

**FIRST PARISH
CHURCH
OF STOW & ACTON**
Unitarian Universalist



Sunday, March 10, 2024

**The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L.
Landrum**
Minister

Meg Rivers-Wright
Administration, Membership

Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
Dir. of Religious Education

Chris Hossfeld
Music Director

Trevor Berens
Accompanist

Justin Marble
Nursery Care Coordinator

Mike Silkonis
Sexton

Janet Beatrice
External Publicity

Felix Freeman
Tech Assistant

Jenni Edgerton
President

Brendon Chetwynd
Vice President

Bill Froberg
Treasurer

Johanna Pyle
Clerk

*First Parish is a Unitarian Universalist Association Welcoming Congregation.
We warmly welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people into our
community.*

Large print orders of service and hymnals are available from an usher.
Assisted Listening Devices are available when worship is in the Sanctuary.

FPC currently has a masks-optional policy throughout the church.
In the Sanctuary, several back rows with accessible seating are "mask-
required."

FPC is on the web at fpc-stow-acton.org and on Facebook.

March 10, 2024: 10:00

Gathering

Prelude *Gnosienne #5* Trevor Berens, piano
Eric Satie

Welcome Jenni Edgerton, Board President

Introit "When Will the Fighting Cease?" FPC Adult Choir
Nick Page, Nita Penfold, Trevor Berens, piano
& Melchior Franck

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. When will the fighting cease?
When will we live in peace?
When our love breaks
bound'ries. | 2. Da pacem Domine,
Do pacem Domine,
in diebus nostris.
[Give peace, Lord, in our time.] |
|--|---|

Opening Words Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Chalice Lighting Dante Bergeret, First Chalice Participant

* **Hymn #161** "Peace! The Perfect Word"

Centering

* **Covenant and Affirmation**

Love is the spirit of this church, and service its law. This is our great covenant: To dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.	From all that dwell below the skies let words of love and peace arise. Let joyful songs of praise be sung. through every land, by every tongue.
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Land Acknowledgement Jenni Edgerton, Board President

Time for All Ages Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Going Forth with the Light

Joys and Sorrows Kate Hart, Lay Minister

Prayer/Meditation "A Prayer for Peace, Justice, & Equity"
Hosam Naoum
Archbishop of Jerusalem

* Hymn

“Peace, Salaam, Shalom”
Pat Humphries & Sandy Opatow

1.
Peace, Sal- aam, Sha - lom,___ Peace, Sal- aam, Sha - lom,___

2.
Peace, Sal- aam, Sha - lom,___ Peace, Sal- aam, Sha - lom,___

Exploring

Reading

“I Grant You Refuge”
Hiba Abu Nada

Palestinian poet Hiba Abu Nada died in an Israeli airstrike on Oct. 30, 2024.

Reflections

“Dreaming of Ceasefire”

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with **UU Mass Action**.
You may donate with a check made out to First Parish Church,
online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>, or text (978) 310-3309.

Anthem

“Between Darkness and Light” FPC Adult Choir
Manal Hreib & Daphna Rosenberg Trevor Berens, piano

(Hebrew)

בין החושך לאור אלך תמיד
ובכל מקום שאלך
אפתח חלון חלון של אור
ואזרע זרעי אהבה
Bein hachoshekh la'or elekh tamid;
u'v'khol makom she'elekh
eftach chalon, chalon shel or
v'ezra zir'ei ahava.

(Arabic)

بين العتمة والنور سأمشي دائما
ويكل مكان سأمشي
سأفتح شباك . شباك النور
وسأزرع بنور الحب
Baynal atma wal nur saamshi da'iman;
wa bikul makan saamshi
saftach shubak, shubak anur,
wa saazra buzura hoob.

Between darkness and light I will always walk;
and wherever I will go,
I will open a window of light,
and will plant the seeds of love.

Reading

“Pistachio Ice Cream”
Annemarie Jacir
Palestinian poet and filmmaker

Reflections

“Demanding Peace” Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

* Hymn #159

“This Is My Song”

* Benediction

* Closing Song

Peace be with you ‘til we meet again!
As life lays its task before you,
keep love’s banner floating o’er you.
Peace be with you ‘till we meet again.

