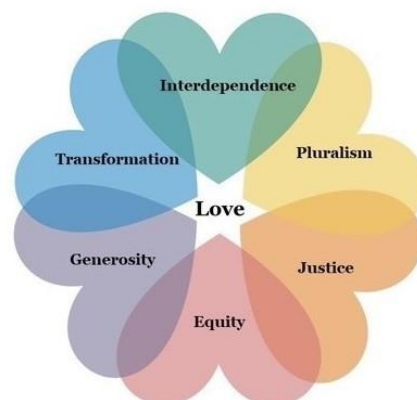


**FIRST PARISH
CHURCH
OF STOW & ACTON**
Unitarian Universalist



Sunday, April 7, 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.

April 7, 2024: 10:00

Gathering

Prelude

“Simple Gifts”
Appalachian Folk Song

Elena Spencer, violin
Chris Hossfeld, piano

Welcome

Jenni Edgerton, Board President

FPC Auction Announcement

Opening Words

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Chalice Lighting

* **Hymn #359**

“When We Are Gathered”

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.

Land Acknowledgement

Jenni Edgerton

Time for All Ages

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Going Forth With the Light

Joys and Sorrows

Ingrid Holcomb, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

* **Hymn #123**

“Spirit of Life”

Exploring

Reading

Plate Sharing Introduction

Neil Saunders, Worship Committee Chair

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with **Southeast India Project**
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 "Finlandia" Elena Spencer, violin
Jean Sibelius

Sermon "Principles and Values, Part II"
Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

* **Hymn #1017** "We Are Building a New Way"

* **Benediction**

* **Closing Song**

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

Postlude "Ashokan Farewell" Elena Spencer, violin
Jay Ungar Chris Hossfeld, piano

Greet Your Neighbor

Thank you to:

Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host
Kate Imhoff, Nick Francis, Ushers
Kirsten Chetwynd, Coffee Host ♥
Our staff and leadership



Announcements

April Plate Sharing: Southeast India Project – FPC has fostered supported the Southeast India Project for twenty years. with poor villages in the tsunami-affected area of Tamil Nadu, India Children’s Home for *dalit* children (*the caste formerly known as Untouchables*) to provide micro-lending to finance and establish new opportunities and self-help organizations for women.



and
We work
and WIDE



FPC Members Bob Tabor (18th journey), Vicky Tabor (6th), Russ Hart (5th), and Neil Saunders (1st) were all in Tamil Nadu this January and February to revisit the villages and children’s home, and FPC sent a year's worth of Children's Vitamins and toothpaste to WIDE Orphanage, which was greatly appreciated by the children. We thank you for your generous

and continued support!

Support from FPC and other individuals and organizations has allowed us to...

- distribute food to the villages
- build balwadis (pre-schools)
- build a tailoring school with foot-treadle sewing machines
- provide sponsored children with a healthy, safe, caring environment and education
- fund herds of dairy cows and a seed bank
- reclaim arable land for organic farming

Would you like to lead or contribute to a Sunday service this summer?

The Worship Committee has started planning for FPC’s summer services which run between 6/16 and 9/1. If you're interested in leading one of these services, now is the time to let us know. Maybe you have an idea for a service you’d like to work on with a member of our committee, or you want to suggest someone from our congregation or an outside speaker to lead a service. Please contact any of us on the Worship Committee with your ideas, suggestions, or questions:

- Neil Saunders, Chair (neilsaund@verizon.net)
- Susan Avery (susan.avery@verizon.net)
- June McKnight (junebmcknight@yahoo.com)
- Ann Wickham (wickham_0112@yahoo.com)
- Lindsay LaPointe (lindsay.lapointe@gmail.com)
- Rev. Cindy Landrum (minister@fpc-stow-acton.org)

2024 JUNE						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
8	9	10	11	12	13	
15	16	17	18	19	20	
22	23	24	25	26	27	
29	30	1	2	3	4	

2024 JULY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6	7	8	9	10	11	
13	14	15	16	17	18	
20	21	22	23	24	25	
27	28	29	30	31	1	
3	4	5	6	7	8	

2024 AUGUST						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

Today at FPC

- 10-11 am Service, Sanctuary and online
- 11 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
- Newcomer Coffee Gathering**, Parlor *
- 2-4 pm Craftivism (Craft + Activism), Vestry
- 10 pm Online Auction Begins!

