



Community Matters

First Church Unitarian, Littleton

August 14, 2020

Upcoming Summer Services (Online/Zoom)

Join us for virtual worship services every Sunday this summer at 10:00 a.m.! The next few upcoming services are:

August 16, "The Tall Ships" with Niela Miller, recounting her first experience with the Transgender community. The Time for All Ages will be led by Rev. Lara, and the music by Molly Lozeau et al.

August 23, "Guided Meditation" with Lezli Whitehouse, sharing a meditation experience she had at UU General Assembly. The Time for All Ages will be led by Karen Tucker Barisano, and the music by Carolyn McCreary.

August 30, "Pastoral Ministry" with the Lay Pastoral Ministers, featuring music by The Trio.

The link information each summer Sunday will be the same: <https://tinyurl.com/fcusummer2020>

September 6th will be a Sunday off.

September 13th will be our **Ingathering (online) Service!** Please take a photograph of yourself with some water from your summer -- whether it is by your tap at the sink, or whether it is by a puddle or pond or river or other body of water that you visited this summer. Please email the photos to Rev. Lara at minister@fculittle.org and let her know where the photo was taken. More details to come!

Summer TEDtalks Continue

Join us for our next Zoom TEDtalk on Thursday, August 20th from 7-8:30PM, hosted by Lori Grant and the Racial Justice Action Committee (RJAC). We will be watching "Deconstructing White Privilege" by Dr. Robin DiAngelo, a well-respected antiracist educator. This TEDtalk is an excellent introduction to the upcoming book club / small group workshop series this autumn organized by RJAC where we will be reading and discussing her book, *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*.

Watch your email for a Zoom link.

Our final TEDtalk for the summer will be hosted by Patti Sardella on Thursday, September 3rd from 7-8:30. It will feature Dr. Xavier Amador, pioneer of the LEAP method, and is titled "I'm Not Sick, I Don't Need Help."

Yard sale to benefit charity Sept. 19

If you've been saving treasures for the annual FCU yard sale [the annual Country Fair is cancelled], you can still donate them to a Sept. 19 yard sale to benefit charity, led by Lynn Cina and Susan Tordella. Please donate items **ONLY** in good condition. *No *TVs, microwaves, car seats or computers will be accepted.

We are still nailing down a site for the sale because FCU is closed. We anticipate accepting drop-off donations on Friday afternoon, Sept. 18, and the morning of Saturday, Sept. 19. The location will be announced soon.

To staff the sale on Sept. 19, and/or donate items, contact Susan, susan.tordella@gmail.com, cell phone 978-846-2811 or Lynn Cina, Cina28Lynn@gmail.com, 603-203-1737

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

17th Annual Joint Summer Service - Virtual

The Stow/Acton UU church hosted the 17th annual Joint Summer Service on August 2nd with about 140 participants on Zoom from the Bolton, Fitchburg, Harvard, Littleton, Lancaster, Marlboro/Hudson, and Stow/Acton churches celebrating our shared UU heritage. The worship, *Hope Leading to Action*, was led by Rev. Cindy Landrum of Stow/Acton. Rev. Lara Hoke, Littleton, and Rev. Jill Cowie, Harvard, also participated in the worship.

Mike Pfitzer of Stow/Acton, coordinated the music, including recordings of 2 anthems and 2 hymns produced by blending individual recordings from about 25 singers from several churches. Sanghee Kim also performed several music pieces during the service.

Members from various congregations shared readings and lead the covenant. The on-line offering raised over \$500 for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. And, a virtual social hour followed in small group breakout rooms.

The Stow/Acton Technology Team skillfully hosted and coordinated this year's service via Zoom.

The Joint Summer Service Planning Team included: Rev. Bea Manning (Bolton); Rev. Jill Cowie, Mary Krause, and Piali De (Harvard); Bryan Walters (Lancaster & Fitchburg); Rev. Lara Hoke, Elinor Gentilman, and Cindy Malley (Littleton); Diane DeFranzo (Marlboro/Hudson); and Rev. Cindy Landrum, Mike Pfitzer, Rick Gentilman, and Neil Saunders (Stow/Acton).

Thank you to Stow/Acton for hosting and all the churches for their creativity, efforts, and support in making our 17th a memorable service. Next year's 18th annual joint service is scheduled for Sunday, August 1st and will be hosted by the Harvard church – in person, we hope.

Because of privacy, only an audio recording of the Zoom service is available on Stow and Acton's website, fpc-stow-acton.org. Click on the [Listen to Past Services](#) link. Under **Sunday, August 2nd, 2020, "Hope Leading To Acton"** scroll down and click on [service-8-2-2020-.mp3](#). You will hear church bells tolling to announce the start of the service.

Elinor McCarthy Gentilman

Joint Summer Service Team

Jammin' in Our Kitchens

We're all disappointed to miss the Fair this fall, but you won't have to miss your favorite jams and jellies! Our Jammin' Crew have been carefully making jam in our home kitchens, following the standards we use at church. We are anticipating an early October sale. You will be able to preorder your jam using the Auctria software that was used for the Talent Auction, and then come to church for drive by pick up. Look for details in September!

OUR OWN SPECIAL CREATIONS

Niela Miller will be offering another extension of her TA offering, OUR OWN SPECIAL CREATIONS, on Zoom, Saturday, September 12 from 11am-1pm.

This is for people who want to explore artistic mark-making from an intuitive place with a group of people from church who get inspired by this ensemble opportunity combined with show-and-tell. It's fun, relaxing, non-competitive, and will take you in new directions regarding your own creative process.

Please contact her at nielam@comcast.net before end of August if you would like to participate. No prior experience necessary and also valuable for experienced art makers to get new inspirations. Family members welcome to do this together. You can use whatever materials you have at home from the simplest paper, pencil and pen, to colored tools, scissors, glue for collaging. She will provide some warm-ups and then encourage you to find your own way. A \$20 contribution to FCU is appreciated (or whatever you can afford).

FCU Crew Cooking for Food is Love

Beginning next week, a cooking crew from FCU will be cooking at the Congregational Church, filling the freezer with food. This program has been filling the gap since Neighborhood Supper has stopped serving during the pandemic. We expect that it will be a long time before we can fill the dining room with 70 guests, plus a full kitchen cooking and serving. Food is Love provides frozen meals to take home. FCU's crew of four will cook on the third week of the month, each working in our own section of the kitchen to preserve social distancing.

Food is available to 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.

If you are interested in supporting Food is Love financially, contributions can be sent to the Congregational Church at 330 King St. Littleton, MA 01460. Gift cards for Market Basket are most appreciated and very convenient! If you are interested in joining the cooking crew, please contact Kris Erslund at kersland1@gmail.com.