



Join us Sunday, February 28 at 10:00 for “This Must Be the Place: FCU”

I look forward to seeing you again this Sunday! This Sunday we take another perspective on the Soul Matters theme of beloved community in part two of our two-part “This Must Be the Place” series (in the context of our “stewardship season”). **We will use YouTube Live for our service.** 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 9:55 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 - email minsiter@fculittle.org for the Zoom info]

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

March theme: Commitment

Unitarian Universalists have a commitment to asking questions and being curious. We encourage people to wonder about everything. It is OK to be a questioner and a doubter. Never lose your commitment to being curious!

March RE dates to remember

Zoom gatherings:

March 7, 8:50-9:40

We will explore our UU commitment to curiosity by learning the importance of asking questions. We will enjoy a story and games.

March 21

Why does February have only 28 days?

From The Children's Museum of Indianapolis:

February's 28 days date back to the second king of Rome, Numa Pompilius. Before he became king, Rome's lunar calendar was just 10 months long. It began in March and ended in December. At the time, Romulus, the first king of Rome, and his people found the time between December and March to be unimportant because it had nothing to do with the Harvest.

When Numa Pompilius took reign, he decided to make the calendar more accurate by lining it up with the year's 12 lunar cycles. The new 355-day year needed two additional months to make up for the lost time. So he added January and February to the end of the calendar.

Because Romans believed even numbers to be unlucky, each month had an odd number of days, which alternated between 29 and 31. But, in order to reach 355 days, one month had to be an even number. February was chosen to be the unlucky month with 28 days.

After a few years of using the Numa Pompilius' new 355-day calendar, the seasons and months began to fall out of sync. In an attempt to realign the two, the Romans added a 27-day leap month as needed. If Mercedonius was used, it began on February 24.

Because the leap month was inconsistent, this too had its obvious flaws. In 45 B.C., Julius Caesar commissioned an expert to create a sun-based calendar like the one the Egyptians used. The Julian Calendar added a little more than 10 days to each year, making each month either 30 or 31 days long, except for February. To account for the entire 365.25 day-long year, one day was added to February every four years, now known as a “leap year.” During most years, this left February with just 28 days.

According to mental_floss, to get Rome on track with the Julian Calendar, the year 46 BCE had to be 445 days long!

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

"February is the shortest month, so if you're having a miserable month, try to schedule it for February." —Lemony Snickett

Join us for the

Stewardship Zoom Event this Saturday, February 27th at 4:30 pm.

Please join us for mingling as early as 4:15 so that we can start promptly at 4:30 with our Stewardship program. Use the zoom link provided below. Feel free to enjoy your "To Go" meal during the event or you can save it for afterwards. We are looking forward to being together as we embark on our next stewardship year.

Warmly

The Standing Committee

Topic: Silver Linings - Stewardship Event

Time: Feb 27, 2021 04:15 PM Eastern Time

<https://zoom.us/j/94150438338?pwd=MDZhc1ludkJFemNJTHVsMVB3bUhdz09>

Meeting ID: 941 5043 8338

Passcode: [email minister@fculittle.org for passcode]

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 941 5043 8338

Passcode: [email minister@fculittle.org for passcode]

Caring for Our Aging Parents (COAP)

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

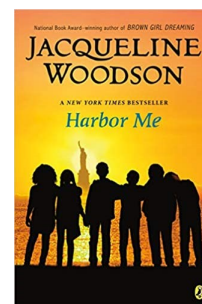
[REDACTED - email coap@fculittle.org for Zoom info]

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

Book Recommendation From RJAC (Racial Justice Action Committee)

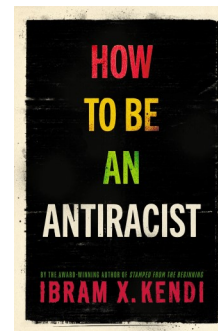
Written by Vio Malley

I recommend the book Harbor Me by Jaqueline Woodson. This book has the theme of racism and shows how harmful it can be and how to help go against it. Harbor Me's story is that there are six kids who throughout one school year have a room where they talk and listen to each other in conversations based around their life. It shows a good look at different peoples lives and is very well written so it feels like you are with them and listening to their story in the room. It's written in a way that's fairly easy to read so younger kids and teenagers can learn about these important stories more easily. It is a common struggle for kids and teenagers to not understand these books as well as an adult may understand them. I suggest it for ages 10 and up and it's a very good read for people of all ages.



