

# Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights January 9, 2020



*Photo illustrating this month's theme of "Integrity"  
- A photo from a panel of stained glass at First Parish, Plymouth, MA*

## 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 Sunday, The Rev. Heather Janules leads the service with the story of  
"The Emperor's Seeds"

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**Sunday, January 12**  
**10:30 am All Ages Worship, Sanctuary**

  
A home. An education. A future.

**El Hogar: Hope in Honduras**

Tim Monroe

Worship Associate: Martin Newhouse

This Sunday, guest speaker Tim Monroe, Executive Director of El Hogar in North America, will speak about this organization's transformative work and signs of hope in Honduras, where El Hogar's school is located. We will also hear from WUS member,

Carol Delaney, who is organizing a service trip with El Hogar.

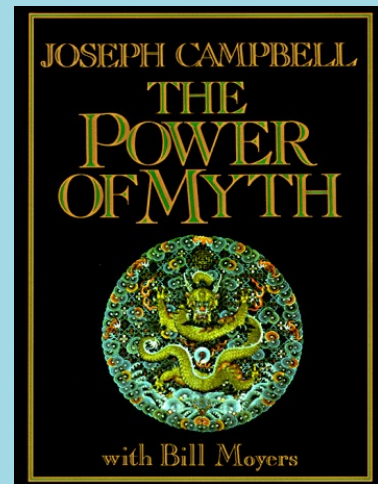
This Sunday, we share our gifts with **El Hogar**, the organization Mr. Monroe serves. Started in 1979, El Hogar provides an education and a home, if needed, for about 250 of Honduras' poorest children on four properties- an elementary school, a technical school, a residence for high school girls and a farm. El Hogar's goal is to break the cycle of poverty so that our students can fulfill their potential as productive and independent Honduran citizens.

**There will be a meeting from 12 noon to 1pm after the worship service** with Tim Monroe, Betsy Walsh, Cynthia Randall and Carol DeLaney to learn more about El Hogar and how to participate in an **Immersion Trip** to Honduras August 1-8 2020.

## Events This Weekend

### Exploring the Power of Myth

Come discuss the ideas of this Joseph Campbell series/book, *Power of Myth*, one chapter per month. **The next meeting will be Sunday, January 12 at 12:00 pm in Michelsen.** 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.



### #UUtheVote

**This Sunday, January 12 at 4 pm** join members of Social Action and Outreach in Michelsen to watch the launch of #UUtheVote, with a nation-wide Zoom call. Progressive people of faith can be powerful and prophetic without being partisan. We can engage our neighbors, educate our communities, and more broadly shape the public discourse with values-based framing, rooted in our theology and principles. **Find the Tool Kit** Our overall goal is to create a decentralized, large-scale campaign that moves our faith communities into new or deeper action, making electoral engagement a strategic facet of any of the justice work we do.

## Religious Education

### This Sunday:

#### Morning Programs:

Sometimes you just have to do something different. In January, community members offer workshops for and with our young people.

#### This week for JanFest:



**Checkmate!** Join Sean Crowley for chess. All levels are welcome, ages 5 and up meeting in the Michelsen room. Ages 5 and up.

**A Walk in the Woods!** Phil Coonley, Erin Graham and Fritzie Nace lead an exploration of the winter woods. Please come dressed for the elements, heavy rain will cancel the outing. Parents are required to sign permission slips if their child participates.

**Beading with Sculpy:** Join Susan Kiewra for bead making. We meet in the first floor classroom adjacent to the playroom. Ages 5 and up.

#### **Afternoon Programs:**

Our Whole Lives meets **4:30-6:00 pm in the Wallace Room**. This week sexuality, social media and the internet. Ryan and Karen lead the group.

## WUSYG

### *Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group*

To see all of our upcoming events, **click here to see a PDF of our calendar** for the year, or view and subscribe to our google calendar by going to our website: **[www.winchesteruu.org/youth](http://www.winchesteruu.org/youth)** where you can also find more information about our programs and ways to stay in touch. Email **[wusyouth@gmail.com](mailto:wusyouth@gmail.com)** with any questions, concerns or compliments!

