



Sunday, September 20, 2020
First Parish Church of Stow & Acton

FPC ANNOUNCEMENTS

10 AM ONLY ZOOM

Sanctuary closed. Virtual Service by video or phone or at 107.7 FM in the FPC parking lot.

Rev. Cindy Landrum
"Repair the World"

In the season of the Jewish High Holy Days, we'll look at the history, meaning, and potential of the phrase "Tikkun Olam" ("repair of the world"), and talk about our own renewal, as well. Cindy is creating some special worksheets to go with this service for all ages, which will be placed on our website when the order of service is posted.

Online Information:

People are encouraged to arrive ten minutes early to facilitate the process of being cleared through our "waiting room." Please note that microphones will be muted, screen sharing will be disabled, and chatting (except to host) will be disabled for this service. The room will also be locked to new participants about 15 minutes into the service. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.

Please note all our links for joining by video/audio are different each week.

The Order of Service & the FPC Announcements will be posted on the website under "Services" for download by the Friday evening before the service.

On Sunday you can go directly to the website by CLICKING the below address:

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

SEPTEMBER PLATE SHARING with Asylum Seekers

The Supporting Asylum Seekers group is an active part of the Social Justice work of FPC, and we are grateful to receive a share of your collection plate donations in September. We work to support asylum seekers and refugees, who seek a safe home in our surrounding communities. At FPC "We commit to courageously build a caring and just world" and this is one way we do it.

We have allied with the Metrowest Immigrant Solidarity Network, to support local families in need, and coordinate with UU Mass Action for direct support and to work for political change. We have provided food, funds, transportation, accompaniment, English language lessons, and volunteer labor for Immigrant families during the year and then during the pandemic. We have recently been asked by MISN if we would focus our help toward a particular young local family, and we have agreed, and look forward to everyone's help to build a closer relationship with them.

Thank you for your financial support via plate sharing, and you can also give directly, by check or FPC website, by 'restricted gift' and including 'asylum support' in the memo. As good or even better, we invite you to join us in our work this fall!: please email us at asylumsupport@fpc-stow-acton.org.

NEWCOMER VIRTUAL CONNECTION

All are welcome, especially those who are new to FPC, to join in greeting one another following the Virtual Worship Service this Sunday, 9/13/20. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet with our minister, Rev. Cindy Landrum and our Welcoming & Membership Coordinator, Joleen Trotta for a brief Q & A! This will take place during our "Virtual Coffee Hour ~ Break Out Rooms" in the Main Room. More information will be provided during the Service.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

NEWS ABOUT OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

This Week in Our Religious Education Program

We begin our fall RE Workshops today September 20th. We are offering Building Up Our Principles and Movement and Caring from 9:15-9:50 for our 1st-5th graders. From 11:30-12:30 we are offering The Fifth Dimension

and Chillin' and Connecting for our 6-8th graders as well as High School Discussion group for 9-12th graders.

Join us for a virtual BINGO night on Friday, September 25th from 7-8. This event is for all ages. Either use bingo cards that you already own, print some off or let me know that you need some and I will send you some via email or can even drop some off. Looking forward to this fun event! If you have any questions please contact Michelle Cote at dre@fpc-stow-Acton.org

THE WEEK AT CHURCH SEPTEMBER 21-26 2020

Monday _____

Tuesday **VESPERS** 7:00pm Zoom SEPTEMBER 22

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Join us for a vesper service celebrating the fall equinox, known as Mabon in Pagan traditions.

Wednesday Meditation 7:25pm Zoom

Thursday Peace Vigil 5:00pm outside

Friday BINGO for All Ages 7:00-9:00pm Zoom offered by RE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

10 AM ONLY.

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Universalism Then and Now

September 30th marks the 250th anniversary of the date John Murray preached the first Universalist sermon in America! We'll learn a little Universalist history, look at our own FPC heritage, and celebrate Universalism.



Following the Today's Service - September 20 at 12 pm, Membership, Adult Programs, and the FPC Brew Crew request the honor of your

presence at [Bull Spit Brewing Co](#), located at 339 Seven Bridge Rd in Lancaster.