RJAC Congregational Read Will Start in March (date TBD)

We'll be reading **How To Be An Antiracist** by Ibram X Kendi and following the format used for our reading of White Fragility—updated based on feedback from the participants. For planning purposes we would like to get a sense of how many folks will be joining us in March. Please indicate your interest by emailing Lori Grant lorigrant5@hotmail.com



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

Share The Plate Nominees Needed

The Deacons are looking for Share-The-Plate nominees for the remainder of this church year and next. The requirements for each nominee are as follows:

1. The organization must be a registered 501c3.
2. Someone must be available to speak to the congregation about the cause during a Sunday Service. (During virtual services a prerecorded video is great.)
3. The organization should have a physical address for congregants to send checks as well as a website where donations can be made directly. (The website would not be necessary when we are back to in-person services.)
4. The organization should represent the values of FCU and our members.

If you have submitted in the past, your organization fits the above criteria, and was not chosen, please feel free to renominate. We look forward to seeing your nominees.

Thank you!

Your Deacons- Andy Leyenaar, Cindy Malley, and Bill Duston

Sad News: The Passing of Alice Schafer

It is with sadness and a deep sense of loss that I share that longtime FCU member Alice Schafer died on February 19th. She was 87 years old. Alice died peacefully at her home in Newton, where she moved to in 2016. I will share news of a place to make a donation in lieu of flowers as well as any memorial service information when I receive it. Below is an excerpt of a message from her son Mark and daughter-in-law Marjorie.

With love,
Rev. Lara

Dear extended friends, family, and community of Alice Schafer & her sons,

[REDACTED]

On behalf of Alice's family, including my brothers, Ken and Scott, and their families, I want to appreciate you being a part of Alice's life – and by extension ours.... Sometime soon we will put up a page online where people can post their memories, appreciations, and tributes to Alice. We'll send you the link as soon as we have it set up.

Thank you and blessings,
Mark

Alice's daughter-in-law Marjorie writes:

I remember Alice's joy, her laughter and her work in making the world a more just one. In October 2011, Alice, along with a group of her friends, visited the place in Boston where protesters from the Occupy Movement had settled. Her words are wonderful –“we're gonna stay” – and her eruptions of laughter are so precious. They bring tears of sadness, but also tears of joy... Here is the link to the short radio piece on this moment: <https://www.wbur.org/news/2011/10/13/occupy-boston-profiles>

FCU Arts Playshop

The FCU Arts Playshop will be Zooming on Saturday, March 13 from 11am-1pm. If you would like to join us, please contact Niela by March 1. She will send out the information about the playshop (i.e. focus and materials) the first week of March.

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

Deadline is 10 a.m. Friday mornings.

Sunday, February 28, 2021 First
Church Unitarian, Littleton
This Must Be the Place: FCU

ORDER OF SERVICE

(Gathering Video, “Over the Rainbow” (Music by Harold Arlen; Words by Yip Harburg) / “Wonderful World” (by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss) performed by The Firehouse Band, starts around 9:55 a.m.)

Community Matters (Emily Welch, Standing Committee)

Prelude “Deep River”, Trad. Spiritual, setting by Larry Shackley (Carolyn McCreary, piano; Mike McKendry, clarinet)

Call to Worship (Rev. Lara Hoke)

Chalice Lighting and Covenant (Sierra Miller)

Words of Welcome (Lara)

Opening Hymn “The Church that Blesses You” by Dan Richards

A Time for All Ages “The Big Umbrella” written and illustrated by Amy June Bates, with co-author Juniper Bates (Debbie Eston)

Opportunity for Generosity—Receiving Our Offering (Lara)

Offertory Excerpts from “The Magic Flute” by W. A. Mozart, Arr. Molly Lozeau (Molly Lozeau, Music Director)

Reading “Ship of Theseus Riddle” (Sara Cope)

Musical Interlude “Simple Faith” (Eric Semple, guitar, and members of The Church Choir)

Homily “This Must Be the Place: FCU” (Lara)

Closing Hymn #1064 “Blue Boat Home”

Closing Words (Lara)

Postlude “Circle of Song” by Tony Turner, Arr. Jane Perry (members of The Church Choir)

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