Postlude

American Etude #5—minimalism
Marti Epstein

Trevor Berens, piano

Greet Your Neighbor



Thank you to:

Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host
Kate Imhoff, Nick Francis, Ushers
Coffee Hosts
Our staff and leadership



How to Connect with First Parish Church:

Sign our visitor log at tinyurl.com/visitfpc or scan the QR code:
We’ll send you information on request.



Come to Sunday’s 10 am service and 11 am social hour, in person or online.

Subscribe to our publications...

The Chronicle - monthly e-newsletter

This Week at FPC - weekly e-newsletter

FPCAnnounce & FPCForum - e-mail groups

...all at <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/subscribe-newsletters>.

Plate Sharing

UU Mass Action is our MA State Action Network that organizes and mobilizes 25,000 UUs and 142 UU congregations to confront oppression and create equity in Massachusetts.

Founded in 2005 (its first two Executive Directors were from FPC Stow and Acton!), all of our work is grounded in racial justice and is in relationship with broader coalitions that center frontline communities, or those most impacted by an injustice.



UU Mass Action is FPC's partner in nearly ALL of our social justice work, uniting us with other neighboring churches for a bigger political impact. If you want to change anything in MA that coincides with a UU value, chances are you will find UU Mass Action trying to rally UU churches to DO something about it. Together, we confront systems of oppression and work to create a world where all people are honored and valued. 2023-2024 Campaigns include: Climate & Environmental Justice • Indigenous Justice • Immigrant Justice • Decarceration & Ending Solitary Confinement • Economic and Housing Justice

Our funding does NOT come from the UUA, but from three main sources: individuals, congregations, and grants. We are an efficient organization that makes every donated dollar count! This is our shared, state action network - we are truly grateful for every dollar donated! Learn more at uumassaction.org.

Stewardship Campaign

Have you made a pledge? **Thank you.**

Have you answered the call and let us know what your intentions are? **Thank you.**

If not, please let us know as soon as possible. Our goal is 100% participation.

We need to hear from you!

Pledge online. It's easy and secure.

Go to

<https://fpc-stow-acton.org/pledge>

...or scan the
QR code:



...or fill out a pledge
card by asking a
member of our team to
discuss your pledge
with you.

Thank you!

- The FPC Stewardship Team:

Jenni Edgerton, Carole Feldhusen, Andy Derr,
Rick Gentilman, Russ Hart, Sharon Brownfield

Today at FPC

Daylight Savings Time starts: Set clocks ahead one hour

- 10-11 am Service, Sanctuary and online
- 11am-12pm Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
- 12-2:30 pm UU Journey Class 2/2, Community Room
You can still sign up! See details below.
- 12-1 pm Spiritual Conversations Through Poetry, online
You don't need to know anything about poetry to join Elizabeth Cobblah, Ilene Rudman, and Hector Constantzos for this deeply satisfying time of engaging with others through a poem. Contact one of us to attend: ecobblah@fenn.org, irudman@aol.com, or Hconstantzos@gmail.com.
- 12-2:30 pm Committee on Ministry Assessment (Parlor)
- 7-8 pm Artist's Way Practice (online)

Religious Education

Today, 3/10 TFAA, followed by age-appropriate classes. The DRE is off this week.
Youth Group Social Action: make no-sew fleece blankets for project Linus

And for Adults...

The UU Journey at FPC Today 3/10, 12-2:30 pm, lunch provided

The Second Day of a Two-Session Course on UU History,

Spirituality, Mission, and Traditions

Rev. Cindy Landrum leads class today on...

- Polity, Governance, and Social Justice
- FPC Traditions, Involvement, and Membership

Join us for this opportunity to...

- ▶ share your own spiritual journey
- ▶ ask questions about UU and FPC
- ▶ get to know others in the church



You do not need to be new to FPC to participate; all are welcome!

To sign up, please contact Meg Rivers-Wright, Parish Administrator, at office@fpc-stow-acton.org or [617-291-3351](tel:617-291-3351).

