



Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights

April 28, 2022

[*\(link to today's full issue of Highlights\)*](#)



The Theme for April is **Awakening!**

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, May 1st

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Virtual Worship Logistics Below



Nesting and Questing: Lessons From a Time Apart

Sabbatical is an intentional time away from one's vocation. In ministry, sabbaticals grant ministers the opportunity to rest, to explore and to engage in ministry beyond their congregation. May 1st is Rev. Heather's first day back from a four-month time away. This service will invite us into reflection about what was learned in this time of "nesting and questing."

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.

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

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

Dean Pappas Celebration of Life Saturday, May 14, 2 p.m.

All are invited to attend in person or remotely the **Memorial Service Celebrating the Life of Dean Pappas** Saturday, May 14th, at 2 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

A reception will follow the service in the Symmes Room or on the Bell Tower Terrace. (Indoor masking will be required in accordance with current WUS COVID protocols.)

To attend virtually, go to: <https://venue.streamspot.com/event/MzE00Tc5Ng==>.

Congregational News

Our final concert in this year's series is

This Friday!

April 29th @ 8:00 pm



Windborne

A group of four inspiring singers who will fill the sanctuary with rich harmonic voices and songs from around the world.

The concert will be live-streamed and performed for an in-person audience. Unless circumstances change, church attendees will not have to register, but will need to be **masked** and show **evidence of vaccination and a booster.** <https://www.windbornesingers.com/about/>

You're Invited to the Installation of Rev. Deborah Bennett

Join Emerson UUC for this community celebration and sacred service as we finally install Rev. Deborah as our called minister. A beautiful service featuring multiple UU clergy and special guests begins at **4 pm on April 30th** [Click here to join us on zoom!](#)



Spring WUS Church Yard Clean-up

This Saturday

10:00 am to Noon

The **Building and Green Sanctuary Committees'** seek volunteers of all ages to join in edging, in weeding, and in removing leaves, twigs, and debris from our Center of Town grounds.

Last Saturday we had many volunteers and accomplished some extraordinary work! Please join us to finish off the job, commune with mulch, and enjoy the company of others also passionate about the aesthetics of our church.

Doing this with **volunteer labor of all ages** will demonstrate to all passers that **much landscaping maintenance can be accomplished without gasoline powered tools**. Also, it will **save the church about \$1,500** in contractor costs, as did the WUS volunteer rakers last fall.



Bring garden gloves, rakes, trowels, tarp or lawn refuse bags, and edgers if you have them. Put your name on the tools you bring so they won't get mixed up with the extras we'll have for those without tools.

Many Hands Make Light Work!

Join Us In-Person **Sunday May 1st** to

Welcome Back

Rev. Heather

&

Say **Thank You** and **Farewell** to

Rev. Hank

Sign a card for Rev. Hank [HERE](#)

Pledge Progress Update 4/25/22

We have received **108 pledges** for a total of **\$365,000.**

We reached our original goal of \$350,000, and are creeping close to our updated goal of \$371,000. We have received 108 pledges and are hoping for 9 more.

Congratulations to all of us! Together we are making the continued financial stability of Winchester Unitarian Society a reality.

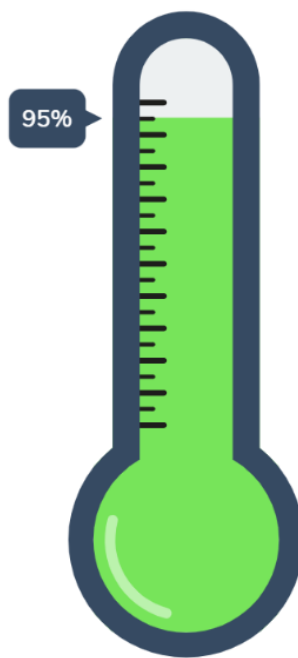
If you need a new pledge card, please contact the office. If you can pledge online, please visit <https://www.winchesteruu.org/giving/pledge/>.

