



Community Matters

First Church Unitarian, Littleton

January 17, 2021

Join us Sunday, January 17 at 10:00 for “Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday”

I look forward to being together again in community after another historic week for the United States of America. We will continue the January Soul Matters theme of imagination with “Imagine: MLK”. **Once again, we are back to 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 listserv.) Usually the live video stream begins around 9:45, but there won't be much to see until 9:56 a.m. or so when the gathering video starts.

There will again be a (Zoom) Joys and Concerns and Virtual Coffee Hour after the service and that link information will also be included in the Sunday morning listserv email. Barring something unforeseen, the Joys and Concerns link will be the same each week:

[REDACTED]

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 hope,
Rev. Lara

**Religious
Education
Corner**

January theme: Imagination

Our faith invites us to embrace our Blue Promise. We believe in our own ideas about what is right and wrong and we can act on them. We work together to use the democratic process in our church and in our country.

January RE Dates to remember:

Zoom RE Gatherings from 9:00-9:45 AM

Sunday, January 24

Imagine a Better World: Martin's Big Words

Today, all UU's realize that they need to imagine and make a better world for all. We can work hard to end racism. Our faith has taken up this work and called on UU's to build a world without racism.

We will learn about Martin Luther King and why his Big Words still matter today. How can we work for a better world and help end racism?

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

“The time is always right to do what is right.”

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

BREAKING NEWS!!!!

Our 2021 Stewardship Gathering has moved to Saturday, February 27th from 4:30pm to 6pm via Zoom--note the new date. The team is creating a fun and interactive program that we hope you will plan to attend. We are even going to prepare a delicious "to go" meal for you, because that's what we do!!!! And of course, there will be PRIZES. Rev. Lara already has something up her sleeve for this year's trophies!

We will explore **Celebrating our Silver Linings- An Abundance of Gifts** during our time together through conversations, pictures, music, videos and food. As always, we will have an opportunity to share our financial abundance by completing our pledge cards.

The Standing Committee and Friends

Share-the-Plate - January 17, 2021

Our January Share-the-Plate recipient is UUSC's Guest at Your Table program. The 2020 - 2021 theme is The Meaning of Home. Information is available at this link

<<https://www.uusc.org/resources/congregations/guest-at-your-table/>> To donate by mail, please make checks out to "UUSC" with "Guest" or "GAYT" in the memo field, and send to: UUSC • PO Box 808 • Newark, NJ 07101-0808. Donating by credit card please click here <<https://donate.uusc.org/give/75595/#!/donation/checkout>> Thank you!!

Want to be part of Small Group Ministry?

We have formed four small groups in the format of Soul Matters. It's not too late to be a part of one! If you're interested in becoming part of a small group, please let Rev. Lara know. Email her (minister@fculittle.org) or call her (508-615-1686). It's a great opportunity!

WhaleCoast Alaska 2021

Have you ever wanted to visit Alaska? If so, WhaleCoast Alaska 2021 is for you! 4 Alaska UU congregations invite you to experience our unique environmental and spiritual tour program this summer, when it will be safe to travel again. See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs, with friendly homestays and awe-inspiring tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, sea lions, etc. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. WhaleCoast Alaska is an inspirational way to visit our beautiful state. Complete info at: www.WhaleCoastAK.org <<http://www.whalecoastak.org/>>. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience you won't want to miss!

David Frey
WhaleCoast Alaska Tour Director

RJAC (Racial Justice Action Committee)

Embracing Racial Justice is happening again. Hurrah! Saturday January 16th at 6:30pm on zoom. We will be watching a YouTube video, [Silent Beats](#) It's a provocative video (only 5 minutes) and will result in a lively discussion. Come join us.

Topic: RJAC Embracing Racial Justice
Time: Jan 16, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting
[REDACTED]

To get Zoom info, email racialjustice@fculittle.org

Submissions for Community Matters can be sent to office@fculittle.org

Deadline is 10 a.m. Friday mornings.

