

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

Unitarian Universalist



Sunday, October 10, 2021

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister
Michelle Cote, Director of Religious Education

Deedee Perkins, Parish Administrator

Brad Dumont, Music Director

Sanghee Kim, Organist/Pianist

Joleen Trotta, Welcoming & Membership Coordinator

Mike Silkonis, Sexton

Marissa Evans, Youth Coordinator

Janet Beatrice, External Publicity

Sharon Brownfield, President

Jenni Edgerton, 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 to help everyone be a part of worship in the fullest way possible. Assisted Listening Devices are available when worship is in the sanctuary.

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

**October 10, 2021
9:30 and 11:15 AM**

Gathering

Prelude *Canon in D /* D. Alexander
New World Symphony Medley Sanghee Kim, organ

Welcome & Announcements

9:30 am: Josh Ledwell, Social Justice Council Chair

11:15 am: Rick Lent, Climate Change Task Force Chair

Greet Your Neighbor

Introit 11:15 am *One Foot / Lead with Love* M. DeMore
FPC Choir

Call to Worship *Community Means Strength* by Starhawk

Chalice Lighting *Ignite Us in Radical Love* by R. Savage

Hymn #318 *We Would Be One*

1. We would be one as now we join in singing our hymn of love, to pledge ourselves anew “to that high cause of greater understanding of who we are, and what in us is true. We would be one in living for each other to show to all a new community.
2. We would be one in building for tomorrow a nobler world than we have known today. We would be one in searching for that meaning which bends our hearts and points us on our way. As one, we pledge ourselves to greater service, with love and justice, strive to make us free.

Covenant

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.

Affirmation

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.

Centering

Message for All Ages 11:15 am

Old Joe and the Carpenter: by P. DeSpain
An Appalachian Tale of Building Bridges

Joys and Sorrows

9:30 am: Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister

11:15 am: Marcia Rising, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation *In Gatherings* by M. Valentin

Exploring

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with
Supporting Asylum Speakers

Checks may be made to “First Parish Church” and sent to:

Pledges: attn: Pledge Secretary, PO Box 215, Stow MA 01775

Donations: attn: Treasurer, 353 Great Rd, Stow MA 01775

or donate online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>

or by text to (978) 310-3309.

Anthem *Ose Shalom* J. Leavitt

9:30 am: Brad Dumont, Vocals

11:15 am: FPC Choir

He who makes peace in his high places,
He shall make peace upon us,
And upon all of Israel, And say Amen.

Sermon *Cultivating Relationship*
The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

Hymn #1021 *Lean On Me*

1. Sometimes in our lives we all have pain,
we all have sorrow.
But if we are wise we know that there's always tomorrow.

Chorus:

Lean on me when you're not strong
and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on,
For it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need
somebody to lean on.
Just call on me brother when you need a hand.
We all need somebody to lean on.
I just might have a problem that you'd understand.
We all need somebody to lean on.

2. Please swallow your pride
if I have things you need to borrow,
For no one can fill those of your needs
that you won't let show.
3. If there is a load you have to bear that you can't carry,
I'm right up the road, I'll share your load if you just call me.

Benediction *We Are One* by H. Johnson

Sung Benediction

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 11:15 am *Bagatelle in A Minor,* L.v. Beethoven
WoO 59 "Für Elise" Sanghee Kim, piano



Thank you to:
Kim Kinnear, Zoom Helper
Marion Scott, First Service Usher
Jonathan Daisy, Video and Sound; our AV Helper;
and our worship participants, staff, and leadership.

FPC Announcements
Sunday, October 10, 2021

TODAY AT FPC

9:30 Outdoor Worship Service

followed by “connections time”

Masks and social distancing required

10:30 Choir Rehearsal in Fellowship Hall

11:00 Pie Sales!

11:15 Zoom Worship Service

followed by “connections time” breakout groups

12:45 Zoom Spiritual Conversations

5:30-9:30 Senior Youth Bonfire Night

This Sunday in our Religious Education Program:

9:30 Children will go directly to their RE programs listed

below. Children and youth in grades PreK-8 will meet during this service. All children and youth will go directly to RE and will not join in the service to help with social distancing.

There will be a greeter directing everyone to their right spot.

Grades PreK-5 (meeting in the area near the lower parking lot)

This Sunday is a community building time where we will play games, do a scavenger hunt and just have fun!

Grades 6-8 (will meet in the area in front of the main door)

Junior Youth will have a game day today. All youth are invited to bring in a non-electronic game to share!

High School Discussion Group is not meeting this Sunday – no program for Senior Youth at 11am. **All Senior Youth** are invited to attend a pizza, bonfire social gathering this evening. Look for the senior youth emails for more details!

