

August 25, 2024

10:00 am

Gathering

Prelude "Goin' Back to Saturn" Michael Paladini,
by Stevie Wonder Guitar and Vocals

Welcome

Opening Words "Come, Come," Katy Weeks
Whoever You Are"
by Melanie Morel-Ensminger

Chalice Lighting "Letting Go" Johanna Pyle
by Jay Wolin

* **Hymn #188** *Come, Come Whoever You Are*

Centering

* **Covenant and Affirmation**

(Spoken in unison)

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.

(Sung in unison)

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 June McKnight

Anthem "Hallelujah" Johanna Pyle
by Ma Muse Lisa Fagerstrom
& Sharon Webb

Joys and Sorrows Kate Hart, 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.

Meditation "We Are Known in Community" Jessica Batsford
by Leslie Takahashi

* *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

* **Hymn** *Keep Your Eyes on the Prize* Alice Wine
[Lyrics on screen]

Exploring

Reading "Hopefulness in Bad Times" Sharon Webb
from *You Can't be Neutral on a Moving Train* by Howard Zinn

Sharing Our Gifts

In July and August we share our weekly offering with two
recipients, **the documentary WHY ARE YOU YOU?** and **the
Interfaith Partnership for Refugee Resettlement**. You may
donate with a check made out to First Parish Church, online at
<https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>, or text to (978) 310-3309.

Offertory "How Can I Keep Michael Paladini
from Singing"

Sermon "Eyes on the Prize" Lisa Fagerstrom

Returning

* **Hymn** *Let the Life I've Led Speak for Me*

- 1) Let the life I've lived speak for me.
Let the life I've lived speak for me.
When I come to the end of this road,
And I lay down my heavy load,
Let the life I've lived speak for me.
- 2) Let the work I've done...
- 3) Let the friends I've made...

* **Benediction** "Be a Branch of the Tree of Life"
by Norman V. Naylor

* **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 'til we meet again.

Postlude "Hymn to Freedom" Michael Paladini
Oscar Peterson

Thank you

Jenni Peterson, Zoom Host
Joe Stadolnik, Tech Helper
June McKnight, Kevin O'Brien, ushers
Our staff & 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

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

July/August 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.

WHY ARE YOU YOU? is a feature documentary that explores the history of the Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU) community, that ran from 1983 to 2008. Empowerment, acceptance, tolerance, and commitment to social justice were the cornerstones of YRUU, and the lessons its youth learned remain relevant and important today. Lindsay Caddle LaPointe grew up in the program and realized that no concrete documentation existed for it. By telling the full story of those unique years, she hopes to rekindle the feelings former participants had and inspire empowerment and acceptance in new generations. FPC's donations from the plate will be matched by the Unitarian Universalist Funding Program. www.whyaireyouyou.org

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON *Unitarian Universalist*

Sunday, August 25, 2024



The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister
Rayla Baldwin-Mattson, Director of Religious Education
Meg Rivers-Wright, Parish Administration & Membership
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 UU Association Welcoming Congregation. We warmly welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual, & 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, back rows with accessible seating are "mask-required."

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

FPC Summer Announcements & Upcoming Events

► **Next Sunday's Service 9/1/23:** "Popcorn Theology" - Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum. Come to our Craft Beer and Food Truck Festival the day before and vote on what this service will be! Then show up to the service to find out what movie the vote has been cast for. Will Rev. Cindy preach on the very silly *Monty Python's Life of Brian* or the timely and applicable *The Grapes of Wrath*? Will it be on *Star Wars* because you know the force is with us? Or will we explore the too-real dystopia of *The Hunger Games*? Your votes will decide! And how on earth will Trevor manage to play music that can go with any of these? Just wait and see! And yes, we plan to have popcorn!

Join Worship by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/2223fpc>

Meeting ID: 999 7077 0266; Passcode: 01775

Join Worship by Phone: (929) 205-6099 (toll call)

► **Rev. Cindy's Summer Schedule and Lay Minister Coverage:**

8/19-8/25	Vacation Week #4	Kate H.
8/26-9/01	Partial Study Leave week; Make-up days for Weeks 3 & 4; Preaching 9/1	Ingrid

► **Book Group** TUE 9/3, 7-8 pm (online)

Knife, Salman Rushdie. Email sharonbrownfield@gmail.com for link.

