



Weekly Update Wednesday, April 17, 2019 First Parish in Lexington

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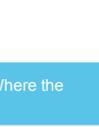
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Worship Service at 10:30 AM

Sunday, April 21, 2019

Easter Service

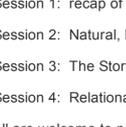
Come and celebrate Easter with a family friendly service. Leaders Rev. Anne Mason and Lisa Maria Steinberg will explore the themes of love and what makes us "real" through story, song and reflection.



On this festive Easter Sunday, the sanctuary and children's choir, brass quartet, organist and percussionists will present joyful music during worship. The Sanctuary choir will sing Handel's exuberant "Hallelujah, Amen" (from *Judas Maccabaeus*) and Vivaldi's energetic "Gloria" (first movement from *Gloria*). The First Parish children's choir will sing Susan's Farrar spirited "Song of Joy" based on Beethoven's "Ode to Joy." The brass quartet (Andrew Harms and Erik Warme, trumpets; Erik Svenson, horn; Rick Copeland, trombone) and organist Rip Jackson will play French Baroque composer Jean-Joseph Mouret's "Fanfare in D Major." They will be joined by percussionists Jordan and McKenna O'Hare Gibson in presenting Mark Schweitzer's amazing arrangement of "St. Andrew's Processional."

This is an all-ages service.

Frontiers of Cosmology: Mapping the Universe



This Thursday! First Parish welcomes Dr. Daniel Eisenstein, Professor of Astronomy at Harvard University, to discuss current topics in cosmology from a theoretical and experimental perspective. There will be a visual presentation to go along with the discussion which you won't want to miss!

Thursday, April 18th at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary. All ages welcome. Free admission. Contact [Don Yansen](#).

What We Choose:

Ethics for Unitarian Universalists

Please join Rev. Anne for this 4-session ethics course on the Thursday evenings of **April 25, May 2, May 9, and May 16 from 7 - 8:30 pm.**

Session 1: recap of our first four classes

Session 2: Natural, Legal, and Human Rights

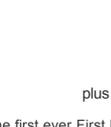
Session 3: The Story of Our Lives: Narrative Ethics

Session 4: Relational Ethics

All are welcome to participate even if you didn't attend the fall sessions. For further information and to sign up for the course, contact [Dave Horton](#).

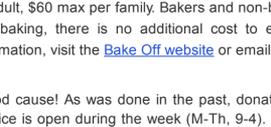


UU Urban Ministry Walking Tour



The **UU Urban Ministry** invites you to a special historical tour of the John Eliot Square neighborhood in Roxbury on **Saturday, April 27th at 2:00pm.** Join UUUM's Roxbury Youth Program tour guides to learn about the rich history of the First Church in Roxbury and surrounding area. To sign up, go to [bit.ly/UUUMSpringTours](#)

The Great First Parish Bake-Off



SATURDAY, MAY 4th, 2:00-5:00 pm
BAKING CONTEST FOR ALL AGES

plus games, raffles, food, craft beer, and artisan and jewelry tables

The first ever First Parish Bake Off is coming! Desserts of all kinds: to bring, to taste, to buy. Whip up your favorite delight and enter it into the contest. Tastings for all; judging by some; prizes for all kids and best in show for each category. Bake Off entrants can be children, adults, and child/adult teams. **You can enter the baking contest until April 27th** Just fill out the [entry form](#) or email bakeoff@fplex.org. Tickets will be available at the door, during social hour, or at the church office -- \$10 per child, \$20 per adult, \$60 max per family. Bakers and non-bakers must purchase tickets for the event. If you are baking, there is no additional cost to enter your delectable in the competition. For more information, visit the [Bake Off website](#) or email bakeoff@fplex.org.

Jewelry Sale!

Bring your jewels for a good cause! As was done in the past, donations will be accepted during social hour or when the office is open during the week (M-Th, 9-4). Let's make this a great sale! The Jewelry Team: Carolyn, Linda, Mary, Ann, Lee, Meg, and Mouna

Boutique!

A NEW addition will be a boutique featuring crafts made by our many skilled FP artisans. To all **crafters:** needle workers, beadars, woodworkers, collage makers, sketchers, painters, potters, etc., please consider donating a small item you have made (or can make by May 4th). Email [Joanne Poage](mailto:Joanne.Poage).

