

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

*Unitarian Universalist*



Sunday, September 15, 2024  
*World Religions and Their Connections*

**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.

September 15, 2024: 10:00

**Gathering**

**Prelude**

"Dream"  
John Cage

Trevor Berens, piano

**Welcome**

Brendon Chetwynd, Board President

**Greet Your Neighbor**

**Opening Words**

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum  
attributed to Kalidasa  
*Hinduism*

**Chalice Lighting**

Gautama Buddha  
*Buddhism*

**\* Hymn #389**

"Gathered Here"

**Centering**

**Land Acknowledgement**

**\* 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.

**Joys and Sorrows**

Ann Sadler, Lay Minister

Joys and Sorrows is a time for the things on our hearts and minds to be heard by the gathered community. If you would like a follow-up call by a lay minister or the minister, email [caring@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:caring@fpc-stow-acton.org).

**Prayer or Meditation**

Jalāl al-Dīn Muḥammad Rūmī  
*Islam*

*\* Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

**\* Hymn**

**"And When I Rise"**  
*Buddhism*

And when I rise, let me rise, — like a bird, joy-ful - ly. And when I  
fall, let me fall, — like a leaf, grace-ful - ly, — with-out re-gret.

The musical score is written for a two-part setting in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

**Exploring**

**Introduction & Reflections**

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

"Unitarian Universalism & Buddhism:

Dana McLean Greeley & Nikkyo Niwano of Risshō Kōsei Kai"

**Time for All Ages**

"Mindfulness:  
Mandalas"

Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson

Director of

Religious Education

**\* Hymn #1032**

**"Daoona Nayeesh"**  
*Islam*

**Reflections**

"Unitarianism & Islam:

Queen Isabella Sforza Szapolyai & Sultan Suleyman"

**Time for All Ages**

"Pilgrimage & Giving  
the Pillars of Hajj & Zakat"

*\* Please Rise in Body or Spirit*

## Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with the Interfaith Partnership for Resettling Refugees. You may donate by check made out to First Parish Church, at [fpc-stow-acton.org/donate](http://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate), or text (978) 310-3309.

### Anthem

“Ose Shalom”

FPC Adult Choir

John Leavitt

Chris Hossfeld, Music Director

Oseh shalom bimromav hu ya’aseh shalom aleinu  
v’al kol yisrael v’al kol yoshvei tevel  
v’imru: amen

May the one who makes peace/wholeness on high bring it to us  
and to all of Yisrael and to all the peoples of the earth.  
And we say: Amen

### Reflections

“Unitarianism & Hinduism:

British Unitarians & Rammohun Roy of the Brahmo Samaj”

### Time for All Ages

“Multiple Paths to Enlightenment:  
Bhakti, Karma, Rāja & Jñāna Yoga”

### Returning

#### \* Hymn #415

“Hevenu Shalom Aleychem”

#### \* 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

Improvisation

Trevor Berens, piano



### Thank you:

Sharon Brownfield, Zoom Host  
Lisa Rydin, Jeff Brown, 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

## **Today After the Service**

### **11-11:30 am Newcomer Coffee**

Are you recently new to FPC? Please join our minister, Cindy Landrum, and our Membership Coordinator, Meg Rivers-Wright, in the Parlor across the hall from the Sanctuary 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. Current members and friends are also welcome!

