

Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights October 10, 2019



Photo illustrating this month's theme of "Belonging" - the interfaith vigil at the South Boston ICE detention center on September 29th. Detainees can see the vigil from the facility. Each time there is a vigil, detainees wave, knock on windows and hold handwritten notes against the glass. Those participating in the vigil wave and hold affirming signs in response.

Photo by Joe Nazzaro, shared with permission.

Upcoming Worship

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

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

About Family Worship

This Week: *The Stranger's Lesson*

**Sunday, October 13,
10:30 am All Ages Worship, Sanctuary**

**Welcoming the Stranger: the "oppressed and persecuted of all
Nations and Religions"**

Marianne DiBlasi

Worship Associates: Martin Newhouse

Wave after wave of immigrants have come to America. Opening our country's doors and welcoming people from other parts of the world who are seeking freedom and dreaming of a better life is part of America's identity. Supporting a positive experience for immigrants who come to the United States is part of Winchester Unitarian Society's identity. How can the Society continue to expand and deepen its commitment to welcoming the stranger – the refugees and asylum seekers who come

to this country seeking safety, freedom and the comfort of hospitality?

This Sunday, we **Share the Plate** with the **Lexington Refugee Assistance Program (LexRAP)**, whose mission is to “support and to assist **refugees and asylum seekers** to integrate into American society.”

Following the worship service, there will be a conversation in the parlor. Guests from Lexington Refugee Assistance Program (LexRAP) will join us.

Concert Series

Friday, October 18th at 8:00 PM

Our 14th concert series kicks off on Friday, Oct 18th at 8:00 PM with **Piano Quartets of Brahms and Kramer**. Join us to hear the c minor piano quartet of Brahms and a new piano quartet by John Kramer. And, please consider sponsoring this year's concert series at the \$125, \$200 or \$300 level. For your convenience, a sponsor table will be set up in the coffee room after the Sunday service on Oct 13th. Bring your checkbook!

Piano Quartets by Brahms and Kramer



Julia Cash
Violin



Amelia Hollander Ames
Viola



Sam Ou
Cello



John Kramer
Piano

Religious Education

This Sunday:

Morning Groups: *Children and leaders begin on the upper level, but return to the Symmes room to meet you there at the end of the morning.*

PreK-1 World of Wonder: Who lived here? Today on indigenous people's day we hear of the many people and beings who have walked on this land before us. We are the ones who belong now, but we are not the first or last people to belong. Teachers Caroline and Isabelle lead the group.

2-4th Grades Moral Tales: Soup Sunday. This morning we write our own story of cooperation, collaboration and service to others through preparing a meal that we will not consume. Rebecca and the Faith Finders class lead our morning.

5th Grade and beyond, Faith Finders: Soup Sunday has returned! This morning we enlist the help of the Moral Tales class and create a warming vegetarian soup for our caring network to distribute as needed. We might even make some cheerful notes to go along with it. Rebecca leads.

Afternoon Groups:

Our Whole Lives Begins meeting NEXT Sunday, October 20th. 4:30-6:00

Mark Those Calendars!

Potluck Theology Returns: October 27th and December 8th 4:00-6:00. Stay tuned for more details. Let us know how to reach you! We often have information and/or scheduling changes to share with families. If you have a child pre-k through 8th grades, please give us your current email address so that we may communicate more effectively with you. Send to rebecca@winchesteruu.org

Let's Be Honest: November 17th 4:00-6:00 Parent Program. This accessible program for parents and caregivers of multiaged children (preschoolers through senior high) support your family by sharing resources and information and empowering you to be successful in your role as the primary sexuality educators of your children. If you are wondering how to broach sexuality, respond to questions and continue to keep lines of communication open, please join us for this interactive workshop.

WUSYG

Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group

There is no WUSYG meeting this Sunday. Next Sunday, we have a Service Trip Meeting and Parent Covenanting at 3 PM in the Chapel for parents and youth interested in going on our trip. This meeting will go until approximately 4:15, then youth will stay for a regular WUSYG meeting 'til 6:30.

