



Weekly Update Wednesday, May 8, 2019 First Parish in Lexington

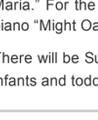
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Worship Service at 10:30 AM

Sunday, May 12, 2019

"The Great Mother"



This Sunday, Rev. Anne will share reflections on motherhood from many sources, including the writing of Dr. Janice Marie Johnson, Rev. Qiyamah Rahman, and Lindasusan Ulrich. For motherhood is central to our love for Mother Earth, for the Divine Mother, and for our earthly mothers.

The sanctuary choir will sing Frank Ticheli's beautiful a capella "Earth Song" and William Dawson's poignant arrangement of the spiritual "There is a Balm," with soloist Elizabeth Walsh. Julia Jaffe will sing Franz Schubert's passionate "Ave Maria." For the postlude and centering music, Rip Jackson will play his original compositions for piano "Might Oaks" and "New England Marshlands."

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

Important! Email Scam

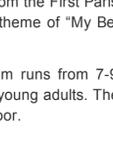
The UUA has learned that a number of congregations have been hit with an email scam. It involves making a fake Gmail account in the minister's name, and then sending a request for gift cards allegedly from that minister to the congregation's directory. Apparently when you send the gift card it gets cashed by the scammer.

Please know that any message coming from Rev. Anne to the congregation will come from her email address: minister@plex.org. She will never ask for gift cards or any other kind of surprise donation through email. If you receive any suspicious notifications from anyone claiming to be from First Parish, please alert Jane Foley in the church office.

You may read about this scam here: <http://ow.ly/U8q130oD6ms>

Voices on the Green - Before They Were Stars!

Paul Brouillette just won The Moth's Story Slam in Boston and thus joins Suzanne Adams as Voices on the Green alums who have won fame and fortune (or at least fame) as star storytellers in our region. Both Paul and Suzanne got their start as storytellers in Voices on the Green and went on to win contests with the stories that they first told in our venue. Who's next?



This **Friday, May 10th**, seven new storytellers will tell personal stories about their "Best Mistake." Come see these new potential stars performing live onstage in what has become the Lexington area's premier storytelling venue.

And you may also discover a future singing star this Friday. Talented singers from the First Parish Children's choir will provide the music for the evening, all live and all on the theme of "My Best Mistake." Come see them before they are all grown up and famous.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for refreshment and conversation, and the program runs from 7-9. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$20 for sponsors, and \$5 for children and young adults. They are available at <https://voicesonthegreen.brownpapertickets.com/>, and at the door.

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

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

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

Are You in the Picture (Directory)?

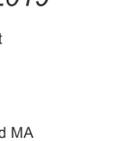
The "picture studio" for the FP Picture Directory is closed. Over 140 pictures were taken in the studio or emailed to pictures@plex.org. The current version is posted on the Members page of the church website. We have current pictures for about **half** of our 220 families/couples/singles and pictures taken in 2014 for another 25 families. Check it out. Are you or your family in the picture? The April 2019 Picture Directory??

The advantage of the online directory is that we can continue to update it to reflect changes in our congregation. However, we have had a number of requests that we have some printed directories. We'd like to include as many people as possible before we contract for printed copies since they will not be kept up to date. We will still be collecting your family pictures (families, couples, or singles) via email to pictures@plex.org 24 hours a day. And, to give you all a couple of last-minute chances, we will start experimenting with taking couples and singles pictures at the Welcome kiosk this coming **Sunday, May 12th**.

Check out the online directory right now while you're here at your computer, and then email your recent vacation picture! Or, if we haven't heard from you by this Sunday, come to the **Welcome kiosk**. [Questions? Call or text Pete Tasker.]

Unity Group Luncheon

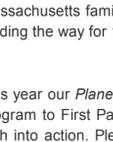
All are welcome to the next Unity Group Luncheon on **Monday, May 13th** at 12:00pm. This will be a catered lunch paid for from our treasury, so we will need to know how many people will be coming. Please email [Margaret Brooke](mailto:MargaretBrooke) to make a reservation.



This month's program will feature a hawk handler from the Audubon Society, who will tell us all the things we didn't know about these beautiful, majestic birds.

Green Action Corner

A Planet for the Children Initiative 2019



Mass Power Forward: Organizing and Education Event

Take Action for Climate justice in Massachusetts!

When: **Wednesday, May 15th**, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Where: First Parish in Bedford, 75 Great Road, Bedford MA

- Learn about the Mass Power Forward Coalition
- Understand the central role of climate justice as we build our 100% clean, renewable energy future together
- Review campaign outcome priorities and the bills that will help us achieve these outcomes
- Organize and engage in local action!

