

June 11, 2023 10:00 AM

Gathering

Prelude *Summertime* Trish Woods, piano
by George Gershwin

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome Meg Rivers-Wright,
Membership & Administration

Introit *Give Me Birds at the Dawning* FPC Adult Choir
by Betsy Binstock Trish Woods, piano

Opening Words

Chalice Lighting

* **Hymn #347** *Gather the Spirit*

* **Covenant & Affirmation**

Love is the spirit of this church,
and service its law. From all that dwell below the skies
This is our great covenant: let words of love and peace arise.
To dwell together in peace, Let joyful songs of praise be sung
to seek the truth in love, through every land, by every tongue.
and to help one another.

Centering

Religious Education Teacher Recognition Marissa Evans, Acting Director,
Religious Education

Joys & Sorrows Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation

* **Hymn #123** *Spirit of Life*

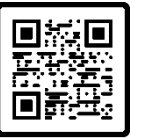
Exploring

Sermon *Question Box Sermon* The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L.
Landrum

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with the Organization for the Assabet River (OARS).

You may donate with a check made out to “First Parish Church,” online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>, use the QR code, → or text to (978) 310-3309.



DONATE HERE

Anthem

Hope Lingers On FPC Adult Choir
by Lissa Schneckenburger

- 1. My mother, when love is gone, in our darkest hour hope lingers on.
My father, when peace is gone, in our darkest hour hope lingers on.
- 2. My sister, when equality’s gone, In our darkest hour hope lingers on
My brother, with tolerance gone, In our darkest hour hope lingers on

Chorus: I will not hate,
and I will not fear;
In our darkest hour
hope lingers here.

Chorus
3. My love, when honor is gone, in our darkest hour hope lingers on.
My country, when justice is gone, in our darkest hour hope lingers on.

Chorus

Recognition of Service

Brad Dumont
Marissa Evans

Returning

* **Hymn #348** *Guide My Feet*

* **Benediction**

* **Closing Song** *Keep on Movin’ Forward* Pat Humphries
Emma’s Revolution

Postlude

Like a Mighty Stream FPC Adult Choir
By Moses Hogan & Trish Woods, Piano
John Jacobson

Following the service, please join us outside on the front lawn, library side, for the Annual Church Picnic!



* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

Thank you to:
Sharon Brownfield, Zoom Host
Jeff Brown & Kate Imhoff, Ushers
and to our staff and leadership

Our flowers today are in honor & appreciation of
Brad Dumont and Marissa Evans



Ways to Connect with First Parish Church

Sign our visitor log
tinyurl.com/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, June 11, 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 **Sharon Brownfield**.
3. Hymn lyrics are below.



Hymn #347 *Gather the Spirit*

1. Gather the spirit, harvest the power.
Our sep'rate fires will kindle one flame.
Witness the mystery of this hour.
Our trials in this light appear all the same.

(Chorus) Gather in peace, gather in thanks.
Gather in sympathy now and then.
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.
Gather to celebrate once again.
2. Gather the spirit of heart and mind.
Seeds for the sowing are laid in store.
Nurtured in love, and conscience refined,
with body and spirit united once more. (Chorus)
3. Gather the spirit growing in all,
drawn by the moon and fed by the sun.
Winter to spring, and summer to fall,
the chorus of life resounding as one. (Chorus)

Hymn #123 *Spirit of Life*

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Hymn #348 *Guide My Feet*

1. Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)
2. Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)
3. Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Sharing Our Gifts

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

Pledges:

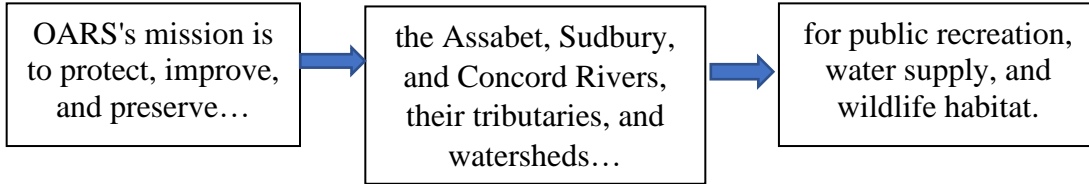
Attn: Pledge Secretary
PO Box 215
Stow, MA 01775

Donations:

Attn: Treasurer
353 Great Rd
Stow, MA 01775

Announcements begin on next page

June Plate Sharing: Organization for the Assabet River



Established in 1986 as the *Organization for the Assabet River* by a group of concerned citizens, OAR added the Sudbury and Concord Rivers to its mission in 2011, becoming *OARS*. It raises awareness of each river's importance, collects data for research, and works towards solutions to help the rivers achieve "fishable and swimmable" state standards.



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.

Today at FPC

- 10 am Service, Sanctuary
- 11 am Annual Picnic, FPC front lawn, closer to library

Sign up at our Annual Picnic to volunteer at Assabet Craft Beer & Food Truck Fest! Festival Date: Sat. Sept. 2, 12–4 pm in front of the church. See *The Chronicle* and *This Week at FPC* for more festival details.

