# *First Parish in Lexington*

## *Weekly Update*

### *Worship Service at 10:30 AM*
### *Sunday, April 29, 2018*

First came Missa Gaia and now the **Joy Project**. Be sure to come this Sunday and hear our Voices of Joy tell their joyful stories, see the wonderful banner of **Joy Flags** you have made, admire the beautiful **Joy Collage** that shares a moment of joy in our individual lives, listen to the **Joyful Music** by Rip, and even play some **Joyful Games** in the Parish Hall. You might even wear your most joyful shirt, socks, hat, scarf, or whatever moves you. And what's celebration of joy without a **Joy Cake**. It will be a fun, happy, and joyful time! Come join Rev. Anne, Al Jacobson, and others celebrate the Joy Project in this All Ages service! Pre-K through eighth grade will stay in the sanctuary. The nursery will be open for infants and toddlers.

On this "Joyful" Sunday, the sanctuary choir, with soloist Austin Burns, will sing Pharrell Williams' wildly popular "Happy" and Bob Dylan's profound gospel song "Gotta Serve Somebody," with soloist Amy Johnson. Guest jazz musicians Sue-Ellen Hershman-Tchernyrin (flute), Joy Sager (drums), and Dave Zox (bass) will join Rip Jackson (piano) in playing three movements from Claude Bolling's *Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano Trio*. They will play the lyrical "Sentimentale," the elegant "Irandiaa" and the fabulous and energetic "Baroque and Blue." All of the congregational singing will be songs of joy including the iconic "Joy to the World" ("Jeremiah was a Bullfrog") by Three Dog Night.

Last Sunday, your generous donations during the plate collection raised $1,334 for Lexington Refugee Assistance Program (LexRAP). Thank you for your support to this important organization!

*Rev. Anne Mason, Minister,*

*Lisa Marie Steinberg, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, Rip Jackson, Music Director,*
*Rev. Helen Lutton Cohen, Minister Emerita*

## *Resumption of Painting*

The arrival of spring weather brings with it the return of flowers, bugs, and painters! Painting the outside of the church has begun, which will be followed by the remaining repair work on the sanctuary windows. Please note that the exit driveway may be closed during the week to accomodate the painters. Please use caution.

## *Imagination Cafe and Pledge Drive Celebration*

On **Friday, April 27th at 6:30pm** in the Parish Hall, the Board and the Stewardship Team invite all members and friends to an evening of socializing, entertainment, and imagining.

Celebrate the end of the pledge drive, with finger food, wine, beer, and other beverages! Hear from the Board on what we learned from the January and February Imagination Cafes! Participate in another round of Imagination Cafe discussions!

Let us know you're coming! Click here to sign up.

All ages invited!

## *How Can We Save Our Democracy?*
## *Religion and Politics in an Uncertain World*

Saturday, May 5th, First Parish in Concord, 20 Lexington Road, 9:30am - 5:00pm.

This is a FREE event, but online registration **by Friday, April 27** is required. **Online registration page**: https://mlcconcord.eventbrite.com

Morning Session: Dr. Mike Hogue will speak from his new book, *American Immanence: Democracy for an Uncertain World*. Rev. Dr. Pamela Lightsey and Rev. Dr. Bill Schulz will offer reflections, and the panel will answer questions from the floor.

Lunch & Book Signing by Dr. Hogue

Two Afternoon Workshops (you can attend both):

- *Revolution: The Hard work of (Re)Building a Democracy* by Dr. Hogue & Rev. Dr. Lightsey
- *Creating Theology: Together* by Dr. Hicks & Rev. Dr. Strauba

We are hosting a **Prospective Student Conference** in conjunction with this event.
http://www.meadville.edu/mlt-commons/details/prospective-student-conference-at-mlt-on-the-road-in-concord-mac

## *METCO Documentary Presentation*

All are invited to attend a presentation co-sponsored by First Parish and Lexington Youth and Family Services (LYFS).

METCO Documentary Film, "On the Line: Where Sacrifice Begins" on **Saturday, April 28, 2018, from 5:30 to 8:30pm** at First Parish Church, 7 Harrington Rd, on the Green in Lexington.

Created by Mike Mascoli, a Lexington METCO graduate, this film documents the birth in 1966 of METCO, which is the oldest voluntary desegregation program. It highlights the METCO program through the experience of both METCO and Lexington families and discusses why METCO is still such an important and beneficial program in Lexington today. View the movie trailer here.

Following the film, there will be a panel of METCO parents, alumni, current students and educators. Light refreshments will served.

