

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

Unitarian Universalist



October 19, 2025
Holding to Integrity in the Games

**The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L.
Landrum**
Minister

Yaakov Trek Reef
Intern Minister

**Rayla D.
Baldwin-Mattson**
Director of Religious
Education

Meg Rivers-Wright
Parish Administrator

Chris Hossfeld
Music Director

Trevor Berens
Accompanist

Bradshaw Mattson
Tech Assistant

Mike Silkonis
Sexton

Justin Marble
Nursery Care Coordinator

Brendon Chetwynd
President

Trisha Guditiz
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.

October 19, 2025: 10:00 a.m.

Gathering

Prelude	"Skyline" Ola Gjeilo	Trevor Berens Accompanist
Welcome & Announcements		Mark Koenig, Lay Minister
Opening Words	"With Love as My Guide" Cindy Terlazzo	Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
Chalice Lighting	"Life's Sacred Dance" Joanne Giannino	Rajiv & Sunil Srivastava & Nataliya Pylipiv
* Hymn	"As We Carry This Flame Forward"	<i>Sing Out Love</i>

Centering

*** Covenant and Affirmation**

Greet Your Neighbor

A Time for All Ages Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
Director of Religious Education

Going Forth With the Light "Our Love Surrounds You"
Chris Hossfeld *Sing Out Love*

Land Acknowledgement

Joys and Sorrows Mark Koenig, 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.

Prayer or Meditation "Prayer for Our Country"
Christin Green

*** Hymn** "Love Is at the Center" *Sing Out Love*

Exploring

Reading Excerpt from *The Hunger Games*
Suzanne Collins

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

Sharing Our Gifts

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

Anthem	"What the World Needs Now Is Love"	FPC Choir
	Music by Burt Bacharach	Chris Hossfeld
	Lyrics by Hal David	Music Director

Chorus: What the world needs now is love, sweet love
It's the only thing that there's just too little of
What the world needs now is love, sweet love
No, not just for some but for everyone

Verse 1: O, we don't need another mountain
There are mountains and hillsides enough to climb
There are oceans and rivers enough to cross
Enough to last until the end of time

Chorus

Verse 2: O, we don't need another meadow
There are corn fields and wheat fields enough to grow
There are sunbeams and moonbeams enough to shine
Oh, listen Lord, if You want to know

Chorus

Sermon	"Holding to Integrity in the Games"	Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
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Returning

* Hymn #291	"Die Gedanken Sind Frei"	<i>Singing the Living Tradition</i>
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* Benediction	"Let Our Lives be a Prayer"
	Joel Miller

*** Closing Song**

Postlude	"Nocturne Op 9, No 2"	Trevor Berens
	Chopin	

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Thank you to:
Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host
Kate Imhoff & Peter Fiske, Ushers
Josh Ledwell, Coffee Host
Our staff and leadership

To our visitors, thank you for coming! ♥

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

- Fill out a Visitor Card in your pew or online (QR code)
- Watch these pages for newcomer events:
 - **Newcomer Coffees** - Meet the minister and other newcomers
 - **UU Journey classes** - Learn about UU history, spirituality, mission, and traditions
- Check out our website, www.fpc-stow-acton.org
There is so much happening at FPC! Our homepage and "Church Life" tab detail our events and programs.
- Subscribe to our e-newsletters & email groups (QR code)



Visitor Card



E-Newsletters

≧ Today at FPC ≦

9 am Open Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

11 am Coffee Hour - Fellowship Hall

≧ Every Week at FPC ≦

Tue. 10 AM <u>Coffee and Chat</u> Town Center Park Gazebo 	Wed. 6:40 PM <u>Meditation & Reading</u> Fellowship Hall & Online 	Thu. 5 PM <u>Peace Vigil</u> Town Common in front of FPC 	Thu. 7:15 PM <u>Choir Rehearsal</u> Fellowship Hall - Join the choir! music@fpc-stow-acton.org	Fri. 1 PM <u>Bridge Playing</u> Community Room 
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Plate Sharing for October: **FPC Supporting Asylum Seekers** helps those seeking asylum or refuge who hope to build their lives locally. We have directly supported families from the countries of Afghanistan, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Myanmar, Uganda, and Venezuela.



We help asylum seekers to learn English • write resumes • find jobs • navigate the medical system • learn to ride a bike or the bus • obtain a driver's license, housing, and health insurance

We provide asylum seekers with rides to medical appointments & job interviews • legal fees for asylum cases • political advocacy • temporary food & housing in a hotel if they are waiting for support from MA Emergency Family System

FPC is proud to have a task force working directly with immigrants during this time of threats of mass deportations. We have lobbied for the successful passage of the driver's license law and worked with a seven-church partnership and a family in Lowell MA, and with the Acton Boxborough United Way. Please support this important work in the weekly plate share and stop by our table during coffee hour to learn more about our families and the work we do. We greatly appreciate the Congregation's ongoing support!

- Ann Wickham, Member and Liaison

Next Sunday: Oct. 26, 10 am - "Compost Theology" - Sanctuary/Zoom

- Yaakov Trek Reef, Intern Minister - As the wheel of the year turns us toward the midpoint of Autumn, let us look to the fallen leaves and decaying detritus for wisdom in this time of change. What can we compost in our own lives to nourish our spirits?

