



Community Matters



October 2, 2016 - Atonement and Forgiveness Rev. Steve Edington

This Sunday's date marks the beginning of the observance of the Jewish New Year. It begins with Rosh Hashana ("Head of the Year") and concludes with Yom Kippur ("Day of Atonement"); which makes this a good day for us to consider the topic of Atonement and Forgiveness. This topic also picks up on the October theme of "Healing" since that's what atonement and forgiveness are actually about. What does it truly mean to make amends for misdeeds and behaviors, especially those that have damaged or ruptured a relationship? What is the role of atonement and forgiveness in the healing process? These are the thoughts I'll be sharing in this sermon.



*We are happy to have you with us today at
First Church Unitarian, Littleton*



Religious Education Program; Children and Youth Sunday, September 25, 2016



Worship- "Tashlich at Turtle Rock"

After "A Time for All Ages", children will leave the Sanctuary for their own program.

Primary & Elementary - Love Will Guide Us: "Awesome Love"

Introduce the first Source of Unitarian Universalism, the sense of wonder we all share. Guide participants to discover the awe and wonder of nature and to experience themselves as part of nature. Replicate a soothing sound from nature by creating rain sticks.

Intermediate - Spirit of Adventure: "Sports - Lessons for Life"

Think about the lessons we learned from playing sports. Honor the leadership potential of our children and show them they are valued and worthy. Demonstrate our 5th UU Principle, the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and society at large; each person has a say in things that concern them.

Junior Youth Group: "Breakfast Club"

Create a "Me Mind Map" with the people, principles, values and dreams to which each is committed. Explore the lines of connection and the network of covenant in which each lives. Brainstorm activities for the year. Apple picking trip following, weather permitting.

Senior Youth Group - Group meets today after the pancake breakfast at 8:30.

Next week - Chapel Sunday



Sunday, October 2

- 8:30 a.m. - SYG Pancake Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 a.m. - Senior Youth Group
- 10:00 a.m. - Worship Service
- 12:00 p.m. - Deacons
- 6:00 p.m. - Gurukool

Monday, October 3

- 6:30 p.m. - Artemis
- 7:00 p.m. - COAP
- 7:00 p.m. - AA Meeting

Tuesday, October 4

- 9:30 a.m. - RE Directors
- 6:15 p.m. - Gurukool
- 7:00 p.m. - Jammin'
- 7:00 p.m. - Standing Committee

Wednesday, October 5

- 5:45 p.m. - Gurukool
- 7:00 p.m. - Yoga
- 7:00 p.m. - Al-Anon
- 7:00 p.m. - Member Reach

Thursday, October 6

- 6:30 p.m. - Gurukool
- 7:00 p.m. - Ministerial Search Cmte
- 7:30 p.m. - Mixed Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 7

No events scheduled

Saturday, October 8

- 9:00 a.m. - CoDA
- 6:00 p.m. - Multi-Gen Potluck and Game Night

Lay Pastoral Ministry If you could use a listening ear, our Lay Pastoral Ministers are ready to assist you. **For information, speak with today's Lay Pastoral Minister, David Butz;** see the Lay Pastoral Ministry bulletin board in the Vestry; visit Lay Pastoral Ministry on our website at www.fculittle.org, or email laypastoralmin@fcuittle.org.



We have arrived at our Hospitality Lottery! Towards the end of coffee hour, we will be drawing names to fill slots remaining between now and the beginning of January. The Hospitality Board is filling up nicely. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up! We won't have all that many slots to fill! If you haven't had a chance to sign up yet, you still can! Again, please let us know if you cannot or would prefer not to participate in the lottery. What a wonderful community we build together!



The Women's Alliance presents
 "The Opioid Crisis"
TONIGHT! Friday, September 30, 2016
 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Are you concerned about the deaths of young people and adults in our communities due to drug overdoses? Would you like to learn more about this issue and be part of the solution?