If you have been saving items to donate to Mayfair, please consider donating to these two organizations that accept a wide variety of donations:

[HouseHold Goods](#) in Acton and [Restoration Project](#) in Belmont.

Ferry Beach Registration Now Open

It's Ferry Beach time! Visit the the [Ferry Beach Web pages](#) to find out more about this wonderful family friendly weekend! Watch the Slide Show!



The First Parish Churches of Lexington and Concord join together in celebrating our UU communities and the Memorial Day Weekend, May 24th through 27th, with a wonderful, family-friendly weekend at the Ferry Beach Camp and Conference Center in Saco, Maine. For those of you who have never been to this weekend – we warmly encourage you to register and enjoy yourself, accommodated in either the Ferry Beach housing facilities or at the lovely Grove campground.

Members of the Lexington Ferry Beach committee can help fill you in on details – see Elisabeth Jas, Jim Slack, Jill French, Deb and Ben Soule or some of the many other Beachers who are regulars: Erik Svenson, Chris Hess, Elizabeth Walsh and Bill Scott, among others. **Registration for the Ferry Beach weekend (May 24th – May 27th), is ongoing until April 28th.**

There are two methods to register for Ferry Beach; **online is preferred**

(1) Get all the information and a link to all the needed forms for registration on the [Ferry Beach Web pages](#) and an ONLINE PAYMENT option too!

(2) Printed copies of the forms are available at the PIANO or in the CHURCH OFFICE. These after filling out these forms, send SCANNED copies to Elisabeth Jas (elisjas@outlook.com).

Rain or Shine, the beach, the croquet courses, the talent show, board games, puzzles, marsh mellow campfire and MORE are waiting for you at Ferry Beach.

Hope to see you there,

Ferry Beach Registration Team – Elisabeth Jas and Deb Weiner Soule

Good Samaritan Fund Deadline April 30th

Due to the generosity of Bruce and Eva Gordon, we will again be asking for applications to the Good Samaritan Fund. If you know of anyone with a personal hardship or in need of a truly life-changing award, please encourage them to apply. [Details can be found on the First Parish website.](#) This year, **our application deadline is April 30** with awards anticipated approximately one month later. The application can be downloaded from our website. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Elaine. THANK YOU!

Voices on the Green - My Best Mistake

Mistakes were made:

- Getting a "C" in physics
- Never finishing a doctoral thesis
- Being in a car accident
- Joining a prestigious law firm
- Going scuba diving
- Entering the wrong house, on the wrong day, in India



But who made them? And why were they "best" mistakes?

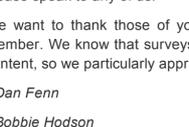
Come hear these and other personal stories from Rip Jackson, Don Cohen, Rebecca O'Brien, Jay Kaufman, Maura Redmund, Jim Poage, and Marsha Fox.

And, as special performers for this all-ages evening: The stars of our own Children's Choir!

Friday, May 10th.

Tickets on sale [online here](#), after church services, in the church office during the week, and if available, at the door. Doors open at 6:30 for refreshments and conversation, and the program for people of all ages starts at 7:00 in the sanctuary. We hope to see you there!

Intergenerational Mother's Day Walk for Peace



First Parish is joining with Follen Community Church and our partners LexPride and #Enough to do an important Social Justice event. Together we will participate in the Louis D Brown (LDB) Institute's Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace on **Sunday, May 12th.** This is a pledge walk that will benefit the excellent work LDB does in helping victims of gun violence.

The walk is held on the morning of Mother's Day. You can begin either at Field's Corner in Dorchester or at Madison Park High School in Roxbury. The walk ends at City Hall Plaza in Boston. We are organizing a bus that will take walkers from Lexington to the Madison Park starting point and from City Hall Plaza back to Lexington.

You can register to walk directly on the [First Parish in Lexington and Friends page and click on the Register to Walk button.](#) We are asked to give at least \$10 per person to participate in the walk.

You can find out about the bus and sign up here: <https://www.signnugenius.com/go/30e0444adac2fa75-ride>.

Please contact [Rev. Anne](#) or [Carolyn Fleiss](#) for more information.

