

Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights November 11, 2021

(link to today's full issue of Highlights)

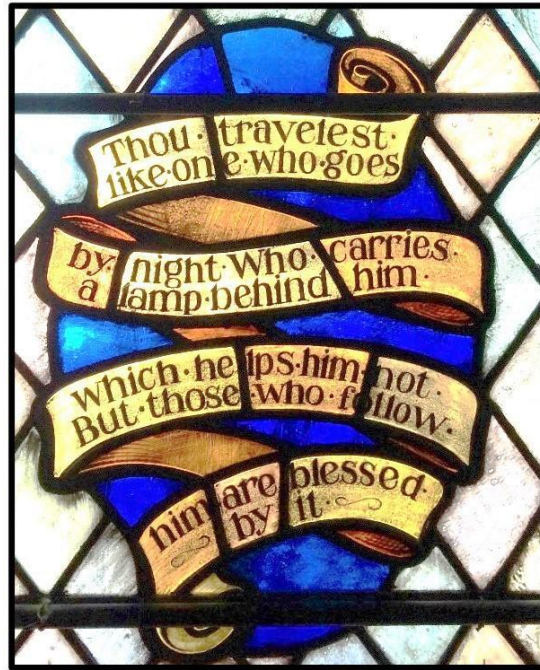


Photo: One window in the Main Street Cloister at WUS, dedicated to the memory of Dawn Kelley Bartlett

The Theme for November is "Holding History"

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, November 14th

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Virtual Worship Logistics Below



Photo by [Element5 Digital](#) on [Unsplash](#)

More Than a Folding Chair: How Winchester ABC Offers a Seat at the Table

Amanda Lewis

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.

The livestream will be broadcast on the front Terrace for those who wish to be at WUS but choose to attend outdoors, weather and technology permitting.

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

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

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

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

Joys, Sorrows and Transitions

We celebrate with **Carol Cashion** and family. On October 31st, she wrote: “Bob and I are overjoyed to announce the



arrival of our granddaughter, Campbell Stone Cashion, born on October 27th to our son Jack and his wife Anne. The new family is doing well and settling in at home here in Brooklyn, very close by. We are beside ourselves, and so blessed."

We also celebrate with **Cynthia and Scott Randall**, who also welcomed a grandchild recently. Stay tuned for more information next week!

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



This Sunday is the return of our beloved annual Fall Fest. This year's fest will take place half in Metcalf and half in the parking lot (under our new tent!) There will be a variety of carnival games, Fall-themed crafts, plus hot soup and bagged lunches to eat or take with you. There will also be other wares for sale (Heather's soap! Flowers! The opportunity to pie Rev. Heather OR save her from being pied! And more!) plus live musical performances from our youth. All proceeds from the event will go toward helping cover costs for WUSYG's next service trip (hopefully to West Virginia this April!)

Green Sanctuary

Church leaf raking: Calling folks of all ages to leaf raking of our church grounds. Otherwise noisy, smelly, CO2 polluting gas leaf blowers may be the image WUS grounds keep projecting. Bring gloves and a rake (if you have one) to the church's front lawn on:

- 3:00 - 4:30 pm this Thursday, Nov. 11; and/or
- 10:45 am to noon this Saturday, Nov. 13.

Green Sanctuary (GS) meeting Sunday, Nov. 14, 12:30 - 2:00 pm . All welcome, masked in Michelson and on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/92686221368?pwd=R3NpSzJGcFFTVjdabEZndEszT1Zzdz09>

GS would love to have our youth, parents, and grandparents act in solidarity with Glasgow's youthful protestors by attending this GS meeting. GS needs you to help make the church a community leader in achieving net zero green house gas emissions and in ending gas leaf blowers in Winchester. Also, Mass350, MetroNorth Node are organizing a likely 3-session workshop on Drawdown's "Climate Solutions 101" <https://drawdown.org/climate-solutions-101> beginning this mid-January, and need your perspective on how to make the workshops most impactful.

