

Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights November 15, 2018



Upcoming Worship

Sunday, November 18th

10:30 am All Ages Worship, Sanctuary

Honorable Harvesters

Drawing on the wisdom of communities native to this land, this service explores "the Honorable Harvest" - asking permission of the earth, taking only what we need and giving something in return. We will also give thanks for many blessings by welcoming new members into the community.

You may contribute to this service by bringing a pie as it is the annual **Pie Sunday**, held in memory of Karen Barton who often brought pie to coffee hour to sweeten the experience. And **Bring a Friend!**

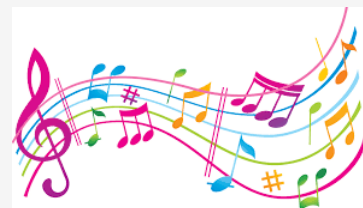
This service will serve as religious education for the day so there will be **no Family Worship or morning Religious Education programming.**

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, this Sunday one half of our gifts will be set aside for the **Winchester Unitarian Society Minister's Discretionary Fund**. The MDF provides support to individuals and families in financial distress within and beyond the congregation. (We will soon make a donation from the MDF to the Woburn Council of Social Concern for \$300 towards holiday gift cards for low-income families.)

Music

There are so many great opportunities for singing at the Winchester Unitarian Society.

Hymn Sing: First Tuesday of the month at 7:15 p.m. in the Meyer Chapel.



Adult Choir rehearses 8:45 am on Sunday mornings.

Children's Chorale every Tuesday @ 6:15 pm in the Sunshine (Spirit Play) Room. All children grades 2-6 are most welcome. **(NO Children's Chorale 11/20)**

Our Youth Choir every Tuesday @ 6:15 pm in the Meyer Chapel. All singers in grades 7-12 are most welcome. **(NO Youth Choir 11/20)**

The more the merrier, so don't be shy about getting involved.
Questions? Contact John Kramer at john.kramer@winchesteruu.org

A Concert for Immigration Justice
This Sunday, November 18th, 2018 @ 7 PM
First Parish in Concord
20 Lexington, Road, Concord, MA

Featuring The Immigrant Experience a cantata in seven movements by John Kramer
Performed by a coalition choir of singers from First Parish in Concord,
Winchester Unitarian Society, First Unitarian Universalist Society in Newton,
First Parish in Bedford, Arlington Street Church, First Parish in Sherborn and others.

Please click [HERE](#) to print flyer.

<https://www.winchesteruu.org/events/a-concert-for-immigration-justice/>

Religious Education

THIS SUNDAY

Morning Groups

This week our Religious Education program is the worship service. We look forward to reflecting and celebrating together. As we give thanks, we also welcome new members, Children's Chorale and Youth Choirs sing and members of WUSYG will be leading the first reflections. And afterward, we shall all eat pie!

Afternoon Groups:

Our Whole Lives: Our Whole Lives meets **4:30-6:00 PM**. Sophia Sid and Sarah Milt lead the group this week as we explore sexual orientation/identity and the harmful stereotypes that pervade our culture. Middle schoolers are also welcome to join us as we explore Unitarian Universalism in Neighboring Faiths, or participate in worship at 10:30.

Potluck Theology: 4:30-6:30 Metcalf Kitchen with dinner in Symmes. We explore the "service" aspect of our faith along with an herb bundling project for our Thanksgiving basket distribution and mitten tree preparations. Rebecca Kelley Morgan leads the Theology and we all learn and serve together.

Family Worship at Winchester Unitarian Society 10:00 a.m. Sundays

Family Worship happens in the chapel at 478 Main Street from 10:00-10:20, all Sundays in November and December, excepting 11/18 and 12/16 and 12/30.

S-16 and Counting, Rebecca's Sabbatical Approaches

As many of you know, I am entering my tenth year of service at Winchester Unitarian Society and after many transitions and challenges I am taking five months of my

accrued Sabbatical leave from Dec 1st – April 30th, returning to the congregation on May 1st.

