



Community Matters

First Church Unitarian, Littleton

September 15, 2019

This Sunday, September 15

“The Tide is Rising, and So Are We”

Rev. Lara Hoke’s sermon title is inspired by the song of the same name, composed by Rabbi Shoshana Meira Friedman and Yotam Schachter. Did you know that on September 20, just before the UN Climate Summit, youth and adults will be on a “global climate strike” all across the United States and the world, demanding that transformative action is taken to address the climate crisis? Many Unitarian Universalists are getting involved, as are other faith groups and secular organizations. The UUA, the UU Ministry for Earth and Side With Love have all joined as partners with the Global Climate Strike on September 20. This Sunday, Rev. Lara’s sermon asks us to join in the strike. At this year’s past UU General Assembly, the delegates affirmed an [Action of Immediate Witness to Build a Green New Deal](#), and there is so much we can do. There is much our UU principles call us to do. *[Note that there is a newly formed Environmental Justice Action Group at FCU. See below for details.]*

This Sunday, September 15

Religious Education for Children and Youth

"KidSpace" - A New Beginnings Celebration: We will talk about our expectations for this year, make decorations and a banner for our space, play a game or two and get ready for Sunday Social.

Our first **Sunday Social** for this year will be this **Sunday, September 15**, following the worship service. The RE Committee will provide sandwich fixings, fruit, chips and beverages. If you would like to bring something to share, please do. We would love to have some harvest foods to mark the season. Join us and reconnect.

Sacred Circle Dance returns to FCU!

Friday, September 13

Community Circle 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., with more challenging dances at 6:00 p.m.

After this summer of circle dance camps and vacations, the circle resumes for dances to let go of summer and prep for autumn. All dances are taught, no experience is needed and newcomers are welcome. Bring your water bottle and a willing spirit. For more info: circle@fculittle.org



FCU has long been a strong supporter of the **Loaves and Fishes** food pantry in Devens. The pantry provides food and support to any residents of Ayer, Devens, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley who are in need of help. **Let’s commit to bringing at least one grocery bag, once a month**, filled with non-perishable food. This will keep our bins filled and help with keeping the pantry full. Bins are in the Vestry and Vestibule.

**We hope to see you in church on Sunday morning.
FCU is a wonderful place to be.**

The Friends of **Ilene Tompkins-Gillispie** will host a benefit concert for her on **Saturday, September 14**, at First Parish Church of Stow and Acton (FPC). Ilene, who was an intern minister at FPC, has been diagnosed with a chronic tissue disease (EDS) and also recently underwent brain surgery. Due to her illnesses she had to leave her position as a UU minister in Brevard, NC, and this event has been organized to help with her expenses. (Financial support for Ilene can also be made via her GoFundMe page)

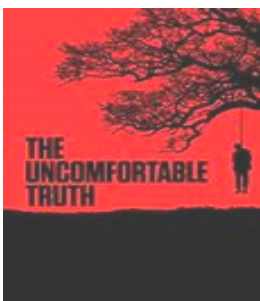


Hosting the concert will be singer and composer, Jim Scott. Tickets are \$17.00 in advance and \$20.00 the day of the concert. Tickets will be available at BrownPaperTickets.com. Information on the concert is available on Facebook, or email gillispie.benefit@gmail.com. **Doors open at 7:00 p.m.**

Environmental Action Group Organizational meeting September 17, 7:00 p.m. in the Vestry

A new Environmental Action Group is forming at FCU to educate and mobilize ourselves about the climate crisis, the exigent crisis of our time. Educational programs may include speakers, movies, TED Talks, book discussions and field trips. We will focus on actions that we can take individually, as a group, as a community and in the larger world.

Please join us. Bring your interests, hopes, passions and ideas about how we might work together to make progress toward a green, sustainable future. All ages are welcome and desired, as are both FCU members and the wider community. So please invite your non-FCU friends. For more information, please contact the **Environmental Action Group** at eag@fculittle.org or call Rochelle Chambless at 978-881-8671.



FCU Racial Justice Action Committee FILM and DISCUSSION SERIES *The Uncomfortable Truth* Saturday, September 28, 7:00 - 9:30 PM

When the son of Civil Rights hero, Joan Trumpauer Mulholland, dives into the 400 year history of institutional racism in the United States he is confronted by the shocking reality that his family helped start it all from the very beginning. A comprehensive and insightful exploration of the origins and history of racism in the United States told through a very personal and honest story.

FCU has many traditions and The Senior Youth Group's monthly Pancake Breakfast is just one of them. We, the Senior Youth invite you, the Congregation to help us continue this tradition. Last year 5 of our regular Breakfast Team (adults and youth) moved on to other things. This opens up a great opportunity for all of us. We would like to get to know you better. We are inviting those who would like to get to know us, to come and work side by side for some serious pancake flipping! Sign up for 1, many, or all as you see fit and join us. We can make pancakes and build connections. To sign up contact slrussell52@yahoo.com.

Share-the-Plate Sunday, September 15

World Central Kitchen, an NGO devoted to providing meals in the wake of natural and man-made disasters is our September Share-the-Plate recipient. Founder chef José Andrés and the WCK Relief team were in the Bahamas ahead of Hurricane Dorian and to date have served more than 100,000 free meals bringing nourishment and comfort in a time of crisis. Donation by check is to be made payable to: World Central Kitchen or click donate at <https://wck.org/> to donate online.

We welcome you to join the **The Church Choir** this fall! We meet weekly to rehearse on Thursdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m., and we sing during the Sunday morning services. This is a great opportunity to make music, develop friendships and learn something new. No previous musical experience necessary! For more information, contact Molly at music@fculittle.org.