

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 2021



Welcome to Arlington Street's newest member, Sully,
just relocated from NEADS to Boston! *Congratulations, Rev. Jo!*

Dear Ones,

This Sunday morning, in honor of Indigenous Peoples Day, Yulia Yun opens the service on piano, playing pieces by Melissa Sky-Eagle. Our section leaders sing *Comfort Me; Sing and Dance* (text by Kahlil Gibran); and *Draw the Circle Wide*:

Draw the circle wide
No one stands alone
We'll stand side by side
Draw the circle wide

Soprano Hannah Shanefield sings Schubert's *An Die Musik*, and Director of Music Mark David Buckles (guitar) and Julie Metcalf (violin) sing *Life Calls Us On*. Rev. Beth Robbins' sermon is called *In Times of Trouble, It's Time to Dance*. Yulia Yun closes the service on organ playing ABBA's *Dancing Queen*!

Despite the stubbornness of the COVID-19 positivity rate in Boston — we're at 3.25%, now (thanks to our own Dr. Alan Kemp for tracking the numbers for us!) — the sanctuary reopening team is working faithfully. This week, a protocol for virtual coffee hour was discussed at several Zoom gatherings. As of this moment, the thinking is that once we're hybrid, following the Sunday service, Rev. Beth and I will be out on the Arlington Street sidewalk to greet people, and, in addition, breakout rooms will open in the Zoom room, as they do now. If people want to visit in breakout rooms, those Zooming in will do what they've always done, and those who have been in the service in person will spread out throughout the sanctuary, making sure they're at least 10' away from anyone else (both to physically distance and to avoid feedback and that crazy echo!), and go to a breakout room. Rev. Beth and I will still be outside after "virtual coffee hour" ends!

Please help spread the word that everyone who comes into the church will be required to be masked as well as vaccinated, and will be asked to review this “symptom check” (thanks to our own Dr. Richard Marshall for providing this — and congratulations to Richard on his retirement! Richard’s pediatric practice, which has served so many children we all love, will continue to be served by Dr. Marshall: his son!):

1. I am vaccinated against COVID-19.
2. I have not tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
3. I have not had an exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
4. I have not experienced any of the following mild symptoms in the past 14 days:

Nasal congestion (not related to allergies, etc.)
Muscle aches (myalgia)
Fever above 100.4°
Cough (not related to allergies, etc.)
Shortness of breath
Diarrhea (new or worsening for greater than 24 hours)
Sudden loss of taste or smell

If you cannot answer YES to all four questions, please plan to attend the service on Zoom!

We’re getting there!

*Faithfully yours, with love,
Kim*

During the pandemic, our own Margaret Femia joined the New Hampshire chapter of a national women’s art association, Women for Art, and Zoomed in to monthly meetings and programs. Now, they are mounting a show called “Kick Start.” All the artwork was created based on the theme of “shoes,” with pieces that speak to how they’re kick-starting their lives. Margaret created a piece, pictured below, featuring the names of almost 50 women artists, writers, performers, and politicians. She titled it “Filling Our Shoes with Talent and Leadership.” This past week, a photo of her shoe appeared in the statewide entertainment newspaper, along with a review. *Congratulations, Margaret!* If you can get up to New Hampshire before Halloween, you can see it for yourself at Twiggs Gallery (254 King Street, Boscawen, NH).

