



Community Matters

First Church Unitarian, Littleton

September 8, 2019

Ingathering Service and Water Communion Ceremony

Welcome Home, Everyone!

At this traditional and multigenerational worship service, we will welcome all ages with song, story, homily and a mingling of waters as symbols of our memories, feelings, connections and the places of our lives. Water is significant to all life and comes from a multitude of sources. Bring water from your travels, or some that is symbolic and meaningful to you, to pour into the communal bowl.



First Church Unitarian, Littleton's Annual Country Fair

This Saturday, September 7, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Fay Park or at the Church House in case of rain.

Spend a day, not a fortune!

Bring friends, family, children and dogs (leashed) and enjoy a great day at The Fair. You're likely to find something for everyone.

Our first **Sunday Social** for this year will be next 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'd love to have some harvest foods to mark the season. Join us and reconnect.

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.

We envision a group that will be both educational and action oriented. We will cover the spectrum of environmental issues facing our country and our world – climate change, fossil fuel dependence, renewable energy, deforestation, factory farming, waste management, toxic chemical pollution, water shortages and pollution, species extinction, environmental investing and environmental justice.

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. We also seek to expand our coordinating team. For more information, please contact the **Environmental Action Group** at eag@fculittle.org or call Rochelle Chambless at 978-881-8671.



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. **Our collection bins at FCU are empty!** As we return from our summer vacations and gather this Sunday

for the beginning of a new church year, let's commit to bringing at least one grocery bag filled with non-perishable food and fill the bins. They are in the Vestry and in the Vestibule for ease of dropping off.

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

Enrichment Opportunities at FCU

AA

7:00 p.m., every Monday

Al-Anon

7:00 p.m., every Wednesday

For information call 978-947-2848

Caring for Our Aging Parents/Partners

7:00 p.m., first Monday of every month

coap@fculittle.org

CoDA

9:00 a.m., every Saturday

For information call 617-699-4539

Energy Medicine Study Group

7:00 p.m., second Thursday every month

cerridwen@aligningenergies.com

Environmental Action Group

Email eag@fculittle.org for dates, time and location

Fiber Fanatics

Second and fourth Mondays, 1:00 p.m.

fibfans@fculittle.org

Health and Harmony Yoga

7:00 p.m., every Wednesday

For information call 978-486-4551

Men's Group

7:00 p.m. on alternating Sundays

men@fculittle.org

Neighborhood Supper

5:30 p.m., third Tuesday every month

neighborhood@fculittle.org

Survivors of Suicide Loss

7:00 p.m., Second and fourth Mondays

survivors@fculittle.org

The Artemis Singers, a women's chorus

Mondays, 6:45 p.m.

artemis@fculittle.org

Women's Alliance

10:00 a.m., Varying Saturdays every month

alliance@fculittle.org

Name Tags

Member/Reach is joining in the spirit of beautification and modernization of our church. We have new name tags in place for the coming year. If you are in possession of your name tag from last year, please stop by at coffee hour on September 8 for your new name tag. If you will need a new lanyard, please let us know at memberreach@fculittle.org.

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



Littleton Road Race

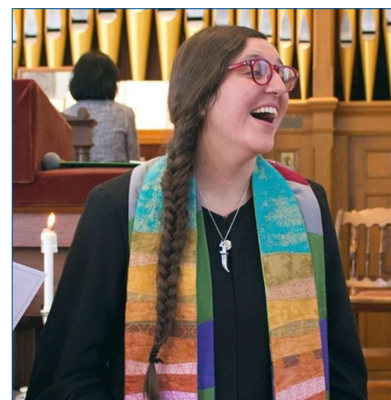
5k Race and 1 Mile Fun Run

Sunday, September 25



This race is a fundraiser for the [Littleton Road Race & Track Organization](#). Proceeds from the 2019 Road Race will be used to enhance the Littleton track and field facility with the addition of a pole vault runway, pit, and pads. This addition will greatly contribute to the Littleton High School Track and Field team's continued success and will provide the town of Littleton and its residents a top notch facility that everyone will be able to take great pride in. **All parking spaces on Rogers and Foster Streets, and parking near the fire station must be cleared by 12:00 noon.**

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 Jim Scott, who knew Pete Seeger, and who is a prolific composer himself. Jim's compositions include co-writing Missa Gaia/Earth Mass when he was a member of the Paul Winter Consort and several UU hymns, including Gather the Spirit.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Pete Seeger's birth. We will celebrate Pete's music and social activism, and join in singing songs that Pete wrote or popularized, including Where Have All the Flowers Gone, If I Had a Hammer, and Turn, Turn, Turn. Members of the FPC Choir will also participate in the concert.