## *Social Action Committee Invitation to*
## *"Anti-Racism Organizing in the Suburbs"*

Join us on **Saturday, April 28th** for a convening of organizers, activists, leaders, and educators committeed to the movement for racial justice in the suburbs. Topics presented will include Affordable Housing; Criminal Law Reform and Ending Mass Incarceration; Efforts to remove Native American Mascots; Successful campaigns targeting decision-makers; White people's role in challenging structural racism. For more information and to register, click here.

## *Hurry - Registration for Ferry Beach closes Sunday!*

Come and join your friends of all ages from First Parish in Lexington and members of our sibling congregation, First Parish in Concord, for a delightful Memorial Day weekend escape at Ferry Beach in Saco, Maine! There's fun for kids and adults – from volleyball to reading on the DeWolfe and Quillen porches, to croquet matches, bird walks, sand castle building, and marshmallow roasts. You can stay in one of Ferry Beach's historic dorms, opt for slightly posh facilities at one of the neighboring cottages (fulfilled on a priority basis), or camp out in the beautiful Grove. Registration ends this **Sunday, April 29th!** (http://bjlex.org/index.php/ferry-beach/registration-forms/ Questions? Contact Elisabeth Jay or Deb Weiner Soule. See you at the Beach!

## *Upcoming Music Events*

**Lexington Choral Festival**: A dozen choral ensembles from Lexington will be raising their voices together in the 13th Annual Lexington Choral Festival on **Sunday, April 29th at 3:00 p.m.** hosted by St. Brigid Church. This year's Festival features over 200 singers participating from 12 area churches, temples, and religious communities. Admission is free and open to the public.

"This year, the festival seems more crucial than ever," says Festival organizer Mark Morgan, the Director of Music at Hancock Church. "In this time of seemingly ever increasing division in our country and across the world, the Festival sets an important, and very public, example of how we can come together and share our gifts and traditions with one another, rather than treat everyone as "the other." This year's festival encompasses a wide array of Jewish, Christian, Hindu, and Unitarian communities. Each community shares songs of their own choice, then all will join together as one massed choir in the singing of *The Heavens Are Telling* from Haydn's The Creation.

The concert will take place at St. Brigid Church, 1981 Massachusetts Ave in Lexington. Admission to the concert is free and open to the public. A reception will follow. Free parking is available and the church is handicap accessible. Further information can be found at www.hancockchurch.org or by calling 781-862-4220.

---

**Esprit de Cor** - For many years, First Parish member Eirik Svenson's french horn ensemble, Esprit de Cor, performed at the Friday noon concert series. While the concert series is no longer running, Esprit de Cor lives on! We will be performing a concert on **Saturday, May 5th at 3:00pm at First Parish.** Below is the program:

Canzon Septimi Toni for double horn choir – Gabrelli

Selected Trios – Mozart

Allegretto for horn quartet – Schubert

Jesu Meine Freude for horn quintet – J.S. Bach

Allegro Moderato from "Water Music" for horn sextet – Handel

Rheingold Fantasie from "Das Rheingold" for horn octet – Wagner

Suggested donation of $10 for adults and $5 for children and seniors. Hope you can make it. It will be a great program!

## *Mayfair is Coming!*

Just over two more weeks until Mayfair on **Saturday, May 12th!** This is our big spring fundraiser (and also a source for many a Mother's Day treasure!). Please sign up at Mayfair table during or at our *Signup Genius* site.

*What you'll want to know:*

1. NEW THIS YEAR: RAFFLE BASKETS *designed for both children and adults.* Buy your tickets for a basket of fine wines and delicious chocolate; a basket of gift cards for children's and families' favorite treats; and a basket of books by some of our very own First Parish authors! If you can donate a gift card for the children's raffle basket, please let us know!

2. Help publicize Mayfair. Please take a few posters with you to hang in your favorite locations. Pick them up from the Mayfair table.

3. Post a yard sign in your front yard, which will be available on Sunday, May 7th. Sign up at the Mayfair table.

4. Donate a no-longer-needed treasure to sell. We eagerly await your

   – Treasures and collectibles: china, artworks, silver, small furniture;

   – Books: including only fiction, literature, current nonfiction, and children's books;

   – Whole elephants: pottery, kitchenware, linens, knickknacks, frames, small appliances, tools, electronics in working condition, craft supplies, children's toys and games, holiday decorations;

   – Your plastic and paper bags for folks to carry home their purchases.

**Please donate items that are appealing, in good condition, and up-to-date.** (Our having to sort out unsaleable items is a time-consuming chore when we are pressed for time before the fair begins.)

