



Community Matters

First Church Unitarian, Littleton

March 21, 2021

Join us Sunday, March 21 at 10:00 for “Whose Are We?”

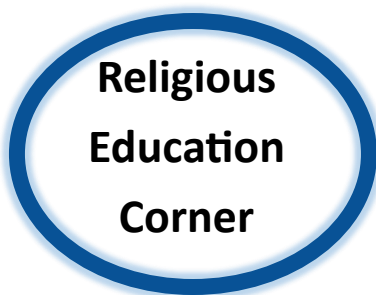
I look forward to seeing you again this Sunday! This Sunday we continue with the Soul Matters theme of commitment and follow up on the March 7th “Whose Am I?” service with “Whose Are We?” **We will use YouTube Live for our service.** Simply go to <http://youtube.com/FirstChurchUnitarianLittleton/live> 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 9:57 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]

email minister@fculittle.org for information

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



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 gathering:

March 21, 8:50-9:40

- Our Orange Promise invites us to believe that each person has worth just the way they are and we all have the ability to be compassionate. Compassion guides us to help others who might be hurt or suffering by putting our love into action. We can commit to treating the struggles of others as our own.
 - ◇ *We will explore how to be compassionate with others by listening to a story and creating compassion rocks to share with others.*
 - ◇ Be sure to collect and bring a few rocks to decorate with markers during the Zoom session!

The RE Committee,

Susan, Debbie, Karen, Tatum, and Emily

“It's a little embarrassing that after 45 years of research & study, the best advice I can give people is to be a little kinder to each other.”

— Aldous Huxley, English writer & philosopher

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

Share-the-Plate - March 21, 2021

REACH Beyond Domestic Violence is a comprehensive domestic violence service agency serving 7,000 people a year in our area through a combination of intervention <<http://www.reachma.org/what-we-do/supportive-services>> and prevention <<http://www.reachma.org/what-we-do/prevention-and-education-programs>> services. Their shelter, 24-hour hotline, and community-based direct services provide domestic violence survivors with the help they need to achieve permanent safety and independence. Their Prevention programs engage the community, generate conversations, and create locally-based solutions to end domestic violence.

More information is available at reachma.org.

To donate online, please click here:

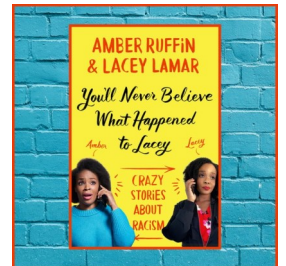
<https://reachma.salsalabs.org/donatotoreach/index.html>

Physical checks made out to "REACH" can be sent to:

REACH
PO Box 540024
Waltham, MA 02454

From the Racial Justice Action Committee (RJAC)

I recently read *You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey* by Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar. Amber, a comedian and writer for the Late Show with Seth Meyers who now has her own show as well, has written this book with her sister Lacey about Lacey's experiences. I wish it was harder to believe that these things happened, and am impressed with the use of comedy to express their anger and pain. I highly recommend this book! Submitted by Kris Ermland



Embracing Racial Justice

Please join us Saturday, March 20 at 7:00 to view and discuss the TED talk by Heather McGhee, "Racism has a cost for everyone".

"Racism makes our economy worse -- and not just in ways that harm people of color", says public policy expert Heather C. McGhee. From her research and travels across the US, McGhee shares startling insights into how racism fuels bad policymaking and drains our economic potential -- and offers a crucial rethink on what we can do to create a more prosperous nation for all. "Our fates are linked," she says. "It costs us so much to remain divided."

https://www.ted.com/talks/heather_c_mcghee_racism_has_a_cost_for_everyone?language=en

Join Zoom Meeting

[REDACTED] email minister@fculittle.org for information

Announcing the third Spiritual Physics Research Discussion Series next Friday, Mar. 26 at, 7:00 PM

The discussion is titled: "A new road to gravity"

Rev. Lara Hoke will kindly provide a spiritual frame for the evening. Doug Sweetser will present slides for a general audience for about a half-hour, followed by an open discussion. A \$5 donation for First Church Unitarian can be made the usual way if you have the means.

Zoom link: https://bit.ly/SPR_zoom

passcode: [REDACTED] email minister@fculittle.org for information

site: https://bit.ly/SPR_site

slides: https://bit.ly/SPR_slides - updated

videos: https://bit.ly/SPR_videos - updated

t-shirts: https://bit.ly/SPR_t-shirts



MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP

I'm happy to announce that the Mental Health Support Group will (finally) be starting up soon. The Mental Health Support Group is designed for people who suffer from a mental health condition. Our objective is to create a safe, confidential space for people to talk about, among other things, what living with a chronic mental health condition is like. Sharing personal stories with others who have 'been there' is a rare but wonderfully life-affirming experience!

