



THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH
OF STOW & ACTON
Unitarian Universalist
&
THE UNITARIAN CHURCH
OF MARLBOROUGH & HUDSON



May 3, 2026
Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Today's Service & Meetings Participants & Leaders

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

Yaakov Trek Reef
FPC Intern Minister

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

Cynthia Menard
UCMH Director of Religious
Education

Chris Hossfeld
FPC Music Director

Trevor Berens
FPC Accompanist

Meg Rivers-Wright
FPC Parish Administrator

Justin Marble
FPC Nursery Care
Coordinator

Bradshaw Mattson
FPC Tech Assistant

Brendon Chetwynd
FPC President

Jennifer Rambridge
UCMH President

Trisha Guditz
FPC Vice President

Bill Froberg
FPC Treasurer

Johanna Pyle
FPC Clerk

*FPC & UCMH are Unitarian Universalist Association Welcoming Congregations.
We warmly welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people into our community.*

Large print hymnals and Assisted Listening Devices are available from an usher.
To request a large print order of service for a future Sunday,
email office@fpc-stow-acton.org

FPC currently has a masks-optional policy throughout the church.
In the Sanctuary, several back rows with accessible seating are "mask-required."

Find us on Facebook and on the web at fpc-stow-acton.org & ucmh.org.

May 3, 2026: 10:00 a.m.

Gathering

Prelude

“It’s You I Like” Chris Hossfeld, Music Director
Fred Rogers Trevor Berens, Accompanist

It’s you I like,
It’s not the things you wear,
It’s not the way you do your hair
But it's you I like
The way you are right now,
The way down deep inside you
Not the things that hide you,
Not your toys
They’re just beside you.

But it’s you I like
Every part of you.
Your skin, your eyes, your feelings
Whether old or new.
I hope that you'll remember
Even when you're feeling blue
That it’s you I like,
It’s you yourself, it’s you.
It’s you I like.

Welcome & Announcements

Brendon Chetwynd, FPC President &
Jennifer Rambridge, UCMH President

Opening Words

“We Meet on Holy Ground”
by Richard Gilbert Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Trolley Processional

*Trolleys Bring Passenger
Children to the Front*

Chalices Lighting

Cynthia Menard & Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
UCMH & FPC Directors of Religious Education

*** Hymn #1064**

“Blue Boat Home” *Singing the Journey*

Centering

*** Responsive Covenant and Affirmation**

Brendon Chetwynd, FPC President
Jennifer Rambridge, UCMH President

Land Acknowledgement

Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson

Story for All Ages

Cynthia Menard

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

Shared Song

“Love Is at the Center”
Sing Out Love

FPC & UCMH Children,
Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson,
Chris Hossfeld, &
FPC Ukutarians

I believe in the power of giving,
I believe in the power of change,
I believe in the power of differences,
I believe in love.

Chorus:

Love is at the center,
at the center there is love.

Love is at the center,
at the center there is love.

I believe in the power of justice,
I believe in the power of fairness,
I believe in the web of life,
I believe in love. *Chorus*

Exploring

Story for All Ages

“The Good Samaritan:
A Modern Retelling” Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Trolley Recessional

*Trolleys Return Passenger
Children to Pews*

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, online at fpc-stow-acton.org/donate, or text (978) 310-3309.



Anthem

“Won’t You Be My Neighbor?”
Fred Rogers

FPC Choir

It’s a beautiful day in this
neighborhood
A beautiful day for a neighbor
Would you be mine?
Could you be mine?
It’s a neighborly day in this
beautywood
A neighborly day for a beauty
Would you be mine?
Could you be mine?
I have always wanted to have
a neighbor just like you

I’ve always wanted to live
in a neighborhood with you
So, let’s make the most of this
beautiful day
Since we’re together,
we might as well say
Would you be mine?
Could you be mine?
Won’t you be my neighbor?
Won’t you please, won’t you please?
Please, won’t you be my neighbor?

Greet Your Neighbor

Trolley Processional

*Trolleys Bring Passenger
Children to the Front*

Story for All Ages

Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson

*** Song**

*"We Shall Be Known"
Ma Muse*

Milestone 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.

**Prayer or Meditation
in Story & in Silence**

"Stone Soup"

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Trolley Recessional

*Trolleys Return Passenger
Children to Pews*

Returning

*** Hymn**

"This Boat"

Sing Out Love

*** Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L Landrum

*** Closing Song**

Postlude

*"It's Such a Good Feeling"
Fred Rogers*

FPC Choir
Trevor Berens

It's such a good feeling
to know you're alive
It's such a happy feeling
you're growing inside
And when you wake up ready to say
"I think I'll make a snappy new day"

It's such a good feeling,
a very good feeling
The feeling you know that I'll be back
When the day is new
and I'll have more ideas for you
And you'll have things you'll
want to talk about – I will too

Please join us for a brief coffee time in Fellowship Hall.

FPC members, please return quickly to the Sanctuary to check in for the congregational meeting. UCMH Members will meet in the Community Room.

* * *

Thank you to: Zoom Host Kim Kinnear; Ushers Jeff Brown, Marcia Rising & Carolyn Zettler; Welcomer Carole Feldhusen; Coffee Hosts Jeff Brown, Sharon Brownfield, & Rick Lent; & our leadership.

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

≧ 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



≧ Announcements ≦

➤ **Unclaimed Auction Items SALE and Silver Collection PRE-sale** Sundays, May 3 and 10

As we have offered in years past, there will be a "second chance" sale for Auction items that did not sell, with many "non-precious metal items" marked down.