► **Saturday Morning Breakfast** SAT 9/7, 7:30 coffee, 8:00 breakfast

Every month we have an \$8 breakfast with a program on a different topic. This month Bob & Vicki Tabor, Russell Hart, and Neil Saunders will tell of their journey to India earlier this year.

► **Ingathering Sunday Potluck Lunch & Ice Cream** SUN 9/8, 11 am

Our fall kicks off with this traditional event. Bring your favorite fall dish and join us on the lawn to socialize and play lawn games with FPC members & friends and support a local ice cream truck.

ASSABET

Craft Beer

&
Food Truck

FESTIVAL



Saturday **AUG. 31, 2024** 12-4 PM
353 Great Road, Stow • First Parish Church

CRAFT BREWS from Amory's Tomb Brewing, Dirigible Brewing, Flying Dreams, Redemption Rock, Start Line Brewing. Plus soft drinks and water.

FOOD TRUCKS from Bird's Nest Italian Street Food, Braised, Juniper Farms, Kith and Kin, Start Line BBQ, Twisted Pickle, and FPC Baked Goods.

LIVE MUSIC by Becky and the Swingin' Bards.

GAMES + CRAFTS + FUN for all ages.

ADMISSION
\$5-10 donation
Under 12 FREE
\$5 drink tickets
Certified Service Animals Only

  @AssabetCraftBeer

FPC Summer Announcements & Upcoming Events

► **Next Sunday's Service 9/1/23:** "Popcorn Theology" - Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum. Come to our Craft Beer and Food Truck Festival the day before and vote on what this service will be! Then show up to the service to find out what movie the vote has been cast for. Will Rev. Cindy preach on the very silly *Monty Python's Life of Brian* or the timely and applicable *The Grapes of Wrath*? Will it be on *Star Wars* because you know the force is with us? Or will we explore the too-real dystopia of *The Hunger Games*? Your votes will decide! And how on earth will Trevor manage to play music that can go with any of these? Just wait and see! And yes, we plan to have popcorn!

Join Worship by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/2223fpc>

Meeting ID: 999 7077 0266; Passcode: 01775

Join Worship by Phone: (929) 205-6099 (toll call)

► **Rev. Cindy's Summer Schedule and Lay Minister Coverage:**

8/19-8/25	Vacation Week #4	Kate H.
8/26-9/01	Partial Study Leave week; Make-up days for Weeks 3 & 4; Preaching 9/1	Ingrid

► **Book Group** TUE 9/3, 7-8 pm (online)

Knife, Salman Rushdie. Email sharonbrownfield@gmail.com for link.

► **Saturday Morning Breakfast** SAT 9/7, 7:30 coffee, 8:00 breakfast
Every month we have an \$8 breakfast with a program on a different topic. This month Bob & Vicki Tabor, Russell Hart, and Neil Saunders will tell of their journey to India earlier this year.

► **Ingathering Sunday Potluck Lunch & Ice Cream** SUN 9/8, 11 am
Our fall kicks off with this traditional event. Bring your favorite fall dish and join us on the lawn to socialize and play lawn games with FPC members & friends and support a local ice cream truck.

ASSABET

Craft Beer

&
Food Truck

FESTIVAL



Saturday **AUG. 31, 2024** 12-4 PM
353 Great Road, Stow • First Parish Church

CRAFT BREWS from Amory's Tomb Brewing, Dirigible Brewing, Flying Dreams, Redemption Rock, Start Line Brewing. Plus soft drinks and water.

FOOD TRUCKS from Bird's Nest Italian Street Food, Braised, Juniper Farms, Kith and Kin, Start Line BBQ, Twizted Pickle, and FPC Baked Goods.

LIVE MUSIC by Becky and the Swingin' Bards.

GAMES + CRAFTS + FUN for all ages.

ADMISSION
\$5-10 donation
Under 12 FREE
\$5 drink tickets
Certified Service Animals Only

  @AssabetCraftBeer