Please contact Michelle Cote, our Director of Religious Education, at dre@fpc-stow-acton.org if you have any questions or concerns.

THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 11-17, 2021

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| Monday | Small Group Ministry, 7pm Zoom
Climate Change Task Force, 7pm, Zoom
Sounds of Stow (Hall) 7:00-8:30pm |
| Tuesday | Coffee & Chat 10-11:00am at the Gazebo town park
PICK APPLES & deliver to Carriage Shed #4 4pm
Racial Justice Task Force, 7:00pm Zoom
Trustee Meeting, 7:00pm Zoom |
| Wednesday | Chronicle Articles Due
PICK APPLES & deliver to Carriage Shed #4 4pm
Refugees & Asylum Seekers, 6:30pm, Zoom
Meditation, 7:25pm, Zoom |
| Thursday | Small Group Ministry, 9:30pm, Zoom
Staff Meeting, 12:30pm, Zoom
Peel Apples 5:00pm (not at FPC)
Peace Vigil 5:00 pm in front of FPC
8 th Principle Discussion, 7:00pm, Zoom
Choir rehearsal 7:15-9:15pm (Hall) |
| Friday | Guest Table under tent, back of FPC
Bake Pies 6:30am- 1:30pm Hall Kitchen |
| Saturday | Saturday Morning Breakfast, Zoom
SGM 9:00am zoom
Pies sold 9:30am - 1:00pm , Outside FPC
Pie Selling 11:00am - 1:00pm, Outside FPC |
| Sunday | |

NEXT SUNDAY, October 17, 2021

**“The Servants Entrance”
The Rev. Julie-Ann Silberman-Bunn**

This service will help us explore what the world looks like when we see ourselves as the ones who provide for others, rather than those who should be recipients of benefits from others, the world, or even the divine.

Reverend Julie-Ann Silberman-Bunn is a lifelong Unitarian Universalist, LRY and YRUU leader who has served as a Parish Minister, Religious Educator, Hospice Chaplain and now a Hospital Chaplain at Mercy Medical Center in Springfield, Ma. and quarter time Assistant Minister at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Greater Springfield. An author of chapters in *Everyday Spiritual Practice* and *Living a Call* Julie-Ann reflects frequently on what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist and evolving her understanding of faith and spiritual practices. Julie-Ann and her husband Ken live in their forever home, a cabin in the woods of Western Massachusetts with their rescued Maine Coon cat Kattia.

8th Principle Discussions – No RSVP Required

- **Thursday, October 14, 7pm with Rev. Cindy,**
<https://tinyurl.com/fpc8p>
- **Tuesday, October 26, 7pm -- Racial Justice Monthly Drop-In Discussion,** Zoom link to come
- **Tuesday, October 19, 7pm with Rev. Cindy,**
<https://tinyurl.com/fpc8pp>

A proposal has been made for an 8th principle focused on anti-racism and other oppressions in Unitarian Universalism. Many congregations have endorsed the proposal, and the UUA Article II Commission is studying it for a proposal to come to the General Assembly. These sessions will be a time to discuss and to ask questions and discuss thoughts about the 8th Principle.

**The UU Journey at FPC (aka New2UU)
A HYBRID 4-Session Course on
UU History, Spirituality, Mission, and Traditions**

Wednesdays, 7-9pm:

- Oct. 20:** *Theology, Worship, & Spiritual Journeys*
- Oct. 27:** *Unitarian, Universalist, UU, & FPC History*
- Nov. 3:** *Polity, Governance, & Social Justice*
- Nov. 10:** *FPC Traditions, Involvement, & Membership*

Our Minister, Rev. Cindy Landrum will lead the classes. There will be opportunities to share your own personal spiritual journey, ask questions, as well as get to know others in the church.

You do not need to be new to FPC to participate. All are welcome! **This HYBRID course is being offered both In-Person AND Virtually. Please indicate your preference when you register. Registration Required** (for link access). Please contact Joleen Trotta if you are interested in participating. mdc@fpc-stow-acton.org or call/text 774-276-027

Saturday Morning Breakfasts (ZOOM)

On October 16, Rashaun Martin, Director of Retention Programs and Services for Educators of Color in the Boston Public Schools will speak about the importance of a diversified educator workforce, how we recruit and retain diversity in the Boston Public Schools, current statewide initiatives, and how you can support the efforts. Program begins at 8:05.

On November 13, Paul Franceschi, Outreach Coordinator for the Boston Area Gleaners, will speak about the organization’s activities. They recently bought Stonefield Farm in Acton to use as a staging area for their packaging and distributing of local crops including the ones grown on site. In July several members of FPC picked green beans that were later brought to area food banks.