≧ This Week at FPC ≦

➤ **POSTPONED:** The Quilters Documentary Screening

The Arts Committee and Racial Justice Task Force are postponing the Fri., 10/24 screening of *The Quilters*. It has been rescheduled for Fri, May 1st at 6 pm.

➤ **FPC Halloween Potluck Gathering -**

Sat. 10/25, 5:30-8 pm - Fellowship Hall

A Halloween Party for all FPC-ers of ALL AGES and their friends!



🎃 Costumes are both optional and encouraged.

🎃 Potluck dinner - please bring an all-ages-friendly dish to share.

We are also looking for beverages, desserts, and snacks.

If you aren't able to bring a dish, please come anyway!

🎃 Lots of games & activities -

🐱 Halloween Bingo with prizes

🐱 *Family Feud*: Halloween Edition*

🐱 Guess How Many Candies in the Jar

🐱 crafts

🐱 dancing

🐱 The return of our Spooky Room: The Junior Youth have been working hard on a Halloween mystery. Can you follow the clues and solve the mystery?

🎃 We are also looking for some helping hands for set-up and clean-up and at each activity. Please reach out to me, Lindsay LaPointe, or any other RE committee member.

* If you haven't yet seen or answered the questions for our *Family Feud*, you can participate by completing the form the QR code takes you to.



Family Feud
questionnaire

≧ Upcoming ≦

Concord Prison Outreach's Holiday Gift Bag Project - Sat. 11/1, 9:30 am-12 pm and 12:30-3 pm - Fellowship Hall

FPC is once again hosting Concord Prison Outreach's Holiday Gift Bag Project this year. As some of you already know, this is a very powerful way to experience and spread a little holiday cheer to incarcerated individuals throughout Massachusetts. It is a very large project (this year CPO is assembling 3600 gift bags!) and we need 8 people for each of 2 shifts to do our part. If you would like to participate in this incredibly meaningful event, please use the QR code to sign up. For more information or questions, please contact members of the Racial Justice Task Force.



Holiday Gift Bag
Project

Annual Open Mic Night - Sat. 11/1, 7-10 pm - Fellowship Hall

Can you sing, dance, recite poetry, tell us a story, make us laugh..? The FPC Arts Committee would love to cheer you on in a welcoming environment! This is an evening where we entertain each other: no competition, just folks having a good time. Families are absolutely welcome!



➤ If you plan to perform, please email Katy Weeks at katy.brightleaf@gmail.com and include:

- Your name
- Best email address to reach you
- A description of your act
- Whether you need any equipment - we plan to set up a sound system with at least two microphones. Let us know if you need more.)
- You will need to provide your own accompaniment, whether it's you or a friend/teacher - let us know who.
- If you have young ones in your act - we will put acts with younger kids at the top of the lineup so you don't have to worry about bedtimes.

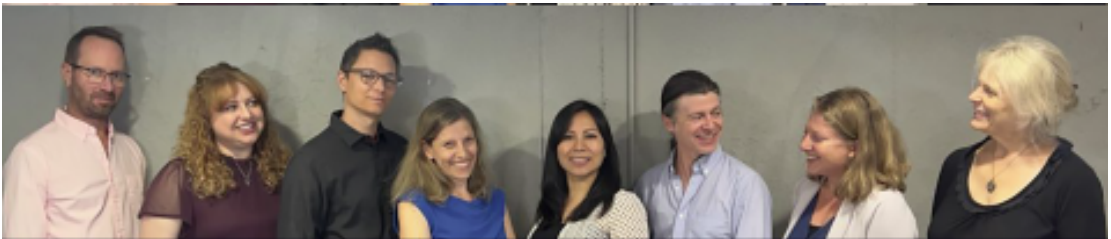


➤ You do NOT need to perform; in fact, we can really use a supportive audience! Feel free to invite your friends to come. Our hope is to keep this simple, just us folks. We are asking people who can to bring a snack, dessert, or beverage, but it's not necessary.

➤ **Sonic Liberation Players** - Sat. 11/8, 7:30 pm

Sonic Liberation Players open their 8th season with Raven Chacon's "Voiceless Mass," winner of the 2022 Pulitzer Prize for Music. FPC Accompanist Trevor Berens will join the ensemble from our historic Hutchings pipe organ. The concert will also feature John Cage's rarely-performed "Apartment House, 1776", which celebrates the various musics of this country in 1776, and a new commission from composer Eddie Davis.

Suggested donation: \$20. Donations collected at the door or in advance at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).



The Sonic Liberation Players explore new ways of encountering sound. To offer this experience to a broad range of listeners, we play uncommonly heard works and commission new works that investigate the area between “academic/intellectual” and “pop influenced” classical.

The founding members of SLP met and performed together at California Institute of the Arts in the early 20s. A decade later, having migrated independently to the East Coast (Boston and New York), they reconnected and began this new musical journey together, launching as SLP in 2016. The CalArts “sound” is varied, yet finds roots in the music of John Cage and Morton Feldman. Likewise, the Sonic Liberation Players approach a prismatic variety of composers and music in search of new languages and adventurous musical possibilities.