



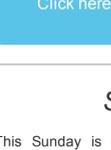
# Weekly Update Wednesday, April 24, 2019 First Parish in Lexington

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### Worship Service at 10:30 AM Sunday, April 28, 2019

#### "Lessons of our Global Faith"



Ever wonder what our faith looks like around the world? Did you even know Unitarian Universalism exists outside North America and Transylvania? Well, our diverse, vibrant, global faith has a lot to offer and teach us if we are willing to listen.

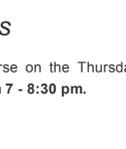
This Sunday we welcome Rev. Sara Ascher, who has been a Unitarian Universalist her entire life. After graduating from Andover Newton Theological School in 2000 with a Masters of Divinity she spent the next 16 years serving UU congregations in the United States. She now works with our global faith community as the Executive Director of the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists (ICUU).

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

[Click here to listen to last week's Easter Reflection and Prayer by Rev. Anne Mason](#)

### Special Plate Collection this Sunday

This Sunday is our special plate collection, when all non-designated donations taken during the offertory are given to a local organization. We will welcome Carol and Bob Caravana, representing this month's recipient, Greater Boston PFLAG. They are the facilitators of the monthly support group hosted by First Parish that draws parents of LGBTQ people from Lexington and beyond.



Greater Boston PFLAG includes parents, families, friends, and LGBTQ people who together help change attitudes and create an environment of understanding so that everyone can live in a world that is safe and inclusive. GBPFLAG's many initiatives include a parent helpline as well as facilitated support groups. These groups meet once or twice a month, are run by trained volunteers (most of whom are parents themselves), and are filled with people who can offer support, answer questions, and links to resources.

While much of the work is volunteer driven, GBPFLAG has a paid staff that provides administrative resources and advocates for LGBTQ rights. They are grateful that First Parish's donation will support this valuable work.

### 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

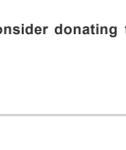
Session 3: The Story of Our Lives: Narrative Ethics

Session 4: Relational Ethics

All are welcome to participate even if you didn't attend the fall sessions. There's still time 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](http://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 Saturday, April 27th** Just fill out the [entry form](#) or email [bakeoff@fplex.org](mailto: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](mailto:bakeoff@fplex.org).

#### Don't miss the Jewelry Sale and Boutique!

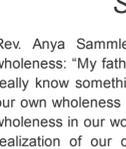
Jewelry donations will be accepted during social hour this Sunday or when the office is open during the week. Let's make this a great sale! Contact [Carolyn Fleiss](#) for more info.

If you are an artisan and have needlework, beading, woodwork, collages, sketches, paintings, pottery, etc. to donate, please email [Joanne Peage](#).

**AND, 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.

### First Parish Picture Directory



Take a look at the "April 2019 Picture Directory" that can be found on the "Members" page of the First Parish website! There you will find family and individual photos of members of the congregation who have had their photos taken either by the Picture Directory Team or sent to the team via [pictures@fplex.org](mailto:pictures@fplex.org), the special email address created for this purpose, that remains open for business. Have any photos from Easter Sunday? They just might be perfect for the directory!

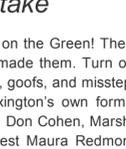
The next opportunity to have photos taken at the church by the team will be next **Sunday, April 28th**, in the Common Room during Social Hour. Don't be left out! Come on in and have your family or individual photo taken! This could be the last time for a while that the team will be taking photos, although you may continue to send them for the directory at the email address above.

The team will welcome you in the Common Room or will be happy to receive your photos via email!

Dave Horton,  
Members and Friends Committee

### Ferry Beach Registration Now Open

It's Ferry Beach time! Visit 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. 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.

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 is ongoing until April 28th.**

There are two methods to register for Ferry Beach: **online is preferred.** Get all the information and a link to all the needed forms for registration on the [Ferry Beach Web pages](#).

Printed copies of the forms are available at the PIANO or in the CHURCH OFFICE. After filling out these forms, send SCANNED copies to Elisabeth Jas ([elisjas@outlook.com](mailto:elisjas@outlook.com)).

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 Hylek](#). THANK YOU!

### Soul Matters for April - Wholeness

Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael broadens April's Soul Matters theme of wholeness: "My father is a professor and I learned from him that you don't really know something until you teach it to another. We don't really know our own wholeness until we see the wholeness of another or work to serve wholeness in our world. Wholeness, a sense of our own fullness, a spiritual realization of our own strength and beauty, is given when we give of ourselves... We heal our own aches by healing the aches in others. We put back the pieces of our own souls by helping others redeem their own wholeness."



