



# Weekly Update Wednesday, December 5, 2018 First Parish in Lexington

## Worship Service at 10:30 AM

Sunday, December 9, 2018

### "In the Presence of Light"



The mystical birth narratives of prophets from many religions are powerful stories for people of all faiths. As we all experience the darkness of this time of year, we explore our roots in this season of Advent, as we look for hope and for light from many sources. Perhaps the most important place to search for all of these is within ourselves.... Please join Rev. Anne Mason at 10:30 a.m.

This Sunday we will present music celebrating the theme of Advent. The sanctuary choir will sing Felix Mendelssohn's beautiful chorus "Behold a Star from Jacob Shining" (from *Christus*) and Morten Johannes Lauridsen's incredibly moving choral work "Sure on this Shining Night." Our section leaders Austin Burns, Julia Jaffe, David Meharry and Elizabeth Walsh will sing Tomás Luis de Victoria's hauntingly lyrical renaissance acapella piece "O Magnum Mysterium." For the centering music, Rip Jackson will play an arrangement of Arcangelo Corelli's "Pastorale" (from the *Concerto grosso in G minor, Op. 6, No. 8 "Fatto per la notte di Natale"*). And for the postlude, Rip will play Louis-Claude Daquin's magnificent "À la venue de Noël" (from *Livre de Noël's*).

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

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

## Holiday Workshop for Children and Families

Please come on **Saturday, December 8th from 9:00 - 12:00** 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.

**YOU'RE INVITED!!**



**HOLIDAY WORKSHOP**

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!

## Black Nativity at UU Urban Ministry



Join the UUUM 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** in the Paramount Lounge before the show for a special highlight reception and inside look into how Black Nativity is produced, featuring Barry Gaither, Director of the National Center for Afro-American Artists (NCAAA) and producer of Black Nativity.

**Curtain at 3:30.** The Paramount Center at Emerson College, 559 Washington Street, Boston.

[Click here for tickets.](#)

## A Note from Cantor Lisa Doob

Last Sunday, our 3rd through 8th Graders decorated candles to gift to Cantor Doob and Temple Isaiah. Cantor Doob shared that they "will be using the tapers the children decorated in our Temple Chanukah menorah in the lobby. The little candles will be perfect as our candle-lighting candle on Friday nights for many weeks to come! And most of all, the color and joy of those candles will bring a bit of light to us at Temple Isaiah in these dark times."



Thanks to your generous donations during the special plate collection, over \$1,200 will be donated to the temples to help with their security expenses.

## Luncheons!



Next week, there will be two opportunities to enjoy a luncheon at First Parish.

**Unity Group Luncheon, Monday, December 10th at Noon.** Come join the Unity Group in Parker Hall to hear a goodly portion of "A Christmas Memory" by Truman Capote. Special holiday potluck: A, B, or C, please bring a dessert to share. All other letters, bring a main dish, side dish, or salad.

**Eighty-plus Luncheon, Wednesday, December 12th at 12:30pm.**

Please join Dan Fenn and other notable Eighty-plus members and friends of First Parish in Parker Hall for a luncheon and discussion. The catered lunch from Via Lago is \$10, and the discussion is priceless. Please email Dan at [fennhd@aol.com](mailto:fennhd@aol.com) if you plan on attending.

## New TV Screens in the Sanctuary



We were thrilled to unveil the new sanctuary TV screens on Sunday. Our new Operations Team put together a proposal, and the Parish Board approved the purchase of these screens with funding from Voices on the Green and the Library Fund. For those of you who are not quite so sure about seeing such modern technology in our historic sanctuary — please know that the screens are on lifts behind the railing in the organ loft, safely hidden inside beautiful wooden housing created by Bill Pittore. So when we choose not to use them, you won't even notice them! Special thanks to Bill and Lew Counts who installed these screens in time for the first Voices on the Green performance of the season on November 30th.

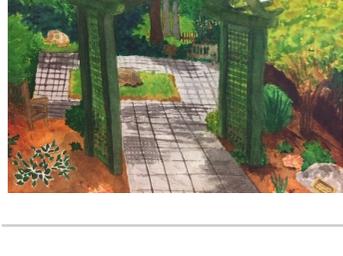
These screens will be available for worship services, lectures, and events in the sanctuary. On Sunday mornings when we choose to use the screens, the staff will select visual images that will enhance the communication of our ideas during worship. We will also use the screens to project the lyrics to our hymns and liturgy. Of course our hymnals will still be available for those who prefer to read the music as they sing. I must tell you that I had no idea how our communal singing would be so enhanced by these screens — your faces were lifted up as you sang, our eyes connected, and worship together felt so lively and engaged!

I am grateful for the opportunity to enhance our worship life together.

In faith,

Rev. Anne

## Notecards for Sale



**Now on sale** during social hour and at the office are notecards of First Parish's Memorial Garden. Thank you to Margaret Brooke for the thoughtful idea of creating cards specifically for First Parish, and to Helen Lutton Cohen for the beautiful watercolor painting.

Margaret will be selling the cards during social hour, with proceeds going to the church. The cost is \$10 for a pack of 8.

## "A Christmas Carol"

The annual reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* will take place on **Sunday, December 16th at 4:00pm.** Dan Fenn will read this classic tale by the roaring fire in Parker Hall. Refreshments will be served. Please invite friends and families to this all-ages event.



## Climate Action Team



The Climate Action Team is launching a new 2019 initiative—A Planet for the Children—that will engage the entire First Parish community in education and action programs to combat climate change. You will be challenged to adjust to a more sustainable life style- how you eat and drink, how you use energy in your home, and what kind of transportation you use. And, you will be invited to join important public actions supporting legislative initiatives and interfaith witness.

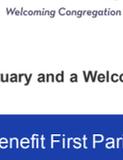
**January's programs offer a preview of what is coming:**

- Book discussion on *Justice on Earth* with Rev. Anne (Jan. 13th after worship)
- Sunday Green Forum (Jan. 20th after worship) with Gilbert Metcalf, author of *Paying for Pollution: Why a Carbon Tax is Good for America.*
- Intergenerational Worship on Climate Justice (Sunday, Jan. 27)

More information will be available at the CAT display during social hour following worship.

## Soul Matters for December: Mystery

Unitarian Universalists love questions and questioning, trying to understand the mysteries of life. However, being a people of mystery isn't just about engaging life as a marvelous puzzle. It's also about allowing yourself to be spoken to by life's wonders. It implies a letting go in order to discover more mysteries.



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

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



First Parish in Lexington  
7 Harrington Road, Lexington, MA 02421  
781-862-8200/fplex.org

Weekly Update submissions are due on Tuesdays at 9:00 am.  
Please email submissions or inquiries to [admin@fplex.org](mailto:admin@fplex.org).

Share this email:



Manage your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™  
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.  
View this email [online](#).

7 Harrington Rd  
Lexington, MA | 02421 US

This email was sent to .  
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

