



Community Matters

September 12, 2021

Join us Sunday, September 12 at 10:00 for our hybrid Ingathering Service with Water Communion!

This Sunday, September 12, at 10 a.m., please join us for an **historic** service – our first-ever “hybrid” (both in-person and live streaming) worship service! I am so excited! It will be our Ingathering Service with Water Communion, but because of the “yellow light” conditions (in response to the current Covid-19 situation) and the live streaming, some things will be a bit different.

For those of you joining us in-person, please show up a little earlier than you normally would as we will have several people (two at each door) helping to seat you so that we can maintain more physical distance. Please wear a mask (there is an indoor mask mandate in Littleton, and everyone, including speakers, will wear a mask the entire time). We request and expect that everyone who is able to be vaccinated (by age and health) will get vaccinated before attending in-person services. (Children under 12 will be outside for religious education with our new Director of Religious Education Thea Shapiro and RE volunteer Debbie Eston this week.) There will be no singing during “yellow light” conditions, but Molly will play and we will make other joyful noises! We will have some printed Orders of Service for those who want them. We also have a QR code available for you to scan (with your camera app) and see the OOS each week on your smart phone if you prefer. This week’s QR code is shown below. As last year, I will also email out the OOS in advance. **For those who have gathered water to bring on Sunday**, the Water Communion will be different this year under our current conditions as well. Thea will be leading the kids in a Water Communion ceremony outdoors, starting with the water that our Deacons have saved from many, many previous years. You may add your water to their bowl either before you come inside for the service (look for the canopies on the side lawn) or after the service. Thea and I will do a blessing with the gathered waters after the service; our intention will be to make a video of that to share after the service. The Deacons will then save a portion of our newly collected waters for future years, as well as upcoming child dedications or other suitable rituals.

For those of you joining us virtually, there will be two locations this week to watch the live stream. Those two links are <http://twitter.com/fcuittleton> or <http://facebook.com/firstchurchunitarianlittleton>. You do not have to have a Twitter account or a Facebook account to watch these live streams, though having an account will enable you to comment on the live stream if you wish. When you go to <https://twitter.com/fcuittleton>, look at the top tweet. That will be the video. If you click on the video image you’ll see options for volume as well as viewing it full screen. Similarly, when you go to <https://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchUnitarianLittleton/>, look at the top video. You can click on the video image for volume and full screen viewing options. Don’t forget that your computer (lap tap, smart phone, etc.) also has volume options that you can use to hear better. (If you do not have a Facebook account, a banner will pop up asking you to join. You can click “not now” and then you’ll see the page.) Eventually, we hope to be streaming on YouTube as well, but that will not be available this Sunday. Please be ready to visit this website during the service (from your computer or smart phone, etc.): <http://menti.com>. I will give you a number on Sunday that you can enter into the box at that website. Then, you can provide information as you wish. I will be asking you to tell us your name (if you wish) through that site, so that we will know some of the people who are participating virtually. Later, during Candles of Caring, you will have the option of sharing a joy or concern through <http://menti.com> as well. Again, I will provide the number during the service. *(Eventually, our virtual participation options will improve greatly as we hope that the congregation will allocate money to better live streaming equipment. When that time comes, your virtual participation options will be far more sophisticated and interactive. During September and October, we ask for your grace and patience as we experiment and do what we can with existing equipment.)*

Want to have Zoom social time after the service? Use this link each week for virtual social time following worship:

<https://zoom.us/j/94103871106?pwd=Tk5DUk84SERTakFVQ1kzY1pncktDUT09>

Meeting ID: 941 0387 1106
Passcode: 01460

Joy, grace, experimentation, learning, community and more will be ours this Sunday. I can’t wait!

In faith,

Lara

SCAN ME





Sunday morning RE help

I am so excited to meet all of you and the children and youth of FCU Littleton.

This Sunday and any Sunday that we have a hybrid service the children and I will be meeting at church under a tent.

Please have your children dress for the weather.

Also have your children bring water for our Water Service under the tent.

I am looking for adults to be with me on Sunday mornings, you don't need to plan anything or lead anything. Just hang out and enjoy the children and youth.

You must be vaccinated to help out.

Please let me know if you are interested in helping out on the dates below.

I will be asking monthly for help. If we go into the red we will be on Zoom and you don't have to come to that, but of course you are invited to join us.

Dates:

Sept 19 (with Emily)

Sept. 26

Oct. 3

Thank you in advance for helping out.

In Peace, Thea

Director of Religious Education

Hospitality

Dear friends,

As we start this new church year and come back together again, I will be taking over the role of Hospitality Coordinator, formerly filled so wonderfully by Sara Cope. It seems like the perfect way to renew old friendships and make new connections. I look forward to connecting with you all as we embody the hospitality that makes FCU such a special place.

With an opening level of Yellow we will be looking to fill only two Sunday morning roles: **Flowers** (one needed) and **Ushers** (three needed) **beginning this Sunday, September 12**. I invite you to click [here](#) to sign up for one of those roles, whether for this Sunday or an upcoming one. You do not need to create an account to use the online sign up service (SignUp.com) and the email you enter will not be shared.

Because of the Yellow safety level the sign-up board in the vestry will not be in use at this time. If you cannot use the online sign-up please contact me directly to sign up.

Phone or text: (309) 532-3511

Email: jclement@uuma.org

Just as with all the other aspects of church community—be they physical, financial or spiritual—being a welcoming community takes the participation of each of us. Whether you are handing out orders of service, helping keep folks safe with responsibly distanced seating or providing a beautiful floral bouquet to enhance worship please know that you are an integral part of a fantastic community. You are so appreciated!

If you have any questions or would like additional information, you can contact me at jclement@uuma.org

I'm looking forward to working with all of you and supporting this wonderful part of our church community.

Jackie Clement

Hospitality Coordinator

Have you 'checked-in' or liked us on Facebook? Please do...this helps people find us! <https://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchUnitarianLittleton/>

