



June 7, 2020, 10:00 a.m.: World Premiere Video, New Member Sunday, and Keeper of the Flame!

Please join us for a very exciting Sunday! There are at least three amazing things happening. First, there will be a **world premiere video** within the service: "Spirit of Life" performed by The Church Choir, with the signing by Lorinda Morimoto! The second special treat is that it is **New Member Sunday!** Together, we will welcome the latest new members of FCU:

Jen Abreu

Pedro Abreu

Peggy Britton

(Rev.) Jackie Clement

Ann Donald

Skia Laurence

Dave McManus

Each of these new members will share brief words, including why they decided to "sign the book". Together, we will welcome them with our New Member Litany. You can read along at home (your parts in bold italics):

New Member Welcoming Ceremony

Minister:

Friends, we welcome you this morning to full membership at First Church Unitarian. By signing the membership book, you have indicated your intent to continue to share your time, talents, and treasure with the congregation as you are willing and able. You have also indicated that you will now take on the responsibility of congregational governance. You will help to determine, with your votes, the course that we will chart, together. You will be challenged to share honestly and openly your opinions, always with respect and charity for differing points of view. Above all, we are challenged to make decisions that put our convictions to work. In joining this congregation, do you embrace this responsibility and rise to this challenge?

New Members:

We do.

Chair, Member Reach Committee:

Will you welcome these friends to our congregation?

Congregation:

We welcome you with joy into the sacred bonds of membership.

We welcome you with love into the life of this community.

We promise to be with you in times of joy and sorrow.

We honor your search for truth and meaning.

We will walk with you as together we seek the truth in love,

as we serve one another and our wider human community

New Members and Congregation:

May we continue to grow together in wisdom and love,

as individual seekers and as one congregation.

Connected to those who came before us

and those who will come after us,

we commit ourselves anew to the sacred work

of serving our mission and sharing our ministry.

Adding to the joy of the day, the third amazing worship element is that at the end of the service representatives from the Executive Team will present our **Keeper of the Flame Award for 2020!**

Don't miss it!

Once again, we will attempt to use YouTube Live for our service. Check the website: www.fculittle.org, or go to <https://www.youtube.com/revlaraohoke> 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, 9:54 this week), we will again be showing a gathering video featuring original music 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

Our 6th UU Promise: Insist on working together to create a world that is peaceful and fair for everyone. Indigo dove

Story: "Unflagging Love" adpt. from Reader's Digest

Religious Education Activities:

*Make rainbow flags

*Grit Painting: Make patterns with glue on cardstock then sprinkle on colored sand. Symbols of peace, love, others associated with our UU Principles are nice.

*Fill a jar of with layers of colored sand, like a rainbow, to symbolize peace and fairness. It could hold an arrangement of dried weeds, or a candle, or be a decoration in itself.

*Draw a design on a scarf/face mask or t-shirt with a theme of peace and hope. Use old fabric/sheets and permanent markers or fabric paint.

*Create Haiku poems: A Japanese form of poetry with this pattern: Line 1: 5 syllables; Line 2: 7 syllables; Line 3: 5 syllables. Do this individually or as a family deciding together what they should be about. Write your haiku on a ribbon in permanent marker. Attach your haiku to a tree or a houseplant. Or, wrap it around the stems of fresh, dried, or cut-out paper flowers and hang the bouquet upside down or give it to someone.

Second Session of Spirituality in Uncertain Times

We are adding a second group of the currently running workshop Spirituality in Uncertain Times, which explores the spiritual impact of the new challenges we now face. We will explore together such questions as: What is the impact on our spirits of fear and uncertainty? How do you respond and what is it that gives you strength for the living of these days? Using a model of deep listening we will witness to each other's truths, struggles, hopes and celebrations. FCU member Jackie Clement will facilitate an online gathering of 4 weekly sessions:

Wednesday, June 17, 2:00-3:30pm	Who Are You?
Wednesday, June 24, 2:00-3:30pm	Where Are You?
Wednesday, July 1, 2:00-3:30pm	Where Is Your Hope?
Wednesday, July 8, 2:00-3:30pm	Manifesting Hope

Participation is limited to 10 people. This will be a covenanted group so your participation is encouraged at each of the 4 sessions. Although sessions topics do not build on one another, we hope that relationship will. Our goal is to explore personal beliefs and possibilities as we get to know each other in deeper ways. Sign up at: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zIAwGCLC7KHi9xXpq0yz9P833HUVRjXIEulRur9nBRc/edit?usp=sharing> . Please scroll down to the second session list to sign up.

Rev. Jackie Clement

Pronouns: she/her/hers ([here's why](#))

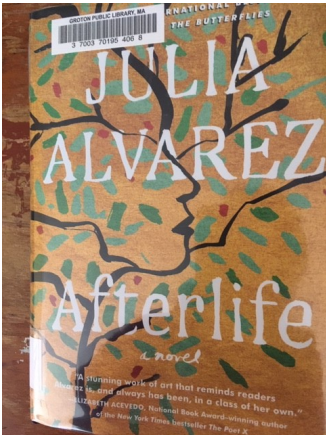
Annual Minister Evaluation Survey - May 31 - June 8

Please submit *Rev. Lara's Annual Minister Evaluation Survey [redacted] by June 8th.

Every year the Standing Committee is required to evaluate Rev. Lara per her contract. We would appreciate your feedback on how she has performed this past year and how she can be even more effective in the upcoming year. All questions are optional and anonymous. Thank you!

-- The Standing Committee

**Submissions for Community Matters can be sent to office@fculittle.org
Deadline is 10 a.m. Friday mornings.
Community Matters is sent to the listserve Friday afternoons.**



Racial Justice Action Group (RJAC) Book Recommendation

AFTERLIFE by JULIA ALVAREZ A wonderful light summer read. Yes, it has hard things in it like immigration experiences, but she has such wonderful sensitivity to relationships and emotions and showing the cultural Latinx reality.

ENERGY MEDICINE STUDY GROUP THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 7-9PM LOSS, GRIEF, AND THE LUNGS

The Energy Medicine Study Group continues to meet via Zoom.

We are a gathering of learners and seekers pursuing better health, vitality, cognitive function, emotional well-being, spiritual attunement, inner guidance, personal empowerment, creative self-expression and greater harmony through our work with subtle energy, imagery, movement, intention and touch. Our work together draws from many sources including: Qigong, Inner Guidance, Energy Medicine, Energy Psychology, Neuro-linguistic Programming, Hellinger Constellation Work, InterPlay, Heart-centered Nature Questing, and Shamanism.

Our topic on June 11th is LOSS, GRIEF AND THE LUNGS.

For more information: www.meetup.com/energymedicinestudy <<http://www.meetup.com/energymedicinestudy>>. You can also contact Cerridwen directly: energystudy@fculittle.org <<mailto:energystudy@fculittle.org>>.

Something else to ponder from RJAC

“All white people, I think, are implicated in these things so long as we participate in America in a normal way and attempt to go on leading normal lives while any one race is being cheated and tormented. But I now believe that we will probably go on leading our normal lives, and will go on participating in our nation in a normal way, unless there comes a time where Negroes can compel us by methods of extraordinary pressure to interrupt our pleasure.”

— Jonathan Kozol, [Death at an Early Age](#), 1967

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