

First Parish Church of Stow & Acton



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021

10 AM ONLY

Sanctuary closed. Service by Video or Phone

"COVENANT"

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Unitarian Universalists sometimes say when explaining that we're a non-creedal religion, that we are a "covenantal religion." What does it mean to be a religion based in covenant? What is the covenant between us? This service will explore the meaning of covenant in our faith.

Join by Video:

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/94338673454?pwd=U0dLc1VvbG1sQmVWV2pRRDJqcU5BQT09>

<https://tinyurl.com/fpcovenant>

Meeting ID: 943 3867 3454

Passcode: 11762

Join by phone: (646) 876-9923 US (long distance rates will apply)

The Order of Service & the FPC Announcements will be posted on the First Parish Church of Stow & Acton Website under “Services” for download by the Friday evening before the service.

On Sunday you can go directly to the FPC Website by CLICKING the below address for the video link, phone number, Order of Service (OOS) & FPC Announcements:

<https://fpc-stow-acton.org/services>

FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO CONNECT BY PHONE:

1. You’ll need three pieces of information: The phone number, the meeting ID and password.

These change each week, so they can be found in the newsletter under the Sunday service. Occasionally zoom changes this information at a last minute, but you can always call an FPC member or staff member for them. We post them on the website under the Sunday service information if you have web access, and we update the information there when problems arise.

2. Dial the phone number provided.

It is a long-distance number, so your carrier rates will apply.

3. Enter the meeting ID when prompted, followed by #.

Enter # again if prompted to. If you join too early (before 9:35ish), you’ll either be told that it hasn’t started and to come back later, or told to press # to wait.

4. Enter the passcode when prompted followed by a #.

You may be in a “waiting room” where you won’t hear much until

shortly before the service

5. When you hear people introducing themselves, and at joys and sorrows, you can use *6 to unmute yourself and tell people who you are or share your joy or sorrow.

FEBRUARY PLATE SHARING

URBAN MINISTRY

Headquartered at the First Church in Roxbury campus, the UU Urban Ministry operates programs that provide education and enrichment programming for children and youth, emergency shelter for individuals and families fleeing from domestic violence, and job- and education-readiness training for survivors of domestic violence. We make use of an extensive pool of volunteers from Boston-area UU congregations, colleges/universities, and the Roxbury community to offer a greater level of programming than our staff alone could provide. An important part of our mission is bringing together people from different walks of life to work together toward justice and equality.

RYP Afterschool provides a safe, enriching environment for young people during out-of-school hours. Our highest priority is promoting academic success, and we make use of more than 50 dedicated volunteers to provide a wide spectrum of academic support to students.

RYP Summer provides summer camperships for more than 25 elementary-school-age children, and offers an “earn and learn” employment program for up to 15 neighborhood teens.

Spiritual Conversations 11:15AM ZOOM

Virtual Coffee Hour following the Service

RE Parent Meeting 12:30 zoom

This Week in our Religious Education Program

We begin a month long collaboration with our social justice groups here at FPC.

This Sunday, Feb 28th, we are joined by Neil Saunders who will talk about his Peace Vigil program and then children and youth will do a fun activity to promote peace in their communities.

We will have two sessions:
9:15 for kids in grades Prek-4
11:30 for youth in grades 5-8

Parents of 5-8th Graders: a reminder that *this Sunday, Feb 28th at 12:30 the RE Committee and Our Whole Lives Facilitators are offering a parent group to discuss providing sexuality education to your children.*

THE WEEK AT CHURCH MARCH 1-6 2021

- Monday** **Asylum Meeting 7:00pm zoom**
 RE Meeting 7:00pm zoom
- Tuesday** **Coffee & Chat 10-11:00am Gazebo**
 Book Group 7:00pm zoom
- Wednesday** **UU Journey 7:00PM zoom**
 Membership Committee 7:00pm

Meditation 7:25PM zoom

Thursday **Peace Vigil 5:00PM in front of FPC**
SGM Facilitators 6:00pm zoom
Virtual Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00PM

Saturday **"Bridging the Chasm" 9:00-10:30am zoom**

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021

10 AM ONLY.

"One Year Later"

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum

This Sunday completes an entire year of our worshipping online and doing church online. What have we learned? What have we missed? What do we want to carry forward? This service will share voices from several UU ministers as we look back at the last year.



MASKS ON EVERYONE PLEASE

One important note/update for everyone: If you come into the church buildings, please wear a good fitting mask (not a loose mask, bandana, gaiter or anything else as a face covering).