## 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](mailto:john.kramer@winchesteruu.org)

## Congregational News



### Scams By Text

Some have heard that thieves are impersonating ministers by email, asking members to purchase gift cards to benefit people in need. (Like many congregations, the WUS community was subject to this scam in the past.) In some variations of the scam, the request comes from a board president or treasurer.



A new scam has developed, whereby thieves contact members by text, pretending to be the minister and asking them to purchase gift cards. It is unclear how they obtain the cell phone numbers. But, if you receive such an email or text, know that **no minister, staff member or leader of the congregation would solicit donations in this method.**

It is unfortunate that unscrupulous people seek to exploit the trust members place in religious leaders. If you receive such an appeal, delete and ignore!

### Membership Reflection and Renewal Retreat

A fun and reflective program for newcomers, long-timers and everyone in-between on Saturday, January 25th from 9 am – 3 pm.



Are you considering becoming a member of the Winchester Unitarian Society? Are you a member but it has been awhile since you thought about your spiritual journey? Or maybe you just joined and have questions about what membership means at WUS...This program is for all of you!

Drawing from our past “Beginning, Becoming and Belonging” classes, this retreat will help you gain understanding about your religious experiences, learn about UU history and receive practical information about membership at WUS. As we will explore together, you will also meet new people and strengthen existing bonds with participants.

A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided; child care is available upon request. In respect for the group process we ask that participants commit to staying for the entire program.



Please RSVP to [marilynnullane@me.com](mailto:marilynnullane@me.com) by January 15th and remember to request child care, if needed.

-Your Membership Committee

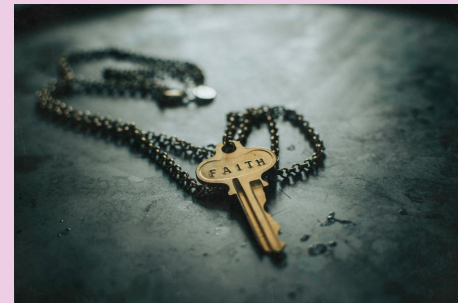


### Gratitude from LexRAP

On behalf of the LexRAP refugee families and children, I am sharing their gratitude for the abundance of generosity from members of the Winchester Unitarian Society. The Mitten Tree Target gifts cards, along with donations from four other organizations, allowed each child to receive a Target gift card and small toys, as well as give each family a Market Basket gift card. The gifts were distributed at a festive potluck for LexRAP families, volunteers, and donors. Thank you for your sharing your light and love with LexRAP refugee children during this holiday season!

### New Year, New Keys

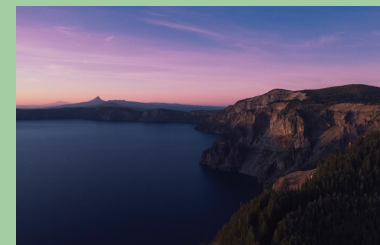
In the coming months for the first time in 20 years the Society will be updating and changing the locks on the church. A new building access policy has been adopted by Standing Committee to enhance building security. Keys will be distributed to staff, SC members, Chairs of Committees, and others as required. We know this is big change and every effort will be made to minimize any disruption to congregational life. We will leap to new locks on February 28, 2020. Please make an appointment with Thomas Slack to get your new key.



### From the Music Committee:

Our January jazz concert is right around the corner! Please join us on Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 for a concert we call our "Saxophone Summit." This year's Jazz in the Sanctuary concert will feature three sax players (alto, tenor and soprano sax) as well as John Kramer on piano, Mark Pucci on bass, and Yoron Israel on drums. We'll celebrate jazz greats like John Coltrane, Charlie Parker, Stan Getz, Coleman Hawkins and more. And, there's still time to be a sponsor for this year's concert series. Contact Kathryn Maffei at [klminc@aol](mailto:klminc@aol) for more info.

