



FIRST PARISH IN LEXINGTON  
A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

Tuesday, May 4th 2021



**UPCOMING Worship: Sunday, May 9th**

**First Parish children** bless us with their presence as they share liturgy, story and music. Together, we celebrate the church family that we are, reminding ourselves that there is always room for more at the table. Worship will be led by our children and Minister, **Rev. Anne Mason**.

**ZOOM** Meeting ID: **987 6010 3683** Passcode: **fplex**  
Join by calling in (646) 876-9923  
**LIVE Streaming** [Facebook](#) OR [YouTube](#)

**Music:** The children of our church will provide inspirational music for worship. The children's choir, with soloists **Cecilia Kvaal**, **Lydia Herrick** and **Mandy Ostrander**, will sing the powerful song "When You Believe" (from *The Prince of Egypt*) in a virtual video created by **Chris Hess**. Caroline Kvaal will sing Abba's lyrical ballad "I Have a Dream" (from the hit Broadway show and movie *Mamma Mia*). **Ewan Jobling** will sing John Lennon's inspiring song "Imagine." For the centering music, Mandy Ostrander will play Émile Waldteufel's beautiful piano piece "Les Patineurs" ("The Ice Skaters"). And for the postlude, **Zack Savir** will play a rousing rock guitar improvisation.



**Soul Matters**  
SHARING CIRCLE

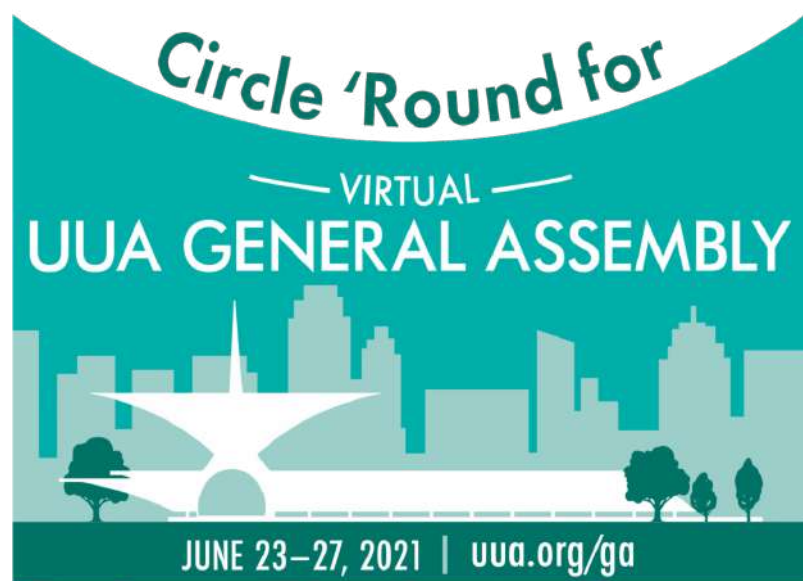
May Theme: Story

*"Narrative imagining — story — is the fundamental instrument of thought. Rational capacities depend upon it. It is our chief means of looking into the future, or predicting, of planning, and of explaining."*

— Mark Turner



Special Collection



## Justice • Healing • Courage

### 2021 Ware Lecture: Desmond Meade

The UUA President invites a distinguished guest each year to address the General Assembly as the Ware Lecturer on Saturday, June 26 7:00 p.m. [General Assembly registration](#) is required to view.



- [Adult Registration](#)
- [Youth Registration](#)
- [Volunteer Opportunities](#)
- [Financial Support](#)

In addition to **Stacy Abrams**, the Ware Lecture features **Desmond Meade**, a formerly homeless returning citizen who overcame many obstacles to eventually become the President of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRC), Chair of Floridians for a Fair Democracy, a graduate of Florida International University College of Law, and a Ford Global Fellow. He is the author of [Let My People Vote: My Battle to Restore the Rights of Returning Citizens](#), published by Beacon Press in October of 2020.

Recognized by **Time Magazine** as one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World in 2019, he presently leads efforts to empower and civically re-engage local communities across the state, and to reshape local, state, and national criminal justice policies. Mr. Meade led the FRRC to a historic victory in 2018 with the successful passage of Amendment 4, a grassroots citizen's initiative which restored voting rights to over 1.4 million Floridians with past felony convictions. Amendment 4 represented the single largest expansion of voting rights in the United States in half a century and brought an end to 150 years of a Jim Crow-era law in Florida.

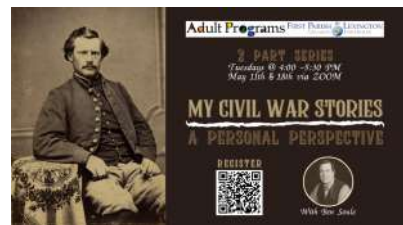
To honor our longstanding ties with **India**, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) created the **Unitarian Universalist Holdeen India Program (UUHIP)** in 1984. The Holdeen India Program provides aid for humanitarian service ventures and social enterprises that seek to advance prosperity for all of India's people.

