Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights November 4, 2021

(link to today's full issue of Highlights)

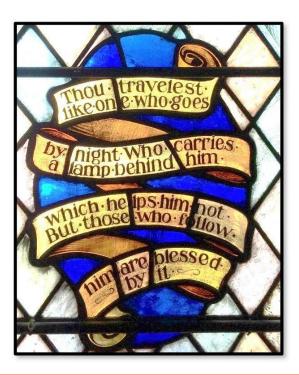


Photo: One window in the Main Street Cloister at WUS, dedicated to the memory of Dawn Kelley Bartlett

The Theme for November is "Holding History"

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, November 7th

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Virtual Worship Logistics Below



Witnessing Truth: A Service of Remembrance

The Rev. Heather Janules

The Remembrance Service and Dedication of the Bell Tower Terrace and Pathways of Celebration and Remembrance will be two events woven together. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING

- Our Service of Remembrance on November 7th will include a sung litany remembering those dear to use who have passed away in recent years. A special focus this year is on those lost due to the pandemic. If you would like somebody remembered in this litany, please send their name (or names) to john.kramer@winchesteruu.org. Names submitted by Friday, Nov. 5 will be included in the litany.
- Please bring photos and small objects to the Sanctuary as part of our Remembrance rituals.
- For those attending in person, **arrive by 10:20** as we begin at 10:25 am with the Tolling of the Bells in our Bell Tower. The livestreamed service will begin as usual at 10:30 am.

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 <u>website</u> and the Weekend Worship Announcement that comes out on Friday.

Joys, 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

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



Concert Series Kicks Off Tomorrow Night!

Our in-person and streamed (with new streaming technology) concert series begins on Friday Nov. 5th, 8:00 PM. John Kramer and Resident Musicians of musiConnects https://www.musiconnects.org/ will

perform piano quintets of Florence Price and Antonin Dvorak. If you wish to be a concert series sponsor or know more about sponsorship, please contact Kathryn Maffei at KLMINC@aol.com. Please use this link to buy tickets for the concert, register to attend and upload an image of your vaccination card:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe2p_LWRBa00koVG3qpH1G8eS-6_qOcFLqzic5uskr8BrvGqw/viewform



Save the Date: Next Sunday, Nov. 14, WUSYG Presents: Fall Fest!

Save the Date for 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 and live musical performances. All proceeds from the event will go toward helping cover costs for WUSYG's next service trip (hopefully to West Virginia this April!)

Thanksgiving Baskets

With the effects of the pandemic still lingering, many families continue to face food insecurity. We can help!

We have provided boxes of holiday foods for area families through the Council of Social Concern's Thanksgiving Basket Program. Last year we donated 45 boxes and again have opportunity to participate this year.

This year, we estimate the cost per box, including a \$20 gift card to be from \$70--\$85. We have again arranged with Winchester Stop and Shop to provide boxes for people who would rather not shop themselves. Please let us know if you prefer this option.

Sign up to donate one or more dinners by sending Sue Doubler an email at suedoubler@gmail.com. We will send you a shopping list and provide the heavyduty box you will need.

Together, we can make Thanksgiving a happy holiday for many families in the Woburn/Winchester area who are facing difficult times.

It's Here! Time to Drop off Your MaxSold Auction Items

Thank you for gathering your items for the Auction: It's time to drop them off at WUS!

Please bring your items to the Chapel this weekend as follows:

- Friday, Nov. 5, from 4-7 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Please do not bring donations on Sunday. By then, volunteers will already be focused on sorting, describing and photographing the lots for the online catalog.

If you have time this weekend and want to check out progress or lend a hand...we still need some support on Sunday, Nov. 7, from 1-4 p.m. Please sign up here.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48acab2fa0f9c61-wusmaxsold

If you have questions, please email Rachel Whitehouse at racheljwhitehouse@hotmail.com

Religious Education



We had an awesome time playing Halloween games with you all last week! It was also nice to round out our month of Cultivating Relationships and sing the UU Principles song together again.

This Sunday, November 7th:

10:30 am - All Community Invocation: This Sunday we will start with all-ages on the Bell Tower Terrace, for about 15 minutes before we are sung off to our respective religious "educations." Parents, please find us to sign in before 10:30 so that we can transition more smoothly at 10:45 to our respective places.

