



Summer Steeple Gazette



FIRST PARISH IN LEXINGTON

Weekly Update — Wednesday Sep 8th 2021



Upcoming Worship Service

It is time to come together to celebrate, to wonder, and to explore. Bring some water from your home or from a favorite place, and we will share in the blessings of community as we recommit ourselves to our shared purpose: to love, to seek, and to serve. The worship will be led by our **Minister, Rev. Anne Mason**. People of all ages are welcome to attend our outdoor worship on 3 Harrington Road. Please bring your own chair.

[Facebook](#) OR [YouTube](#).

MUSIC: This Sunday, the Sanctuary choir will sing Rip Jackson's



Soul Matters
SHARING CIRCLE

**Sep Theme:
Possibility**



*"In my teaching, I try to expose my students to the widest range of aesthetic **possibilities**, so I'll offer them stories from Anton Chekhov to Denis Johnson, from Flannery*

arrangement of the beautiful river song "Down to the River to Pray" (from *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*), with soloists Julia Jaffe, Elizabeth Walsh and Jamie Willis. They will also sing Brian Tate's joyous gospel song "Overflowing" and Larry Shackley's energetic arrangement of the African American Spiritual "Wade in the Water." David Meharry will sing Deva Primal and Mitten's "So Much Magnificence." Julia Jaffe will sing Aaron Copland's powerful arrangement of the African American Spiritual "Shall We Gather at the River." And Rip Jackson will play a jazz arrangement of this spiritual by Greg Howlett.

O'Connor to A.M.
Homes, and perhaps
investigating all that
strange variation of
beauty has rubbed off
on me."

— **Chang-Rae Lee,**
Korean-American
novelist & Professor of
Creative Writing

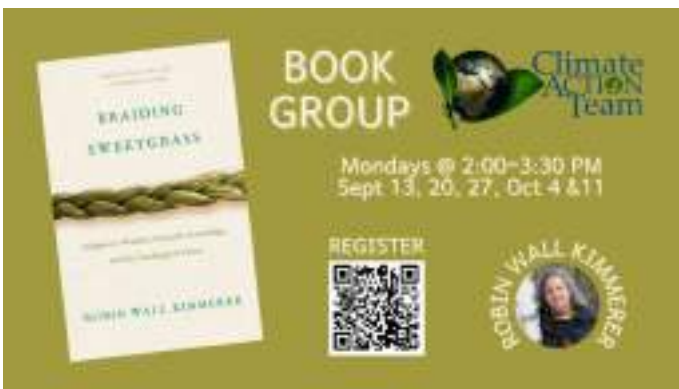


Technical Needs

We have yet to hire a Tech Manager for our Sunday Services. As we begin our **NEW congregational year** our needs to adapt a hybrid model seem crucial.

We are in **URGENT NEED of volunteers** to assist with the AV technology on a rotating basis. If you have technical expertise, can use web based platforms, like social media or are logical please join our AV Volunteers.

You will be trained to run / assist with AV and detailed guidelines will be available on Sundays for you to follow along. Please reach out to [Pratik Mamtora](#).



Green Action Corner

Book Group on ["Braiding Sweetgrass"](#) by **Robin Wall Kimmerer** Mondays —2:00-3:30 on Sept 13, 20, 27, Oct 4, and Indigenous Peoples' Day, Oct 11th via Zoom Presented by the **Climate Action Team** and lead by **Jane Beswick** and **Bobbie Hodson**.

[REGISTER now](#)

"Braiding Sweetgrass", written by a biologist who is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, examines the spirituality of living peacefully with nature. This book examines our UU principles include the search for truth, our journey to dismantle racism and oppression, our call to recognize the interrelationship of all, and our belief in

the worth and dignity of everyone; Additionally, reading this book will give us another perspective of ways of being more connected to the earth and its other species. This is a book of sacred and wisdom written by a woman who can interweave indigenous thought, knowledge and history with scientific truths. "When we heal the earth we heal ourselves" We hope you'll join us for all five sessions, but we recognize that life gets in the way. Please e-mail either [Jane Beswick](#) or [Bobbie Hodson](#) to let us know that you're interested in joining us for this book group.



FPLex is Hiring!

Main Contact : Senior Minister
Status : Independent Contractor
Rate : \$20/hr, with a minimum of 5 hours per week (inclusive of Sunday morning)
Starting date : September 19, 2021



Sunday Worship Reservation

Beginning Sep 19th Sunday worship will be held in Parish Hall. Seating will be limited and we ask that you sign up in advance if you plan to attend. We can fit **100 chairs**, with comfortable space in-between, it might be best if you plan to attend twice a month so that all may attend regularly. The service will be live-streamed. **Sign up [HERE](#) to reserve your seat(s).**

**Know someone who'll be perfect for FPLex?
Please share this with anyone you know who might be looking for weekend work.
www.FPLex.org/Jobs**

Purpose: The Worship Tech Manager will be the primary Zoom host during on-line Sunday worship services, and will help with all Audio-Visual tech as needed. Hours are from 8:30 am – noon on Sunday, with other hours as availability allows.

