

May 7, 2023 10:00 AM

**Gathering**

**Prelude** *WindSong* Trish Woods, piano  
Trish Woods

**Land Acknowledgement & Welcome** Sharon Brownfield, Board President

**Greet Your Neighbor**

**Introit** *#155 Circle 'Round for Freedom* FPC Adult Choir  
Trish Woods, piano

**Opening Words**

**Chalice Lighting**

\* **Hymn #38** *Morning Has Broken*

\* **Covenant**  
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.

\* **Affirmation**  
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.

**Centering**

**Time for All Ages** *RE Extravaganza* The Religious Education  
Committee

**Lighting the Lantern**

**Joys and Sorrows** Suzie O'Brien, Lay Minister

**Prayer or Meditation**

\* **Hymn #391** *Voice Still and Small*

**Exploring**

**Reading**

\* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

Boston Area Gleaners

**Introduction to Plate Sharing**

**Sharing Our Gifts**

This month we share our weekly offering with the **Boston Area Gleaners**.  
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.

**Anthem** *We Shall Be Known by MaMuse* FPC Adult Choir

We shall be known by the company we keep  
by the ones who circle round to tend these fires

We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap  
the seeds of change alive from deep within the earth

It is time now  
It is time now that we thrive  
It is time we lead ourselves into the well  
It is time now, and what a time to be alive  
In this great turning we shall learn to lead in love  
In this great turning we shall learn to lead in love

**Sermon** "Outside the Box and Following the Spark" The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L.  
Landrum

**Returning**

\* **Hymn #1020** *Woyaya*

\* **Benediction**

\* **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** *Peace Like a River* Trish Woods, Piano  
Traditional

\* *Rise in Body and Spirit*



Thank you to:  
 Deb O'Connell, Zoom Host  
 Peter Fisk and Jamison House, Ushers  
 Mark Koenig and Troy Liston, Coffee Hour Hosts  
 and to our staff and leadership



**Land Acknowledgement**

We would like to acknowledge that this service is being held by a community that gathers on the stolen traditional lands of the Massachusett, Nipmuc, Pawtucket, and Wampanoag People. We pay respect to those Indigenous Peoples who lost their lives in the colonization of this land and recognize that these Indigenous tribes are still today facing violations of sovereignty, territory, and water. We also give thanks for the Earth we walk upon, the waters, the lifegiving plants, and all the Earth's creatures, as well as the winds, sun, moon, and stars. We recognize this is just a first step in moving toward right relationship with Native peoples and healing of the Earth.



**Ways to Connect with First Parish Church**

Sign our visitor log  
[tinyurl.com/visitfpc](https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/visitfpc)



We'll send you information if you request it.

Come to  
**Sunday service**  
**and/or coffee hour**  
 10 am  
 in person  
 or online

**Subscribe to our publications**

*The Chronicle* - monthly e-newsletter  
*This Week at FPC* - weekly e-newsletter  
*FPCAnnounce & FPCForum* - email groups

**at**

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

**FIRST PARISH  
 CHURCH  
 OF STOW &  
 ACTON**



*Unitarian Universalist*

Sunday, May 7, 2023

**The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum**  
 Minister  
**Marissa Evans**  
 Acting Director, Religious Education  
**Meg Rivers-Wright**  
 Administration and Membership  
**Brad Dumont**  
 Music Director

**Trish Woods**.....Interim Pianist  
**Mike Silkonis**.....Sexton  
**Ben Child**.....Tech Assistant  
**Janet Beatrice**.....External Publicity  
**Sharon Brownfield**.....President  
**Jenni Edgerton**.....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.*

To help everyone be a part of worship in the fullest way possible, the ushers can provide large print orders of service and hymnals or, for people who need to step out during the service for any reason, an assisted listening device (portable radio) which works throughout the building.

**Masking Policy:** Masking is required in the sanctuary except at the pulpit, for soloists, and in the balcony. Masking is also required in religious education classrooms, and staff offices upon request.

On the web at [fpc-stow-acton.org](https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org) and on Facebook.

**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 is Deb O'Connell.
3. Hymn lyrics are below.



**Hymn #38** *Morning Has Broken*

1. Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

**Hymn #391** *Voice Still and Small*

Voice still and small, deep inside all,  
I hear you call, singing.  
In dark and rain, sorrow and pain,  
still we'll remain singing.  
Calming my fears, quenching my tears,  
through all the years, singing.

