

# Winchester Unitarian Society

**Highlights May 16th, 2019**



## Upcoming Worship



**Sunday, May 19th, 2019**

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

*Everyone worships together for the whole service. All Congregation Worship serves as religious education for the morning so there are no RE activities or Family Worship.*

**Youth Sunday & New Member Signing**

Led by Sam Wilson and the Winchester Unitarian Society  
Youth Group

This Sunday is "Youth Sunday." Led by the Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group, WUSYG, the service will feature live musical performances from our youth and the Youth Choir, as well as the famed "Senior Statements," where our seniors offer reflections on their time spent with the youth group and talk about their ideas and hopes for the future. The theme for this year's Youth Sunday is Blooming, and the service will also include a bridging ritual recognizing our 8th graders' transition into "youth" and our senior youth's transition into "young adulthood." There will also be a New Member Ceremony.

This Sunday, we Share the Plate with the **North Shore Unitarian Universalist Society of Lacombe, Louisiana**, a church that WUS and our own Gulf Coast Volunteers for the Long Haul have had a special relationship with since Hurricane Katrina.

**Music**

## Summer Choir

Calling all summer musicians! We want to hear from you this summer. Everybody is welcome to share their talents in a summer service. Stay tuned for the Summer Choir schedule but be in touch with Music Director John Kramer [john.kramer@winchesteruu.org](mailto:john.kramer@winchesteruu.org) if you are interested in playing or singing a solo.



## Religious Education

### THIS SUNDAY

There will be no religious education classes this Sunday. There will also be no Family Worship. Please join us for All Congregation Worship at 10:30.

## WUSYG

### *Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group*

This Sunday is Youth Sunday. Everyone involved in the service should arrive promptly by 9:15 AM. Other youth are strongly encouraged to come and see the service and support them! After the service there will be cake and other snacks, then we'll carpool to Admiral's Hill Marina in Chelsea for a celebratory barbecue til 3 PM. **No regular WUSYG meeting this Sunday night.**

Sign up for the carpool to the BBQ here: <https://forms.gle/C9j7oVbAEXb4EV9X7>

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

### Pledge Update

In anticipation of this week's Annual Meeting, we wanted to share pledge drive results.

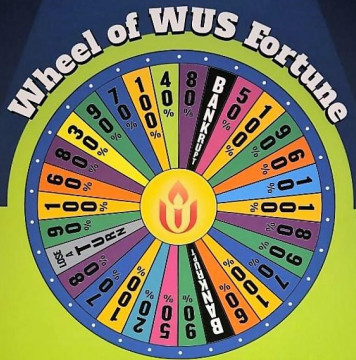
#### **A big thank you to everyone who pledged.**

You helped us reach our goal! Getting to 100% allowed us to turn the final letter to spell out *"Beginning, Becoming and Belonging"* (the theme for the church year) in the Wheel of Fortune puzzle.

#### **Summary:**

· Total amount pledged so far is \$370,000. Last year's total was \$366,000.

WINCHESTER UNITARIAN SOCIETY  
2019 Annual Pledge Drive  
Our goal is \$380,000 and participation by all!



Wheel of WUS Fortune

We will turn over letters (below) as our giving participation grows. Your pledge will help us uncover the phrase!

B	E	G	I	N	N	I	N	G		
B	E	C	O	M	I	N	G			
&	B	E	L	O	N	G	I	N	G	

· There are 130 pledgers (10 are first time) and we hope to hear from 11 outstanding pledgers. Last year we had 135 pledgers and two years ago there were 146.

**Big take-aways:**

- First time pledgers made a big impact.
- Five fewer pledgers coupled with an increased total means that many members of the congregation increased their pledged amount.

Your grateful pledge team,  
Rebecca Keller  
Alison Kirchgasser  
Stephen Perepeluk

## We Have a Summer Minister/Administrator!

On behalf of Dennis Brett, Chuck Khuen, Tyson Kamikawa and myself, I am delighted to announce that **the Rev. Joanna Lubkin** will be serving as our Summer Minister/Administrator in July and August.



I first met Joanna when she was the Intern Minister at the UU Society of Wellesley Hills and I was a (nervous) pre-candidate, about to lead worship for a community that included the WUS search committee! Joanna's warmth and calm put me to ease right away. Since then, I have gotten to know her through collegial gatherings and her leadership in the Sanctuary Boston community. From my direct experience, by reputation and through her references, I know we are in EXCELLENT hands.

