*Weekly Update*

*First Parish in Lexington*

## *Worship Service at 10:30 AM*
## *Sunday, May 13, 2018*

Rev. Anne will explore the theological background of *imago dei* – the view that we are created in the image of the Divine. On this Mother's Day, we lift up all the people whose creativity has led to our existence while we recognize that parenting is not the only way that we nurture each other. Please join us at 10:30.

This Sunday, we celebrate the genius of Mozart. Andrew Eng (*viola*) and Jennifer Minniches (*cello*) will be guest instrumentalists. They along with Rip Jackson (piano), will play Mozart's lyrical "Andante" and virtuosic "Allegro" movements (*from the Piano Trio in Bb Major, K. 502*) during the centering music and postlude. Andrew Eng will also play the beautiful "Andante con moto" from Mozart's Violin Sonata in Eb Major, K. 380 for the offertory. Mozart's setting of the Latin text, "Ave verum corpus" (*Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary, Hail the true Lamb, and Elizabeth. Mark will join them in singing the ethereal "Laudate Dominum" (from Mozart's Vesperae solennes de confessore, K.339*). Jennifer is a member of the Sarasa Ensemble and will be performing a concert at the church with Rip Jackson and others on Sunday, May 20th at 3:30 PM.

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

Thanks to your generous donations during last Sunday's plate collection, First Parish raised $980 for LYFS (Lexington Youth and Family Services), one of our partners. Wonderful!

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

Click here to listen to last week's sermon, "At a Still Point," by Rev. Anne Mason

## Kudos and Gratitude for *Missa Gaia*

I am still in awe of First Parish in Lexington's *Missa Gaia* performance! Many people from our church put so much effort into this project and it showed! Your talent, creativity, time, and spirit shined brightly in our celebration of Mother Earth!! Friday night was nearly full and Saturday evening was sold out with lines of people turned away. The audiences on both nights were blown away and gave the performers standing ovations!!!

Thank you from the bottom of my heart to everyone who worked on this project both on stage and behind the scenes! Blessings to Mother Earth!

In gratitude,

Rip Jackson
Director of Music

## *Thank You!*

Please take a moment to notice and enjoy the lovely landscaping outside our rear entrance. Mary, many thanks to the following volunteers who helped to make this happen: Jim Gross, Dave Pollack, Richard Fiess, John Howell, Lydia D'Andrea, Amy Brieting, John Schmidt. Thank you also to Judy Cole, who purchased the plants in memory of her late husband, Jack, who was head of the maintenance committee for many years. Thank you everyone!

## *Mayfair is Here!*

**Saturday, May 12th from 9am to 1pm.**

What you'll want to know:

**1. NEW THIS YEAR:**

**Raffle baskets** designed for both children and adults. Buy your tickets on Sunday 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!

**Crafts especially for children,** and

**Super soup specially made** by our own youth group to support their service trip in June.

**2. You can help!**

Post a yard sign in your front yard. You can pick a sign up at the church until Thursday.

Bake some of your favorite cookies, dessert bars, and cupcakes. BUT please NO nuts, NO cream, NO cream cheese.

Donate no-longer-needed treasures to sell. We eagerly await your

- Jewelry, handbags, scarves;
- Treasures and collectibles: china, artworks, silver, small furniture;
- Books including only fiction, literature, current nonfiction, and children's books;
- White elephants (see following info from Elisabeth Jae)
- Your plastic and paper bags, as well as small boxes, for folks to carry home their purchases

Signing up to help on the day by clicking here: Mayfair

**Please donate items that are appealing, in good condition, and up-to-date.** (*Our having to sort out unsalvable 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 - 8:00 pm in Parker Hall, and Friday, May 11th, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. (Please no later than 5 PM so we have enough time to sort and price items. For drop off before Thursday, please contact Bob Crane who has made available his garage.)**

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

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### White Elephant Tables

This week is always a highly anticipated time in our household. We get to finally bring all the items that have accumulated in the Mayfair pile to church!

DEFINITION: White Elephant is our annual "yard sale" that includes: pottery, kitchenware, linens, knickknacks, frames, small appliances, small furniture tools, electronics in working condition, craft supplies, children's toys and games, holiday decorations…

If you have an item of high value that needs special pricing consideration please REPLY to the (Elisabeth).