As we begin a new and challenging year this September, Membership, Adult Programs, and the FPC Brew Crew have arranged a community building event where we can meet in person in a friendly place while keeping a safe distance and enjoying some good food and drink together.

Bull Spit Brewing is one of the local breweries which will be featured at our [Assabet Craft Beer and Food Truck Festival](#) to be held on our campus on June 6, 2021. They offer reasonably priced food as well as their own delicious range of beers, wines, ciders, and soft drinks in a beautiful outdoor setting overlooking the rolling hills of Kalon Farm. There are plenty of picnic tables and umbrellas to accommodate at least 75 people in the outdoor patio. This is a family friendly event with plenty of room for kids to run around, and for us to maintain our distance from each other. This is a rain or shine event.

Due to COVID rules, you must purchase something to eat in order to purchase any drink. Also, you must wear a mask until you get to your table. You can take off the mask once seated, but need to put it back on if you leave your table for any reason. This means that if you want to visit another table or use the Port-a-potty, you will need to put on your mask and keep your distance from the other tables.

The owners asked that we give them an estimate of how many people will be there so they can plan ahead. If you think you want to go, please complete this [signup form](#). We are asking for a phone number from each party in case it is needed for contact tracing, and an email address to communicate updates. There is a limit of 6 people per party, including children.

Please email programs@fpc-stow-acton.org if you have any questions

**THIS IS THE MOST UP TO DATE INFORMATION
ON FPC'S APPLE PIE PROJECT**

Hello FPC folks! The pie project will start this week! Please visit the main page of the church website to read about how we will run the pie project this year while maintaining social distancing and to sign up. We ask if you or anyone in your home has symptoms of Covid-19, is waiting to get testing results, is under quarantine, or has recently participated in an event or activity that could place you at risk for infection, that you please do NOT participate in any pie project activities until you are sure you have a clean bill of health. Also, be sure to wash your hands thoroughly before and after every pie project activity you participate in. We've had a great response for sign ups, but there is room for more folks to help, so please check it out and sign up where you feel comfortable. Pies will be available on Saturdays and Sundays at 10 am starting Saturday, Sept. 19th!



(A FEW CHANGES & ADDITIONS SINCE THE SEPTEMBER CHRONICLE)

Hi folks! The First Parish Church of Stow and Acton Apple Pie Project is a GO for fall 2020! As with everything else during a pandemic, some adjustments will need to be made...so please read the descriptions below to understand how we plan to make the Apple Pie Project happen as safely as possible. Signing up for tasks is ESSENTIAL this year, as we have broken many tasks that people use to just "show up for" into shifts to ensure safe social distancing. Please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044AA9AC2DA5F49-apple3>

Dough making

Currently the Mallon Family has offered to do all four weeks of dough making, but we may need additional volunteers if they need a break at some point during the project. Volunteers will be asked to wear masks while moving through the building and working in the kitchen.

Apple collecting

This is generally an easy social distancing activity as it occurs outdoors and folks tend to do it in family groups and are encouraged to wear gloves anyway. So, we will continue with the apple collecting as usual, but we will ask that folks wear masks when collecting near other folks outside of their family. **ONE MAJOR CHANGE is that we will be collecting apples on Tuesdays and Wednesdays** this year NOT Wednesdays and Thursdays as in the past. For questions regarding apple collecting, please contact Steve Evans (steve.pies@fpc-stow-acton.org).

Apple peeling/prep

Our usual method of coming together in community to peel apples at church simply is not a safe option at this time. Instead, we will be asking volunteers to wash, peel, and prepare apples at home.

- Apples can be picked up by volunteers from bins located at the lower Fellowship Hall entrance (behind the building) anytime after 4 pm on Wednesday afternoons. Apples will be in bags along with food safe bags for the slices to be put in.
- Volunteers are asked to take the apples home, wash them, peel them, core them, cut them into pie slices, and place them in the food safe bags provided.
- Volunteers can drop off the bags of slices in the bins behind lower Fellowship Hall any time before 7 pm on Thursday OR can deliver them to the front of the church between the hours of 8-9 pm Thursday where a volunteer will collect and store the apple slices overnight.
- We will try to host some Thursday evening Zoom sessions for folks who would like to socialize while they peel at home and some SGMs may also conduct their own Zoom peeling sessions.