A brief summation of her background: The Rev. Joanna Lubkin is the Unitarian Universalist Chaplain at Wellesley College and is an affiliated community minister at Arlington Street Church in Boston. Joanna served as the Summer Minister for Pastoral Care at the First Parish in Needham for the past three summers. After a Masters in Public Administration from Clark University, Joanna studied at Hebrew College Rabbinical School, before finishing her Masters of Divinity at Andover Newton Theological School. Joanna sings in the Arlington Street Church choir and at The Sanctuary Boston.

Here is a letter of introduction in her own words: *"Dear WUS members and friends, I'm so delighted to be spending the summer with you! I'll be putting my administrative skills to use in the office four days a week, and will be joining you in worship most Sundays in July and August. When challenges or celebrations come along, I'll be available to offer pastoral care and spiritual support. It's an honor to be welcomed into your congregation and your lives this summer.*

*A bit about me: When I'm not in Ministry Mode, I love to sing, experiment with gluten-free baking, read good time travel novels, and cherish time with my 19-year-old black cat. As an animal person, I will always want to see photos of your pets -- even better, when you're walking your dog [on Thursdays] this summer, bring them by*

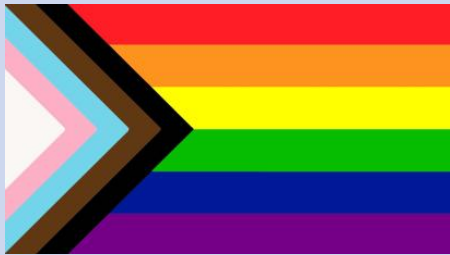
the church office!

Looking forward to getting to know you through worship, connection, and church business!

With gratitude, Joanna"

While we are still working out her office schedule, she will likely work four days a week, four hours per day. Look for a posted schedule if you need in-person support in the office.

Welcome, Joanna! - Rev. Heather



## FLAG MYSTERY

Our Rainbow Flag went missing sometime before last Sunday morning. A replacement flag in the new, more-inclusive design has been ordered. If you know what happened to the old flag, please let Alison in the office know.

## FRESH HERBS AND FLOWERS REQUESTED

As in years past, we will dedicate a wreath at the WWI statue at Main Street and Mystic Valley Parkway on Memorial Day Sunday. Creating the wreath will be the religious education activity for the morning.

If you have the following herbs and plants to bring in that Sunday (or shortly beforehand,) please contact Rev. Heather. We are looking for: *Rosemary for remembrance, thyme for courage, sage for wisdom, hemlock for surcease, cedar for eternity, willow and babies' breath for tears, comfrey for bruises, marjoram, roses and carnations for love and golden flowers for freedom*



## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP Sunday, May 19

During the worship service this Sunday, May 19, we will welcome new members to the Winchester Unitarian Society. One of the privileges of membership is the right to vote on matters of interest to this self-governing community. After the service, everyone is invited to stay for lunch, which will be followed by the annual meeting of the Society, when we will elect committee members for the coming year and approve a **budget** for the year beginning September 1. The meeting is open to all, but only members may vote. To view, proposed budget for year 2020, click **HERE**.

To view the **Annual Report**, please go to <https://www.winchesteruu.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Annual-Report-2019-for-web.pdf>. **Print copies of the report are available at church.**

**Interfaith Service**

**Opportunity at Rosie's Place  
Sunday, May 19th,  
3:00 - 5:30 pm**

Dr. Fehmida Chipty, who spoke at WUS on April 7th, is again organizing an interfaith service opportunity with Rosie's Place through Zahra Hasanaat, the social service arm of her religious community, during Ramadan. Join Rev. Heather and members of other Winchester faith communities in preparing and serving the evening meal.



**THERE IS ONE MORE OPENING FOR AN ADULT VOLUNTEER for Sunday, May 19th from 3-5:30.** Let Heather know if you plan to join.

*Photo: The 2017 Interfaith Shift at Rosie's Place*

**Aba Taylor to lead discussion of *Citizen* by Claudia Rankine  
This Sunday, May 19th - 3:00 - 5:00 PM (Symmes Room)**

On May 19 from 3 to 5 PM the Racial Justice Book Group will host a community-wide discussion of the lyrical and challenging book *Citizen* by Claudia Rankine. The conversation will be held in the Symmes Room.

The book, written in 2014 and a New York Times Best Seller, has won numerous awards including Best Book of the Year by the Boston Globe and National Public Radio, NAACP Image Award, and the National Critics Circle Award for Poetry.

For more information about the book group, please visit:

<https://www.winchesteruu.org/aba-taylor-to-lead-discussion-of-citizen-by-claudia-rankine-sunday-may-19th-300-500-pm-symmes-room/>



**Grief, Loss and Transitions Group  
Meets Thursday, May 23rd,  
7:30-9pm in the 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. Contact Rev. Heather with any questions.