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. First Parish Church of Stow and Acton is located at 353 Great Road, Stow MA 01775. **Doors open at 7:00 and the concert begins at 7:30 p.m.**

Thank you for your help.

Groton Interfaith
Council Presents:

GLOBAL FUSION A MUSICAL EXPLORATION OF FAITH AND CULTURE

Native American-Muslim-Hindu-Jewish-Christian-Unitarian-more...

Several different faiths will share music and ways in which music enriches their worship, culture, and faith experiences.

FREE and open to the public
All ages. Refreshments to follow.

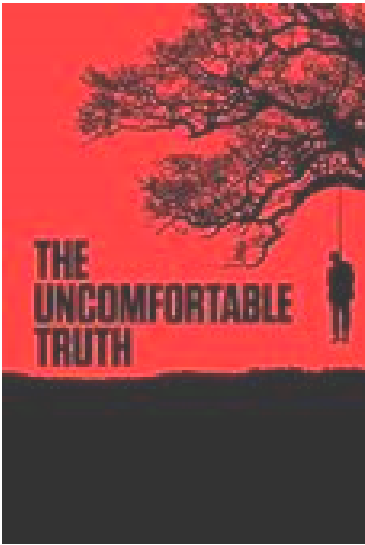
Date: Sunday, September 15th

Time: 3:00-5:00pm

Location: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints - 616 Great Rd., Littleton MA
(on 119 right next to Gary's Farm Stand)

Contact: info@grotoninterfaith.org

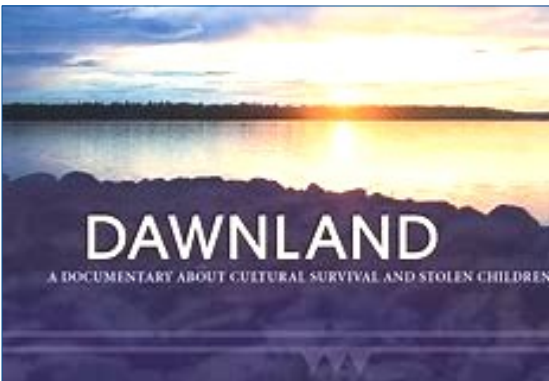




FCU Racial Justice Action Committee
FILM & DISCUSSION SERIES
The Uncomfortable Truth
Saturday, September 28
7:00 - 9:30 PM

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 United States told through a very personal and honest story.

This free film series explores the lives and experiences of the “other” and expands our awareness of our neighbors as well as often marginalized individuals and groups. Please join us for a lively discussion. All are welcome



Monday, October 14
Indigenous Peoples' Day
3:00 - 5:30 p.m. First Church Unitarian, Littleton

For most of the 20th century, government agents systematically forced Native American children from their homes and placed them with white families. As recently as the 1970's, one in four Native children nationwide were living in non-Native foster care, adoptive homes, or boarding schools. Many children experienced devastating emotional and physical harm by adults who mistreated them and tried to erase their cultural identity.

Now, for the first time, they are being asked to share their stories. In Maine, a historic investigation—the first government-sanctioned truth and reconciliation commission (TRC) in the United States—begins a bold journey. For over two years, Native and non-Native commissioners travel across Maine. They gather testimony and bear witness to the devastating impact of the state's child welfare practices on families in Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribal communities. Collectively, these tribes make up the Wabanaki people.

Dawnland follows the TRC to contemporary Wabanaki communities to witness intimate, sacred moments of truth-telling and healing. With exclusive access to this groundbreaking process and never-before-seen footage, the film reveals the untold narrative of Indigenous child removal in the United States.



As you know, the **Annual Country Fair** is "rain or shine." The weather is making it more unpredictable for our beloved community event. We will decide to be inside or outside by Friday between noon and 3:00 p.m. Please check your email tomorrow afternoon for an update.

Thank you for all you have done to prepare for the fair and keep thinking positive weather thoughts for us and the many who are in harm's way.

With gratitude for all you do to make this event a community FUNd raiser,
The Fair Matrix Team
Susan, Laura, Rochelle, and Martha