



**First Parish Church of Stow & Acton
Sunday, September 27, 2020
& FPC Events**

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

10 AM ONLY *zoom*

**Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
"Universalism Then and Now"**

September 30th marks the 250th anniversary of the date John Murray preached the first Universalist sermon in America! We'll learn a little Universalist history, look at our own FPC heritage, and celebrate Universalism

***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 zoom link, phone
number, Order of Service (OOS) & FPC
Announcements:***

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

SEPTEMBER PLATE SHARING with Asylum Seekers

The Supporting Asylum Seekers group is an active part of the Social Justice work of FPC, and we are grateful to receive a share of your collection plate donations in September. We work to support asylum seekers and refugees, who seek a safe home in our surrounding communities. At FPC "We commit to courageously build a caring and just world" and this is one way we do it.

We have allied with the Metrowest Immigrant Solidarity Network, to support local families in need, and coordinate with UU Mass Action for direct support and to work for political change. We have provided food, funds, transportation, accompaniment, English language lessons, and volunteer labor for Immigrant families during the year and then during the pandemic. We have recently been asked by MISN if we would focus our help toward a particular young local family, and we have agreed, and look forward to everyone's help to build a closer relationship with them.

Thank you for your financial support via plate sharing, and you can also give directly, by check or FPC website, by 'restricted gift' and including 'asylum support' in the memo. As good or even better, we invite you to join us in our work this fall!: please email us at asylumsupport@fpc-stow-acton.org.

Virtual Coffee Hour

Parents, please join members of the RE Committee for a

Parent Discussion about the challenges of parenting during the pandemic this Sunday, September 27th during coffee hour. Please remain in the main room of zoom after the service and those gathered there will be able to take part in this discussion.

This Week in our Religious Education Program

We continue on with our RE Connections Workshops: Building up Our Principles, Movement and Caring, The Fifth Dimension and Chillin' and Connecting. Our High School Discussion Group does not meet this week.

If you are interested in having your child take part in any of these please contact our Director of Religious Education, Michelle Cote, dre@fpc-stow-acton. Michelle Cote, Director of Religious Education
First Parish Church of Stow & Acton

B-I-N-G-O!! Please join the RE Committee for the



rescheduled Bingo night **this coming Friday, October 2nd from 7-8.** This event is for all those from ages 5-105! Zoom in for a chance to play! We are inviting all those who join us to wear a crazy hat to add to the

festivities! There's even a rumor that there may be prizes to those who win a round! use your own bingo cards, or contact [Download bingo cards](#) t Michelle dre@fpc-stow-acton.org for cards. A zoom link will be sent out on Friday afternoon.

THE WEEK AT CHURCH SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 3

Monday

Tuesday Coffee Meet Up at the Gazebo 10am-11am see M. Tucker
Home Brewed Theology with Cindy 7:00pm ZOOM

Wednesday Meditation 7:25pm Zoom

Thursday Peace Vigil 5:00pm outside
SGM Facilitators 6:00pm ZOOM

Friday Bingo for all 7pm-8pm ZOOM (see above announcement)

Saturday Saturday Morning Stroll 10:30am See Margaret Tucker

Sunday, October 4, 2020

10 AM ONLY ZOOM

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

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

"Art, Theology, Suffering, and Wholeness"

In this service we'll look at how the idea of suffering is treated in various world religions, the myth in art culture from Greek myths to modern music that you have to suffer to be an artist, and break

down the idea of "necessary suffering" and how we can promote healing instead. FPC is pleased to welcome the members and friends of the Community Unitarian Universalists in Brighton, Michigan who are joining with us in worship on this Sunday!

Virtual Coffee Hour

Virtual Religious Education

MASKS ON EVERYONE

One important note/update for everyone: If you come into the church buildings, please wear a good fitting mask (not a loose mask, bandana, gaiter or anything else as 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

THIS IS THE MOST UP TO DATE INFORMATION ON FPC'S APPLE PROJECT

The first sales began on Saturday September 19 & Sunday September 20. The project will run the usual 4 weeks, ending on Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day weekend (Oct. 10-11th)



People were SO HAPPY to get pies...it was like we were able to save one normal thing for them in this pandemic...and everyone adapted to the drive up format beautifully. Several folks contributed baked goods and preserves for us to sell (jams, jellies, pickles, relish)...over the weekend we sold almost \$150 in those in addition to all of our pies. We also had zero complaints about our increase in pie price, with about a third of folks saying "keep the change" when giving us a \$20 bill.

