

November 7, 2021
9:30 and 11:15 AM

Gathering

Prelude *Borree No.1 No.2* J.P. Kirnberger
Sanghee Kim, piano

Welcome & Announcements

9:30 am: Rick Gentilman, Stewardship Committee
11:15 am: Sharon Brownfield, Board President

Greet Your Neighbor

Introit 11:15 am *Alleluia! Sang Stars*
FPC Adult Choir

Call to Worship Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Chalice Lighting

Hymn #5 *Be the Change* Justice Choir Songbook

1. Be the change you want to see in the world,
be the change you want to see in the world,
be the change you want to see in the world,
and change will come to you.
2. Be the light you want to shine in the world...
3. Be the hope you want to share in the world...
4. Be the love you want to grow in the world...

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

Message for All Ages 11:15 am Michelle Coté,
Director of Religious Education

Joys and Sorrows

9:30 am: Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister
11:15 am: Marcia Rising, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation

Exploring

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with
our Partner Church.

Checks may be made to “First Parish Church” and sent to:

Pledges: attn: Pledge Secretary, PO Box 215, Stow MA 01775
Donations: attn: Treasurer, 353 Great Rd, Stow MA 01775
or donate online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>
or by text to (978) 310-3309.

Anthem

9:30 am: *If Not Now, When* A. and J. Korman
Brad Dumont, vocals
11:15 am: *Rivers and Roads* K. Oberoi
FPC Adult Choir

Sermon *Embracing Possibility and Generosity*

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Introduction to Stewardship Campaign

9:30 am: Rick Gentilman, Stewardship Committee
11:15 am: Rachelle Reisberg, Stewardship Committee

Returning

Hymn #1020

Woyaya

We are going, heaven knows where we are going,
but we know within.
And we will get there, heaven knows how we will get
there, but we know we will.
It will be hard, we know,
and the road will be muddy and rough,
but we'll get there, heaven knows how we will get there,
but we know we will.

Woyaya, Woyaya, Woyaya, Woyaya,
We are going, heaven knows where we are going, but we
know within.

Benediction

Sung Benediction

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.

Postlude 11:15 am

Autumn Leaves

J. Kosma
Sanghee Kim, piano



Thank you to today's worship participants;
Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host;
our ushers and set-up helpers;
and to our staff and leadership



FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

Unitarian Universalist



Sunday, November 7, 2021

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 and on Facebook.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In order to help us further engage, and explore our next steps toward a congregational vote on our Land

Acknowledgement, **the Racial Justice Task force is excited to offer the following programing this fall:**

Please join us

November 16th at 7pm for a live online presentation on the past relationship Unitarians have had with Indigenous Peoples here in Massachusetts and beyond. There will be a discussion period following a presentation.

On November 29th join us for a live online drop in session with the Racial Justice Task force as we explore the topic: "Why have a Land Acknowledgement".

Look for more information on when we will be hosting the movie Gather:

"Gather is an intimate portrait of the growing movement amongst Native Americans to reclaim their spiritual, political and cultural identities through food sovereignty, while battling the trauma of centuries of genocide."

<https://gather.film/>

Reach out to Aimee Ledwell or Mary Evans if you have any questions.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021

9:30 AM Outside weather permitting

11:15 Video & Phone

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR



Generosity Sunday: Embracing Possibility

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

This service will begin our annual stewardship campaign with a joyful look at the possibilities ahead for FPC.

Join 11:15 service online: <https://tinyurl.com/fpcnov21>

Meeting number: 987 1673 5529

Password: 11762

Or join by phone: 929-205-6099 (long distance rates will apply)

NOVEMBER PLATE SHARE

Our Partner Church

Unitarianism's roots extend into the Transylvania region of Romania, where some of the principles of freedom of belief had their origin. FPC has a partner congregation in the tiny village of Olasztelek. History has not been kind to the people of this region, so every year at Christmas, FPC makes a gift supporting a number of quite elderly people who have a hard time making it through the winter..

The gifts are not supported in our 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: If the church is open for services in November, please check out the electronic display in the lobby as it will feature photos from our 2016 trip there! We hope some day circumstances will allow another visit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

9:30 Outdoor Worship Service

Followed by “connections time”

Masks & Social Distancing required

10:30 Choir Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

11:00 Choir Sings on zoom Hall

11:15 Zoom Worship Service

Followed by “connections time” breakout groups

This Sunday in our Religious Education Program

9:30 Children & Youth will go directly to their RE programs listed below.

All children and youth will go directly to RE and will not join in the service to help with social distancing.

There will be a greeter directing everyone to their right spot.

Grades PreK-5 (meeting in the area near the lower parking lot) This Sunday we will discuss what being a veteran means and create some cards to share with local veterans.

Grades 6-8 (Will meet in the courtyard to the left of the main entrance)

Will meet to plan out their next few weeks of programming as well as have some fun!

High School Discussion Group is meeting this Sunday at 11

The group will be discussing: **The Supreme Court**

Please contact Michelle Cote, our Director of Religious Education, at dre@fpc-stow-acton.org if you have any questions or concerns.