**Hymn #1020** *Woyaya*

We are going,  
heaven knows where we are going,  
but we know within.  
And we will get there,  
heaven knows how we will get there,  
but we know we will.  
It will be hard, we know,  
and the road will be muddy and rough,  
but we'll get there,  
heaven knows how we will get there,  
but we know we will.

Woyaya, Woyaya, Woyaya, Woyaya,  
We are going,  
heaven knows where we are going,  
but we know within.

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**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

Announcements begin on next page

**May Plate Sharing:**  
**Boston Area Gleaners**

BAG began as a small volunteer effort focused on gleaning as a way to address food insecurity: harvesting surplus crops that would otherwise go to waste, and distributing them to people without access to healthy food. Since the early 2000's, it has grown to become the largest gleaning organization in the northeast, and through their distribution program they deliver fresh food to a network of local food pantries, shelters, and meal programs, and provide trucking support to partner non-profits and farms in need of resources.

With the support of other organizations, BAG purchased Stonefield Farm in 2021 and developed the Food Hub, a wholesale market for local produce, providing income opportunities for farmers and a much-needed farm-to-institution supply line for local universities, hospitals, and food banks. Their vision is to sustain a permanent agricultural supply chain that will improve the viability of local farms and the health of communities in the Boston metro area who have historically suffered from inequity in the food system. You can read more about BAG's plans for addressing ongoing nutritional challenges in our state, and volunteer gleaning "trips" at local farms such as Applefield Farm in Bolton: [www.bostonareagleaners.org](http://www.bostonareagleaners.org) Your support is deeply appreciated.



**This Week in Religious Education**

**Children (PreK-1st & 2nd-5th Graders):** "Creativity Helps Us Solve Puzzles; We Can Transform Things." We'll explore the almost magical way that creativity helps us transform and navigate our complicated world.

**Junior Youth (6th-8th graders):** We're taking a trip to learn more about the Society of Friends on our "Crossing Paths" exploration of world religions. Parents are meeting up with their youth in Framingham with a permission slip.

**Senior Youth/Coming of Age:** The Coming-of-Age group meets this week from 9:55 - 12:00 to develop and draft their credos.

**Today at FPC**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Today's Event</u>
9 am	Choir Rehearsal
10 am	Service, Sanctuary/Online
11 am	Coffee Hour: Mother's Day cards & Beer Fest sign-ups, Fellowship Hall
11:15 am	<b><u>Postponed:</u></b> RE Committee's Parent Discussion Group Due to a scheduling conflict, Russ Hart will not be conducting a parent discussion group today. He apologizes and will seek to reschedule.

**Buy a Mother's Day card today AND support the UU Urban Ministry**



Mother's Day is next Sunday, May 14. When you buy one of these special cards at coffee hour, you'll help the UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury, MA to expand opportunities and programming for students in their Roxbury Youth Programs. FPC has been a member of the UUUM for over 20 years. Please join us in supporting them! Bring the suggested donation of \$25 cash or check to coffee hour today.

**The Assabet Craft Beer & Food Truck Festival is returning to FPC, and you can help today by signing up to volunteer\***

Saturday, September 2, 2023 12-4 pm (rain or shine)

<u>Craft Brews</u>	<u>Food</u>
Amory's Tomb Brewing (Maynard)	Kith & Kin, Twisted Pickle, Big T's
Bull Spit Brewing (Lancaster)	BBQ, Braised tacos and bowls
Dirigible Brewing (Littleton)	New City Microcreamery,
Redemption Rock (Worcester)	Our very own FPC cookie table!
cider, seltzer, kombucha, soft drinks	<u>Music</u> by Sugar High
<u>Fun activities for kids</u>	<u>Admission</u> is \$5-10 donation,
carnival games, face painting,	kids 12 & under free,
crafts table, and more.	drink tickets \$5.

\* **Lots of volunteers are needed**

to help with what will be another really fun family event for both FPC and our wider community. Each Sunday in May you can sign up during Coffee Hour and **get a complimentary bottle of First Parish Lager,** brewed especially for our volunteers by Neil Saunders, Dave Sansone, and Scott Feldhusen!

