



Community Matters

First Church Unitarian, Littleton

May 30, 2021

Join us Sunday, May 30 at 10:00 for “Eight Is Enough”!

I look forward to being with you again this Sunday as we consider the proposed new 8th Principle for the UUA with “Eight Is Enough”. The proposed 8th Principle is:

“We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”

Once again 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 listserve.) 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. (If you get there very early, you might need to refresh your browser.)

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 listserve email. Barring something unforeseen, the Joys and Concerns link will be the same each week:

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

You can also use the Meeting ID and Password if you try to “Join Meeting” in Zoom.

Looking forward to it...
Rev. Lara



Religious Education Corner

May theme: Story

June theme: Play

Upcoming final RE Gathering of the year—Friday, June 11 at 3 pm.

We will have an end of year celebration after this unique year! Stay tuned for more information!

Technically, summer doesn't start until June 21. But many people consider Memorial Day to be the unofficial start of the season. This year, we celebrate the holiday on May 31. Many families will heat up the grill or head to the beach. But Memorial Day has the word memorial in it for a reason.

The national holiday got started on May 30, 1868. Union general John A. Logan declared the day an occasion to decorate the graves of Civil War soldiers. He called it Decoration Day. After World War I, the holiday was more commonly called Memorial Day.

In 1950, President Harry S. Truman issued a proclamation that broadened the purpose of Memorial Day. He called on Americans to also observe the holiday as a day of prayer for peace. President Richard M. Nixon declared Memorial Day a federal holiday in 1971.

Memorial Day is now observed on the last Monday of May. It honors the men and women of the U.S. military who died in American wars.

The RE Committee,

Susan, Debbie, Karen, Tatum, and Emily

How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes.

~Maya Angelou

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

Meet our new Church Office Administrator!

The COA Search Team is pleased to introduce our new administrator! After interviewing a number of candidates, the team and Rev. Lara were unanimous in our choice of Liz Meyer. She comes with loads of experience in administration, the tech the job involves and is an active UU. As an aside, I had no idea that Liz was a knitter until I read her bio below. It did not influence our choice! Liz will begin this coming Tuesday, June 1. – Kris Ersland, on behalf of the search team.



I'm Liz Meyer and I am very excited to be a part of your community! Here is a bit about me: I have lived in Melrose with my partner, Eric, for the past 10 years and we have three furry rescues - one dog and two cats. My dog and I walk in the woods every day and it is the best part of my day. On our walks I will often forage edibles and medicinal plants for teas or tinctures. I love the challenge of identifying new plants and birds.

I spent a good chunk of my childhood as a medical missionary kid where I lived with my family in Dominica and Nepal. After college I spent two years in the Czech Republic teaching English and then two more years teaching ESL in Boston. Then, I spent 7 years as an administrator in higher education.

In my free time I love to sew (I love making my own clothes or clothes for friend's kids), knit, walk and talk with friends, hike in the White mountains, play the djembe (learned how to play during the pandemic) and garden. Also, I am a Level 3 certified reiki and Biofield Tuning practitioner. I currently don't practice either of these healing modalities, but I hope to get back into it soon.

Look forward to meeting each of you over the coming months!

Summer TED talks are coming back! TED talk hosts wanted!

In recent pre-pandemic summers, TED talks have been a way to stay connected with the FCU community during the summer and to explore and discuss interesting topics. This summer we will again be offering Sunday morning TED talks which will be available on Zoom for all those interested. The Deacons are asking any member who would be interested in hosting a TED talk to contact us with your idea. The TED talk and discussion will be from 10:00 to 11:00 on six Sundays this summer and will be hosted by the member on a Zoom account that is available. It is expected that the TED talk will be approximately 15 minutes in length which will allow time for discussion afterwards. Depending on the number of attendees, breakout room will be an option. The Sundays available for TED talks will be July 18 and 25, and August 8, 15, 22 and 29. If you are interested in presenting a TED talk this summer, please contact the Deacons with your topic and preferred dates and we will select the line-up for the summer. You can email the Deacons at deacons@fculittle.org.

