



Sunday, May 3rd, at 10 a.m.: "Of Covid and Covenant"

Join us this Sunday, May 3rd, for "Of Covid and Covenant"! Once again, we will attempt to use YouTube Live for our service. Plan A is, check the website: www.fculittle.org, or go to <https://www.youtube.com/revlarahoke> and click on the video that says "live". If those don't work, Plan B is that we will use Zoom and will put the link on the listserv as well as our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/389622298475784>.)

If you wish to come on a few minutes early (say, 9:55 this week), we will again be showing a video featuring original music by Molly Lozeau as well as images of people from FCU.

This week features **video of a new FCU mystery member** - don't miss it!

Once again, we encourage everyone to light their own chalice (including a candle in a bowl) at home, so be ready!

As always, there will be a Joys and Concerns and Virtual Coffee Hour after the service; Hugh Vartanian will be hosting the Zoom gathering for that, as last week I'll send one email to the list with both the YouTube service link (for 10 a.m.), the Zoom link for Joys & Concerns after the postlude and a different Zoom link for the Budget Review Meeting at 11:30 am. Hope to "see" you then!

Religious Education

Everyone is encouraged to create a sacred space or altar for their home. Things we might put on our altar include a Chalice, a pretty cloth, mat, or paper under it and a chime, bell, or ringing bowl to signal the start and end of our sacred time. We also might add a cup or box to use for the offering, adding our coins or bills to share with others and a glass jar or vase with some water in it and a small collection of pebbles, beads, etc. which you could drop in the jar to share a joy or concern. A flower or plant is nice, too.

For the next seven weeks starting this Sunday, May 3rd, I am going to use stories and activities to remind us of our seven Unitarian Universalist Principles. This week we will focus on our First UU Principle, "Every single person is important. **Respect All.**" (The inherent worth and dignity of every person.)

1st UU Principle activities: any of these could be added to your altar.

- Create a photo album or computer slideshow of family pictures, people and pets. Add a family theme song for the background of your slide show. Spend some time telling stories about each one photo.
- Create a family photo or picture, include your home, yard, and special places.
- Cook a favorite family meal together (eat the food, put the recipe on altar.)
- Make collage of people of the world.
- Send Ten Good Thoughts to Ten Good People: express this in any way you want – in your own mind, with your family, notes sent virtually or by snail mail, a pebble in your altar jar, etc.

Decide on a charity that you could send money collected in the offering jar on your altar. You could send it to FCU for the Share the Plate offering each month.

"This I Believe" Workshop

Tuesday, May 5th, 7-8:30pm

via Zoom

Please follow the link below to sign-up online for the "This I Believe" workshop offered by our Deacons. Although everyone is welcome to participate, if you sign up in advance it will help us better plan this event as a zoom meeting. If you have difficulty signing up, please email Cindy Malley- hopefulandkind@gmail.com

This workshop is an opportunity to learn more about the many nuances of religious or non-religious beliefs, philosophies of life, or other guiding principles that we as individuals at FCU hold and follow.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19WjakVXq09ggfM3qZW2LYoonOoSktqJCvh22IcaM07M/edit?usp=sharing>

**We look forward to “seeing” you in church.
First Church Unitarian is a wonderful community to be part of.**

Budget Review and Annual Meeting Information

Hello beloved FCU Community,

Please join us for the Budget Review on Sunday, May 3 in preparation for our Annual Meeting on May 17th where we will vote on this budget.

When: Sunday, May 3rd, 11:30 AM

Where: Online Zoom Meeting.

Budget review link and meeting details is located on our web site here:

<https://www.fculittle.org/may-2020-annual-meeting/>

****Note: bookmark this page as we will use it to share additional information and documents about the upcoming Annual Meeting as well. You will be prompted for our password: *love4all*

Our Treasurer, Cally, will review the four-month provisional budget that will be presented and voted on at the Annual Meeting. Standing Committee members will also explain the rationale for a 4-month provisional budget vs. an annual budget this year.

Reviewing the budget in this meeting will help the Annual Meeting run more smoothly by giving you a sneak peek and an opportunity to ask clarifying questions.

Please note: To ensure that we get this communication to all voting members, we are sending the email to the Listserve and church directory. If you provided different email addresses, each of those email addresses will receive this email.

Thank you,
The Standing Committee

Social Justice Money!

Council on Social Justice has money to donate to organizations both local and national and international. We have \$1290 from the 2019 Fair which must be spent locally. And \$2250 of Council on Social Justice funds which can be spent nationally or internationally (or locally if there are too many requests for the \$1290). The priority with these funds is to support Social Justice initiatives to benefit OTHERS, and that FCU members are involved in.

People can send nominations for how to spend the money to CSJ@fculittle.org. And if you have questions contact Araya at 978-256-5626.

Needed: Your Photos for May 10th Service!

Mother's Day is coming right up (May 10) - and if you needed the reminder, you're welcome!

For all wishing to participate, please email to me (minister@fculittle.org) a photo of a **person who mothered you (or persons, if you had more than one person mothering you that you'd like to remember)**. I will be creating a video for the May 10th service, and these images will be used, so don't send me anything that you don't want to share on YouTube!

If you don't have a digital photo, and you don't have a scanner, you can still participate if you have a smart phone. You can either use a scanning app on your phone, or do your very best to take a decent photo of a photo. Email that to me, and I will work with it with my own editing software.

The sooner you send me your photo(s) the better - but I'd sure love to have them by **May 7th!** Thanks so much.

With love,
(Rev.) Lara

Please join our next COAP (Caring for Our Aging Parents) meeting on Zoom

Topic: FCU COAP meeting

Time: May 4, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us> [redacted]

Meeting ID: [redacted]

Or call in (just audio, no visuals):

+1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: [redacted]

Password: [redacted]

Food is Love filling in for Neighborhood Supper

Neighborhood Supper stopped hosting dinners back in March. Since then, the Congregational Church's Food is Love program has been working to fill the gap left both from Neighborhood Supper and the temporary closing of Loaves and Fishes. A small crew of cooks, including some support from FCU, has been cooking about once a week to fill a large freezer. The freezer is located in the lobby to minimize contact, and the food is available for anyone.

Pick up hours are currently Tuesday through Thursday from 10:00-2:00, during office hours. Non-Congregational Church members are asked to ring the bell or call ahead. There are additional hours from 4:00-5:30 on Tuesday afternoons. The phone number for the Congregational Church of Littleton is 978-486-3245.

GIVING TUESDAY--A Global Generosity Movement

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

#GivingTuesdayNow, a global day of unity to take place on May 5, 2020, has been launched as a response to the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19.

One of the best ways to get involved is in your own community. Join the movement and give--each Tuesday or everyday--whether it's some of your time, a donation, or the power of your voice in your local community.
