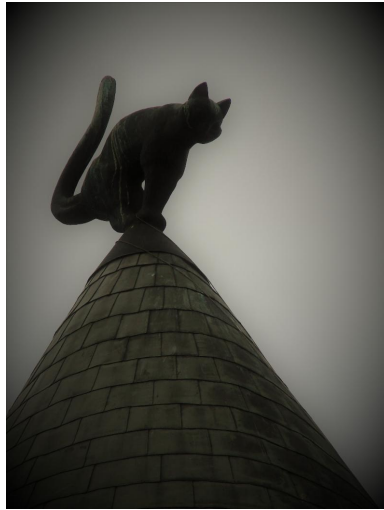


# Winchester Unitarian Society

## Highlights March 28th, 2019



*Photo: For this month exploring "curiosity," we share this photo of The Black Cat of Riga, Latvia. Legend has it that it was installed so its back would be to a guild that denied the artist entrance. Regardless of the intent, the Cat – perpetually surveying the city - reminds us that curiosity is not always a dangerous thing.*

## Upcoming Worship

**Sunday, March 31st, 2019**

**10:00 am Family Worship, Meyer Chapel**

*For young children, their adult friends and those with an inner child*

**The Parable of the Bananas**

**10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary**

*Children participate in the first 20 minutes and may leave for religious education activities while adults remain for the entire service*

**Moving Forward By Looking Back**

The Rev. Mary Margaret Earl and Karen Erikson

Worship Associate: Lee Barton

As we deepen our awareness of injustices in the world, we are eager to press for progress. But to really understand our context, and make deep change, we need to understand our history first. This service will explore social change from the broad perspective of history and through reflections by WUS member Karen Erikson, serving in a ministry fostering contemporary change, one life at a time.

This Sunday, we share our gifts with the organization Rev. Earl serves, the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry which "unites communities and transforms individuals through education, service, and advocacy. [They] engage communities and congregations in social action and change, with programs that empower youth and

adults to realize their full potential.”

## Music

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

**Adult Choir** rehearses 8:45 am on Sunday mornings.

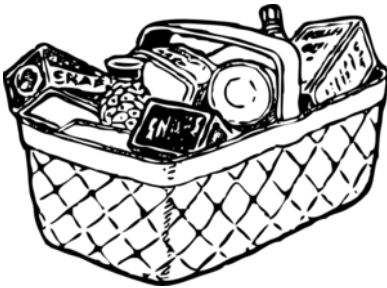
**Children's Chorale every Tuesday @ 6:15 pm** in the Sunshine (Spirit Play) Room. All children grades 2-6 are most welcome.

**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



### Planning Ahead

On Easter Sunday, we will again have a **Canned Food Hunt** so the children can have fun looking for these goodies around and right outside the building and we as a community can support our neighbors in need through the **Woburn Council of Social Concern**.

**Please consider picking up extra cans of food** when you next go shopping and place them either in the regular WCSC basket beneath the Social Action and Outreach bulletin board in the Symmes Room or beneath the Social Action table. Thank you!

### THIS SUNDAY Morning Groups

**World of Wonder:** This week we continue exploring life cycles by studying the important role *decomposition* plays. As Unitarian Universalist we understand that all cycles of life – both growth and decay - are vital and important. Beatrice and Caroline lead the group.

**Moral Tales:** This week we explore the concept of “*doing no harm*.” As Unitarian Universalists we believe that all of our actions have consequences, and we remind ourselves that we have the power to hurt and harm, or the power to do good. Teachers Elizabeth and Charlotte lead the group.

**Neighboring Faiths:** Today we learn about *Jewish practices and beliefs*. As Unitarian Universalist we understand that we have much in common with our Jewish brethren, including our belief in generosity, fairness, and the pursuit of social justice. Terry leads the group.

### Afternoon Groups

**Our Whole Lives** meets at **4:30** in the Wallace Room. This week members of the **SpeakOUT! panel** will address the group. *SpeakOUT!* is a panel discussion program designed to increase awareness about the diversity of different sexual

orientations and gender identities through peer contact and conversation. Sophia Sid leads the group.

