

# Winchester Unitarian Society

## Highlights January 17th, 2019



*Photo: A Christmas Cactus Blossom Anticipates the Future*

## Upcoming Worship

**\*\*Snow is predicted Saturday night to Sunday.  
If worship is canceled, you will received an email.\*\***

**Sunday, January 20th**

**10:30 am All Ages Worship, Sanctuary**

**The Moral Universe:**

**Celebrating the Spirit of MLK**

**The Rev. Heather Janules**

**Worship Associates: Ivan Correia and Harris Gibson**

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Let us realize the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." With these words, King joined the long line of people who, throughout time, have surrendered their comfort and sometimes their lives in service to "bending the arc." This service celebrate's King's life and legacy while also honoring those who came before him and reflecting on how we might shape "the arc" in our time.

As this multigenerational service is our religious education for the morning, there will be **no Family Worship or Religious Education activities this Sunday.**

This Sunday, we share our gifts with the **Beyond Bond and Legal Defense Fund**, whose mission is to release detainees from the South Bay Immigration Detention Center in Boston, to provide for legal services and to support immigrant-led justice organizations. (Beyond Bond will be our Share the Plate recipient for all of January, as part of a campaign to raise \$5K. Community contributions will be matched, up to \$2K, by the Social Action and Outreach Committee, through their funds for grants.)

## Music

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

**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.

**Our Youth Choir every Tuesday @ 6:15 pm** in the Meyer Chapel. All singers in grades 7-12 are most welcome.



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

## Religious Education

### THIS SUNDAY

#### Morning Groups

There will be no **religious education classes** this Sunday.

#### Afternoon Groups

**Our Whole Lives:** There will be no class this Sunday.

## WUSYG

### *Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group*

#### WUSYG JANUARY HAPPENINGS

- 1) **Parent Potluck this Sunday, January 20th 4:45 pm – 7:30 pm** at the Milt's house: 11 Appalachian Road, Winchester. Parents/guardians of recent alums and prospective WUSYGers are welcome, too. Go to [www.PerfectPotluck.com/GUOR9927](http://www.PerfectPotluck.com/GUOR9927) to sign up for the potluck.
- 2) **Sleepover! Saturday, Feb. 2nd at 7:30 PM** (come fed but bring snacks.)
- 3) **WUSYG-led Service on Sunday, January 27th 10:30 AM.** All WUSYG families should come!

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>

**Office Closed Monday, Jan 21st  
in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

## Congregational News

**Operations analysis**

Last spring the congregation approved a budget for this year with a significant deficit, with the understanding that Standing Committee would undertake an analysis of staffing and other operations. We have a consultation agreement with David Pyle of the UUA, who will conduct a workshop on January 19 to begin the process. The core group that will follow through, with his coaching, will be Patty Cameron, Sue Kiewra, Don Landing, Judy Murray and Kathy Richardson. Expect updates from them in the coming weeks or talk with any of them if you have questions.

### From the Music Committee

Please mark your calendar for our Jazz in the Sanctuary concert which will take place on **Friday, January 25th at 8:00 pm**. This year's theme is Fairy Tales: Think Alice in Wonderful, Someday My Prince will Come, Fee-Fi-Fo-Fum, and much more. And, please consider sponsoring this year's concert series at one of the following levels: \$125, \$200 (Forte Sponsor), or \$300 (Fortissimo Sponsor). Contact Kathryn Maffei at [KLMINC@aol.com](mailto:KLMINC@aol.com) for more sponsorship info.



### Flag Display Discussion after Worship in Michelsen

On January 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a conversation after worship regarding the displaying of flags outside the church. The conversation will encompass the American, Black Lives Matter and the Rainbow flag. Standing Committee would like to get your thoughts on these topics before developing any policies and practices regarding the flags. Below is link to a short four question survey. **Please provide your input!** Due to the limitations of the "free" survey feature we are limited to the first 100 responses. Thank you.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R3FCB7R>

### Worship Debrief

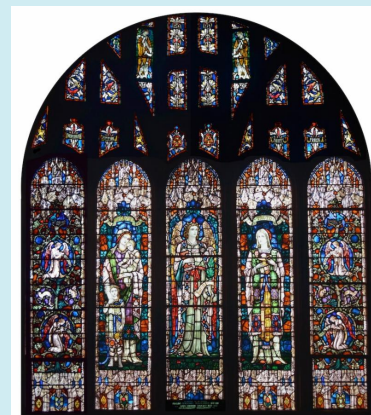
On January 13th, WUS members and friends gathered after worship to discuss recent changes in our services. Due to an unfortunate recycling incident, the notes from the meeting are lost. However, some general conclusions include:

We want to include a brief time of all-community greeting but prefer that it happen very early in the service so it doesn't disrupt the flow of worship.

We have different opinions about asking first-time visitors to fill out an information card in lieu of a financial gift during the offering.

"Kindling of the Light" is appreciated and well-received.

