

Weekly Update Wednesday, December 4, 2019 First Parish in Lexington

Table of Contents

- [Worship Service](#)
- [Among Our Own](#)
- [I Go On Singing](#)
- [Nursery Volunteers Needed](#)
- [A Christmas' Carol](#)
- [Holiday Workshop](#)
- [Winter Solstice Experience](#)
- [Christmas Eve Candlelight Services](#)
- [Green Action Corner](#)
- [Communities Without Borders](#)
- [This Week at First Parish](#)

Worship Service at 10:30 AM

Sunday, December 8th, 2019

Listen! The Trees are Speaking...



There are so many things we can learn from trees – about secret communication, about standing strong in the midst of the gale. Herman Hesse has one more: "Whoever has learned how to listen to trees no longer wants to be a tree. He wants to be nothing except what he is. That is home. That is happiness." This morning, Rev. Anne will lead us on a wandering amidst our spiritual woodland.

This Sunday, all of the music during worship will celebrate the wonder and beauty of trees! The sanctuary choir will sing Daniel Brinsmead's ethereal "Trees" and Elizabeth Posten's Anglican anthem "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree." Liz Hartmann, Julia Jaffe, Elisabeth Jas, Liz Savir, Toni Tasker and Elizabeth Walsh will sing John Purifoy's beautiful sextet "The Tree in December." For the centering music and postlude, Rip Jackson will play "Might Oaks" and "The Wisdom of Trees," two of his own compositions for piano.



Among Our Own

It is with great sadness that we mourn the loss of Parker Hirtle, who passed from this life on November 26th. Parker was a much loved member of First Parish for many, many years, and we remember his gentle presence, his expert wood carvings, and his dedication to this church. Please keep his sons John and Tim in your thoughts. Parker's memorial will be on Saturday, December 21 at noon, with a lunch to follow in Parish Hall.



I Go On Singing

Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 7:30 pm at [First Parish, Lexington](#)



Before Rosa Parks, before Martin Luther King Jr, before Nelson Mandela, there was Paul Robeson. Featuring some of Robeson's most beloved songs, "I Go On Singing" reveals the artistic, political and intellectual achievements of the American patriot. Accompanied by [Simon Andrews](#) (Belmont) and narrated by Lexington icon [Regie Gibson](#) (First Parish), Anthony Brown presents Robeson as a towering figure in American history and a champion for peace and human rights. Legendary folk singer Pete Seeger makes three video appearances, discussing his friendship with Robeson and the music they shared. More information can be found at [anthonybrownbaritone.net](#)

The event will be a fundraiser for the [LOUIS D. BROWN PEACE INSTITUTE](#) in Dorchester, MA. The concert has been underwritten by the Social Action committees of First Parish Lexington and First Church Belmont, so 100% of the proceeds of the concert will go to Louis D. Brown to further their work of Transforming Society's Response to Homicide.

Tickets are not required. Suggested donation, \$20

Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers for the nursery in the upcoming weeks including this Sunday, December 8th, please consider signing up for a Sunday a month to help run the Sunday Religious Education programs smoothly

[Sign up here](#)

A Christmas' Carol

Sunday, December 8th, 4:00 pm. The annual reading of Charles Dickens "A Christmas' Carol". Join Dan Fenn by the warm fire in Parker Hall as he reads this classic tale. Refreshments will be served



Holiday Workshop

First Parish Holiday Workshop



Save the date: HOLIDAY WORKSHOP for children and families will be **Saturday, December 14th from 9:00 am – noon.** Join us for a festive morning featuring craft-making projects for small and tall, cookie decorating, and holiday gifts for local service programs.

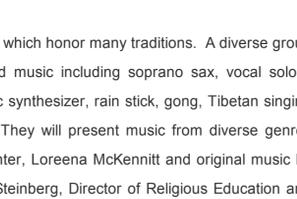
Please consider bringing a gift card for refugees in our community supported by the [International Institute of New England](#) (IINE) and [LexRAP](#), a partner of First Parish. Suggested stores: Amazon, Kohls, Lowes, Marshalls, Stop & Shop, and Market Basket. Cards may be left in the church office during the week, after church on Sundays (see Debbie Armstrong or Marty Kvaal, and, of course, at the Workshop. Hi Bring your friends and grandchildren. Adults invited too!