Music

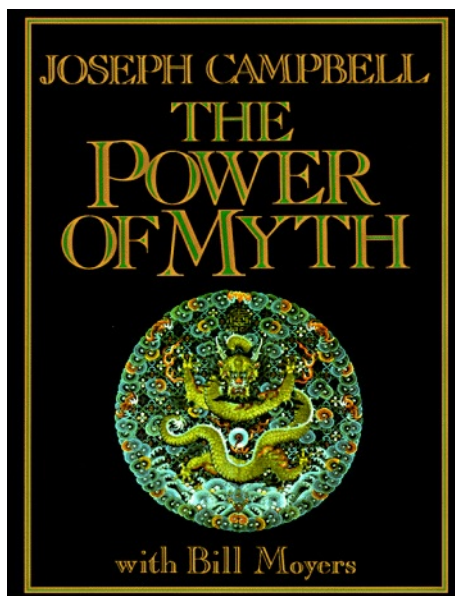
Choirs

Adult Choir rehearsal begins at 8:45 on Sunday.

Children's Chorale and Youth Choir rehearsals are Tuesday evening from 6:15-7pm. Do you know a young person who loves to sing? Both these groups are wonderful opportunities to learn about music and enjoy community, and have a great time.

Please contact Music Director John Kramer for more information at john.kramer@winchesteruu.org

The Power of Myth



A book group is forming to discuss the ideas of this Joseph Campbell's series/book, one chapter per month, on the second Sunday, beginning November, 10th 12-1:00 PM.

The Power of Myth, a series of six one hour interviews of Professor Joseph Campbell by Bill Moyers, remains one of the most popular series in the history of American Public Television. The series (and companion book) explore spirituality and myth in a profound way, seeing the uncanny similarities of many myths across many vastly different peoples, cultures, religions, continents, and centuries. If myths were stars, Campbell taught us to see the constellations. Campbell told us that mythology is not a lie, mythology is

poetry; not a literal truth but a metaphorical truth. Myths from different cultures, peoples, and faith traditions are remarkably similar, speaking to the innate condition of the unchanging human psyche. If our dreams are individual myths; then myths are our collective dreams. If interested, please contact Matthew Bronski mbronski@gmail.com or Rebecca Kelly-Morgan rebecca@winchesteruu.org.

Congregational News



Fire Drill This Fall – FAQ

As we have shared in worship, there will be a fire drill on a Sunday morning sometime this Fall. There has not been a fire drill at WUS in recent memory so this may raise a number of questions:

Why we are having a fire drill? A recent safety presentation by the Town of Winchester made it clear that there is a low risk of a fire in a house-of-worship and an even lower risk of violence by strangers. Still, it is always good to be prepared like other places where people gather in the rare event of a fire emergency.

What should we do when the alarms sound? Quickly and calmly exit the building. Please follow these guidelines in choosing your exit:

Those who are comfortable with stairs are asked to exit via the Mystic Valley Parkway door. Cross Main Street at the crosswalk at Main and Mystic Valley and gather at the base of the World War I monument across Main Street from the WUS building.

Those who are companioning small children or who have mobility challenges are asked to exit via the accessible exit on Main Street. Those needing assistance should wait in the Main Street foyer; volunteers will be prepared to assist you outside. Gather outside and wait in the horseshoe-shaped driveway in front of the Main Street entrance

Families with young children will gather and wait in the horseshoe-shaped driveway in front of the Main Street entrance. **A staff person will be assisting in the evacuation of the nursery; young children will be brought to this place, right outside the main entrance.**

When the volunteer “sweepers” return from checking the building for people left behind and declare “all clear,” we may return to the building.

Note: We will confirm the drill is an exercise when the alarms sound. However, **EVERYONE MUST LEAVE THE BUILDING.**

Who will be making sure everything goes as it should? We are reaching out to different leadership groups in the congregation, letting them know how they can be helpful when the fire drill comes. The date of the drill is a closely-guarded secret but we will be providing information in advance. Those with specific roles will quietly learn the morning of the drill that it will be that day.

But what if I/my child have/has sensory processing challenges, triggered by loud alarms? Contact James Pidacks (james.pidacks@verizon.net) or Heather Janules (heather.janules@winchesteruu.org) for an alternative plan for you and/or your child.