Thirty people have already signed up to help! ♥ This year, to make the work lighter *and* allow time to enjoy the festival yourself, we split each job into 2-hour slots. Because of this, **we need at least 30 more people to help.** We'd like to fill most of the slots before summer. If you know you can join us, please sign up today. **You'll get a complimentary bottle of First Parish Lager,** brewed especially for our volunteers by Neil Saunders, Dave Sansone, & Scott Feldhusen! Last year we made over \$10,000 to support FPC! Come be a part of this really fun-draiser!

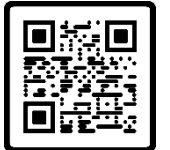


This Week in Religious Education

Junior & Senior Youth Group Celebration

Kimball Farm in Westford, Friday, June 23rd, 7-9pm.
Join us for ice cream and mini golf!

Please RSVP + fill out your permission slip here:



PERMISSION SLIP

RE Child & Youth Registration:

We are encouraging ALL families to complete registration forms for the RE program next year as soon as they are able. Use the QR code here.



RE Volunteer Registration:

For anyone who can help support the Religious Education (RE) program with your time and energy next year (even just for one-time events), use the QR code here for the RE Volunteer form.



R.E. VOLUNTEER

Hard copies of the two registration forms above are available on the table in the main vestibule at church. Completed forms can be placed in Marissa's mailbox outside of the church administrator's office by the photocopier.

This Week at FPC: June 12 - 17

Mon 6/12 **SGM: 2nd Monday Group** 7-9 pm, Community Room
Jazz Band Rehearsal 7-9 pm, Sanctuary - Please contact Michael Paladini mwpaladini@gmail.com for more information.

Tue 6/13 **Coffee and Chat*** 10-11 am, Town Gazebo at Town Park, adjacent to FPC. Bring your own coffee!
Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF) Meeting 7-8 pm, Online
Climate Task Force Meeting 7:30-9:30 pm, Online

Wed 6/14 **Meditation*** 7:30-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall/Online
 Contact: meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org

Thu 6/15 **Archives Committee** 9:30 – 11:30 AM, Vestry
Peace Vigil* 5-6 pm, in front of FPC, btwn Common & Great Rds
 Contact: Neil Saunders neilsaund@verizon.net
In-Person Auditions for Music Director 6-10 pm, Sanctuary
SGM: 3rd Thursday Group 7:30-9:30 am, Community Room

Fri 6/16 **Bridge Group*** 1-3:30 pm, Community Room
 Contact: Hector Hconstantzos@gmail.com

Sat 6/17 **Garden Conversations** 9-10 am, Online

Sun 6/18 **First Summer Service!** 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

“In Search of Racial Justice: The Journey Continues”

Three years after the murder of George Floyd on a Minneapolis street corner, members of the Racial Justice Task Force ask, “Where do we find ourselves in the continuing journey toward racial justice?” This service will explore the ups and downs of the last three years: progress made, work still to be done, the challenges of effective and continuing white allyship, and ways to keep the passion, hope, and energy going in the midst of all the resistance and continuing struggle for justice.

Join Worship by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/2223fpc>

Meeting ID: 999 7077 0266; Passcode: 01775

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



*All are welcome to these weekly FPC events

Events at FPC

Live links available in *This Week at FPC* e-newsletter

Garden Conversations Sat 6/17, 9-10 am, Online

Please join us to share questions, tips, and sometimes resources for the gardening season. Gardeners with all levels of experience are invited to join the conversation. Contact Rick Lent at rickmlent@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Berlin MA Social Justice Network: Juneteenth Event

Sat, 6/17, 11 am - 3 pm

Juneteenth is not just another long holiday weekend! (In fact, it’s not even a celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation,



which, “[e]ven though...made effective in 1863, ...could not be implemented in places still under Confederate control. ...Freedom came [two and a half years later] on June 19, 1865, when some 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas...and announced that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as ‘Juneteenth’ by the newly freed people in Texas”.)

<https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/historical-legacy-juneteenth>

In the spirit of Juneteenth, the BMSJN is sponsoring a **CELEBRATION** of Juneteenth. We invite you to celebrate with us in the center of town with food, music, presentations, and family-friendly activities. We look forward to seeing you!

Program

11:00-11:15 Music & Gathering
 11:15-11:45 Welcome & Background of Juneteenth
 11:45-12:00 Henry Dumas - Story & Reading
 12:00-1:00 Live Music by Diversions
 Church Spirituals, Jazz, & Music of the Caribbean

Activities (11 am-3 pm)

All Ages, Historical Scavenger Hunt w/Prizes
 Juneteenth-Related Film
 Recorded Music Program
 Tables & Displays



Food (Avail. 11-3)

Dawu Café’s soul & comfort food including catfish, fried chicken, fried deviled eggs, cornbread, & peach cobbler!