

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



Sunday, October 13, 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

Brendon Chetwynd
President

Trisha Gudit
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.

Prayer or Meditation

* Hymn #113

“Where Is Our Holy Church?”

Exploring

Sharing About Endowment

Katy Weeks & Dave Kay,
Endowment Committee

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with **Concord Prison Outreach**. You may donate by check made out to First Parish Church, at fpc-stow-acton.org/donate, or text (978) 310-3309.

Sermon

Questioning Truly Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

* Hymn #354

“We Laugh, We Cry”

* 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

“Nimble Feet”
Florence Price

Trevor Berens, piano



Thank you:

Sharon Brownfield, Zoom Host
Peter Fiske, Marcia Alison, Ushers
Coffee Brewer, Kirsten Chetwynd 🍵♥
Our staff and leadership



To our visitors, thank you for coming!

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

♥ **Watch these pages** for information about fall & winter Newcomer Coffees to meet the minister and other newcomers, and UU Journey classes to learn about UU history, spirituality, mission, and traditions.



Visiting & Learning
about FPC



Subscribe to
E-Newsletters

♥ **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**

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

Today at FPC

- 9-10am RE Breakfast w/ Buddy Bag Reveal, Fellowship Hall
- 9-9:45am Pre-Service Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 10am-1pm **Apple Pie Sales**, out front at the Pie Shed
- 11am **Elder/Memory Care Peer-to-Peer Support Group**, Parlor
Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
RE Dance Rehearsal, Community Room
- 12pm Grounds Working Group, outside
Spiritual Conversations through Poetry, online

Elder/Memory Care Peer-to-Peer Support Group 11 am-12:30pm, Parlor

Are you or your family approaching, dealing with, or recovering from an elder/memory care crisis? It's exhausting and draining. There are all kinds of legal, financial, and caregiving or care-finding challenges. It can be overwhelming and lonely and full of grief. **Come join us as we establish a new FPC Peer-to-Peer Support Group for anyone dealing with elder/memory care issues for a loved one.** We'll support each other and share resources. All thoughts shared in the group will be confidential. We'll decide future meeting logistics by group consensus.

Looking forward to seeing you,
Elizabeth Michaud, Brendon Chetwynd, and Bill Froberg

Spiritual Conversations through Poetry 12:00pm, Zoom

Join Elizabeth Cobblah and Hector Constantzos online to engage with others through the sharing of a poem.

Hear it

Read it

See how you

Respond to it.

Such conversations were inspired by, amongst others, our beloved Ilene Rudman. They have been going on at FPC for over a decade. We sincerely hope you will join us in this deeply satisfying time of connection.

Religious Education

Today - ► *Time for All Ages* during morning worship service, followed by age-appropriate classes.

► To anyone who enjoyed the dance we performed last year during the Easter service, now is your chance to join us! We will be rehearsing after today's service in the Community Room. Anyone is welcome to join!

► We have a beautiful, growing Religious Education program, so we're currently in need of volunteers for...

Prek-1st grade

2nd-5th grade

another chaperone for our Youth

Group outings



If you're interested or just have questions, please reach out and let me know. We'd be happy to have you. - Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson, DRE

Sunday, Oct 20th - ► Open House/Bring a Friend! All children and youth are encouraged to bring a friend. They are welcome to join us in all our RE spaces. We can't wait to meet them!

► Coming of Age will have their 2nd session beginning at 10:00am in the youth group room.

Saturday, Oct 26th - Join us for a fun Halloween night! If you joined us last year, then you know what a great time we had! There will be a haunted house, a potluck, bingo, arts and crafts and much more. You don't want to miss this fantastic party! Get your costume ready now.

Sunday, Oct 27th - Who doesn't want to wear their costume to church? Not us! Wear your costume again and keep on with those happy spirits. There will be a Time For All Ages during the morning worship followed by age-appropriate classes.

This Week at FPC

14	OCT, MON	● 7 – 9pm	Jazz Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
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15	OCT, TUE	● 10 – 11am ● 7 – 9pm	Coffee & Chat (Gazebo) SGM: 3rd Tuesday Group (Comm. Rm. or online)
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16	OCT, WED	● All day ● 12 – 1pm ● 6:40 – 8:45pm ● 7 – 9pm ● 7:30 – 9:30pm	The Chronicle: Submission Deadline for Next Issue Worship Committee (online) Meditation (Fellowship Hall & online) Ukulele Meetup (Community Rm) SGM: 3rd Wednesday Group (Youth Room)
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17	OCT, THU	● 9:30 – 11am ● 12 – 1pm ● 5 – 6pm ● 7 – 9:30pm ● 7:30 – 9:30pm	Archives Committee starts up again (Vestry) Worship Committee mtg. (online) Peace Vigil (outside) Choir Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) SGM: 3rd Thursday Group (Community Room)
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18	OCT, FRI	● 1 – 3:30pm ● 6:30 – 9pm	Bridge Group (Community Rm) Games Night (Fellowship Hall)
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19	OCT, SAT	● 9 – 10am	Garden Conversations (online)

Next Sunday: October 20, 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

“Joy, Play, and Fun!”- This service will explore a theology and activism based in joy, drawing on the work of adrienne maree brown, the Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, and others. Bring a friend and stay after the service for our open house and activities fair!

October Plate Sharing



Concord Prison Outreach (CPO) is a 501(c)(3) organization composed of a coalition of individuals and faith communities committed to helping people who are incarcerated build better lives for themselves and their families. ▶ Since its founding in 1968, when its first volunteers helped to support people in a local prison infirmary, CPO has developed into the largest organization of its kind in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. ▶ CPO works cooperatively with the

Massachusetts Department of Correction (DOC), offering educational programs that focus on skill-building and personal growth, essentials to help support people in prison to achieve success while incarcerated or post-incarceration.

