

May 22, 2022

10:00 AM

**Gathering**

**Preludes**                      *Basin Street Blues*                      Parish Jazz Band  
*Come Sunday*

**Land Acknowledgement, Welcome & Announcements**

**Greet Your Neighbor**

**Opening Words**                      the Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

**Chalice Lighting**

\* **Hymn #360**                      *Here We Have Gathered*

\* **Covenant**

Love is the spirit of this church,  
and service its law.

This is our great covenant:  
To dwell together in peace,  
to seek the truth in love,  
and to help one another.

\* **Affirmation**

From all that dwell below the skies  
let words of love and peace arise.  
Let joyful songs of praise be sung,  
through every land, by every tongue.

**Centering**

**Recognition of Joleen Trotta**

Sharon Brownfield, Board President  
Hector Constantzos, Membership Committee  
Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

**Interlude**                      *Dearly Beloved*                      Parish Jazz Band

**RE Extravaganza!!**                      Michelle Coté

\* *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

**Featuring Ann Walker as the Fairy of RE**

**Joys and Sorrows**                      Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister

**Prayer or Meditation**                      the Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

**Meditation**                      *God Bless the Child*                      Parish Jazz Band

**Going Forth with the Light**

**Exploring**

**Plate Sharing Introduction**

**Sharing Our Gifts**

This month we share our weekly offering with  
the Boston Area Gleaners

Checks may be made to “First Parish Church” or donate online at  
<https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate> or by text to (978) 310-3309.

**Anthem**                      *Up Jumped Spring*                      Parish Jazz Band

**Sermon**                      *Improvisation: Spirit and Practice*

the Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

**Returning**

\* **Hymn #205**                      *Amazing Grace*

\* **Benediction**                      the Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

\* **Closing Song**

Peace be with you ‘til we meet again!  
As life lays its task before you,  
keep love’s banner floating o’er you.  
Peace be with you ‘till we meet again.

**Postludes**                      *Quiet Nights of Quiet Stars*                      Parish Jazz Band  
*Tenor Madness*



Thank you to:  
Zoom Helper, Jenni Edgerton  
Rebecca & John MacNeill, Ushers  
and to our participants, staff and leadership

Our flowers today are given by  
Barbara Jones  
“in loving memory of  
Greg and Meg Jones”



## FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

*Unitarian Universalist*



**Sunday May 22, 2022**

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister  
Michelle Cote, Director of Religious Education  
Deedee Perkins, Parish Administrator  
Brad Dumont, Music Director  
Sanghee Kim, Organist/Pianist  
Joleen Trotta, Welcoming & Membership Coordinator  
Mike Silkonis, Sexton  
Marissa Evans, Youth Coordinator  
Janet Beatrice, External Publicity  
Sharon Brownfield, President  
Jenni Edgerton, Vice President  
Bill Froberg, Treasurer  
Johanna Pyle, Clerk

*First Parish is a Unitarian Universalist Association Welcoming Congregation.  
We warmly welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender  
people into our community.*

Large print orders of service and hymnals are available from an usher to help everyone be a part of worship in the fullest way possible. Assisted Listening Devices are available when worship is in the sanctuary.

On the web at [fpc-stow-acton.org](http://fpc-stow-acton.org) and on Facebook.

*\* Please rise in body or in spirit.*

## ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE

This page contains information specifically for folks joining us online!

**Today's Zoom Host:** Jenni Edgerton

### **Hymn #360**      *Here We Have Gathered*

1. Here we have gathered, gathered side by side;  
circle of kinship, come and step inside!  
May all who seek here find a kindly word;  
may all who speak here feel they have been heard.  
Sing now together this, our hearts' own song.
2. Here we have gathered, called to celebrate  
days of our lifetime, matters small and great:  
we of all ages, women, children, men,  
infants and sages, sharing what we can.  
Sing now together this, our hearts' own song.
3. Life has its battles, sorrows, and regret:  
but in the shadows, let us not forget:  
we who now gather know each other's pain;  
kindness can heal us: as we give, we gain.  
Sing now in friendship this, our hearts' own song.

