

First Parish Church of Stow & Acton



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021

10 AM ONLY VIDEO or PHONE

Sanctuary closed. Service by Video or Phone

"BELOVED COMMUNITY"

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

We talk in Unitarian Universalism a lot about “building beloved community,” but what does “beloved community” mean to us? What does it mean to be a beloved community? We’ll explore the idea on this Sunday.

Join by Video:

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/98259232512?pwd=VXBwZ0JaV2FwV1dXaHI2VGFnWFm0QT09>

<https://tinyurl.com/fpcbeloved>

Meeting ID: 982 5923 2512

Passcode: 11762

Join by phone: (646) 876-9923 US (long distance rates will apply)

*** *The congregational meeting on the revised bylaws will take place today, Sunday February 7, 2021 at 4:00pm and will be held virtually on Zoom, like 2020’s Annual Meeting. Ingrid Holcomb will moderate this meeting, with help from Board members.**

The Order of Service & the FPC Announcements will be posted on the First Parish Church of Stow & Acton Website under “Services” for download by the Friday evening before the service.

On Sunday you can go directly to the FPC Website by CLICKING the below address for the video link, phone number, Order of Service (OOS) & FPC Announcements:

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

FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO CONNECT BY PHONE:

1. You'll need three pieces of information: The phone number, the meeting ID and password.

These change each week, so they can be found in the newsletter under the Sunday service. Occasionally zoom changes this information at a last minute, but you can always call an FPC member or staff member for them. We post them on the website under the Sunday service information if you have web access, and we update the information there when problems arise.

2. Dial the phone number provided.

It is a long-distance number, so your carrier rates will apply.

3. Enter the meeting ID when prompted, followed by #.

Enter # again if prompted to. If you join too early (before 9:35ish), you'll either be told that it hasn't started and to come back later, or told to press # to wait.

4. Enter the passcode when prompted followed by a #.

You may be in a “waiting room” where you won't hear much until shortly before the service

5. When you hear people introducing themselves, and at

joys and sorrows, you can use *6 to unmute yourself and tell people who you are or share your joy or sorrow.

FEBRUARY PLATE SHARING

URBAN MINISTRY

Headquartered at the First Church in Roxbury campus, the UU Urban Ministry operates programs that provide education and enrichment programming for children and youth, emergency shelter for individuals and families fleeing from domestic violence, and job- and education-readiness training for survivors of domestic violence. We make use of an extensive pool of volunteers from Boston-area UU congregations, colleges/universities, and the Roxbury community to offer a greater level of programming than our staff alone could provide. An important part of our mission is bringing together people from different walks of life to work together toward justice and equality.

RYP Afterschool provides a safe, enriching environment for young people during out-of-school hours. Our highest priority is promoting academic success, and we make use of more than 50 dedicated volunteers to provide a wide spectrum of academic support to students.

RYP Summer provides summer camperships for more than 25 elementary-school-age children, and offers an “earn and learn” employment program for up to 15 neighborhood teens.

Virtual Coffee Hour following the Service

This Week in our Religious Education Program

This Sunday-February 7th -we will continue with our winter RE Workshops.

At 9:15 we will offer Games and Goals for grades PreK-5 where we will play some games that will help us explore the topic of helping others.

At 11:30 we will have our fifth session of our workshop called Videos and Values-Exploring Racism for grades 5-8 developed by Sharon Webb and Amy Osenar. We will explore the topic "What would you do?"

Links will be sent out on Friday for these workshops.

PLEASE NOTE: There **will be no RE workshops next Sunday , February 14th**. We encourage all families to spend some time together (during what would be there RE time) doing something kind for someone else!