This Week at FPC

11	MAR, MON	● 7 – 9pm	Jazz Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
		● 7 – 9pm	SGM Monday Group (Parlor)
12	MAR, TUE	● 10 – 11am	Coffee & Chat (Gazebo)
		● 7 – 9pm	SGM: 2nd Tuesday Group (Comm. Rm. or online)
		● 7:30 – 9:30pm	Climate Task Force (online)
13	MAR, WED	● 6:40 – 8:45pm	Meditation (Fellowship Hall & online)
		● 7 – 8pm	Committee on Ministry meeting (online)
14	MAR, THU	● 9:30 – 11am	Archives Committee (Vestry)
		● 5 – 6pm	Peace Vigil (outside)
		● 7:15 – 9pm	Choir Practice (Hall)
15	MAR, FRI	● 1 – 3:30pm	Bridge Group (Community Rm)
16	MAR, SAT	● 9 – 10am	Garden Conversations (online)

Next Sunday's Service: March 17, 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

“Finding Your People” - Johanna Ambrosio-LaPlante, Unitarian Society of Marlborough & Hudson

- A 30-year member of the *Unitarian Church of Marlborough and Hudson* and president of its Executive Board, Johanna Ambrosio-LaPlante is currently being trained to provide practical support for people seeking abortions in our state. She'll speak about her journey as a kid from a tough, blue-collar neighborhood who learned to embrace a larger, wider world without completely leaving her past behind.

Upcoming Events

Thu, 3/28 **Potluck Vespers: Maundy Thursday** 6 pm, Fellowship Hall



Bring a vegetarian, nut-free soup or salad for our potluck and join us in Fellowship Hall for a “dinner church” take on our traditional Maundy Thursday vespers. We’ll break bread together (Rev. Cindy will bring the literal bread), sing, and share in what it means to celebrate the Last Supper in remembrance.



Please sign up in advance to bring a soup or salad, so we have a sense of numbers. Use the QR Code above or go to <https://tinyurl.com/3xjzshn9>.

Sat, 4/13 **FPC’s Olympic Games Auction** 2pm, Fellowship Hall

On Your Mark, Get Set, Go!

It’s FPC’s biggest fundraiser, and we need your help to make it a success! ♥

How can you help?

Donate Goods *

baked goods
homemade maple syrup
a painting
gift cards
meals for home delivery
tickets to a concert
lend your kayak or
your vacation home

Donate Services *

host dinner for 6-8
host a cocktail party
offer lessons
loan sporting equipment
plan a picnic by a lake
home fix-it services

Join one of the teams:

Together the seven teams make the auction a fun filled and successful event.

If interested, email the contact person below.



Bar – Scott Feldhusen (scottnmf@gmail.com) or Geoff Lull (glull@verizon.net)

Decorations – Sharon Brownfield (sharonbrownfield@gmail.com)

Donations – Susan Avery (susan.avery@verizon.net)

Food – Ellen Kissinger (e.kissinger@gmail.com)

Jewelry – Rebecca Stadolnik (rstadolnik@gmail.com)

Marketing – Sharon Brownfield (sharonbrownfield@gmail.com)

Website – Sue Stewart (dnasue@gmail.com)



* <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/webform/auction-donation-form> or QR code above

Stop by the Auction table at Coffee Hour to learn more and see how you can participate.

Look for the Sign-up Genius in an upcoming FPCAnnounce.

- *Your Auction Steering Committee* auktion@fpc-stow-acton.org

ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE:
Information for folks joining us online

1. Closed captioning is available for FPC's online services. If you captions on your screen, you can use the button at the bottom of screen to request that the host turn them on.
2. Today's Zoom Host: **Kim Kinnear**
3. Hymn lyrics will be in a slide presentation today.



don't see
your

Sharing Our Gifts

If you are mailing a pledge or a donation, here is the information:

Pledges:

Attn: Pledge Secretary
PO Box 215
Stow, MA 01775

Donations:

Attn: Treasurer
353 Great Rd
Stow, MA 01775