### **Hymn #205**      *Amazing Grace*

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch\* like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
was blind but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!
3. Through many dangers, toils and snares, }  
I have already come;  
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.
4. When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

\* or "soul"

### **Sharing Our Gifts**

If you are mailing a pledge or a donation, here is the information:

Pledges: attn: Pledge Secretary, PO Box 215, Stow MA 01775

Donations: attn: Treasurer, 353 Great Rd, Stow MA 01775

## Plate Sharing This Month



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 in part by rescuing surplus crops from local farms, such as Applefield and Small Farm in Stow and Cucurbit Farm in Acton, that would otherwise go to waste and distributing the surplus to hunger relief organizations, such as area food banks, shelters, meal programs, and low-income markets 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 distribute perishables to hunger relief organizations during the winter months.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, BAG has re-engineered their volunteer operation to increase the distribution of emergency food to relief organizations serving food-insecure populations. They've participated in the USDA Farm to Families initiative and collaborated with Food for Free, Just Eats Grocery Box program, to distribute family-size boxes of food each week during the winter to residents of Greater Boston.

As part of BAG's vision to expand its impact from farms to families, it has agreed to purchase Stonefield Farm in Acton. To fund this, it is selling an Agricultural Preservation Restriction on the property to the Town of Acton and Sudbury Valley Trustees. This will ensure the land will remain undeveloped and open space in perpetuity.

Please visit the website [www.bostonareagleaners.org](http://www.bostonareagleaners.org) to learn more about BAG's mission and how to volunteer.

## FPC Announcements May 22, 2022

### Spiritual Conversations 11:30 zoom

**This Week, May 22<sup>nd</sup> in Our Religious Education Program:** This week we as part of our Religious Education Program we are offering a "connection session". All children in grades PreK-5 will gather after the Message for All Ages to take part in some games and other fun activities continuing with our theme of Transformation. Youth in grades 6-8 are invited to come to assist the younger children and take part in activities of their own.

**Senior Youth (grades 9-12) are invited to stay in the sanctuary to enjoy the service.**

### This Week at FPC: MAY 23-28, 2022

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Assabet Food Coop 8:00-11:00am Vestry<br>Stow Chorus 7:00pm Hall<br>Jazz Band 7:00pm Sanctuary<br>Racial JTF Drop In 7:00pm zoom |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Coffee at the Gazebo 10am-11am   |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Worship Committee 12:00-1:30pm zoom<br>Meditation 7:25 zoom & Hall   |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Staff Meeting 12:00-1:30pm<br>Peace Vigil 5:00pm outside church  |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | Growing a Victory Garden 9:00am Zoom<br>RENTAL Sanctuary & Hall 10:30am-5:30pm<br>(see Leah Abraham)                             |

**SUNDAY May 29, 2022, 10:00am**

**"Where do I go from Here? Looking at Death and The Legacy We Leave"**

**10 AM in the Sanctuary or video/phone**

**Masks are required in the Sanctuary. Thank you.**

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

On Memorial Day weekend, we'll look at how the memories we leave behind our greatest legacy, as well as exploring some different understandings of what happens after death.

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

Meeting ID: 959 7712 0122

Passcode: 01775

Join by phone: 1-929-205-6099 (long distance rates will apply)

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## **SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST**

**June 18, 2022, 8:05am**

Henry Patterson of Concord, started the restaurant Bel Canto when he was twenty-four and has been in the restaurant business ever since. In March he flew to Poland. He writes:

“Cooking at the border for Ukrainian refugees was both profoundly sad and exhilarating, as I will describe.

World Central Kitchen is a brilliant example of what is possible when ordinary people decide to defy life's challenges.

In our case, we are foodservice people doing what we do - expressing our caring by feeding people - finding the place to do it where it truly matters. “

This meeting will probably be by zoom, starting at 8:05.

~Jeff Brown



**LOOKING FORWARD TO A MAJOR NEW FPC FUNDRAISING EVENT...**

**The Assabet Craft Beer & Food Truck Festival at First Parish Church of Stow & Acton**

**Saturday, September 3, 2022  
12 noon to 4pm (rain or shine)**

with Craft brews from Amory's Tomb Brewing (Maynard), Bull Spit Brewing (Lancaster), and Sterling Street Brewery (Clinton) plus cider, wine, and soft drinks

Food from Meat@Slim's (BBQ), Lala's Neapolitan-ish Pizza, Kith & Kin (including gluten-free & vegetarian), and New City Microcreamery

Music provided by TBD

Children's games (including cornhole) and face painting

Admission \$5 per person (free for children 12 and under) with drink tickets \$5 each

***Please stop by our table at coffee hour today and sign up to volunteer at the Festival.*** We still need lots of help with set-up, admission entry, guest relations, parking, cleanup, first aid, marketing, and TIPS certification. And as our way of saying thank you, we have a special gift for everyone who signs up.

