

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

*Unitarian Universalist*



Sunday, September 8, 2024  
*Ingathering Sunday*

**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

**Brendon Chetwynd**  
President

**Trisha Guditz**  
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](http://fpc-stow-acton.org) and on Facebook.





When you stand in that river, angels sing in your head.  
Secrets beyond every worry, dreams beyond every dread!

*CHORUS*

Tell me, sister, brother, where does that river flow?  
It flows down to the great water, where soon my people will go.

*CHORUS*

Oh, time passes on down the stream,  
Some days are so much sweeter. some pass like a dark dream, so...

*CHORUS*

## **Water Communion**

**Prayer** by Erika Hewitt

### **Returning**

\* **Hymn #1064** "Blue Boat Home"

\* **Benediction** "All Rivers Run to the Sea"  
by Kayle Rice

### \* **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** "Au Lac de Wallenstadt" Trevor Berens, piano  
Liszt



### **Thank you:**

Zoom Host

Peter Fiske, Kate Imhoff, Ushers

Coffee Brewer, Mark Koenig ☕♥

Our staff and leadership



## **To our visitors, thank you for coming!**

We hope you find what you're looking for in our service and that you'll come back. Here's how to keep connecting with our people and programs:

♥ **Fill out a Visitor Card in your pew** or scan the QR code to complete the same form online.

♥ **Subscribe to our e-newsletters and email groups**

♥ **Check out our website, [www.fpc-stow-acton.org](http://www.fpc-stow-acton.org)**

There is so much happening at FPC! Vis it our homepage and the "Church Life" tab to learn about our events & programs.



Visiting & Learning  
about FPC



Subscribe to  
E-Newsletters

## **September Plate Sharing**

The **Interfaith Partnership for Refugee Resettlement** is a group of seven local area churches that work together to help resettle refugees. FPC has been in partnership with the IPRR for almost three years. At our June 30 service, several members of the Asylum Seekers Task Force described our success with two Afghan families, allowing them to gain full independence. We are now assisting a large extended family from Rohingya (formerly Burma) who had been living in exile in Bangladesh for many years before their recent move to Lowell.

**Next Sunday's Service** 9/15, 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

**"World Religions and Their Connections"** - The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

We begin a year of diving into the religions of the world with a service about the many connections between different faiths and Unitarian Universalism.

## **Today at FPC**

11 am Potluck lunch and ice cream social! **Bring your favorite fall dish** and join us on the front lawn to socialize, play games, and support a local ice cream truck.

## Religious Education

**Sun 9/15:** RE teacher and volunteer orientation. **First week of Buddy Bags.** (Additional information on how it works to follow.)

**Fri 9/20** - Our first **Friday Friends (formally Club UU)**. Please bring a friend!

**Sun 9/22** - First day of RE classes for this program year!! We will also have a **parent orientation** for any youth who will be attending/participating in **Coming of Age** or who would like additional information before deciding.

## This Week at FPC

### Mon 9/9

7-9 pm Jazz Band Rehearsal Sanctuary

### Tue 9/10

9-10 am Coffee and Chat At the Town Park adjacent to FPC.

Everyone welcome. Bring your own coffee!

### Wed 9/11

6:40-8:45 pm Reading & Meditation Fellowship Hall & Zoom

7-8 pm FPC Book Group

The FPC Book Club will be meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month this year. Come and join us on **Wednesday, September 11th from 7:00 to 8:00 on Zoom.** with a discussion of *Knife* by Salman Rushdie, a reflection on the attack on his life, what he went through, and how he processes it. Look forward to seeing you then. Contact [sharonbrownfield@gmail.com](mailto:sharonbrownfield@gmail.com) for the link.

### Thu 9/12

5-6 pm Peace Vigil (out front on Great Rd.)

7-9:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

### Fri 9/13

1-3:30pm Bridge Group (Community Rm)

5:30-6:30pm Guest Table dinner served (Hall)

Doors open at 5 ~All are Welcome ~ No Charge. A vegetarian, dairy free, and gluten free option will be available.

7-9pm Games Night (Hall)

Led by Chip Beauvais. All are welcome. Feel free to bring a game or join in and play one of ours!