



FIRST PARISH ^{IN} LEXINGTON
UNITARIAN  UNIVERSALIST

Tuesday, December 22nd 2020



Watch on YouTube: [YouTube.com/C/FPLexington](https://www.youtube.com/C/FPLexington)

Come and celebrate the joy of Christmas with a service prepared by our First Parish staff. With special choral anthems and organ music, readings and reflections. **Rev. Anne Mason** will lead us in worship.

Perhaps you can create your own candle-lit sanctuary in your home as we gather on this most holy night. This **pre-recorded service** will be available for you to watch with your family beginning at 4:30 on Dec 24th on our YouTube channel.

MUSIC: On Christmas Eve, the **Sanctuary Choir** will sing Albin Whitworth's ethereal arrangement of Gustav Holst's "In the Bleak Midwinter" with soloists **Toni Tasker** and **Elisabeth Jas**. Our four soloists **Elizabeth Walsh, Julia Jaffe, Nate Ramsayer** and **David Meharry** will sing Michael Praetorius's Renaissance a capella carol "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming." Julia Jaffe and Elizabeth Walsh will sing Adolpe Adam's beautiful duet "O Holy Night." Rip Jackson will play Arcangelo Corelli's baroque Christmas piece "Pastorale" (from the *Concerto grosso in G minor, Op. 6, No. 8 "Fatto per la notte di Natale"*).



SPECIAL Sunday, December 27, 2020

Come join the members of First Parish as we watch the **LexMedia** recording of **Dan Fenn** reading Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. For many years, he read this at the fireside in Parker Hall. Enjoy this timeless story, read by a beloved member of this congregation and a cherished citizen of Lexington.

10:15 AM - 12:30 PM

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

**Religious Education
& Family Ministry**
FIRST PARISH IN LEXINGTON — A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Family Chapel This Week — Rebirth of the Sun



Dec Theme: Stillness

"Wisdom comes with the ability to be still. Just look and just listen. No more is needed. Being still, looking, and listening activates the non-conceptual intelligence within you. Let stillness direct your words and actions."

— Eckhart Tolle



Catch the latest episode of **DRE FM Radio!** Gather the family around- kids, teens, parents, special grown ups, elders - to watch our Family Chapel series from our **Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry (DRE FM!)**



Hear a solstice story of the rebirth of the sun, and then share as a family in talking about the power of candles and sparks of light.

You can watch this week's episode on [YouTube](#) or listen on [Soundcloud!](#)

Thank YOU for watching!

Yours in Faith and Fellowship,
Lisa Maria



A Blue Christmas

The U.U. Urban Ministry is presenting its next **Community Conversation** on Tue, Dec 22nd at 6:00 PM: "A Blue Christmas: Mental Health in the Black Community,"



Message of Gratitude

Special thank you to Debbie Armstrong, Marja Meharry and JoAnne Poage for these hand made gifts for the women at the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry - Renewal House.



And a Partridge in a Pear Tree

presented by Toy Burton, founder of DeeDee's Cry. Get the [ZOOM](#) link and more details at www.UUUM.org. Get Social @ [UUUrbanMinistry](#).



Beyond Ivy Chord
...celebrating culture through a social justice lens

FEATURING:
The Performing Project



JANUARY 9th, 2021
4:30 - 6:00 PM via Zoom

Recommended Donation: \$20 per household
Register at: uureading.org/beyondivychoord

Short theatrical works and musical performances composed and performed by The Performing Project's graduating youth and college alumni.



350 Mass Metrowest Node

Time is running out for passage of climate legislation this year. The conference committee appointed to reconcile the House and Senate climate bills must report out a conference bill within a few days, in order to ensure passage this

Sat, 12/26 Video chat with a friend & share holiday music

Sun, 12/27 Join for Dan Fenn's Reading of Dickens' A Christmas Carol @ 10:30

Mon, 12/28 Meatless Mondays! Make a plan for plant-based meals 2021

Tue, 12/29 Don't have a Chalice? Create one or make a plan to get one

Wed, 12/30 Bundle up & go walking meditation or hike in nature

Thu, 12/31 Write down everything that went wrong in 2020 & BURN IT (safely)

Fri, 1/1 Eat good luck foods: black eyed peas, lentils, noodles

Sat, 1/2 Fill your kindle or reading list with books written by BIPOC authors

Sun, 1/3 Join your First Parish Family in worship on Zoom @ 10:30

Mon, 1/4 Talk with friends & family about plans to be actively anti-racist

Tue, 1/5 Count up every extra food or household item & donate \$1 per item to Lexington Food Bank

Wed, 1/6 Donate to local animal shelter or make winter treats for birds

**lexington
interfaith
volunteers**

X

**hunger
volunteer**

ENDING HUNGER LIFTS US ALL

legislative session. Unfortunately, we now have reason to fear that they may fail to do so.