GS 11/14 Meeting Agenda: Minutes of last meeting; Repair Cafe; WUS gasoline leaf blower controversy; WUS's Environmental Stewardship Assessment by Mass Interfaith Power and Light and (Mass IFPL) and next steps; Share-the-plate with IFPL; "Climate Solutions 101" Workshop(s); Recycling; Building WUS relationship with Roxbury based Alternatives for Climate and Environment (ACE); Speaker(s) for WUS Service(s); Other New Business; and Next meeting time.



We Believe in Dog Walks Again!

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.

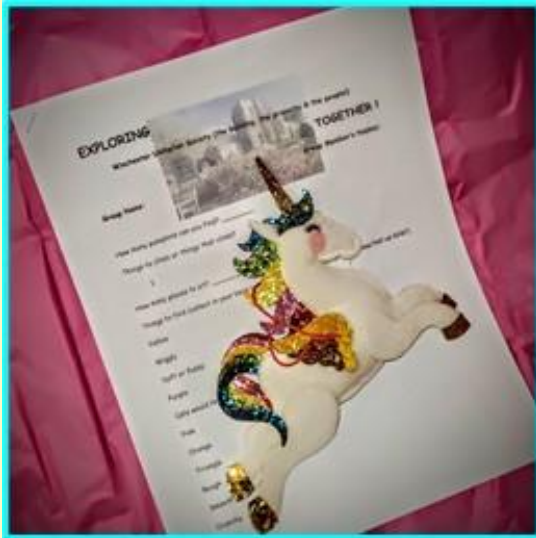
We next gather on Saturday, November 20th. This will be the last walk of the calendar year. We will

meet at the second of three entrances to the Middlesex Fells on Hillcrest Parkway at **10:00 am** and start walking around 10:05. *There will be a sign-in sheet with a brief symptom survey. If you are fully vaccinated, as per CDC guidelines, you won't need to wear a mask.* All dogs, however, are free to walk without masks. :)

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.

WUS's 2021 Fiscal Year Books are Closed: WUS's fiscal year ended August 31st. A final Income and Expense report for the year has been uploaded to the website along with a brief narrative report from the Treasurer, Brad Steele. To see the reports, click on the following links - [Treasurer's Narrative Report](#) / [Final Income & Expense Report](#)

Religious Education



We had UUdles of fun exploring WUS (the property and the people) last weekend in RE (while hugging our own versions of Gnomeo...this Unicorn is Sam's!); Everyone did a great job building the 1st draft of our group's Covenant together, too, and it's neat how some of us are starting to remember some of the words to the 7 Principles Song, too.

This Sunday, November 14th:

10:30 am - Outdoor RE for K-6: This week in RE we will continue to "hold history" and explore WUS (the property and the

people!) while hugging our stuffed animal friends (as a reminder that hugging stories is just like holding history). We will also continue working on the Covenant that we began last week, and, just like every week, have time to share joys/concerns, light the chalice, and sing the 7 Principles Song.

11:30 am - Fall Fest: Similar to the Halloween SpUUktacular a couple weeks ago, we will be transitioning the group into the Fall Fest in the parking lot and first taking them around to do some of the carnival games together in groups. Parents, please find us at the Fall Fest to sign out your children by 11:45 (though we hope that you will all stay and enjoy the Fall Fest until it ends, around 12:30 or so). Note that unlike the SpUUktacular, this time there will be full meals (with suggested donation prices) including bagged lunches to stay or go (with sandwiches, fruit & snack) plus 2 different hot soups with bread, and a baked goods section.

OWL (Our Whole Lives, 7th and 8th grades): This Sunday OWL meets from 4:30-6 pm in the Wallace Room. The Workshop Topic is "Personal Puberty Concerns," facilitated by Ryan Levering and Sophia Sid. For more information, please message Karen: kcaputo8@hotmail.com who also sends separate weekly emails to parents.

The following information is mostly repeated, so please only read if you haven't read before. **One new communication update, however, is to be sure to [join the Winchester Unitarian Society Members and Friend's page](#),** if you haven't already, where we sometimes post Highlights from RE for our community to see.