A second surge of infections in April 2021 is forcing people to line up for hours outside hospitals in the searing heat, waiting for medicine, oxygen, and hospital beds that may not exist. **The raging virus has not spared anyone** – small towns, villages, and big cities have all been hit hard. The road to recovery will be long and challenging. HIP's partners across the country are working closely with the authorities to ensure relief reaches all those in need.

**For more info visit:**  
[Holdeen India Program](#)



### Upcoming Events



**Ben Soule** has had a life-long interest in the Civil War and for anyone living in the United States of America, that piece of history is still present. Ben's



# Reimagining Public Safety in Lexington

May 6, 2021

7:00-8:30pm

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/9cz5tzah>



## National and Local Context

### Various Speakers

Speakers will offer information about what is happening nationally in crafting forward-looking models of public safety, what the Town of Lexington is doing, and what the Lexington Police Department is doing. We will name the speakers once they confirm.



## Brookline's Experience

### Dr. Raul Fernandez

A Brookline Select Board member, Dr. Fernandez chaired Brookline's initiative to reimagine public safety. He is Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at Wheelock College and a MA DESE Racial Imbalance Advisory Council member.



## Reflections on Public Safety in Lexington

### Community Leaders

Representatives from cultural groups, other interest groups, the business community, town government, and schools will offer reflections on how we might incorporate lessons learned from other efforts into a model that works for Lexington.

**Together We Rise** advocates for equity and justice for peoples who have historically been marginalized, disenfranchised, and oppressed. Our mission is to achieve positive transformational change in the personal, social, systemic, and structural arenas in Lexington, MA. To that end, we work to build awareness about equity and justice issues, collaborate on solutions, and ask residents and community leaders to take action.

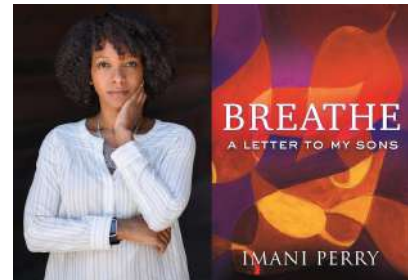
Visit us on Facebook. Contact us at [TogetherWeRiseLex@gmail.com](mailto:TogetherWeRiseLex@gmail.com).

presentation, "My Civil War Stories," is about the many moments in his life when the Civil War has reached out from the past and touched him.

## 2 Part Series - Tuesdays

May 11 & 18 @ 4:00-5:30 PM

[REGISTER](#) for Zoom Link



This year's UUA Common Read is [Breathe: A letter to My Sons](#) by Imani

Perry who is a Princeton University Professor of African American Studies and also has two African American sons.

## Discussion Dates:

May 23, May 30, June 6  
Sundays @ 2:00 – 3:00 PM

[REGISTER](#)

What does it mean to be a UU?



**JOIN US**



Membership Workshop  
Wed. May 15th @ 7:15-8:45 PM  
First Parish in Lexington - Unitarian Universalist

**Each ONE Reach ONE: Invite Family, Friends, Neighbours and Folks**

The Members & Friends Committee and our Minister, Rev. Anne Mason are offering a **Membership Workshop** on **Wednesday, May 15th, from 7:15 - 8:45 PM**, via Zoom, for all people who either know they are ready to join First Parish as a member or would like to consider it. Participants at the workshop will focus on the culture of First Parish,

its history, governance, the privileges and responsibilities of membership, Unitarian Universalist values, and the opportunities to engage in the life of the church and how to connect to and access them. Please [RSVP HERE](#) by **Friday, May 7th**.



**Backstage With The Virtual Choir**

For a good year now, **First Parish church** services have come to you via Zoom, YouTube, or Facebook. The music—played by **Rip Jackson** and other instrumentalists, sung by the choir, the children's choir, and various soloists—has continued to be a vital part of church. But have you ever wondered how everyone involved has managed to sing or play together when we've all been spread out—**Rip's in Florida, Amy's in DC, Paul's in South Carolina, Mary's in Vermont**—and basically stuck inside for months on end?

**Tue, May 25th @ 7:30 PM**  
[REGISTER](#)

**Chris Hess, the audio and video wizard behind the music**, will describe how this particular bit of sausage is made in the weeks before a piece is part of a service.

**Sharing a Home As We Age**

Join **Judy Lipperman** as we will learn about some key aspects, benefits, and considerations regarding sharing a home as we age. We will also hear from **Roberta Brown**, a senior in our greater UU community, who will tell us her home sharing story. There will be ample time for questions and discussion.

**Thu, May 27th @ 4:00 PM** [REGISTER](#)

In March 2021 Judy facilitated a similar session via Zoom, which was attended by 21 people who came from a variety of local communities including **Winchester Unitarian Society** and **First Parish in Lexington**. These sessions are being offered as part of an independent grassroots volunteer effort to create a space for conversation, brainstorming, and networking about sharing a home as we age.

Office: (781) 862-8200 | [www.FPLex.org](http://www.FPLex.org)    

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