**Drop-off donations at the church on Thursday evening, May 10th, 6:30 - 9:00 pm in Parker Hall, and Friday, May 11th, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. (For earlier drop off, please contact Bob Coyne who has made available his garage.)**

Let's enjoy together this fun-filled, spring tradition at First Parish! Mark *your calendars! Questions:* contact Joanne Poage.

## *Soul Matters' Theme for April: Emergence*

"Our survival adaptations are so tough, but our wounds are so delicate. To heal, we have to lift the armor carefully. It saved our lives, after all. It's like moving your best friend off to the side of the path. You don't trample on her, you don't hit her with a sledgehammer. You honor her presence like a warm blanket that has kept you safe and sound during wintry times. And then, when the moment is right, you get inside and stitch your wounds with the thread of love, slowly and surely, not rushing to completion, nurturing as you weave, tender and true. The healing process has a heart of its own, moving at its own delicate pace."

*~Jeff Brown (author)*

## *Pathway to Membership*

Many of the church members started the path to membership by coming to First Parish in Lexington to check out if it was the right place for them. They attended services. Some joined activities such as Creative Callings, the choir, or Mayfair.

Eventually they decided that First Parish was the right place for them and that they wanted to worship here on a regular basis. Some met with the minister individually to discuss becoming a member. Others participated in one of the workshops held periodically that is an intro for those new to Unitarian Universalism. After discussing what membership means with the minister (either individually or at the workshop) and deciding it was for them, they officially became a member by signing the membership book.

If you are interested in meeting directly with Reverend Anne regarding membership in First Parish, please contact her at (781) 862-8200 or via email at minister@fplex.org to set up an appointment at a time convenient for you. If you are interested in the workshop, contact the Parish Administrator Jane Foley at (781) 862-8200 or admin@fplex.org to be put on the list for the next one (date TBD).
The next New Members Recognition Ceremony will be part of the church service on May 20, when those who have joined the church in the past year will be introduced to the congregation.

## *The Green Corner: Climate Action Team*



Following the wonderful Missa Gaia performances, the Environmental Fairs were a great success. Eight local organizations were represented and plenty of climate & environmental networking took place.

Our Team was also represented at Jay Kaufman's 4/18 forum, where there was a very informative discussion about climate control efforts in Massachusetts.

One of Jay Kaufmans admonishments was we need to confront candidates about climate issues as part of their campaigns so this is a good opportunity to do so.

If you haven't yet or are willing to repeat , please call Sen Friedman's office at 617-722-1432 and urge them to get the Omnibus Climate bill out of the Ways and Means committee so it can be voted on by the Senate.

## *This Week at First Parish*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Wednesday, April 25** | | |
| Choir Rehearsal | 7:30 p.m. | Sanctuary |
| Master Singers Rehearsal | 7:50 p.m. | Parker Hall |
| **Thursday, April 26** | | |
| Meditation Group | 4:50 p.m. | Parlor |
| Scrabble Club | 7:30 p.m. | Parker Hall |
| **Friday, April 27** | | |
| Pledge & Imagination Cafe Celebration | 6:30 p.m. | Parish Hall |
| **Saturday, April 28** | | |
| LYFS METCO event | 5:30 p.m. | Parish Hall |
| **Sunday, April 29** | | |
| Choir warm-up | 9:30 a.m. | Sanctuary |
| Worship Service | 10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary |
| Children's Choir Rehearsal | 11:45 a.m. | Yellow Room |
| Social Action Meeting | 12:00 p.m. | Parker Hall |
| Lexington Choral Festival | 3:00 p.m. | St. Brigid's |
| #LexingtonEnough | 7:00 p.m. | Parish Hall |
| SHYG | 7:00 p.m. | Robinson Hall |
| SHYG Parent Meeting | 7:00 p.m. | Minister's Office |
| **Monday, April 30** | | |
| Staff Meeting | 11:00 a.m. | Minister's Office |
| **Tuesday, May 1** | | |
| Finance Committee | 7:30 p.m. | Common Room |
| Empty Bins Sangha | 7:30 p.m. | Parker Hall |
| **Wednesday, May 2** | | |
| Choir Rehearsal | 7:30 p.m. | Sanctuary |
| Master Singers Rehearsal | 7:50 p.m. | Parker Hall |

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

>>> Shop at Amazon to benefit First Parish. <<<

First Parish in Lexington
7 Harrington Road, Lexington, MA 02421
781-862-8200/fplex.org

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

Share this email:

Manage your preferences | Opt-out using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? Sign up to receive our future emails.
View this email online.

7 Harrington Rd
Lexington, MA 02421 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

Subscribe to our email list.

powered by emma