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR FACE MASK
EVEN IF YOU HAVE
RECEIVED YOUR VACCINES. Thank you**

Studies have shown that only a good fitting mask effectively reduces transmission of viral aerosols, and since many of our bakers and some of our staff are in the high risk categories, we really need to do our best to protect them. Now that our buildings are busier, folks need to make every effort to be masked AT ALL TIMES they are in the building.

If you do not have a mask...you're in luck! There are a variety of donated masks in bins behind lower Fellowship Hall on the small plastic picnic tables. If you don't find one there in your size...let Rebecca know and she will try to procure one or make one for you.

**The UU Journey at FPC
(aka New2UU)**

*A **Virtual** 4-Session Course on UU History, Spirituality, Mission, and Traditions*

Theology, Worship, & Spiritual Journeys

Wednesday, February 10, 7:00 – 9:00pm

(skipping school vacation week)

Unitarian, Universalist, UU, & FPC History

Wednesday, February 24, 7:00 – 9:00pm

Polity, Governance, & Social Justice

Wednesday, March 3, 7:00 – 9:00pm

FPC Traditions, Involvement, & Membership

Wednesday, March 10, 7:00 – 9:00pm

Our Minister, Rev. Cindy Landrum will lead the virtual classes.

There will be opportunities to share your own personal spiritual journey, ask questions, and get to know others in the church.

**You do not need to be new to FPC to participate.
All are welcome!**

Registration Required (for link access)

Please contact Joleen Trotta if you are interested in participating.

[@fpc-stow-acton.org](#) or call/text 774-276-0272



Saturday Morning Breakfast

Upcoming talks:

March 20. Jim Edlehauser has worked in the nuclear energy field his entire career. He will speak to us via zoom from his home in Bourne, MA. Jim is an avid proponent of nuclear power and will tell us how he thinks the nuclear industry can be restarted in this country.

April 17. Jan Turnquist is the director of Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House in Concord. She will entertain us by playing Louisa May in full costume LIVE from the Orchard House via zoom. There will be a question and answer period after the performance

**Coffee and Chat 10-11AM at the Gazebo
TUESDAY MORNINGS**

Coffee and chat continues, weather permitting. Dress warmly,

bring your own coffee and wear a mask. We gather near the gazebo in the Town Park, adjacent to FPC, **from 10-11am on Tuesday mornings.** ~Ann Sadler

Community Conversations Continue with the Climate Task Force

FPC's Climate Task Force is hosting a series of activities for our community this winter. Please join us for one or more...

Changing Nature: Movies and Conversation

Each month on the second Monday night we meet on Zoom at 7:30 pm to share reactions to a selected movie that tells stories around some aspect of nature and climate change. We announce the movie and where to view the film. The following conversation gives us an opportunity for us to share and build our understanding of changing nature...one of the most important and complex subjects confronting us as a community. Here is the schedule.

- **Monday, March 15** "Chasing Ice"

Watch for more information and a zoom link.

Growing Climate Victory Gardens Saturday Feb 27, 9:00 am:
Planning and preparing a new garden: composting, and seed ordering

In January we started a series of monthly conversations on tips

and resources to help us all grow more vegetables *and hopefully contribute to area food pantries*. Some tips will work for flowers and even be relevant for porch and patio gardens. We have many experienced gardeners at FPC. We are learning from each other and sharing our tips and resources! The session is good for beginners and seasoned gardeners, alike.

Subsequent sessions (on Saturday mornings at 9AM on zoom):

Feb 27: *Seed starting*

March 27: *Growing healthy seedlings and container gardening*

April 24: *Hardening off your plants and garden bed prep*

May 26: *Planting out your beds*

June 24: *Organic growing tips and delivery to Food Pantries*

AUCTION

It's that time again! The FPC Auction Committee is starting work on this year's auction and we would love your help and auction donations! If you are interested in joining the Auction Committee, our *next meeting will be held February 15 at 7 pm via - you guessed it! - Zoom.*

If you are interested in participating in making this very important event a success, [please contact \(cont'd\)](#)

Jen Atkins at j_atkins@comcast.net A link for the Zoom meeting will be sent out closer to the date.

The auction will be held virtually again this year. We will **have an on-line auction on Auctria again this year that will run from May 3 - May 15.**

**On May 15,
we will hold a live Zoom auction
for the big ticket items.**

You won't want to miss this event, so mark your calendars.

We are also asking that everyone start thinking about items and events you can offer in the age of COVID. We hope that some live events will be possible as folks get vaccines, but also think outside the box - what might you offer that can be loads of fun while still offered remotely? What kinds of services could you offer that would not require up close and personal contacts?

Keep your eyes peeled for more auction announcements as we get deep into the planning process. ***And please consider joining the auction team - new ideas are always welcome!***

The Auction Committee