**Creating a Spiritual Legacy Part 1: Sunday, January 26th, 12:15 to 2:15 PM (lunch at Noon)** in the Michelsen Room. Please join us for this first of two workshops on constructing a spiritual legacy. In this community devoted to spiritual growth, each of us has a spiritual legacy worth exploring and sharing. We meet for a simple meal of soup and bread to nourish ourselves as we begin the process of inquiry and reflection on what values we hold sacred. Offered by the Pastoral Care Associates and staff members, this workshop creates a foundation for developing and documenting one's personal spiritual legacy. Please plan to bring a journal or notebook to the first session.



Contact Marianne DiBlasi or Donna Reed for any pre-workshop questions. RSVPs are requested, although not required. Please RSVP to Marianne DiBlasi at [Marianne@winchesteruu.org](mailto:Marianne@winchesteruu.org). Save the date for part 2 of Creating a Spiritual Legacy on Sunday, February 23rd.

## Save the Dates!

**Potluck Theology, January 26th.** All are welcome to join together for a shared meal, a conversation on refugees and our 7 principles, fellowship and fun. 4:30 to 6:30 in the Symmes room.

**Family Book Discussion: *Refugee* by Alan Gratz sponsored by WUS and the Winchester Library. Sunday February 9, 2:30-4pm at the Winchester Public Library**

Families with children ages 9+ and up are invited to discuss the book, *Refugee* by Alan Gratz. The discussion will be co-facilitated by Brittany DeLorme, Children's Librarian, and Rebecca Kelley-Morgan.

Copies of the book in a variety of formats are available at the library and in the special display areas. Additional copies are available through the Minuteman Library Network and limited numbers for loan at WUS.

**Parent's Night Out!** February 15th from 5-8. Parent's night Out! February 15th from 5-8. Here's a valentine for parents and guardians. While your children play and socialize over a kid friendly meal, you might go have a dinner out eaten on plates that can break or spend some quiet time. Please RSVP to Rebecca Kelly Morgan [rebecca@winchesteruu.org](mailto:rebecca@winchesteruu.org) by February 9th and let us know if your children have any dietary limitations, so that we can plan appropriately.



## Rainbow Campaign Enters Next Phase

Network for Social Justice and Winchester Unitarian Society have organized our first day for volunteers to visit local businesses to invite them to post a rainbow decal in their window, a symbol of welcome to LGBTQ people and their allies.

Our visits will begin on **Saturday, February 1st from 10 am - noon**. We will gather for a quick orientation and then make these visits in a team or teams. If you haven't yet indicated an interest in this project and would like to join, please contact Rev. Heather: [heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org)

We also need a couple volunteers willing to call businesses in advance to make them aware of our upcoming visit. Please let Rev. Heather know if you are interested in this role as well.

*Photo: Henry Hunter Maguire celebrates pride with a rainbow decal at his home.  
Look for photos of flags and decals posted around Winchester with [rbowconnectionwin#](#)*

## Updated Needs for Local LexRAP Refugee Family

Thank you to all who have been generously



donating Huggies and PediaSure to support a local LexRAP refugee family and their young child. These items are very needed and greatly appreciated by the family! The refugee family continues to need these items and has made a new request for Huggies Nourish and Care wipes.



If you would like to support this family, please bring items to WUS and place them in the blue LexRAP donation box in the Symmes room. Please see below for specifics, especially for the PediaSure since it's the only type the child likes.

**Vanilla PediaSure Shake, 8 oz. with blue cap that says "no artificial growth hormones"**

**Huggies brand pull-ups, size 5T for boys**

**Huggies Nourish and Care wipes**

Additionally, there are opportunities to provide direct support to LexRAP refugee families who live in the local area. There is a need for:

**Drivers:** to take family members to medical appointments, for groceries etc.

**Conversational English visits:** to practice speaking a new language

If you are interested in supporting local refugee families, please contact Marianne DiBlasi at [marianne@winchesteruu.org](mailto:marianne@winchesteruu.org). Thank you for supporting Winchester Unitarian Society's relationship with Lexington Refugee Assistance Program ([www.LexRAP.org](http://www.LexRAP.org)) whose mission is to provide refugee families with a network of community support.



### **Sunday Secretaries are needed!**

The office could really use your assistance on Sundays.

