

How to Connect with First Parish Church:

Sign our visitor log at tinyurl.com/visitfpc or scan the QR code:
We'll send you information on request.



Come to Sunday's 10 am service and 11 am social hour, in person or online.

Subscribe to our publications...

The Chronicle - monthly e-newsletter

This Week at FPC - weekly e-newsletter

FPCAnnounce & FPCForum - e-mail groups

...all at <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/subscribe-newsletters>.

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



Sunday, February 18, 2024

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

Meg Rivers-Wright
Administration, Membership

Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
Dir. of Religious Education

Chris Hossfeld
Music Director

Trevor Berens
Accompanist

Justin Marble
Nursery Care Coordinator

Mike Silkonis
Sexton

Janet Beatrice
External Publicity

Felix Freeman
Tech Assistant

Jenni Edgerton
President

Brendon Chetwynd
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](https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org) and on Facebook.

February 18, 2024: 10:00

Gathering

Prelude "Rosemary" Trevor Berens, piano
Frank Bridge

Welcome Worship Committee Member

Greet Your Neighbor

Opening Words "Each Day" The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
Kristen Harper

Chalice Lighting "May This Light Guide Us"
JeKaren Olaoya

* **Hymn #291** "Die Gedanken Sind Frei"

Centering

* **Covenant and Affirmation**

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.

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

Joys and Sorrows Ann Wickham, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation "Revel in the Mystery"
Ali K.C. Bell

* **Hymn #20** "Be Thou My Vision" (verses 1 & 2)

Exploring

Reading "Everywoman Her Own Theology"
Alicia Ostriker

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with **UU Urban Ministry**.
You may donate with a check made out to First Parish Church,
online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>, or text (978) 310-3309.

Anthem "Sonata in F Minor," Mvts. 3 & 4 Susan Avery, Bassoon
G.P. Telemann Trevor Berens, piano

Sermon "A Humanist's Search for God"
The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

* **Hymn #354** "We Laugh We Cry" (verses 1 & 4)

* **Benediction** "Abundant Grace"
Melissa Jeter

* **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 'till we meet again.

Postlude "Ballade" Trevor Berens, piano
Clara Schumann

Thank you to:
Hector Constantzos, Zoom Host
Peter Fiske, Marion Scott, Ushers
Coffee Hosts
Our staff and leadership

Plate Sharing

The UU Urban Ministry (UUUM) is an organization based in Roxbury that is housed on the site of an early UU church. Its mission is to "work across race and place to dismantle racism and white supremacy culture, as well as to advance racial, economic, and social justice." UUUM's vision is "a Greater Boston where all people live with freedom and dignity and have equitable access to resources and opportunity to shape the present and the future."



The UUUM was founded almost 200 years ago by Rev. Joseph Tuckerman, with the focus of empowering the underprivileged citizens of Boston while transforming the social consciousness of privileged residents. Today the UUUM focuses on providing safe shelters and workforce development programming for survivors of domestic violence, specifically Renewal House. [FPC has contributed for many years by collecting annual holiday contributions for Renewal House.]

UUUM also provides academic enrichment for youths of color through their Roxbury Youth Programs. And UUUM provides programming for various arts and humanities grounded in a social justice message, including providing exhibits of local artists' works.

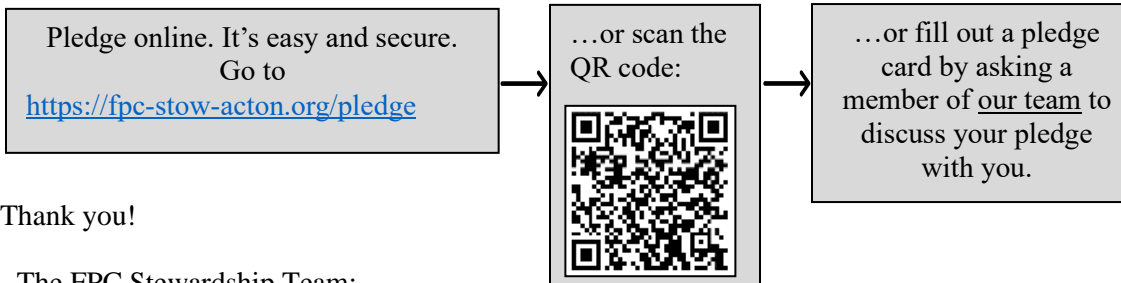
Stewardship Campaign

Have you made a pledge? **Thank you.**

Have you answered the call and let us know what your intentions are? **Thank you.**

If not, please let us know as soon as possible. Our goal is 100% participation.

We need to hear from you!



Thank you!