Announcing the Spiritual Physics Research Discussion Series beginning Thursday, January 28th

Zoom with us the last Thursday of the next five months from 7:00 - 8:30 PM. Rev. Lara Hoke will provide a spiritual frame for the topic each evening. Doug Sweetser will present for a general audience an issue in physics with our current approach and detail its limitations. Doug does unfunded research in the numbers Nature may be using for their magic. Doug's divergent approach will be encapsulated in a t-shirt for each talk. After presenting enough slides to explain the t-shirt in under a half-hour, the zoom room will be opened up for discussion and open-ended questions.

The first talk is titled: "The three most important equations in all of mathematical physics: $0+0=0$, $0*0=0$, and $1*1=1$ - Always here-now and seen." The next topics will be relativity, gravity, quantum mechanics, and visualization.

A \$5 donation for First Church Unitarian can be made here: <https://www.fculittle.org/donate-now/>, or send a check with "physics" in the memo line to FCU; 19 Foster St., Littleton, MA 01460. No donation is necessary for those who are experiencing financial difficulties.



Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82268858063> (for passcode, email minister@fculittle.org).

“Deeper Than The Skin - A Musical Presentation on Race in America”

Coming on Jan. 30, 2021, a Musical Presentation on Race in America titled “Deeper Than The Skin), by Reggie Harris and Greg Greenway. (DeeperThanTheSkin.com)



Two friends, one Black, one White, born three days apart. Racial divisions that are the reality of America started them in two different worlds, but the amazing bonds of music, respect, admiration and shared vision have brought them together as friends and colleagues.

“Deeper Than The Skin” is an experience of singing and listening, It is an invitation to open your heart and mind to a story of shared humanity that resonates with your own.

As Reggie and Greg reach across the racial divide, they encourage others to foster the relationships that are, in the end, a path to healing.

“Deeper Than The Skin is an absolutely amazing experience. Not a performance (although these are two fine performers) but an experience. If you are anywhere within reach of this, don't miss it.” Selma Civil Rights activist Rev. Gordon Gibson, author of Southern Witness, Knoxville TN.

This will be streamed, free of charge on Saturday, Jan. 30, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Click here for link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85728745702?pwd=YmdGZTN5ajVKbXREU2VqZXNLRlBYUT09>

Sponsored by First Church Unitarian in Littleton, First Parish Church of Stow & Acton, First Parish in Concord, Greater Littleton Interfaith Council (GLIC), Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church, and Maynard Anti-Racism Alliance (MARA).

Sunday, January 17, 2021
First Church Unitarian, Littleton
MLK Sunday

ORDER OF SERVICE

(Gathering Video, “Simple Gifts”, trad. Shaker hymn, arr. Liz Story, performed by Carolyn McCreary, starts around 9:56 a.m.)

Community Matters (Martha Childs, Standing Committee)

Prelude “At A Certain Church” by John W. Work III (Molly Lozeau, Music Director)

Call to Worship (Rev. Lara Hoke)

Chalice Lighting and Covenant (Eliza Hammer)

Words of Welcome (Lara)

Opening Hymn #348 “Guide My Feet”

A Time for All Ages “Be a King: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s Dream and You” by Carole Boston Weatherford, Illustrated by James E. Ransome (Caroline Marvin)

Opportunity for Generosity—Share the Plate: Our January Share-the-Plate recipient is UUSC's Guest at Your Table program. The 2020 - 2021 theme is “The Meaning of Home”. Information is available at [this link](#) To donate by mail, please make checks out to “UUSC” with “Guest” or “GAYT” in the memo field, and send to: UUSC • PO Box 808 • Newark, NJ 07101-0808. Donating by credit card please [click here](#) Thank you!!

Offertory “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” by Tommy Dorsey, Arr. Lozeau (Molly)

Reading excerpt from MLK’s “Letter from a Birmingham Jail”, April 16, 1963 (Araya Fast)

Hymn “Somebody’s Hurting Our People”

Homily “Imagine: MLK” (Lara)

Closing Hymn “Keep on Moving Forward”

Closing Words (Lara)

Postlude “Nimble Feet” by Florence B. Price (Molly)

Announcements/Joys & Concerns/Virtual Coffee Hour will follow on Zoom

