



*Community Matters*

**First Church Unitarian, Littleton**

**January 31, 2021**

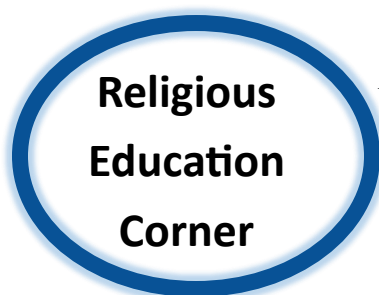
**Join us Sunday, January 31 at 10:00 for “Vishnu Schist: Imagine Time”**

I very much look forward to being together with you again this Sunday! We will continue the January Soul Matters theme of imagination with “Vishnu Schist: Imagine Time”. The service will include a special video of artistic creations from the FCU Arts Playshop, as well as some special music, so don't miss it! **We will 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 listserv.) Usually the live video stream begins around 9:45, but there won't be much to see until 9:57 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]

I hope to "see" you then.  
With love and hope,  
Rev. Lara



**February theme: Beloved Community**

*A Beloved Community is a Special Place Where Love Grows Beyond Boundaries and Wounds Can Be Healed.*

**February RE Dates to remember:**

Zoom RE Gathering: Sunday, February 7 at 8:50-9:40 am

We will explore our Orange Promise that tells us that we offer fair and kind treatment to all. We will explore how to grow our community with love and celebrate our differences. We will explore how to stand up for equality by saying when people are not being treated fairly.

Upcoming RE Zoom: Sunday, February 21

*Please remember to turn your camera on for our meetings. Thank you!*

Groundhog Day is February 2. Do you think the groundhog will see his shadow, which folklore says means 6 more weeks of winter, or not, which means spring will come early?

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

“Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine.”  
— Anthony J. D'Angelo

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

## Looking for Musical Offerings!

Do you have a musical offering that you would like to share during a church service? We are looking for folks that might enjoy singing a song, playing the guitar, ukulele, piano or whatever! You would need to choose your piece, practice on your own and then record yourself with audio and even video if possible. Then you could share it with Molly and we can find a musical slot in a future service. Upcoming Soul Matters themes include: Beloved Community, Commitment, Becoming, Story and Play. Rev. Lara and our IT volunteers will work to create a final video, with input from you and Molly. Reach out to [music@fculittle.org](mailto:music@fculittle.org) with your ideas and questions!

## Re-Opening Task Force Volunteers needed!

Now is the time to start planning for how and when we might open safely. As mentioned in our November update, the Executive Team is forming a Task Force that will be empowered with researching and proposing a stepped plan for reopening our church building when the science and research indicate that it is safe to move forward. We are looking for those who feel called to participate in this very important work and collaborate with fellow congregants. In order to attract a variety of talent but also work efficiently, there will be about 5-7 spots on the task force. If you feel you have talent and passion for this work, please respond to [et@fculittle.org](mailto:et@fculittle.org) by February 2nd. The Executive Team will be meeting on February 4th to set this in motion.

It is with a sense of sadness and loss that I share that longtime FCU-member Carl Britton lost his father, Carl Sr., on January 22nd due to complications from COVID-19. You can read the obituary here: <https://www.jellisonfuneralhome.com/obituary/Carl-BrittonSr>

If you wish to send a card or note of condolence, the address is:

Carl and Peggy Britton  
18 George Street  
Littleton, MA 01460

Thank you for being a caring congregation.

With love,  
Rev. Lara

## Caring for Our Aging Parents (COAP)

Please join us for Caring for Our Aging Parents this Monday from 7-9 p.m. on Zoom.

[REDACTED]

This has grown into a close, supportive group for those of us dealing with issues related to caring for aging loved ones. Newcomers are warmly welcomed. We meet on the first Monday of each month. Keep in mind that this is truly a support group with no agenda or goals. For more info contact: [COAP@fculittle.org](mailto:COAP@fculittle.org)

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

**JANUARY 30 AT 7 PM**

Deeper Than The Skin is a musical presentation by singers and storytellers Reggie Harris and Greg Greenway. (DeeperThanTheSkin.com) Their performance will be streamed free of charge on Saturday, January 30, at 7 PM. See link below. Donations to Massachusetts Food Banks will be encouraged and donation information will be provided.

<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/85728745702?pwd=YmdGZTN5ajVKbXREU2VqZXNLRIBYUT09>

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

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

**Deadline is 10 a.m. Friday mornings.**

**Sunday, January 31, 2021**  
**First Church Unitarian, Littleton**  
*The Vishnu Schist: Imagine Time*

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

(Gathering Video, “Jupiter’s Theme” by Gustav Holst, performed by Molly Lozeau, starts around 9:57 a.m.)

Community Matters (Emily Welch, Standing Committee)

Prelude “Prelude in B minor” by Frédéric Chopin (Molly Lozeau, Music Director)

Call to Worship (Rev. Lara Hoke)

Chalice Lighting and Covenant (Madelyn, Riley, and Eliza Hammer)

Words of Welcome (Lara)

Opening Hymn #8 “Mother Spirit, Father Spirit”

A Time for All Ages “The Everything Seed” by Carole Martignacco, illustrated by Joy Troyer (Anna Fadden)

Opportunity for Generosity—Receiving Our Offering (Lara)

Offertory with Special Video featuring FCU Arts Playshop pieces, featuring “Jazz Sonatina” by Niela Miller (Molly) and “Boppery” by Niela Miller (Justin McCarthy)

Reading “Omphalos” by Emily R. Ferrara (Lara)

Homily “The Vishnu Schist: Imagine Time” (Lara)

Closing Song “Imagine” by John Lennon (Patti Sardella and Laura Pailer)

Closing Words (Lara)

Postlude “Arabesque” by Fredrich Burgmuller (Molly)

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

