

Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights February 27, 2020

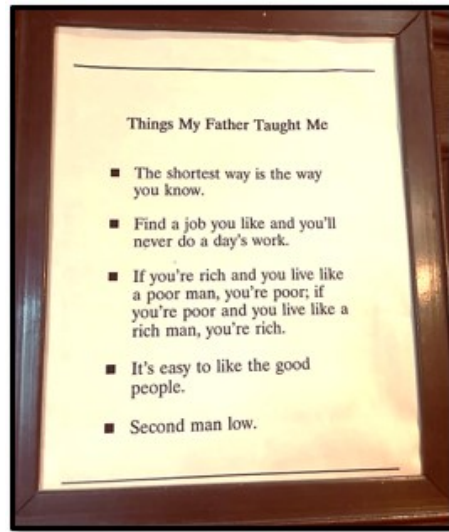


Photo illustrating this month's theme of "Wisdom"

Photo: In our recent Creating a Spiritual Legacy program, Judy Murray shared a list of things her father would say that her family had framed. It currently hangs in her home. Her father's wise sayings are "The shortest way is the way you know; Find a job you like and you'll never do a day's work; If you're rich and you live like a poor man, you're poor. If you're poor and you live like a rich man, you're rich. It's easy to like good people. Second man low."

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, "Your Voice Matters" Voting is an important job for everyone. Our guest, Vicky Cocoluto offers the message this morning.

Sunday, March 1

10:30 am All Ages Worship, Sanctuary



Leadership Lessons

The Rev. Heather Janules

Worship Associates: Nominating and Leadership Development Committee

"Leadership" is very much on people's minds as we gear up for a national election. What makes a good leader? How much of a good leader is their skill and how much is character? In our annual service reflecting on leadership, we hear from a number of WUS leaders, how they have shaped the course of our collective work and how leading and serving has changed them.

This Sunday, we share our gifts with **UU the Vote**, a non-partisan faith initiative organized by the UU Association of Congregations to engage our neighbors, educate our communities, mobilize voters, and rally around key ballot initiatives.

Events This Weekend

"Carbon Countdown"

Saturday, February 29

9:30-11:30 am

Jenks Center, 109 Skillings Rd.

Winchester, MA

WUS Green Sanctuary Committee is Co-Sponsoring with Sustainable Middlesex this event where all may learn: the status of critical Mass. legislation (e.g. a carbon price, Transportation Climate Initiative, etc.); and of recent environmental successes in individual towns. Speakers include: Senator Mike Barrett, Representatives Tami Gouveia and Christina Minicucci, and many town activists. Free. To assure admission register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/carbon-countdown-tickets-91911155741>. A Zero-Waste event: bring reusable beverage container.

Calling all knitters, stitchers and other hand crafters: We are meeting on March 1st noon to 1:00 in the Michelsen room to organize a new knit and stitch group. This is your group, and your opportunity to make connections, and stitch in a meditative and reflective space if that is your desire. Knitters, crocheters, quilters and embroiderers are all welcome.



Fun is on the menu – at the Winchester Unitarian Society

Spaghetti Dinner!

Sunday
1
March

5:30 - 7:00 pm

Downstairs at Metcalf Hall
Winchester Unitarian Society
478 Main Street, Winchester

Please join us for an all-church,
inter-generational spaghetti dinner!

We'll have regular and gluten-free pasta, meatless sauce and meatballs on the side, salad, homemade garlic bread, and Hoodsies. All ages are welcome!

RSVP by February 26th to
marilynmullane@me.com

?'s: marilynmullane@me.com

Sponsored by the WUS Fellowship & Membership Committees

Religious Education

This Sunday:

Morning Programs:

This month in Religious Education we will be introducing Buddhist practices and concepts of kindness and mindfulness and their link to our Unitarian Universalist lives.

World of Wonder: Kindness in Nature. Nature can be challenging and it can also be kind. We practice kindness and take lessons from nature. Caroline and Isabelle lead the group.