**Ministerial Survey**

The CoSM and Rev. Heather appreciate all your feedback. If you have not yet taken the survey, please follow this link to share yours.

**[Click Here Take Survey](#)**



**Review Season: Your Input Requested!**

Winchester Unitarian Society staff undergo an annual review at the end of each program year. Thus, we seek your input (compliments and suggestions) on all those

who serve the congregation and its mission in a paid capacity, full- and part-time.

Please send your feedback via email to Rev. Heather ([heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org)) with "Feedback" in the subject line or by postal mail. Input about staff supervised by others will be forwarded. Note that we do not share anonymous feedback with staff in their eval so input will be given with attribution.



## Marie Kondo Strikes Again!

The Symmes Kitchen has been cleared of abandoned mugs, plates and other dishware. These items are available for your retrieval for the next two Sundays before they are added to rummage sale inventory. Forget a water bottle or travel mug? A serving platter? Pick it up soon so you don't have to buy it at the sale!



## 17 days til BIG SALE DAY! (JUNE 1<sup>st</sup> is coming up quickly)

You still have time to help our church by gathering and donating the following items:

**Antiques, art and collectibles; Boutique brand name clothing, hats and purses; Books and CDs; China, silver and crystal; Clothing for adults and children; Crafts, toys and games; Electronics, technology items and video games; Furniture - Indoor (Beds, bureaus, rugs); Home Goods (Decorative items, linens, bedding, lamps); Kitchen (Small appliances, dish sets, pots and pans, utensils); Jewelry including antique, estate and quality costume; Musical Instruments; Plants; Shoes; Sporting Goods; Yard and Garden (Outdoor furniture, tools, yard art and pet supplies)**

Our Curators would greatly appreciate your books packed separately and donations organized by categories if possible. Contributions of packing material (bubble wrap, newspapers) milk crates, large plastic bins (with your name on if you'd like returned) and cardboard egg cartons (for jewelry display.)

## 11 DAYS til drop-off

Our Curators will be delighted to have you drop-off items during the following times.

Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> – after our church service: NOON to 3 p.m.

Monday May 27<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day: 10 a.m. til 2 p.m.

Evenings: Tuesday thru Thursday (May 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>) 6 p.m. til 9 p.m.

**Remember, this is recycling at its finest and our major fundraiser for 2019. Please join us: the success of our sale depends on all of us working together.**

\*\*\*Now that it's May, please get out your calendar and plan the times they will help with the **Rummage Sale**. Although the sale will be on Town Day, June 1, there is also a great need for people to help on Memorial Day weekend and the following days. Sign-up sheets will be available every Sunday after the service or you may email **Claire McNeill (rkmcn@aol.com)** and tell her the days you can help. \*\*\*

### **Don't Forget the Plants!**

We will be selling a number of young spider plants at the Not Your Average Rummage sale and would like to round out the inventory with other plants.

Is there a houseplant that is still alive but better off in someone else's care? Do you have a plant that easily produces offspring? How about those hostas that you need to divide and give to a good home?

As you prepare your donations to the Rummage Sale, Don't Forget the Plants. See Rev. Heather, Plant Chaplain, with any questions.



**Speaking Justice  
in the Language of Our Faith**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Thursday,  
May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**7PM-8:30PM**



Heather Vickery, Senior Associate  
for Outreach, Enrollment and  
Administration at UUCSJ



Sam Wilson, Director of Youth  
Ministries at WUS and UUCSJ  
Program Leader

A 90 minute **WORKSHOP**, co-  
led by our very own  
Sam Wilson, Director of  
WUSYG and  
Heather Vickery, Senior  
Associate for Outreach,  
Enrollment and  
Administration at UU College  
of Social Justice

**LOCATION:** Winchester Unitarian Society, 478 Main St., Winchester, Symmes Room  
For more information, please click **HERE**.



### **Save the Date: "Sex and Politics Sunday," June 2nd**

"Birds, Bees and OWLs -  
The Gospel According to Our Whole Lives"  
The 10:30 Worship service will explore the **Our Whole Lives** comprehensive sexuality education curriculum. Created by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ, this life-giving, perhaps life-saving course invites people of all ages to approach sexuality in ways that are healthy, ethical and empowering.