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THE WEEK AT CHURCH FEBRUARY 8-13 2021

Monday	SGM 7PM zoom Changing Climate Discussions 7:30PM zoom
Tuesday	Coffee & Chat at the Gazebo 10-11AM Racial Justice Task Force 7-9:00pm zoom Climate Task Force 8-9:00pm zoom
Wednesday	UU Journey 7PM zoom Meditation 7:25PM zoom

Thursday **Peace Vigil 5:00PM in front of FPC**
TRUSTEE MEETING 7:00PM zoom
Virtual Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00PM zoom

Friday **SGM 9:30AM zoom**

Saturday **SGM 9:00AM zoom**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021

10 AM ONLY

"SIDE WITH LOVE SUNDAY" - UUA

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

What if to "side with love" meant making bold, faith-full choices?
What if it were even a little bit scary? This worship service,
created by the UUA for congregations to share, brings together
worship leaders and musicians from across the country to offer
hopeful, moving, challenging reminders about what we, as
Unitarian Universalists, are called to do, and BE, in the world.

Join by Video:

<https://zoom.us/j/99595617926?pwd=ZXJXcWx2SkkvL1hKOHBGRGRhNzdEQT09>

<https://tinyurl.com/fpcssl>

Meeting ID: 995 9561 7926

Passcode: 11762

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



MASKS ON EVERYONE PLEASE

One important note/update for everyone: If you come into the church buildings, please wear a good fitting mas (not a loose mask, bandana, gaiter or anything elseas a face covering).

Studies have shown that only a good fitting mask effectively reduces transmission of viral aerosols, and since many of our bakers and some of our staff are in the high risk categories, we really need to do our best to protect them. Now that our buildings are busier, folks need to make every effort to be masked AT ALL TIMES they are in the building.

If you do not have a mask...you're in luck! There are a variety of donated masks in bins behind lower Fellowship Hall on the small plastic picnic tables. If you don't find one there in your size...let Rebecca know and she will try to procure one or make one for you.

The UU Journey at FPC (aka New2UU)

A **Virtual** 4-Session Course on UU History, Spirituality, Mission, and Traditions

Theology, Worship, & Spiritual Journeys

Wednesday, February 10, 7:00 – 9:00pm

(skipping school vacation week)

Unitarian, Universalist, UU, & FPC History

Wednesday, February 24, 7:00 – 9:00pm

Polity, Governance, & Social Justice

Wednesday, March 3, 7:00 – 9:00pm

FPC Traditions, Involvement, & Membership

Wednesday, March 10, 7:00 – 9:00pm

Rev. Cindy Landrum will lead the virtual classes.

There will be opportunities to share

your own personal spiritual journey,

ask questions, and get to know others in the church.

You do not need to be new to FPC to participate.

All are welcome!

Registration Required (for link access)

Please contact Joleen Trotta if you are interested in participating.

mdc@fpc-stow-acton.org or call/text 774-276-0272



Saturday Morning Breakfast

Upcoming talks:

February 20. Ingrid Gunther grew up in Acton, went to college to study nursing, and settled in New York City. She works as an acute care nurse practitioner at NYU Langone Hospital and teaches at Pace University and NYU Meyers College of Nursing. When Covid-19 slammed New York City she was on the front lines. A year later ***we will hear how Ingrid coped with the pandemic and how she and her profession are doing now.***

March 20. Jim Edlehauser has worked in the nuclear energy field his entire career. He will speak to us via zoom from his home in Bourne, MA. Jim is an avid proponent of nuclear power and will tell us how he thinks the nuclear industry can be restarted in this country.

April 17. Jan Turnquist is the director of Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House in Concord. She will entertain us by playing Louisa May in full costume LIVE from the Orchard House via zoom. There will be a question and answer period after the performance

Coffee and Chat

Coffee and chat continues, weather permitting. Dress warmly, ***bring your own coffee and wear a mask.*** We gather near the

gazebo in the Town Park, adjacent to FPC,
from 10-11am on Tuesday mornings.

~Ann Sadler

Community Conversations Continue with the Climate Task Force

FPC's Climate Task Force is hosting a series of activities for our community this winter. Please join us for one or more...

Changing Nature: Movies and Conversation

Each month on the second Monday night we meet on Zoom at 7:30 pm to share reactions to a selected movie that tells stories around some aspect of nature and climate change. We announce the movie and where to view the film.

The following conversation gives us an opportunity for us to share and build our understanding of changing nature...one of the most important and complex subjects confronting us as a community. Here is the schedule.

- **Monday, February 8** "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind"
- **Monday, March 8** "Chasing Ice"

Watch for more information and a zoom link.

