



Weekly Update Wednesday, November 28, 2018 First Parish in Lexington

Worship Service at 10:30 AM

Sunday, December 2, 2018

"Let Us Carry the Light"

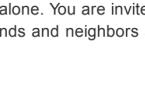


Cantor Lisa Doob from Temple Isaiah will be our honored guest as we explore the meaning of Hanukkah. This ancient story tells of the miracle of faith in the midst of hatred and near destruction of the Jewish Faith. Today we will have a special collection for both Temple Emunah and Temple Isaiah to help defray some of the extra costs for security which they now need after the massacre in Pittsburgh. Come and show our love and support for our beloved Jewish neighbors, and let us share our resources with those who have felt the sting of persecution and hatred. Together we will dispel the climate of fear and suspicion! All are welcome this Sunday at 10:30am.

This Sunday, in celebration of Hanukkah, the sanctuary choir will sing Robert Decormier's joyful arrangement of the Peter, Paul and Mary song "Light One Candle." They will also sing Giovanni Palestrina's ethereal acapella renaissance piece "Sicut Cervus." Julia Jaffe and Elizabeth Walsh will sing Rip Jackson's setting of the Hanukkah text "Ner Li." Guest Sarasa Ensemble cellist Jennifer Morscher will play a Rip Jackson's original composition "Pas de Deux" (from *The Beatitudes: A Journey of Compassion, Justice and Love Triumphant*) for the postlude. For the centering music, she will play Camille Saint-Saëns' lyrical and beautiful "The Swan" (from *The Carnival of the Animals*). And for the candle lighting music, Jennifer will play Bach's mystical "Sarabande" (from *Suite No. 2 for Solo Cello in d minor, BWV 1008*).

There will be Sunday school classes for grades Pre-K through eight. The nursery will be open for infants and toddlers.

Our monthly special collection is this week. As you know, the recent spate of anti-semitic hate crimes, including the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue, has caused Jewish congregations across the country to be quite fearful. In response, our local temples, Emunah and Isaiah, have had to shoulder thousands of dollars of security costs just so that they can continue to worship. I believe that they should not have to carry this burden alone. You are invited to contribute with love and a sense of generosity to support our Jewish friends and neighbors at both temples. Let us show that hate has no home here.



This Sunday is a Food First Sunday. Please bring non-perishable food items and place them in the baskets located at the entrances to the sanctuary. The donations will be brought to the Lexington Food Pantry to help feed our neighbors. Thank you for your generosity!

[Click Here to listen to last week's sermon by Rev. Anne Mason](#)

Voices on the Green this Friday

The next Voices on the Green will take place this **Friday, November 30th from 7 to 9 p.m.** (doors open at 6:30 for refreshment and conversation) **Tickets are still available!** You can get them by clicking [here](#), at the church office on Thursday, and at the door. They are \$20 for sponsors, \$10 general admission, and \$5 for students and children. There will be one intermission.



A TED-type talk by Adam Foss will introduce the theme. Adam is a former Assistant District Attorney in the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office in Boston. He is a fierce advocate for criminal justice reform and the importance of the role of the prosecutor in ending Mass Incarceration.

Local storytellers for the evening include Marianne Boswell, Larry Prusak, Stephen Shick, Ben Soule, Debbie Weiner, and Shana Yansen, who will take us as far away as New Orleans and Honduras, and as near as Brooklyn, Boston, and Lexington, as they share what they learned about the world, themselves, and the struggle for justice.

In addition, Rev. Tyrone Edwards, pastor of two Baptist churches in New Orleans, will share his work restoring cultural life in Plaquemines Parish, one of the areas hit hardest by Hurricane Katrina, and with the Peoples Institute for Survival and Beyond which focuses on "undoing racism" in our society. He is the founder of the Zion Travelers Cooperative Center which takes as its inspiration the Biblical quotation, "Let us arise and rebuild." In this work, he has traveled around the country and connected with many coalitions for building communities.

Music will be provided by Mark David Buckles and Matt Myer, who perform original music and rearrangements of popular songs, with art and soul. Mark, a conductor, composer, singer, music educator and multi-instrumentalist, serves as Director of music at Arlington Street Church in Boston, Music Director of The Sanctuary Boston, and Lecturer and Affiliated Artist of Music Theory at MIT. Matt has a degree in hand drumming from Berklee College of Music and has studied in Cuba, Ghana, and Central America. He has performed with Ysaye Barnwell, Pete Seeger, Jim Scott, Nick Page, and the Halalisa Singers.

Alongside this program, there will be a children's program, led by Marlon Carley, poet, performer, and educator.

This is an evening not to be missed, exploring what it means to be committed to doing what each of us can to build a world where justice prevails for all people.

Seeking Food Donations



Please sign up to provide festive finger food for Voices on the Green – Friday night, November 30th! We need **savories and sweets**, things that people can pop on a small paper plate and then pop into their mouths—no utensils required. We **do not** need wine or nonalcoholic beverages. The Voices team will provide those. The best way to sign up would be to email [Debbie Armstrong](#).

