Weekly Update
Wednesday, June 6, 2018
First Parish in Lexington

Worship Service at 10:30 AM
Flower Communion
Sunday, June 10, 2018

Come to worship, bringing a flower to share. In the beauty of our flower communion ritual we will bless each other as we celebrate the unique gift each one of us brings to this community of faith and hope. We will also join in a baby dedication as we recognize the incredible gifts of life and love contained within each one of us. Join Rev. Anne in a celebration of "We Who Bless the World."

On this flower communion Sunday, the sanctuary choir will sing Frank Ticheli's ethereal "Earth Song" and Lovland and Graham's inspirational "You Raise Me Up" with soloist Austin Burns and Julia Jaffe. For the centering music, the choir will sing Rip Jackson's lovely "Flowers." Julia Jaffe, Toni Tasker, and Elizabeth Walsh will sing Carl Hahn's nature-inspired trio "Green Cathedral." And for the postlude, Rip will play Johann Sebastian Bach's powerful organ work "Praeludium in C Major, BWV 553."

Today will be an all ages service. The nursery will be open for infants and toddlers.

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

Click here for last week's sermon, "Refuge from an Indifferent World" by Rev. Anne Mason

Voices on the Green
This Friday!

"The Day My Life Changed," Friday, June 8, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Come to hear a wide variety of local community members talk about "The Day My Life Changed." The event is sponsored by Voices on the Green, First Parish Unitarian Universalist's evening program series focused on important issues in our individual lives and our community life.

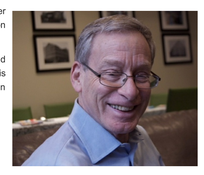
For this June 8th evening there will be one important new addition: a complementary event just for children. For them, there will be a professional storyteller, Marlon Carey (click here for more about Marlon), and also interactive and creative activities that provide entertainment and thoughtful play related to the same theme as their parents. This addition is intended to provide a new option for parents and their children to have a night out together, one that they can all talk about later. Children may, of course, stay with their parents in the main session if that is preferred.

For the adults, June 8's program will feature local speakers Dan Fenn, Brenda Prusak, Paul Brouillette, Megan Ladd, Don Yansen, Amy Kvaal, Lisa Maria Steinberg, Jim Jones, Deborah Beers-Jones, and youth poets Elizabeth Slein and Lillian J. Ellmore. Each of them has a great story to tell about a critical transformation in their lives, a day (or so) when the arc of their lives changed forever.

Musicians will be led by First Parish's music director Rip Jackson, and will include David Meharry, Chris Hess, Amy Johnson, and Chelsea Cannon.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for conversations and refreshment, and there will be one intermission with refreshments available. Tickets are $20 for sponsors, $10 for general seating, and $5 for students, and can be purchased onilne by clicking here, or can be purchased from the church and at the program.

Memorial Service for Al Jacobson



The memorial service for longtime, beloved member of First Parish, Al Jacobson, will take place on **Saturday, June 9th at 11:00am**.

Please join his wife, Teresa, his children and grandchildren, and other dear friends in this celebration of Al's life. A reception will take place in Parish Hall after the service.

Interfaith Garden in the News

Find out about helping with our Interfaith Garden during the summer. No experience needed. No big time commitment. **Visit the piano during coffee hour this Sunday.** We welcome new gardeners!

There was a wonderful article about the Interfaith Garden in the recent issue of The Colonial Times. Click here to view the pdf file.

Lexington Says #Enough Rally on Sunday

All are invited to join our partner, Lexington Says Enough, at a rally for Gun Violence Prevention and voter registration on **Sunday, June 10th at 1pm** on the Battle Green. This rally has been organized by an active and passionate group of Lexington High School students and community members, including Rev. Anne. They will be speaking at the rally. Click here to visit their website.

