



# Summer Steeple Gazette



FIRST PARISH IN LEXINGTON

Weekly Update - Thursday, Jun 3rd 2021



### Upcoming Worship Service

First Parish's minister emerita, the **Rev. Helen Cohen**, will draw on her lifelong experience of Unitarian Universalism, and on **Heather McGhee's** recent book [\*The Sum of Us\*](#), to speak about how UU's might approach the deep **racial divisions in America** in order to help realize the founding vision of our nation, liberty and justice for all. We are a predominantly white, middle and upper class, highly-educated religious group, benefitting from the existing social structure and its values of individualism and meritocracy. Will we contribute to ever greater racial understanding and equality, to a truly diverse community, mainly out of a sense of guilt and helplessness, or will we listen to and learn from others so that our work becomes a pathway to



Jun Theme = Play

*"The one thing that you have that nobody else has is you. Your voice, your mind, your story, your vision. So write and draw and build and play and dance and live as only you can."*

— Neil Gaiman



Calling All Parents

learning, growth and fulfillment for all people, including us? This sermon is part of our conversations generated by the proposal of an **Eighth Principle** for the UU Association, on which we will be voting on the following Sunday at our Annual Meeting on June 13. Please look for further information on the 8th Principle in this Update.

The service will also include a congregational celebration of **Lisa Maria Andreoli Steinberg**, our Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry, with gratitude for her work with us for six years, and very best wishes for her in her new position at the First Parish of Bedford. **Ben Soule** will be this morning's Worship Associate.

**LIVE Streaming** [Facebook](#) OR [YouTube](#)

**Music:** We will continue to have live music broadcast from the sanctuary. **Elisabeth Jas, David Meharry, Liz Savir, Toni Tasker** and **Jamie Willis** will sing the deeply meaningful choral anthem "I Dream a World" (text by Langston Hughes and music by André J. Thomas). Elisabeth Jas, **Rev. Anne Mason**, Liz Savir and Toni Tasker will sing Felix Mendelssohn's ethereal "Lift Thine Eyes" (from *Elijah*). **Rip Jackson**, David Meharry and Jamie Willis will sing the meditative Gregorian chant "Sicut Cervus." And **Erik Svenson** will play Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's serene "Andante" (from *Horn Concerto No.2 in E flat, K.417*) and Franz Strauss's passionate "Nocturno Op.7 for Horn."

**Transition RE Committee (TREC)** invites parents with program-aged children to join us in the planning of Fall Programming. The purpose is to talk to parents about programming options for next year, both what we want to prioritize and what the best scheduling would be.

### **TWO MORE OPTIONS TO JOIN**

**Fri, Jun 4th @ 03:00 PM**  
**Sun, Jun 6th @ 09:30 AM**  
**ZOOM** Meeting ID: **933 6761 9164** Passcode: **TREC**

*If you would like to provide input but cannot make one of these times, one of the members of the Transition RE Committee would be happy to speak by phone, or exchange emails. Although it's not necessary to sign up for a session, if you are able to, please RSVP **Pratik Mamtora** at [Admin@FPlex.org](mailto:Admin@FPlex.org); It is helpful for us to get a sense of the size of the group.*

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[Prepared to Vote?](#)

[Visit our website](#)



We encourage all to come fully prepared to vote at the Semi-Annual Meeting on June 13 on the [8th Principle](#)

[proposal](#).

**How many actions have you taken?**

Did you attend:

- A Forum Dec-March?
- The April Workshop led by co-founder Paula Cole Jones?
- A follow-up Learning Session in May?
- A Sharing Circle last week?
- Did you view one of the many [webinars](#)?
- Have you listened to other [UU voices](#)?

Click on one or more of these four sources here to [Learn from other UUs](#) about what building

Hi all,

I hope you enjoy [this newsletter](#).

It's filled with fabulous **Pride happenings**, information about the 2021 Trevor Project report on LGBTQ youth mental health, information about new grant and initiatives, and more.

LexPride has **beautiful yard signs** just in time for Pride month! The fabulous **Pratik Mamtora** custom designed the sign for LexPride. Thank you, Pratik!

[Order a sign](#) and reserve a pickup time. The cost is \$10 per sign, or pay what you can. Eco-friendly and 100% recyclable.

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

a multicultural inclusive community that is intentionally antiracist and committed to dismantling all oppressions means to them personally and for their congregations.

**The 8th Principle Task Force:** Susanna Whitman, David Horton, Elisabeth Jas, JoAnn Mulready-Shick and Katie O'Hare-Gibson

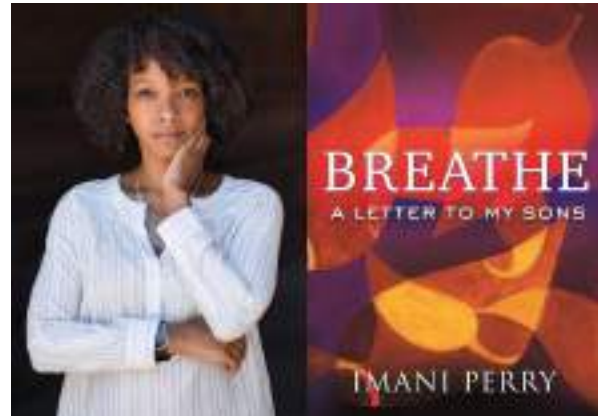


# Finance COMMITTEE

**Budget Presentation 2021-2022**

Immediately after the service on Sun, Jun 6th the **Finance Committee** will be presenting the proposed 2021-2022 budget. Finance Committee co-chair, **David Bovet** will host this presentation along with Treasurer, **Tom Rich**.

Here is a copy of the [Draft Budget](#) for your reference.



**UUA Common Read**

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.

[REGISTER](#)

**Sun, June 6th @ 2:00 – 3:00 PM**

The book delves into the challenges of growing up as a Black person and parenting Black children in America. The book is available for purchase from the [UUA bookstore](#), Barnes and Noble in Burlington or your favorite bookstore. First Parish is going to have three separate Zoom meetings discussing the book. Feel free to come to one or all.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST URBAN MINISTRY  
presents

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

**Byron Rushing**  
**Facing Yesterday to Face Today - and Tomorrow**

Tuesday, June 22 - 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Join us for this virtual event at [www.uuum.org](http://www.uuum.org)

Historian Byron Rushing, who served in the Massachusetts House of Representatives for over 30 years, was also president of the Museum of African American History in Boston.

Through his life he has been a champion for justice, and will speak about how understanding history can illuminate the way forward for a better, more just world.

Event sponsored by First Church Milton

UUA Urban Ministry | 33 Park St, Boston, MA 02109 | [www.uuum.org](http://www.uuum.org)

