

# First Parish Church of Stow & Acton



SUNDAY MARCH 28, 2021

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY MARCH 28, 2021

**10 AM ONLY**

*Sanctuary closed. Service by Video or Phone*

**“Commitment”**

**Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum**

Theologian Henry Nelson Weiman wrote, “Inevitably in our lives we commit ourselves to something, whether worthy or not. The direction and intensity of our loyalties give shape and meaning to our lives.” This service will explore our our lives, and our faith, is shaped by our commitments.

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***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.**

## **MARCH PLATE SHARING**

### **The Food Project**

The Food Project was founded on the belief that everyone has the right to fresh, healthy, affordable food. Their goal is to transform the food system into a more just, community-engaged model that

supports food security for all while connecting diverse communities to each other and to the land.

Young people from diverse communities are the driving force of The Food Project. They work on its farms, garden plots with community members to grow fresh food that nourishes their communities. Each year, The Food Project employs 120 teenagers in this vital work on 70 acres of urban and suburban farmland across eastern Massachusetts where they grow 200,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables and use this food to enact innovative food system initiatives that increase access to fresh, healthy food for all. This work is focused in the two communities it is deeply connected to: Boston's Dudley neighborhood and the City of Lynn.

## **Virtual Coffee Hour following the Service**

### **This Week in our Religious Education Program**

We continue with our month long collaboration with our social justice here at FPC.

This Sunday, both groups will be discussing and doing hands on activities about climate change and caring for the earth

9:15 for kids in grades Prek-4

11:30 for youth in grades 5-8

High School Youth will have a discussion group at 1130.

*All zoom links will be sent out later in the week.*

~Michelle Cote

## THE WEEK AT CHURCH MARCH 29 - APRIL 3, 2021

Monday Parents as Sexuality Educators 8-9:30pm zoom

Tuesday Coffee & Chat 10-11:00am Gazebo

Wednesday Meditation 7:25PM zoom

Thursday Peace Vigil 5:00PM in front of FPC  
SGM Facilitators 6:00PM zoom  
Virtual Singing Meditation with Ken Langer 7:00-8pm  
**VESPERS 7:00PM zoom**

### **Maundy Thursday Vespers - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum**

Join us for our traditional Maundy Thursday Vespers as we celebrate the last supper and share communion together. Bring your wine and bread or whatever food and beverage you have on hand, and we'll share a communion of remembrance.

Join by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/fpcmaundyth>

Meeting ID: 922 2296 2597

Passcode: 11762

Join by Phone: 1-646-876-9923 (long distance rates will apply)

## **SUNDAY, EASTER APRIL 4, 2021**

**10 AM ONLY**

*Sanctuary closed. Service by Video or Phone*

## Embracing the Alleluias - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Join us for our Easter Sunday service! We'll sing the Hallelujah Chorus together, go on a virtual egg hunt, remember those we've lost this year, and remember the sorrow of Eastertide, but embrace the Alleluias! Bring an egg to hide in your screen area for our virtual egg hunt, and watch your FPC Announce for details on how to share names for remembrance.

Join by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/fpcalleluia>

Meeting ID: 939 6466 4257

Passcode: 11762

Join by Phone: 1-646-876-9923 (long distance rates will apply)



**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.



## **Saturday Morning Breakfast**

Upcoming talk:

**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

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**TUESDAY MORNINGS ~ Coffee and Chat will continue  
from 10-11AM**

Meet at the Town Park adjacent to FPC.

Wear a mask, dress for the weather,  
and bring your own coffee!

***If the weather is poor an FPC Announce will be posted with a link for a  
Zoom meetup instead.*** ~Ann Sadler

**ANNUAL REPORTS DUE THURSDAY APRIL 9**

**Our FPC Annual Meeting is May 23**

Email your report to me at [katy@brightleafenergy.com](mailto:katy@brightleafenergy.com) with the words:

"FPC Annual Report [**Title of your report**]" in the subject line of your email.