Moral Tales: Everyone needs Kindness: Sometimes people are just difficult. And often those people are the ones who most need our kindness. We think about kindness in our world, when to be kind to others, and when to be kind to yourself. Elizabeth and Charlotte lead the group.

Faith Finders: We hear about yoga, and some of us even practice. But where does yoga come from? And how can it teach us to be kind? Rebecca leads the group.

Afternoon Programs:

Our Whole Lives **meets 4:30 - 6:00 in the Wallace Room.** This week, Alternatives to unplanned/unintended pregnancy. Sioux and Jenny lead the group.

Please **note the new date for our next Potluck Theology** will be offered on **March 29th**, rather than April 5th. We will be decorating pysanky eggs, dip dying and hearing about the myths of the spring season. All ages are welcome.

WUSYG

Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group

WUSYG this Weekend:

- o THIS FRIDAY: Youth Sleepover, 7 pm to Saturday, 10 am
 - Youth will meet at the church at 7 pm on Friday night and stay until Saturday

morning at 10 am. We ask that all teens come having eaten dinner on Friday night and bring a sleeping bag/pillow and snacks to share. They'll be given a light grab-and-go breakfast before they leave on Saturday morning. The goal of this sleepover is to bond and have fun! We're expecting most of the group to be there.

- o THIS SUNDAY: Intergenerational Spaghetti Dinner, 4-7 pm (families are strongly encouraged to join us from 5:30-7 too!)
 - Youth will be attending the Intergenerational Spaghetti Dinner as their WUSYG this Sunday. We will start with check-in then go to the dinner, which starts at 5:30. Youth are encouraged to come a little early and stay a little late this Sunday, if possible. At 4, those who can come early will help out with some final prep for the meal, then we'll still do check-in and some other stuff as a group from 4:30-5:30. At 5:30, we'll join other folx for dinner and conversations (see more details elsewhere in Highlights) and then helping with cleanup afterwards (so if some can stay til 7, that'd be great!)
- o Also, if anyone would like to volunteer to help do more prep earlier in the afternoon, starting at 1 pm, please let Sam/Haley know ASAP, thanks! We'll also be reaching out via Facebook and other social media, so feel free to comment there.

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** where you can also find more information about our programs and ways to stay in touch. Email **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.

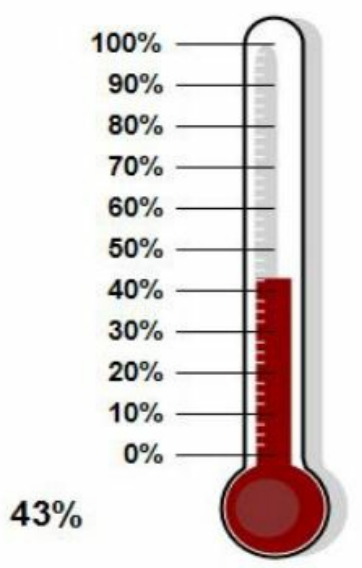
Please contact Music Director John Kramer for more information at john.kramer@winchesteruu.org

Congregational News

Another Pledge Campaign Reminder (the final week!)

As of today, we received 60 pledges representing nearly 43% of pledging households. If you haven't already made your pledge, please remember to submit yours on or before this Sunday, March 1. It's important that we reach our \$400,000 goal so we won't need to operate at a deficit.

A tremendous thank you to those who have already



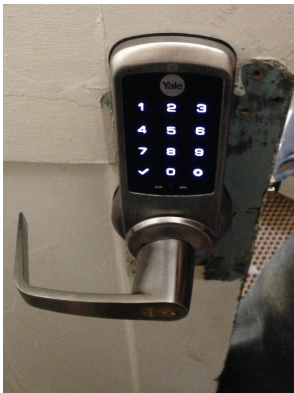
submitted their pledge! This year we are delighted to be sending environmentally friendly individual thank you's via email (with several exceptions for members and friends without an email account).

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.



New Keypad at Metcalf Kitchen Door



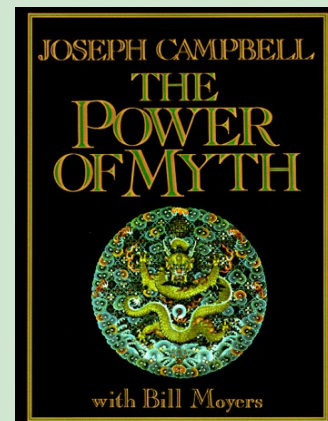
A new door lock has been installed on the rear door by the kitchen. Your current key will work, when the locks change your new key will work.

Instructional signage on how to use the keypad and how to request an access pin will be posted shortly. Touch up paint will be completed shortly.

For questions please contact Thomas Slack at (781) 729-0949 or James Pidacks.

The Power of Myth Discussion March 8th 12:00-1:00 PM Michelsen Room

The "Power of Myth" explores spirituality and myth in a profound way, seeing the similarities of many myths across many vastly different peoples, cultures, religions, continents, and centuries. According to author Joseph Campbell, 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. All are welcome, whether you have joined the discussion previously, or not. Questions? , please contact Matthew Bronski mbronski@gmail.com



Input on Marianne's Ministry is Requested

The Intern Committee is hosting a cottage-style meeting to receive congregational input on the ministerial internship of Marianne DiBlasi. Your feedback will be incorporated into Marianne's final intern evaluation as she completes her 2nd year at WUS. **We are meeting Sunday March 8th at Noon in the Parlor. Please join us!**

If you are not able to attend on March 8 and would like to provide feedback, please contact: **Patty Cameron, Intern Committee Chair** at Patty.Cameron@comcast.net

Immersion Trip to Honduras - August 1-8, 2020

Winchester Unitarian Society members are organizing an Immersion trip to Honduras to visit El Hogar, a school and home, if needed, for about 250 students. The program will give you the opportunity to engage with students, parents, staff, alumni and other nonprofits working for change. You will learn about the culture and the people of Honduras and explore the issues of extreme poverty, violence and climate change migration. There are still 4-5 spots available on the trip.



On **Sunday, March 8 at 12 noon** we will have our first **TEAM meeting**. This meeting is for individuals who are committed to going on the trip. If you have not done so already, please bring \$250 as a deposit.

If you are uncertain about going on the trip you can contact Carol Delaney (ccdolaney1@hotmail.com) or Cynthia Randall (cynthiarandall@comcast.net) for questions prior to the March 8 meeting. You can read more about the organization at www.ehogar.org

STORYTELLING AND MUSIC LOVE HAS NO BORDERS

Saturday March 14, 7-9 pm

*Doors open at 6:30 pm for
Coffee and Desserts*

The Jenks Center

*109 Skillings Rd, Winchester
Accessible location*

They say home is a place where you feel like you belong; but what if home is a place you were forced to flee to escape war or being persecuted because of race, political views or religious beliefs? As a stranger in a strange land, how do you find the warmth of community and a place to belong?

Winchester Unitarian Society is hosting a community-wide event to create awareness of immigrant experiences and inspire hope-filled action through the power of stories

and music. Storytellers will share various perspectives of refugee and immigrant related experiences. Interwoven between the stories, Spanish folk music and immigrant justice songs will be performed.

Featured speaker, **Abdi Nor Iftin**, a refugee from Somalia who lived in Kenya before immigrating to the U.S., will share his story, as chronicled in his memoir, *Call Me American* and on NPR's, *This American Life*: "Abdi and the Golden Ticket."

Marianne Boswell: founder of Lexington Refugee Assistance Program (LexRAP) will share her family's refugee story and how LexRAP began.

Dr. Jawad Abo-Tabik: An Iraqi refugee, after years of displacement, finally finds a place to belong with the support of LexRAP.

Patty Cameron: will tell her story of being a Sanctuary volunteer.

Karen Hirschfeld: will share her vision of Winchester as a Safe Community.

Suggested donation of \$10-20

Proceeds benefit Lexington Refugee Assistance Program, providing refugee families with a network of community support and a place to belong. (www.LexRAP.org)

Hand in Hand Café

There are many ways to strengthen our relationship with LexRAP (Lexington Refugee Assistance Program). One is to enjoy one of their "Hand in Hand Cafe" dinners held at First Parish, Lexington (7 Harrington Rd.) The meal is prepared by local refugee women who join guests for dinner and conversation. Upcoming dinners are on March 7, April 4, and June 13 at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$30 plus a small processing fee. Go to www.lexrap.org and follow the links to sign up.



SAVE THE DATE for our 16th Annual Chili Cook-Off & Fundraiser for WUS & WUSYG: Sunday, March 15th, 11:30 AM in Metcalf Hall. Please [sign up now](#) if you'd like to participate: <http://bit.ly/wuschili> More details to follow, or feel free to email [Sam](#) or [James](#) with any questions in the meantime.

End of Life Matters, Session 1: Sunday, March 29th Michelsen room at Noon

We meet for a light lunch and take the next two hours to explore conversations that clarify our values and intentions. In addition we look at quality of life issues and end of life decision making, with some practical support around documentation to have in place before it is needed . RSVP's requested but not required. Contact Rebecca Kelley-Morgan at Rebecca@winchesteruu.org to let us know you're joining the group. Part 2 is offered on Sunday, April 29th. You are welcome to either or both sessions. This program is offered by the Pastoral Care Associates.

NEW!!! Matching Funders with Shoppers for LexRAP Donations



Do you want to donate Huggies, PediaSure and Wipes for the young child of a local LexRAP refugee family, but don't have time to shop or can't find items in your local store? Do you have time to shop, but have already made your donations?

We would love to help by coordinating people who are willing to shop for items with those who are willing to pay for items. **Call or text Mary McIntosh 781-354-0404** with your offer / need and she'll find a match for you!

Please bring purchased items to WUS and place them in the blue LexRAP donations box in the Symmes room. See below for specifics, especially for the PediaSure since it's the only type the child likes.

Vanilla PediaSure Shake, 8 oz. – blue cap with, 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 providing direct support to a local LexRAP refugee family, please **contact Marianne DiBlasi at marianne@winchesteruu.org**. Thank you for supporting Winchester Unitarian Society's relationship with **Lexington Refugee Assistance Program (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** 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



Community Joys and Sorrows

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

Free film: Harvest of Empire: The Untold Story of Latinos in America Friday Feb 28, 7:00 PM (Doors open at 6:30 PM) at the Theodore Parker UU Church (Parish Hall), 1859 Centre Street, West Roxbury. This film examines the role of the U.S. economic and military interventions in triggering an unprecedented wave of Latino migration that continues to transform the U.S. socio-economic and cultural landscape. Free snacks and discussion. **FLYER**

Do you have a favorite charity? The Social Action and Outreach Committee selects organizations whose purpose aligns with our mission. This is your chance to propose a grant. Meet members of the committee at coffee hour to get a grant form and ask questions. Please email Gordy McIntosh by March 5 to tell us which group you plan to sponsor. You may obtain a Grant Application form from the SAOC page under the Justice tab on the WUS website. Grant applications are due on Sunday March 29.

Defending Our Democracy UUSJ is part of the Coalition for UU State Action Networks (UU Mass Action is the Massachusetts State Action Network). You can participate in a monthly Write Here, Write Now action and have your letters personally delivered to members of congress-- contact advocacy@uusj.org

What are you reading for Black History Month? Come see the Racial Justice shelf in the library in Michelsen and borrow any book. We request you return your book after a month.

The Racial Justice book group is reading: "How to Be an Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi, and "Barracoon: The Story of the Last 'Black Cargo'" by Zora Neale Hurston. If you would like to join the Racial Justice book group discussions, contact Claire McNeill to learn our next meeting dates.

Democracy in Chains

Fri March 6, 7:30 PM at First Parish in Concord, 20 Lexington Rd. Reclaim Our Democracy invites you to an evening with Nancy MacLean, Duke University Professor of History and Public Policy, and author of the National Book Award Finalist "Democracy in Chains: The Deep History of the Radical Right's Stealth Plan for

America."

Council of Social Concern

Next time you go shopping, please consider buying extra **canned chowder, apple juice and cream of mushroom soup** for the Council of Social Concern's Food Pantry. These are the items they need this month to stock their shelves. Thank you for your generosity.

Beyond the Congregation

Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of women's right to vote at a musical that educates as it entertains---and is free!

We Did It For You!

WOMEN'S JOURNEY THROUGH HISTORY



Sunday, March 8

2:30-3:30

McCall School, 458 Main Street, Winchester

FREE and open to the public.

We Did It For You! Women's Journey Through History is a powerful and humorous musical that tells the story of how women got their rights in America, told by the women who were there.

Call Me American:

A Conversation with Abdi Nor Ifrin + Cheryl Hamilton

March 9th at 7 pm

Cary Library

1874 Massachusetts Ave, Lexington MA

*a conversation with
Abdi Nor Ifrin + Cheryl Hamilton*

**March 9
7pm**

Join us for a special evening of stories about immigration and belonging. Abdi Nor Ifrin, author of *Call Me American*, and Cheryl Hamilton, curator of *Suitcase Stories* and *WGBH's Stories from the Stage*, engage in a conversation about Somali immigrants arriving and living in Maine.

Ask A Muslim Anything with Robert Azzi



THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 7:00—8:00 PM
Large Meeting Room
Winchester Public Library
80 Washington St, Winchester, MA

Are you challenged to understand all the media noise about Islam and what it means to be a Muslim? Join Robert Azzi, an Arab-American and native of New Hampshire, for a conversation about his experiences as a Muslim in America. Azzi is a photojournalist, columnist, public speaker, education consultant and world traveler

who is eager to answer questions and engage in conversation about his life, how he came to convert to Islam, about the religion of Islam and its history - especially in America, and about the Middle East, terrorism, and associated political and social issues. As Robert says, "Nothing is off the table...I'm learning more about this great country and my wonderful neighbors than I ever expected when I started this venture." Through open and honest discussion, he hopes to help reduce misunderstandings between people of different faiths. No registration required.

Skilled Person Needed for Online and In-Person Networking and Fundraising with a Community-Based Team for an Important Cause

Do you have interest and/or experience in creative online social media, fundraising and networking? Are you looking for an opportunity to use your talent and energy for a successful project to help others and, even put on your resume?

We would like you to join the "Our Family" Team!

In the last year, a small group in the Metro-North suburbs has been helping a young family working very hard to overcome challenges as newcomers to the US. They were living with a host family and now are staying in a home while snow-bird owners are away, and will soon need to find their own apartment.

They are educated, well-motivated, English-speaking adults eager to make a fresh start. Starting over is exciting, but life in this area is *so expensive*. As they seek work with their new work permits and Social Security numbers, they will need help to pay rent, utilities, food, health care and life's other necessities.

We're looking for someone energetic and enthusiastic to join our all-volunteer team for approximately 3-5 hours a week to network and fundraise for this appreciative family. We're thinking of different ways – a Facebook page, a Go Fund Me campaign, and other creative ways to encourage generosity from kind-hearted folks who would like to help a family that's working to help themselves.

If you would like to become an important member of a team of seasoned community helpers who have organized to assist this family – we'd love to have you join us. Please contact Karen at karen@karenhirschfeld.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

**ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH
MEALS ON WHEELS
FOR WINCHESTER RESIDENTS?**

Whether you are incapacitated, recuperating, or simply not wanting to cook, you would enjoy the ease of having your meals prepared at the Winchester Hospital and delivered to your door. Now is the time to look into how easy it would be to arrange for reasonably-priced, hot meals. Simply call 781-721 9817 . Leave your telephone number for a call back to get the details on this dependable service. You'll be doing yourself a big favor!

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.

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
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