**We are asking everyone to SORT and PLACE your items** on or near the appropriate tables. Please plan to spend a couple time in your schedule for your drop off. **It may be helpful for you to bring your items pre-sorted!**

Here are the table categories

- Pictures, Paintings and Frames
- Small Furniture
- Toys (special tables for Puzzles and Games)
- Bags
- Sports (no Skis or Snowboards!)
- Tools
- Cameras
- Electronics (see Separate email with more info)
- Household (special tables for Holiday, Office, Crafts, Kitchen)
- Glass (vases and glasses)
- Baskets
- Linen

Questions? Email Elisabeth at Sverige@mac.com (Subject: MAYFAIR)

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### Mayfair Electronics

We are all inundated by the whirlwind of new electronic gadgets—almost daily it seems. When you buy the newest electronics, you often have the old version left over, taking up space in some drawer someplace. These overtaken electronics that have become "Trash but I can't just throw it away" may very likely be someone else's TREASURE!

Please look through your possessions and see if you have any electronics lurking around that might be treasures for another person. Here is a partial list, but I know your creativity will lead you to the discovery of other electronics Treasures. Drop-off starting Thursday evening at 6pm until Friday night NLT 9pm.

***Highly desired—but with their chargers and working!***
iPads, iPad minis, and recent Android tablets
iPhone6 or newer smart phones, Kindles, Nooks
Docking stations with speakers for iPods & smart phones
FitBits, wearable workout monitors, brainwave monitors,
Blu-ray DVD players or recorders – Blue Ray only
Vinyl record turntables (vinyl records will be in Mayfair Books upstairs)

Email Pete Tasker with questions.

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### Jewelry Table

Come on, girls...bring us your jewelry! This time last year we had lots of donations. I have personally emailed my non FP friends for donations and you can do the same. The jewelry sale was the biggest money raiser last year. Let's not go down in shame this time. We even have more space to display this year.

Thanks for your support.

Carolyn Fiess, Chair, with Lynne Yansen, Janet Showalter, Lee Brainn, Toni Tasker, Meg Newhouse, Ann Fertig, Treasenay Goodell, Beth Walsh

## *First Parish Budget Information Session*

The congregation will vote on the annual church budget recommended by the Board at the Semi-Annual Meeting on May 20. In order to inform you of the content and thought process behind the budget, members of the Finance Committee will have a table at Social Hour after Church on **Sunday, May 13**, and will be ready to answer your questions. Please stop by to find out what our largest expenses are, and why. Learn more about how the results of our annual Pledge Drive affect the day to day operation of our Church. Understand the difference between Operating and Capital budgets and what Maintenance Reserve is.

## *Unity Group Luncheon*

All are welcome to the final Unity Group luncheon of the church year on
**Monday, May 14** Lunch will be at noon and catered - no charge. Please join us!

Our agenda is twofold.

First, we will celebrate this past year, and then we will turn to the serious matter of planning for next year. We are looking for people who will be able serve as officers.

We welcome new members, young and young-at-heart, to join the Unity Group. We meet on the second Monday of the month from October through May.

## *Good Samaritan Fund Deadline*

The Good Samaritan Fund committee has identified four recipients from the first wave of applications. Deadline for the second wave is **Tuesday, May 15**. Awardees will be notified by June 15. If you know of individuals in need, please review the description on the First Parish website, along with the application form and other requirements.

## *Gender Revolution* Screening and Panel Discussion

Please join us for a screening of **National Geographic's Gender Revolution**, including a panel discussion moderated by Seth Schoen, featuring LHS students and a family featured in the film.

Gender Revolution

**Tuesday, May 15**, 7:9pm (Doors open at 6:45pm)

Clark Middle School, Lexington

https://www.facebook.com/events/1774972129072341

Parents of children of all ages, middle & high school students, business/community leaders and anyone who wants to better understand gender identity are encouraged to attend.

12% Millennials identify as transgender or nonbinary

2.5% Massachusetts high school students identify as transgender.

3 yrs Age at which gender awareness begins

* How has our understanding of gender evolved?

* How is gender different from romantic attraction?

* What is gender dysphoria and how is it treated?

* What do people of varying gender identities say? What do parents say? What do scientists say?

* How do I talk to my kids about all of this?

* How do our families, schools, and communities work together to be more welcoming and respectful of all people, including people of varying gender identities?

Critically acclaimed, *Gender Revolution* follows Katie Couric as she travels coast to coast to meet with the leading scientists and experts to answer questions about gender identity. She also speaks with ordinary people who find their bodies and lives on the front line of a rapidly changing world. Couric's journey is a compassionate, illuminating, and sometimes surprising look at a topic filled with untold stories of struggle, understanding, ignorance, and love. Panel discussion following the film.