***For more details, contact any of our organizers: Neil Saunders, Hector Constantzos, Dave Sansone, Scott Feldhusen, Rebecca Stadolnik, and Margaret Tucker. Cheers!***

**Lindsay LaPointe** [lindsay.lapointe@gmail.com](mailto:lindsay.lapointe@gmail.com):

Hello!

As some of you know, I am offering a practice run of the worship service that I will be doing at GA this year in Portland, Oregon.

Here is the information about the event.

**Friday, June 10th**

6:45 PM arrive to Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM - 7:45 PM Worship experience

At the end I will hold space for people to offer feedback and comments.

**EMPOWERED TO MOVE**

Embodying worship practices was at the forefront of the Liberal Religious Youth and Young Religious Unitarian Universalists' youth movements. Join us as we take these experiences and reimagine them together in a movement practice built to help reconnect with others. No movement experience needed. All abilities and ages are welcome.

*What participants will learn:*

Through this workshop experience participants will gain the knowledge of how to incorporate movement into their worship rituals. Through learning how to use their body as a way to embody their spirituality, they will become more familiar with how to connect with themselves and each other at a deeper level.

*The General Assembly's theme this year is: "Meet the Moment: Reimagining a Radical Faith Community."*

This worship experience will focus on how a group can express their spirituality through embodiment. When a group of people, familiar with each other or not, go through a shared experience it can be powerful. Showing that power in self expression with support from others is a gift like no other. We will find ways to heighten our senses, be in community and create something together in the moment.

**FPC Memorial Garden**

Come visit the Memorial Garden table setup after church on **May 29**. We will have a large poster to share with you as well as information about how FPC folks can participate in the serious work of helping to bring the Memorial Garden into being. Our aim is to have the dedication in May 2023 around Memorial Day.

**Please join us in the Fellowship Hall on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May, Memorial Day Sunday**, to see what we have planned and how you can help. You can also visit the FPC website to view the videos showing the plans. Go to:

<https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/fpc-memorial-garden>

# FPC Auction 2022

## Garden Party

Have a Wild Thyme!



Live Auction at FPC: June 18, 2022  
Beginning at 2:00 PM (Outside)  
Live Bidding inside

Light snacks and beverages served outside  
~Childcare will be provided~

**Silent Auction Online Begins June 8, 2022**

Check out the FPC website for updates  
[www.fpc-stow-acton.org](http://www.fpc-stow-acton.org)



## Hello FPC Community!

The Spring Auction Garden Party is right around the corner. Here's the lowdown – just flowers – no weeds:

### The Silent Auction will be on-line starting

**June 8** at [auctria.events/FPCAuction2022](http://auctria.events/FPCAuction2022). Please register using the register button on the home page. There are instructions to help with registration.

**The silent auction ends June 22<sup>nd</sup>**. There are items ranging from paintings to carvings to marshmallow roasts to homemade soups to restaurant and massage gift cards.

**The Live Auction and Garden Party will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup>** rain or shine. The social hour with drinks, food and some silent auction items to bid on will **start at 2 PM**. Around 3:15, we will go to Fellowship Hall for the live auction. Items up for grabs include a Women's Weekend Getaway to the Cape, four meals delivered quarterly by your Board of Trustees, the sermon of your choice and a Greek, Macedonian and Albanian dinner party. We strongly encourage you to pre-register at the Auctria site.

**Garden Party Contests** - a **garden hat contest** and a **floral arrangement contest**. Judging criteria can be found on the web page. We will announce winners during the Live Auction intermission.

**Raffle tickets** for a wonderful gift basket can be purchased on-line and at the live event.

**Donations are still needed to make this auction a success.** The auction is FPC's biggest fundraiser of the year, and we need you to help us seed the auction with lots of goodies. You can sign up to donate by filling out a donation form at the auction web page. Please send photos of your offerings to [auction@fpc.groups.io](mailto:auction@fpc.groups.io). Or, you can use the Signup Genius to purchase a gift card to donate. Think creatively and get those donations in! And thank you!

**Donation deadline extended to May 25th.**

**Volunteers.** A volunteer Signup Genius will be on the FPC Auction web page by the end of this week. We need many helpers to pull off this special event, so please sign up to help with registration, food service, set-up, cleanup, and much more.

Did we miss anything? Questions? Contact us!

Your Auction Committee  
[auction@fpc.groups.io](mailto:auction@fpc.groups.io)