Climate Change: How to Protect Our Conservation Lands Webinar on February 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Lisa Vernegaard Executive Director of the Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT), Lisa will discuss how land conservation helps

address climate change and how the development of open space exacerbates the problem. She will also introduce us to some of SVT's properties and provide ideas about how to use these properties for winter recreational activities. She will also introduce us to some of SVT's properties and provide ideas about how to use these properties for winter recreational activities. SVT is the regional land trust protecting properties of all 34 cities and towns in the Sudbury River watershed, including Acton, Sudbury, Harvard, Maynard, Stow, Hudson, and Berlin.

Look for more information to come.

Growing Climate Victory Gardens Saturday Feb 27, 9:00 am:
Planning and preparing a new garden: composting, and seed ordering

In January we started a series of monthly conversations on tips and resources to help us all grow more vegetables *and hopefully contribute to area food pantries*. Some tips will work for flowers and even be relevant for porch and patio gardens. We have many experienced gardeners at FPC. We are learning from each other and sharing our tips and resources! The session is good for beginners and seasoned gardeners, alike.

Subsequent sessions (on Saturday mornings at 9AM on zoom):

Feb 27: *Seed starting*

March 27: *Growing healthy seedlings and container gardening*

April 24: *Hardening off your plants and garden bed prep*

May 26: *Planting out your beds*

June 24: *Organic growing tips and delivery to Food Pantries*

**The Climate Change Task Force is pleased
to sponsor a presentation
by Lisa Vernegaard**

DATE: Tuesday, February 16

TIME: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm zoom

Lisa will discuss how land conservation helps address climate change and how the development of open space exacerbates the problem. She will also introduce us to some of SVT's properties and provide ideas about how to use these properties for winter recreational activities. SVT is the regional land trust protecting properties of all 36 cities and towns in the Sudbury River watershed, including Acton, Sudbury, Harvard, Maynard, Stow, Hudson, and Berlin. A description of the program follows.

Program Description: The science is clear. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are higher than they have been in 650,000 years. Global climate change is underway. Following a brief review of the science of climate change and its predicted impacts, Lisa Vernegaard, Executive Director at Sudbury Valley Trustees, will highlight SVT's efforts to help build climate-resilient landscapes. As Lisa describes SVT's work, she'll also point out how SVT's properties and other natural areas contribute to human resilience, highlighting properties that might provide a good escape during our dark COVID winter.

DATE: Tuesday, February 16

TIME: 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Register for this webinar here [REGISTRATION](#).* SVT will then email the **Zoom link** to all who register. They will also record and send the recording to all who registered. If you have any questions, feel free to contact

sharonbrownfield@gmail.com or sjonesmoses@gmail.com

If the link does not work, past the following into your browser. <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=r6ktqgcab&oeidk=a07ehin88fy1e24e1b2>

Executive Director of the Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT).

Racial Justice Task Force

The FPC Racial Justice Task Force invites you to an evening of discussion of the book Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents, by Isabel Wilkerson,

Monday evening, February 22, 2021

7 P.M. via Zoom

In this book Caste, "...Wilkerson gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive and deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings." (book jacket) In late December of 2020, Caste was proclaimed to be "the No. 1 book across all genres...based on a tabulation of all publications, awards, and nominations..." with "Publishers' Marketplace declaring Caste the 'book of the year' from start to finish." (Wilkerson's blog) The Chicago Tribune says "It should be at the top of every American's reading list."

Please plan to join us on a cold wintry evening from the comfort of your own home as we discuss this important book via Zoom.

Thanks to those who already RSVP'd, but we decided that **NO RSVP is needed** after all.

Depending on the number of participants, we will have breakout rooms of 10 to 12, with facilitators, in order to ensure that everyone can fully participate. For that reason, please sign into the zoom link *no later*

than 7 P.M. if possible, so that we can divide into smaller groups if needed by 7:05.

If you need to come in later, we will still plug you into a group, however. The Zoom link will be sent out closer to that February 22nd date. We hope you can join us!

--Sharon Webb

On behalf of the FPC Racial Justice Task Force