## This Week at FPC: May 8 - 13

- Mon 5/8** SGM: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Group 7-9 pm, Online  
Annual Meeting Rehearsal 7-9 pm, Sanctuary
- Tue 5/9** Coffee and Chat\* 10-11 am, Town Gazebo at Town Park, adjacent to FPC. Bring your own coffee!  
Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF) Meeting 7:30-9:30 pm, Online  
Climate Task Force Meeting 7:30-9:30 pm, Online
- Wed 5/10** Meditation\* 7:30-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall/Online  
Contact: [meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org)
- Thu 5/11** 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Climate Bell 11:00 am, in front of FPC  
Peace Vigil\* 5-6 pm, in front of FPC, btwn Common & Great Rds  
Contact: Neil Saunders [neilsaund@verizon.net](mailto:neilsaund@verizon.net)  
Choir Rehearsal 7:15-9 pm, Sanctuary
- Fri 5/12** SGM: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Group 9:30-11:30 am, Community Room  
Bridge Group\* 1-3:30 pm, Community Room  
Contact: Hector [Hconstantzos@gmail.com](mailto:Hconstantzos@gmail.com)  
FPC Guest Table 5 pm Doors open, 5:30 Food served.  
All are welcome – no charge. Fellowship Hall  
Club UU 6:30-8:30 pm, Lower Hall
- Sat 5/13** Saturday Morning Breakfast 7:30 am coffee, 8 am breakfast, Fellowship Hall, \$6, RSVP Jeff Brown, [jab.jeffbrown@gmail.com](mailto:jab.jeffbrown@gmail.com)  
“A Veteran of the Great War (so you want to write a book)”  
Roy Miller (Details in *The Chronicle* and *This Week at FPC.*)

\*All are welcome to these weekly FPC events

**Sun 5/14** Next Sunday's Service: 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone  
“Celebration and Delight” – Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum. While taking some time to honor all genders of parents on this day, this service will be less *about* parents and more *for* parents — and *all* people — as we look at those things that bring us the most delight in life.

Join Worship by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/2223fpc>  
Meeting ID: 999 7077 0266; Passcode: 01775

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



## Announcements

### FPC Parents and Guardians:

Please access the Religious Education Children & Youth 2023-2024 Registration Form by scanning the QR code here or picking up a paper copy at Coffee Hour. Please fill in the form with family information.



### Interested in becoming an RE Volunteer for 2023-2024?

Please complete the separate Volunteer Form that's inside this order of service as an insert.

### FPC's Plant Sale and Rental Space Open House

Supply your garden and tour our spaces in the same trip!

Sat 5/20, 9:30-11:30 am

Every year we ask FPC earth lovers for lots of plants from your yards and gardens. We'd also love help with gathering, organizing, and labeling plants, and with setting up and running the sale.

Email [peggyaladini@gmail.com](mailto:peggyaladini@gmail.com).

If someone you know is planning a graduation, shower, or birthday, FPC's Fellowship Hall, Community Room, and Sanctuary can all be rented for events.

### Community Planting Event for FPC's Memorial Garden – Join us May 28!



FPC's Memorial Garden, located at the northeast corner of the property, is to be a place of memorialization and rest for our church community, and a space of peace and contemplation for the larger community. On Sunday, May 28 after Tom Rosiello's service, please join us to plant the Garden's sacred bed of pachysandra, the place of rest for ashes and interned members of our community. It is our hope that this expanse of pachysandra be gathered from and planted by our community, so we are calling for pachysandra from any and all gardens!

- The bed is fully prepared, so the work will be very light.
- Bring your donations to the plant sale on the previous Saturday, 5/20, or contact [sonja.furneaux@gmail.com](mailto:sonja.furneaux@gmail.com).

Like our faith, this sacred bed is a large and welcoming space. Its creation from plants sourced from many yards, planted by many hands, will be a testament and true reflection of our community. ♥



**First Parish Church of Stow and Acton  
Religious Education VOLUNTEER  
2023-2024 Registration Form**



Volunteering in RE programs can be a fulfilling way to participate in the FPC community and nurture the next generation of Unitarian Universalists. If you would like to be a volunteer next year, please take a moment to fill in this form.

Note that Marissa Evans, Acting Director of Religious Education, will help organize and plan out sessions. Please contact Marissa at [dre@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:dre@fpc-stow-acton.org) or any of the RE Committee members if you have any questions.

Note that we run CORI checks on all volunteers, so someone will contact you with a CORI form after you submit this registration.

