

Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights November 18, 2021

(link to today's full issue of Highlights)

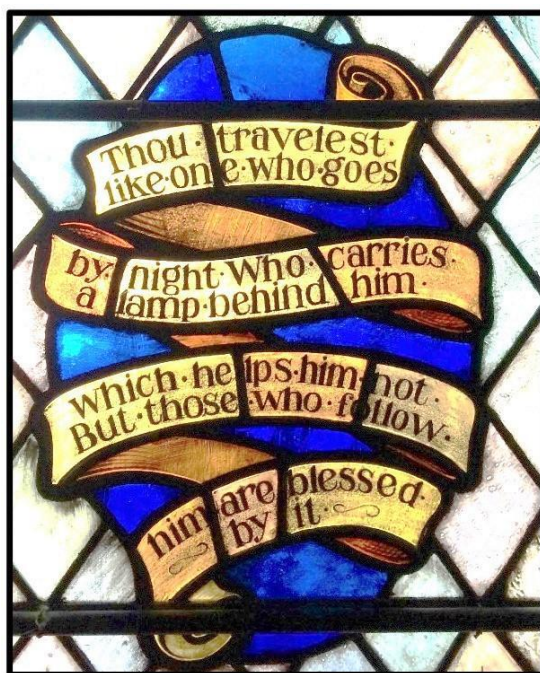


Photo: One window in the Main Street Cloister at WUS, dedicated to the memory of Dawn Kelley Bartlett

The Theme for November is "Holding History"

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, November 21st

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Virtual Worship Logistics Below



Parable of the Last Leaf: Reflections on Gratitude

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 SUNDAY, 11/21 - In-person attendees will begin in the Sanctuary but will regather outside, joined by our Religious Education participants, for the last third of the service for our All Community Benediction.

PIE SUNDAY will commence as soon as worship ends!

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.



Bring a pie to share!

Drop it off in Metcalf Hall (or the Symmes Room) before worship. Please also provide a small card with a list of ingredients for your pie.

After worship, come enjoy masked conversation in Metcalf Hall and pie and coffee just outside Metcalf at Coffee Hour. Servers will cut and plate small pieces so you may enjoy a variety.

Pie Sunday is a tradition that began many years ago when beloved member, Karen Barton allowed a pie sale fundraiser after church to become a community enjoyment of the pies then and there! We honor her memory and continue to celebrate abundance and thanksgiving, together with our gratitude for community, through the sharing of pie. Please join us and bring a pie if you can!

SERVERS NEEDED!! Email Fritzie.nace@gmail.com if you can come early to slice and plate pies. Gloves provided.

Joys, Sorrows and Transitions



We celebrate with **Cynthia and Scott Randall**. Cynthia writes, "Scott and I have a new granddaughter. Millie (Miller) Samuelson Randall, born on November 8 to our son Jake and his wife Courtney Samuelson. They are doing great and we are with them in San Francisco. Millie joins her cousin Leah (age 1) who lives nearby in Berkeley. We are blessed."

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

Thank You from the Music Committee:

Many thanks to everyone who helped us to launch our 16th concert series. Our Nov 5th concert was a big success. We had about 50 in-person attendees and about 50 online attendees. Over \$9000 was raised via sponsorships. Our new streaming technology was a real plus in delivering high quality sound and video. Many thanks to John and the Resident Musicians of musiConnects for an inspiring and moving evening. The music was dazzling! - Jazz in the Sanctuary will take place on January 28th. On April 29th, we will present the vocal quartet, Windborne:

<http://www.windbornesingers.com/>



Christmas Eve Survey

As you know, gathering is a bit more complicated than it was a few years ago. In order to ensure there is enough room at the inn to accommodate everyone who wants to celebrate Christmas Eve with WUS please complete this SHORT survey. Thank you!

www.tinyurl.com/WUSCEveSurvey

People-Powered Leaf Gathering!

Many thanks to Anya Lesperance, Adah Nordan, Rev. Heather, Rachel and Keith Whitehouse, Margaret Lowry and Brad Steele, Phil Coonley and Woody Wood who allowed us to set aside gas-powered leaf blowers and raked at the WUS building last week.

Here are some times this week you can participate. Just show up!:

Thursday 3:00- 4:30 pm
Saturday 1:00 m-2:30 pm



Photo: Rachel Whitehouse stands victorious over a pile of raked leaves

**A NEW process for a TRADITIONAL expression
of LOVING GENEROSITY**

by the WINCHESTER UNITARIAN SOCIETY community!