Things appear to be settled, with temporary coverage and support for Sunday morning programming. Our five teachers Charlotte Bradley, Beatrice McGee, Caroline O'Callaghan, Christian Sauer, Elizabeth Sharon and Program Assistant, Evan Forcucci will be supported by Terry Currier who is stepping in to provide leadership and support. The worship team has matters in hand, with Heather and others leading family worship and the parts of the 10:30 service that I have led or supported until now. The Our Whole Lives program is underway, with Heather and Marianne both training as OWL leaders (along with Ryan Levering) in January 2019. Between these three, and those who have led the program in years past, there are many who are equipped to problem solve with the current facilitation team. The Growth and Learning Committee will have access to our ministerial staff, should they need (although they will be meeting without a staff Liaison in my absence) and the Religious Education Committee will have Heather and/or Marianne at their meetings. Although one thinks of the sabbatical as time away for the professional, it is also a growth season for the congregation. You may use skills and capacities that would never have been called forth if not for my absence. I am going to miss you all, and I hope these five months are rich and fulfilling for all of us.

WUSYG

Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group

This Sunday WUSYG leads the 1st Reflection during the 10:30 AM Service. Participants should plan to meet in the Meyer Chapel at 9:45 for a rehearsal. All WUSYGers are encouraged to attend the service as part of our 1st What's Up WUSYG, which will be followed by joining Pie Sunday then brunch and conversation in the WUSYG Room 'til 1 pm. We'll also have a regular meeting at 4:30 pm.

To check out more about what is happening in WUSYG, please [click here to see the WUSYG Newsletter](#).

Other dates and info about following us on social media (please join our Facebook group and follow us on Instagram!) can be found on our recently-updated website:

<https://www.winchesteruu.org/youth>

Congregational News

Office closed

**Thursday, November 22 & Friday, November 23
for Thanksgiving**

**All Highlights submissions for next week are due:
Tuesday, November 20 at 9:00 am**

We Believe in Dog

This Saturday - November 17th

Last Walk of the Season!

NOTE DIFFERENT TIME



WBID is a gathering of WUS members and friends – and their dogs – who walk together in the Fells. You don't need to have a dog to participate! But all dogs who do come must be friendly and vaccinated. We next gather Saturday, November 17th. We will meet at the second of three entrances to the Middlesex Fells on Hillcrest Parkway at **9:45**

am and start walking around **9:50**. (The "earlier than usual" time is to accommodate a memorial service beginning at 11:00 am.) If you intend to come, contact Rev. Heather (heather.janules@winchesteruu.org) with your cell number (if applicable) so she can call you if you are not there at walking time. Hope to see you there!

SABBATICAL LEAD TEACHER

We are pleased to announce that WUS member Terry Currier has agreed to serve as the Sunday morning Lead Teacher for the Religious Education program during Rebecca Kelley-Morgan's five-month sabbatical (beginning on December 1st.) Terry's primary responsibilities will be training and supporting the teen teaching team.



Here are a few words from Terry:

I'm really excited for the opportunity to serve the Winchester Unitarian church by taking the position of lead teacher while Rebecca is on sabbatical. I raised two children in this church, and I am not exaggerating when I say that their experience in the religious education program was life-altering. It instilled in them qualities of compassion, empathy and inclusiveness. It encouraged thoughtfulness and reflection. It provided encouragement, acceptance and support. And it opened their eyes to a world beyond their personal domain of comfort and privilege. I am honored and proud to play a small part in providing this experience to your children.

Terry will take a leave-of-absence from her position on the Standing Committee during her temporary employment. Thank you, Terry, for serving WUS in this important way!



Bring-a-Friend - This Sunday

November 18th is a very special Sunday – It's Bring-a-Friend, New Member, and Pie Sunday all rolled into one! WUS Membership Committee is delighted to celebrate our beloved community and warmly welcome those

who are new to us, as well as those who want to form a deeper connection to Winchester Unitarian Society by "signing the book." This week's intergenerational service will reflect on gratitude and our inter-dependence, and we congregate afterwards with Pie! It's a wonderful Sunday to bring your favorite person (and pie!) to WUS. ****If you are planning to bring a pie to share, please label the ingredients.**** Thank you.

