

Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights September 30, 2021

(link to today's full issue of Highlights)



Photo: "Ocean's Reach" by Bob Janules. This photo not only reflects the ocean's "embracing" nature but is also shared in celebration of Water Communion and recognition of the meaning of fractals in adrienne maree brown's "Emergent Strategy"

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, October 3

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Note New Virtual Worship Logistics Below!

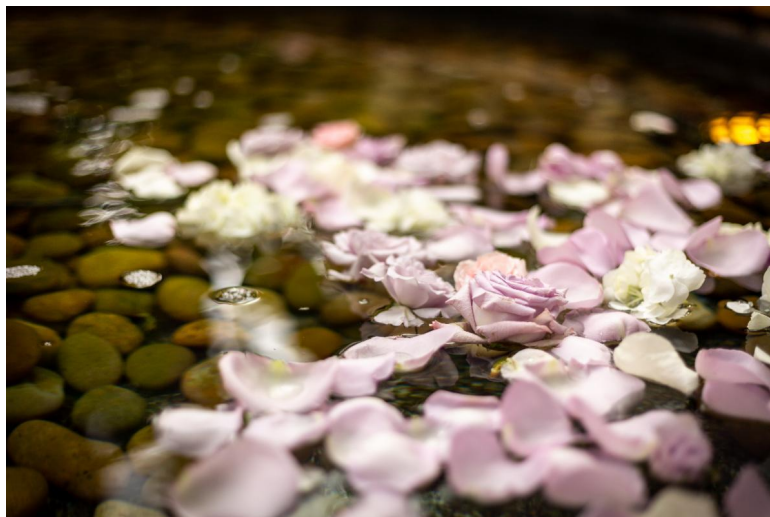


Photo by [Travis Grossen](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Unlocking the Power of Covenant

The Rev. Heather Janules

IN PERSON ATTENDEES

Come to the WUS Sanctuary (478 Main Street, Winchester)

You will be asked to sign in, indicating that you are free of COVID symptoms and have not been exposed to COVID. This task, plus finding a seat (as half the pews are roped off) will take more time than usual so plan to come early for a 10:30 beginning.

There will be brief times when the congregation will be visible on the livestream so if you don't want to be seen virtually, please choose one of the pews in the back marked as private.

The livestream will be broadcast on the front Terrace for those who wish to be at WUS but choose to attend outdoors. Parents with young children are especially encouraged to attend on the Terrace so the service can be experienced safely and in community.

The Membership Committee seeks Ushers and Greeters for future in-person services.

Ushers and Greeters will manage the sign-in process.

If you are willing and able to volunteer, please email membership@winchesteruu.org

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

On Sunday at 10:30 AM, **click here to connect with the livestream** from the Sanctuary: <https://tinyurl.com/WUSlivestream>

(Note that the Stream is not yet run through our Zoom account so attendees won't be able to post to the chat and interact in real time. Stay tuned for future advancement when this will be possible! Thank you for your patience.)

At the conclusion of the Postlude, **click here to attend Virtual Social Hour:** <https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship>

All are invited to attend and participate in **Outdoor Coffee Hour** on the new Terrace directly after the service.

More information about the worship services can be found on the [website](#) and the Weekend Worship Announcement that comes out on Friday.

Joy, Sorrows and Transitions

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

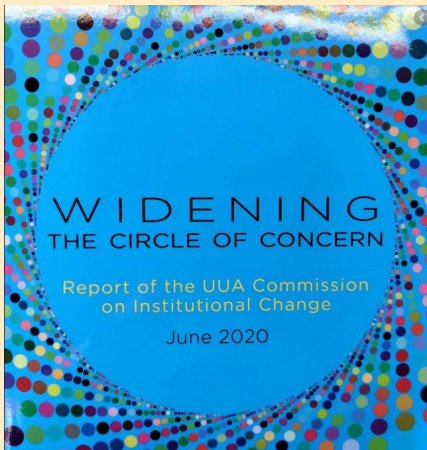


Dance For All Ages Sunday, October 3rd from 4-6pm

Please join us for an all ages Community Dance this coming Sunday. If you've joined us in the past then you can share with the community the joy of dancing to live music and being led in folk and international dances by our amazing caller Marcie Van Cleave. This year we will be setting up the dance out in the back church parking lot. Participants will be masked while dancing. Don't miss the good times! In event of rain, this event will be cancelled.