Each food donation should serve 8 to 10. Please bring your dish to church by 5:30 on Friday. If a couple of you would like to help Marty Kvaal and Debbie with this aspect of the event, please let them know. **First Parish is a nut-free building.** Please do not bring any food with nuts.

Final Call for Poinsettia Orders

Help make the sanctuary festive this holiday season! First Parish is **accepting orders** for poinsettias from Wilson Farm **until Sunday, December 2nd**. The cost is \$10.00 for a 6 1/2" pot, with proceeds going towards the purchase of greens and other items for holiday decorating of the church. Poinsettias can be brought home after the Christmas Eve service. To order, [please click here](#) or fill out an order form on the piano during social hour. Contact Jane Foley in the office for more information.



Newcomer Drop-In



Are you new to First Parish? Unitarian Universalism? Want to know more about our worship, music, social justice work, or religious education? Please join Rev. Anne Mason and the Members and Friends Committee on **Sunday, December 2, in the church parlor, 11:45am – 12:30 pm**, to learn more about the church, UUism, and how you can be a part of this vibrant congregation. Contact [Dave Horton](#) for more information.

All are welcome!

Sarasa Ensemble Concert

The next concert in the Sarasa Ensemble series will be held this **Sunday, December 2 at 3:30pm**. For this concert, Sarasa will perform Boccherini and Mozart sextets, including Mozart's wonderful *Sinfonia concertante* in E-flat, K. 364. Don't miss the chance to hear this sumptuous music performed on original instruments. Tickets are \$25 (\$20 seniors; \$10 students). [Click here to view their website](#).



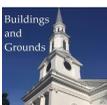
First Parish's Children Need You!

Our Religious Education Programming on Sunday Mornings is possible because of many helping hands volunteering as the second adult in the classrooms with our staff teachers. We ask everyone—parents and non-parents alike—to volunteer regularly to support this valuable and vital ministry at First Parish. Because of recent growth in the program, we've added a class and hired teacher John Roop. But this means we need more volunteers!

Volunteering in Sunday school is a fantastic opportunity to build relationships with our children and our teachers, as well as to engage with our monthly theme or service topic through different approaches. Our staff teachers do all the preparation and leading of the groups. You are not expected to teach, but we do ask you to bring your open mind, loving heart, and giving hands. Many hands make light work, and to make volunteering easier for all of us, we've moved to Signup Genius, which will also give you automatic email reminders. Parents are asked to volunteer a minimum of 4 times in the church year, and non-parents are asked to give at least one Sunday a year and we welcome you to do more! All volunteers need to be adults and part of the First Parish community for six months before volunteering. Questions? Contact Lisa Maria A. Steinberg, Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry.

[link for Sign Up Genius](#)

Buildings & Ground Meeting



Please join our hard-working Building and Grounds team to hear about our current projects and ideas for the future. We need people who love the challenges of old structures and gardens, and who can share in the work of keeping First Parish safe and sound. Join us on **Tuesday, December 4 at 7:00** in the green classroom downstairs. Toni Tasker, for B&G

HOLIDAY WORKSHOP:

An Intergenerational Activity

for Children and Families



Save the date for **Saturday, December 8th from 9:00 - 12:00** and join us for a festive morning before the fire in Parker Hall featuring craft-making projects for young and old, cookie baking, holiday cards, and gifts for the local UU Urban Ministry service program, Renewal House, a domestic violence shelter in Roxbury for individuals and families fleeing violence or abuse.

Gift cards needed! Please consider bringing a store gift card for newly arrived refugees supported by the International Institute of New England, which partners with LexRAP in Lexington. Suggested stores include Amazon, Target, Marshalls, Shaws, Stop and Shop, and Market Basket.

Come enjoy our traditional family celebration of the holidays!

Join the UUM and Roxbury Connections for a celebration of



Black Nativity

Langston Hughes' song-play of joy, hope, and liberation – the Black community's Christmas Gift to the world



Sunday, December 9, 2018

**Reception at 2:15 pm
Curtain at 3:30 pm**

**The Paramount Center at Emerson College
559 Washington Street, Boston**

Join us for the 48th edition of Langston Hughes' Black Nativity, a cherished tradition in Boston that tells the Christmas story through dance, gospel music and everyday speech.

You are invited to the Paramount Lounge before the show for a special highlight reception and inside look into how Black Nativity is produced, featuring **Bary Gaither, Director of the National Center of Afro-American Artists (NCAAA) and Producer of Black Nativity.**



Tickets are \$35-47.50. Reserve yours at

http://bit.ly/BlackNativity_2018

Please RSVP to Marcia Butman at mbutman@gmail.com.



First Parish is an accredited Green Sanctuary and a Welcoming Congregation.

[>>> Shop at Amazon to benefit First Parish. <<<](#)



First Parish in Lexington
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Weekly Update submissions are due on Tuesdays at 9:00 am.
Please email submissions or inquiries to admin@fplex.org.

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