If you are interested in becoming a member and "signing the book" on November 18,



Thanksgiving Baskets

Thanks to everyone who signed up to donate Thanksgiving baskets! Drop off is **this Sunday, 11/18**, in Metcalf Hall from 9:00-

10:30 am (with early drop off at 8:30 for choir members). Please contact Alison Kirchgasser at akirchgasser@hotmail.com or 617-290-4323 with any questions.



New Staff Covenant

We often say we practice not a creedal faith but a covenantal one, with our promises of how to be together as that which unifies the community. Many groups within the WUS congregation have covenants. It is common practice to revisit covenants from time-to-time as new people join a group.

The staff team has recently revisited our covenant. You may read the new version here: <https://www.winchesteruu.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Staff-Covenant-V2-Final.pdf>

Partner Church News

A group of six WUS families has stepped forward to support Anna Kiss in her studies in artisanry in Kolozsvar, Transylvania. Anna will be our eleventh Partner Church scholarship student. (Last week's Highlights said she would be the tenth; we missed one in our count.) Her supporters are: Larry Banks, Barbara Savage and Patrick Draine, Peter and Vicky Coccoluto, Margaret Higham, and Roy Cummings. Many thanks to all of them for their commitment to Anna. And many thanks, too, to the three families who volunteered after our limit of six had been reached. We're hopeful that our partners in Transylvania will have more scholarship candidates in the near future.



Joys, Sorrows & Transitions

If you are facing a time of joy, sorrow or transition in your life, our ministers and the Pastoral Care Associates are available to offer a listening ear, compassionate presence and, if applicable, resources. Contact the office, 781-729-0949 or office@winchesteruu.org.

Social & Environmental Action

Upcoming Justice Programs

Social Action and Outreach is now taking orders for Fair Trade organic COFFEE and CHOCOLATE. We buy at wholesale prices and support small farmers coops in Latin America. Order forms are available at the Social Action table, or by email from

Claire McNeill. **The deadline is NOVEMBER 18.**

Buy UU Service Committee Christmas and Holiday cards at WUS. Social Action and Outreach will sell cards on Sundays: \$10 for 10 cards. See the 5 styles at our table. You may pay cash (or *write a check to the UUSC*) and give to a SAOC member.

A display of 287 transgender pride flags was placed on the front lawn of First Parish Church of Stow & Acton (FPC) in support of the transgender community at a time when transgender rights are coming up for referendum in Massachusetts. The blue, pink and white striped flags represent the people worldwide who were victims of anti-transgender murder in 2017. **On November 20 the church will host a Transgender Day of Remembrance service at 7 pm.**

Take action in November to protect immigrants. MIRA is coordinating public comments opposing the Trump administration proposal to deny a green card or visa to anyone who could be deemed to be a **“public charge.”** They would exclude anyone below 125% of FPL (\$31,375 for a family of 4). Immigrants deemed a “public charge” could be turned away from public programs for working families, including free school lunch. MIRA has created tools to help individuals create a public comment. **CLICK HERE.**

Hawaii: The Stolen Paradise

When: Sat Nov 17, 7:00 - 9:30 PM Where: First Church Unitarian, 19 Foster St., Littleton

Hawaii was a recognized independent nation prior to January 17, 1893. On that day, the nation and government were illegally overthrown by the United States. The first of a free film series explores the lives and experiences of the “other” and expands our awareness of often marginalized individuals and groups. All are welcome. **FLYER**

UU Mass Action forwarded two ways to help the people who are traveling from Honduras. The Exodus – previously referred to as the “caravan.” This group of people who are walking from Honduras to the US border has asked to be referred to as an exodus. They are fleeing from violence and poverty. A preliminary list of needs has been developed by our partners at UUSC & Love Resists. To learn how you can contribute, **CLICK HERE.**

Volunteers are urgently needed at the Annunciation House in El Paso, Texas, which is receiving over 1,000 asylum seekers a week. The UU College of Social Justice is organizing teams to go for a minimum of one week, as well as placing longer-term volunteers at a migrant shelter in Guadalajara, Mexico.