### **11am-12pm Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall**

### **11:30am-2:30pm RE Teacher Orientation, Community Room**

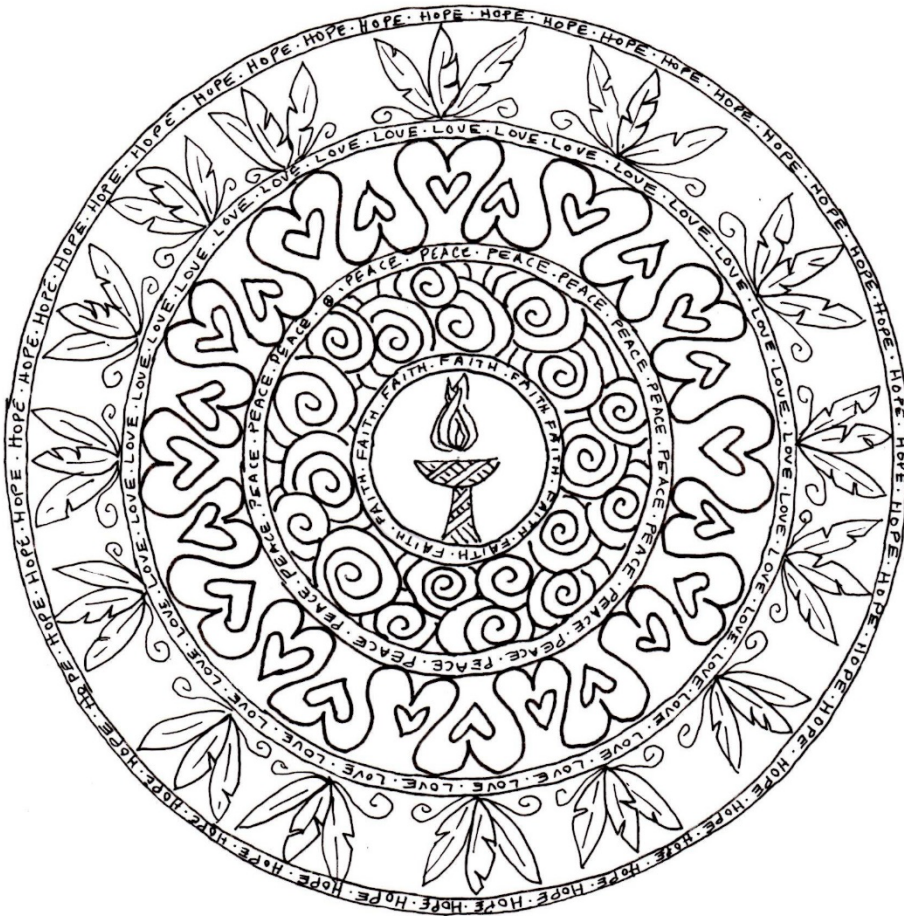
### **12-1pm Grounds Working Group, outside**

## Religious Education

Today 9/15 - \* \* \* RE teacher and volunteer orientation. \* \* \* Buddy Bags. \* \* \*

Fri 9/20 – 6:30-8:30pm 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

17	SEP, TUE		All day	Apple Collecting - Apple Pie Project (off site)
			10 – 11am	Coffee & Chat (Gazebo)
			4 – 6pm	Dough Making - Apple Pie Project (Hall)
			7 – 10pm	FPC BoT Meeting
			7 – 9pm	SGM: 3rd Tuesday Group (Comm. Rm. or online)
18	SEP, WED		All day	Apple Collecting - Apple Pie Project (off site)
			6:40 – 8:45pm	Meditation (Fellowship Hall & online)
			7 – 9pm	Ukulele Meetup (Comm Rm)
			7:30 – 9:30pm	SGM: 3rd Wednesday Group (Youth Room)
19	SEP, THU		12 – 1pm	Worship Committee mtg. (online)
			4 – 9pm	Apple Peeling/Prep - Apple Pie Project (Vestry)
			5 – 6pm	Peace Vigil (outside)
			7 – 9:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)
			7:30 – 9:30pm	SGM: 3rd Thursday Group (Community Room)
20	SEP, FRI		6am – 12am	Baking/Bagging/Storage - Apple Pie Project (Hall)
			1 – 3:30pm	Bridge Group (Community Rm)
			6:30 – 8:30pm	Friday Friends (Hall, Vestry, Youth Rm)
21	SEP, SAT		8:30am – 1pm	Yard Sale (parking lot & Fellowship Hall)
			9am – 12pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
			9 – 10am	Garden Conversations (online)
			10am – 1pm	Apple Pie Sales (Pie Shed)

## Announcements and Events

### **September Plate Sharing - The Interfaith Partnership for Refugee Resettlement** from Rohingya

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.



Abdul



**Friday Friends (Formerly Club UU)** Fri, 9/20, 6:30-8:30 pm, Vestry & Youth Rm  
Our K-5 kids have a monthly social event just for them! They'll enjoy fun science activities and games together in our Community Room.



## **FPC Yard Sale!** 9/21, 8:30 am – 1 pm

All are invited to participate in FPC's annual yard sale. It's a great opportunity to declutter and send on to a new home items you no longer need. It's also a fun, community event! In the FPC parking lot.



### **TWO WAYS TO PARTICIPATE:**

#### **RENT A TABLE**

We handle publicity and provide the table.

Pack in/carry out arrangement.

Each person or group manages their own table, makes their own change, and takes away any unsold items at the end of the sale.

\$25 FEE/table.

Payment to: Sharon Brownfield  
Set up starts at 7:30 am

Questions or to reserve a table:  
(sharonbrownfield@gmail.com) or  
(e.kisslinger@gmail.com)

#### **CONTRIBUTE TO FPC'S TABLE**

All proceeds will benefit FPC!

Items MUST BE PRICED before donating and in good working order. (\$2 minimum; bundle small items as needed)

No clothing except for Halloween costumes.

The sign-up for volunteering will be posted later. Set-up for the FPC table will start at 7:00 am.

All unsold items will be donated at the end of the day. (Please check donation guidelines for Savers and Household Goods in Acton.)