***First Parish Members & Friends are not eligible to apply.**



Building Bridges Returns

FPLex's Preserve Our Democracy team hopes to continue providing opportunities to move towards a greater understanding of those with whom we hold differing perspectives and opinions.

Come join our first overview meeting

Thu, Sep 16th @ 7:30 - 8:30 PM

ZOOM Meeting ID: 968 5208 9665

Passcode: Reunited

The focus this fall will be a three-month Book Read in Oct/Nov/Dec of **Jonathan Haidt's, [The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion](#)**. Meetings will be via ZOOM, third Thursday each month, 7:30-8:30. We welcome your comments, your insights, your stories, your shared wisdom!

The Building Bridges Team

Liz, Michelle, Dori, David



SHOPPING MATTERS

Make **FPLex** your preferred charitable organization every time you shop on **AmazonSmile**. 0.5% of your purchase proceeds are donated to FPLex.

Go to **Your Account > Your Lists > AmazonSmile Charity Lists > Type First Parish in Lexington** and click search > Select > Bookmark tab for future!

Montessori Based Children's Education
Kindergarten to 3rd Grade

Starts Oct 2021

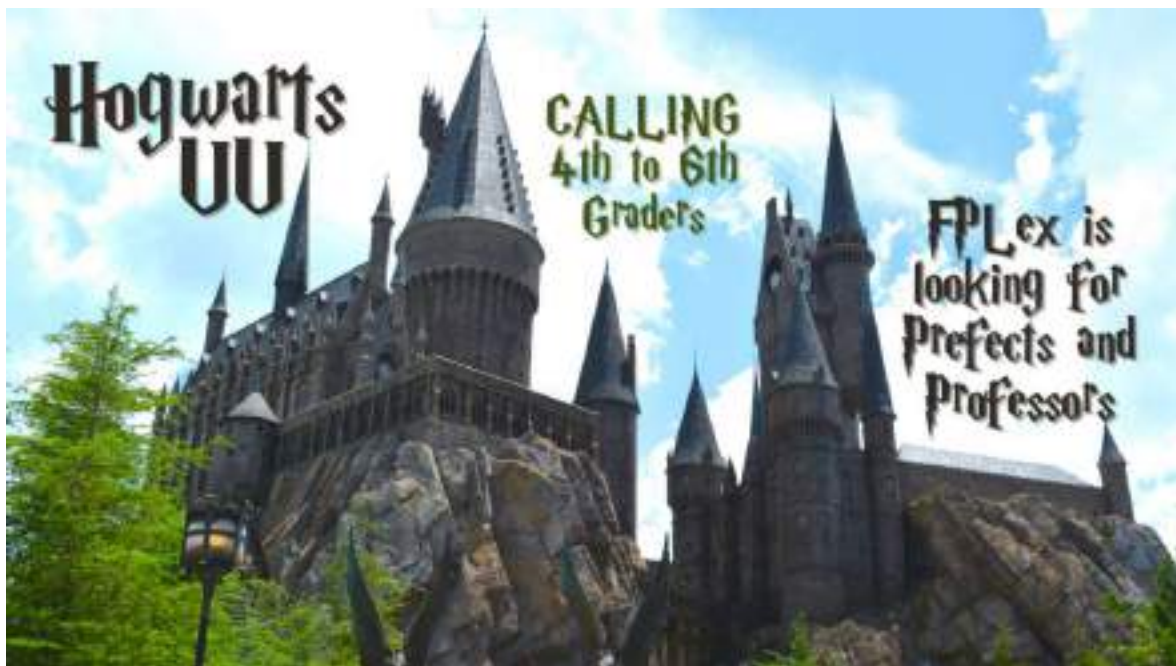
Spirit Play[™]

The complex block contains a colorful illustration of a rainbow arching over two blue, smiling clouds. Below the clouds are several red hearts. To the right of the illustration is the text "Starts Oct 2021" and the "Spirit Play" logo, which depicts a tree with colorful triangles as leaves inside a circular frame. Below the logo is the brand name "Spirit Play" in a cursive font.

Children's Spirit Play Visits Lexington

Spirit Play introduces children to the stories of our faith in a concrete way where they can wonder about them at their own level of maturation, intelligence, and creativity, allowing them to learn the language for talking about their faith in a nondogmatic way.

The program offers children real choices through freedom within the structure that promotes a sense of community and develops an underlying sense of the spiritual and the mystery of life. Spirit play will be taught by **Annelie Nygren-Mitchell**, an experienced Montessori preschool teacher.



Hogwarts UU comes to Lexington

The themes reflected in the **Harry Potter** story strongly support the eight Unitarian Universalist Principles which encourage us to be kind, treat each other with dignity, to search for what's true, build a peaceful world, and care for the earth.

Each session is designed to fill one hour. Classroom features include Hogwarts Express, Goblet of Fire, Pensieve, Owl Delivery, History of Magic; and, Laboratories such as Wizarding Tools, Potions, Herbology, Charms, Care of Magical Creatures, Transfiguration, Defense against the Dark Arts, Divination, and Muggle Studies.

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

