



Weekly Update Wednesday, November 7, 2018 First Parish in Lexington

Worship Service at 10:30 AM

Sunday, November 11, 2018

"Remembering"



One hundred years after the end of World War I, we will look back and honor, reflect, and ask some hard questions. We will toll the bells at 11:00 and read the names of the First Parish members who served in the war. With the longing for peace still in our hearts, what is our role as people of faith? Join Rev. Anne Mason at this sacred service.

This Sunday, all of the music for worship will support the theme of "Peace." The sanctuary choir will sing Gwyneth Walker's serene "Peace I Ask of Thee, O River" (from *The Millennium Suite*) and Paul Winter's ethereal and passionate "Agnus Dei" (from *Missa Gaia: A Mass for the Earth*). Austin Burns will sing Jacques Brel's powerful "Marieke" (*Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*). For the centering music, Rip Jackson will play Claude Debussy's hauntingly beautiful piano piece "Rêverie." And for the postlude, Rip will play John Stanley's energetic organ work "Voluntary in G Major."

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

Thank you for your donations last week during the special plate collection. We raised over \$1,300 to send to support the UU Urban Ministry. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Coming this Week

The Unity Group will have their monthly luncheon and program on **Monday, November 12th**. All are invited to join together at **noon** for socializing, followed by lunch (bring your own) and dessert (S, T, U, and V, please bring a dessert to share). The program at 1:30 will feature First Parish's Cammy Thomas, who will share her poetry.

The Eighties-plus Group will meet on **Tuesday, November 13th at 12:30** in Parker Hall. If you are 80 years or more, please join Dan Fenn and company for a catered lunch (\$10 fee) and discussion. (Partners or spouses of attendees are welcome, even if they haven't reached the big 8-0!). Email Dan if you are interested in attending: fennhd@aol.com.

The Great Fall Auction

The Great Fall Auction catalog is available at www.charityauction.bid/fplex. We have 93 items -- small and big -- up for bid! The auction is on **Saturday, November 17th** in the Parish Hall: doors open for refreshments at 6 PM; silent auction goes from 6 to 7:30 PM; live auction starts at 7:30. Contact Lisa Maria for help arranging childcare. You do not need to be present to win: [click here](#) to enter your proxy bid for one of the live auction items.



This year's auction features some old favorites, some exciting first-time offerings, and six fixed-price (\$25-\$30) special events that will be sold -- **first come first serve** -- at the silent auction. For details see Items 100-105 in the [catalog](#). Arrive early to grab a seat at these special events!

Email FallAuction@fplex.org with any questions.

Solstice Planning



We are planning a new evening Winter Solstice service on Friday, December 21st. With music and candles, dancing and darkness, we will experience the quiet of the longest night, and welcome the sun as we wait for her return. This will be a worship service exploring earth-centered imagery, with an invitation to cherish the darkness.

I am looking for a few people to help plan this service. If you are drawn to the Pagan expressions of faith, or simply excited about helping to shape a Winter Solstice experience for our community, please be in touch with Rev. Anne at minister@fplex.org

Congregational Photo

On **Sunday, November 18th**, immediately after the service (weather permitting), we will gather on the front steps of First Parish for the annual congregational photo. Please plan to step outside to say "cheese" before heading to Parish Hall for coffee, crackers, and cheese!



Holiday Decorating

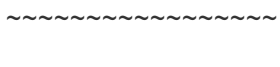
It's not too early to order your holiday greenery!



Help make the sanctuary festive this holiday season! First Parish will be accepting orders for poinsettias from Wilson Farm **beginning on Sunday, November 11th**.

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. Order forms and payment (cash or checks made payable to First Parish in Lexington) are due on Friday, November 30th. Orders will not be accepted without payment. Poinsettias can be brought home after the Christmas Eve service.

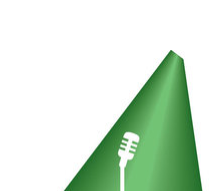
To order, [please click here](#) or fill out an order form on the piano during social hour.



Ethan Showalter from Lexington Boy Scout Troop 119 will be selling wreaths during social hour **most Sundays in November**. The 20-inch wreaths are \$15 each and will be available in late November/early December for your choice of pick up at the Church or home delivery. If interested in placing an order, please see Ethan at the wreath table during social hour.



Voices on the Green: "Journeys to Justice"



The next Voices on the Green will take place on **Friday, November 30th from 7 to 9 p.m.** (doors open at 6:30 for refreshment and conversation) Tickets are available now! You can get them by clicking [here](#), at the church office, after Sunday services on November 11th and 18th, and at the door. They are \$20 for sponsors, \$10 general admission, and \$5 for students and children. There will be one intermission.

The program will feature First Parish congregants sharing personal stories reflecting on how social justice experiences have inspired them and helped them learn and grow: Marianne Boswell, Beatrix Klebe, Larry Prusak, Stephen Shick, Ben Soule, Debbie Weiner, and Shana Yansen. It will include two nationally prominent leaders: Adam Foss, who was an Assistant District Attorney in Boston and now advocates for criminal justice reform focused on the impact of prosecutors; and the Rev. Tyrone Edwards of New Orleans, a Baptist preacher and community activist, who initiated, organized, and continues to lead groups in New Orleans to rebuild the structures and the communal life following Hurricane Katrina, and travels and speaks around the country "undoing racism."

Music will be provided by David Buckles and Matt Meyer, performers and educators, who will present original music and arrangements of popular songs with a focus on building a better world. Marlon Carey, poet, performer, and parent, will return to lead the children's program that occurs alongside the main event.

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.

THE FOCALPOINT

Submissions are now being accepted for the Winter edition of The Focalpoint. Please send along information about events and programs taking place in December, January, and February, as well as highlights from recent programs that you'd like to share.

The deadline for submission is **Friday, November 23rd at 5:00pm**. The Focalpoint will be published on December 1st.

Send info or questions to [Jane Foley, Parish Administrator](mailto:Jane.Foley@parish-administrator.org).

Note from Church of the Larger Fellowship

The Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF), an *online* and *by mail* UU congregation, has thousands of members world-wide, including nearly 900 members currently incarcerated in the US. In December, we will be personally addressing 900 holiday cards and mailing them to our UU incarcerated members.



Is there anyone at First Parish in Lexington willing to donate some time to help with this important project at our headquarters at the UUA in the Seaport District in Boston?

Here are the days and times we need volunteers.

- Tuesday, December 11: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Thursday, December 13: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

What can we offer? Free coffee & tea, and our gratitude!

Here's our address:

CLF, UU
24 Farnsworth Street

Boston, MA 02210-1409

Let me know if you're able to come. Bring some friends! Bring your favorite pen. **We need you!**

Beth Murray

CLF & Quest for Meaning

617-948-6150

bmurray@clfuu.org



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

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

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