FPC Table Qs? Contact FPC table organizers: Susan Avery (susan.avery@verizon.net) or Pat Sorn (psorn@mailstarusa.com)

## **Next Sunday's Services** 9/22, Sanctuary/Online

### ► **10 AM** - Autumn Poetry

Rev. Cindy will dive into her past study of literature to bring us a service of the beauty and glory of fall through poetry. Come join us for this relaxing Sunday!

### ► **5 PM** - Change Is Coming: An Equinox Celebration

FPC Music Director Chris Hossfeld and the FPC Choir will be joined by the bass clarinet ensemble Improbable Beasts for this special equinox celebration. This is a multi-faith service with music focused on finding peace in a time of change.

# CHANGE IS COMING

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## AN EQUINOX CELEBRATION

A service of peace with readings & music,  
featuring the First Parish Church Choir  
and the bass clarinet ensemble  
Improbable Beasts.  
All are welcome!

5PM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22  
FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW AND ACTON  
353 GREAT RD, STOW, MA 01775

Learn more at [fpc-stow-acton.org](http://fpc-stow-acton.org)

## The Apple Pie Project Begins the Week of 9/16/24!

*Please sign up at the link on the bottom of the main FPC website page*

We need your help to make the 300+ pies for our Apple Pie Fundraiser! No experience necessary...training and camaraderie will be provided! FPC's apple pies are a long-standing tradition as a fundraiser, fun group project, and culinary delight and require lots of volunteers to make it successful. You can sign up for:

**Wednesday: Dough making** (9/18, 9/25, 10/2, and 10/9) usually between 4 and 6 pm but the day and time are flexible

Contact June Mallon - [june.pies@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:june.pies@fpc-stow-acton.org) – if you are interested. 2-3 people are needed each week.

**Tuesday or Wednesday: Apple collecting** (9/17-18, 9/24-25, 10/1-2, and 10/8-9) during orchard hours

Contact Steve Evans ([steve.pies@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:steve.pies@fpc-stow-acton.org)) for information and to get official bags and directions. Please deposit your bags of apples into the bins located IN FRONT OF THE CARRIAGE SHED.

**Wednesday/Thursday: Apple peeling/prep** (9/18-19, 9/25-26, 10/2-3, and 10/9-10) timing flexible

- When you sign up, please indicate how many bags of apples you intend to peel and **be sure to take that many bags**
- **Apples can be picked up after 4 pm on Wednesday** from the bins located IN FRONT OF THE CARRIAGE SHED.
- Take the apples home (or to the Vestry on Thursdays), wash them, peel them, core them, and cut them into pie slices. It is important to remove ALL skin, seeds, and tough bits around the seeds. Slices should be between ½ inch and 1 inch wide (i.e., if you use a device that cores and slices at the same time, you will need to cut each slice created in half lengthwise). Bags will be provided for storage of the cleaned apple slices.
- **The Vestry has been reserved from 4 to 9 pm** each week for folks who want to peel with other people at church. The group can divide up the tasks, so if you can wash apples but not peel, you can share the labor with the group!
- Drop off bags of prepared apple slices in the bins at the church before 9 pm Thursday. (NOTE: If you peel your apples on Wednesday, please refrigerate them until you deliver them on Thursday.)
- This year we have sign ups for someone to set up the Vestry for peeling on Thursdays and for someone else to put things away at the end of the evening.

**Friday Morning: Baking** (9/20, 9/27, 10/4, and 10/11) any time after 6:30 am until 11 am or so

Sign up and come as early as you are able (baking set up starts at 6:30 am and work continues until the pies are all assembled...usually around 10-11 am). If you can only come for part of the shift, that's ok...every bit helps. All TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED.

**Friday Evening: Bagging** (9/20, 9/27, 10/4, and 10/11) 7pm or later

Bagging will take place in the Fellowship Hall (or in the vestry classroom, depending on events scheduled at church) after 7 pm, when the pies are fully cooled. New folks will be trained and gloves will be provided.

**Saturday/Sunday Selling** (9/21-22, 9/28-29, 10/5-6, and 10/12-13); from 9:45 am until the pies are sold (or 1 pm, whichever comes first)

We will sell from our pie shed again this year. Pies will be \$20 (but we may offer some smaller/less expensive pies as well this year...stay tuned!). The first week of sales will coincide with our Yard Sale on Sat. 9/21/24.

**Weekend Seller Coordinator** (9/21-22, 9/28-29, 10/5-6, and 10/12-13); from 9:45-10 am and a half hour at the end of the shift

Sign up for a weekend to assist/get the cash box to the sellers and help tally up the proceeds each day.

**Questions/Comments/Concerns?** Please reach out to the Pie Project Coordinator, Rebecca Stadolnik, at: [applepies@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:applepies@fpc-stow-acton.org).

**THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING!!**