If you think you might be interested, please come to an initial (Zoom) meeting on **Sunday March 28th at 6:00** to ask questions, talk with those who are involved so far, and perhaps to share any ideas you have! If you have questions before the meeting, please don't hesitate to contact me. Email or text is best, but call if that's more comfortable for you! Patti Sardella

Topic: FCU MHSG Zoom Meeting

Time: Mar 21, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97749615313?pwd=NUZ4K3lvZnBvek1VQ1YrdFcyYWYwQT09>

Meeting ID: 977 4961 5313

Passcode: [REDACTED] email minister@fculittle.org for information

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,97749615313#,,,,*753828# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/admS8p93p8>

Silent Vigil for Racial Justice * Sunday * 3/21 * 2PM * Littleton Common

The Greater Littleton Interfaith Council is sponsoring a Silent Vigil for Racial Justice on Sunday, March 21, from 2 to 3 PM. We'll meet on Littleton Common and the lawn in front of First Baptist Church; social distancing and masks are required. Bring signs (for justice, peace, civility, solidarity).

Cottage Meetings Scheduled for Recommendation to Replace Heating System

Please attend one!



Drum Roll Please! After three years of research and discussion the Green Sanctuary Task Force is ready to make our recommendation for replacing our aging heating system with a new, energy efficient system! Four Zoom Cottage Meetings have been scheduled to discuss our decision and the financial implications of that decision. During the May Warranted Meeting we'll be proposing a budget item to pay for the Engineering Design. These Cottage Meetings are designed to inform you to vote on that budget request, so please plan on attending one of the following meetings:

Saturday, March 27, 6:30PM

Monday, March 29, 7PM

Wednesday, March 31, 7PM

Sunday, April 11, 11:30AM

The following zoom link will work for all four Cottage Meetings.

Topic: GSTF Cottage Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

[REDACTED]

email minister@fculittle.org for information

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

Deadline is 10 a.m. Friday mornings.

Coming Out Across the Generations

Please join us to hear stories of coming out and experiences shared by people across the generations – including some of your friends from FCU! There will also be time for discussion.

Program facilitated by: Bob Linscott, LGBT Aging Project
Speakers include our own Phyllis Terrey, Carole Tillis, and Ron Willett.

Date: March 25, 2021

Time: 5:00 - 6:30pm

Place: Zoom link will be sent upon receipt of RSVP

Register at this link in advance for this meeting:

<https://littletonma.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEIf-qqpzwuEtJl1YGO0tsB-zKxItyQdn4Q>

Program presented by:

Minuteman
SENIOR SERVICES



 LGBT AGING
PROJECT
A PROGRAM OF THE FENWAY INSTITUTE



The First Baptist Church
Littleton, MA



First Church
Unitarian,
Littleton

LGBTQ Welcoming
Congregation

*A Welcoming and
Affirming Congregation*



CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF LITTLETON, UCC

Sunday, March 21, 2021
First Church Unitarian, Littleton
Whose Are We?

ORDER OF SERVICE

(Gathering Video, “Forrest Gump Theme” by Alan Silvestri, performed by Molly Lozeau, starts 9:57 a.m.)

Community Matters (Bill Duston, Deacon)

Prelude “Shades of Blue” by Robert Starer (Molly Lozeau, Music Director)

Call to Worship (Rev. Lara Hoke)

Chalice Lighting and Covenant (Julia McManus)

Words of Welcome (Lara)

Opening Hymn #121 “We’ll Build a Land” (Molly)

A Time for All Ages “The Invisible Web” by Patrice Karst, Illustrated by Joanne Lew-Vriethoff (Tatum Hammer)

Opportunity for Generosity—Share-the-Plate: REACH Beyond Domestic Violence (Lauren Nackel) To donate, please click here:

<https://reachma.salsalabs.org/donatetoreach/index.html>

Offertory “I Am Sending You Light” by Melanie DeMore (Peter Ersland and Carolyn McCreary)

Homily “Whose Are We?” (Lara)

Closing Hymn # 318 “We Would Be One”

Closing Words (Lara)

Postlude “We Shall Be Known” as sung by MaMuse (The Church Choir)

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

