

People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don't know each other; they don't know each other because they have not communicated with each other.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



LIGHTING THE WAY FORWARD

First Parish News

Online Worship Service

With Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

Sunday, January 16, 2022, 10:30 AM

This week we will worship with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Marblehead, Mass.

You may remember that they joined us for worship last year. Now it is our turn to visit them. You will find that UUCM has many similarities to First Parish.

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd is interim minister.

Get your ticket for MLK



Dr. Chris Hunt



Corey L. Brown

The 19th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration will be offered on Zoom this coming Monday, Jan. 17th, at 10 a.m. sponsored by the First Parish Social Justice Network. The program features keynote speaker Dr. Chris Hunt and musician Corey L. Brown. Reservations are required and can be made at:

<http://www.uukennebunk.org/mlk19-program>

The cost is \$10 for adults, \$20 for two or more adults viewing on one screen, and free for those 18 and under.

Dr. Hunt, Ed.D., recently served as an associate provost at the University of New England, but this year returned to his home state, Pennsylvania, where he is vice president and dean for equity and inclusion at Moravian University. In his talk, “Dr. King’s Legacy and the Evolution of Activism,” Hunt draws from his research and experience as an administrator of several colleges and universities.

Speaking with Philip Shelley of the UNE Magazine, Dr. Hunt said, “... in the wake of [George Floyd’s] death and countless others, we must honor them by doing the hard,

introspective work of making more just and equitable college campuses and society. ... It feels like society—more so now than perhaps at other times in the past—is willing to be introspective and ask ourselves, collectively, some harder questions.” In his dissertation, "When Millennials Meet Baby Boomers: Multiple Case Study on the Lived Experiences of Black Male College Students, Hunt examined the intergenerational college journeys of 21 Black male college graduates from 1965 to 2018 including their challenges, triumphs, and strategies to achieve excellence. Dr. Hunt’s consulting work includes special engagements, climate studies, and ongoing diversity, equity, and inclusion training and development.

Rev. Lara Campbell will welcome all to the celebration and lead a question-and-answer segment at the end of the talk. First Parish has sponsored MLK celebrations every year from 2003 offering breakfast as well as music and talks. This is the second year the program will be given online, but hopes are that the celebration will return in person next year. This year’s program will benefit The Abyssinian Restoration Project, Portland, Maine. Recognized on the National Register of Historic Places, the Abyssinian Meeting House is being restored to acknowledge and promote the cultural heritage of African Americans in Maine.

<http://www.uukennebunk.org/mlk19-program>

Have you answered Rev. Lara’s invitation?



Rev. Lara has been meeting with members and friends one-on-one since she returned from her sabbatical last month. The meetings are a great chance to get to know Lara better and for her to get to know you. Don’t hesitate to make an appointment.

*“Covid has made it clear that we need to be more intentional about how we connect. And I have missed connecting with you. Over the next few weeks and months, I want to meet with each of you individually to check in. The purpose of these check-ins is for me to find out how you are doing. We, very intentionally, will **not** talk about church business. We can do that another time.*

We can meet in person (masked) at First Parish, on the phone, on zoom, or at your home (I will mask)”.

You can schedule yourself with Appointlet by clicking <https://appt.link/check-ins-with-rev-lara> or you can call Allison in the church office at 207-985-3700, and she will get you on my calendar. If you would like me to come to your home, please schedule your appointment through the office so we can block out travel time.

I look forward to checking in with you!

Widening the Circle of Concern Study Group

At the New Orleans General Assembly in 2017, the UUA Board of Trustees announced and chartered the Commission on Institutional Change. The charge given was to conduct an audit of the power structures and analyze systemic racism and white supremacy culture within the Unitarian Universalist Association.

After three years of research, story gathering, and analysis, the report from the Commission on Institutional Change (COIC) is published in *Widening the Circle of Concern*. This report makes vital recommendations to advance long-term cultural and institutional change that redeems the essential promise and ideals of Unitarian Universalism.

The report names the ways Unitarian Universalists, and our congregations are being called to embrace bold new ways of being—new opportunities for inclusion and accessibility like never before. This guidance is so important for this moment, as we discover doors we did not realize were closed and we reach people we've never reached before.

You can check out the report by:

- Reading and/or downloading it from the internet at <https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/cic/widening>
- Check out one of the five copies we have ordered by contacting Allison in the office: uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com
- Purchase a copy for yourself for \$16 at <https://www.uuabookstore.org/Widening-the-Circle-of-Concern-P18686.aspx>

If you are interested in joining Rev. Lara in a study group on *Widening the Circle of Concern*, please email her at uukennebunkminister@gmail.com

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Since we will soon open up for in-person worship we need volunteers as ushers and greeters. Please step up and volunteer so we are all set. E-mail marylyn.wentworth@tnsk.org or call 602-0245. You will be so welcome and able to welcome others with bells on

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Share the Offering

On Christmas Eve, including the matched donations, we raised a total of \$2,730. Half, \$1,365, will be given to Laudholm Trust, the non-profit group that supports the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve.

During the month of December Share the Offering donations totaled \$475. Half of these donations, \$238, will go to The Planetears of Southern Maine. Founded by Kennebunk resident Andrea Kimmich in 2017, The Planetears is a grassroots group that promotes sustainable living and protection of the creatures, contours, and climate of Mother Earth.

Share the Offering for January will go to Community Outreach Services. COS is generally known in our community as the food pantry. However, it supports our community in many other ways as well. At a time of rising fuel costs, COS in conjunction with local fuel companies provides help with fuel bills, furnace repairs and electricity. In addition, COS helps defray costs for auto repairs for those needing a reliable source of transportation. Winter is a challenging time.

Thank you for all of your donations!

Note from the editor:

Are you involved in a project at FPUU? Are you participating in one of our spiritual activities? Please write to us about it, so that you can share it with others in our community!

Vicki Adams, Editor: vickigatesadams@gmail.com

Our website includes just about everything at FPUU

You can easily find ongoing activities and announcements on our website or Facebook page. Spiritual opportunities are also listed with our Order of Service each week, available by email. For events see our church calendar.

Website: www.uukennebunk.org

Calendar: www.uukennebunk.org/events

Facebook page: search for

First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of Kennebunk

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