



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD, 2024



*Rainbow Over Grand Canyon (photo credit: Ericamaxine Price)
— another gift of the National Parks Service!*

Dear ones,

Something truly extraordinary happened this week: The National Park Service awarded us a \$750,000 grant toward the restoration of the meetinghouse!

The National Parks Service administers a History of Equal Rights grant from within its Historic Preservation Fund. The eight awardees (in six states, though Arlington Street is the only one in the entire northeast!) are sites directly associated with the struggle for all Americans to gain equal rights, what Dr. King called “the long and bitter — but beautiful — struggle for a new world.” Our application focused on our leadership in the history of queer rights, and we are the only recipient who played (and continue to play) a prominent role in that (unfolding) history.

Joining me in writing the grant were others serving on the board of Croma: Arlington Street’s Restoration Committee chair, Jon Andersen-Miller; Croma vice chair Patrice Keegan; preservation services consultant Jeffrey Gonyeau; and our former archivist (now retired and living in Maine), Holly Hendricks. So many thanks to this mighty team, and congratulations to us all!

This Sunday, we’ll hear more from Jon Andersen-Miller about just what we’re going to do with this gift. There are millions of dollars yet to raise; if you or someone you know would like to be part of funding the restoration, I’d love to speak with you!

Also this Sunday, we'll be hearing from the Interim Search Committee's Sandy Dixon, who will update us on their work and invite you to a (hybrid) forum after the service on Sunday, March 17th. A reminder that if you have questions for the search committee, please send them to our new administrator, Jeff Fogleman, at office@ASCBoston.org. Jeff will forward your email to them.

Director of Music Mark David Buckles and the Arlington Street Choir are off this Sunday; I'll be joined in leading the service by Patrick Cooleybeck (Worship Team), Bek Zehr (mezzo soprano), and Yulia Yun (piano). To open, Bek has prepared Ben Rector's *Extraordinary Magic* to celebrate our receiving the grant! Bek will also sing Emily Saliers' (Indigo Girls) *Galileo*. My sermon is called *Advice from the Dying*. We'll all sing *How Can I Keep from Singing?*, *Blue Boat Home*, and *Calm Soul of All Things*, with text by Matthew Arnold:

Calm soul of all things, make it mine
To feel, amid the city's jar,
That there abides a peace of thine
I did not make, and cannot mar

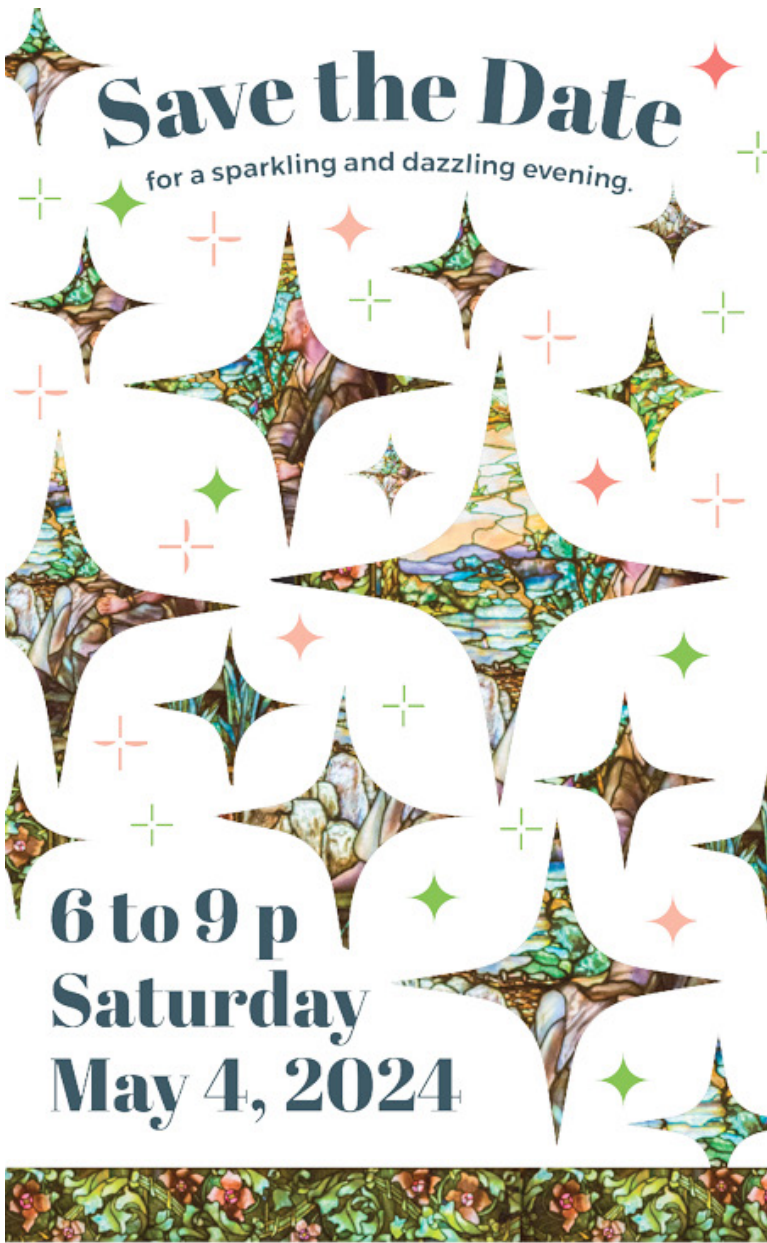
The will to neither strive nor cry,
The power to feel with others, give
Calm, calm me more, nor let me die
Before I have begun to live

*Faithfully yours, with love,
Kim*

A recent *Tea with the Ministers* conversation prompt was *What makes your heart sing?* Here are some of our answers: Vivaldi's *Gloria*, wild turkeys, stories, visiting a friend, Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah*, doing something for someone else, singing, babies laughing, Israel "Iz" Kamakawiwo'ole's *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, my dog playing with his best friend, exploring, beauty, flowers, sunset, sunrise, when people achieve their goals, music, children bursting out laughing, squirrels chasing each other, swimming in the ocean, Luciano Pavarotti's *Nessun Dorma* or so many songs from *Carmen*, bringing cookies, my children's happiness, *Silent Night* on Christmas Eve — lights out, candles up; when Alma figures out something for me, Boston Public Garden, saxophone, young neighbors, *Where in the World is Carmen San Diego?*, sailing, birdsong in spring, vacation, seeing Sandro Botticelli's *The Birth of Venus*, airport homecomings, Beagle Freedom Project, Vermont farmland, foxes, walking the beach, going to church!

What makes your heart sing? Please come join the tea party in the Arlington Street Zoom room any Wednesday at 4:00!





Save the Date

for a sparkling and dazzling evening.

6 to 9 p
Saturday
May 4, 2024

mark your calendars
for a night of fundraising,
celebration, and music.

We will honor and thank Rev. Kim Crawford Harvie for her 35 years of love and service to our beloved community. Our attire will sparkle and dazzle while our tears will glisten.
Your presence will not only make this party unforgettable but also ensure the spirit of compassion and community lives on at Arlington Street Church for years to come.
Details and invitation to follow.

The graphic details are from our own beautiful Tiffany windows. Come see them for yourself!