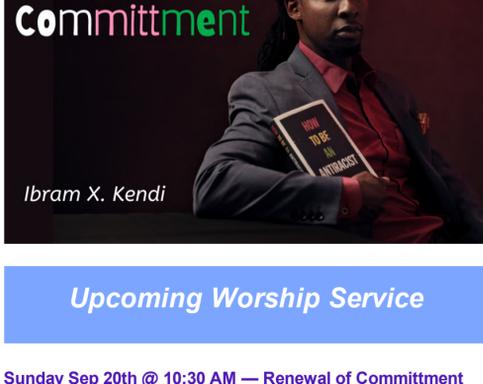




FIRST PARISH IN LEXINGTON

A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

09|15|2020



Upcoming Worship Service

Sunday Sep 20th @ 10:30 AM — Renewal of Commitment

As our program year kicks into high gear, let us take time to remember and renew our sense of commitment to living our values in the world. Rev. Anne Mason will explore the teachings of Ibram Kendi who says that we cannot simply call ourselves 'not racist' but we must decide if we are 'racist' or 'anti-racist.'

Livestream: [YouTube.com/C/FPLexington](https://www.youtube.com/c/FPLexington)

Music for Sunday

This Sunday, **Dave Meharry** will sing the reverent song "Love Divine" with music by the baroque composer Henry Purcell (based on "Fairest Isle" from *The Fairy Queen*). **Nate Ramsayer** will sing Paul Simon's iconic "Bridge Over Troubled Water." For the prelude, **Rip Jackson** will play Felix Mendelssohn's beautiful "Praeludium II in G Major" (from *Drei Präludien und Fugen op. 37 für Orgel*). He will also play the meditative piano piece "New England Marshlands" which he composed for First Parish in Lexington in 2015.

Children's Choir Resumes this Sunday!



This Sunday, **Sep 20th, from 11:30 AM — 12:30 PM**, the **First Parish Children's Choir** rehearsals will begin again. **Rip Jackson** will teach songs, music games with a little music history and theory in fun ways. For more info, email Rip at Music@FPLex.org.



Get excited for a big announcement on **Radio DRE FM** this Friday! The whole family will want to tune in for this new addition to the First Parish in Lexington Family Ministry. Watch your email for more details later this week!

In Faith,

Lisa Maria Andreoli Steinberg

Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry



Preserving Our Democracy

You're invited to a Preserving Our Democracy team meeting on **Wed, Sep 16 at 4:00 PM**. Join us in planning next steps as the election nears. Learn how you can take action—large or small. **Link:** [POD Meeting](#)

Apply now if you want to receive a mail-in ballot for November 3rd. **Link:** [Ballot Application](#)

Reclaim our Vote postcards are now on **Michelle Olson's** porch at **5 Castle Road**. The postcarding will end in early October.

Texting and phone banking will be major emphases for campaigns in October. Learn about texting and try your hand. Short training; then you're set. It's so easy and so fun. **Links:** [All about texting](#) and for [texting training](#) on **Thu, Sep 10** & [text training II](#) on **Tue, Sep 15**. Texting is the best way to reach the most voters in the least amount of time! **Phone banking** is available almost every day. Some among us do not like phoning in this way. However, the dialer systems are very sophisticated now; calls are connected only when answered; scripts to follow are provided. You can find non-partisan (& partisan) phone banking events here: [phoning events](#) & [Reclaim Our Vote](#).

Want to do something else, a little or a lot, before the election? Check out these websites for up-to-date action initiatives, training on tactics, etc. **Links:** [Minuteman Indivisible](#), [Concord Indivisible](#), [Together for 2020](#), and [UU the Vote](#). **Questions?** Contact [Debbie Armstrong](#) or [Marty Kvaal](#). **49 days remain until Nov 3rd!!**

from the BOARDroom

Join us in welcoming our **Acting Clerk Deborah Lapides** as **Suzanne Morse-Fortier** takes some personal time off.



Climate ACTION Team

Will First Parish Declare a Climate Emergency?

The First Parish Board voted last week to support CAT's proposed Climate Emergency Declaration that will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on October 18th. If passed by the congregation First Parish will join thousands of religious organizations around the world who are committing themselves to take bold new actions to address climate change realities.

An all Congregation Meeting will be held following worship this Sunday, September 20th, to discuss the [Declaration](#) and explore what it might mean. The current issue of the UU World contains a transcript of Naomi Klein's Ware Lecture at this year's General Assembly. Reading this would be good preparation for our discussion of the proposed Climate Emergency Declaration.

Join us for our next **Climate Action Team Meeting** **Wed, Sep 16 @ 7:30 PM** via [ZOOM](#) or by calling in (646) 876-9923 Meeting ID: 919 6381 0131.

Join us to plan how we will build support for the Declaration and help us set our goals for the coming church year.