Thanks to everyone who has signed up to help out going forward. **WE REALLY NEED MORE BAKERS.** (*Baking instructions below*) I know that some folks simply cannot risk being in the church building, and that's okay, but if you are someone who would be comfortable coming in and working with our new social distancing layout, we'd love to have your help and all training will be provided (see picture; we only have five folks in the kitchen rolling/crimping and 6 in the hall filling pies, with one person floating/putting pies in the oven; we also open the windows in the kitchen and hall to get good ventilation)!

We ask if you or anyone in your home has symptoms of Covid-19, is waiting to get testing results, is under quarantine, or has recently participated in an event or activity that could place you at risk for infection, that you please do NOT participate in any pie project activities until you are sure you have a clean bill of health. Also, be sure to wash your hands thoroughly before and after every pie project activity you participate in. We've had a great response for sign ups, but there is room for more folks to help, so please check it out and sign up where you feel comfortable. **Pies will be available on Saturdays and Sundays 10 am ~ 1 pm, through Oct 10 & 11.**

(A FEW CHANGES & ADDITIONS)

As with everything else during a pandemic, some adjustments have needed to be made....so please read the descriptions below to understand how we plan to make the Apple Pie Project happen as safely as possible. Signing up for tasks is ESSENTIAL this year, as we have broken many tasks that people use to just "show up for" into shifts to ensure safe social distancing. Please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044AA9AC2DA5F49-apple3>

Dough making

Currently the Mallon Family has offered to do all four weeks of dough making, but we may need additional volunteers if they need a break at some point during the project. Volunteers will be asked to wear masks while moving through the building and working in the kitchen.

Apple collecting

This is generally an easy social distancing activity as it occurs outdoors and folks tend to do it in family groups and are encouraged to wear gloves anyway. So, we will continue with the apple collecting as usual, but we will ask that folks wear masks when collecting near other folks outside of their family. **ONE MAJOR CHANGE is that we will be collecting apples on Tuesdays and Wednesdays** this year NOT Wednesdays and Thursdays as in the past. For questions regarding apple collecting, please contact Steve Evans (steve.pies@fpc-stow-acton.org).

Apple peeling/prep

- Please sign up online to peel apples (see below for link) so we know how many helpers to expect. We are giving each sign up 1/2 of the apples from one of our yellow half bushel bags to take home to turn into slices.
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- Apples can be picked up by volunteers from bins located at the lower Fellowship Hall entrance (behind the building) **anytime after 4 pm on Wednesday afternoon**. Apples will be in grocery bags along with 3 clear plastic food safe bags (and twist ties) to put the prepared slices in.
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- Volunteers are asked to take the apples home, wash them, peel them, core them, cut them into pie slices, and place them in the clear plastic food safe bags provided and refrigerate them until you are ready to prep the apples. Also, **DO NOT ADD ANYTHING TO THE APPLES**. Do not add lemon or anything else to prevent them from browning. Once we add cinnamon and cook them, no one minds a little brown in their pie. We only want the ingredients listed on our labels in our final pie products.

