



Weekly Update

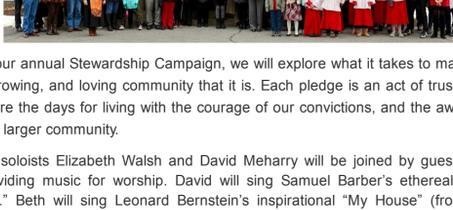
Wednesday, February 13, 2019

First Parish in Lexington

Worship Service at 10:30 AM

Sunday, February 17, 2019

"Ministries of Grace"



As we begin our annual Stewardship Campaign, we will explore what it takes to make First Parish the vibrant, growing, and loving community that it is. Each pledge is an act of trust and an act of faith. These are the days for living with the courage of our convictions, and the awareness of our role within the larger community.

This Sunday, soloists Elizabeth Walsh and David Meharry will be joined by guest pianist Sarah Hager in providing music for worship. David will sing Samuel Barber's ethereal "Sure on this Shining Night." Beth will sing Leonard Bernstein's inspirational "My House" (from *Peter Pan*). Together, they will sing Leonard Bernstein's poignant "One Hand, One Heart" (from *West Side Story*). For all of the instrumental music on Sunday, Sarah will play J. S. Bach's lyrical "Aria" (from *Partita No. 4, BWV 828*) and his lilting "Passepied" (from *Partita No. 5, BWV 829*). She will also play C. P. E. Bach's energetic "Sonatensatz" (from *Sonata in C, Wq 62/10*).

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

[Click here to listen to last week's sermon, "Face Time" by Rev. Helen Lutton Cohen](#)

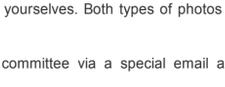
It Takes a Village

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered so far this year in Sunday School!

We still have some spots open in the coming weeks. Parents and non-parents - we need your support to keep our program going! Please take a minute to fill out this [Sign Up Genius](#). Questions? Be in touch with [Lisa Maria](#).

Focalpoint - Spring 2019

It's time to start planning publicity for Spring 2019 at First Parish! The Focalpoint will be published on March 1st, with a **deadline for submissions on Friday, February 22nd** (although early submissions are appreciated!). Please send information about programs and events to be held in March, April, and May.



[Please email information to Jane Foley in the office.](#) Thank you!

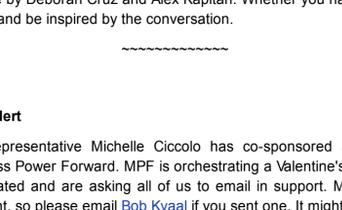
First Parish Picture Directory Project

The Members and Friends Committee is not finished taking photos for the **First Parish Picture Directory!** The committee will be setting up its "studio" once again on **Sunday, February 24th, in the Common Room adjacent to Parish Hall during social hour.** Family groupings and individual photos will be taken that day. As an option, if you have a smart phone, bring it with you and download your own photos of family groupings and yourselves. Both types of photos will be placed in the directory.

A third option is to send your favorite photos to the committee via a special email address established for this purpose: pictures@fplex.org.

Don't be left out of the directory! Send us your photos now or come to the Common Room on February 24th!

If you have a question about the project, feel free to get in touch with [Dave Horton](#).



Julie Tobin and Family

Climate Action Team

A Planet for Our Children Initiative 2019



Sunday, February 24th at Noon. *Justice on Earth* book discussion with Rev. Anne Mason. Conversation with LexRAP will focus on Chapter 12, The Journey of Partnering for Justice by Deborah Cruz and Alex Kapitan. Whether you have read the book or not come and be inspired by the conversation.

Legislative Action Alert

Lexington's State Representative Michelle Ciccolo has co-sponsored all of the climate bills recommended by Mass Power Forward. MPF is orchestrating a Valentine's day personal thanks to the reps who cooperated and are asking all of us to email in support. MPF wants to know how many emails were sent, so please email [Bob Kvaal](mailto:Bob.Kvaal) if you sent one. It might be something like:

[Contact Michelle Ciccolo](#)

Words to Move the Spirit

"Whatever peace I know rests in the natural world, in feeling myself part of it." ~May Sarton

UUUM - Exploring Roxbury's History

Exploring Roxbury's History-an inside view

Saturday, March 2, 10:30-12:30
[Museum of African American History, 46 Joy St., Beacon Hill](#)

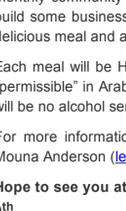


Discover the history of the black community on Beacon Hill with a visit to the African Meeting House (the oldest extant black church in the US) and the Smith School. Many active abolitionists lived here in the early 19th century. Later the community moved from Beacon Hill to the South End to Roxbury.

Roxbury historian Rep. Byron Rushing will join us to talk about the movement of the black community from Beacon Hill to Roxbury. Don't miss his engaging style and penetrating knowledge. From 1972 to 1985, he was President of the Museum of African American History and under his direction, the museum purchased and began the restoration of the African Meeting House.

Meet at the Museum, 46 Joy Street. Cost \$3.50 if we get a group of 20, other wise \$10. Lunch catered by [Haley House](#) will be available after the visit at 12:30PM for \$12. Pre registration required to [Marcia Butman](#)

Interested in Membership at First Parish?



Over three Sundays in March we will be having gatherings for people interested in joining our church from 11:45 - 1, and we would love to have you attend and meet others over a light luncheon.

