



# Community Matters

March 1, 2026

## RE Corner

Thank you, Emma and Rich for helping out in RE last week. We made more bracelets and we will continue to make more this week.

This week will watch School House Rock on how a Bill is created. This is to help the children and youth understand why writing to our local and state representatives is important.



We will also continue our discussion on the different ways that we can be of help to make the world a better place for everyone.

All of things we are doing this week revolve around our values of Love and Justice.

Take a look at the RE board to see the Community Quilt, to celebrate Black History Month, put together. Thank you to everyone who created a square.

I hope you and your child/children can join us for this Sunday

In peace,  
*Thea*

## Welcome to "Dust and Spirit"!

The Sunday, March 1st (10 a.m.) service is "Dust and Spirit", both in-person and livestreaming. Inspired by the Christian season of Lent, I will attempt to tackle this theological chestnut. We will also have a Stewardship Moment with FCU's own John Himmelberger as well as lovely music led by Molly Lozeau and a body awareness meditation led by DRE Thea Shapiro.

If you are watching from home, please watch and participate in our Sunday service via interactive [Zoom](#) or watch on [YouTube](#) (note that the Zoom link will take you to FCU's website, where you may need to enter the FCU password in order to click on the link. If you don't know the new password yet, note that my Saturday morning email will include the Zoom link for the service that does not require a password, the same link we've been using).

We offer 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 on your smart phone if you prefer.

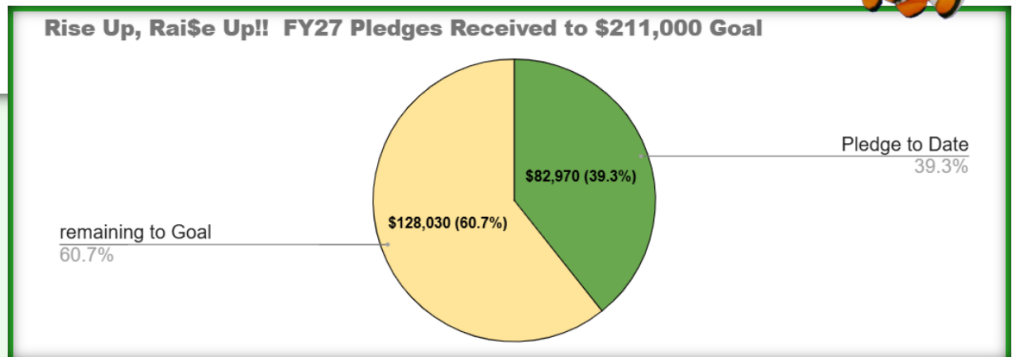
Grace, experimentation, learning, fun, community and more will be ours this year!

In faith,  
*Lara*  
Rev. Lara



## Rise Up. Rai\$e Up for FCU Stewardship

We are now more than halfway through this year's FY27 Stewardship Pledge Drive. We have provided a new graph with an update on the financials for the Pledge Drive.



In the spirit of our theme, Rise Up Rai\$e Up, we want to lift up how important it is to receive your Pledge Card no later than Sunday, **March 8, 2026**. Your timely pledge is essential for our Finance Team as they create the FY27 Budget. We deeply appreciate those who have already submitted their pledges.

Submitting your pledge is easier than ever. To access the online form, please click here to complete your electronic FY27 Pledge Card. If you prefer a hardcopy FY27 Pledge Card, please [click here](#) to print and submit it.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to reach out to our Assistant Treasurer, Debbie Eston, at [assistreas@fculittle.org](mailto:assistreas@fculittle.org).

We hope you enjoyed our POP-UP moment last Sunday, which highlighted the care, joy, and spirit we share as a community. A big shout out to Lori Grant for creating this Stewardship moment.

**Mark your calendars for the Stewardship Celebration Lunch right after church on March 8th. We look forward to celebrating with you and recognizing the generosity that sustains our shared vision.**

## Writing for Democracy: Sunday, March 15, following coffee hour in the Vestry.



We'll gather for lunch, and letter-writing to corporations that are collaborating with the U.S. authoritarian regime. We may also have some voter education postcards. Contact Lynn Courtney or Lynda Kaylor for more information.