* Are you recently new to FPC? Please join our minister, Cindy Landrum, and our Membership Coordinator, Meg Rivers-Wright, for a coffee hour **where you'll meet other people who are relatively new to First Parish Church** (FPC). It's an opportunity to ask the minister questions and learn more about FPC in an informal setting. Contact Meg Rivers-Wright at office.fpcstowacton@gmail.com or 617-291-3351 or just drop by!

Religious Education

- Today *Time for All Ages* and classes. The DRE is away from April 6th-13th, attending a conference in Puerto Rico for UU religious professionals of color.
- Sun 4/14 Children's Chapel, followed by classes
- Sat 4/20 Still hoping to have our Sleep Out on Boxes with the youth

Start Planning for the FPC Plant Sale – An Important Fundraiser!

This year's Plant Sale is Saturday, May 18, 9:30-11:30 am. If there's leftover stock from that live sale, we'll hold an honor system sale, too (time TBD). As we do every year, we're asking FPC earth lovers for plants – lots of plants – from your yards and gardens!

<p><u>Consider which plants to donate:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> shrubs small trees ground cover herbs perennials vegetables flowering plants you've already started <p>(different/unusual ones are especially desirable)</p>	<p><u>Dig them up and pot them ASAP:</u></p> <p>Early-season transplanting is less stressful on plants. Put them in a good spot where they can grow strong and look their very best for delivery and Sale Day.</p>	<p><u>We're also looking for help</u></p> <p>with gathering, organizing, and labeling plants, and setting up and running the sale.</p> <p>Please email peggypaladini@gmail.com.</p>
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This Week at FPC

8	APR, MON	● 7 – 9pm	Jazz Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
9	APR, TUE	● 10 – 11am ● 7 – 9pm ● 7:30 – 9:30pm	Coffee & Chat (Gazebo) SGM: 2nd Tuesday Group (Comm. Rm. or online) Climate Task Force (online)
10	APR, WED	● 6:40 – 8:45pm ● 7 – 8pm	Meditation (Fellowship Hall & online) Committee on Ministry meeting (online)
11	APR, THU	● 9:30 – 11am ● 5 – 6pm ● 7:15 – 9pm	Archives Committee (tentative) Peace Vigil (outside) Choir Practice (Hall)
12	APR, FRI	● 1 – 3:30pm ● 4 – 8pm ● 5:30 – 6:30pm	Bridge Group (Community Rm) FPC Auction Set-Up (Fellowship Hall) Guest Table dinner served (Hall)
13	APR, SAT	● 9 – 11am ● 6:30 – 9:30pm	SGM: 2nd Saturday Group (Community Room) FPC Live Auction (Hall)

Next Sunday's Service 4/14, 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

“Searching the Cosmos for God” - Chris Hossfeld, Music Director - As our scientific understanding has expanded, so too has our conception of the size of the universe. What do these new discoveries tell us about the search for a divine power in the swirling cosmos? As the vastness of the universe becomes more and more strictly defined by scientific laws and theories, is there still room for God in the heavens?

Events This Week

FRI 4/12 – Guest Table 5:30-6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

~Doors open at 5 ~All are Welcome ~No Charge.

Menu: pizza (vegetarian and gluten-free options avail.), salad, family desserts

SAT 4/13 FPC Auction 2024 Olympic Games - Live Auction: 6:30 - 7:30 pm



Get ready! The Games begin today, 4/7/24, with online bidding!

Sign up on Auctria for your bidder number and see what is on

offer. Register with the QR Code.

Live auction is Sat. 4/13 6:30 pm



How else can you join in the fun? **Bring food and volunteer!** Sign up for all of these events by using the QR code below!

► **Food** - Our bidders are a hungry group. Think about a favorite appetizer or dessert. If it has an international flavor all the better.

► **Help with the Live Event** – So many opportunities. Set up before the opening ceremonies, help with managing food or the bar, record bids, make proxy bids for those who can't be there. There are shifts so you don't need to miss the action and fun.

► **Gift Cards** - We are still accepting them if you want to make a last minute donation from one of your favorite places.

TO VOLUNTEER & DONATE: <https://tinyurl.com/ez27v4wf> or use the QR code



- donate your goods & services
- sign up to donate a Gift Card
- pre-register for the Online Auction
- donate food & dessert

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 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 screen to

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