Green Action Corner

A Planet for the Children Initiative 2019

Thanks to the efforts of the Climate Action Team, First Parish is beginning a new initiative to increase composting and recycling at the church, while decreasing items that go in the landfill.



Beginning this week, there will be 3-stream recycling stations in Parish Hall, Parker Hall, and the kitchen. Each bin is marked for their use, and signs will be placed above each so it is clear what will go in which bin.

These efforts by CAT are just the beginning. In order for First Parish to have a successful composting and recycling program, we *need everyone to participate!* Please make every effort to use washable dishes and utensils and pay attention to the signs above the bins.

Let's cut back on waste, increase what we compost, and decrease our carbon footprint!

Questions? Contact [Dave Pollack](#).



UU Ministry for Earth's 2019 *Spring for Change: a Season of Sacred Activism* features a special collection of worship resources by Stephen Shick. These poems, prayers, and meditations are presented to help sustain your work for climate justice and can be found at <https://www.uumfe.org/spring-for-change-resources/>

The Climate Action Team wishes to thank the many contributors for the success of our delicious potluck last Sunday, not only did we enjoy many and varied dishes, but we also made our beautiful earth a bit healthier by going meatless. When Rip Jackson spoke of his becoming a vegan, he reminded us that eating vegetarian/vegan also makes each of us healthier. Our thanks to the chefs, the helpers, and all those who made the meal a memorable community event.

A Big Thank You to all Staff Feedback Form Respondents

Kudos to everyone who responded to the Staff Feedback Form, whether online or in print. The Ministerial Support Committee received 41 responses from the congregation, and they were responsive to the questions mentioned for each staff member.

Rev. Anne is finding your feedback very helpful as she evaluates the rest of the staff. And your feedback to Anne is helpful to her. Her evaluation will be done on a biennial basis.

If you have any comments or suggestions about how this process might be improved next year, please speak to any of us.

We want to thank those of you who responded for your open, direct feedback on each staff member. We know that surveys are not usually seen as "fun" documents to fill out, whatever the content, so we particularly appreciate those who took the time to thoughtfully reflect and respond.

- Dan Fenn
- Bobbie Hodson
- Pete Tasker
- Lee Jeffers Brami

Soul Matters for April - Wholeness

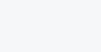
April's Soul Matters theme is "What does it mean to be a piece of wholeness?" It asks us to look at the broken parts of our lives "not as pieces of a puzzle that needs put perfectly back together, but building blocks waiting to be molded into a yet to be imagined form. To be made whole again is to be reorganized, not restored.



"Another way to put this is to say that there is freedom in the breaking. The cracks make room for creativity. That's not to minimize the pain. And it's certainly not a way of justifying tragedy as 'part of God's plan.' Rather, it's a call for us to perceive the broken pieces of our lives as more than just a pile of worthless and ruined rubble." What piles of rubble in your life need revisiting and reorganizing? Who taught you that wholeness does not mean perfection?

This Week at First Parish

Wednesday, April 17th		
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Master Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Thursday, April 18th		
Soul Matters group	1:00 p.m.	Common Room
Meditation Group	4:00 p.m.	Parlor
Frontiers in Cosmology Presentation	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Scrabble Club	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Friday, April 19th		
LYFS Executive Team Meeting	1:00 p.m.	Green Room
Lex Pride teen drop-in	5:00 p.m.	Green Room
Saturday, April 20th		
ABCL teen meeting	1:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Sunday, April 21st		
Easter Service	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Monday, April 22nd		
Staff Meeting	11:00 a.m.	Minister's Office
Deborah Abel Dance Class	3:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Chalice Circle group	7:00 p.m.	Parlor
Lexington Says #Enough	8:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Tuesday, April 23rd		
LexRAP Dinner Committee Meeting	1:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Family Ministry class	4:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Deborah Abel Dance class	4:00 p.m.	Parish Hall
Empty Sky Sangha	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Wednesday, April 24th		
LYFS Meeting	8:30 a.m.	Green Room
Deborah Abel Dance Class	1:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Chalice Circle group	2:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Spanish Academy	4:00 p.m.	Staples Hall & Yellow Room
LYFS Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Green Room
LexRAP Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Common Room
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Master Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall



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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