



# Summer Steeple Gazette



FIRST PARISH IN LEXINGTON

**Weekly Update — Wednesday Aug 11th 2021**



## **PSA — Attention Please!**

Our Summer Worship services will continue on **ZOOM @ 10:30 AM**. However, the recordings may not be available **until 11:30 AM for our Facebook and YouTube users**. This change begins the month of Aug until we hire a TECH Manager. Kindly mark your calendars accordingly!

**— First Parish BOARD and Staff**

**Join in Welcoming our Shiny New Office Manager: Elisabeth Harasti**

**Elisabeth Harasti** is so happy to be joining the First Parish staff as **Office Manager!** She brings a wealth of experience in university and nonprofit administration, as well as tremendous enthusiasm and gratitude for **her NEW role** in supporting. **Christine De Pisan** (pictured) is her Medieval muse.



Elisabeth is a graduate of the **University of Michigan** and received her Master's degree from **Northwestern University**. She loves studying medieval and ancient history, philosophy, and religion; listening to jazz and early music; baking bread; trying to teach herself Catalan; tending goats at Mass Audubon's Habitat preserve in Belmont; and sharing time with family, friends, and her two beloved cats, **Mary** (Yes, she is named after Mary Richards from TMTMS) **and Moon**.



### Upcoming Worship Service

Uncivil disobedience forces the community to confront the disconnect between its reality and its professed ideals. How far would you go to realize your ideals and further your pursuit of justice? Would you break the law? Would you sacrifice what might be a normal life? We will share the story of a nineteen-year-old who did, with history-changing results. Pulpit Guest Rev. Claire Feingold Thorny along with Worship Associate, Ben Soule.

**Recording** available on [Facebook](#) OR [YouTube](#) @ 11:30 AM.

*\*For our Summer Worship offerings, there will be NO Order of Service. Kindly follow along with our Worship Associates.*



### QUOTABuULARY

*"The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists."*

— **Charles Dickens**

# DISMANTLING RACISM IN OUR TOWN

Fall Registrations: In Person & Virtual

Please join this **free 7-session** conversation and reflection series starting October 2021!

This program is a community effort to develop a course specifically for greater Lexington, with an intent to inspire leaders to an ongoing process of transformation through facilitated conversation and individual reflection. White participants might expect to “sweat a little,” as they will be asked to examine their own complicity and role within the existing power structures of our culture, particularly recognizing the responsibility to confront the legacy of white supremacy and privilege. The goals of the course are to engage participants’ hearts and minds, create a community of accountability and collaboration, and advance Lexington community conversations around race and privilege. We hope the result will be a group of local leaders more committed to racial equity, humility, and constructive relationships.

## [REGISTER](#)

- Taking place this fall - 2 sections and 16 participants per section;
- Meeting over 7 Monday Evenings (6:45-8:45 PM - IN PERSON ) OR Friday Mornings (10 AM - 12 PM - REMOTE);
- Starting Friday, October 1, 2021 and Monday, October 4 (two sections);
- Ending Friday, November 12 and Monday, November 15, 2021;
- Must be committed to attend all 7 meetings with your section;



## Summer Office Hours

### REDUCED HOURS

Tue = 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Wed = 9:00 AM to 3:00  
PM

Thu = 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
(WFH)

### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat & Sun

Kindly take care of your requests in advance by emailing at

[Admin@FPLex.org](mailto:Admin@FPLex.org).

**NDC CHYNAH TYLER**

Join us for a  
**Community Hearing  
On Redistricting**

Hosted by  
Representative Chynah Tyler of Roxbury,  
The New Generosity Coalition, and  
Legislative Leaders

What is Redistricting?  
The process and politics of redrawing legislative district lines  
10 years. The districts in which we live, work, school, shop,  
and vote are not static and have historically been  
discriminatory.

August 14, 2021 - 10 AM EST

Mascon # Park/Roxbury | Indoor/Text!

Sign up to testify at [CHYNAHTYLER.COM/REDISTRICTING](http://CHYNAHTYLER.COM/REDISTRICTING)  
[WWW.NGCORG.COM/REDISTRICTING](http://WWW.NGCORG.COM/REDISTRICTING)  
[WWW.FPREDISTRICTING.COM](http://WWW.FPREDISTRICTING.COM)

**Indivisible Mass  
Coalition**

- Sign up by **September 15, 2021**



Visit our website

At the Virtual GA in June 2021 (Milwaukee), the following three Actions of Immediate Witness were adopted. The Action of Immediate Witness process provides UUs the opportunity to engage in collective social witness, to courageously affirm what is just and good through a statement that demonstrates solidarity, articulates social justice or collective liberation, and allows for us to respond quickly to social issues deemed urgent. To learn more about actions to take click here:

- [Defend and Advocate with Transgender, Nonbinary, and Intersex Communities](#)
- [The COVID-19 Pandemic: Justice, Healing, Courage](#)
- [Stop Voter Suppression and Partner for Voting Rights and a Multiracial Democracy](#)



Show your support by attending this **Community Hearing in Malcolm X Park Roxbury.**

**Sat, Aug 14  
@ 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

The black community of Dorchester, Roxbury and Mattapan is welcoming white people from all around the state to support them in this effort!

- If you support **BLACK LIVES MATTER**, and **BLACK VOTERS MATTER** then [SIGN-UP](#) HERE to **ATTEND** this **EVENT!** People from all over the Commonwealth are invited to attend and give short testimony.
- It's simple to give 30 seconds of testimony & **YOUR TESTIMONY IS NEEDED** in support of this Redistricting effort by the black community. No expertise needed on redistricting happens, you just need to say that you "support this community's effort to redistrict!" It is that simple! (check out the [Toolkit](#) for sample testimony and/or testimony letter)
- [Community Hearing - Simple Testimony](#)

Hi all,

Please enjoy our [NEWSLETTER!](#)

Warmly,  
**Valerie Overton**  
(she/her/hers)  
LexPride Co-Chair  
[www.LexPrideMA.org](http://www.LexPrideMA.org)



**ONGOING: Outdoor Tai Chi**

**New Legacy Cultural Center** and **First Parish in Lexington** will co-sponsor a series of outdoor Tai Chi classes every Sunday morning **until August 29, 2021** on First Parish's side lot adjacent to the Battle Green. There is no charge, but donations will be appreciated. **Mr. Tai-Chun Pan**, a Master Instructor of the traditional Yang style of Tai Chi Chuan, will offer two classes each Sunday morning. [Register HERE.](#)

[Toolkit](#) - find all the information you'll need to support and attend this event.

It would be terrific if you can get a few friends and/or family members together and carpool with them to Malcolm X Park in Roxbury this Saturday. Make it an outing as there will be food & music. Your physical presence will support the black community of Boston! Your attendance & voice of support really do matter and will make an important positive impact in this effort! Remember, it's outdoors and you can wear your mask if you're concerned about the Delta variant of Covid-19.

PLEASE TELL YOUR FRIENDS about this event and ask them to carpool on Saturday to Roxbury. THANK YOU! Let me know if you have any questions.

In Solidarity,  
**Deb Paul**, Chairperson  
**Indivisible Mass Coalition**

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

