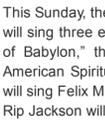




Weekly Update Wednesday, January 9, 2019 First Parish in Lexington

Worship Service at 10:30 AM Sunday, January 13, 2019

"Sing Life into Broken Wings"



Being homeless as a youth is a terribly challenging thing, especially when 40% of those youth identify as LGBTQ. For many of them, the religion of their parents has caused them to leave home. Alana Martel will be our special guest to help us understand the work of the Boston Alliance of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Youth as we take a special collection to support these youth.

This Sunday, the sanctuary choir, joined by drummers Jordan, McKenna and Regie O'Hare Gibson will sing three energetic songs from the African Diaspora: the passionate rastafarian song "Rivers of Babylon," the Soweto Gospel Choir arrangement of "Khumbaya" and the hopeful African American Spiritual "Turn Me Round," with soloists Elizabeth Walsh and Austin Burns. Julia Jaffe will sing Felix Mendelssohn's lyrical aria "O Rest in the Lord" (from *Elijah*). For the centering music, Rip Jackson will play Louis Marchand's meditative "Récit de Nasard" (from *Grand Suite in C Major*).

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

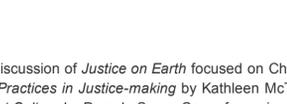
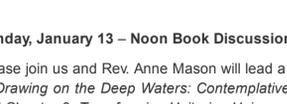
Memorial Service for John Nickles

The family of John Nickles invites all to the memorial service to honor and celebrate John's life, which takes place this **Saturday, January 12th at 2:00pm** at First Parish. A reception will follow.

First Parish Picture Directory Project

This is the Sunday: During social hour, after you've had a chance to grab a snack and beverage, come to the parlor to give us your best pictures for the **First Parish Picture Directory**.

As mentioned in previous Weekly Updates, we are adding family pictures to our online church parish directory (accessible in the protected portion of our church website). We hope that you caught a good family picture over the holidays. We are also looking for individual pictures of the members of your family. Your family and individual pictures can be on your smart phone or we can snap pictures on the spot in the parlor. Please look for us at the balloon-festooned Welcome kiosk that will be located in the corner of the parish hall near the parlor. There we can give you more information about the picture directory and point you into the parlor to collect your existing pictures — or take new pictures. There will be other opportunities on future Sundays, but be the first on your block *this Sunday!*



Climate Action Team

A Planet for the Children Initiative 2019

Sunday, January 13 – Noon Book Discussion

Please join us and Rev. Anne Mason will lead a discussion of *Justice on Earth* focused on Chapter 7, *Drawing on the Deep Waters: Contemplative Practices in Justice-making* by Kathleen McTigue and Chapter 8, *Transforming Unitarian Universalist Culture* by Pamela Sparr. Come for an inspiring discussion whether you have read the book or not.



Sunday, January 20 @ 12:00pm
Prof. Gilbert Metcalf, author of *Paying for Pollution: Why a Carbon Tax is Good for America*

The United States is the second largest carbon emitting country in the world and should play a key role in global efforts to reduce emissions.

Paying for Pollution incisively examines the very real costs-economic and social-of climate change and the challenges of concerted action to reduce future losses due to damages of higher temperatures and more extreme weather.

All are welcome to join us for a reading and discussion.

Winter Gear Donation Drive

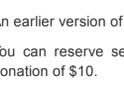
As part of Lexington's MLK Day of Service, First Parish's partner LexPride is collecting donations for homeless and at-risk LGBTQ+ youth and young adults (all adult sizes). Please consider donating:



- Winter gear (coats, hats, scarves, gloves, thermal socks, warm shoes/boots)
- Warm clothing
- Hand and toe warmers
- Gift cards and Charlie cards

There is a donation bin located next to the rear entry of the church, so you can bring your donations there **any time between now and MLK day**. On MLK Day (Monday, January 21, 2-4pm), we will sort the donations and decorate cookies to deliver to Youth On Fire and other safe spaces. To sign up for that activity, and to see the full lineup of MLK activities, please visit: <https://www.lexingtonmlk.org>

Unity Group Luncheon

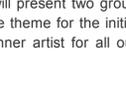


All are welcome to the monthly luncheon of the Unity Group on **Monday, January 14th at 12:00pm**. This month is the annual book exchange. Please bring a favorite book to swap! Bring your own lunch. If your last name begins with S, T, U or V, please bring a dessert to share.