10:45 am - Outdoor RE for K-6: This week in RE we

will be beginning to explore our new theme for the month: "Holding History," which is the same theme that WUS will be using for its worship services in November. We will also be creating our covenant and singing the 7 Principles Song again. We will begin RE in the playground, but we will end up on the Bell Tower Terrace so that our youngest can also put ribbons up to honor the sacred space in that area.

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 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.

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 "Anatomy and Physiology," facilitated by Karen Caputo and Sarah Milt. For more information, please message Karen: kcaputo8@hotmail.com who also sends separate weekly emails to parents.

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 our upcoming events, please follow our new WUS RE Instagram page here: www.instagram.com/WUSReligiousEducation

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)



This week's Highlights for WUSYG is a bit different than usual. Based on a discussion that we had with YAC (the Youth Advisory Council) last week, we are doing a little bit of a test here today. If you are reading this (yes, that's you!) please forward this email or otherwise send an email to Sam, sam.wilson@winchesteruu.org and say that you saw Tattooed Mermaid Santa Claus. You will be rewarded with a cute baby animal picture!

Otherwise, yes, there is a WUSYG meeting this Sunday at 4:30, and don't forget that the following week (the 14th) is WUSYG's

fundraiser, Fall Fest, and the week after that (the 21st) is our meeting with families to discuss the service trip, at 3:30 pm. Thanks so much! -Sam

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, QUOTATION BY QUOTATION

As we read in this week's news of the United Nations Climate Conference in Scotland,

the following quote (pg. 98) in Heather McGhee's book *The Sum of Us* seems especially relevant.

Like so many issues in public life, race appears to significantly shape your worldview about climate change.



Are you familiar with the MA Indigenous Legislative Agenda?
It's important to pay attention to it in November!
CLICK HERE: For details on all 5 bills.

3 Possible Actions you can take in November:

Join the Indigenous Justice Solidarity Team for a <u>lobby day November</u>
 <u>17th!</u> One of the best ways to build support for our priority bills is to meet
 directly with our legislators. Join us this November for training and meetings
 with your Representative and Senator.

RSVP Link: https://forms.gle/HHXhsd68rjiuLo3i6

Deadline to RSVP is November 10th.

- Get your church to endorse the MA Indigenous Agenda https://forms.gle/uaWxTygxHjHgsm9i8
 - Please support the work of United American Indians of New England (UAINE) as we educate and decolonize. We are best known for organizing National Day of Mourning in Plymouth every "thanksgiving Thursday," and this year will be our 52nd year! We lead campaigns and provide tactical and strategic advice to people in the region who are working on Indigenous Peoples Day efforts.



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



free to bring it to the meeting.

Lexington Refugee Assistance Program
Community Meeting
Lexington Community Center room
237
November 8, 7:00-8:45 p.m.

After a long Covid hiatus, LexRAP will be holding a **Community Meeting** at the Lexington Community Center on Marrett Road. LexRAP is a 100% volunteer organization currently involved in supporting 76 refugees and asylum seekers. After reintroducing LexRAP, we will share information about resettling Afghani families in and around Lexington and Massachusetts, current volunteer opportunities and more. We hope you can join us. All donations made online (https://www.lexrap.org/volunteer-donate.html) or brought to the meeting will directly support current families and the soon expected Afghan evacuees. In particular, if you have a laptop to donate, please feel

This will be an in-person meeting and everyone except speakers when speaking will be expected to wear masks. If you would rather join by Zoom. Please register to join with us on Zoom.

#Get The Lead Out Of Our Drinking Water!

An online and in person hybrid event

Co-Sponsored by Clean Water Fund — and the Mystic

Valley Area Branch — NAACP

There is no safe level of lead. Not in drinking water, and not in the body. Join us to learn more about lead in drinking water, why it's a racial justice issue, and what you can do in your community to solve it!

WHERE:

City Council Chambers – First Floor Malden City Hall 215 Pleasant Street – Malden, Mass. 02148 Conveniently Accessible to Malden Center Station

OR

Register on Zoom: bit.ly/noleadinwater



WHEN:

Saturday, November 20th from 11:00 Am-12:30 PM



Contact: volunteersma@cleanwater.org



Saturday, November 20th from 11am - 12:30pm <u>Register Today</u> for the Zoom link

(781) 729-0949 | office@winchesteruu.org | www.winchesteruu.org

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

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