Rev. Anne will be leading some of these events, with help from other staff and church leaders. Here is the information:

March 3: *How do we connect?* Topics will include Covenant, Membership and Stewardship.

March 17: *Who are we?* Topics will include history of Unitarian Universalism and our own congregation's history.

March 31: *Deeds not Creeds.* Topics will include UU Theology and Social Justice. You will also have the chance to sign the membership book if you choose to do so.

Please let us know if you can attend so that we can have enough food. [RSVP to Dave Horton](#) by Tuesday Feb. 27th.

'Hand in Hand Café'

A community dinner cooked by refugee women

from Syria and Iraq

Saturday, March 9th, 5:15pm - 6:45pm

'Hand in Hand Café' is the latest opportunity for members of the First Parish community to do what they know so well – give back and build community. In coordination with LexRAP, First Parish will be hosting a series of dinners, cooked by refugee women who are supported by LexRAP (www.lexrap.org) for more information on LexRAP). These dinners will provide an opportunity for the greater Lexington community to enjoy food from Syria and Iraq as well as tableside discussion on a variety of topics that will bring us all closer together. We hope you will join us. Tickets will be available through Eventbrite and are \$30 (plus a small service fee). Once Eventbrite is live, First Parish congregants will be provided with an email link to be able to purchase tickets. Anyone wanting to make an additional donation to LexRAP to support the work they do with refugees will be able to do so when you buy a ticket for the dinner.



Here's a bit of background on how 'Hand in Hand Café' came to be. Last October, LexRAP organized a fund-raising dinner at Temple Isaiah featuring a menu of Middle Eastern specialties determined and cooked by many of the refugee families that LexRAP supports. It was a great success! It was a great success not only as a fundraiser, but also as an opportunity to "create community."

At the same time, Rev. Anne Mason reached out to share her idea for a refugee restaurant and offered First Parish as host. At their "Jams for Justice" concert in November, the church raised almost \$3000 as seed money. While not exactly a restaurant, what has evolved is this idea of monthly community dinners. What a great opportunity this is. The refugee moms will be able to build some business skills and contribute some income to their families. The rest of us will get a delicious meal and a chance to build community and understanding.

Each meal will be Halal, with both a meat (chicken or beef) and vegetarian option. Halal means "permissible" in Arabic. Food served will be permissible according to Islamic law. In addition, there will be no alcohol served and as you know, First Parish is nut-free.

For more information or to volunteer to help with set-up, serving, or clean up please contact Mouna Anderson (lexmouna@gmail.com) or Naomi Rosenthal (naomi.rosenthal@verizon.net)

Hope to see you at our first dinner, open exclusively to First Parish congregants, on March 9th.

Adult Program with Stephen Shick

"Sustaining Visions of Justice"



Will it ever stop, the endless litany of public and private offenses against all we believe? We say "love is the doctrine of this church" yet we wake up in the morning and listen to the news and wonder: does what we believe really matter?

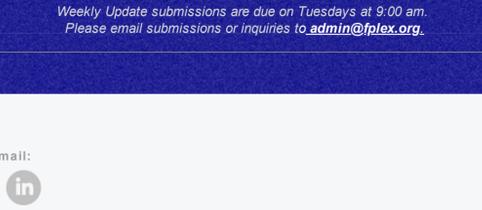
Sustaining Visions of Justice is a three-week series of small group discussions designed to create a safe and supportive environment for the honest exploration of how to spiritually survive, thrive, and help the world move toward peace and justice in times like these. On successive weeks these themes will guide our reflections and discussions: *The Inward Journey, Being a Force of History, and Being a Force of Nature.*

Facilitated by First Parishioner, Stephen Shick. **Tuesdays, March 19 & 26 and April 7, 7:00-9:00pm**

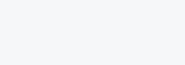
[Click here to register.](#)

Unitarian Universalist Association

General Assembly 2019



What do we want Unitarian Universalism to be? It is a time when we are asking big questions in our faith, and GA 2019 will be focused on digging into those questions together. It is a critical chance for congregational leaders and passionate UUs to set new goals and aspirations for our religious community. Help begin to reshape our Association and our congregations in new and powerful ways.



Visit uaa.org/ga for

- Programming Information
- Registration and Housing
- Financial Aid Information
- Volunteer Opportunities



Coming This Week

Day	Time	Location
Wednesday, February 13th		
Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Master Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Thursday, February 14th		
Ethics Course with Rev. Anne Mason	2:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Meditation Group	4:00 p.m.	Parlor
Lexington PFLAG	7:00 p.m.	Common Room
Scrabble Club	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall
Friday, February 15th		
LYFS Executive Team Meeting	1:00 p.m.	Green Room
Lex Pride teen drop-in	5:00 p.m.	Robinson Hall
Roaring Jelly	7:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Sunday, February 17th		
Worship Service	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Monday, February 18th		
Staff Meeting	11:00 a.m.	Minister's Office
Deborah Abel Dance Class	3:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
Tuesday, February 19th		
Ops Team	10:00 a.m.	Minister's Office
Deborah Abel Dance Class	4:00 p.m.	Parish Hall
Empty Sky Sangha	7:30 p.m.	Parker Hall



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 messages are due on Tuesdays at 9:00 am.
 Please email submissions or inquiries to admin@fplex.org.

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