PARTNER CHURCH NEWS

Our two Transylvanian scholarship students are back at their studies for the fall semester. There is some uncertainty as to whether they will be on site or, once again, forced to work remotely. Both seem eager to return to campus. **Anna Kamenitzky** is continuing her courses in tourism management. Last spring, she completed a major step toward graduation: She selected one of many ruined castles in Transylvania, did research on its history, and then developed a plan for its physical restoration and use as a tourist attraction. **Anna Kiss** has completed her bachelor's degree in fine arts and is now enrolled in a master's degree program in mental health. She hopes, eventually, to use her artistic skills to help treat mental health patients.



[Please register here by October 17th](#)

Widening the Circle of Concern: Workshop on Governance

Tuesday evening, October 19th
from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. (virtual)

Join the Racial Justice Planning Group to take a look at our congregational structures.

Are they working for us? How do we encourage practices towards diversity, equity, and inclusion in the work of our decision-making and leadership?

"Widening the Circle of Concern," (the report of the UUA Commission on Institutional Change) urges us all to be proactive and intentional as we consider how to make our religion a welcoming home for ALL. We are joining the many congregations in the UUA community at large to look at ourselves, using the UUA Study/Action Guide for the commission's report.

You have probably heard that Rev Heather led our first workshop on "Theology," based on the Study/Action Guide in late March and that Rebecca helped us to conduct the "Hospitality and Inclusion" workshop in June, 2021. We hope you can make time to attend all of these crucial workshops, and the next one is on Governance. You can find the outline for this particular workshop on page 8 of the [Study/Action Guide pdf](#). The WUS office now has several copies of the "Widening the Circle of Concern" report that you can borrow; please contact our office administrator, Thomas Slack for one, Thomas.slack@winchesteruu.org.

The report is also available online at:

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/cic/widening>.

Please join us the evening of Tuesday, 10/19 and don't forget to **register by 10/17**. Thanks.



Volunteers Needed as WUS Returns to In-Person Worship Services

The Winchester Unitarian Society has returned to in-person/hybrid gatherings which means volunteers are needed to serve as ushers, greeters, and Sunday Secretary. Please contact the WUS Office for more information or sign-up at this link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1drji6sztX5log0twViLyrFzSYjFq3MK_RU9Yne3McdA/edit#gid=0

Thank you! See you at the next worship service!

office@winchesteruu.org

(781) 729-0949

New WUS Fundraiser Coming in November

As we head into Fall, you may be wondering what type of fundraising can WUS do while Covid continues to linger? Well, we have your answer!



We've partnered with [Maxsold](#), an online auction company specializing in downsizing and estate sales, which is offering fee-free auctions to nonprofits during Covid. That means all the money we raise through the auction will be used to support WUS.

We'll be asking WUS members to donate gently-used, vintage, new, and interesting items for the auction. With everyone spending more time at home, this is the ideal time to dig out those "treasures" and give them new life. Donations can be dropped off at WUS in early November, and will be auctioned off to support WUS, so please start setting them aside.

What can you donate? It's really anything that has value: Smaller furniture like side tables and benches, new and used tools, classic cameras, costume jewelry, watches, book collections, vintage and collectables, Mid-Century Modern, and home décor like framed prints, matching lamps, mirrors and rugs, as well as sports memorabilia,

newer exercise and sports equipment, new electronics like Rhomba or classic electronics like speakers and turntables, and even Pokeman classic cards are just a few examples. The best way to understand a MaxSold auction is to visit their web site and poke around. <https://maxsold.com>.

We seek Volunteers to help with the physical side of the auction, which involves sorting donations and adding photos to the online Auction Catalog, among other tasks. If you are interested in Volunteering on this fundraiser, please email Rachel Whitehouse at racheljwhitehouse@hotmail.com

Religious Education

Thanks to everyone who came out last Sunday for our latest adventure in Outdoor RE! Special thanks to Colette, one of our new RE teachers, for teaching us all some Cat Yoga!

This Sunday, October 3rd, we have three exciting things going on!

10:30 am - All-Community Invocation: All ages will be starting at the Bell Tower Terrace this Sunday for an invocation including welcome,

singing a hymn together, a short 1st reflection and chalice lighting, before we are all sung off to RE or worship. Parents, please find us on the grass near the Bell Tower Terrace and sign in before 10:30 so that we can transition more easily at 10:45 to our respective places.

10:45 am - Outdoor RE for K-6: This week in RE we will begin our more formalized RE programming, with the chalice lighting, joys and concerns, and then some fun group activities. This month we will be exploring “Cultivating Relationships” (the same theme as the adult worship services for the month). [Please click here to see our recently-updated \(again!\) Flyer with Draft Calendar and Overview of RE](#) for more details on what to expect in RE this year and several dates to save. Note that the activities listed are samples of what we will be doing and may not be what we end up doing any given Sunday (though the themes will all stay!)

