

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 28, 2021
ANNOUNCEMENTS
HERE

SERVICE ON VIDEO

Announcements
Sunday, November 28, 2021

10AM Service on Video

Spiritual Conversations on Video

No Religious Education today.

NOVEMBER PLATE SHARING
OUR PARTNER CHURCH

Unitarianism has deep and wide roots of which most of us are not aware. Some of those roots extend into the Transylvania region of Romania, where Unitarianism briefly flourished. Some of the principles of freedom of belief had their origin there; however, it is today a minority religion in a country with a national religion of Christian orthodoxy, in a region populated by Hungarian speakers, who are not well accepted by many Romanians.

FPC has a partner congregation in the tiny village of Olasztelek. Every year at Christmas, FPC makes a gift to this community that – as some of us discovered when we visited in 2016 – makes a very big difference in the lives of some of their parishioners. The congregation includes a number of quite elderly people who have a hard time making it through the winter without help. While we are striving to make our relationship one of “parity, not charity” (as suggested by the UU Partner Church Council), history has not been kind to the people of this region.

The Partner Church committee last year distributed the last of the funds earmarked for this purpose. The gifts are not supported in the general budget, but are made from plate sharing. The committee asks that the church continue to support this tradition. Thank you for your generosity!

Note: Please check out the electronic display on the wall on the first floor of the Atrium, (when you walk in the glass doors) as it will feature photos from our 2016 trip there! We hope some day circumstances will allow another visit.

Spiritual Conversations zoom following the service

There will be NO Religious Education this Sunday

THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 6 2021

Monday Racial Justice 7pm Zoom
Sounds of Stow 7-9pm, Hall

Tuesday Coffee & Chat 10-11:00am at the Gazebo
Decorating FPC 2:30~5:00pm
Sanctuary, Parlor, Community Room, Atrium & Hall
for Christmas

Wednesday Owl Orientation Hall 6:00pm
Membership Committee 7pm zoom
Meditation 7:25pm-8:30pm zoom

Thursday Archives 9:30-12:30 Vestry
Staff Mtg 12:30-2:00pm zoom
Peace Vigil 5:00pm outside church
SGM Facilitators 6:00pm zoom
Choir Rehearsal 7:15-9:15 pm Hall

Friday Gifts for Shelters brought to FPC Hall
3:00pm-6:00pm

Saturday Gifts for Shelters brought to FPC Hall
10:00am-2:00pm

Sunday December 5, 2021

9:00 in the sanctuary

11:00 in the sanctuary and video

“Blue Christmas”

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

This time of year can be hard for many people—both for people who are struggling with loss or sadness, and for people for whom Christmas is troubling theologically. This service will be a service for all those who feel at odds with Christmas right now.

Join by video: <https://tinyurl.com/fpcdecjan>

Meeting ID: 931 5354 4388

Passcode: 11762

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



Racial Justice Task Force

November 29th 7pm

Why Have a Land Acknowledgement?

Come and hear why it is important for FPC to have a Land Acknowledgement as a first step in being allies with our Native American neighbors. *zoom info to come*

Let nature sing!

Sunday, December 5 at 5:00p

A fun and casual virtual carol sing
Offered by the FPC Choir from the Sanctuary
Find the Zoom Link at [FPC-Stow-Acton.org](https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 AT 5:00PM

**A FUN AND CASUAL VIRTUAL CAROL SING
OFFERED BY THE FPC CHOIR FROM THE SANCTUARY**

Find the ZOOM LINK at [FPC-STOW-ACTON.ORG](https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org)

FPC Stewardship Campaign is Underway

FPC's Stewardship campaign for our next fiscal year is now underway. Thank you so much to our members and friends who have already made pledges! In the spirit of love and

thanksgiving, please join us in Embracing the Possibilities and reaffirming your financial commitment to FPC with a stewardship pledge.

The goals for this year's campaign are:

100% Member Participation
5% Increase in the total Pledge amount



Our Board of Trustees is seeking to strengthen FPC's operating budget for next year to Embrace the Possibilities of:

- Providing fair and equitable compensation and benefits for all staff
- Bolstering capital reserves for repairs and maintenance to our campus
- Raising our annual contribution to the UUA back to the 100% fair share level

while continuing to

- Sustain our ministries and a broad offering of programs, and
- Support First Parish Church and the greater community.

Please join our stewardship campaign today and pledge on line. Pledging on line is easy and secure. Here is the link <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/pledge> . Alternatively, please contact a member of the Stewardship team or the Board to arrange an in-person stewardship discussion, or to request a pledge card.

First Parish Church is a self-sustaining congregation that relies on the generosity of members and friends to fund about 70% of our budget. **Please make a pledge today if possible, or in any case by December 19. Remember our goals: 100% Member Participation and 5% average pledge increase.**

Thank you for your generosity to First Parish Church!

From the FPC Stewardship Team: Rachelle Reisberg, Rick Gentilman, Sharon Brownfield, Helen Ham, Sue Moses, Russ Hart, and Lynda Layer.

FPC COOKIE SWAP - SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, December 7, 7:00pm



zoom

zoom

Like every other year, this year we will again be celebrating our FPC Cookie Swap on Tuesday, December 7, starting at 7:00 pm via zoom. Sign into the link below and you will be sent the connection prior to the event.

<https://massmed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlUdeqhrT4rEtd4gPV3Ggw54UdLoMprOVTs>

The sharing of poems and stories by Ann Sadler will certainly put you in a surprisingly relaxed start to the holidays. Hopefully, you will also bring a story to share.

Many of us go to the Cookie Swap every year. We hope you'll come for the very first time.

Sent from Diane Miller, Liz Moseley, Ann Sadler and Lynda Layer



The Sudbury Savoyards presents

A CHRISTMAS CAROL 2021

Please join us for Dickens' beloved Christmas tale
of philanthropy and personal growth.



At the
First Parish Church of Stow and Acton
353 Great Road, Stow, MA

Saturday December 4 at 2 PM

Please call 617-448-2073 to reserve a ticket, \$20

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2:00 PM

**The Sudbury Savoyards present
A Christmas Carol 2021
Please join us for**

**Dickens' beloved Christmas tale
of philanthropy and personal growth
First Parish Church of Stow and Acton
353 Great Road
Stow, Massachusetts 01775**

**Please call 617-448-2703
to reserve a ticket @ \$20.
Proceeds will go to the
Greater Boston Area Food Bank**