Other ideas include: offering stones and a bowl of water in addition to candles to acknowledge personal joys and sorrows, providing an opportunity for people to write down joys and sorrows when they arrive for naming during the service, and having the



greeters hand newcomers an information card before the service begins.

Drawing on this feedback, the worship team will continue testing different approaches in the coming services. If a critical point is missing from this summation or you have something to add, please email Heather at [heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org)

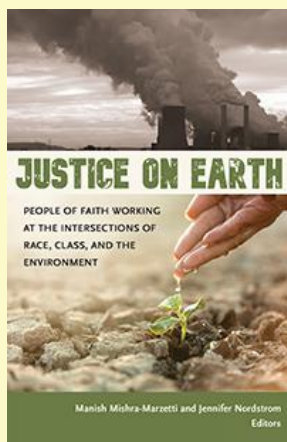
## We're half way there in our Match Campaign to Support the Beyond Bond and Legal Defense Fund

Readers of *Highlights* received a letter right before Christmas, asking for donations to the Beyond Bond and Legal Defense Fund. If you missed it, you can read the letter here: <https://www.winchesteruu.org/the-beyond-bond-legal-defense-fund/>

**Checks can be made out to Episcopal City Mission with "Beyond Bond Fund" in the memo line but need to be mailed to WUS so that SAOC can keep track of congregant donations and its match. All donations are tax deductible. You can also donate through PayPal:**

[Donate through PayPal](#)

As we near the one-year anniversary of the congregational vote that made us a Level 2 congregation and the one-year anniversary of "Maria's" stay with First Parish Bedford, let's keep our commitment to immigrants alive by contributing to this fund and making a real difference in the lives of detainees right now. A Boston Globe article about Beyond Bond has also been posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please check it out.



## "Justice on Earth" books available for Congregational Read

WUS's Growth & Learning Committee has purchased multiple volumes of this book that are now available for members of the congregation to borrow from the Michelsen room. The subtitle of this book is "**People of faith working at the intersection of race, class, and environment**". It is an anthology that presents a powerful look at environmental justice from some key thinkers and activists in Unitarian Universalism today and is offered as thoughtful background for Heather's sermons on environmental justice. Please complete the sign out sheet if you borrow a copy; we ask that you return it within 2 weeks so that others may also read this fascinating compilation. Thank you.

## Results of Racial Justice Survey

In Fall 2018, members of the Racial Justice Team conducted a congregation-wide online survey aimed at gathering opinions and suggestions about possible next steps in fulfilling our commitment to racial justice.

Twenty-six of you commented on programs and activities underway and noted other approaches that might further the cause of racial justice. Thank you for participating! You can access the survey results on [the Racial Justice page](#) of the WUS website:

Results of Structured Questions

Within that group of respondents, several expressed interest in helping plan future activities and were able to meet twice in December. The group discussed the results of the online survey and then created a “thought shower,” organized around current activities and future possibilities.

This “shower” of ideas will be displayed on charts in the Symmes Room. Join us after the two Sunday services (**1/20** and **1/27**) in informal conversations about these rain drops, meant to nourish a more just and compassionate world. Add your comments (written on post-its) and support (voting with dots). What can we do? What might your role be? Let’s get on with this commitment together.

The principles of Unitarian Universalism recognize the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity, and compassion in human relations; the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all; and respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

May it be so.

Phil Coonley, Gloria Legvold, Gordy McIntosh, Claire McNeil, Patty Shepard, Sandy Thompson, Ministerial Intern Marianne DiBlasi, and The Rev. Heather Janules

**Sanctuary Training Now Available**

You may recall in the Sanctuary Task Force’s January update to the congregation, we were pleased to report that the Winchester Unitarian Society now has a total of 42 volunteers. At that time, we also indicated that training would resume in the new year. Dates are now available, as follows:

**Wednesday, January 23, 1 - 3 PM**

**Monday, January 28, 7 - 9 PM**

Both trainings are at **First Parish Bedford, 75 Great Road in room 202**. Please email [marilynmullane@me.com](mailto:marilynmullane@me.com) and Bedford’s Sylvia Cowan at [cowan.sylvia@gmail.com](mailto:cowan.sylvia@gmail.com) if you plan on attending and remember to include the session you will attend. If you have any questions about volunteering, feel free to talk to any members of our task force. We would love to grow our volunteer numbers!

WUS Sanctuary Task Force: Steve Butterfield, Patty Cameron, Rev. Heather Janules, Marilyn Mullane and Sam Wilson

**Jericho Walk at the ICE office in  
Burlington, MA  
on January 29th at 8 AM**

Join us for the monthly Jericho Walk at the ICE office in Burlington, MA. This one is sponsored by the Winchester Unitarian Society and will be co- led by our own Rev. Heather Janules and Cantor Beth Levin of Temple Shir Tikvah. **A carpool will be leaving the church parking lot at 7:15 AM sharp. If interested, e-mail [marilynmullane@me.com](mailto:marilynmullane@me.com)**



The Jericho Walk is a silent interfaith prayer and act of solidarity. The walk draws inspiration from the Battle of Jericho, in which the community marched around the city of Jericho seven times, causing the city walls to fall. The Jericho Walk of today is a silent, peaceful, and prayerful walk to bring down the walls of our unjust immigration system and is open to all, regardless of spiritual belief or religious affiliation.