Directly after the worship service, **Senator Jason Lewis** will address the congregation,

sharing updates on legislation passed in the last session and legislation that he is proposing for this session, with a special focus on issues of particular concern to the community. **Don't miss it...and bring your friends!**

## Joys, Sorrows & Transitions

Update on **Marty Kennedy**: Marty will be discharged from Care One in Lexington today. If you would like to join the effort in supplying Marty and Ellen with homecooked meals, please contact Gay Mohrbacher to be added to the list.

It is with sadness that we share the news that local minister, **the Rev. Dr. Dorothy Emerson**, died suddenly and unexpectedly this past Monday. Dorothy and her life partner, Donna, were connected to many UUs in the area and were occasional attendees at WUS. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 8th at 10 am at the Melrose UU Church, 70 West Emerson Street, Melrose.

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



**Many thanks to the six WUS members - Susan McPhee, Sue Doubler, Phyllis Preston, Barbara Boches, Gordy McIntosh and Carol Delaney - who participated in last Sunday's Louis D. Brown Mother's Day (Cold and Rainy) Walk for Peace**

**On May 19 from 3 to 5 PM the Racial Justice Book Group will host a discussion of the *Citizen* by Claudia Rankine.** Aba Taylor, former Executive Director of the Winchester Multicultural Network, is the facilitator. A series of vignettes addresses questions: *What does American black living look like, feel like? What does it mean for people of color to interact with white Americans?* Rankine is professor of Poetry at Yale University and a 2016 winner of a MacArthur Fellowship. All are invited to join the discussion, whether or not they have read the book.

**Jericho Walk at Burlington ICE Tuesday May 21, 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

1000 District Ave, Burlington. The Jericho Walk is a silent, interfaith prayer and act of solidarity. 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." Please refrain from signs mentioning any political candidate or official. **Facebook Page** Lead Organizers: Burlington Area Clergy 4 Justice **Clergy people, lay people & supporters: advocate for the Safe Communities Act and the Work & Family Mobility Act (Driver's Licenses). Wed, May 22, 10:00 AM – 12 Noon. State House Boston.** ICE practices and immigration policy are becoming



increasingly cruel. We are fighting to have basic protections passed this session. To join UU Mass Action **RSVP Here**

UU Mass Action is coordinating with **United American Indians of New England** and **North American Indian Center of Boston** on the **Indigenous Peoples Rights campaign**. Learn about the 5 Key Indigenous Rights bills:

<http://mainindigenousagenda.org/>

The Bills Include: **Indigenous Peoples Day; Protect Native American Heritage; Remove Racist Mascots; Change the State Flag and Seal and Educate Native Youth**

To join the google group contact Laura Wagner [lwagner@uumassaction.org](mailto:lwagner@uumassaction.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](#).**

## Immigration Justice Event

MCAN aims to hold a prayer vigil at the South Bay Detention Center @ 2 pm on the last Sunday of each month. Many of you heard the moving story of Leo, released from detention just three days earlier, who met us at the April vigil "...because it's the last Sunday of the month at 2 pm. You're always here. I've been watching for the last 3 months. We look forward to it."

No one is signed up to organize a May 26 (Memorial Day weekend) vigil. Epiphany Winchester is hoping to put together at least a small gathering. Can you help? Contact Pam Chester at [pgchester@gmail.com](mailto:pgchester@gmail.com).

Reach out to MCAN if that 5/26 date, or a future month, works for you or your organization/congregation. (Epiphany is covering June and September; July, August, and October likely still need leaders.)

## Annual Brennan Lecture Thursday, May 23rd 6:30 p.m.

at Jenks Center, 109 Skillings Road, Winchester

Dr. Robert Legvold: The Changing Dynamics of  
U.S. & Russian Relations

Robert Legvold is Marshall D. Shulman Professor Emeritus in the Department of Political Science at Columbia University, where he specialized in the international relations of the post-Soviet states. He was Director of The Harriman Institute, Columbia University, from 1986 to 1992. Prior to coming to Columbia in 1984, he served for six years as Senior Fellow and Director of the Soviet Studies Project at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. For most of the preceding decade, he was on the faculty of the Department of Political Science at Tufts University.

To read more, please click **HERE**.

## Council of Social Concern

Next time you go shopping, please consider buying extra **canned pasta sauce, canned tuna and brownie mix** 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 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

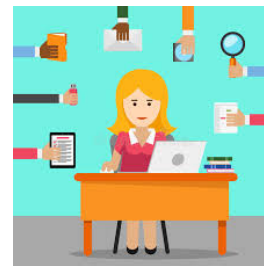
Sign up to be a Sunday Secretary for Sundays. Please contact the office at 781-729-0949 or [office@winchesteruu.org](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org) if you're willing to consider it!



## 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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