

Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights October 8, 2020

(link to today's full issue of Highlights)



The Theme for October is *Deep Listening*

Photo: Statues on the Boston Common

Upcoming Worship

Family Worship, has returned to Sundays. This week, **What's Real?**. We will be meeting via Zoom at 10 a.m. this Sunday, October 11th. Please log on a little before 10 at www.tinyurl.com/wusworship and in the chat feature, write "the secret password". You will be invited into a breakout room by the host. and everyone is muted as they arrive before we begin family worship. This week we learn the difference between an assumption and a fact. The sessions will not be recorded, and we have gatekeepers to safeguard our youngest members' privacy.

Sunday, October 11
10:30 Worship, ONLINE

UU the VOTE



Vote Love, Defeat Hate: Organizing for the Long Haul

The Rev. Heather Janules

This Sunday, our service will be led by a number of guest speakers, organized by the Unitarian Universalist Association, to help us spiritually prepare for the upcoming national election and to inspire us to defend our values long into the future: "In these midst of global pandemic, rising authoritarianism, and uprising, lives hang in the balance and the future of democracy is on the line. In response, Unitarian Universalists are answering the call of our faith, building powerful partnerships to mobilize our communities to #VoteLove and #DefeatHate in the 2020 elections. Join UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray, the UU the Vote team, and a lineup of powerful, prophetic UU voices as we explore the intersections of faith, justice, and democracy in this collective virtual service."

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.

Questions for Reflection

How might we understand civic participation as a spiritual practice?

Who benefits from the votes we cast beyond ourselves?

How might we look beyond the upcoming election towards creating a society rooted in UU values?

Bring-A-Friend Sunday: October 18 @10:30am at the Winchester Unitarian Society

Please join us online (in the comfort of your home & PJ's!)
by Zoom at: <https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship>

BRING
a friend

Whose Laws and What Order? Police, BLM and Us with Rev. Heather Janules

The use of police force against African Americans and other marginalized communities is one of the many catalysts to rising civil unrest, seemingly a conflict between efforts to "defund the police" and "back the blue." Yet, like many social struggles, things are not quite this simple.

This service will explore how we, a diverse nation, might seek to move beyond binary, hostile positions towards a society with authentic service and protection for all.



Service begins at 10:30am and is followed by
virtual "coffee hour" where you can meet & chat
with others in the WUS congregation.

We hope to "see" you there!

And to Further the Introduction: A Welcome Video!

The congregation made a welcome video as part of the minister search in 2015. Since folks can't get to know us in the usual way, we have dusted off that video and updated it to reflect our current ministries. It may not win at the Sundance Film Festival but this 20 minute window into our congregational life helps newcomers get a sense of how we worship, serve, play and advocate. You can find it on the front page of our website: www.winchesteruu.org Check it out and pass it on!

Worship Notes



Chalice Images and Short Videos Needed

We wish to refresh our images for "Kindling of the Light" in on-line worship. Please send your images and short videos of you kindling your chalice at home to Director of Music John Kramer at:

john.kramer@winchesteruu.org

Zoom Support Volunteers Needed

Most of us have become more tech-savvy since March. If you have become Zoom fluent, consider serving as Zoom tech support should a newcomer have trouble accessing the Sunday service. If interested, contact Heather at:

heather.janules@winchesteruu.org

No More OOS or Friday Announcement Email

As you have read in *Highlights* and the Sunday announcements, we have been encouraging worship attendees to try viewing the on-line service without using the order-of-service and to provide feedback about the experience. We received little feedback, some in favor of eliminating the OOS.

Thus, we do we will no longer be producing an order-of-service for online

services as we are now exploring the pros and cons of worshipping without one in a more intentional way.

As always, you can attend the service by clicking on www.tinyurl.com/wusworship

This link will not be changing so you are encouraged to bookmark it on your web browser for future services. If you forget to do so, it is always posted on the front page of our website – www.winchesteruu.org – in the upper right-hand corner with the description of the service. The Pew/Couch Pack can now be found here also.

