



THURSDAY, MARCH 18TH, 2021



Dear Ones,

Today is the first anniversary of our very first Tea Party. Rev. Beth and I have loved every moment of every single one! Just when I think they can't possibly be more intimate, more poignant, or more hilarious, they are. My heart. *Thank you.*

If you haven't joined us yet, make yourself a cuppa, pull up a chair, and go to ASCBoston.org to click through some Wednesday afternoon. You are so welcome!

A reminder that this Saturday afternoon, March 20th, members of the Capital Campaign Kitchen Cabinet will be at the Great Doors of Arlington Street Church from 1:00-3:00, handing out thank-you gifts to those of you who donated to All Souls: A Campaign for the Preservation of Arlington Street Church! Please plan to stop by (drive by or walk up; the protocol will be COVID-safe) and say hello! If you're local and can't make it, please connect with another church member to ask them to pick up yours, too. Thanks to Philip Roberts, who mailed gifts this week to those of you at a distance. *Enjoy!*

There's a lot going on this coming week — I look forward to seeing you *every evening!* I'm especially excited about the first of three Historic Dinners! On Thursday, please plan to sit down to dinner in the Arlington Street Zoom room with Arlington Street's archivist and historian, Holly Hendricks. Come hear amazing tales of the early days of our congregation, which was founded in a barn in 1729!

But first ... this Sunday! Highlights include Yulia Yun playing pieces by Clara Schumann (piano) and *When You're Smiling* (organ!). Rev. Joanna Lubkin sings *Where Do We Come From?*; Hana Omori and her father, Kazuhiro Omori, sing *Into the Unknown* from Frozen 2; Daniel Rosensweig sings Bobby McFerrin's *The 23rd Psalm*; and Director of Music Mark David Buckles and Julie Metcalf sing the Indigo Girls' *Closer to Fine*. Ali Jablonsky is our worship coordinator. My sermon is called Living the Questions.

Two updates:

1. Thanks to Laura Pattison, who reports that Beloved Conversations, a program for Unitarian Universalists seeking to embody racial justice as a spiritual practice, is off to a great start! Participants have received their first of six lessons; “Faithful Practice, Nourishment, and Ancestors” includes videos, activities, and additional resources. They were also assigned to “learning pods” and met with them this past week. In addition, Meaning Making sessions for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) participants have begun; those for white participants begin soon. Thanks to Arlington Street’s Transformation Team for Racial Justice and to the Prudential Committee, our governing board, for this good work!

2. Jon Andersen-Miller, Chair of our Restoration Committee, writes that he received inquiries about why the soil is being tested under my parking space at the church. Here’s his explanation, verbatim: “So they’re doing soil testing for stairs, ramp, and paving, to see how to engineer the foundations so they don’t sink ... being that the Back Bay is landfill on swamp (they basically find layers of Needham clay, then gravel, then pilings). I wish I could say they’re tapping a new oil well.” I laughed, but it turns out he was serious; Jon reports that “Beverly Hills High School has an active oil well in their sports field, disguised behind some architectural folly. It actually funds many of their budgets!”

Happy Spring, beloveds!

*Faithfully yours, with love,
Kim*



Deb Haaland of the Pueblo of Laguna tribe is sworn in as our nation's first Indigenous Secretary of the Interior.