## Just a reminder that there are two peer-support groups for Caregivers at FCU. COAP-Caring for Our Aging Parents (or Partners or Person)

We meet on Zoom every first Monday of the month from 7:00PM to 9:00PM. Please talk to Kris Erslund or Prisl Dumka for details.

## Supporting our Adult Children

We meet on Zoom every second Wednesday of the month from 7:00PM to 9:00PM.

Please talk to Phyllis Terrey or Prisl Dumka for details.

We would love to have you join us.

## FCU Events. Invite a Friend!

### Weekly meditation online!

Check fculittle.org for the day/time each week

Friday, February 27, 6:00 PM to 8:00PM

**Fourth Friday Singalong** Vestry

Saturday: February 28, 11:00AM to 1:00PM

**FCU Arts Playshop** Zoom, We gather to explore your creative process using art materials with time for creating and time for show-and-tell. For more information, please contact Niela Miller (nielam@comcast.net). All are welcome

Sunday, March 8th, after service

**Stewardship Celebration Lunch** Downstairs

Sunday, March 15th, after coffee hour

**Writing for Democracy** Vestry

Saturday, March 21, 11:00 AM to 1:00PM

**FCU Circle Dance** Vestry

**March 22nd to March 29th - Staff Appreciation Week!!**

Sunday, March 29, 11:30AM

**Staff Appreciation Coffee Hour** Vestry

## Protect Legal Immigrants Documentary Film & Panel Discussion



**Learn what's being  
done to help  
immigrants with  
legal Temporary  
Protected  
Status (TPS)  
at risk of  
deportation.**

**March 11, 2026**

**7:00-8:30 PM**

**Sturtz Meeting Room  
Reuben Hoar Library  
Shattuck St., Littleton, MA**

- See "The Next Dream" TPS documentary film and an informative panel discussion
- Refreshments will be served

Learn more at:  
[www.indivisiblelittletonmass.org](http://www.indivisiblelittletonmass.org)



### **NO KINGS III Save Saturday March 28 for NO KINGS III.**

As the Pro-Democracy movement continues to grow, we are on track to make March 28 the largest one-day peaceful protest in U.S. history! Stay tuned for information about local protests, sign-making, and more. Explore events already scheduled here: <https://www.nokings.org/>



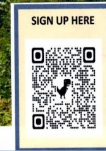
FCU Hospitality Sign Up  
2026



### ART CONTEST

**CALL FOR NEW ENGLAND ARTISTS  
Stronger Together: Art For Democracy**

**FREE ENTRY**  
Prizes: Adults:  
**1st prize:**  
\$500  
**2nd prize:**  
\$250  
**3rd prize:**



**Submissions due by April 10, 2026**

Contact: [ArtforDemocracy@FCUlittle.org](mailto:ArtforDemocracy@FCUlittle.org)

### **Please Sign up for Listening Session, Next Step in Sanctuary Change Process**

(See FCU-Groups message, Wednesday, February 11).

**Please sign up here: Listening Session:**

**Participant Sign-Up.** or go to the February 11 FCU-Groups message for a live link. Thank you! **Your Executive Team**

Dear FCU Friends,

We are excited to share that we will be updating the church dining room to create a cleaner, more organized, and more welcoming environment for all who use it. This space plays a big role in our parish life, and we want it to reflect the warmth and hospitality of our community—especially ahead of a very public-facing event in May. As part of this effort, we are sorting through supplies, removing clutter, and getting ready for a fresh coat of paint in the weeks following the Stewardship Luncheon.

This means that the downstairs dining room may not be available for regular use outside of Stewardship Sunday and the Talent Auction Luncheon.

Our goal is to finish this dining room refresh in time for the Talent Auction Luncheon, and then have the church decluttered and cleaned by May 1st. Thank you for your patience while we work to refresh this space.