Thank you,
Andy, Cindy and Bill

RJAC would like to share the following invitation with FCU:

The Network for Social Justice will commemorate Juneteenth with a virtual panel discussion and community conversation centered around mass incarceration. Panelists will include Donna Patalano, General Counsel for the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office; Helina Fontes, District 6 Candidate for Massachusetts Governor's Council; and a representative from the New England Innocence Project. It is recommended, though not required, that attendees have read or watched the film *Just Mercy* for background and context. The book is available in adult and young adult versions. Register at <https://bit.ly/3tuzzV3>. The program is recommended for ages 13 and older.

Submitted by Lorinda Morimoto

Share-the-Plate - June 06, 2021

Our June Share-the-Plate recipient is the Littleton Community Farm, a 501(c)3 non-profit "Fighting Hunger ~ Building Community ~ Supporting Agriculture" <https://littletoncommunityfarm.org/>. Amy Tarlow-Lewis will join us during our June 6th virtual worship service to provide more information.

To donate on the 6th, prior to or after: Mail a check payable to Littleton Community Farm to Littleton Community Farm PO Box 1186 Littleton, MA 01460 or [click here to donate online](#).

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

Deadline is 10 a.m. Friday mornings.

Caring for Our Aging Parents (COAP)

Please join us for Caring for Our Aging Parents Monday, June 7, 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

Transform your Trash to Clean Water in Honduras

Lynn Cina recycles your five-cent deposit beverage containers into donations toward clean water in Honduras. Bring your rinsed beer bottles and cans to church and place them in bins on the far right entrance to the Sunday School building. **THANKS in ADVANCE.**

Virtual Joint Summer Service Sunday, August 1st, 2021 @ 10AM

Please join us on Sunday, August 1st, 2021 at 10AM for the 18th annual Joint Summer Service of neighboring Unitarian Universalist churches.

The service this year will be virtual and hosted by the Harvard church. Rev. Jill Cowie of Harvard will lead the service and Ted Johnson, Music Director of Harvard, will direct the pick-up choir in a pre-recorded choral introit and anthem. All singers are welcome. Details about participating in the virtual choir will be sent in June. The offering will be donated to the UUSC.

This year the participating churches include: Harvard, Lancaster, Littleton, Stow/Acton, Fitchburg, Marlborough/Hudson, Bolton, and Leominster.

The link for the virtual service will be sent the week before the August 1st service.

For questions, contact: Elinor Gentilman, egentilman@comcast.net Littleton, or
Rick Gentilman, rgentilman1@aol.com Stow/Acton

For the Joint Summer Service Planning Team

Attention Campers

Our opportunity to reserve a campsite at Lake Dennison Recreation Area is fast approaching. As in past years, the annual FCU camping trip will be centered on the North side of the campground the weekend before Labor Day. This year, that means starting August 27, you can enjoy campfires, swimming, kayaking, biking, hiking, and especially hanging out with FCU friends in a beautiful outdoor setting. We usually share food as well as conversation. You can make a reservation after 4/27 on line at [reserveamerica.com](https://www.reserveamerica.com).

For more information please call Pam or Joel.

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ORDER OF SERVICE

(Gathering Video, “At a Certain Church” by John W. Work, performed by Molly Lozeau, starts around 9:56 a.m.)

Community Matters (Karen Tucker-Barisano)

Prelude “The Panther”, from *Animal Crackers*, by Eric Whitacre (The Church Choir)

Call to Worship “Toward a Place of Wholeness” by Viola Abbitt (Rev. Lara Hoke)

Chalice Lighting and Covenant (Julia McManus)

Words of Welcome (Lara)

Opening Hymn #1007 “There’s a River Flowin’ in My Soul”

A Time for All Ages “Someone New” by Anne Sibley O’Brien (Lori Grant)

Opportunity for Generosity—Receiving Our Offering (Lara)

Offertory “The Cow”, from *Animal Crackers*, by Eric Whitacre (The Church Choir)

Reading language of the proposed 8th Principle (Lara)

Sermon “Eight Is Enough” (Lara)

Closing Hymn #1074 “Turn the World Around”

Closing Words (Lara)

Postlude “The Firefly”, from *Animal Crackers*, by Eric Whitacre

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