So now it's job our as citizens to make our voices heard, ASAP! Please call key Statehouse leaders - Speaker of the House Bob DeLeo (617-722-2500) and Senate President Karen Spilka (617-722-1077) - as soon as you get this, and leave a short voice message. A suggested script is below. Then do the same for the members of the committee, especially if you are a constituent of one of them (e.g., Sen. Mike Barrett, 617-722-1572). Contact information for the Committee members and the Legislative leaders is [HERE](#).

Your call doesn't have to be polished or perfect - the fact that you called at all matters the most. I just did it; you can make three calls in a row in under ten minutes.

You could also call/email your own State Rep and State Senator and leave a similar message. You can get their contact info by entering your address [HERE](#).

Suggested script for calling DeLeo, Spilka, and conference committee members (again, their contact information is [HERE](#)) (feel free to modify this to suit yourself):

- My name is --- and I live in ---. I believe we need bold government action to fight climate change.
- I am very concerned that there may be no climate bill at all this session.
- We need a strong climate bill **today**, and it needs to have EJ (environmental justice) language in it.
- The climate crisis is urgent! We need action now, not kicking the can down the road until the end of next session.

The Social Justice Teams of First Parish invite you to join us in an interfaith collaboration with Temple Emunah, First Parish, Follen Church and the Lexington Catholic Community of St. Brigid and Sacred Heart Parishes

January 6th, 5:30-7:30pm
Register [HERE](#)

Volunteer with HFA to help connect families to food assistance! HUNGER FREE AMERICA is a nonpartisan, national nonprofit group working to enact the policies and programs needed to end domestic hunger and ensure that all Americans have sufficient access to nutritious food. During the COVID-19 pandemic, countless families have faced unprecedented circumstances that have caused financial strain and limited access to basic amenities like food and shelter. The HFA's Phone Banking initiative serves to connect families with information and resources to support them during these times

Questions: please contact **Alisa Kotler-Berkowitz** at 205alisa@gmail.com.

Training will be part of this experience:

The first 45 minutes of the January 6th phone bank is focused on education and training. During that time we'll have the opportunity to learn about food insecurity issues in Boston and nationally, share our own thoughts on food (based on prompts), and then we will be trained to make the calls (with all of the information we'll need). During the hour plus phoning itself, we will continue to have access to the phone bank leaders (on zoom) to ask questions, and halfway through we'll touch base as a group to talk about how the experience is

If calling to DeLeo or Spilka, add:

- Please ask members of the Conference Committee to produce a substantial climate bill by next week, allowing time for legislative action if the Governor sends the bill back.

If you choose to email instead, [here is some suggested language](#).

(Thanks to Elders Climate Network for sounding this alarm yesterday. FYI, they advise that Rep. Meschino -- lead sponsor of the "Roadmap" bill, the core of what the House passed -- has expressed her support for this effort.)

These key players need to know that all eyes are on them and this is important to voters. The more calls they get, the better. Let them find lots of messages when they check on Monday morning!



Look up www.ZeroWasteHome.com for an exhaustive list of green products and substitute products and habits. Share these ideas with your friends and family.



Holiday Time

- Wrap presents with recycled paper bags or newspaper decorate with stamps, etc.
- Consider giving items you already own (re-gifting), making consumable gifts (e.g. food, candles) or sharing the promise of

going. So there's a lot of support during the 2 hour phone bank (5:30-7:30pm).

Also, all of the people participating will be from Lexington congregations, so there will be a lot of communal support as well.



Rainbow Artists

Creative self expression with a community of peers

For LGBTQ+ children/teens and allies (grouped by age)

Groups will meet twice monthly (starting mid-late January)

How it works:

1. Register to express your interest: <https://forms.gle/deQUWC8CuptNcey9A>.
 2. Each month we will provide a list of supplies needed.
 3. If you don't have access to supplies, email us to arrange to pick up supplies.
 4. Join us on Zoom!
- Questions? Email us at LexPrideMA@gmail.com.



Noah Stang-Osborne
(They/them)
LexPride Board Member
Art Therapy Student



Marina Strauss (She/her)
Expressive Arts Therapist
Licensed Mental Health
Counselor



Book Group: How To Be An Antiracist

Sundays, January 24th & 31st + February 7th & 14th @ 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Join via **ZOOM** Meeting ID: **991 3802 5030**

- an experience in place of store bought gifts.
- When possible choose wood, paper and metal items over plastic
 - Use rechargeable batteries and LED bulbs to reduce waste and save energy.

Contact Us:
[Debbie Fortin](#) OR [Bobbie Hodson](#)

Ibram X. Kendi's concept of antiracism reenergizes & reshapes the conversation about racial justice in America. In his memoir, **How to Be an Antiracist**, Kendi weaves together an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science—including the story of his own awakening to antiracism—bringing it all together in a cogent, accessible form. Join the members of **Racial Justice Team** in this engaging Book Discussion Group.

Office: (781) 862-8200 | www.FPLex.org



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