If we can answer any questions or assist in any way, don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you to everyone who has pledged so generously, and thank you in advance if you are about to pledge now!

Robbie Brown
John Healey
Liz Scott

GOAL: \$371,000



It Takes a Church!

We hope that you were inspired by the youth-led all-ages service on 4/4. We were thrilled to be joined by 110 people in-person including 30 children and youth (plus even more livestreaming)! Please help continue this momentum by filling out this form if you want to help us live into our RE Vision for Children and Youth at WUS next year:

<https://forms.gle/i5Sw8b6YuENacJQe7>

We hope that all WUS members will consider contributing to RE in some way next year. We're looking for a large variety of levels of commitment and ways to be involved. We're looking for short- and long-term volunteer teachers, for all ages, advisors for our new junior youth group, as well as people to co-lead one-time events or special projects, perhaps lead the first reflection (story for all ages) sometimes, perhaps just bring us snacks, and lots more contributions of all levels! No doubt there is a way for our needs to meet your skills and desires! Filling this out also does not obligate you to do anything. Thank you



The WUS Meals & Rides effort needs fresh volunteers!

Volunteers are occasionally called upon to provide practical support like meals, rides, and errands to church members in times of need.

Gay Mohrbacher coordinates volunteers and works closely with our PCAs. It's a fulfilling and non-demanding way to serve this community. Interested? Please email gay_mohrbacher@wgbh.org and thank you.



Save The Date!

Be sure to mark your calendars for our **Annual Meeting**
May 15th at 12:00 PM

Religious Education

This Sunday, RE for K-6, 10:30-11:30 am

Thanks to everyone who joined us last week in RE! RE for K-6 will be meeting this Sunday to continue our Soul Matters-themed workshops from 10:30-11:30 followed by 15 minutes in the playground. April's theme is Awakening and May's theme is Nurturing Beauty. On May 1st we will also be joined by Sarah Milt for a special crafting project that we will be creating together then donating to Wright Locke Farm. Please refer to Naomi's upcoming weekly email to families for more information about where we will be meeting and what we will be doing.

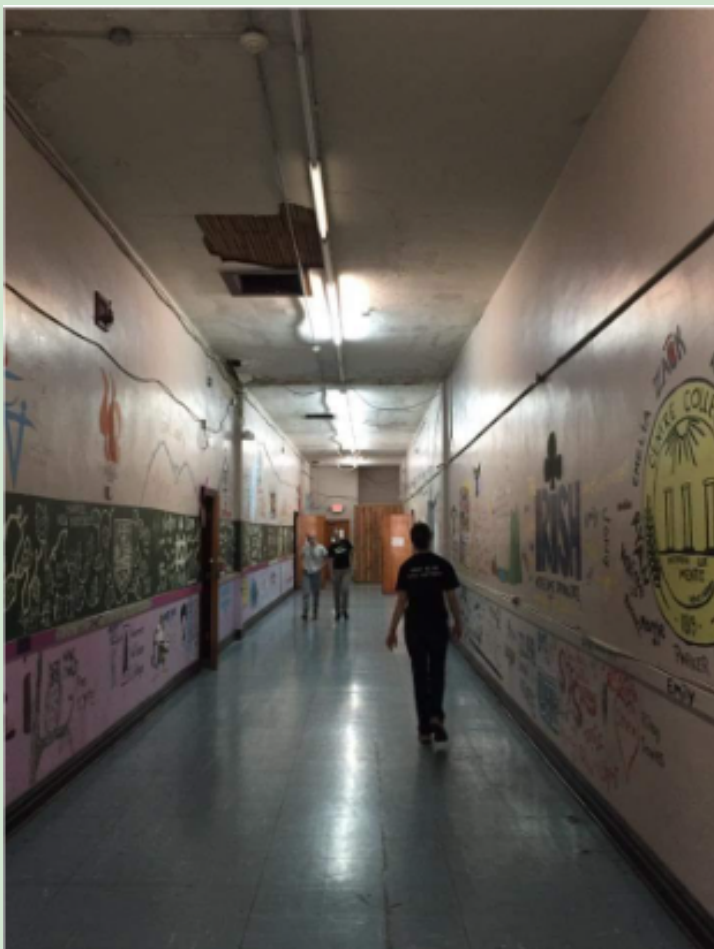
Contact Us

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

**Please note that Sam will be away on the youth service trip from April 16-23 and then taking some time off, so he will not be available until after May 1st. In the meantime, please see Naomi's emails for more information about our programming and reach out to her with any questions: naomimagnoni@gmail.com