"Since What We Choose" — A Course on Ethics

Last chance to sign up!

Offered by Rev. Anne Mason



Thursdays, January 17, 24, 31, and February 7, 2:30-4:00pm

In this four-week course, Rev. Anne will offer an opportunity to examine ethical concepts, work through ethical dilemmas as presented in exercises, identify areas for further questions and exploration, and perhaps more fully embrace ethical positions we reach through careful discernment. This curriculum is taken from the ten-week UUA Tapestry of Faith program, the rest of which we could offer at another time.

Please sign up at the piano during social hour, or online at www.bit.ly/WhatWeChoose.

Play Reading: Don Cohen's The Intimacy Project



At 7:30 pm on **Saturday, January 19**, the Munroe Saturday Nights performance series will present a professional staged reading of First Parish member Don Cohen's play, *The Intimacy Project*, in the sanctuary.

In this new comedy, Professor C.J. Jacob is so obsessed with his work on personal relationships that he ignores his wife, his daughter, and the dean of his college, rejecting their efforts to help him. It's up to his loopy, energetic, funny, compassionate wife to save him from himself and ensure that things (sort of) work out for everyone.

An earlier version of the play was presented by the North Shore Readers Theater in October.

You can reserve seats at www.munroecenter.org. The performance is free, with a suggested donation of \$10.

POSSIBILITY: Open Call for FP Art

Help us launch a new program to brighten First Parish with art.

Over the next several months, First Parish's newly-formed Art Committee will present two group art exhibits in Parish Hall, each loosely based on Souls Mattering themes. The theme for the initial show is **Possibility**. Let us know how "possible" it will be to share your inner artist for all our community to see and enjoy.

Here are a few specifics:

Who: Adult Members and Friends of First Parish are encouraged to participate. (We will have a Children's Art show in the near future)

What: 1 piece of your own 2D artwork (two if space allows) that is framed, wired, and ready to hang.

When: **Sunday, January 20 through Sunday, March 17, 2019**

- (1) Drop off art in Parish Hall on Sunday, January 13 before or after Sunday Services and Social Hour, or Monday, January 14 9am - 4pm.
- (2) *Possibility* will open on Sunday, Jan 20. Opening Reception will be on Sunday, January 27.
- (3) Show will end on Sunday, March 17. Artists can pick up their work at the end of Social Hour on Sunday, March 17 or Monday, March 18 between 9am and 4pm.

Our priority is to have wide participation, so show us your support with a piece that is 10 years old or 10 minutes old.

Questions, comments? Contact [Carolyn Fleiss](mailto:Carolyn.Fleiss@firstparish.org) or [Margie Gibbons](mailto:Margie.Gibbons@firstparish.org), curating team for Possibilities or [Maureen Bovee](mailto:Maureen.Bovee@firstparish.org), chair of the Art Committee

Voices on the Green

THIS MONTH'S THEME:

Secrets & Lies

Friday, Jan 25th, 7-9PM
First Parish UU Church
7 Harrington Rd, Lexington Green

SPEAKERS:
Brian Herrick, Len Morse-Fortier, Susan Cohn-Child, Jim Shaw, Suzanne Adams, Erik Butler, Anne Mason, and Emcee Regie O'Hare-Gibson

MUSICAL GUEST:
Elizabeth Walsh

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM:
Marlon Carey

Enjoy drinks & refreshments starting at 6:30PM

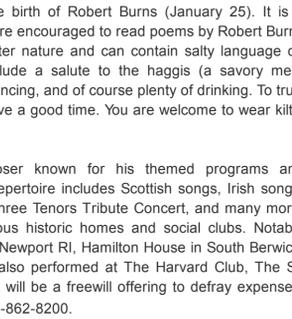
VOICES ON THE GREEN

"The vibrancy in the room was palpable."
"Inspiring, a complete triumph!"
"The perfect blend of engagement and entertainment."

