

# First Parish Church of Stow & Acton



SUNDAY MARCH 7, 2021

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY MARCH 7, 2021

**10 AM ONLY**

*Sanctuary closed. Service by Video or Phone*

**“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.

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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 groups here at FPC.

This Sunday, March 7th, we are joined by Bob Tabor who will talk about his volunteer work in India and then children and youth will be able to take part in an activity to bring some joy to children that live in an orphanage in India.

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

### **THE WEEK AT CHURCH MARCH 8-13 2021**

**Monday** SGM zoom 7PM

**Tuesday** Coffee & Chat 10-11:00am Gazebo

**Racial Justice 7PM**  
**Climate Task Force 7:30-8:30pPM**

**Wednesday** **Meditation 7:25PM zoom**

**Thursday** **Peace Vigil 5:00PM in front of FPC**  
**Virtual Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00PM**  
**Trustee Meeting 7PM**  
**Virtual Choir 7PM**

**Friday** **SGM 9:30AM**

**Saturday** **SGM 9:00AM**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14** **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS one hour ahead**  
**10 AM ONLY**

*Sanctuary closed. Service by Video or Phone*

**"A Delegation from the Village"**

**Rev. Sarah Skochko**

How responsible are we for the behavior of others in our community?  
We know we can't control others, and yet we also know we are bound to one another, to be held in loving accountability. In this service, we'll meditate on what it means to hold community standards - as well as to challenge them - with historical stories as our guide.

*The Rev. Sarah Skochko is a graduate of Meadville Lombard Theological School, and has an MFA in poetry. She served as the Coordinator of Outreach and Engagement at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene, OR and now lives in Austin, TX.*

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## **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.



## **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

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## **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

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## Coffeehouse ....March 27

March 27, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. Live-stream on Youtube LIVE

Check <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/music/coffeehouse> on how to join the concert.

Information will be available closer to the concert date.



**Joe Jencks, a 20-year veteran of the international folk circuit, an award-winning songwriter, and celebrated vocalist based in Chicago.**

Having penned several #1 folksongs, including the ever-relevant Lady of the Harbor, Jencks is also co-founder of the harmony trio, Brother Sun. Merging conservatory training with his Irish roots and working class upbringing, Joe delivers engaged musical narratives filled with heart, soul, groove and grit.

He is noted for his unique merging of musical beauty, social

consciousness, and spiritual exploration. "The key to the future is people joining in. The music of Joe Jencks captures this essential spirit.

Joe is a fantastic singer who carries on the traditions." -Pete Seeger "Joe Jencks is the type of musician that will cause you to drop that morning newspaper or pull your car to the side of the road when you hear his songs. He is the type of artist that will turn heads in his direction when he walks onto a stage. His voice will instantly draw you into his passionate songs. He is the type of musician whose music will become part of you.

His craft and artistry will remind you of the best efforts of Phil Ochs, Stan Rogers, and Woody Guthrie. The troubadour tradition is alive and well in the 21st century with the music of Joe Jencks."  
- Ron Olesko, WFDU FM Teaneck, NJ

*This concert will live-stream on Youtube Live on Mar. 27, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. Check <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/music/coffeehouse> on how to join the concert. Information will be available closer to the concert date.*

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## **Climate Task Force Community Activities for FPC in March**

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



## Changing Nature: Movies and Conversation

Each month on the *third* 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.

### **Discussion Monday, March 15 at 7:30: "Chasing Ice"**

James Balog and his team on the Extreme Ice Survey assemble a multiyear chronicle of the planet's rapidly melting glaciers. Available on Amazon Prime, maybe other streaming services.

- **April movie: Kiss the Ground**

Watch for more information and a zoom link.

We are hosting 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.

### ***All sessions on Saturday mornings at 9AM on zoom:***

**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*

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## **FPC AUCTION**

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

Hello All -

We hope everyone has marked their calendars for this year's FPC Spring Auction - Pajama Party! Like last year, we will be doing the silent auction virtually via Austria, followed by a live Zoom Auction event for some special items.

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

This is a not-to-be missed event, so fluff up your pillows and get ready to bid, bid, bid.

But before the fun begins, we need YOU to donate items so our party will be loads of fun. And we have a few changes that we want you to know about so you can help us make this event better than watching movies with your besties in your pjs. Please read on...

Because businesses have taken such a hit during the past year, we will not be actively soliciting business donations and gift cards. However, these items are important to the success of our

auction, so we are putting together a list of businesses who have donated in the past, and we are asking those of you who can to purchase gift cards or items from these businesses for inclusion in the auction. This is a way we can help out businesses who have helped us and also support the church.

***By the end of this week we will have an auction web page on the FPC website with a link to Sign-Up Genius. Click on the link and you will find the list of our friendly businesses. Sign up to purchase a gift card or item, purchase the item, and, voila, you will have done your part! 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. You may also want to let them know that you are purchasing this item for our auction because they have supported us in the past.***

And of course, **you are not limited to donating gift cards!** What fun services can you provide? Leaf raking, baby sitting, gardening, photography? Can you make an afghan? What about those fabulous group dinners that everyone loves? Can you think of a way to offer a dinner in a way that can work either in person or from a distance? Do you need ideas for what to offer in this time of COVID? Let us know and we will help you cook something up! **By the end of the week, donation forms will be available at the FPC web page, and we cannot wait to see what you have to offer!**

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>.**

So dig out your favorite jammies, get the popcorn maker ready,  
and start thinking pajama party!

The Auction Committee [auction@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:auction@fpc-stow-acton.org)

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**CHRONICLE ARTICLES FOR THE APRIL 2021 CHRONICLE**

**DUE**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17**

**[office@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:office@fpc-stow-acton.org)**

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