Please contact the office at 781-729-0949 or [office@winchesteruu.org](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org) if you're willing to consider it!

**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**

Healing wishes are with **Phyllis Beedle**, recovering from a serious fall, and **Marcy Tompson**, who underwent hip replacement surgery in early January.

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](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org)

## Social Action & Outreach

Join Mass Power Forward for a Climate Advocacy Day at the State House Tues Jan 14, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM at Paulist Center, 5 Park St., Boston  
[Facebook Event Page!](#) [RSVP HERE](#) to stay updated!

### Pass the #SafeCommunitiesAct

Help support basic provisions to protect immigrant families here in Massachusetts. Safe Communities Act hearing: Friday, January 24, 11:00 AM in the Gardner Auditorium. UUs will register as a group – **please let us know you're coming by completing this form** Everyone – including those who can't come in person..

Share the [Facebook event page](#)

If you want to just send an email (not testimony) please send an email to the Committee! [click here to generate a pre-addressed email form](#)

FRIDAY  
JANUARY 24

This is our biggest mobilization yet!  
Help us pack Gardner Auditorium with SCA supporters and visit legislator offices.

**SAFE COMMUNITIES ACT HEARING**

RSVP TODAY:  
[BIT.LY/SCA-JAN24](http://bit.ly/SCA-JAN24)

SUPPORT  
**SAFE COMMUNITIES**

Can't make it?  
1. Email legislators: [bit.ly/MA-SCA](http://bit.ly/MA-SCA)  
2. Help us cover costs: [bit.ly/SCA-fund](http://bit.ly/SCA-fund)

UU Mass Action reminds us that January marks the countdown to the end of the legislative session, which ends July 31, 2020. Legislation must move out of the Joint Committees in which they are placed by Feb 5 in order to continue with the legislative process. For links to legislation go to <https://www.uumassaction.org/legislation>

### Council of Social Concern

Next time you go shopping, please consider buying extra **shelf stable milk**, **apple juice** and **canned soups** 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.



## Beyond the Congregation



Join the Arlington-Teosinte Sister City Project for

## **BORDER STORIES**

**Historias Fronterizas**

An evening of true stories  
about lives in the balance on the US-Mexico border, featuring:


<i>Ieva Jusionyte</i>	<i>Cristina Cortez</i>	<i>Centro Presente</i>
<i>Kate Goldman</i>	<i>Evelyn Cortez</i>	<i>Cristian Rodezno</i>
<i>Cristina Castillo</i>	<i>Sarah Glover</i>	

**Thursday, January 16, 2020, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

Kickstand Café, 594 Massachusetts Ave, Arlington

Refreshments available for purchase

Sale of handmade jewelry and items for the home  
from Arlington's sister city, Teosinte, El Salvador



Arlington-Teosinte Sister City Project thanks our co-sponsors:

Centro Presente  
ArCS Cluster  
Temple Shir Tikvah  
Arlington International Film Festival  
Social Justice Committee, First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington

For more information, contact [bethsoltzberg@gmail.com](mailto:bethsoltzberg@gmail.com)  
<http://www.arlingtonteosinte.org>

## WhaleCoast Alaska 2020

**Have you ever dreamed of visiting Alaska? If so, WhaleCoast Alaska 2020 is for you!**

4 Alaska UU congregations invite you to experience our unique environmental/cultural/spiritual program this summer. See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs, with friendly homestays and unique tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, sea lions, etc. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Forget the cruise ships -- our program is truly the best way to visit Alaska! Tours led by Dave Frey, member of the Fairbanks UU congregation and Alaska travel expert. Find out more about this Alaskan trip of a lifetime. For complete info go to: [www.WhaleCoastAK.org](http://www.WhaleCoastAK.org), [email dfrey@whalecoastak.org](mailto:dfrey@whalecoastak.org) or call 907-322-4966. Discount for groups of 8 or more. We would love to share our Alaska with you!

## 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](mailto: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.

**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](mailto: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, 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](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org) | [www.winchesteruu.org](http://www.winchesteruu.org)