



*Community Matters*

**First Church Unitarian, Littleton**

**December 13, 2020**

**Join us Sunday, December 13 at 10:00 for “Hanukkah Light”!**

I’m really looking forward to joining you again this Sunday for “Hanukkah Light”. This will continue the December Soul Matters theme of stillness. **Once again, we plan to use YouTube Live for our service.** You no longer need to wait for the Sunday morning email for the worship service link! Simply go to <http://youtube.com/FirstChurchUnitarianLittleton/live> and the live video will come up! If you have trouble with that, you can also go to <https://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchUnitarianLittleton/> and click on the video that says "live". (If YouTube Live isn’t working, Plan B is that we will use Facebook Live and send out the new link on the listserve.) Usually the live video stream begins around 9:45, but there won’t be much to see until 9:57 or so when the gathering video starts.

**There will again be a (Zoom) Joys and Concerns after the service followed by a CAROL SING** and that link information will also be included in the Sunday morning listserve email. Barring something unforeseen, the Joys and Concerns link will be the same each week:

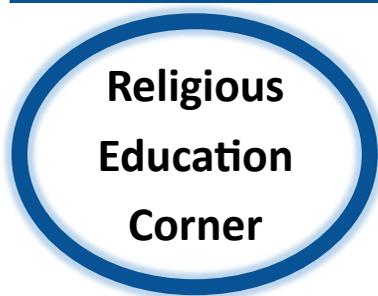
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You can also use the Meeting ID and Password if you try to “Join Meeting” in Zoom. I hope to "see" you then!

With love and anticipation,

Rev. Lara



**December theme: Stillness**

Rekindle Hope by Watching for the Light

**December RE dates to remember:**

Zoom gathering: December 20, 8:45-9:45

We will learn about the Jesus story and imagine how an angel could be our inner voice calling us to a new journey or challenge. Let’s plan to share these new journeys and our favorite holiday activities too!

**Happy Hanukkah!**

According to the Talmud, one of Judaism’s most central texts, Judah Maccabee and the other Jews who took part in the rededication of the Second Temple witnessed what they believed to be a miracle. Even though there was only enough untainted olive oil to keep the menorah’s candles burning for a single day, the flames continued flickering for eight nights, leaving them time to find a fresh supply. This wondrous event inspired the Jewish sages to proclaim a yearly eight-day festival.

The RE Committee,  
Susan, Debbie, Karen, Tatum, and Emily

“A candle is a small thing. But one candle can light another. And see how its own light increases, as a candle gives its flame to the other. You are such a light.” — Moshe Davis

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

## Save the date/time!

Sunday, December 20 at 10:00 a.m.: Solstice/Yule Service!

Thursday, December 24 at 6:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve Service (more information TBA)

## New Year's Potpourri Service, Adapted

On Sunday, December 27th, our Deacons will lead worship with our traditional New Year's Potpourri Service. Like always, it will be a more casual gathering on the first Sunday after Christmas. It will take place solely over Zoom and will not be broadcast via YouTube.

With it being virtual it will feel a little different but you will still have the same opportunity to share a meaningful poem or brief prose with our FCU family. Performing live music will be technically challenging. However, if you have a recording of a musical performance that is less than 4 minutes in length, it can be emailed to Cindy Malley at [hopefulandkind@gmail.com](mailto:hopefulandkind@gmail.com) for inclusion before Friday, December 18th.

It is possible our Deacons may need to be selective due to time constraints.

We hope you'll join us for this adapted annual tradition. Please watch for a zoom link to arrive via our listserv. If you have any questions, please reach out to Cindy Malley, Bill Duston, and/or Andy Leyenaar.

## From RJAC (Racial Justice Action Committee)

### White Fragility Project

RJAC is happy to share that 27 members of our church joined in this project. We had 4 separate groups on different days and times. We (RJAC) are honored and privileged that so many were so brave and vulnerable; it is a true testament to the FCU community. Thank you for growing and sharing with one another. STAY TUNED FOR OUR NEXT BOOK PROJECT!

### TED Talk Recommendation

Although this talk by Nikki Sanchez is referring to Canada, it is very much about us here in the US. Please listen to this short message and share it as much as you can.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/nikki\\_sanchez\\_decolonization\\_is\\_for\\_everyone?utm\\_campaign=tedspread&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_source=tedcomshare](https://www.ted.com/talks/nikki_sanchez_decolonization_is_for_everyone?utm_campaign=tedspread&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=tedcomshare)

## FCU Arts Workshop

The FCU Arts Workshop will meet again on ZOOM on Saturday, January 9, from 11am-1pm. We do a different activity each time, talk about our creative process, do show-and-tell. If you want to join, please let Niela know before Xmas ([nielam@comcast.net](mailto:nielam@comcast.net) <<mailto:nielam@comcast.net>>) so she can send you the information you will need.

## Christmas Cookies for Food is Love

It has been a tradition for many years, to give a gift of Christmas cookies to the guests at the Neighborhood Supper. We would love for this tradition to continue with Food is Love and are looking for donations of Christmas Cookies, the more the merrier! As with so much else this year, it will be a little bit more complicated than in the past. Rather than ask you to drop them off at the church, please contact me at [kersland1@gmail.com](mailto:kersland1@gmail.com) or [office@fculittle.org](mailto:office@fculittle.org) and we can arrange a time to pick up or drop off. The cooking crew will be assembling bags of assorted cookies on Friday, December 18.

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.

Thank you for your support and generosity!

Kris Ersland, on behalf of Food is Love

Submissions for Community Matters can be sent to [office@fculittle.org](mailto:office@fculittle.org)

Deadline is 10 a.m. Friday mornings.

**Sunday, December 13, 2020**  
**First Church Unitarian, Littleton**  
*Hanukkah Light*

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

(Gathering Video, featuring “Sonata” by Chip Davis, around 9:57 a.m.)

**Community Matters** (Jen Jaksa, Standing Committee)

**Prelude** “Minuet in A Minor” by Henry Purcell (Molly Lozeau, Music Director)

**Call to Worship** (Rev. Lara Hoke)

**Chalice Lighting and Covenant** (Lainey and Julia McManus)

**Advent Wreath Lighting** (Lara)

**Menorah Lighting** (Roger and Andrea Price)

**Words of Welcome** (Lara)

**Opening Hymn #223** “Rock of Ages, Let Our Song” (Molly)

**A Time for All Ages** “The Latke Who Couldn’t Stop Screaming: A Christmas Story” by Lemony Snicket (Cindy Malley)

**Opportunity for Generosity—Receiving Our Offering** (Lara)

**Offertory** “Mi Y'Malel”, Hebrew folk song (Molly)

**Homily** “Hanukkah Light” (Lara)

**Closing Hymn #221** “Light One Candle” (Molly)

**Closing Words** (Lara)

**Postlude** “Confidence” Op. 19 No. 4 by Felix Mendelssohn (Molly)

*Announcements/Joys & Concerns/Carol Sing will follow on Zoom*

