



Sunday, MAY 17, 2020
First Parish Church of Stow & Acton

INSERT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

10 AM ONLY

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

BLESSING ALL ANIMALS

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

This Sunday we honor all the creatures that fly, swim, and walk on the earth. Bring your own pet to your screen or phone for a blessing, or a picture of an endangered animal you wish us care for.

Please note all our links for joining by video/audio have changed. Information will be **posted only on our website** 24 hours before the service:



CLICK: ["BLESSING ALL ANIMALS!"](#)

MAY PLATE SHARING



Boston Area Gleaners (BAG) is a community-supported 501 (c) (3) organization whose core

commitment is bringing food to those in need. The Gleaners do this by rescuing surplus crops from local farms that would otherwise go to waste. When crops flourish, farmers can't always harvest and sell all of the food; up to 20% is wasted. To reduce food waste and to address food insecurity, BAG harvests the donated surplus, and then distributes it to hunger relief organizations, such as area food banks, shelters, meal programs, low-income markets, and wholesale food access programs that provide food to agencies with a social justice mission.

Boston Area Gleaners relies on the efforts of many volunteers to harvest during the season and to repack stored produce to provide hunger relief during the winter months. Local farms that partner with the Boston Area Gleaners include Applefield in Bolton, Small Farm in Stow, the Food Project in Lincoln, and Verrill Farm in Concord.

As the 2020 season approaches and the need for basic services is skyrocketing, these farms are expanding their efforts to grow more food for BAG so that it can in turn bring it to those in need through regional food banks.

During the current Covid pandemic, BAG is helping with emergency response efforts by partnering to provide logistics support through trucking, and aggregation and storage of produce for emergency food distribution in the Boston area. They are also responding to a range of ad hoc requests both from existing hunger relief partners, such as the Dorchester Food Coop, and Community Servings who have increased their capacity for making medically tailored meals.

Please visit the website www.bostonareagleaners.org to learn more about BAG's mission and how to volunteer. The link below is to a volunteer shared album of the joys of participating!
<https://www.icloud.com/sharedalbum/#B095oqs3qHBhmdX>

NO Adult Choir Rehearsal

VIRTUAL Coffee Hour

News from Our Religious Education Program

There is a family worship packet being sent out to all families on Friday, May 15th. This week the packet will focus on animals.

FPC Kids Gathering will be offered starting at **1:30 each Monday**. Please note the time change.

This session will be geared for children in grades K-6. The zoom link will be sent out each week. Please note that zoom now requires a password to take part in a session.

Junior Youth Group meets each Sunday for a zoom gathering from 6:30-7. The link will be sent out each week.

Our High Schoolers will meet this Sunday May 17th from 11:15-12:30 to plan out our youth Sunday. We will use the same link as the last class.

THE WEEK AT CHURCH MAY 18-23 , 2020

Tuesday SGM 7:00pm ZOOM

Wednesday SGM 7:00pm ZOOM
Wednesday Meditation 7:25pm ZOOM

Thursday Staff Meeting 9:30am ZOOM
Thursday Peace Vigil 5-6pm outside in front of church
Thursday Worship Committee 6:00pm ZOOM
Thursday SGM 7:15pm ZOOM

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

"THIS I BELIEVE"

10 AM ONLY

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

Lay Leaders

Three different FPC members will share their personal beliefs.

FPC members Hector Constantzos, Lisa Fagerstrom, and Kirsten Chetwynd will share their personal beliefs.



ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY AFTERNOON MAY 31, 2020 AT 4:00PM ZOOM

The Board has changed the date of the Annual Meeting to Sunday afternoon May 31 at 4:00pm. It is going to be *a virtual meeting, using a similar Zoom system we use for the Sunday services.* The Board feels that because the meeting needs to be a Zoom meeting, we wanted to have as much time up front for the congregation to review the budget and any other major agenda items beforehand. So, *we will have at least two Zoom meetings to review the budget before the Annual meeting.*

Coming May 30-June 13

FPC's on-line spring auction!

FPC's on-line spring auction! Strange times call for new ways of supporting our beloved community. The Auction Committee is hard at work preparing a roaring good time via an on-line auction of many favorite auction items and some new and exciting choices. We have a Moroccan Dinner for ten, an escape room adventure for four, and a salt room treatment for two. We have several gift cards for restaurants and massages. We have a St. Patrick's Day corned beef dinner. Lighting of the Lake; Books, Brunch and Booze; and Kevin O'Brien's handyman services are all returning. And we will have over sixty jewelry items.

We understand that some of our members may be suffering economically in these uncertain times, and that not everyone will be able to participate in the auction. However, for those who are able, we hope you will bid often and generously, as we try to support the operation of the church and our wonderful staff. We also hope that this on-line format, spread over two weeks, will allow more participation by those who might be shy about attending an in-person gala. Let's strive to make this year's auction a big success!

We continue to work out the final details about how the auction will work. Our plan is to cap the on-line auction with a live, Zoom auction for items such as dinners and other big ticket items. We are forging ahead into the unknown, so keep an eye out for more announcements about how to participate. Community makes us strong! Join in the fun as you are able!