▶ For information about CPO programs and volunteer opportunities, please visit the website at concordprisonoutreach.org.

This Week at FPC

Parish Jazz Band Rehearsal Mon, 10/14, 7-9pm, Sanctuary

Please contact Michael Paladini mwpaladini@gmail.com for more information.

Reading & Meditation Wed, 10/16, 6:40 pm-8:45 pm, Hall and online

6:40 - 7:20 pm Read & discuss *The Experience of Insight*, by Joseph Goldstein

7:20 - 7:30 pm Transition break

7:30 - 8:45 pm Meditation

Ukulele Meet-up Wed 10/16, 7-9pm, Community Room

FPC hosts monthly ukulele gatherings for ukulele players wanting to practice with other players. All levels are invited to come and play! Contact Pat Sorn for more information: psorn@mailstarusa.com.

Games Night Fri, 10/18, 7-9pm, Fellowship Hall

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

Upcoming Events

Bring-a-Friend Sunday & Open House Sun 10/20, 10am-12:30pm

One of the best ways to find new places and faces in your life is through a friend. Next Sunday we invite you and your children to bring a friend to the service and RE classes, and to the 11am-12:30pm **Open House** that follows!

Our Open House will feature tables in Fellowship Hall with information about our diverse programs below. Some of our attendees will be new to FPC or just visiting for the day with an FPC friend, but this is also a great opportunity for our current friends and members to see all that FPC has to offer!

ARTS & MUSIC

Adult Choir
Annual Visual Arts Show
Benefit Concerts
New Revival Coffee House
Parish Jazz Band, Uketarians

FUNDRAISERS

Apple Pie Project
Annual Auction
Book Sale, Plant Sale, Yard Sale
Craft Beer/Food Truck Fest
Drag Bingo

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday programming: Nursery care • K-5 •
Middle School • High School Exploration
Monthly Children's Chapel
field trips & social justice projects
Friday Friends (K-5 monthly social)
Coming-of-Age Program (every-other year)
Junior Youth group, Senior Youth Group
Our Whole Lives (OWL) - Lifespan
Sexuality Ed.
UU Journey (Intro to UU class for adults)

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Climate Change Task Force
Guest Table - free community dinners
LGBTQ+ group
Peace Vigils
Prison Outreach group
Racial Justice Task Force
Supporting Asylum Seekers

SPIRITUALITY & WORSHIP

Lay Ministry
Memorial Garden
Monthly vespers
Pagan/Wiccan group
Small Group Ministry Program
Spiritual Conversations through Poetry
Sunday worship
Weekly meditation & reading group

SOCIAL EVENTS & INTEREST GROUPS

Book Group, Bridge Group, Coffee & Chat,
Game Nights
Garden Conversations, Spanish
Conversations
Saturday Morning Breakfast Speaker Series

Piano Concert: 200 Years of Women Composers

Sun 10/20, 4-6pm, Fellowship Hall

Featuring Trevor Berens, piano. Music includes works by Amy Beach, Clara Schumann, Marti Epstein, and Florence Price. Suggested donation: \$5-\$40.

Tickets available at the door and in advance at [Eventbrite](#).

Trevor Berens presents a concert of music written by women, from 1836 through 2005. The music is as varied as it is beautiful, from Clara Schumann's early suite of short works inspired by the music of Chopin ("Soirées Musicales") to Marti Epstein's minimalist pieces written at the turn of this century (selections from "American Etudes"). Trevor will also be performing, in its entirety, Florence Price's rarely heard set of four dances, "Dances in the Canebrakes", as well as music by the early twentieth-century American composer, Amy Beach.



Racial Justice Task Force Tue 10/22, 7pm, Zoom

The Racial Justice Task Force will be hosting a discussion online as part of our "drop in" sessions. Our guest speaker will be Mac Hudson from the Prisoners Legal Services of Massachusetts, and he will be talking about his work with the Racial Equity in Corrections Initiative. REICI is an organization-wide initiative offered through Prisoner Legal Services, a nonprofit and anti-racist organization that advocates equity and the humane treatment of incarcerated people in the Commonwealth. We'll watch a short documentary, followed by a presentation by Mr. Hudson. Please mark your calendar and join us for this event! For more information on how to be involved with the RJTF, please contact Katy Weeks at katy.brightleaf@gmail.com or Johanna Pyle at johanna.pyle@gmail.com.



The UU Journey at FPC Sundays 10/27 & 11/3, 12-2:30 pm, lunch provided
A Two-Session Course on UU History, Spirituality, Mission, and Traditions
Rev. Cindy Landrum leads class. Join us for this opportunity to...



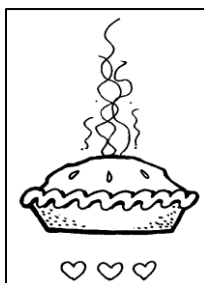
- ▶ share your own spiritual journey
- ▶ ask questions about UU and FPC
- ▶ get to know others in the church

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).

The Apple Pie Project Concludes Today!

Today is the last day of the season to get one of our apple pies! Head to the pie shed while pies remain!



ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE:

Information for folks joining us online



1. Closed captioning is available for FPC's online services. If you don't see captions on your screen, you can use the button at the bottom of your screen to request that the host turn them on.
2. Today's Zoom Host: **Sharon Brownfield**
3. Hymn lyrics will be in a slide presentation today.

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