Hosmer / Harrington Proposal



As many of you already know, First Parish in Lexington was approached by a builder asking us to consider allowing the Hosmer house, currently located next to the Police station, to be placed on our open lot at 3

Harrington Rd. Several members of First Parish have been exploring the possibilities. Currently we have two builders who have sent FP proposals that they would like to submit to the town on October 1st. **In case you missed, here's the presentation:**



Looking for the **Listening Circles?** Signup [HERE!](#)

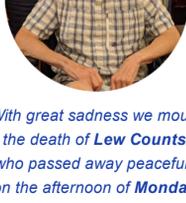
On September 27th, our congregation will gather again to hear the recommendations of the Board and also address the concerns and questions raised during the week.

Are we considering other proposals for 3 Harrington Rd that do not include the Hosmer House?

Our congregation will be asked to decide whether the proposals involving the sale of all or a portion of our land is acceptable. In order to have fully engaged dialogue about the possibilities, it would be most effective to have other detailed and well-considered proposals to compare to the Hosmer House proposals. Any committee or task force in the church is encouraged to create a proposal for the congregation to consider as we decide whether to support or decline this current offer to buy our land.

Submitted by Hosmer Team — Tim Jacoby, Bob Coyne, Dave Pollack, Elisabeth Jas, Anne Mason

Among Our Own



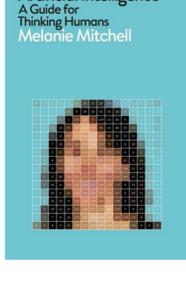
With great sadness we mourn the death of **Law Counts**, who passed away peacefully on the afternoon of **Monday, Sep 14th**. Please hold **Connee, Margaret and Laura** in your hearts, as well as all of his grandchildren including **Thomas and Beatrice**.

In this photo he is getting ready to listen to a concert by **Rip Jackson**, and we are so grateful that he was able to spend an hour last week in his beloved sanctuary listening to beautiful music.

We are so grateful for all the dedication Law gave to our historic building, working to hang the justice banners even this summer. We will miss his presence, his intelligence, his photographic skills and the twinkle in his eyes. He has been a gift to this community.

In faith, **Rev. Anne**

AI Talk



Science & Society Lecture Series + First Parish in Lexington and Lexington Community Education

Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Thinking Humans

Melanie Mitchell, PhD.

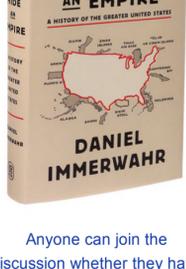
A Zoom Presentation on **Thu, Sep 17th @ 4:30 PM**

FREE Event! Register on [ZOOM](#)

For more info see [flyer](#).

Questions? Contact Pratik Mamora: Admin@FPLex.org

Non Fiction Book Club



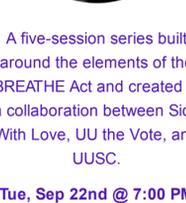
Anyone can join the discussion whether they have read the book or not and just want learn something about it. [Amazon](#) link to book.

Monday, Sep 21st @ 6:30 - 8:00 PM

[ZOOM](#)

Meeting ID: 823 3130 5834
Passcode: 063410

Taking a Collective Breath



A five-session series built around the elements of the BREATHE ACT and created in a collaboration between Side With Love, UU the Vote, and UUSC.

Tue, Sep 22nd @ 7:00 PM

Webinar 4: Environmental Justice and Public Health Allocating New Money to Build Healthy, Sustainable & Equitable Communities for All People Environmental Justice.

Register [HERE](#).

Sister Congregations



Follen Church Food for Thought

Follen has a monthly dinner/discussion program we call *Food for Thought*. Though we cannot offer literal food during the pandemic, we are very pleased to be offering a zoom enabled presentation and discussion

Building Anit-Racist Families and Communities.

How do we address and unpack our biases? How do we become more comfortable speaking about issues of racism? How can anti-racist work become a part of our spiritual practice?

Guests, **Regie and Katie O'Hare Gibson**, will share their stories of dealing with issues of racism both as individuals and as an interracial family in Lexington. This will be followed by small breakout rooms to share stories and ideas for building our own anti-racist practices at home and within our larger community. Register [HERE](#).

The Follen Adult Programs committee + Follen Ministry to Racism + Urban Rites Congregational Team invite you to participate in this virtual program on **September 17** from 7:00 - 8:30 PM.



First Parish in Bedford

COVID 19: Where we are now

Dr. Ann Kiessling – From the Bedford Research Foundation Free Zoom presentation on **Sun, Sep 20th at 4:00 PM**.

Dr. Ann Kiessling is a reproductive biologist who has made significant contributions in research on viruses and parthenogenic stem cells. She was one of the first AIDS researchers and remains one of the most important research biologists in the country. Dr. Kiessling is especially known for her discovery of "reverse transcriptase" in normal human cells.

Come join us for this presentation and discussion. All are welcome! For Zoom link, contact [Ellen](#).

*Bedford Research Foundation conducts COVID-19 testing every Tuesday in collaboration with First Parish. For further info and pre-registration, [VISIT](#).

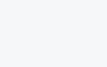
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