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN PDF Format**

**PLEASE SEND IN TEXT FORMAT**

**MS WORD IS FINE**

**- Who does this?**

Committee Chairs, certain staff and Officers

**- What is it?**

A report of what your committee did over the past year. Many reports are about one page long, but if your group did a lot of work, we'd be more than happy to read about it!

**- How to send it?**

***Write the report in a Word (or other text-style) document and attach the file to your email.***

Again, **send the report to [katy@brightleafenergy.com](mailto:katy@brightleafenergy.com)** with the report title in the subject line **AND IN MS WORD.....NOT PDF**

Like last year, the Annual Report will be available a week or two before the annual meeting. I will send out a file that contains the complete report AND will make it available at our FPC website.

Don't worry, the few folks who are not electronically plugged in will get paper copies.

If you have any questions feel free to email me and we can figure out what you need to do ... or don't need to do. [katy@brightleafenergy.com](mailto:katy@brightleafenergy.com)

Thank you, Katy Weeks for the Board of Trustees

## FPC AUCTION

FPC Spring Auction 2021 - **Pajama Party!**



**The SILENT auction will run from May 3-May 15**  
**The LIVE auction will be held on the evening of May 15**

Start making the popcorn and order the pizza! The FPC Spring Auction Pajama Party is in full planning mode!

The auction will be in two parts: a silent auction will run on Auctria from May 3-May15, to be followed by a live auction event via Zoom on May 15th. We are brainstorming some ways to bring some pizzazz to the auction, so make sure to stay tuned AND mark your calendar.

But before the fun begins, we need YOU to donate items, services and gift cards so we have lots of great auction bidding opportunities for everyone. Do you have a green thumb? Provide some gardening services! Are you a culinary wizard? Offer a dinner or party at your home or in your backyard (with a socially distanced backup if possible). Can you host a game night (virtual or live)? Can you share produce from your COVID Victory Garden? Cast



your dream catcher wide - who knows what great ideas you might come up with? Auction donation forms are now available at the FPC auction page on the FPC website - <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/article/fpc-auction-2021---its-pajama-party-time>

This year we will not be asking most businesses for gift cards and other donations, as many have been hit hard by the pandemic. Instead, we are putting together a list of businesses that have contributed to the auction in the past, and are asking that folks consider buying a gift card from these folks for the auction. The list should be ready on Signup Genius this week, with a link to the signup sheet on the auction page of the FPC web site. Take a look and help us support those who have supported us in the past. Feel free to purchase a gift card or item from any business, whether listed or not - perhaps your favorite restaurant, gift shop, art store, or wherever you want to lend some support. Gift cards always bring in a lot of revenue for the auction, so we want to keep them active this year!

We would also like to hear from you about items or services you would like to see offered - what might you like to bid on if you had the chance? We will publicize items on this “dream list” over the course of the next month or so, and maybe your dream item will appear in the auction. If you have ideas, please email them to <mailto:auction@fpc-stow-acton.org>. Also contact us if you need help coming up with a donation idea. We are here to help!

So fluff up your sleeping bag, pack up your tooth brush, and start thinking pajama party!

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**The Social Justice Council will offer a showing of the of the documentary**

**Maxima**  
**on Sunday, April 18th at 4 pm** (cont'd)  
**via Zoom,**

**followed by a discussion with the Filmmaker Claudia Sparrow.**

**MAXIMA follows Peruvian indigenous farmer Máxima Acuña in her fight to protect her land as she stands up to the largest gold producer in the world: US-based Newmont Mining Corporation.**

**Through Máxima's fight for justice, the film provides an illustrative case study in the tactics used by transnational corporations to commit human rights violations and environmental crimes, the role played by non-profits and The World Bank, and, ultimately, the resilience of one woman who refuses to back down.**

**Note: We would gladly accept donations to help fund this film presentation and discussion with the filmmaker.**

**Sue Moses**