If you have feedback about the elimination of the order-of-service, please contact Rev. Heather at heather.janules@winchesteruu.org

Thank you for your flexibility and patience while we seek to determine what works best for all – or at least most – in these days of adaptation and creativity!

Community Connections



**Zoom-A-Bid Online Auction, WUS's Fall Fundraiser,
starts TOMORROW at 5 PM.**

Watch for tomorrow's SPECIAL EMAIL with instructions and the LINK to enter our auction world filled with over 100 different items, experiences and services.

HAUNTED HOUSE!!

Haunted events on church grounds
this Halloween season!
Decoration donations appreciated!
Volunteers welcomed!

More Information:



https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_Spy5MDmqGXIPep5rCgf0yDo7CDQZCPwV-9xIO8JtC8/edit

Contact Evan -- email: evan.forcucci@gmail.com or text: 781-460-8325



Harvest the Power is an adult program that cultivates leadership growth through faith formation and the application of Unitarian Universalist theology to the goals of anti-racism and social justice. Learn about yourself, your fellow members and the skills and practices needed for leadership in these unfamiliar times throughout six, two-hour reflective and interactive sessions.

Co-facilitated by Liz Lintz and Phil Coonley of the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee, Director of Lifespan Religious Education Rebecca Kelley-Morgan and the Rev. Heather Janules, Parish Minister, this group will meet virtually throughout the 2020-21 program year, days and time TBD, beginning hopefully the week of Nov 9th but based on collective availability. We especially encourage those who are already in leadership positions or considering leadership positions to enroll, but it is open to all. Expectation is that participants will commit to the first three sessions and then assess from there. Please contact Liz Lintz at nominating@winchesteruu.org if you have questions or you are ready to join. Minimum 6 participants to begin, maximum is 12; deadline is Nov 8. We already have one enrollee so we just need at least 5 more! *How about you?*



We Believe in Dog Walks on Halloween!

Saturday, October 31st, 10am: 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 31st. 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. *Our walk will comply with WUS pandemic protocols for outdoor gatherings including a sign-in sheet with a brief symptom survey. Masks – worn*

properly – are required. Dogs, however, are free to walk without masks. **But dogs - and their humans - are welcome to come in costume! :)**

Let Rev. Heather know if you plan to come: heather.janules@winchesteruu.org 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.

Photo by [Elias Castillo](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Plan Ahead for Election Week

Voter Vigil: On Tuesday, November 3rd, we will open a Zoom room at 7:30 pm to center ourselves for watching the evening's poll results. After a time of checking in with one another, we will watch at home but revisit the Zoom room on the hour to share our reactions. The room will be informally "personed" throughout the evening in case there is a sudden development. Last check in will be at 11pm: www.tinyurl.com/wusworship



Post-Election Listening Circle: Thursday November 5th 7:00 PM Regardless of the general election's outcome, the divisiveness of the national campaign season has been challenging, and for many of us, painful. Join your fellow congregants for a facilitated gathering and a time to be in community as we tend to each other's spirits. This evening is sponsored by the Pastoral Care Associates and WUS staff: www.tinyurl.com/wusworship

Photo by [Tiffany Tertipes](#) on [Unsplash](#)

A sign with a black background and white text. The text reads: "OPEN OFFICE HOURS With Rev. Heather · WUS Meditation Garden Every Thursday (weather permitting) from Noon—2PM Beginning September 3rd Call the WUS office (781.729.0949) if the weather casts doubt MASKS REQUIRED! As always, Rev. Heather is available by appointment beyond office hours as of September 1st". The sign is set against a background of a building and trees.

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NEW MEMBER DIRECTORY

There is a new member directory posted to the Members & Friends page of the Winchester Unitarian Society Webpage.



Find it here: <https://www.winchesteruu.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/WUS-Directory-as-of-9.24.2020.pdf>

Photo by [Waldemar Brandt](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Writers Group: 9-10(ish)

Every Wednesday

Next meeting is October 14th

The writer's group is led and facilitated by Dan Hermes. Dan will be facilitating through early November, so please be in touch if you'd like the url to join the group. Dropping in is fine and invite your writing friends. Dan can be found here at: dan@lexiconsystemsinc.com

Joys, Sorrows and Transitions

As named in worship, our condolences go out to **June Edwards** with the recent passing of her brother, Ralph Gregg Kirkhuff.