We anticipate that the drill will go smoothly and that most will find a disrupted Sunday morning is a good trade off for increased emergency readiness. However, we also expect that this first drill will reveal room for improvements. When all is said and done, your feedback is welcome!

Partner Church Scholarship Opportunity

Our eleventh Partner Church scholarship student, Anna Kiss, is back at her university studies in fine arts with a major in sculpture. Pictures of her work appeared in **Highlights last spring**. Now, we have an opportunity to add another student (also named Anna) to our list of young Transylvanian UUs we've helped with their studies. Anna Kamenitzky is undertaking a program in the "geography of tourism" designed to equip her to work in the international hospitality field. Her father died a few years ago and Anna and her mother have subsisted on the latter's small salary and Anna's contributions from part-time work. As we have for our other scholarship students, we hope to assemble a group of six WUS families, each contributing \$150 per year and each willing to see Anna through the three to four years it will take her to finish her program. Watching our Partner Church students grow and succeed has been one of the most satisfying aspects of our ongoing commitment to the UU Church of Marosvásárhely. If you're interested in learning more or know you'd like join five other WUS families, please email or call (781-729-8128) Maggie or John Russell.



An Opportunity to Sign the Current Massachusetts Ranked-Choice Voting Initiative Petition

As you may know, it's "Initiative Petition" season again in Massachusetts. The Social Action and Outreach Committee is arranging an opportunity for congregants to sign:

Petition C "...a proposed law that would implement a voting system known as "ranked-choice voting..."

On two **Sunday's in October (the 13th and the 20th)** during coffee hour, after the service. Please check it out and be a participant in this important process. Are you interested in other **current Initiative Petitions**? Feel free to bring them along on either of these Sundays and offer folks a chance to sign them too. For more information, please contact Patty Shepard at shepard.patty@gmail.com



Immigration Justice Opportunity Fall Sanctuary training at First Parish Bedford

It's not too late to sign up for sanctuary training. **See Patty Cameron at church on October 13th and Marilyn Mullane on October 20th and 27th to answer any questions.**

On September 29th, we hosted “ask me about sanctuary” during coffee. So far, we have eight new WUS volunteers! Our goal though is to double the number of our volunteers. If you missed the September 29th worship service or needed some time to think it over, we now have November dates for training as well. **This will be the last time to get trained until January.**

Dates for training are as follows:

Tuesday, October 29, 1-3pm: First Parish Bedford, room 202

Wednesday, October 30, 7-9pm: First Parish Bedford, room 202

Monday, November 18, 7 -9pm: First Parish Bedford, room 202

Tuesday, November 19, 1 -3pm: First Parish Bedford, room 202

Per First Parish, “you are so crucial in this mission to keep our guest safe. She is so grateful for all you do! It’s wonderful that we keep getting new volunteers every month, as we continue our commitment for the long haul.”

Please e-mail marilynmullane@me.com if you plan on attending. Provide your name, e-mail address and phone number. Note that drop-ins are no longer invited.



We Believe in Dog Walks Again on October 19th

We Believe in Dog is a gathering of WUS members and friends – and their dogs – who walk together in the Fells. You don’t need a dog to participate! All participating dogs must be friendly and vaccinated. We next gather on Saturday, October 19th. We will meet at the second of three entrances

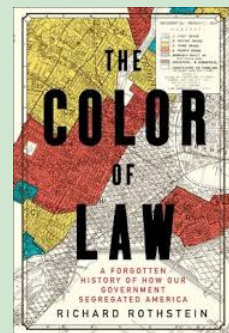
to the Middlesex Fells on Hillcrest Parkway at 10:00 am and start walking around 10:05.

Let Rev. Heather know if you plan to come: heather.janules@winchesteruu.org
Many thanks to Sarah Milt for serving as walk leader for this gathering as Heather has a scheduling conflict.

Please also send your cell number if this is your first walk so we can reach out to you if you are not at the starting point when we are about to begin.