To join other First Parish Lexington member attending this event contact Stephen Shick stephenshick04@gmail.com

MPF is a broad-based coalition of environmental leaders, community development organizations, clean energy businesses, faith groups, neighborhood health and safety advocates and Massachusetts families fighting for our future. Our UU Mass Action is part of this coalition that is leading the way for 100% renewable energy in the state.

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This year our *Planet for the Children* initiative has brought engaging action, education, legislative program to First Parish. Climate change is not going away and neither is our resolve to put our faith into action. Please join us in the parlor on **Sunday, May 19th** at Noon to plan next year's Climate Action Initiatives.

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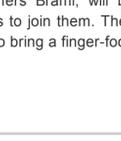
Climate Action Team

Action and Education Display

Outside of Parker Hall you will find CAT resources to help you take action on climate change. Among other items there are copies of *Paying for Pollution*, by Gilbert Metcalf you can borrow. Earlier this spring Dr. Metcalf was a featured presenter for a well-attended Green Action Forum.

First Parish to Visit the UU Urban Ministry

All are welcome to join the First Parish delegates on **Thursday, May 16th** at 6:00pm to the UU Urban Ministry's annual meeting at the First Church in Roxbury.

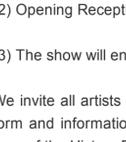


Dozens of delegates from all over the Greater Boston area will be attending, and Rev. Mary Margaret Earl, the Senior Minister of UUUM, invited us to greet the delegates. It should be a wonderful opportunity to meet other UUs and the staff, and also to learn more about work being done at the Urban Ministry.

Our delegates, Connee Counts, Lew Counts, Elaine Hylek, and Lee Jeffers Bami, will be carpooling from First Parish at 5pm, and they invite all First Parish members to join them. They will bring small finger-food cupcakes for dessert, but anyone else who wants to bring a finger-food dessert is more than welcome. Email.Lee if you would like to join them.

It promises to be a lively evening! [Click here to learn more about the UUUM](#).

Calling All Artists



The next art show in our Parish Hall Gallery will open in June and will be motivated by the theme of "Beauty". Here are a few specifics:

Who: Adult Members and Friends of First Parish are encouraged to participate.

What: One or two pieces of your own 2D artwork (as space allows) that is framed, wired, and ready to hang.

When: Sunday, June 2nd through Sunday, September 1st

(1) **Drop off** art at the church office the week of **Monday, May 20th through Thursday, May 23rd** between 9am and 4pm (or by special arrangement).

(2) Opening Reception will be on Sunday, June 9th at 4:00pm.

(3) The show will end on September 1st.

We invite all artists who would like their work included (any medium) to fill out an artist's release form of the History Room, sheet which can be picked up at the church office in an envelope on the door of the History Room, or by emailing coordinators [Lynne Yansen](mailto:Lynne.Yansen) or [Lew Counts](mailto:Lew.Counts).

Focalpoint Deadline

The Summer issue of The Focalpoint will be published on June 1st. Submissions for events happening in June, July, and August should be sent to Jane Foley at admin@plex.org by **Friday, May 24th**.

Save the Dates! Buy the Book!



Buy the book now and plan to join us on **three Sundays in June**: June 2nd, June 9th, and June 16th, from 9-10:15am. **Debbie Armstrong** and **Lee Jeffers Bami** 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.

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

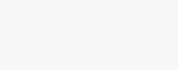
This Week at First Parish

Wednesday, May 8th		
Deborah Abel Dance Class	1:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Spanish Academy	4:30 p.m.	Staples Hall & Yellow Room
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Thursday, May 9th		
Meditation Group	4:00 p.m.	Parlor
Lexington PFLAG	7:00 p.m.	Common Room
Minuteman Indivisible	7:00 p.m.	Green Room
Ethics Course	7:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Scrabble Club	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Friday, May 10th		
LYFS Executive Team Meeting	1:00 p.m.	Green Room
Lex Pride teen drop-in	5:00 p.m.	Green Room
Voices on the Green	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Saturday, May 11th		
Board Retreat	9:00 a.m.	Offsite
Deborah Abel dance class	2:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Sunday, May 12th		
Worship Service	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Children's Choir Rehearsal	11:45 a.m.	Yellow Room
Choir Rehearsal for Germany	1:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Monday, May 13th		
Unity Group Luncheon	12:00 p.m.	Parker Hall
Deborah Abel Dance Class	3:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Minuteman Indivisible	7:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Tuesday, May 14th		
Music Committee	3:00 p.m.	Green Room
Deborah Abel Dance class	4:00 p.m.	Parish Hall
Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Green Room
Empty Sky Sangha	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Nonfiction Book Club	7:30 p.m.	Parlor
Wednesday, May 15th		
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
LYFS Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Green Room
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary



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

>>> Shop at Amazon to benefit First Parish. <<<



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

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

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