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



Congregational News



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a special meeting of the congregation via Zoom on **Sunday October 18th 2020** following services.

As noted at our Annual meeting in May this meeting will review a revised budget for the fiscal year starting September 1, 2020 ending August 31, 2021. Please watch for an all church email

with the warrant and revised budget details. For your information the text of the warrant is below.

Regards, *Your Standing Committee*
SC@Winchesteruu.org

Sunday, October 18, 2020 - Meeting convenes at 11:45 a.m.

The Winchester Unitarian Society Special meeting will be held via ZOOM at <https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship> on Sunday, October 18, 2020, at 11:45 a.m., following the Sunday service, to consider the following:

Article I

To hear and act on a revised budget recommended by the Standing Committee for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2021.

Article II

To hear and act on the proposed change to the membership requirement of the Social Action and Outreach committee specified in Article 15 Section 2 of the Bylaws that would reduce the number of elected members from nine to seven.

Article III

To hear and act on any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Partner Church News

We hear from minister's wife, Gizi, that, in Marosvasarhely as in Winchester, covid19 has seriously curtailed church activities. They feel safe gathering on Sunday to hear Laci's sermons but allow no more than fifty people in the sanctuary and require proper distancing. This summer, they took a group of fifty congregants to a country resort location, where each family could have its own cabin. As Gizi commented, they were together but apart. They found it a refreshing relief from virus restrictions.



Our two university scholarship students, Anna Kiss and Anna Kamenitczky, are continuing their studies, albeit remotely. Neither one is happy about that. The latter's program is in geography and tourism; the former's in artisanry. We're hoping to learn how she is able to pursue her efforts in three-dimensional art of various kinds.

The Winchester School of Chinese Culture will not be running their after-school program at WUS this year. If you would be willing to lead an effort to find or suggest alternative sources of building related income, please reach out to Thomas in the WUS office (office@winchesteruu.org or 781-729-0949). Any building use must be consistent with the guidelines from the Pandemic Planning Task Force and the needs of our long-time tenant the Winchester Cooperative Nursery School. Every little bit helps!! Please share your time and ideas! THANK YOU!

Calling all Recyclers -- and we hope that's every one of you! Empty pizza boxes can be recycled, even with grease and food stains, according to Recycle Smart MA (<https://recyclesmartma.org>) Your empty boxes are needed to make new boxes, so don't trash them.

~ The Green Sanctuary Committee





**The Wednesday Night Meditation Group is ON-LINE
Wednesday Evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 PM**

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

Specific Instructions:

TO JOIN BY PHONE: - Dial-in number (US): (712) 770-5505, Access code: 891-437-120#

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

TO JOIN BY COMPUTER OR OTHER DEVICE:

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

Online meeting ID: 891-437-120

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

Also, please join as early as 6:20 pm to greet each other before we ring the starting bell at 6:30.

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

For further information, please contact Patty Shepard at shepard.patty@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE: Free conferencecall.com has a new software download that you may be asked to allow when you click on the link above. All you need to do is to accept the download and follow the prompts, including allowing a non windows installation, if you have windows on your device.



Fall Yoga Session Begins

Join us Mondays 6:45 – 8:15pm via Zoom
Led by Fritzie Nace, MA DTR

Deep breathing (pranayama) brings warmth and focus. Yoga postures (asanas) gently stretch and strengthen, enhance balance and counter patterns of daily tension. Connecting breath and movement deepens self-awareness and enlivens our sense of being. If you have never done yoga before, or only just a bit, Fritzie gives clear guidance through a slow flow of postures, offering support as we go. If you have more experience, you are invited to take the postures to your own depth of challenge. Ten-class (\$130), 5-class (\$65) and drop-in (\$15). For more information, see WUS website here. Questions? Email fritzie.nace@gmail.com.

Religious Education

Children's Religious Education: As long as the weather allows, we will be meeting on the grounds of Winchester Unitarian Society, with masks and social distancing protocols for everyone's health and well being. The gatherings will take place Sundays from 12:00 to 2:00, picnic and brief program followed by social time. Park in the back lot and find us on the lawn near the garden.