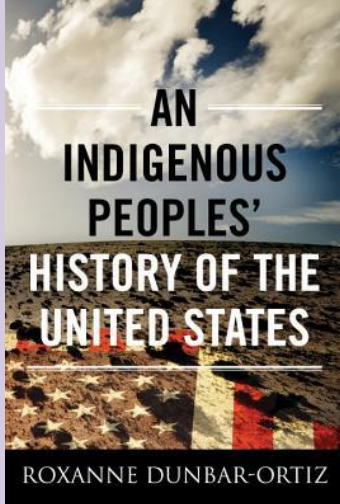
THE COLOR OF LAW Sunday, October 27th

Join the Racial Justice Book Group, gathering at 1:45 pm, to learn about the many government actions which created the school systems and inequality we have today. We will show excerpts of an interview by Ta-Nehisi Coates with Richard Rothstein.



An Indigenous People’s History of the US Sunday November 17

In a collaboration with Network for Social Justice (formerly known as The Multicultural Network youth



and adults are invited to a facilitated book discussion of this year's UUA common read: **An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States** by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (Beacon Press, 2015) "In 2015, Beacon Press published an extraordinary book by Indigenous scholar and activist Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz that challenged readers to learn US history through a narrative that centers the story, the experiences, and the perspectives of Indigenous peoples." Copies of the book and the Young People's Version (12-17 years) are available for loan and/or purchase at Winchester Unitarian Society. If you have taken a book already, please make your payment of 16.00 to WUS. Loan copies are available for sign out via the RE office and rebecca@winchesteruu.org.

Social Action and Outreach wants your suggestions for justice and service projects this year. Please talk to any member of the committee: Sue Doubler, Harris Gibson, Gordy McIntosh, Claire McNeill, Patty Shepard, and Martina Warner. We have one vacant spot. Visit a meeting, the first Tuesday every month.

There is a **Facebook group for WUS Members and Friends**, a fun way to connect outside of Sunday morning. If you wish to join, simply find the group on Facebook, ask to join through the page and, recognizing your name, office staff will approve your request. **Join the conversation!**



Community Joys and Sorrows

Our love and care go out to all who have joys or sorrows, hopes or prayers on their hearts. 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 Action & Outreach

Celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day this Oct 14th

Ask your state reps to support: An Act Establishing An Indigenous Peoples Day
This bill replaces Columbus Day. Visit IndigenousPeoplesDayMA.org for more information

Advocate for the 5 Indigenous Rights Bills

See <https://www.uumassaction.org/first-nation-rights>

Tuesday, October 15th Jericho Walk at the Burlington ICE Office at 1 - 2 PM

Join us for our monthly Jericho Walk at the ICE office, 1000 District Ave., Burlington, MA.

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 people of all or no faiths. 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.

We will walk, pray and sing together. We will gather in front of the office, along District Ave, just look for the people holding signs.

Just Sustainabilities: The Full Integration of Social Justice and Sustainability

Julian Agyeman

Wednesday, October 16th 7:30 PM
82 Ridge St. Winchester, MA 01890

In his talk, Julian will outline his concept of 'just sustainabilities' – the full integration of social justice and sustainability, defined as 'the need to ensure a better quality of life for all, now and into the future, in a just and equitable manner, whilst living within the limits of supporting ecosystems.' He will give practical examples from his recent research into spatial justice in urban planning and design, food justice, sharing cities, and planning in and for intercultural cities.



Julian Agyeman

Julian Agyeman Ph.D. FRSA FRGS is a Professor of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning at Tufts University. He is the originator of the increasingly influential concept of just sustainabilities, the intentional integration of social justice and sustainability. Worldwide, he is recognized as an expert, an innovator and thought leader. He is the author or editor of 11 books, and was co-founder in 1996, and is now Editor-in-Chief of Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability.

[**Learn More and RSVP Here.**](#)



**Civic Gathering with Winchester Youth:
Strengthening Our Community**
**October 17, 2019 7 - 9 p.m. Jenks Center -
109 Skillings Road**

Please join us for a conversation with Winchester teens on ways our community is working well to enhance their quality of life, the challenges they face, and what new opportunities might be developed for youth civic engagement — to strengthen

the entire community. This community conversation, planned in conjunction with town

youth, seeks to ensure that the talents and perspectives of our youth are an integral part of building a caring, connected and inclusive community. All are welcome & encouraged to attend!