4-6 pm - Outdoor Community Dance: Families are strongly encouraged to come back at 4 pm for our all-ages community dance in the parking lot! See the ad elsewhere in Highlights for more details. WUSYGers will be joining at 4:30, so our youngest will get to hang out again with all of their favorite RE Teachers and enjoy dancing together. Masks required, and snacks/drinks will be offered in a separate area.

To View & **Subscribe to our new WUS RE & WUSYG Google Calendar**, please go here: www.tinyurl.com/WUSRECalendar Subscribing will allow you to see what’s happening every Sunday. You can also simply view the calendar on our website: www.winchesteruu.org/youth



For visual updates on our upcoming events, please **follow our new WUS RE Instagram page** here: www.instagram.com/WUSReligiousEducation

Please note that for now, **RE programming will be held outdoors, and everyone will be required to wear masks** and stay 3 feet apart. Vaccinated RE leaders may lower their masks to lead certain activities outdoors from 6+ feet away. **Parents will need to check-in** their children each Sunday before dropping them off **and sign children out** by 11:45.

OWL (Our Whole Lives, 7th and 8th grades): Many thanks to the parents who attended the orientation meeting last Sunday, and special thanks to our team of OWL facilitators for leading this. OWL's first class will be 4:30-6 pm on 10/17. For more information, please message OWL facilitator Karen Caputo: kcaputo8@hotmail.com who will also send separate weekly emails to parents.

WUSYG: Winchester Unitarian Youth Group (9th-12th Grade)

This Sunday, Oct. 3rd: WUSYG Meeting outdoors, 4:30-6 pm
Youth: This Sunday is the outdoor community dance! Masks required, though there will be a separate space for snacks & drinks. Feel free to dress up! We will start with the dance then do a check-in/out at 6. Yee ha!

Parents, thanks so much for supporting your child's attendance in WUSYG this year! Here are a few things that you can also do, please:

[Register your child](#) if you haven't already (thank you to those who have!)

[Sign up here to bring snacks](#) for us sometime, please!

Subscribe to [our Calendar: tinyurl.com/wusrecalendar](https://tinyurl.com/wusrecalendar)

Follow us on Social Media: check out linktr.ee/wusyg to find links for everything related to WUSYG this year, including all of our social media accounts and FB group for parents.

Questions/concerns or compliments, please message Sam and Alex:

wusyouth@gmail.com

Social Action & Outreach



BUILDING BELOVED COMMUNITY, ACTION BY ACTION

Your Racial Justice Team continues this week with the second of four action ideas supporting the UUA "Call to Prophetic Action: 2021 Statement of Conscience, **Undoing Systemic White Supremacy.**"

(See <https://www.uua.org/action/statements/undoing-systemic-white-supremacy>.) Last week we posted Action 1: **Engage with the movement.**

Action 2: **Carry forward the recommended healing actions conveyed in “Widening the Circle of Concern.”** As with other complex, embedded social problems, undoing systemic white supremacy requires not only engaging in action beyond our denomination, but also internal work to overcome the ways in which it weaves itself into our group cultures, interpersonal relationships, and individual ingrained biases. Affirming the knowledge and vital guidance detailed in the UUA Commission on Institutional Change report, Widening the Circle of Concern, we are called to implement recommendations releasing ourselves from the limits of systemic white supremacy embedded in our structures and habits so we can live our shared values more fully and freely.

Action 2 is eminently timely and accessible! Bring your voice to **Widening the Circle of Concern: Workshop on Governance, Tuesday, October 19, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.** (virtual). We will be looking at our congregational structures of decision-making and leadership practices, how they function, and how they support the practices of diversity, equity, and inclusion. [Please register here by October 17th.](#)

--Your Racial Justice Team

Thank you for your attention and support.

Your Racial Justice Team

BOSTON MARCHES FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY_
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021 - 11:30 AM EDT – 1:45 PM EDT

Details: Boston Common by Park Street Station

Duration: 2 hr 15 min

Rally and March for Indigenous Peoples Day in Boston!

Hosted by **IndigenousPeoplesDayMA**, UAINE (United American Indians of New England), NAICOB (North American Indian Center of Boston), & Cultural Survival

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2021 - 12 PM EDT – 5 PM EDT

Details: Albermarle Field, Newton

Duration: 5 hr

Indigenous Peoples Day Newton 2021 will spotlight and celebrate the music, dance, poetry, and the visual art of diverse Native artists that currently live in the Northeast. It will be an outdoor, daytime, family-oriented cultural and spiritual celebration that is open, accessible, and welcoming to all Newton residents and neighboring towns. The goal is to make concrete the city's recent recognition of Indigenous Peoples day as an official city holiday. The intention is for this event to become a beloved annual event on our city's calendar.