Cold Weather Update: 'tis the season! Especially now that the colder weather is upon us, please remember that in the event of rainy/cold weather, our plan for Sunday AM RE is to go into Metcalf Hall. Besides being a big room, what you may not know is that **Metcalf Hall has been updated with a state of the art air exchange system that filters all incoming air and exchanges the air in the room 6-8x an hour.** We made this upgrade during the pandemic to keep our community safe, and hope that this will help you make a more informed decision about your child's participation during colder weather. Parents are also given the option at sign-in to come get their kids instead if we feel like we need to move indoors.

Communication Overview: Please [click here to see our Flyer with Draft Calendar and Overview of RE](#) for more details on what to expect in RE this year and several dates to save. 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 upcoming events and highlights from past events, please **follow our new WUS RE Instagram page** here: www.instagram.com/WUSReligiousEducation and also consider joining [our Facebook Page for WUS Members and Friends](#).

If you have questions, concerns, compliments, or simply want someone to chat with about your children and/or faith development, please always feel free to email Sam, Interim Coordinator of Religious Education: sam.wilson@winchesteruu.org or text/call him: 857-523-9933 We are also looking for 2 more members on our RE Committee to help plan our programming. Please also reach out if you have suggestions and want to be part of the team that gets to implement them!

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



First of all, thank you so much to the 3 people who wrote to me (Sam) that they actually read this part of Highlights last week (if you're reading this now, and weren't one of those 3, please let me know!) It remains unclear what I will do with this information, but I do plan to bring it up with YAC tomorrow night. Now, onto our usual announcements:

We had a lot of fun last week playing some "college" games with you all while also discussing the perils of alcohol. Thanks for all the laughs, and also thanks for leaning

into your discomfort with me while sharing some more serious stories, too.

This Sunday, November 14th: Fall Fest

This is our first WUSYG fundraiser for our Service Trip in April. Youth are asked to arrive at 10:30 AM to help set up the event that goes from 11:30-12:30 (then help clean up til 1 at the latest). Parents, along with your kids, [please sign up here to bring some food](#) for us to sell at the event and let me know if you have any questions! (<https://www.PerfectPotluck.com/PCKR5260>) All WUSYGers and their families are expected to contribute to these events in order to make them successful (and should especially be considered mandatory if planning to go on the service trip). Families are also strongly encouraged to join us for this fun event (!) that will feature Fall foods, carnival games, fall crafts, and lots of other fun things! There is no regular WUSYG meeting that night.

Next Sunday, November 21st: Mandatory Service Trip Meeting for Parents & Youth, 3:30 pm, Metcalf Hall Parents and youth are invited to attend our Service Trip meeting about our upcoming trip to West Virginia during April vacation week. This trip is mandatory for at least one person from each family if the youth plans to participate, though both youth and parents are encouraged to attend if possible. We will meet for an hour, and then WUSYGers will stay for a regular meeting from 4:30-6:30.

Cold Weather Update: 'tis the season! Especially now that the colder weather is upon us, please remember that in the event of rainy/cold weather, our plan for WUSYG is to go into Metcalf Hall. So far, all of our registered participants have given their consent to go into Metcalf, though not everyone has registered yet (if not, [please do so immediately by clicking here](#)). Besides being a big room, what you may not know is that **Metcalf Hall has been updated with a state of the art air exchange system that filters all incoming air and exchanges the air in the room 6-8x an hour.** We made this upgrade during the pandemic to keep our community safe, and hope that this will help you feel comfortable about your child's participation this winter (plus your own during our upcoming Service Trip Meeting!)

Social Action & Outreach



**Are you concerned about voting rights
but you couldn't make it to the rally in Washington in October?**

Here is a list from Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) of things that we can do to support of this new Action of Immediate Witness:

[Stop Voter Suppression and Partner for Voting Rights and a Multiracial Democracy](#)

[UUSJ - Actions of Immediate Witness](#)

BUILDING BELOVED COMMUNITY, RESOURCE BY RESOURCE

Join in celebrating and honoring Native Americans during November's **Native American Heritage Month**,

designated by Pres. George H.W. Bush in 1990. Plan some time to explore with family and friends Indigenous art, history, and culture as told through the historians, artists, students, and scientists in this featured resource collection.

From PBS LearningMedia: Native American Heritage Collection

<https://mass.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/nativeamericanheritage/>



—Your Racial Justice Team

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



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