- The FPC Stewardship Team:

Jenni Edgerton, Carole Feldhusen, Andy Derr,
Rick Gentilman, Russ Hart, Sharon Brownfield

Today at FPC

18 FEB, SUN	● 10 – 11am	Service (Sanctuary, online)
	● 11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
	● 7 – 8pm	Artist's Way Practice (online)

Religious Education News

Today, 2/18 – Children's Chapel will be held during the beginning of the service and Rev. Cindy will be joining us!

Sun, 2/25 - The DRE will be off, but RE will still be here, and we hope you will be too!

Sat, 3/9 - For our junior and senior youth who would like to get more involved with other area UU youth, there will be a **Youth Con** at First Unitarian Church in Worcester, MA on March 9th from 10 am-5 pm. Contact Rayla for registration. (6th-12th grades)

Sat, 4/6 - Also, there will be a KIDS Con on April 6th from 1:00pm-5:00pm. Contact Rayla for registration. K-5th grade


This Week at FPC

19	FEB, MON	● All day	Presidents' Day
20	FEB, TUE	● 10 – 11am	Coffee & Chat (Gazebo)
		● 11:30am – 1pm	Membership Committee mtg. online
		● 7 – 9pm	3rd Tuesday Group, SGM (Community Room)
		● 7 – 9pm	Board of Trustees Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)
21	FEB, WED	● All day	The Chronicle: Submission Deadline for next month
		● 12 – 1pm	Worship Committee (online)
		● 6:40 – 8:45pm	Meditation (Fellowship Hall & online)
		● 7 – 9pm	Ukulele Meetup (Comm Rm)
22	FEB, THU	● 5 – 6pm	Lay Ministers meeting (online)
		● 5 – 6pm	Peace Vigil (outside)
		● 7:15 – 9pm	Choir Practice (Hall)
23	FEB, FRI	● 1 – 3:30pm	Bridge Group (Community Rm)
24	FEB, SAT	● 9 – 10am	Spanish Conversations (Vestry) Vestry

Next Sunday's Service: Feb 25, 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

“How To Love” . As a culture obsessed with romantic love and a faith centered on Love, we talk a lot about it. But how often do we get into the how of it? How were you taught to love? How have you shown your beloveds how to love you? What are the guiding questions and principles that help us love one another well? How are we called to Love this broken world?

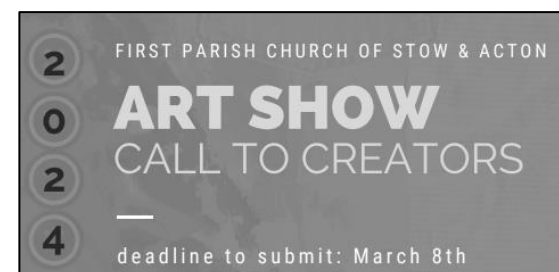
Upcoming Events

Wed 2/21 6:40-8:45 pm **Reading and Meditation**, Fellowship Hall and online
 6:40 - 7:20 pm Read & discuss *A Path with Heart*, by Jack Kornfield
 7:20 - 7:30 pm Transition break
 7:30 - 8:45 pm Meditation

Sat 2/23 9-10 am **Spanish Conversations**, Vestry
 Contact Roy Miller at millerroy@comcast.net

Fri 3/8 **FPC's Arts Committee is calling for creators!**

We encourage participants of ALL AGES to submit arts or crafts that utilize recycled/upcycled materials in some way.



This is your opportunity to be creative and wacky and have fun -

- ▶ What can you make from that old plank of wood?
 - ▶ Or that jar of old keys or nails?
 - ▶ Or that piece of fabric or old clothing that's been lying around forever?
 - ▶ Or that old canvas or that Clorox container?
- The sky's the limit and anything goes! No rules (except "family friendly"). See our ad in *This Week at FPC* for the link to submit!

Sat 4/13 **The Olympics are coming to FPC in April!** * **SAVE THE DATE** *



The 2024 FPC Spring Auction is coming with an Olympics Games theme. While the Summer Olympics are in Paris this year, FPC's version will be in April, with the main event on **Saturday, April 13.**

We are in the planning stages and there are lots of opportunities to volunteer. Visit the Auction table during coffee hour to learn more or see our ad in *This Week at FPC*.

ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE:
Information for folks joining us online

1. Closed captioning is available for FPC's online services. If you don't see captions on your screen, you can use the button at the bottom of your screen to request that the host turn them on.
2. Today's Zoom Host: **Hector Constantzos**
3. Hymn lyrics will be in a slide presentation today.



Sharing Our Gifts

If you are mailing a pledge or a donation, here is the information:

Pledges:

Attn: Pledge Secretary
PO Box 215
Stow, MA 01775

Donations:

Attn: Treasurer
353 Great Rd
Stow, MA 01775