## WUSYG

### *Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group*

Our final, mandatory service trip meeting will be **THIS SUNDAY** 3/31 from 4-5 PM in the Chapel downstairs. Families are strongly encouraged to stay for the Community-Wide program on Environmental Racism from 5-6:30 PM that will be co-led by Sam with some help from WUSYGers (this program is our WUSYG for the night, but it is multigen and open to anyone! See more info. elsewhere in this newsletter.)

The remaining trip payments (\$200 for most of you, if you paid the \$100 deposit) are due at this meeting and we will also have you sign permission slips and give out a packing list and other final details. In the meantime, please also let us know if you/your child's dietary needs have shifted since registration, as we will be in touch with the Ferry Beach chef this week. Thank you!

To see more upcoming dates and info about our upcoming events, please use [this link to our latest newsletter](#).

Other dates and info about following us on social media can be found on our website: <https://www.winchesteruu.org/youth>

## Congregational News



Second week of spring so time to start spring cleaning which means scouring your attic, digging into your basement, and taking a peek into that guest room closet for new or gently used items for our only fundraiser this year!

We need:

- Antiques, Art and Collectibles
- China, Silver and Crystal
- Books and CD's
- Toys, Crafts and Games
- Sporting Goods<sup>[1]</sup>
- Clothes
- Electronics, Technology Items and Video Games
- Indoor and Outdoor Furniture
- Garden Supplies
- Tools
- Home Goods including lamps and decorative items
- Kitchen Essentials including small appliances, dish sets and utensils
- Jewelry including Antique, Estate and quality Costume

- Musical Instruments
- Shoes
- Feminine Boutique Items - Brand Name Clothing, Hats and Purses

While our rummage sale isn't until June 1 (Winchester's Town Day), this is the perfect time to start setting aside those games your kids aren't playing with anymore, silver you inherited from your mother or an iPhone you just replaced. Remember, this is not your average rummage sale, so please make sure your offerings pass muster.

And, we are always looking for volunteers...it takes a village! So, e-mail **bebowles13@gmail.com** to learn how you can help.

Betsy Bowles  
Chair

Marilyn Mullane  
Advertising Coordinator

<sup>[1]</sup> We can only accept Sporting Goods Helmets that are new and still have their tags.

### From the Music Committee:

Thank you to all who attended our Tracy Grammer concert on Friday night. Tracy and her band held our attention with a mix of folk and country music, as well as some very interesting story-telling. 125 people attended bringing in \$1350 at the door. It was a delightful community event with quite a few new faces in the crowd. Many thanks to so many of you for supporting and carrying out another successful concert series!



### Chili Cook-Off and WUSYG Fundraiser Thank You!

Thanks again to everyone who participated in this year's 15th Annual Chili Cook-off and Chili/Mac N Cheese competition. We wanted to share our final vote tally for the winners: Colette Drane won the vegetarian category with 17 votes, Tyson Kamikawa won the red meat category with 16 votes, the Moore family won the white meat category with 16 votes, and Terrill Levering bested the mac n cheese competition with 13. We also wanted to specifically thank the following entrants for their excellent dishes as well: the O'Callaghan family, Claire Fadness, Luke Macannuco, John & Rebecca Keller, Jameson & Heather Hannon, Mary Mitchell, Isobel Magee, the Murray/Pidacks family, Steve Forcucci, Sara Delano, Patty Cameron, Sheila Rudolf-Correia, Larry Bradley, Caroline Bronski & Erin Graham, Karen Caputo, Donna Reed, Don Landing, Griffin Correia, Gary Price, Shawn Macannuco, the O'Donnell family, James Pidacks, and Arthur Richardson.

We also wanted to extend a special thank you to Donna Reed, Marcy Tompson and Patrick Flaherty for helping so much in the kitchen beforehand, Karin Sangster for finding such amazing prizes, and Karin, Donna, Sheila Correia and Fritzie Nace in particular for staying afterwards for so long to help clean up the kitchen. Of course a huge thank you, again, to James Pidacks for helming the event and devoting so much of his time and energy before and during to help ensure this event was as successful as it always is! We are thrilled to share that the fundraiser also helped WUSYG surpass its group fundraising goal for before their April 15th trip to Ferry Beach.