Sunday, October 25th 4:30-6ish NOTE new time: celebrate the autumn with Pumpkin carving/decorating and a dusky evening display of candle lit jack o' lanterns. Put that one on your calendars! It's BYOP&B (Bring your own pumpkin and beverage and we'll provide the pizza).

If you haven't been contacted by a member of the religious education committee yet, please let us know when and how to best be in touch by letting Committee chairperson, Naomi Magnoni know at naomimagnoni@gmail.com. We look forward to connecting with you!

WUSYG

Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group

Since so many youth told us that they couldn't make it to WUSYG this Sunday, we decided to cancel our meeting. We look forward to seeing everyone back at ZOOMSYG on the 18th for community- and self-care Sunday.

Parents: Haley and Sam are hosting 20 min sessions to get to know you and learn more about your child. Sign up here if you're interested:

<https://calendly.com/wusyouth/20min>

All of the above will be on Zoom and can be joined by going to:

www.tinyurl.com/WUSYGZoom

We will also have monthly in-person outdoor meetings starting on Oct. 25th.

Any questions/concerns/feedback please message Sam & Haley:

wusyouth@gmail.com



Music

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 if you have any questions.

Social Action & Outreach

It's Thanksgiving "Basket" Time:

This program, sponsored by the Council of Social Concern, delivers the makings of Thanksgiving dinner to families in need in nearby communities. Last year we contributed 33 dinners. This year, the need is greater than ever. Since they are excluding fresh vegetables, we estimate the cost to be from \$50—75. We need to have a final number by October 30.

Please sign up NOW to donate one or more dinners by sending Sue Doubler an email at suedoubler@gmail.com. (Let her know if you would prefer to donate the cost, rather than shopping.) We will send you a shopping list and details about delivery to the church; you will need to provide your own sturdy box with lid. Together, we can make Thanksgiving a happy holiday for families in the Woburn/Winchester area who are facing difficult times. We will collect the boxes at church the week of November 9.

Exploring the African American Museum of History and Culture. City of Hope. In 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference launched The Poor People's Campaign — a national, multiethnic, multicultural movement to demand equal access to economic opportunities and security for all people. As the United States emerged in the 1960s as a global model of wealth and democracy, an estimated 35 million Americans lived in poverty.

<https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/exhibitions/city-of-hope>

“I'm a Good Person, Isn't that Enough?”

Racial justice educator Debby Irving (author of *Waking Up White*) will lead a discussion about how to proactively raise strong, empathic children and recognize how different kinds of unrecognized privilege can influence our parenting. Her presentation on Thursday, October 22nd, will focus on the “basics” of anti-racist parenting with a Q&A. A discussion and working group led by Network for Social Justice Executive Director Liora Norwich for those who want to unpack Irving's talk will be on **Thursday, October 29**. Both sessions will take place from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Register for both parts [here](#)

Every Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. a community vigil in support of racial equality and justice for Breonna Taylor takes place at the four corners of Mystic Valley Parkway near the Winchester Unitarian Society.
All are welcome!

Council of Social Concern

There is an **urgent need** for food donations for the Council for Social Concern in Woburn. You may drop off food at church or at the pantry.

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



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

DISRUPTING RACISM NFSJ LEARNING SERIES

This 3 part series is designed to build a learning circle of diverse community members committed to diving deeper into racial justice theory and its practice

- Mapping our personal anti-racism journeys
- Discussing the intersection of key concepts and overarching frameworks
- Identifying practical tools to interrupt racism

7-9pm Tuesday Evenings
October 13, 27th & November 10

Limited to 30 participants, priority given to Winchester community members

To register visit: disrupting_racism.eventbrite.com
With questions lnorwich@nfsj.org

NETWORK
for SOCIAL JUSTICE
Educate · Engage · Activate



Network for Social Justice, nfsj.org

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, 781-729-8247) or Sandy Thompson (sandra.thompson3@comcast.net, 781-724-7571) Many thanks!

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)

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