Town Common Task Force is a community-based, non-partisan initiative whose mission is to be of service to Winchester in building a caring and inclusive community. Grounded in respect for all, our primary focus is to provide actual and virtual gathering spaces. Learn more at www.towncommon.org

Join UU Mass Action for a Climate Action Advocacy Day
Wed Oct 23rd, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM at the State House [Please Register!](#)



2019 – LexRAP Second Annual Fundraiser at Temple Isaiah in Lexington

The LEXINGTON REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LexRAP) invites you to “LexWelcome 2019” fundraiser dinner on Sunday, October 27th, 5:30 at Temple Isaiah, 55 Lincoln St., Lexington. Tickets are \$40 per adult, \$20 for children, and a family cap of \$100 for two adults and one or more children.

This event will be an evening of music and lovingly prepared Middle Eastern food. Join us for a Fundraiser Dinner as we celebrate freedom and the gifts that our new immigrant neighbors bring to our local communities. Help us lift the spirit of support that we offer to those seeking a safe and secure home among us in our towns and neighborhoods

LexRAP currently supports almost 60 people who are refugees and asylum seekers from Iraq, Syria, Uganda, Jamaica, Iran and other countries. The LexRAP community also includes tutors, social workers, ESL teachers, translators and other LexRAP volunteers.

Proceeds will be used by LexRAP to continue providing direct support to refugee families living in our area. Of course, additional tax-deductible donations will help us further to advance our mission. See www.LexRAP.org.

Dinner starts promptly at 5:30pm. Tickets may be purchased at bit.ly/LexRAP-Isaiah-Dinner-Fundraiser. Seats are limited, so reserve now!

**Deeper Than the Skin:
A Musical Presentation on Race
Saturday, November 2, 2019, 7:30pm
Follen Church, 755 Mass. Ave. Lexington, MA
Reggie Harris and Greg Greenway are singers and**



storytellers with a long history of friendship across race. On Saturday, November 2, in their acclaimed *Deeper Than the Skin* presentation, they will intersperse musical performance with personal stories about race and privilege. The performance is free; donations are encouraged. Doors will open at 7pm for a 7:30 performance. The next morning, Sunday, November 3, Reggie and Greg will lead the multi-generational service at Follen Church at 10:30am. All are welcome. For more information, see <https://follen.org/deeper-than-skin/> or <https://deeperthantheskin.com/>

Council of Social Concern

Next time you go shopping, please consider buying extra **tuna** and **canned fruit** 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

Coffee Hour Refreshments

Two people/families will be assigned to bring refreshments for one Sunday. We truly appreciate your willingness to be asked to help out in this simple way - thank you!

You can see when your assigned week is by looking [here](#).

Without a doubt, there will be an assigned week that won't work for a given family and we ask then that you barter with your fellow congregants to switch up the assignment to cover your assigned Sunday.

Help make Sunday mornings more welcoming and joyful by bringing refreshments for coffee hour!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tyson (tyson@kamikawa.us) along the way.



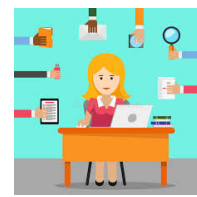
Flower Dedications

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

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!



Seeking people to organize and lead the message part of Family Worship first Sunday of each month! The Religious Education Committee invites those who are interested to lead the message for 10:00 Family Worship for the first Sunday of the month. If you have a favorite child-friendly story to read or tell, or short activity you would like to share, please do! Themes in the past have involved the environment, meditative practices, social justice, and friendship. You will be asked to coordinate with that day's worship leaders and provide any props. The message should be no more than 10 minutes long. Email the RE Committee at rec@winchesteruu.org (link address?) if you are interested. If you would like to lead, but need some suggestions, please let us know!

Ongoing

**Yoga, Meditation, Qi Gong, Caregiver Support 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: Wednesdays, 9:00 am

Email to office@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)

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