Winter Solstice Experience

Friday, December 20, 2019

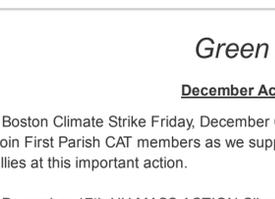
Free Will Offering

On Friday, December 20, 7:00 pm. First Parish in Lexington will present a Winter Solstice Experience. With music, ritual, candles, dancing and darkness, we will experience the quiet of the longest night, and welcome the sun as we wait for its return. Led by Rev. Anne Mason and Music Director Rip Jackson, this will be a worship service exploring earth-centered imagery, with an invitation to cherish the darkness. You are invited to set aside your frenetic everyday concerns and take this hour for your own inward journey. The Solstice is honored by indigenous religions around



the world and we will have music, dance and poetry which honor many traditions. A diverse group of musicians will provide beautiful Solstice-themed music including soprano sax, vocal soloist Natalie Brierre, string bass, piano, organ, electronic synthesizer, rain stick, gong, Tibetan singing bowl and other atmospheric musical instruments. They will present music from diverse genres including music by Hildegard Von Bingen, Paul Winter, Loreena McKennitt and original music by Rip Jackson. Also participating will be Lisa Maria Steinberg, Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry, with other youth and adult volunteers. Free and open to the public. Parking is in the rear of the church. For more information call 781-862-8200 or visit [www.fplex.org](#)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services



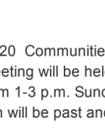
Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 pm, Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Service come gather together with Rev. Anne to celebrate the joy of Christmas with story and song, carols and candles. Youth and children singers and instrumentalists will provide the seasonal music for worship.

At 7:00pm, Rev. Anne will share lessons and thoughts of the mystery of Christmas. The sanctuary choir, soloists, and instrumentalists will adorn the worship service with beautiful Christmas music. The congregation will sing beloved Christmas carols during the service and on the front steps afterwards.

Green Action Corner

December Actions

- Boston Climate Strike Friday, December 6th, 10:30- 2:30 at Copley Square Join First Parish CAT members as we support the youth climate strikers and allies at this important action.



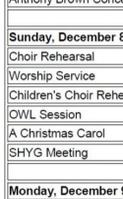
- December 17th UU MASS ACTION Climate Lobby Day. Join other CAT members and UUs from around MA by putting your faith in action to support climate change legislation in MA.

For More Information or to participate with CAT Contact: Bob Kvaal bkvaal@gmail.com or Stephen Shick stephenshick04@gmail.com

For full information about First Parish Climate Action Team please see the [attached document](#)

Communities Without Borders

Mark your calendars!!



You are invited to the information meeting for the July, 2020 Communities Without Borders summer trip to Lusaka Zambia. The meeting will be held and the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Newton from 1-3 p.m. Sunday January 19. By then the excitement of the holiday season will be past and we can start turning our thoughts to summer!!

Please see the full document [attached](#)

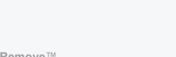
This Week at First Parish

Wednesday, December 4 th		
Deborah Abel Dance Class	1:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Creative Callings	1:30 p.m.	Parlor
Spanish Academy	4:15 p.m.	Staples Hall
LYFS Executive Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Green Room
Master Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Thursday, December 5 th		
Meditation Group	4:00 p.m.	Parlor
Scrabble Club	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Friday, December 6 th		
LYFS LGBTQ Meeting	5:00 p.m.	Green Room
Saturday, December 7 th		
Lexington DAR	9:00 a.m.	Parish Hall
Anthony Brown Concert	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Sunday, December 8 th		
Choir Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Sanctuary
Worship Service	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Children's Choir Rehearsal	11:45 a.m.	Yellow Room
OWL Session	4:00 p.m.	Common Room
A Christmas Carol	4:00 p.m.	Parker Hall
SHYG Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Monday, December 9 th		
Unity Group Luncheon	12:00 p.m.	Parker Hall
Deborah Abel Dance Class	3:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Spanish Academy	4:15 p.m.	Staples Hall
Minuteman Indivisible	7:00 p.m.	Parker Hall
Tuesday, December 10 th		
Staff Meeting	11:15 a.m.	Minister's Office
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
Wednesday, December 11 th		
Deborah Abel Dance Class	1:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Spanish Academy	4:15 p.m.	Staples Hall
LYFS Executive Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Green Room
UU Climate Collaborative Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Common Room
Master Singers Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall



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/fplex.org

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

Share this email:



Manage your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

7 Harrington Rd
Lexington, MA | 02421 United States

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.