Is wholeness for you a solitary or a relational journey?

### News from the Board

On **Sunday, May 5th**, the Board will be prepared to present the current iteration of the church budget for the 2019-2020 church year. Please come after the service to hear more about our current budget and the choices we are facing for the new year. You will be invited to share your thoughts on how we should allocate funds to live out our values, and these thoughts will be taken into advisement by the Board as we finalize our decisions for the budget.

Our annual pledge drive was very successful, and the money raised was adequate to keep us at a level budget. The Board recognizes that our congregation is expanding, which creates a need for additional staffing support. Funding this support stretches us beyond the current results of our pledge drive, and we invite your participation in this discussion. On May 5, grab a mug of coffee and a few small bites after the service, and come to Parker Hall to participate in discussion as we consider our many exciting options!

### Voices on the Green - My Best Mistake



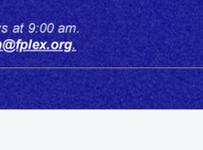
DON'T MAKE THE MISTAKE of missing our next Voices on the Green! There are better mistakes to make, and our storytellers have made them. Turn out on **Friday, May 10th** to hear them describe their slip-ups, goofs, and missteps as they detoured to a different destiny. Featuring Lexington's own former State Rep, Jay Kaufman, First Parish's own Rip Jackson, Don Cohen, Marsha Fox, Jim Poage, and Rebecca O'Brien, and special guest Maurea Redmond from [Lexington's Douglas House for brain-injured adults](#). A portion of the proceeds from the evening will benefit Douglas House.

This Voices on the Green is a special All Ages evening of storytelling and song, with music provided by Rip Jackson and the First Parish Children's Choir.

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 family 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](#). There is a registration fee of \$10, and donations are encouraged to raise \$100 for the walk.

You can find out about the bus and sign up here: <https://www.signuppenius.com/go/30e044adac2fa75-ride>.

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

### Save the Dates! Buy the Book!



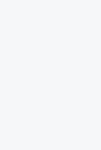
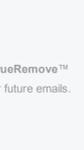
Come join us on **three Sundays in June**: June 2nd, June 9th, and June 16th, from 9-10:15am. Debbie Armstrong and Lee Jeffers Brami will be facilitating an open-ended, interactive discussion of *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*, by Robin DiAngelo.

DiAngelo illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility: the defensive moves that white people, however well intentioned, make when challenged racially. It is characterized by emotions such as anger, guilt, and fear, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence, which serve to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. Our discussions will be held under a strict Covenant of Confidentiality, and we will be meeting in the Green Room.

Buy the book now! It's available in paperback at [Beacon Press](#), the UUA publishing company or through Amazon. You can let either [Debbie Armstrong](#) or [Lee Jeffers Brami](#) know if you're planning to participate, or you can just come.

### This Week at First Parish

<b>Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup></b>		
Deborah Abel Dance Class	1:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Spanish Academy	4:30 p.m.	Staples Hall & Yellow Room
LYFS Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Green Room
LexRAP Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Common Room
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Master Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
<b>Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup></b>		
Meditation Group	4:00 p.m.	Parlor
LYFS – Sources of Strength	6:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Ethics Course	7:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Scrabble Club	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Nonfiction Book Club	7:30 p.m.	Parlor
<b>Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup></b>		
LYFS Executive Team Meeting	1:00 p.m.	Green Room
Lex Pride teen drop-in	5:00 p.m.	Green Room
<b>Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup></b>		
Munroe Saturday Night	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
<b>Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup></b>		
Choir warm-up	9:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Worship Service	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Meet with Sara Ascher/ICUU	11:30 a.m.	Parlor
Picture Taking for Directory	11:30 a.m.	Common Room
Coming of Age	11:45 a.m.	Robinson Hall
Children's Choir rehearsal	11:45 a.m.	Yellow Room
OWL class	3:00 p.m.	Parker Hall & Robinson Hall
SHYG meeting	7:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
<b>Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup></b>		
Deborah Abel Dance Class	5:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
<b>Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup></b>		
Deborah Abel Dance class	4:00 p.m.	Parish Hall
Empty Sky Sangha	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
<b>Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup></b>		
Creative Callings	1:30 p.m.	Parlor
Deborah Abel Dance Class	1:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Spanish Academy	4:00 p.m.	Staples Hall & Yellow Room
UU Collaborative	7:00 p.m.	Common Room
Master Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall



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First Parish in Lexington,  
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Please email submissions or inquiries to [admin@fplex.org](mailto:admin@fplex.org).

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