

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



May 10, 2026
Mothers' Day for Peace

**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 Guditz
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.

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

Gathering

Prelude

“Improvisation”

Trevor Berens
Accompanist

Welcome & Announcements

Josh Ledwell, Co-Chair,
Membership Committee

Opening Words

Chalice Lighting

*** Hymn #91**

“Mother of All”

SLT

Centering

*** Covenant and Affirmation**

Land Acknowledgement

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”

Sing Out Love

Chris Hossfeld

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 Words

In Silence

*** In Song #1053**

“How Could Anyone”

Singing the Journey

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

Exploring

* **Responsive Reading #573** “Mother’s Day Proclamation” Yakov Trek Reef,
by Julia Ward Howe Intern Minister

Plate Sharing Introduction

Liz Rust, Board Chair
Concord Prison Outreach

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.

Make a Donation
Online

Anthem

“Peace Before Us”
David Haas

FPC Choir

Peace* before us,
Peace* behind us,
Peace* under our feet,

Peace* within us, *Love, Light, Hope
Peace* over us,
Let all around us be peace.*

Sermon

“Mothers’ Day for Peace”

Yakov Trek Reef,
Intern Minister

Returning

* **Hymn #1026** “If Every Woman in the World” *Singing the Journey*

* **Benediction** Yakov Trek Reef

* **Closing Song**

Postlude

“Peace”
Horace Silver

Trevor Berens

* * *

Thank you to:
Zoom Host

Peter Fiske, Marcia Allison, Ushers
Kirsten Chetwynd, Quinci Sprague, Michael Merrill, Coffee Hosts
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

Religious Education today - *Time for all Ages* in the service, followed by age appropriate classes downstairs

≧ 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

≧ **Today at Coffee Hour** ≦

After the service in Fellowship Hall

➤ **Lots of lovely options for Mother's Day presents:**

- Unclaimed Auction Items Sale - "Second chance" sale for items that did not sell; many "non-precious items" are marked down! (You can also pick up gift cards, jewelry, and other items listed on your auction statement, and you can pay your Auctria bill at the table.)
- Silver Jewelry PRE-Sale - Get first dibs on our collection of silver jewelry before the public jewelry sale on Saturday, May 16th (9:30-11:30 am; see Events section below for more details). Silver will be priced based on the "melt price," so you'll get great bargains!
- Payment - By cash or check is preferred since no extra fees are incurred, but we will try to have a Square reader available. You can also pay on the FPC website.
- Donate - If anyone has items they'd like to donate to the public jewelry sale on the 16th, feel free to drop them off at this coffee hour or reach out to Rebecca to arrange another time - rstadolnik@gmail.com.

➤ **Recruitment Drive for the Assabet Craft Beer & Food Truck Festival:**

We will be kicking off our volunteer recruitment drive for this summer's Festival that takes place on Saturday, September 5 (12 noon-4pm). Lots of volunteers are needed to help with what will be another really fun family event for both FPC and our wider community. Please sign up at our special table where you can also learn more about all the different opportunities available. You can also register directly by using SignupGenius: scan the QR code here or go to the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/beerandfoodtruck>



Beer & Food Truck Fest

➤ **Also after the service today - Elder/Memory Care Peer Support Group, Parlor** 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. Ends 12:30 pm.

≧ Announcements ≦

➤ **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 ≦

➤ Mon, 5/11 - **Jazz Band Rehearsal** - 7-9 pm, Sanctuary

Any parishioner interested in sitting in with the band should contact Michael Paladini, Musical Director, at 508-633-3673 or mwpaladini@gmail.com.

≧ This Week at FPC, cont'd. ≦

➤ Fri, 5/15 - **Game Night** - 7-9 pm, Vestry

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

➤ Sat, 5/16 - **Plant and Jewelry Sales** - 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 help set up on Friday any time between 4 & 7 pm or shop with the early birds at 9 am Saturday!

Jewelry donations are welcome anytime. If I don't have time to sort newly donated items before this sale, they'll be in the next one. I'm also happy to help sort through jewelry collections (e.g., inherited, downsizing) to identify and separate pieces of value from items to donate.

Please email Rebecca Stadolnik (rstadolnik@gmail.com) if you have questions or plan to come help out Friday May 15th...all help is appreciated!

≧ **Upcoming** ≦

➤ **Next Sunday's Service** - May 17, 10 am - "The Challenge and Promise of Change" - Lisa Fagerstrom, Lay Leader

Each one of us experiences change as a part of life--it is universal and inevitable. One of my favorite quips is, "The only thing constant in life is change." Even though we may know intellectually that it is a constant part of life, change often seems to have a bad sense of timing and not be welcomed with delight in the living of our lives. This worship service will invite us to sit with the reality and impacts of change in our lives, to explore our reactions to change, and to consider ways that we can engage more fully with change as an opportunity for awareness, transformation, and growth.

➤ **Submission Deadline for the June issue of *The Chronicle*** - Wed, 5/20, 5 pm
Please email your submissions to Meg at office@fpc-stow-acton.org.

➤ **Ukulele Meetup** - Wed, 5/20, 7-9 pm, Community Room
Pat Sorn and Sue Stewart, Coordinators

FPC hosts monthly ukulele gatherings for ukulele players wanting to practice with other players. Uke lovers of all levels (including beginners!) are welcome to come and play, sing, and share music with the group. We have extra ukes for anyone who'd like to try them out. If not, you can just come and sing along!

➤ **Indigenous Justice Task Force** Tuesday, 5/26, 7-8 pm, Zoom

➤ **FPC Annual Meeting** Friday, 5/29, 7-9 pm, Sanctuary and online