### SUMMER SERVICES:

**Do You Have A Sermon in You?**

Summer services will begin on June 16 and end September 1. These services are led by lay members of the congregation.

If you are interested in leading a service, please see coordinator **Lee Barton** at church or contact him: [lee.barton2009@gmail.com](mailto:lee.barton2009@gmail.com).



You would give a 15 to 20 minute Reflection on a topic that relates in some way to our Unitarian Universalist values and principles. You would have help planning and carrying out the rest of the service. Please consider it!

## From the Intern Minister

From March 24 – April 6, I will be in Chicago attending the in-person classroom portion of my seminary classes at Meadville-Lombard Theological School. Meadville's low-residency model allows me to live and learn locally and travel to Chicago for intensive classroom time once each semester. While in Chicago, I will be available by email, although my response times may be slow. I am already looking forward to seeing you when I get back!

Marianne DiBlasi, Intern Minister



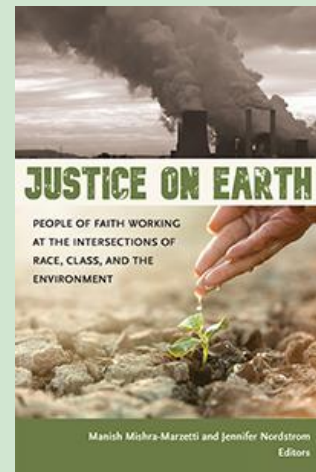
## Grief, Loss and Transitions Group Meets Tonight, March 28th

7:30 - 9:00 PM, Parlor

Those living through times of bereavement, uncertainty and transition are warmly invited to this peer-led support group. Meetings are confidential and facilitated by a group leader. No RSVP is required.

## A Community Conversation About Environmental Racism This Sunday, March 31st, 5:00 - 6:30, Metcalf Hall

Inspired by "Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersection of Race, Class and the Environment," we will hold a community program and conversation about environmental racism (the ways in which degradation of the earth and the marginalization of people-of-color and other communities are connected.)



As this program is part of our youth group's preparation for their climate justice service trip, the program will be intergenerational. Participants from outside the WUS congregation are warmly and heartily encouraged to attend.

Questions? Ideas? Contact Sam Wilson, Patty Shepard or the ministry team.

You are encouraged to sign out and read a copy of "Justice on Earth" from the Michelsen Room in advance of March 31st. Many thanks to **Growth and Learning** for making these books available and co-sponsoring this event!

## The Ordination of Deb Morgan Bennett Saturday, April 6, at 4 p.m.

The Winchester Unitarian Society will be ordaining our former Intern Minister, Deb Morgan Bennett, into the Unitarian Universalist ministry on Saturday, April 6th, at 4 p.m. All are warmly invited to attend both the ordination in the Sanctuary and the supper reception that will follow in Metcalf Hall. For those with children who are too young or restless to attend the ceremony, drop-in childcare will be available from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.



Helping hands will be needed for the reception before, during and after, including contributing cookies and dips. **Please click [HERE](#) to see the ways you can lend a hand and thank you.**

During the ordination, we will be presenting Deb with a gift from the congregation. If you would like to contribute, you can drop off or send a check to the office made out to the Winchester Unitarian Society with "Deb's ordination" in the memo line.

[Click here to view EVITE and RSVP](#)



### WUS Seeks Summer Minister/Administrator

With Administrator Alison Baron's departure in mid-June and Administrative Assistant Jenny Goh visiting family in July and August, the office is without administrative staff this summer. The Standing Committee will add some administrative responsibilities to the Summer Minister role this year. Due to a mandatory class, unfortunately Intern Minister Marianne DiBlasi is unable to serve as Summer Minister so **we are seeking outside candidates**. If you know UU seminarians or retired ministers who might be interested, please

forward the following posting:

*The Winchester Unitarian Society seeks a part-time Summer Minister/Administrator for July and August of 2019 for about 20 hours/week. Primary responsibilities are providing regular ministerial presence in Sunday services (leading two and participating in most others,) helping to coordinate service planning, responding to pastoral care needs along with our committed Pastoral Care Associates team and offering one informal program or community-building activity. Due to a temporary absence of administrative support this summer, the Summer Minister/Administrator will also open the Society office according to a posted and predictable schedule a few hours each weekday and respond to simple requests via phone, mail and email. When there are no office tasks to be done, the SM/A may complete their ministerial tasks while staffing the office.*

*Compensation is \$2,000/month or \$4,000 for the season with responsibilities beginning July 1 and ending August 31<sup>st</sup>. Please submit a cover letter and resume to Parish Minister Heather Janules at [heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org) by May 1<sup>st</sup>. You may also direct questions to Heather at that address.*

Thank you!

## Joys, Sorrows & Transitions

It is with sadness that we announce the death of **Eleanor DuToit**, WUS's oldest member. Ellie died on Tuesday of this week. Once memorial service plans are finalized, they will be shared with the congregation. Our condolences are with Ellie's family and many friends in the congregation.

Congratulations are with **Kristine Kamikawa**, whose paintings will be part of an art exhibit with an opening this Saturday. Learn more at:

<https://www.winchesteruu.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/2nd-Ann.-Flyer.pdf>

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](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org).

## Social & Environmental Action

**SAVE THE DATE – Saturday April 27** will be **OUR SERVICE DAY** at the Urban Ministry in Boston. We will carpool from WUS and spend the morning organizing food and clearing the grounds. We hope to have a good group of youth and adults. For information see the Social Action and Outreach bulletin board.

**Books on Racial Justice are available to borrow from the library in Michelsen.** We request you return your book after a month. A list of the books is on the SAOC bulletin board in Symmes. To join our monthly Book Group speak to Claire McNeill at coffee hour.

**Your chance for direct democracy: Join our fellow UUs at UU Mass Action Lobbying Day, Tuesday April 9, 2019, 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM at Arlington St. Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston and the State House.** White people have a responsibility to challenge white supremacy and to positively organize white people for racial justice. Be inspired by fantastic keynote speaker Chris Crass: <http://www.chriscrass.org/>. Meet fellow UUs and see how we can have an impact. Honor John Kramer. Registration includes lunch. Learn more about our legislative priorities, **CLICK HERE To Register Please get a ticket** (\$25 now, increases to \$40 after March 29) **2) Please provide a little more info via this form:** A rewarding and fun day. To carpool from WUS to Alewife contact Claire McNeill. Come for all or part of the day!

**Black Lives Matter, Quarterly Meeting of UUs in our area.**

**Sat March 30, 1:00 – 3:00 PM First Parish Church in Arlington, 630 Massachusetts Ave** in the Parlor. Here is a **link to our proposed agenda**

Come and learn more about what is happening in our congregations around racial justice these days! **Patty Shepard**, [shepard.patty@gmail.com](mailto:shepard.patty@gmail.com)

The Islamic Center of Boston, Wayland invites you to a discussion with Jennifer Howe peace, one of the editors of the book, "My Neighbor's Faith, Stories on Inter-religious Encounter, Growth and Transformation," followed by small group discussions. Sat March 30, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM **ICB Wayland, 126 Boston Post Road, Wayland (Rt 20)**. For more information and to rsvp: [Bookclub@icbwayland.org](mailto:Bookclub@icbwayland.org)

**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](#).

## End a Million Pounds of CO2 Pollution Now

Growing CO2 pollution is causing Earth's warming, ever more extreme weather, rising seas, human suffering and even extinctions for many life forms. To slow and reverse this disaster, each of us must act. One easy and significant act is to switch from your electricity source which is typically 85% from carbon fuels to one that is 0%; that adds electricity to the grid that is 100% produced by wind, solar, or hydro. Your electric bill cost change will likely range from -1% to +15%. So far this church plus 18 WUS households have acted by each making one phone call to the phone number listed for your town with 100% renewable in the Symmes room. (Other CO2 reducing acts are also explained there.) We aim for the following headline by June 1, 2019.

