Without Borders Benefit Concert

Come support Communities Without Borders at a benefit concert on **Saturday, April 7 at 8pm** at the First Church in Cambridge or on **Sunday, April 8 at 3pm** at the First UU Society in Newton.

First Parish works with CWB each year on a trip to Zambia, where attendees:

- Experience a multi-dimensional itinerary that encompasses active participation
- Build cross-cultural relationships
- Contribute and distribute school supplies to local communities
- Visit community schools and secondary schools
- Immerse yourself with local Zambians in the compounds
- Learn about the challenges that these communities face
- Assist with health screenings, teaching, and interacting with children
- Create memories that will last a lifetime



Two Weeks until Missa Gaia!

First Parish is abuzz with activities for Missa Gaia! The artists are creating banners and props. People are planning meals. Music is being rehearsed. Staging is being built. What excitement!

Paul Winter's *Missa Gaia: A Mass for the Earth* will take place at First Parish on **Friday and Saturday, April 13-14, 2018, at 7:30 PM**. This profound work, under the musical direction of Rip Jackson and theatrical and dance direction of Maria Wolff, will be a collaboration between the First Parish sanctuary and children's choirs, the Vermont Dance Collective, and a world music ensemble of percussionists, guitar, piano, electric keyboards, soprano sax, oboe, cello, and bass.

If you haven't ordered your tickets, [click here to be directed to the ticket website](#). You can also buy one during social hour on Sunday. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 seniors, and \$15 for students. Reduced ticket prices are available for those in need.



Mayfair is Coming! Mayfair is Coming!

Starting your spring cleaning? Or ridding your attic/basement of stuff you no longer want or use? Nowhere to store those books from your winter reading? Have you given up dressing up? Or downsizing to smaller quarters?

If so, think MAYFAIR. It's coming on Saturday, May 12th. Please consider donating items to the Mayfair selection of jewelry and accessories, collectables, white elephants, books, and other good stuff.

Sign up at the piano on Sunday. More info will follow. Just please don't toss it; donate it to Mayfair!

Soul Matters' Theme for March: Balance

We've discussed ways to assist the young people in our life to understand the concepts of balance, especially as it relates to science, math and holidays. In addition, we've expanded balance to incorporate opposites into a greater wholeness. A fun recommendation to rethink balance even further is to include a visit to the MFA where ESCHER's drawings will challenge you. His drawings of order and chaos, reality and alternatives, plus ascending and descending will give you another view on balance. Enjoy!



Dan Fenn's "Epiphany" Sermon

Since several people have asked, if you would like a copy of Dan Fenn's sermon he gave in January on the Epiphany, please contact Jane Foley in the office.

This Week at First Parish

Wednesday, March 28		
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Master Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Purker Hall
Thursday, March 29		
Meditation Group	4:00 p.m.	Purice
Scrabble Club	7:30 p.m.	Purker Hall
Sunday, April 1		
Choir Warm-Up	8:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Easter Worship Service	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Children's Choir Rehearsal	11:45 a.m.	Yellow Room & Sanctuary
Monday, April 2		
Staff Meeting	11:00 a.m.	Minister's Office
Thursday, April 5		
Members & Friends	7:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Empty Sky Sangha	7:30 p.m.	Purker Hall
Finance Committee	7:30 p.m.	Common Room
Wednesday, April 4		
Creative Callings	1:30 p.m.	Purice
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Master Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Purker Hall



First Parish is an accredited Green Sanctuary and a Welcoming Congregation.

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Weekly Update submissions are due on Tuesdays at 10:00 am.
Please email submissions or inquiries to admin@plex.org.

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