The Green Action Corner

Action: June 8th US Conference of Mayor's Action at Copley Square Join other CAT members and tell the Mayors to fulfill their promise made last year to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2035. A Fossil Free world demands they meet this goal by enacting policies and taking bold actions now. If you can go contact: Bob Kvaal or Stephen Shick

Summer Reads: CAT is recommending two books for your summer reading (both will be available for to buy or borrow on **Sunday, June 10th** at the CAT display during fellowship hour).

Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and the Environment is First Parish's Summer Read. Grounded in our UU faith and values, with essays by educators and activists, this book will provide a good takeoff point for future actions based on an awareness of the connection of race, class and environmental issues.

Climate of Hope: How Cities, Businesses, and Citizens Can Save the Planet. Mayor Michael Bloomberg (NYC) and former head of the Sierra Club Carl Pope offer an optimistic look at the challenge of climate change, the solutions they believe hold the greatest promise, and the practical steps that are necessary to achieve them. Writing from their own experiences, and sharing their own stories from government, business, and advocacy, Bloomberg and Pope provide a road map for tackling the most complicated challenge the world has ever faced. Along the way, they turn the usual way of thinking about climate change on its head: from top down to bottom up, from partisan to pragmatic, from costs to benefits, from tomorrow to today, and from fear to hope.

Moving Forward: Ten CAT members met on Sunday June 3rd to begin planning for next year. Commitments were made to: participate in local, state and national legislative initiatives, meet with FP committees as part of an assessment process for renewal of Green Sanctuary status, publish weekly Green Corner, participate and help organize discussions of Summer Reads, establish connections with UU Ministry for Earth, host a monthly CAT table during Sunday Coffee Hour, explore conversations with FP's Beloved Conversations group on themes raised in Justice on Earth, and participate in FP Imagination Café's fall events.

Soul Matters for June: Blessing

The Soul Matters theme for this month is: What does it mean to be a people of blessing? Many churches will consider this theme, including ours. Here's a poem by William Stafford, to get you started:

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Yes

It could happen any time, tornado,
earthquake, Armageddon. It could happen.
Or sunshine, love, salvation.

It could, you know. That's why we wake
and look out - no guarantees
in this life.

But some bonuses, like morning,
like right now, like noon,
like evening.

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If you're interested in discussing Soul Matters monthly themes in a small group, starting next fall, please contact Debbie Armstrong.

From Our Neighbors at Follen Church

HOUSING NEEDED FOR NEIGHBORING RELIGIOUS PROFESSIONAL - CAN YOU HELP?

Follen Church's incoming Director of Faith Formation is moving to the East Coast from Milwaukee and is need of an apartment or rental condo for this year. She is looking for 1000-1200 SF, some yard space if possible, off-street parking, at least 2 bedrooms and a reasonably sized kitchen. She's hoping to find something for $2,000 or less. Do you know of something that might be helpful? If so, would you be willing to send a note to Deb Weiner (Follen's interim DRE and former interim DLRE at First Parish)? Please email dre@follen.org - and thank you!

This Week at First Parish

Wednesday, June 6		
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Thursday, June 7		
Meditation Group	4:00 p.m.	Parlor
Scrabble Club	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Friday, June 8		
Voices on the Green	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Saturday, June 9		
Memorial Service	11:00 a.m.	Sanctuary
Munroe Saturday Night	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Sunday, June 10		
Flower Communion Worship Service	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Gun Violence Prevention Rally	1:00 p.m.	Battle Green
SHYG	7:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Lexington#Enough	7:00 p.m.	Common Room
Monday, June 11		
Staff Meeting	11:00 a.m.	Minister's Office
Tuesday, June 12		
Staff Luncheon	11:30 a.m.	Offsite
Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Green Room
Empty Sky Sangha	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Wednesday, June 13		
80+ Luncheon	1:30 p.m.	Parlor

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

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First Parish in Lexington
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Weekly Update submissions are due on Tuesdays at 9:00 am.
*Please email submissions or inquiries to **admin@fplex.org**.*

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