If you would like to help with this project—whether by sorting, labeling, organizing, cleaning, painting, or simply lending a hand as small jobs arise, let us know. We would be grateful for your participation. Please contact [jwelchbucceri@gmail.com](mailto:jwelchbucceri@gmail.com) or reach out to someone on the building committee to let us know that you would like to help. **Thank you for helping us refresh our parish home.**

Sincerely,

Julie WB for the Building Committee

Save your stuff for our annual  
**Yard Sale for Education**

**Sat. April 11, 8-2**

Dropoff 4/10, 3-6 pm, 4/11, 7-8 am

Historical Society, King & Foster Sts., Littleton

Pickups can be arranged for big loads. Large items can be sold in advance.

We count on you for this fun event, our biggest fundraiser of the year.



Donate anything **BUT** electronics, big furniture, car seats, clothing or shoes.

Helpers needed!  
 Questions? Contact  
 susan.tordella@gmail.com

To benefit Learning Up, dedicated to education a 501(C)3 nonprofit

learningupnow.wordpress.com

**The FCU Arts Playshop will meet on Zoom every fourth Saturday of the month in 2026 from 11AM-1PM**

We gather to explore our creative process using art materials with time for creating and time for show-and-tell.

**All are welcome** whether new to making art or more experienced. The focus is on exploring our process, not on learning particular techniques. It's a time to feed our souls and to learn with and from each other.

Here are the dates for rest of church year for 2026:

February 28                      March 28                      April 25  
 May 23                              June 27

For more information, please contact Niela Miller



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

JUNE 14 - 21, 2026

MEET THE MOMENT: TOGETHER EVERYWHERE

**General Assembly (GA)** is the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), where participants gather to worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy decisions for the Association through a democratic process.

While anyone can attend, congregations must certify annually to have voting delegates.

More Information and to register at <https://www.uua.org/ga>

**4TH FRIDAY FOOD, FUN AND SING-A-LONG WITH CAROLYN**

**FRIDAY FEB. 27 6-8 PM**

**Potluck dinner  
 All ages welcome  
 Invite friends.  
 Bring a favorite game or song**

**Submissions to Community Matters**

Submissions of events & notices are due each Wednesday by 8:00PM at [office@fculittle.org](mailto:office@fculittle.org)

**Got Sneakers?**

We are collecting used sneakers for recycling with the **Got Sneakers? Recycling program**. They accept new and used sneakers. The ones that aren't wearable they recycle. FCU gets paid for the ones that are wearable. It's that simple. For more information about this organization check them out at their website:

<https://gotsneakers.com/>. There will also be a bin in the Vestry where you can bring your machine washed (untied), air-dried sneakers to be collected. **Hint:** if the soles of the sneakers have dirt caked in them, use a knife to clean out the grooves before you wash them in your washing machine.

Any questions, contact **Rochelle Chambless** at [Rochellecham@gmail.com](mailto:Rochellecham@gmail.com) or 978-881-8671.



**Annual UU Advocacy Day!**

Save the date: **April 16, 2025**

RSVP deadline April 1, 2026

[CLICK HERE](#)

Do you care about justice and are looking for ways to put your values into action?

Do you want to have an impact on critical social justice issues facing our communities in MA?

Do your UU values ground you in your social justice work?

**FERRY BEACH**  
 Retreat & Conference Center

**SAND & STARS**

**JUNE 28 - JULY 5, 2026**

Conference coordinated by Dan Harper & Thea Shapiro

**Fourth of July fun for everyone! Come choose your own adventure during this special beachfront getaway in Maine!**

**Daily Highlights During Your Stay! Come Explore With Us.**

- Special July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration: A cookout, live concert, games, fireworks on the beach...
- Field Trips
- Art & Ecology Workshops
- Campfire Songs & S'more Nights
- Daily Beach Time
- Game Night
- Talent Show
- Relaxing Yoga
- And More!

This summer retreat in coastal Maine offers renewal through art, nature, and community!  
 Your greatest vacation awaits.

<https://www.ferrybeach.org/sand-and-stars.html>

**LOCATION: MAINE**