To learn more and apply: **<http://www.uucsj.org/volunteer/us-asylum/>**

Jericho Walk at Burlington ICE

When: Tue Nov 20, 1:00 – 2:00 PM Where: 1000 District Ave, Burlington

Hosted by Burlington Area Clergy 4 Justice – see **Facebook Page** for more details **Parking Instructions** and **route information**

Temple Isaiah Hosts Refugee Simulation

Sunday, December 2, 2018

55 Lincoln Street, Lexington

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM in the Social Hall

In this program, we will undertake an initiative known as a "Refugee Simulation," based on a program that was provided to all Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) staff at a retreat in December, 2017. For more information, please go to: <https://www.winchesteruu.org/events/temple-isaiah-hosts-refugee-simulation/>

HELP the CHURCH OF THE LARGER FELLOWSHIP mail cards to incarcerated members!

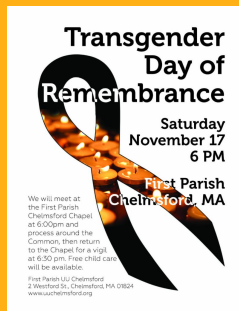
The Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF), an **online** and **by mail UU congregation**, has thousands of members world-wide, including nearly 900 members currently incarcerated in the US. In December, we will be personally addressing **900 holiday cards and mailing them to our UU incarcerated members.**

The CLF is housed at UUA headquarters in the Seaport District, 24 Farnsworth St, Boston...not far away, and worth the trip!

Volunteers needed

- Tuesday, December 11: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Thursday, December 13: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Free coffee & tea, and gratitude. Bring friends! Bring your favorite pen. **RSVP to Beth Murray, bmurray@clfuu.org.**



9th Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil at First Parish Chelmsford Saturday, November 17

<https://www.winchesteruu.org/events/transgender-day-of-remembrance-first-parish-chelmsford-11-17/>

Woburn Food Pantry

Next time you go shopping, please consider buying extra **canned soup and cake & bread mixes** for the Council of Social Concern's Food Pantry. These are the items they need this month to stock their shelves. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday Volunteers & Flower Dedications



Sign Up for Coffee Hour Refreshments

Help make Sunday mornings more



Flower Dedications

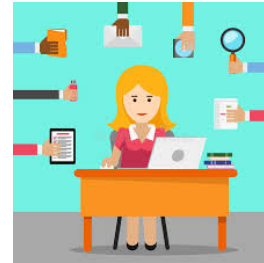
Dates are available for flower dedications. You may dedicate flowers in

welcoming and joyful by bringing refreshments for coffee hour! If you are willing to be contacted when **sign-ups** are needed, please email janetnelson@comcast.net to put yourself on the contact list.

Usually two people sign up to bring finger foods for one Sunday. We truly appreciate your willingness to be asked to help out in this simple way – thank you!

Sunday Secretaries

Sign up to be a Sunday Secretary for Sundays. Please contact the office at 781-729-0949 or office@winchesteruu.org if you're willing to consider it!



celebration of, in memory of, or in honor of someone and it will appear in the Order of Service.

The cost is \$45.00 (or you can bring your own flowers, but let the office know). Please click to **sign up** or use the sign up sheets in the foyer.

Ongoing

Yoga, Meditation, Qi Gong, Caregiver Support Group and Grief, Loss and Transitions Group

See Ongoing Activities at:

<https://www.winchesteruu.org/news/ongoing-activities-groups/>

Deadlines

Sunday Morning Announcements Guidelines: [Click here](#)

For Highlights submissions: Wednesdays, 9:00 am

For submissions to the OOS: Thursdays, 9:00 am

Email to jenny@winchesteruu.org. No more than 250 words, please.

Staying Connected

Visit the WUS website!

- Read the latest Highlights and Mystic Messenger in **the news section**.
- Want to know if a room is free, or when your meeting is? View **the calendar page**.
- Need the latest directory, or a list of committee chairs? Go to **the members' section** (**contact the office** for the password).
- Want to set up electronic giving? Go to the **How to Give page**.

It's probably on the website!

(And if it's not, let us know)