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN REPRESENTING WUS
AT A LOCAL FOOD SECURITY CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 19TH?

The Winchester Farmers Market Community Hub is partnering with the offices of Representative Michael Day and Senator Jason Lewis to host a food security conference. Invitations are extended to all the organizations involved in food assistance affecting the six towns of Senator Lewis's district, Winchester, Stoneham, Malden, Melrose, Wakefield and Reading, plus Woburn. The hybrid conference will be

held October 19th at the Stoneham Senior Center. The goal is to begin a conversation of what resources are currently in place and how we might work together to build a stronger food security system. If interested please contact:

social-action-and-outreach-committee@winchesteruu.org



On-Going

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

Please find the drop off baskets in a new location - by the back door of the building near the parking lot. Access to this basket is unlocked.

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



4 Paws 4 Wheels 4 Hunger Mark and Mocha's Roll/Stroll across Massachusetts

This is an inspiring story. Mark and his wife Susan spent their professional careers as lawyers doing environmental justice work both in the US and worldwide. Several years back Mark contracted an incurable disease that has put him in a wheelchair and may not last all that much longer.

To give meaning to what time he has left he came up with this advocacy to travel by motorized wheelchair with his labradoodle Mocha from one end of MA to the cape, taking 7 weeks to fundraise and bring awareness to the issues of Hunger in the US.

Please help support this remarkable man and this important work.

https://4hunger.org/?fbclid=IwAR0vuP-MX1vcwDzs_k_-FQXgEjpLHh0j2JamfbVZgkB2tDSqMqgtxoHDiM0

ISLAMIC COUNCIL OF NEW ENGLAND
& **BOSTON WORKERS CIRCLE: CENTER FOR JEWISH CULTURE & SOCIAL JUSTICE**

PRESENT A 4-PART SERIES

A BETTER FUTURE FOR ISRAELIS & PALESTINIANS: AFFIRMING THE SACREDNESS OF ALL HUMAN LIFE

Oct. 6th - Can We Talk/Listen? Reflections from a Rabbi & Imam
Rabbi Sharon Brous, IKAR, Opening Reflection
Rabbi Mike Rothbaum, Congregation Beth Elohim
Dr. Mohamed Lazzouni, Islamic Center of Boston
Moderator - Mehlaqa Samdani, Critical Connections

Oct. 13th - Can We Share? Sanctity of the Holy Land: A Jewish, Christian and Muslim Perspective
Prof. Dr. Mustafa Abu Sway, Integral Chair for the Study of Imam Al-Ghazali's Work at the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque & Al-Quds Univ.
Rev. Dr. Mae Elise Cannon, Churches for Middle East Peace
Rabbi Barbara Penzner, Temple Hillel B'nai Torah
Moderator - Dr. Joseph Kelley, Merrimack College

Oct. 27th - Can We Acknowledge? Reflecting on Our Histories and Narrative
Rabbi Aryeh Cohen, Ph.D., Prof. of Rabbinic Literature at American Jewish Univ.
Aziza Hasan, NewGround: A Muslim-Jewish Partnership for Change
Ayman Nijim, Ph.D. candidate, Liberation Psychology
Nizar Farsakh & Gili Getz, Combatants for Peace
Moderator - Rabbi Tiferet Berenbaum, Temple Beth Zion

Nov. 10th - Can We Help? Our Role in Finding Solutions
Rabbi Jill Jacobs, CEO, T'ruah
Nidal Al-Azraq, Exec. Director, 1for3.org
Moderator - Mitchell Silver, Boston Workers Circle

All sessions take place from 7:30-9:00pm | Contact: discussions@islamiccouncilne.org

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Register On Zoom

View Speaker Biographies

Do you have ENTHUSIASM and ENERGY to share?
Join our volunteer team at Winchester A Better Chance !
Please contact info@winchesterabc.org to learn details.

Winchester A Better Chance (WABC) is a chapter of a national ABC program that provides academic opportunities for talented scholars of color.

WABC houses our scholars during the school year, and is run through the efforts of a team of dedicated volunteers.

Volunteer roles range from small to large!
Come learn more about WABC and the volunteer roles in WABC at the Sept 25 Farmers' Market!

Visit us at: www.WinchesterABC.org

www.facebook.com/winchesterabc/
www.instagram.com/winchesterabc/

Winchester Indigenous Peoples' Day Family Celebration

Farm Tours
Crafts
Storytime
Planting Activity
Much More!

October 11, 2021

Drop in from 10-12

Wright-Locke Farm | 78 Ridge St | Winchester, MA

Event is FREE, but registration is limited

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/4wd27wpx>

Presented by:



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

Winchester Unitarian Society | 478 Main Street, Winchester, MA 01890

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