I will also be bringing my collection of silver jewelry so that folks from church get "first dibs" on those items before the public jewelry sale that will be held Saturday, May 16th from 9:30-11:30 am (see Events section below). Please come and check out the collection...there will be lots of lovely options for Mother's Day presents! Silver will be priced based on the "melt price" so you'll get great bargains! I will try to have a "square" reader available, but you can also plan to bring cash or check to pay (the preferred option, since no extra fees are incurred) or plan to pay on the website.

If anyone has items they'd like to donate to the public sale, feel free to bring them to drop off at those times or reach out to me and we can arrange another time.

- Rebecca Stadolnik for the  Jewelry Table 

➤ **Plate Share for May: Concord Prison Outreach**

Concord Prison Outreach is a non-profit organization of individuals and faith communities committed to helping people who are incarcerated build better lives for themselves and their families. Since its formation in 1968, it has grown into the largest organization of its kind in Massachusetts, serving the prison population in eight facilities in this part of the state. It offers programs in Vocational and Socio-Emotional Skills • Arts and Humanities • Families and Children.



CPO also offers opportunities for people on the outside to participate in, including assembling Holiday Gift Bags, which we did in Fellowship Hall last year for the first time! Liaisons June McKnight and Johanna Pyle are both active volunteers with CPO, currently doing eight-week Restorative Justice reading classes and “Read to Me Dad,” a 3-4 week program which culminates in fathers being filmed reading to their children. They are also both members of the CPO Advisory Council.

In order for CPO to continue offering the programs they do, and hopefully expand their mission, funding is crucial. They hope you will consider CPO for a plate sharing month. You may donate by check made out to First Parish Church, text to (978) 310-3309, or online using the QR code or fpc-stow-acton.org/donate.



≧ **This Week at FPC** ≦

➤ **Book Group** Tuesday, 5/5, 7-8 pm, online

Good Dirt by Charmaine Wilkerson. Email Sharon Brownfield at sharonbrownfield@gmail.com or check FPC Announce for the Zoom link.

➤ **Guest Table** Friday, 5/8, 5:30-6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Our free community dinner on the second Friday of each month
Doors open 5 pm ~ Dinner starts 5:30 ~ All are Welcome ~ No Charge!
Menu: Baked penne with meatballs, side vegetable, salad, rolls, dessert
Vegetarian, gluten-free, and dairy-free options available. All meals nut-free.

≧ This Week, cont'd ≦

➤ **Friday Friends** Friday, 5/8, 6:30-8:30 pm

Young people ages 5 - 11 are invited to join us this Friday, May 8th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm for a night of crafts, games, snacks, and fun. Drop off and pick up is in the Vestry as usual. After our main activity, free play, and snack, we finish with our traditional flashlight hide and seek in our slightly spooky sanctuary. We hope to see you at Friday Friends!





➤ **Forest Therapy Walk** Saturday, May 9, 9:30 am-12:00 pm, Carlisle, MA with Trek Reef, Certified Forest Therapy Guide - Suggested Donation \$50 per person. 20 spots available. Location details and directions will be provided to registrants.

Join us for a Guided Forest Therapy Walk led by our Intern Minister, Trek Reef! Funds raised will be dedicated toward the intern minister's salary for next year. This is not a hike. A guided forest therapy walk usually goes from one to two miles max and involves gentle walking paired with invitations to deepen our relationship to our more-than-human world and sharing circles to deepen our awareness of what we are noticing. We end the experience with a tea circle.

Trek was trained by the Association for Nature and Forest Therapy and earned certification as a Forest Therapy Guide in 2023. His organization, the Alliance for Wilderness Engagement, centers the practice of relational forest therapy as one modality for rekindling our relationship with our more-than-human world.

Sign up by sending an email to Trek at trees@uuma.org with Forest Therapy Walk in the subject line. Registration is required.

≧ Every Week at FPC ≦

<p>Tue. 10 AM <u>Coffee and Chat</u> Town Center Park Gazebo*</p> <div style="text-align: center;"></div>	<p>Wed. 6:40 PM <u>Meditation & Reading</u> Fellowship Hall & Online</p> <div style="text-align: center;"></div>	<p>Thu. 5 PM <u>Peace Vigil</u> Town Common in front of FPC</p> <div style="text-align: center;"></div>	<p>Thu. 7:15 PM <u>Choir Rehearsal</u> Fellowship Hall - Join the choir! music@fpc-stow-acton.org</p>	<p>Fri. 1 PM <u>Bridge Playing</u> 34 Meeting House Ln, Main Entrance, Stow</p> <div style="text-align: center;"></div>
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* In inclement weather, we meet at The Boston Bean House in Maynard, 102 Main Street

≧ Upcoming ≦

➤ **Next Sunday's Service** - May 10, 10 am - "Mother's Day for Peace"

-Yaakov Trek Reef, Intern Minister

We'll explore the history of Mothers' Day together and how it was originally connected to peace.

➤ **Elder/Memory Care Peer Support Group** Sun, May 10, 11 am-12:30 pm, 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 that's not to mention the grief. Join us for the FPC Peer-to-Peer Support Group for anyone dealing with elder/memory care issues for a loved one. We're here to support each other on this difficult journey and share resources.

➤ **Plant and Jewelry Sales** - Saturday, May 16, 9:30-11:30 am

Celebrate spring with something leafy or sparkly!

Plant Sale 🌱

FPC Parking Lot

Perennials, annuals, shrubs,
vegetables, seedlings, and more!

Jewelry Sale 💎

Community Room

Silver and costume jewelry, vintage
and modern pieces, necklaces, earrings,
bracelets, watches, beading supplies

FPC & UCMH folks are welcome to come help set up on Friday any time between 4 and 7 pm OR at 9 am Saturday to shop with the early birds!