WEEK OF OF NOVEMBER 8-13, 2021

- Monday** Assabet Food Coop 8-12pm Vestry
Sounds of Stow (Hall) 7:00-8:30pm
SGM 7:00pm zoom
- Tuesday** Coffee & Chat 10-11:00am at the Gazebo town park
TRUSTEE Meeting 7:00-9:00pm zoom
Racial Justice Task Force 7:00-9:00pm zoom
Climate Task Force 7:30-8:30pm zoom
- Wednesday** UU Journey 7:00pm—9:00pm zoom
Meditation 7:25pm—9:30pm zoom
- Thursday** Veteran’s lunch FPC parking lot 10 :00am-2:00pm
SGM 9:00am zoom
Staff Meeting 12:30-2:00pm zoom
Peace Vigil 5:00 pm in front of FPC
Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm-9:15pm (Hall)
- Friday** **SGM 9:30 zoom**
- Saturday** Saturday Breakfast zoom
SGM 9:00am zoom

Sunday, November 14, 2021

9:30 outside and 11:15 online video

“Holding History”

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

How do we hold the more difficult parts of our history, as individuals, as a religious community, as a society? Across America we’ve been hearing debates about “critical race theory” and trying to keep education systems from examining and dealing with the more difficult parts of American history. This service will look at ways we can hold the difficult parts of our past without ignoring them.

FPC STEWARDSHIP KICKS Off THIS SUNDAY ~ November 7th

Let's Embrace Possibilities for the Future as we join together for Generosity Sunday, November 7 for the kick-off of FPC's 2021-2022 Stewardship Drive. With 100% member participation in Stewardship, we can strengthen and expand the program areas that we love and participate in by building on the support structures needed for our vibrant community.



Now is the time to begin thinking about what FPC means to you and how we all can support our programs and ministries. FPC's Board is seeking to strengthen our operating budget for next year to embrace the possibilities of:

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

To support these possibilities, the Board is targeting a budget increase of 5%. We ask all FPC members and friends to increase our pledges for next year by at least 5% if at all possible.

You will be invited to fill out a pledge card or to make your pledge securely and confidentially on line, at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/pledge>.

In addition, newer FPC members are encouraged to meet with one of our Stewardship team to learn more about the goals and objectives of the campaign for the coming church year. The primary phase of our Stewardship campaign will continue through mid December.

Watch for the FPC Stewardship Thermometer to track progress towards our 100% participation goal. Please join us!

~From the FPC Stewardship Team



Saturday Morning Breakfasts

On November 13 - ZOOM, Paul Franceschi, Outreach Coordinator for the Boston Area Gleaners (BAG), will speak about the organization's activities. The Gleaners recently bought Stonefield Farm in South Acton to use as a staging area for their packaging and distributing of local crops including the ones grown on site. Last July several members of FPC picked green beans that were later brought to area food banks. BAG has been supported by FPC plate sharing. Hopefully we will be in Fellowship Hall in January to enjoy each other's company and eat a church cooked breakfast.

FPC Holiday Gift Drive Starts

TODAY ~ SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7



Inviting all FPC Secret Santas to once again take part in our gift giving for two Domestic Violence Shelters: Renewal House in Roxbury and Voices Against Violence in the MetroWest area. For those of you new to FPC, we invite YOU to participate in this once-a-year opportunity to spread joy during the holidays. Each year, FPC provides gifts for approximately 34 moms, kids and men at these two Shelters. The need continues to grow each year, so we ask all who can to step up and help spread holiday cheer.

Christmas can be a very difficult time for the guests at these Shelters, many of whom have fled their homes with only the clothes on their backs. For them, Christmas may seem elusive as they simply try to adjust to a new life. But, you can help make this holiday a little brighter for them.

Starting today, November 7, you can visit the FPC web site where you will find the Holiday Gift Giving page. There you can learn a bit about the history of this event, as well as link to **SignUpGenius** (coming very soon!) where you can select gifts to buy. The **SignUpGenius** will have all the information on what gifts have been requested including gender, size and wishes for each of the Shelter guests. Please be as generous as you are able so that we can fill every wish that comes our way. **We will be collecting gifts at FPC on December 3 and 4.**

Please keep an eye out for weekly fpcannounce emails that will also have the link to **SignUpGenius** and sign up to help bring some seasonal cheer to our struggling neighbors.

Questions? Contact Diane Miller at 978-897-5470 or at millerdiane@comcast.net.

Fall Clean Up - Volunteers Needed



It is that time of year again. We are looking for church volunteers to help us relocate our leaves. COVID had a positive effect on this event making it easier for people to participate when and how they can, so we are repeating the approach.

Volunteers sign up for an area of their choosing using the link below - family and SGM signups are most welcome. Again the areas are designed to be just a few hours of effort and enable people to come and do what they can when they can. **In November we recommend planning to come twice or expending a one time effort in mid-November** as this will ensure late falling leaves don't miss making it to their new home behind the shed.

Looking forward to working together, having fun, and ensuring our grounds look fabulous. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D49A4AB22A4FAC07-2021>