**135 WUS Households Buy Green Electricity: Stop 500 Tons of CO2 Pollution Annually!** Please help track our progress by visiting the Green Sanctuary table in the Symmes room.

## Upcoming Immigration Justice events

First Parish of Watertown will lead our next vigil at the Suffolk County House of Corrections. We hope you can join us!

**Vigil at the ICE Detention Center**  
**Sunday, March 31 - 2:00 - 3:00 pm**  
**Suffolk County House of Corrections**  
20 Bradston Street, Boston, MA 02118  
For more information, click [HERE](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, March 31st from 2:30 - 4:00 pm,**  
**and Monday, April 1st from 6:00 -7:30 pm**  
at the Boston Public Library, Copley Sq., Rabb Hall, New Immigrant and Refugee Visions in Film Celebrations. Join Community Supported Film and the New Immigrant and Refugee Visions filmmakers to celebrate the screening of all documentary films by and about immigrants and refugees.

## 14th Annual UU Advocacy Day

**When: Tuesday, April 9, 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM**  
**Where: Arlington St. Church, 351 Boylston St.,**  
**Boston & the State House**

To read more about why you should come to the UU Advocacy day and to find out more information about the event, please visit:

<https://www.winchesteruu.org/14th-annual-uu-advocacy-day/?preview=true>

To learn more about our legislative priorities, [CLICK HERE](#)

We need two things from you if you're coming:

- 1) [Please get a ticket](#) (\$25 now, increase to \$40 after March 29)
- 2) [Please provide a little more info via this form:](#)

*Our apologies for the two-step process, but this helps us prepare for you and keeps the ticket fees*



low.

**Keynote Speaker: Chris Crass**, UU, published author, activist, father, and anti-racist educator and so much more! We are so excited to have him join us for this event!! <http://www.chriscrass.org/>

**John Kramer, our Music Director**, will receive the **2019 Ruth Rowan Award**, celebrating John's original composition, *The Immigrant Experience*, a cantata in seven movements. His fundraising concerts have raised tens of thousands of dollars for the Beyond Bond and Legal Defense fund.



## Lindsay Foote in concert

The Ivy Chord Coffeehouse, located at 239 Woburn Street in Reading, MA, presents Winchester native Lindsay Foote on **Saturday, April 13, 2019 at 8:00 p.m.** (Doors open at 7:15 p.m.) Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$18 for seniors and students. Tickets may be purchased at: <http://uureading.org/ivy-chord/>

Her music can be found here:  
<https://www.lindsayfoote.com/epk>  
Flyer attached

## Summer camp for UU Youth

If you have youth between the ages of 8 and 17 who are looking to connect with other UU Youth, enjoy limitless fun in the Adirondack Mountains, eat s'mores, create art and music, and play games and sports while learning about the importance of community all shaped by Unitarian Universalist values, welcome to Unirondack.

What truly makes us unique is the energy, caring, and creativity of the people who call Unirondack home. Inventiveness and youth empowerment abound as our staff aim to provide a space of excellent programs and promote the acceptance and respect of all campers.

At Unirondack we live the values that are inherent in Unitarian Universalist principles - acceptance, compassion, and decision-making through the democratic process while co-existing in an intentional community together.

For more information, visit [www.unirondack.org](http://www.unirondack.org), or ask your DRE or minister for a brochure. We can also be reached at [Director@unirondack.org](mailto:Director@unirondack.org).



## Woburn Food Pantry

Next time you go shopping, please consider buying extra **shelf-stable milk**, **canned chowder** and **apple juice** 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 [Janet Nelson](mailto:Janet.Nelson) 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

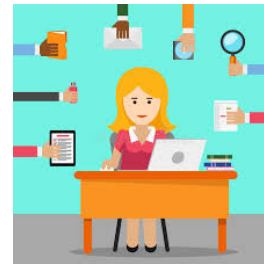
[Sign up](#) to be a Sunday Secretary for Sundays. Please contact the office at 781-729-0949 or [office@winchesteruu.org](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org) if you're willing to consider it!



## 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, Grief, Loss & Transitions Group and 350 Massachusetts Metro North**

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**.



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