- Please **wash your hands** before handling the apples and make sure to clean any prep surfaces or equipment to prevent potential contamination of the apple slices with allergens...especially NUTS.
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 - Please try not to slice your apples too thinly - roughly an inch wide at the widest part would be great (or use a standard "corer/slicer" device if you have one).
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 - Ideally, the finished slices will not have any peel pieces or bits of the tough inner seed compartment left on the apple.
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 - Please fill the bags as full as you reasonably can. Use twist ties (or tape, if you don't have them) to close the top of the bag. Please return any unused bags. (If you produce more slices than will fit in the bags provided, feel free to use a standard ziploc type bag for what remains. Please let Rebecca know so she can provide more bags next time.)
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- Volunteers can drop off the bags of prepared apple slices in the bins behind lower Fellowship Hall any time before 7 pm on Thursday OR can deliver them to the front of the church between the hours of 8-9 pm Thursday where a volunteer will collect and store the apple slices overnight.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Rebecca at applepies@fpc-stow-acton.org. Sign up for pie project tasks, click on the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044AA9AC2DA5F49-apple3>

Baking

To meet social distancing guidelines, our normal Friday morning baking routine will need some adjustments. **All volunteers will be asked to wear masks while in the building.**

- With social distancing of 6 feet followed, there is room in the Fellowship Hall Kitchen for 3 individuals to space out along the counter along the windows to roll dough and 2 individuals at the metal table in the center of the kitchen for rolling/crimping. These “stations” will be marked with painter’s tape to encourage folks to maintain safe spacing. There is also room for an additional person to move through the right entry door and reach the oven to load in and take out pies when needed.
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- Filling will take place in the Hall with individuals or “same household groups” each being assigned a separate table. Assuming up to 6 people are working in the kitchen, and a need to keep the total person count at 10 or less, the hall can hold 4-5 fillers (assuming one of the fillers also works as the pie oven loader/unloader).
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- Pies will be returned to a table outside the kitchen where they will be retrieved by the kitchen volunteers to place on the top crust and prepare the pies to go in the oven.
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- **We will work in shifts for each of the areas to limit the number of people in the building. Please see the sign up sheet for more information.**

Bagging

Bagging will take place in the Fellowship Hall as usual. With 2-3 volunteers bagging, there will be plenty of room for social distancing, but folks could stagger when they bag as well, if desired. All baggers will be asked to wear masks in the building and gloves and aprons while handling pies.

Selling

Rather than selling out of the pie shed as usual, we will be asking pie purchasers to pull up to the front doors of the church, where they can line up to purchase pies from within their cars.

- Sellers will greet the purchaser, ask for their order, take their payment, and then will deposit the pies into the open trunk of the purchaser's car.
- We will have to encourage low risk individuals to volunteer as sellers. Sellers will be asked to wear a mask and sunglasses or a face shield if they desire. They will be provided with gloves and an apron for them to wear during their shift and will be asked to sanitize their gloves between each purchase.
- We will plan to get extra cash for change this year so that the \$ in the cash can be replaced completely from Sat to Sun so sellers from Sunday don't handle cash that was handled on Saturday.

Quantities/Price

- How many pies we will be able to make depends on how many folks are willing to volunteer under our new conditions. We will plan to make our normal number of pies, but will adjust as needed once we get a better sense for how the process works.
- We haven't raised prices for many years. Increasing the price we charge per pie this year will help make up for the possibility that we will make/sell fewer pies. Our plan is to

raise the price per pie to \$18, which is in keeping with the price of pies at our local farm stands.

What to offer

- Since we are not going to have the fair this year, *we are hoping to offer a variety of jams/jellies, pickles and baked goods that will be pre-packaged and ready to sell along with the pies.* We will have a list each week of what is available for purchasers to choose from (selection may vary from week to week). Please contact the Pie Project Coordinator, Rebecca Stadolnik, at applepies@fpc-stow-acton.org if you have items to donate.



Sign ups

Signing up in advance for roles in the pie project will be more important than ever this year, especially with regard to the new plans for peeling and baking.

To sign up, go

to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044AA9AC2DA5F49-apple3>

Bathroom Use In Building

For Pie Project activities in the church, folks will be asked to avoid using the church restrooms if possible. If an urgent need arises, we will ask folks to use the single stall all gender bathroom outside of Fellowship Hall and to keep the door open in between users to improve ventilation. The bathroom will be wiped down with sanitizing wipes at the end of each event.

If you have questions, comments, or concerns regarding the plans for the apple pie project this year, please reach out to the **Pie Project Coordinator, Rebecca Stadolnik**, at applepies@fpc-stow-acton.org.