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First Edition

Sermons

Sunday, February 15, "Troublemakers", Rev. Stephen Kendrick

Stephen writes... "Happy President's Day weekend! If you are up for evading cabin fever and don't mind a little (a lot) chilly weather, I look forward to seeing you all after my brief study break finishing up my book on Mount Auburn Cemetery. In all the controversy over the movie Selma, about the truth of the relationship between President Johnson and MLK, Jr., I got to thinking about the role of religious troublemakers through history--and about one in particular, a certain fellow who remains a troublemaker for religious liberals, named Jesus. We UU's frankly mostly leave the guy alone, happy to let more conservative believers attempt to define him. The problem is that they don't seem to actually know who he was, and why he matters, and why the political and religious powers of his time hated him so much. Enough to kill him. As Martin Luther King died in our own time, and Gandhi, and on and on...Some things never change, and one of these is our need for troublemakers."

Sunday, February 22, "You Be Glad at that Star!", Rev. Stephen Kendrick Also: "The Conversation Project." Rev. Rosemary Lloyd will also be joining Stephen in the pulpit in a dialogue sermon as well, to introduce this Sunday's program on starting conversations on death and dying, her new interfaith ministry. Welcome back, Rosemary!

Stephen writes... "This year's theme is "World of Wonder," and in light of that, I wanted to offer a brief sermon on our responsibility to nurture wonder in our children's lives. Of course, not all of us have kids (or maybe they are grown and far, far away)--but all of us, together, have a responsibility to the future represented by these young lives. Their sense of wonderment and curiosity is so crucial. And the beautiful aspect of that is the sparking of re-imagination in ourselves when we offer that support. Sometimes you need a kid to remind you to wake up!"

We Remember



January and February brought sad news to the congregation with the loss of Gordon Sterling and Ayla Onart. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families during this difficult time. A Memorial Service is planned for 4/4 at 11:30 AM in Gordon's honor. More information to come on a Memorial Service for Ayla.

Ayla Onart



Gordon Sterling



Carol O'Neill Art Reception

During coffee hour after service Sunday, February 15 at 12:30 PM, artist Carol O'Neill will be available to talk about her work that is currently gracing our walls in the Narthex. Take some time and say hello to Carol! Visit www.caroloneillart.org for more information.

The Learning Community Presents: "The Conversation Project"

Sunday, February 22, 12:30 PM

How we die is part of our legacy to our loved ones and our communities. Most Americans express the hope that as they near the end of their lives they will not be a burden for their families and friends. Yet, if we avoid having values-centered conversations about our unique hopes and wishes for care through the end of life, we may be leaving family members in the dark. This omission may result in strife at the bedside and cause lasting damage in the relationships between the people we love the most. At The Conversation Project, our goal is to have everyone's wishes for care through the end of life expressed and respected. This workshop, led by the Rev. Rosemary Lloyd (after participating in the Sunday service), will introduce participants to The Starter Kit. Through guided reflection and small group sharing, the Starter Kit will support and motivate you to have a values-based, relationship-building conversation about an experience that touches us all. All are welcome! Please contact zach@firstchurchboston or call 617-267-6730 by February 17 to sign up for the workshop.



Call for Ringers and Singers

Ringers wanted!

Help us form a handbell choir for Easter Sunday, April 5. Rehearsals will take place from 10:15-10:45 in the chapel on March 15, 22, 29, and April 5. No experience necessary, but please sign up by contacting Paul Cienniwa, pcienniwa@gmail.com

Singers wanted!

Sunday, April 12, is a Music Sunday, featuring Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Rehearsals are on various Sundays during March with a mandatory 9-noon rehearsal on Saturday, April 11. For more information, contact Paul Cienniwa, pcienniwa@gmail.com