To learn more about what is happening, come to church at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, September 30th. Guest speakers will be Vahrij Manoukian, Pharmacist and Owner of Hollis Pharmacy in Hollis, NH and President of the New Hampshire Board of Pharmacists; Chris Shambarger, Pharmacist and Civilian Investigator for the NH State Police; and Sgt. Peter Violet of the Shirley Police Department. The speakers will make a short presentation and will then answer your questions.

Please join us in trying to help save lives, educate our children and offer support by attending this important event. Invite your friends. The event is free and open to the public and will be held in the Sanctuary.

Fiber Fanatics

Second and fourth Tuesdays every month, 10:00 a.m. - noon in the Alliance Room

If you enjoy knitting, crocheting or other fibery work and have some free time, bring a project and join us! For more information contact kersland1@gmail.com.



Caring for Our Aging Parents (COAP) First Monday of the month, starting **10/3** from 7-9 p.m., in the Alliance Room. This has grown into a close, supportive group for those of us dealing with issues related to caring for aging loved ones. Newcomers are warmly welcomed. Keep in mind that this is truly a support group with no agenda or goals. For more info contact: COAP@fculittle.org



Multicultural Ministries Committee Film and Discussion Series presents:

"Sweet Honey in the Rock's Raise Your Voice!" - Saturday, October 1, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Join us in the Vestry as we view this uplifting movie! This Grammy Award winning African American female acapella group has musical roots combining jazz, blues, and sacred songs of the black church such as spirituals, hymns and gospel.



Talent Show! October 15th at 7 PM!

Please join us as we watch talented performers take the stage on Saturday, October 15th at 7PM. Bring yourself, family and friends for a night of fun as we begin a new tradition at FCU!

We are still in need of baked goods for intermission If you are able to donate, please email communitytalentlittleton@fculittle.org for additional information. See you there!



Have you taken the survey yet? The Congregational survey is available online on September 25th. Go to <http://www.fculittle.org/ministerial-search/> to find the link to the survey. Please take a few (20-30) minutes and use the survey to tell us about yourself and what you think is important to consider in our search process.



Living our Covenant of Right Relations: A Practicum

Session 1: Sharing Personal Stories, October 15 from 6-8pm in the Alliance Room

Niela and Steve will facilitate the first of this series of eight sessions to discuss and practice ways to live FCU's Covenant of Right Relations. Please review the covenant in advance and come prepared to tell a brief story (just a few minutes long) about a memory that was elicited by reading it, perhaps a challenging experience that either ended well or remained unresolved. Your story could take place any time and place in your life, and be kept anonymous. If time permits, we will share the personal impact of these stories on us. If you can't think of a story, we will have a handout at the session which may stimulate a memory!

Our goals for the session are to:

1. Prepare for future sessions of moving into deeper specific practice
2. Establish a norm of sharing in a safe and non-judgmental space.

~ Lynn Courtney, Niela Miller & Thom Bentley. With thanks to: David Butz, Kris Ersland, Debbie Eston, Caroline Marvin, Bonnie Petrovich, Brian Tarbox and Ron Willett.

Announcements for Community Matters must be submitted each week no later than 9:00 a.m. on Thursday.



Are you interested in building beloved community?

The Multicultural Ministries Committee (MMC) is looking for new members!

The congregation chartered the MMC to facilitate FCU's journey toward its vision of becoming a vibrant, loving, diverse community. By engaging in and offering opportunities for individual and institutional growth, the MMC invites all those

connected to the FCU community to embrace and explore ways to focus on anti-racism, anti-oppression, and multicultural ministries as an integral part of our church life.

Please consider joining us this Fall while we're in the planning stage for this year's adventure! If you think you might be interested, call either Betsy Read (508-935-9234) or Caroline Marvin (617-899-1290).

Come to one of our meetings on October 23 or November 20 for an opportunity to meet us as a group and hear and experience the many ways we endeavor to live out our FCU Charter. We look forward to hearing from you!