Baking

To meet social distancing guidelines, our normal Friday morning baking routine will need some adjustments. **All volunteers will be asked to wear masks while in the building.**

- With social distancing of 6 feet followed, there is room in the Fellowship Hall Kitchen for 3 individuals to space out along the counter along the windows to roll dough and 2 individuals at the metal table in the center of the kitchen for rolling/crimping. These “stations” will be marked with

painter's tape to encourage folks to maintain safe spacing. There is also room for an additional person to move through the right entry door and reach the oven to load in and take out pies when needed.

- Filling will take place in the Hall with individuals or "same household groups" each being assigned a separate table. Assuming up to 6 people are working in the kitchen, and a need to keep the total person count at 10 or less, the hall can hold 4-5 fillers (assuming one of the fillers also works as the pie oven loader/unloader).
- Pies will be returned to a table outside the kitchen where they will be retrieved by the kitchen volunteers to place on the top crust and prepare the pies to go in the oven.
- **We will work in shifts for each of the areas to limit the number of people in the building. Please see the sign up sheet for more information.**

Bagging

Bagging will take place in the Fellowship Hall as usual. With 2-3 volunteers bagging, there will be plenty of room for social distancing, but folks could stagger when they bag as well, if desired. All baggers will be asked to wear masks in the building and gloves and aprons while handling pies.

Selling

Rather than selling out of the pie shed as usual, we will be asking pie purchasers to pull up to the front doors of the church, where they can line up to purchase pies from within their cars.

- Sellers will greet the purchaser, ask for their order, take their payment, and then will deposit the pies into the open trunk of the purchaser's car.
- We will have to encourage low risk individuals to volunteer as sellers. Sellers will be asked to wear a mask and sunglasses or a face shield if they desire. They will be provided with gloves and an apron for them to wear during their shift and will be asked to sanitize their gloves between each purchase.
- We will plan to get extra cash for change this year so that the \$ in the cash can be replaced completely from Sat to Sun so sellers from Sunday don't handle cash that was handled on Saturday.

Quantities/Price



- How many pies we will be able to make depends on how many folks are willing to volunteer under our new conditions. We will plan to make our normal number of pies, but will adjust as needed once we get a better sense for how the process works.
- We haven't raised prices for many years. Increasing the price we charge per pie this year will help make up for the possibility that we will make/sell fewer pies. Our plan is to raise the price per pie to \$18, which is in keeping with the price of pies at our local farm stands.

When to start/what to offer



- ***Our current plan is to begin the project the week of Sept. 14th, with the first sales being on Saturday September 19th. The project will run the usual 4 weeks, ending on Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day weekend (Oct. 10-11th)***
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- Since it is not likely we are not going to have the fair this year, we are hoping to offer a variety of jams/jellies, pickles and baked goods that will be pre-packaged and ready to sell along with the pies. We will have a list each week of what is available for purchasers to choose from (selection may vary from week to week). *Please contact the Pie Project Coordinator, Rebecca Stadolnik, at applepies@fpc-stow-acton.org if you have items to donate.*

Sign ups

Signing up in advance for roles in the pie project will be more important than ever this year, especially with regard to the new plans for peeling and baking.

To sign up, go

to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044AA9AC2DA5F49-apple3>

Bathroom Use In Building

For Pie Project activities in the church, folks will be asked to avoid using the church restrooms if possible. If an urgent need arises, we will ask folks to use the single stall all gender bathroom outside of Fellowship Hall and to keep the door open in between users to improve ventilation. The bathroom will be wiped down with sanitizing wipes at the end of each event.

If you have questions, comments, or concerns regarding the plans for the apple pie project this year, please reach out to the **Pie Project Coordinator, Rebecca Stadolnik**, at applepies@fpc-stow-acton.org