~Jeff Brown

The Apple Pie Project is Up and Running!
Please sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/fpcpies>

Volunteering opportunities:

Wednesday: Dough making

Contact June Mallon - june.pies@fpc-stow-acton.org – if you are interested. We prefer 2-3 members of a single family unit sign up together. Volunteers will be asked to wear masks while in the building.

Tuesday or Wednesday: Apple collecting

Contact Steve Evans (steve.pies@fpc-stow-acton.org) for information and to get official bags and directions. WE HAVE A NEW LOCATION FOR DROPPING OFF APPLES! Please deposit your bags of apples into the bins located IN FRONT OF STALL 4 OF THE CARRIAGE SHED.

Wednesday/Thursday: Apple peeling/pep

- Please sign up online and indicate how many bags of apples you intend to peel.
- Apples can be picked up on Wednesday afternoons after 4 pm. PLEASE ONLY TAKE AS MANY BAGS AS YOU SIGNED UP TO TAKE.
- The apples will be located in bins located IN FRONT OF STALL 4 OF THE CARRIAGE SHED.
- Volunteers are asked to take the apples home, wash them, peel them, core them, and cut them into pie slices. Bags for the cleaned apple slices to be stored in will be provided.
- Drop off bags of prepared apple 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.)*

Friday Morning: Baking

Sign up for early or late shifts (see sign up for times). You are welcome to sign up for two shifts if you plan to stay for the duration of pie making on a given Friday. All TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED.

Friday Evening: Bagging

Bagging will take place in the Fellowship Hall. All baggers will be asked to wear masks in the building.

Selling

- We will again be selling at the front doors of the church. Pies will be \$18.
- Sellers will be asked to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status and will be provided with gloves to wear.

EXTRA OFFERINGS

Please contact Rebecca if you plan to donate jellies/jams/or baked goods. Offerings can be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall during pie baking on Fridays or in the bins located IN FRONT OF STALL 4 OF THE CARRIAGE SHED anytime Friday afternoon/evening.

Questions/Comments/Concerns

If you have questions, comments, or concerns regarding the plans for the apple pie project this year, please reach out to the Pie Project Coordinator, Rebecca Stadolnik, at applepies@fpc-stow-acton.org.

Coffee and Chat...

...will continue on Tuesdays mornings from 10-11AM. Meet at the Town Park adjacent to FPC. Wear a mask, dress for the weather, and bring your own coffee! If the weather is poor an FPC Announce will be posted with a link for a Zoom meetup instead.

~Ann Sadler

TRUNK-OR-TREAT AT FPC!
Sunday, October 31st Between Services



Between the services at 10:30 on Halloween, Sunday, October 31st, we're having a trunk-or-treat at FPC! Our first service will be a little shorter on October 31st to allow for time to trunk-or-treat. The Junior Youth are working to create an accompanying haunted outdoor space for people to visit during this time, as well. Children and Youth are all welcome to trunk-or-treat, and can even bring a friend!

Please stay tuned for further details from the youth about other Halloween activities that will be happening along with the trunk-or-treat, and more trunk-or-treat details! Here are the details as we know them:

- **Trunk-Or-Treat:** Bring a bucket of NUT-FREE candy, decorate your car if you wish, and join us between the services in the main parking lot.
- **Parking:** We're asking that with the exception of people needing to use the accessible parking spaces, people who do not wish to be part of the trunk-or-treat park by the library or on Common Road, to minimize cars pulling out of our lots while the children and youth are trunk-or-treating – thank you!

OCTOBER PLATE SHARING
SUPPORTING ASYLUM SEEKERS

We thank you for your contributions now and in the past toward Supporting Asylum Seekers!

We are a small active Social Justice group at FPC, currently supporting the local asylum-seeker family of Gian Carlos and Keren and their 2 girls, who many of you met in person at our FPC summer Sunday Service.

Support takes many forms, from initial help with housing and medical issues, to employment, language, transportation, legal, school, and budgeting help. Some support requires time and care, and some additionally requires money. Beyond your generous donation, what can you do?

- Employ either adult once or occasionally, part time (contact Susie).
- Attend our Oct 13 6:30pm FPC Educational Forum, via Zoom, to learn about Aghan refugees and asylum seekers.
- Join us during a monthly meeting and other activities! (contact Susie O'Brien & Steve Evans, asylumsupport@fpc-stow-acton.org)

From the Racial Justice Task Force

The **October Drop-in will be on Tuesday, Oct. 26th** with the theme being discussion of the proposed UU 8th Principle. Zoom links will be sent out closer to the meeting dates. Our next **Racial Justice Task Force meeting will be on Tuesday, Oct. 12th at 7 P.M.** Zoom link to come later. Please consider joining us in this important work!