**Sponsors:** School Health Advisory Council (SHAC), LeePride, LHS GSA, PTAO (Presidents Council (PRC), Diamond PTA, Estabrook PTO, Community Coalition-Mental Health Subcommittee and Greater Boston PFLAG

**Contact Information:** LeePrideMA@gmail.com

## *Senior High Youth Group Fundraiser*

The Senior High Youth Group (SHYG) are having a fundraising dinner on **Saturday, May 19th at 6:30 pm** to help support our service trip to Pine Ridge Reservation in June!

At the dinner, we will have a variety of selections of traditional Native American food (thanks to Deb Weiner Soule who has provided the menu). The evening will also include 'edutainment': sharing of music, poetry, and highlights of the Lakota tribe history and culture.

Tickets are $35/adult, $15 for children, available at Social Hour on May 6 and 13.

***We serve you so we can serve the Lakota Sioux!***

Questions can be directed to any of the youth or to Katie Camins, Youth Coordinator, at youth@fpiex.org.

## *The Green Corner: Climate Action Team*

Last week we suggested reading together *Justice on Earth: people of faith working at the intersections of race, class, and the environment.* https://www.uuabookstore.org/ This small quickly read book is a blessing to all who feel discomfort with our increasingly compartmentalized, single issue world. Lewis Gordon E.O. Wilson felt that discomfort in his study of science and history and wrote a book entitled Consilience. The Unity of Knowledge that called out the dangers of segregated thinking in the academic and scientific community. *Justice on Earth* makes a similar plea to Unitarian Universalists by calling us to address the interwoven issues of race, class and the environment by applying our core values and history and uniting with others, particularly those most effected, in bold actions. In June CAT will set up a few small group opportunities to explore how the "intersectionality" of race, class and the environment can instruct the environmental work we are doing at First Parish. If you are interested in join the conversation please contact Bob Kowal or Stephen Brick.

## *Soul Matters' Theme for May: Creativity*

"You must have a room, or a certain hour or so a day, when you don't know what was in the newspapers that morning, you don't know what your friends are, you don't know what you owe anybody, you don't know what anybody owes you. In that hour or that room you can simply experience and bring back what you are and what you might be. This is the place of creative inspiration. At first, you may find that nothing happens there. But if you have such a sacred place and use it, something eventually will happen."

*–Joseph Campbell (scholar, author)*

Soul Matters Groups are a small group ministry program at First Parish Lexington.

## *This Week at First Parish*

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| **Wednesday, May 9** | | |
| Choir Rehearsal | 7:30 p.m. | Sanctuary |
| Master Singers Board Mtg | 7:30 p.m. | Parker Hall |
| **Thursday, May 10** | | |
| Meditation Group | 4:00 p.m. | Parlor |
| Mayfair set-up | 6:30 p.m. | Parker Hall |
| Lex PFLAG | 7:30 p.m. | Common Room |
| **Friday, May 11** | | |
| Mayfair set-up | 9:00 a.m. | Up & Downstairs |
| **Saturday, May 12** | | |
| Mayfair | 9:00 a.m. | Up & Downstairs |
| Munros Saturday Night | 7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary |
| **Sunday, May 13** | | |
| Choir Rehearsal | 9:30 a.m. | Sanctuary |
| Worship Service | 10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary |
| Children's Choir Rehearsal | 11:45 a.m. | Yellow Room |
| LexingtonEnough | 7:00 p.m. | Parker Hall |
| **Monday, May 14** | | |
| Sarasa Rehearsal | 10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary |
| Staff Meeting | 11:00 a.m. | Minister's Office |
| Unity Group Luncheon | 12:00 p.m. | Parker Hall |
| **Tuesday, May 15** | | |
| Sarasa Rehearsal | 10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary |
| Lexington Ski Club | 7:00 p.m. | Parker Hall |
| Empty Bag Sangha | 7:00 p.m. | Common Room |
| **Wednesday, May 16** | | |
| Sarasa Rehearsal | 10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary |
| Creative Callings | 1:30 p.m. | Parlor |
| Choir Rehearsal | 7:30 p.m. | Sanctuary |

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

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First Parish in Lexington
7 Harrington Road, Lexington, MA 02421
781-862-8245firstlex.org

*Weekly Update submissions are due on Tuesdays at 10:30 am*
*Please email submissions or inquiries to* **admin@firstlex.org**.

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