

First Parish Women's Retreats - 2019

Our Voices, Our Peace, Our Power

1st Weekend Away:

Friday evening, January 11 - Sunday afternoon, January 13, at Senexet House, CT

2nd Weekend Away:

Friday evening, January 25 - Sunday afternoon, January 27, at Senexet House, CT

"At Home" Retreat:

**Friday evening, February 8 and morning through afternoon, Saturday, February 9,
at First Parish**

This year's retreats will focus on "Our Voices, Our Peace, Our Power" as we share our time together. Banish all cares as we relax, have fun, rejuvenate, get to know each other, and explore these topics, their intersection, and their meaning in our lives. All women of First Parish are warmly invited and welcome!

Away Retreats:

The full weekend retreats are held at Senexet House (senexethouse.org), a comfortable old vacation home in northeastern Connecticut, about an hour and a half from Concord. The bedrooms sleep one to five guests, and meals are fresh, delicious and prepared by someone else! The retreat weekends will be as similar as possible, and as unique as any group will be.

The cost of the Senexet weekends is \$225, which covers two nights, six meals, materials, and a gratuity for the Senexet House staff. (There is a small increase this year, though we kept the increase down again, using a surplus in the retreat account from previous years to cover full costs.)

At-Home Retreat:

We are also offering a shorter women's retreat right at First Parish. The retreat theme is the same as for the "away" retreats and we will provide many of the same elements from the full weekend retreats at the shorter retreat. We will begin with a 'bring your own' wine and cheese social gathering and Opening Circle on Friday evening, February 9. The all-day program on Saturday, February 10 will include workshop sessions, singing and craft time, with a Closing Circle in the late afternoon. We will provide a light continental breakfast, lunch buffet, and afternoon snack on Saturday. The cost is \$75 per person.

ALL Retreats:

Registered participants will receive an email by early January with more details, directions, and ways to assist with various small tasks to help create and care for our retreat community. Registration forms are available online at firstparish.org/forms or in the FP office. If you have questions about the retreats, please email Bozena Smith at bozenasmith@mindspring.com. **To enquire about registration or funding assistance**, please contact our retreat registrar, Darien Smith, at darien@smithquest.com or 978-369-1471.

* * **REGISTRATION FORM - FIRST PARISH WOMEN'S RETREATS - 2019** * *

Which Weekend?

_____ 1st: Jan. 11 - 13, at Senexet House, cost \$225

_____ 2nd: Jan. 25 - 27, at Senexet House, cost \$225

_____ either 1st or 2nd

_____ 3rd: Feb. 8-9, at First Parish, cost \$75

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: Home- _____ **Cell-** _____

Address: _____

Emergency Contact, Name _____ **and Ph:** _____

Food restrictions? _____

Roommate Preference (for Away)? _____

Contribution (optional) toward our retreat scholarship support \$ _____

Please return this form to the church office by Sunday, January 6 with your check:

\$225 for a full weekend retreat or

\$75 for the at-home retreat,

made payable to First Parish in Concord, noted "Women's Retreat" on the memo line.

Note, to hold your place, you must submit the fee with your registration form.

If sending your registration, please mail to:

Women's Retreats, First Parish in Concord, 20 Lexington Rd., Concord, MA 01742

Note that in the case of an oversubscribed retreat, priority will be given to signed First Parish members, as per the FP Membership Policy. Otherwise, registration is on a first come/first served basis. **Late registrations (after Jan. 6th) will be accepted on a space available basis.**

The committee is very grateful for the scholarship funds that allow some to attend who otherwise could not.

If you have questions about the retreats, please email Bozena Smith at bozenasmith@mindspring.com. **To enquire about registration or funding assistance**, please contact our retreat registrar, Darien Smith, at 978-369-1471 or darien@smithquest.com.

Women's Retreat Planning: How You Can Help!

The Women's Retreat Planning Committee is looking for help with planning tasks ahead of the retreats as well as leadership tasks during the retreats. Please check below for ways you would be willing to assist.

I would be willing to:

- join the planning committee this year (one or two more meetings)
- join the planning committee for next year
- help with registration at coffee hour on December 9, 16, 23, or January 6
- lead or co-lead a workshop session or opening or closing circle (planned by committee)
- make purchases for any craft supplies needed this year (to be reimbursed)
- plan ways to line up for meals (best for previous attendee)
- lead (or help lead) singing - songs in sessions and/or graces for meals (we have sources)
- help make sure snack areas are tidied through the weekend
- decorate the altar for my retreat (best for previous attendee)
- arrive early to help with general set-up for my retreat
- write up daily agenda on a table-top flip chart
(we have the chart or can tell where to obtain one, and it will be reimbursed)
- help with maintaining the fire for my weekend (fireplace at Senexet)
- help with clean-up at the end of my retreat
- help with data entry for registration info
- help with luncheon planning/ordering for the At-Home Retreat (attending then or not)
- help with making room signs (for Senexet)
- help with something that hasn't been listed! Please tell us what it is:
