

# Winchester Unitarian Society

## Highlights May 21, 2020

*(link to today's full issue of Highlights)*



*Photo taken by Rebecca Kelley-Morgan: Remains of a 19th century dwelling in Organ Pipe national monument, AZ.*

May's theme is *Thresholds*

## Upcoming Worship

**Sunday, May 24**  
**10:30 Worship, ONLINE**



Photo by [Aaron Burden](#) on [Unsplash](#)

**"No Caravan of Despair":  
Faith for the Frontlines**

The Rev. Heather Janules  
Worship Associate: Martin Newhouse

Memorial Day is a time of collective mourning for those lost in service to their country. Often, it is the clergy who companion the traumatized and the grieving through their pain. As we honor those who died in active service, we also explore the history of Unitarian Universalist chaplains - how they have influenced the armed services and how their experiences in war have also shaped Unitarian Universalism. This service will also invite us to reflect on our own challenges and losses in this time of national crisis.

This Sunday, we share our gifts with the **PenFed Foundation COVID-19 Emergency Financial Relief Program** whose mission is to provide "financial assistance to all Veterans, Active Duty, Reserves and National Guard who are experiencing a financial setback due to the negative economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic." According to their website, demand is high, with 6000 applications for aid received in four days.

You may donate through Give+ [[link to app tutorial](#)] PayPal [[link](#)] or by mailing a check to WUS, 478 Main Street, Winchester, MA 01890. Please write or type "May 24th Offering" in the memo line or comment field.

In light of the Stay at Home order issued by the Governor, worship will be broadcast from home until further notice, affirmation of the long-cherished belief that the Holy dwells everywhere! Zoom in as usual at 10:15 am on Sunday for a 10:30 beginning: <https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship> Tomorrow, you will receive the **order-of-service** and "**pew/couch packet**" which will also be saved to the front page of our website.

**NEW TIME!** Please join us for **Family Worship Friday at 4:30 PM.** <https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship> Details are in the Religious Education section of Highlights.

**Listening at Lunch!** Scroll down to the Music section to find information on how you can listen to John Kramer playing the organ next **Wednesday, May 27th.**

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**Share Your Light:** We would like to create a slide show of our collective candle lighting for the "kindling the light" portion of our service. Please send a short video of you lighting your candle or a photo of your lit candle to Music Director John Kramer at [john.kramer@winchesteruu.org](mailto:john.kramer@winchesteruu.org)

**And "Decorate the Chancel":** As flower deliveries and dedications are postponed until we return to the sanctuary, we invite you to send photos of flowers from your garden or from your daily walks to be included in our services. Email these photos to [heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org)

**We are looking for more "Tech Support" volunteers.** If you are Zoom-fluent and would be willing to be on-call Sunday mornings to assist viewers, please let Rev. Heather know.

## Community Connections

**A Pastoral Letter from The Rev. Heather Janules** [[link](#)]

### Update on WUS Congregational Life and the Pandemic

Last week, UUA President, the Rev. Susan Frederick Gray, issued a letter, advising congregations to plan on continuing virtual ministry until May of 2021. You can read this letter here: <https://www.uua.org/pressroom/press->

The letter includes an additional, helpful resource, which you can find here: <https://www.uua.org/safe/pandemics/gathering-guidance>

This Monday, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker granted houses of worship permission to open as part of Phase One of reopening the Commonwealth. The guidelines can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/places-of-worship-protocols-summary/download>

**How will WUS respond?** We are a self-governing congregation so it is up to us to navigate the path forward.

Our worship service on May 31st will explore the practical and spiritual questions raised by the opportunity to open and the risks and sacrifices involved in doing so. Please become familiar with the above resources in advance of the 31st.

In its May 20th meeting, your Standing Committee decided to form a **Pandemic Planning Task Force** charged with leading the process by which we figure out how we will function as a congregation before there is a COVID-19 vaccine. If you are interested in serving on this task force, please contact Rev. Heather or Fritzie Nace.

For now, we are assuming that we will be offering virtual worship and programming at least until the end of August...Stay healthy and safe, everyone!



*Photo: A priest gets creative in blessing congregants with holy water.*

### **Community Chaplain Available to WUS**

Chaplains are ministers who serve institutions – hospitals, prisons, military units, schools, retirement communities and more. Chaplains also teach the ministry of pastoral care to others through programs called Clinical Pastoral Education or CPE.

WUS member Carol Delaney has completed two units of CPE. As this second unit included the onset of the pandemic, she has learned how to provide pastoral presence through the platforms of Zoom and the telephone.



Carol, who is also a member of the Pastoral Care Associates team, approached the Standing Committee for permission to serve as a Community Chaplain, making herself available to those who are in particular need of personal and spiritual support. She

also offers herself as a resource for coping with the stress and grief related to the COVID-19 pandemic through 1:1 and group formats. Her ministry would be supported by her CPE supervisor, the Rev. Ed Frost, and myself through regular structured meetings. The Standing Committee gratefully accepted her request to serve in this way. Thank you, Carol!

**If you wish to make a phone or Zoom appointment with Carol, please email [communitychaplain@winchesteruu.org](mailto:communitychaplain@winchesteruu.org) or call the office (781.729.0949) so she can be in touch to make an appointment.** As part of our on-going outreach to the congregation during the pandemic, Carol will also be doing some outreach, checking in with members. So, if you receive a call from Carol, I encourage you to take the time and connect with her or make an appointment to do so at another time.

I am grateful to Carol, to our Standing Committee and all those working together to ensure we all have the support we need in these challenging times.

· Rev. Heather

## Resources Available

Through the generosity of WUS members and friends,  
we are prepared to distribute:

**Cloth, handmade masks.** The Commonwealth now requires masks worn both indoors and outdoors when social distancing is not possible.

**With a large supply of simple, no sew masks, anyone can receive a handmade reuseable mask who needs one.** You may request one for each member of your family from the WUS office for pick up at the Main Street door. If you are not leaving the house, let Rev. Heather know and we will coordinate delivery.

**Financial support.** If your income has been significantly decreased as a result of the pandemic shut down, you are eligible for financial support from the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

Contact Rev. Heather if these resources would be helpful to you:  
[heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org); 781.729.0949  
(phone messages are forwarded by email.)

## Connecting with the Office During this Time

When contacting Thomas or Jenny please send your email to both members of the office staff. Thomas will be in the office three days per week. Jenny is only working two days in the office per week and Thomas is working from home on those two days. By sending your emails to both Jenny and Thomas it will ensure we can respond to your requests in a timely manner. You can reach someone in the office between 9am to 3pm. Please let us know if there is any way we can help. Thank you.

**Office phone (781) 729-0949**

**Thomas' email: [office@winchesteruu.org](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org)**

**Jenny's email: [adminassistant@winchesteruu.org](mailto:adminassistant@winchesteruu.org)**

# Congregational News

**Good News!** We are pleased to report to the congregation that we have been fortunate enough to procure a forgivable loan through the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program. The details and information have been posted to the members section of our website.

Sue Kiewra & Judy Murray

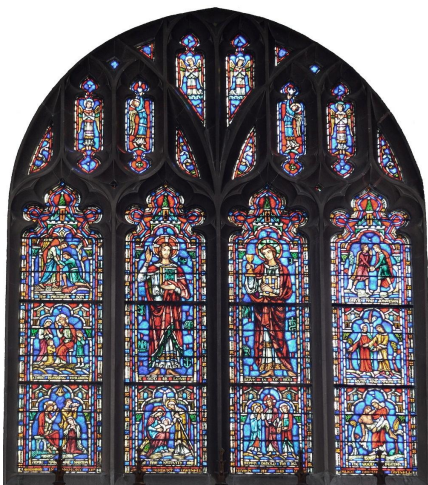
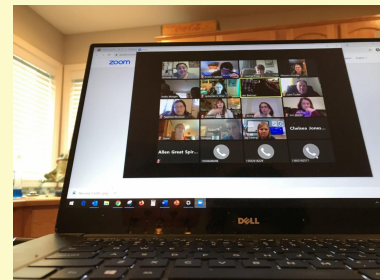


## Thank you from the Music Committee:

Our 14th Concert Series came to a close on Saturday night with an all-Beethoven, solo piano performance given by Music Director, John Kramer. It was a moving and memorable evening for all who "attended" the concert which was live-streamed from our sanctuary. This special event was a fundraiser for the UU Mass Action Covid-19 Emergency Fund, the UU Urban Ministry Covid-19 Emergency Fund as well as the vital missions of our church. Many thanks to all who helped to support and bring about a successful and meaningful 14th WUS Concert Series.

## Mark Your Calendars! Winchester Unitarian Society Annual Meeting Sunday, May 31st, 2020

Following the worship service on Sunday, May 31, 2020 the Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom. This will be an abbreviated version of the traditional Annual Meeting to handle the most important articles and postpone completion of additional articles at a Special Meeting to be scheduled on or before September 30, 2020, or as soon thereafter as is safe and practicable. More information about the Annual Meeting will be released in the next few weeks. Thank you.



## Being Prepared in the Time of COVID-19: End-of-Life Planning

Saturday, June 6th, 9:30-11:30 AM  
Led by the Pastoral Care Associate Team  
FREE; to be held via Zoom

Any time is a good time to consider what medical procedures you would choose during a health crisis when you cannot communicate and to "get your affairs in order."

The current pandemic, posing unique medical challenges to some patients, makes the need to consider these questions and raise tender issues with your loved ones even greater.

On **June 6th**, your PCA Team will offer a workshop, outlining the questions to consider and how to legally communicate your wishes, in an open and supportive format.

(For example, have you named your Five Wishes? If you are not sure what the Five Wishes are, you should attend!)

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** and there is light homework to complete before we gather. To register, please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/WUSEOLReg>  
**Please also forward this invitation to friends and family members.**

## Annual Review

Input welcome! We are beginning the annual review process for our leading program and administrative staff - Rebecca Kelley-Morgan, John Kramer, Sam Wilson and Thomas Slack. We welcome input from the congregation. As part of our usual practice, we will not include anonymous feedback.

Please send your thoughts to Rev. Heather at [heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org) by **May 28th** by responding to these questions: How has WUS best served its mission in the past year? How has [the staff person] contributed to these successes? How could WUS have better served its mission? Do you have any suggestions for [the staff person's] programmatic or professional growth?



## Invitation to WUS Members

Our virtual General Assembly will take place June 24-28 and this year. The Standing Committee is offering free registration for the five delegates our congregation is allowed to have. Fortunately, we have two members that have already expressed interest.

This is a wonderful opportunity to gather and deepen our commitment with each other and other members of our faith. There will be general information sessions on current topics, workshops, presentations, Sunday worship and evening entertainment.

If you are currently a member of our congregation and would like to benefit from this transformative experience there is only one stipulation. Your involvement is needed on our Denominational Affairs Committee. This is a two year commitment and we hardily invite your participation.

**Please contact Betsy Bowles if you are interested.**  
**(617) 584-6477**  
**bebowles13@gmail.com**



**What We Owe To Each Other:  
Discussions on "The Good Place"  
Six Session Series:  
Every Friday Night from 7-9pm  
Beginning May 15th**

Not every television show touches on human morality, philosophy and the afterlife. Nor does every program include a collection of funny and lovable characters, most of whom are dead and some are neither human nor robot. But The Good Place offers all these things as a way to explore ancient spiritual questions with a light heart.

Join Rev. Heather in watching Season 1 and discussing the questions each episode raises. Through an on-line format, we will watch two short episodes in real time and then share our thoughts, reactions and ideas with one another.

You are encouraged to participate in the whole series but drop-ins are also welcome. Let Rev. Heather know if you wish to participate: [heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org)

**Volunteers needed  
for a week of garden watering**

If you need an excuse this summer to get away from home for an hour, or just want to help out, please volunteer to water the church gardens for a week or two over the next several months. It's easy and would be very much appreciated. If mother nature cooperates and provides rain, duty would be light, but if she is stingy with moisture, 3 visits during the week may be necessary especially while the plants are establishing themselves in the garden. We use a soaker hose in the Welcome Garden which needs to run for about an hour.

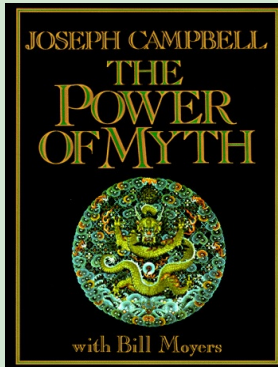


Last Saturday the WUS gardening group had a very productive day planting over 150 plants in four areas around the church. Our Welcome garden now has a spot of yellow (for the chalice) which will be enhanced as they grow by volunteer calendula, rudbeckia and red amaranthus forming the flame. The herb garden has been refreshed with various new herbs, marigolds to keep out the critters, and flowers to entice pollinators. The nursery school fence is lined with tall Indian Summer rudbeckia which when flowering are spectacular and welcoming. Outside the education wing plants loving sun and shade wrap the cornered wall, and by mid summer with careful tending, will provide color and interest. So, if you are looking for a destination for peace and privacy or to meet outdoors on a beautiful day with 10 or fewer of your favorite friends, come visit and watch the garden grow.

For details contact Margaret Lowry at [mlowry142@gmail.com](mailto:mlowry142@gmail.com)

## Mask Makers update notes:

I have made "kits" of fabric and the parts you need to make a mask. If you are a sewer, but don't have materials and would like to be able to sew, please contact (Rebecca) at [rebecca@winchesteruu.org](mailto:rebecca@winchesteruu.org) to work out pick up details.



## Power of Myth - Final Meeting

"The Power of Myth" discussion group meets next for our final wrap up session on **June 14th at 12:00 PM**. Please contact Matthew Bronski for login information to the virtual room. He can be reached via [MBBronski@sgh.com](mailto:MBBronski@sgh.com)

## The Wednesday Night Meditation Group is now on-line!

We wanted to let you know that we are going online, at our usual time. Below are specific instructions and general information, as well as an additional online resource that may be helpful during these challenging times. Last but not least, if anyone wants to make use of this platform for other local meditation groups, please be in touch [via email here](#) and we'll figure out how.



We hope to see you online Wednesday evening.  
with metta,  
Patty (and Ron)

### Specific Instructions:

Dial-in number (US): (712) 770-5505

Access code: 891-437-120#

International dial-in numbers: <https://fccdl.in/i/891-437-120>

Online meeting ID: 891-437-120

Join the online meeting: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/891-437-120>

For additional assistance connecting to the meeting text "Help" to the Dial-In number above. Message and data rates may apply.

Sitting from 6:30-7:00 pm

bell will ring

Walking from 7:00-7:20 pm

bell will ring

Optional informal discussion 7:20-7:30 pm

**Also, please join as early as 6:20 pm to greet each other before we ring the starting bell at 6:30. We should all have audio access but the video access will be limited.**

**We will all be muted during the meditation and you should be able to see a video of a lit candle on the screen during the 2 meditation periods.**

Free resource for connecting mindfully on-line, Center for Mindfulness and



Compassion - daily, free and live online community practice:

<https://www.chacmc.org/connect>



## Joys, Sorrows and Transitions

Our condolences are with **Ivan, Griffin, Alistair and Sheila Rudolph Correia** with the recent death of Ivan's mother, Doreen Correia. You may learn more about her and her life here:

<https://turnerporter.permavita.com/site/DoreenCorreia.html?s=110>

Congratulations are with former F8th in Action teacher and Summer Minister **Kye Flannery** who married her partner, Philip "Flip" Cromer via Zoom on May 9th.

If you are facing a time of joy, sorrow or transition in your life, your minister 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)



## Religious Education

### Staying Connected While Staying Apart:

**Please join us for Family Worship Friday at 4:30 PM.** This week *Ramadan*. Have a family chalice ready, or a candle, or LED light. We look forward to gathering virtually. *\*A note to adults Rebecca or Heather will be leaving the room open for another 15 minutes or so and inviting the children to visit with each other.*

<https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship>

**Story Time:** We are building a library of stories for all ages online so that families can access them at their convenience.. We also would like to have a diversity of storytellers as well. Please contact Rebecca for details.

**Potluck Theology Returns May 31st at 4:30 PM with a Virtual Picnic!** We will be creating cards and/or posters to display for our High School Seniors, Evan, Rachel, Charlotte and two Elizabeths. Meeting room information will be sent prior to our gathering.

## WUSYG

## Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group



## Music

### Listening at Lunch

Music Director John Kramer will be offering an open organ practice on **Wednesday, May 27th from 12:00-12:30**. Log on to the following Zoom link to listen while you work or during your lunch break <https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship>

### Virtual Choir

The music program will be experimenting with a "virtual choir". This is new to all of us so it will be interesting to see how it comes together. Choir members should already have been contacted about this. Please contact Music Director John Kramer at [john.kramer@winchesteruu.org](mailto:john.kramer@winchesteruu.org) if you have any questions.

## Social Action & Outreach

### Our Refugee Support Continues

We have started a **Go Fund Me campaign** for the refugee family many of you have so generously bought diapers and Pediasure for.

The parents have gotten work permits and the father is now working, but the salary is modest, so the money raised through this campaign will go to living expenses. You can reach the campaign [here](#) to donate and/or share the link to the campaign by email, Facebook, Instagram, etc.

We continue to ask for any information on an affordable apartment that might become available outside the normal real estate channels, a landlord who might be willing to rent at below market rate, or someone going away on sabbatical who would

like house sitting.

Please contact Gloria Legvold ([glegvold@comcast.net](mailto:glegvold@comcast.net), 781-729-8247) or Sandy Thompson ([sandra.thompson3@comcast.net](mailto:sandra.thompson3@comcast.net), 781-724-7571) Many thanks!

**EVENT TODAY:** Do you support drivers licenses for undocumented people in MA? The pandemic demonstrates reasons why this is effort essential. During an epidemic, public transit is not the most safe or viable option for transportation. Traveling in one's own car entails less risks of disease transmission. **Join us this upcoming Thursday, May 21st at 6PM for our Virtual Town Hall to learn more about why we're advocating for driver's licenses amidst this pandemic. RSVP here today.**

You can support the Moral Agenda's Poor People's Campaign by "attending" their **June 20 digital national assembly**. The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival is **building a broad and deep national moral fusion movement**—rooted in the leadership of poor people—to unite our country from the bottom up. A National Call for Moral Revival is made up of people of all backgrounds. "We are Black, Brown, White, Native, and Asian; we are old and young; we are Christian, Sikh, Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim; we are people of faith and not of faith; we are people of all sexual orientations and gender identities; we are led by poor people *and* we are a cross-class movement; we are people of all abilities; and we live across this nation, from Alabama to Alaska, from Maine to California to Mississippi. *There are concrete solutions to the immediate crisis posed by COVID-19 and the longer term illnesses we have been battling. We have immediate demands to address the coronavirus.*" This is a fine chance for us to hear from, and make connections with our diverse country. Go to [www.june2020.org](http://www.june2020.org) to learn and be inspired.

The Immigrant Justice Committee (IJC) of the Network for Social Justice celebrates the Winchester Select Board for its approval of a motion to include references to "country of origin" and "immigration status" to the town's Human Rights Statement. The 5-member Select Board unanimously approved the amended language at their monthly meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

The IJC submitted the proposed inclusions to the town's Human Rights Statement for the Select Board's consideration because it recognized the enormous contributions that immigrants make always, and particularly now, as they represent a large percentage of essential workers during the pandemic. Select Board member Mariano Golobuff introduced the motion for the proposed change which was unanimously accepted by the five-member Select Board.

Winchester's Human Rights Statement will now read:

*Winchester is a community that is grounded in respect for every individual, and therefore protects all residents, employees, business owners, students and visitors in the enjoyment and exercise of human and civil rights. It is town policy to ensure equal treatment and opportunity to all individuals regardless of race, gender, gender identity, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religion, ideology, socio-economic status, health, sexual orientation, age, military status, or disability.*

Now is a critical time to include these categories. Not only because xenophobic rhetoric and actions directed at those of Asian origin has increased, but also because May is Asian- and Pacific Island-American Heritage Month. According to Phil Cooley, co-chair with Karen Hirschfeld of the IJC, the additions provide "two more

foundational principles upon which to build an even stronger and more inclusive Winchester.”

## Council of Social Concern

The Food Pantry at the Council for Social Concern is currently low on: **Canned meats (tuna, beef stew, spam, salmon), baked beans, hearty canned soups and pasta sauce.** Since donating food may not be convenient, contributions may be made directly on their website: [www.socialconcern.org](http://www.socialconcern.org)

*The Winchester Unitarian Society will be staffed during its regular office hours of 9:00 am to 3 pm for anyone interested in dropping off food for the Food Pantry.*



Food Pantry Hours (by appointment only) are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:45 am – 12:00 pm or 1:30 – 3:00 pm, and Wednesday Evenings 6:00 – 7:00 pm (for those working full-time or in school full-time).

If you cannot make an appointment, an emergency box can be picked up anytime Monday – Friday from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Food Pantry is open to Woburn & Winchester residents  
If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment, please call  
Paula Matthews, Food Pantry Director at (781) 935-6495 ext. 208

## Beyond the Congregation

### Serve Local Residents Impacted by the Pandemic

Are you able to assist those most impacted by the shutdown? Complete this form to be included in a list of local people willing to run errands and connect (with precautions, of course) with those in quarantine: <https://tinyurl.com/WinC19nandg>

### Charities Recommended by Fidelity Advisory Fund

**TO DONATE TO CHARITIES ON THE FRONT LINE OF COVID-19-RELATED NEEDS:** Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, a donor-advised philanthropy, has extensive resources on evaluating 501(c)3 organizations. For guidance in giving to *those most directly involved* in the coronavirus effort—including the CDC Foundation, which augments the emergency response efforts of the Center for Disease Control, please go to the following link: [How to help: Novel Coronavirus | Fidelity Charitable](#)

### 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) 729-9817 . Leave your telephone number for a call back to get the details on this dependable service. You'll be doing yourself a big favor!

## Ongoing

**\*\*\*ALL IN-PERSON MEETINGS AT WUS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED\*\*\***

**Yoga, Meditation, Caregiver Support Group,  
and 350 Massachusetts Metro North**

## 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](mailto: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)

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