The MITTEN TREE sign-up will begin on December 2021 —this season in virtual space!

Our recipients this year will be individuals and families supported by LexRAP, the all-volunteer Lexington Refugee Assistance Program (LexRAP.org). Many of you already know of LexRAP and their assistance to a local family. They serve 77 folks, 18 families with 44 children, refugees from several countries beginning a new life here with us.

We are eager to share the details of this outreach with you. Please watch for information right after Thanksgiving!

First, thank you all for the Thanksgiving baskets heading for the Council of Social Concern!

—Gloria Legvold, on behalf of Social Action and Outreach Committee

Glegvold@comcast.net, 781 729-8247

Religious Education



Thanks everyone for joining us last Sunday as we continued holding history by hugging stories and exploring WUS together. Special thanks to everyone who helped plant some bulbs with Margaret, seen here!

This Sunday, November 14th:

10:30 am - Outdoor RE for K-6: This week in RE we will continue to “hold history” and also think a bit about gratitude in anticipation of the upcoming holiday. We will also be learning more about “Guest At Your Table,” and what this tradition

entails. This Sunday is unusual in that the congregation will be ending worship by joining us in the parking lot for the last 15 minutes of the service. Our children will help lead all of us in a litany of things that we are thankful for.

11:30 am - Pie Sunday! Parents should find us in the parking lot at the conclusion of the service so that they can be with their kids (and perhaps help monitor what they do or do not indulge in) for the return of Pie Sunday this year! A congregational favorite, especially amongst our youngest, Pie Sunday will be held outdoors in the parking lot this year. See details elsewhere in Highlights.

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 “Body Image” facilitated by Sarah Milt 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.

Cold Weather Update: ‘tis the season! Especially now that the colder weather is upon us, please remember that in the event of rainy/snowy/cold weather (<40 degrees), 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. Reach out to Chuck Khuen with any specific question, or let Sam know if you have any questions/concerns.** 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)



Thank you so much to everyone who came out last week to make the return of our beloved Fall Fest so successful! So many of you played integral parts in making this big event successful, and we are very grateful to all of you. We will share more information about our fundraising goals for the year at our meeting this Sunday.

This 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 note that unless we have particularly warm weather, WUSYG will now begin

meeting exclusively in Metcalf Hall. So far, all of our registered participants have given their consent to go into Metalf, 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



Did You Miss the Q and A with Leaders from Winchester A Better Chance?
Watch this video and learn how to get involved!

[\[link\]](#)

You may also view Director of Student Life Amanda Lewis's reflection in the November 14th service at www.tinyurl.com/wuslivestream

Massachusetts Against Solitary Confinement (MASC) Pen Pal Program!

Interested in being a Pen Pal? We now have 31 people who are waiting to be pen pals with a MASC volunteer. It's never easy to be incarcerated, but it is especially hard over the holiday season. Our goal is to get everyone a match by the end of November.

If you're interested in learning more please email hpenergy@verizon.net

December Pen Pal Training!

You are encouraged to come to the training & check it out. Coming does not mean committing to being a pen pal. The goal of this program is to build relationships with those on the inside. We are building human connection.

When: Thurs Dec 9, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

[Register Here](#)

Zoom Note: **When you register for this zoom meeting, you will immediately be sent your individual zoom link. Save it in your email and then access the link on the day of the event. Thank you**

BUILDING BELOVED COMMUNITY, CULTURE BY CULTURE

Here are the closing lines from the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address. You might find these words a spirit-lifting, inclusive ritual at your own family Thanksgiving table. Please go to the link below for the full expression of gratitude.



The Creator

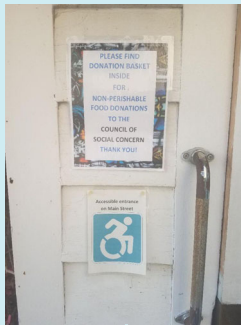
Now we turn our thoughts to the Creator, or Great Spirit, and send greetings and thanks for all the gifts of Creation. Everything we need to live a good life is here on this Mother Earth. For all the love that is still around us, we gather our minds together as one and send our choicest words of greetings and thanks to the Creator.

Now our minds are one.

https://americanindian.si.edu/environment/pdf/01_02_Thanksgiving_Address.pdf

May our minds be one in gratitude and love.

—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



**Winchester Unitarian Society | 478 Main St. Winchester MA 01890
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