Please bring signs calling for just treatment of those who are caught in our broken immigration system, suggested messages "Keep Families Together", "No Family Separation", "Not One More/Ni Una Mas", "Not In Our Name". Please refrain from signs explicitly endorsing or condemning any political candidate or official.

**On January 29th at 8 AM, we will gather in front of the ICE Office, at 1000 District Avenue, Burlington MA.** Meet along District Ave. You can park in the parking lot adjacent to the ICE Office.

### Additional Immigration Witnessing Opportunities

- Jericho Walk at Burlington ICE offices - **Tuesday, January 22 at 1:00 pm**
- Prayer Vigil at Boston ICE Detention Center - **Sunday, January 27 at 2:00 pm**
- Also, "Suitcase Stories" will take place **Friday, February 1 at the Somerville Theater at 8:00 pm** in partnership with World Music. These individual stories of refugees have been shown on PBS and schools in the area. More information is available on the website here: <https://iine.org/suitcase>



### MYSTIC VALLEY AREA BRANCH OF NAACP - FUNDRAISER IN METCALF HALL SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 3-7 PM

The Mystic Valley Area Branch of the NAACP's is having their annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser in Metcalf Hall at the Winchester Unitarian Society, 478 Main St., on Saturday, 2/9/19 from 3-7 PM. For more information, please visit: <https://www.winchesteruu.org/events/winetasting-fundraiser-for-mystic-valley-naacp/>

1. [Letter and Form from the Planning Committee of Mystic Valley Area Branch NAACP, PO Box 132, West Medford, MA 02156, www.mva-naacp.org](#)
2. [Flyer for the Wine Tasting](#)

### Save the Date!

The Winchester Unitarian Society membership will ordain former Intern and Summer Minister Deborah Morgan Bennett into the Unitarian Universalist ministry on **Saturday, April 6th at 4:00 pm.**

If you would like to serve on the Ordination Committee, please contact Rev. Heather at [heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org)



### Joys, Sorrows & Transitions

Our condolences are with **Sally DeGan** and **Alison Kirchgasser** with the recent and unexpected death of Alison's father, William Kirchgasser, of Potsdam, NY.

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,

## Social & Environmental Action

**You can spend the WHOLE day celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday on Monday, January 21st in Medford, in our own church and in Arlington.** For more information on events details, please click **HERE**.

At WUS there will be a **Family Friendly Birthday Celebration - 3:30-5 PM**, in Metcalf Hall, sponsored by the WMCNetwork and Family Action Network (FAN). See below for more information.

Don't forget the event at our church on Sunday, **January 27: Why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism**, presented by members of the WUS Racial Justice Book Group. Gathering at 1:45, begins at 2:00 pm.

**Save the Date:** The Safe Communities Legislation will be refiled this year. The Advocacy Day at the State House will be Wednesday, **January 30th**.

**Engage in local and statewide advocacy with UU Mass Action!** For upcoming events, go to: <https://www.uumassaction.org/new-events> or visit WUS' [Social Action & Outreach](#) page.

**Engage in national-level actions with [UU's for Social Justice](#).**

**Please join the Winchester Multicultural Network (WMCN) and the Family Action Network (FAN) for a family-friendly afternoon honoring the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr and his commitment to social justice and racial equity.**

**Monday, January 21, 2019**

**3:30 pm - 5:00 pm**

Winchester Unitarian Church, Metcalf Hall

(Entered only from the rear of the Church off Mystic Valley Parkway)

Door opens at 3:30 pm.

**Performance begins at 4 pm.**

This event is family-friendly, as well as free and open to the public.

For more information, please click [HERE](#).

### Environmental Justice

Visit the WUS [Green Sanctuary & Environmental Justice web page](#) for opportunities to

- [Join the Massachusetts Green New Deal Webinar 1/17/19](#)
- [Recycle your electronics at Mt. Auburn Cemetery 1/26/19](#)



### Woburn Food Pantry

Next time you go shopping, please consider buying extra **canned** and **dry soup** 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 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](mailto: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

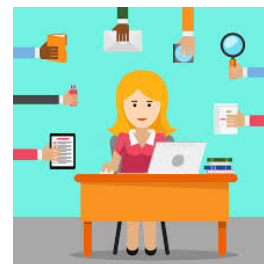
**Sign up** to be a Sunday Secretary for Sundays. Please contact the office at 781-729-0949 or [office@winchesteruu.org](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org) if you're willing to consider it!



## Flower Dedications

Dates are available for flower dedications. You may dedicate flowers in 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](mailto: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**.



Winchester Unitarian Society | 478 Main St. Winchester MA 01890  
(781) 729-0949 | office@winchesteruu.org | www.winchesteruu.org