**Person A:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pronouns (e.g., she/her, they/them): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*For two-adult households:*

**Person B:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pronouns (e.g., she/her, they/them): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have any special skills you could share?**

**Person A:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Person B:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pandemic safety:** All volunteers are asked to get COVID-19 vaccines and to mask indoors. Please check to confirm you have been vaccinated:

A:  I have received the COVID-19 vaccines. B:  I have received the COVID-19 vaccines.

**Preferred time of year (select any that apply):**

A:  Fall  Winter  Spring B:  Fall  Winter  Spring

**Experience Level:**

A B

I would like to be paired with an experienced teacher

I am experienced and can be paired with a newer volunteer

No preference

**MORE ON THE BACK →**

**Teaching and Substituting**

Please select all programs you would be interested in volunteering with regularly (i.e., once a month or over a period of several months).

Check the box at the end of the line for all programs you could be on a Substitute Teacher list for.

Teacher

A B

Nursery (Sunday 9:45am)

K-5 RE Classes (Sunday 10am)

Club UU, Grades K-5 (One Friday night a month)

Our Whole Lives (Elementary ages if offered)

Middle School RE Class (Sunday 10am)

Junior Youth Group (Various weekend times)

Our Whole Lives (Middle School ages if offered)

Senior Youth Group (Various weekend times)

High School Discussion Group (Sunday 10am)

Our Whole Lives (High School ages if offered)

Substitute

A B

N/A

N/A

N/A

**Substitute Teachers:** Please check preferred communication methods in case of timely requests.

A:  Email  Text Message  Phone Call

B:  Email  Text Message  Phone Call

**Other Volunteer Needs**

A B

Driving youth on field trips

Chaperoning late night youth events

Assisting with event set up or clean up

Special events & activities (often Friday night, Saturday, or holiday weekends)

**Anything else you'd like us to know?**

A: \_\_\_\_\_

B: \_\_\_\_\_



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Pronouns (e.g., she/her, they/them): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*For two-adult households:*

**Person B:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pronouns (e.g., she/her, they/them): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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No preference

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Check the box at the end of the line for all programs you could be on a Substitute Teacher list for.

<u>Teacher</u>		<u>Substitute</u>	
A	B	A	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nursery (Sunday 9:45am)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K-5 RE Classes (Sunday 10am)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Club UU, Grades K-5 (One Friday night a month)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our Whole Lives (Elementary ages if offered)		N/A	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middle School RE Class (Sunday 10am)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Junior Youth Group (Various weekend times)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our Whole Lives (Middle School ages if offered)		N/A	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senior Youth Group (Various weekend times)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
High School Discussion Group (Sunday 10am)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Special events & activities (often Friday night, Saturday, or holiday weekends)

**Anything else you'd like us to know?**

A: \_\_\_\_\_

B: \_\_\_\_\_



## MASKING POLICY SURVEY

As we move forward and COVID restrictions are receding, your BOARD is reevaluating our current masking policy. We know that our diverse community has mixed feelings about their vulnerability and exposure to COVID and we want to be inclusive and sensitive to all beliefs. Before we make any policy change, we want to understand your thoughts and feelings. Please take the next few minutes to answer the following questions. When completed please put this survey into the offering plate or mail it to FPC, 353 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775. Thank you.

- 1. How comfortable are you with our current masking policy (masking required in sanctuary worship, in RE spaces, and in staff offices when requested)?**
  1. I am not comfortable attending FPC in person right now.
  2. I am only comfortable attending mask-required spaces, but not mask-optional spaces.
  3. I am comfortable in mask-required spaces and SOME mask-optional spaces.
  4. I am comfortable attending all masked-required and mask-optional spaces.
  5. I am only comfortable in mask-optional spaces, but not mask-required spaces.
  6. Other: please specify in the space below or on back.
  
- 2. Currently our policy is to be masked in the sanctuary, staff offices (when requested) and RE spaces with filters in all rooms. Which action going forward would make you feel most comfortable at church? Circle or underline your choice.**
  - a) Keeping the current policy.
  - b) Have the whole church mask-optional including the sanctuary and RE with filters on.
  - c) Have a mask-optional policy but have a section in the sanctuary that is mask-required with filters on.
  - d) Have a masking policy where more spaces or events are mask-required.
  - e) Other: please specify in the space below or on back.
  
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Please check here if you have children or youth in Religious Education programs, or regularly volunteer in RE programs. (For use of the RE committee.)**
  
- 4. Any other thoughts or comments? Please specify in the space below or on back.**

Thank you.

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