



THE MEETING HOUSE TIMES

February 18, 2018

TODAY

10:30a in the Meeting House

Beauty as Spiritual Nourishment Rev. Lilia Cuervo

Looking for and enjoying beauty is a way to nourish the soul, observes Matthew Fox. Let us reflect on how we can encounter beauty in splendid features of nature and, most important, in ordinary things around us. Persevering on the path of beauty, we are bound to experience joy, gratitude, and love, necessary values to nurture the human and the spiritual in us.

The Rev. Lilia Cuervo, a native of Colombia, was the first Latin American woman ordained in the Unitarian Universalist denomination. At First Parish in Cambridge she also made history by being the first woman to be installed as Parish Minister there. She is a co-founder of the Latino/a UU Networking Association (LUUNA) and the initiator and a translator of several pieces for Las Voces del Camino, the Spanish-language Unitarian Universalist hymnal.

Young people begin in classrooms and worship in chapel

11:30a **Food Pantry Food Shuttle. Meet in the church basement.**

Coffee Hour in the Parish House Parlors/Atrium

Newcomers Cafe in the Paneled Parlor

Coffee Hour Baking Sign-up

Women's Alliance Coffee Sale

Atrium Bookstore Open

11:30a **Congregation Conversation on Safe and Civil Church Policy in the Auditorium**

5:00p **Campus UUs**

All college aged young adults are welcome to weekly gatherings in the Parish House. Contact Maria (maria_ronchi@brown.edu) or Cathy in the church office.

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday, February 25

If Love Were a Plane, No One Would Get On

Rev. Liz Lerner Maclay

The title of this sermon is taken from a country song by Liz's favorite country artist, Brad Paisley. And it's true – the odds of love surviving, even of marriages surviving, aren't great. On the other side of the marriage equality battle, having won the right to marry for so many, what have we won? What is this ancient, modern institution – what does it mean, what should it mean to us in the here and now?

Young people begin in classrooms and worship in chapel.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, February 19

PRESIDENTS' HOLIDAY - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

2:00p **Food Pantry Open**

7:00p **Benevolent Street Zendo**

Tuesday, February 20

7:00p **Knitting for a Better World**

A weekly gathering for knitting and conversation. Bring your own project or work on one of our group projects. Yarn, needles, and instruction available.

Wednesday, February 21

7:00p **Side with Love**

7:00p **Committee on Ministry**

7:00p **Natural Wisdom and Compassion Meditation**

A weekly drop-in guided meditation adapted from Tibetan Buddhism.

Contact: Ken Bent (kenbent@cox.net)

Thursday, February 22

7:00p **Spiritual Pathways Team**

7:00p **Resist Hate RI**

Saturday, February 24

2:00-5:00p **Path to Membership Class (see page 2)**

For details on these and future programs
(meeting locations, contact information, etc.),
see the monthly newsletter on the church website at
www.firstunitarianprov.org

PROGRAM NEWS

COMMUNITY LIFE

Path to Membership Class

Two-part session, Saturday, February 24, 2:00–5:00p and Sunday, February 25, 12:00–2:00p

The Path to Membership class is for anyone who is interested in membership or in learning more about Unitarian Universalism and First Unitarian. The classes are led by our minister, Rev. Liz Lerner Maclay; our Director of Religious Education, Cathy Seggel; and our Membership Coordinator, Jenn Nardone. Childcare provided if requested in advance.

Registration forms are available in the Newcomers' Café and on the Membership Board in the Parish House hallway.

For questions, contact: Jenn Nardone, Membership Coordinator (mem@firstunitarianprov.org) or call the church office (401.421.7970). On Sundays, Jenn can be found in the Newcomers' Café in the Parish House (behind the fireplace).

Newcomers' Café - Every Sunday during Coffee Hour

Held in the elegant and intimate Paneled Parlor, the Café is hosted by a rotating cast of church members and offers coffee, goodies, and fellowship. If you're new to the church, this is a great place to meet people in a less daunting setting than the regular Coffee Hour. If you've been around for a while, this is a great place to help new folks get acclimated. To sign on as a café host, contact: Jennifer Nardone, Membership Coordinator (mem@firstunitarianprov.org)

Women's Alliance Gourmet Coffee Sale

Why settle for any old coffee. You can create your very own unique coffee using the gourmet coffees sold by the Women's Alliance. They sell two bold coffees, one medium, and two decafs. All types come in both beans and drip-grind 12 oz. bags. And all are organic and freshly roasted in Rhode Island! Your purchase helps the community – the Alliance donates proceeds to worthy causes. Visit their coffee table.

Our Coffee Hour.

Be Our Valentine this month and bring treats for our Coffee Hour. Our Coffee Hour is a cooperative effort organized by The Women's Alliance with donations from our congregation of peanut and peanut butter free baked or bought goodies such as brownies, cookies, fruit, cheese and crackers, sandwiches, coffee cake and more. In order to feed the ravenous crowd each Sunday, we need 8 people bringing donations that serve 24 each. Sign up in the first parlor during Coffee Hour and go home with a reminder so you won't forget. And – you just might get a kiss!

A Night at the Theater - "Twelve Angry Jurors"

Thursday, March 8 at Barker Playhouse

Reception at 6:30p, Performance at 7:30p

Tickets on sale February 18 & 25 during Coffee Hour at the Alliance Coffee Table

The Alliance has purchased half the house (50 seats) on the evening of Thursday, March 8, and is inviting members of the congregation to join them.

Discounted, limited-seating tickets are \$20. There will be a dessert reception before the performance. Reserving your ticket now helps the Alliance plan for the evening. You will be given a ticket as a reminder.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Mitten Tree

As the cold season draws to a close, remember to bring in your outgrown but gently used hats, scarfs, mittens, and gloves for our mitten tree! You can leave them in the basket in the atrium.

Side with Love Meeting

Wednesday, February 21, 7:00p

Sanctuary Thank You!

Thanks to all who donated their Share the Love envelopes towards our sanctuary shower fund. We raised \$850!

Resist Hate RI Meeting

Thursday, February 22, 7:00p

Save the Date!

SisterSong on Friday, March 9, 7:00p

To reserve seating, go to SisterSong In Providence on Google. SisterSong is sponsored by First Unitarian's Side with Love.

Seniors: Show Your Strength

Tuesday, March 6, 9:30-11:00a

How - Attend a Legislative Forum

With - Speaker Nicholas Mattiello & Senate President Dominick Ruggerio

Where - Crowne Plaza Grand Ballroom, Warwick, RI

Free Admission - For info./registration, call 401.351.6710, online: www.sacforum.eventbrite.com

Support a Better System for Aging in Community

Forum Sponsors: Senior Agenda Coalition, RI Senior Center Directors, Leading Age RI, etc.

Church contacts: Bob Cox (rcox45@cox.net) or Dick Bidwell