



### June 21, 2020, 10:00 a.m.: "Flower Communion and Farewell"

Please join us this Sunday for "**Flower Communion and Farewell**"! I have been gathering your digital photos of flowers (or even better, *you* with flowers) for the past couple of weeks as we prepare for our first-ever virtual Flower Communion. You have until 9:00 a.m. tomorrow (Saturday) to get your photo to me: [minister@fculittle.org](mailto:minister@fculittle.org)!

This Sunday is also the **final Sunday with Vicki Merriam as our Director of Religious Education**. The service will contain some delightful content related to this farewell, so please don't miss it!

Once again, we will attempt to use YouTube Live for our service. Check the website: [www.fculittle.org](http://www.fculittle.org), or go to <https://www.youtube.com/revlarahoke> and click on the video that says "live". In the event we have issues with YouTube or Zoom, we will send out alternate instructions via the listserv and on our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/389622298475784>.)

If you wish to come on a few minutes early (say, 9:57 this week), we will again be showing a gathering video with a beautiful performance by Molly Lozeau.

**As always, there will be a Joys and Concerns and Virtual Coffee Hour after the service. I'll send one email** to the list around 9:45 a.m. on Sunday with two links: the YouTube service link (for 10 a.m. -- or earlier for the gathering video) as well as the Zoom link for Joys & Concerns. Hope to "see" you then!

In faith,  
Lara

### Online-only Summer Worship Services in 2020!

In this unusual and challenging time, the Deacons and I have decided to offer a Sunday morning service in a more traditional (apart from the online aspect) format than TED Talks. The worship services will take place on Zoom, but they will not be sent to YouTube Live or Facebook Live. They will, however, be recorded so that members and friends can watch (with a special link) in lieu of borrowing a DVD of a service.

I will plan to host the Zoom worship from wherever I am – which will mostly be in our home, but possibly might come from me "on the road". There are some advantages to worshipping online!

There will be some familiar elements: Call to Worship; Chalice lighting; Covenant recital; Time for All Ages; Joys & Concerns; and Benediction. Molly has pre-recorded some music that we can use, and we have other recorded music we can offer, as well as possible offerings from some of the many musicians in our congregation. The part that will vary each week is a short homily/remarks, usually followed by a short discussion. That is intended to keep some of the more participatory feel of summer worship that is dear to many. The "chat" function can be very disruptive to people's experience of worship, so that will be disabled during worship. If you wish to text someone during the service, that's between the two of you!

Some weeks I will offer the homily/remarks, but not every week! Please let me know if you'd be interested in leading that aspect of a summer service: [minister@fculittle.org](mailto:minister@fculittle.org) or call my cell (508-615-1686). We would also love help in sharing a Time for All Ages, so please let me know if you'd like to do that some week/s. Finally, if you would like to contribute music, please let me know that as well.

The first couple of services are lined up. On **June 28 at 10:00 a.m., we will simply join the Sunday worship service of the UUA's General Assembly**, which is available to everyone online: <https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2020/sunday-worship>. I will set up a Zoom gathering to follow immediately if anyone wishes to share joys, concerns, or reaction to the service.

On **July 5**, the "remarks" content of our worship will be a **report back from General Assembly 2020**.

The other known topic/service at this time is that **August 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Annual Joint Summer Service** with many of our UU neighbors; this year it will be online-only, hosted virtually by First Parish Church in Stow/Acton with the Rev. Cynthia Landrum preaching. Links to come later.

I look forward to seeing you on Sundays this summer! **Expect to see a link to the Zoom each week in the main listserv.**

With love and appreciation,  
Lara

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

## Religious Education

### Flower Communion and RE Recognition

Activities:

Weave flower crowns, sashes, necklaces, etc.

Press flowers in salt dough

Make stained glass chalice cookies

Make Rainbow Squish Bags



Thank you  
Vicki!!!!

vicki

## FCU RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM – 2019-20

Thank you to everyone, children, youth, and adults, who participated in our program this year. Your support and caring are what make it successful. We try to include everyone and apologize for any omissions. Please let us know if we left someone off this list.

RE Committee: Susan Palmer, chair, Debbie Eston, Tatum Hammer, Karen Tucker-Barisano

KidSpace Volunteers: Jen Banks, Alison Bentley, Mark Bucceri, Martha Child, Lynn Courtney, Tatum

Hammer, Andy Leyenaar, Cindy Malley, Kristen McManus, Julianna Miller, Susan Palmer, Ashley Richey, Laura Semple, Darra Sweetser, Caprice Tarbox, Susan Tordella-Williams, Emily Welch, Lezli Whitehouse

KidSpace Children: Fergus Abreu, Eliza, Riley, and Maddie Hammer, Natalie Lozeau, Julia and Lainey McManus, Elsa Jane Milburn, Sierra Miller, Shiloh Richey, Elle Sweetser

Nursery Volunteers: Jennifer Banks, Alison Bentley, Julie Bucceri, Riana Bucceri, Martha Child, Lynn Cina, Lynn Courtney, Amber, Kaylyn, & Bobbie Dressel, Debbie Eston, Cheryl Hollinger, Wendy McDougall,

Harry Palmer, Susan Palmer, Laura Semple, Caprice Tarbox, Susan Tordella-Williams, Linda Wells, Lezli Whitehouse

Christmas Pageant Director: Bobbie Dressel

Cast: Fergus Abreu, Theo Baern, Noah Leyenaar, Dan Lombardy, Lainey & Julia McManus, Elsa Milburn, Sierra Miller, Elle Sweetser, Brian & Caprice Tarbox

Youth Advisors: Luann Colombo, Sandy Leyenaar, Dan Lombardy

Youth: Noah Leyenaar, Harry Palmer

## Register for June 23rd Zoom Discussion with Littleton Police Chief Matt Pinar

The Greater Littleton Interfaith Council (GLIC, formerly the Littleton Council of Churches) and Indivisible Acton Area are co-sponsoring a community conversation with **Police Chief Matt Pinar** around **social and racial injustice and how it affects policing in Littleton**. The Zoom meeting will be on **Tuesday, June 23, from 6 p.m. to 7 pm**.

To **register**, please complete this form (link: <https://forms.gle/NiT9CxxZ911DFHn96>) and send in your question or comment.

You will be sent a Zoom link that will allow you to join the online meeting/conversation.

Here is the Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1597618763730595/>

You don't have to be a Littleton resident to participate; you worship in Littleton, so you are a "stakeholder".

Thank you for being a congregation that cares about justice.

## Thoughts from Racial Justice Action Group (RJAC)

As statues of Columbus are being removed, here are some of the things that he did: In 1495 Columbus sent 5 ships back to Spain from the "New World" with Natives to be sold on the slave market.

From the time Columbus arrived in the "New World" until the year 1900, there were as many as 5 million Native people enslaved in America. Slaves were essential to all of the economic activities during the first generation of colonialism. Women and children were valued more highly than men. Women might be 50% more costly because of their sexual availability but also for breeding.

In 1500 Columbus wrote "A hundred castellanoes (a gold coin) are as easily obtained for a woman as for a farm, and there are plenty of dealers who go about looking for girls: those from nine to ten are now in demand."