SUGGESTED DONATION:
\$20 Donor, \$10 General, \$5 Young Adults & Children
VoicesOnTheGreen.BrownPaperTickets.com

Austin Burns in Concert

Come celebrate the New Year and your Scottish heritage with New England's premier tenor, Austin Burns and special guest Allison Flanagan on **Sunday, January 27th at 3:00pm**. Settle in for a rollicking night dedicated to Scotland's beloved poet Robert Burns who first discovered and transcribed the famous New Year's song, "Auld Lang Syne!" Sets will include songs about the beautiful countryside, wild men like Burns himself, some toe tappers, and sweet ballads. The arrangements featured are by Maureen McMullan (professor at Berkeley), Arthur Foote, Franz Haydn, and Austin Burns. What is Burns Night? Burns night is an annual tradition celebrated around the world with various throughout the month of January to celebrate the birth of Robert Burns (January 25). It is a celebration of Scottish heritage where participants are encouraged to read poems by Robert Burns and other authors. The poems are often of a lighter nature and can contain salty language on rather bawdy subjects. The celebrations also include a salute to the haggis (a savory meat pudding) listening to a bagpiper, dressing in kilts, dancing, and of course plenty of drinking. To truly celebrate Burns night, please come prepared to have a good time. You are welcome to wear kilts, tartan colors, and dancing shoes!



Austin Burns is a tenor, arranger, and composer known for his themed programs and conversational performance style. His expanding repertoire includes Scottish songs, Irish songs, Neapolitan songs, songs from the Gilded Age, A Three Tenors Tribute Concert, and many more. Austin performs throughout New England at various historic homes and social clubs. Notable performances include concerts at Marble House in Newport RI, Hamilton House in South Berwick, ME., and Eustis House in Milton, MA. Austin has also performed at The Harvard Club, The St. Botolph Club, and the Boston Public Library. There will be a freewill offering to defray expenses. For more information, visit www.fplex.org or call 781-862-8200.

Mission Workshop



"There is no power greater than a community discovering what it cares about."
~Margaret Wheatley

One of the greatest things about being a part of a community of faith is the opportunity to meet together and focus in on the important aspects of our life together. You are invited to join with Rev. Anne to do just that on **Sunday, February 3rd from 12:00 - 1:30**.

Together we will examine the results of the Imagination Cafe and distill what they reveal about who we are and how we want to show up in our wider community. We will talk about what is most important to us as members of this church, and what this church has meant over the years. We will explore together what we might dream about and what that says about who we are. And we will select some important words to express this shared vision of who we are. Then we will send our words to a group of "word-smiths" who will create a new mission statement for First Parish. The Board will review this statement, and we will bring it back to you all for discussion and, finally, a vote.

Please RSVP to the church office. A light luncheon will be served. Please let us know if you will need childcare.

The Board's Board

You are invited to stop by the Board's new bulletin board space in Parish Hall (just through the back doorway on the right). Here are posted Board meeting minutes; programming notes; minutes from the Ops Team meetings; and notices of coming events.

This bulletin board is one result from our Imagination Cafes in which folks asked for more transparency about what's going on. We hope this helps.

Come see what's up. Questions? Comments? Contact [Marty Kvaal](mailto:Marty.Kvaal@firstparish.org), Clerk.

The UU Urban Ministry and Roxbury Cultural Network present:

We Who Believe in Freedom A Reading Series with Mimi Jones



Community Supper and Facilitated Reading
Tuesday, February 12, at 6:00 pm

featuring selections from
**Dorothy Height's
Open Wide the Freedom Gates**

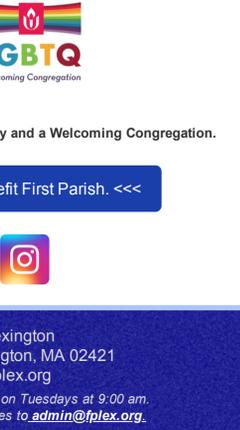
in conjunction with
**Dr. Carter G. Woodson's
Mis-Education of the Negro**

The UU Urban Ministry is pleased to welcome long-time Roxbury resident, community organizer, and Civil Rights veteran Mimi Jones to facilitate a community reading series that especially focuses on works by influential women.

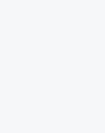
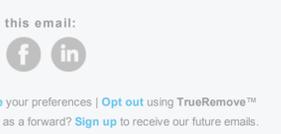
These moving readings—with audience participation—will be followed by a conversation about the authors' words, their place in history, and their relevance today.

Event is free. A hearty reception will be provided and there will be an opportunity to meet Mass Humanities' new Executive Director, Brian Boyles. Please join us!

And save the date for the final event in this series on May 14, 2019.



This event has been made possible through generous support from:



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

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

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