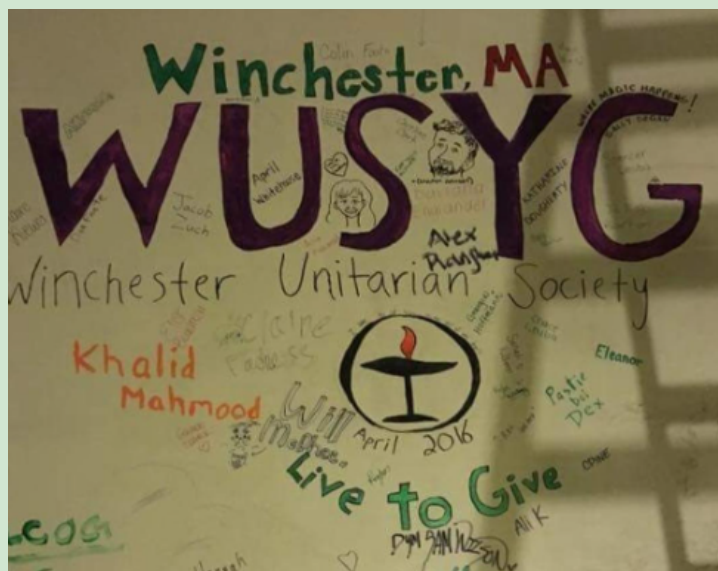
WUSYG: Winchester Unitarian Youth Group (9th-12th Grade)

There will not be WUSYG meetings on the April 17th or the 24th but we look forward to seeing everyone again when our regular meetings resume on May 1st.



In the meantime, check out some pictures from where we're staying in War, West Virginia. The first pic is from the high school-turned dormitory, and the second is one of the walls in that dorm that our youth painted on in 2016 when we were last there!

If you look close enough you'll even see a caricature of Sam (between the S and Y) that one of the teens painted :) plus a chalice and our slogan, "Live to Give." To hear stories about our trip, we hope everyone will join us for **Youth Sunday on May 22nd**.



Looking for things to do this summer? Join us at Ferry Beach! Ferry Beach is a UU Retreat Center that has a Youth Camp for current 3rd-11th graders. Sam will be a counselor for week 2, July 3-9, and we know of at least 2 other WUSYGers who are likely going to come, too. It's right on the beach and is a nice combo of free time, activities like art, theater, and outdoor games, plus UU community-building/singing/worship, etc. Ask Sam (or Fritzie or Sarah Milt, whose kids have gone through it) about it and check out their website and sign up here - <https://www.ferrybeach.org/youth-camps.htm>

Or, join Sam and thousands of UUs from around the world at [General Assembly in Portland](#), Oregon. There is a Youth Caucus with special events for youth, and Sam would be willing to be a youth sponsor for anyone under 18 who wants to attend. Ask me for more details if you're interested!



**Aging-In-Place
AT HOME**

Saturday, May 21, 1:00 - 2:30 PM via ZOOM

**To join the session go to
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/95015978727>.**

Please join us for a virtual conversation concerning one of life's important decisions.

Suzanne Norton, LICSW, Geriatric Social Worker at the Jenks Center, will discuss services available to assist you to age at home with the support of the Jenks Center and other local agencies. There will be time for questions.

To register, please email Richard.Dorbin@WinchesterUU.org or call the WUS office at 781-729-0949 by **Thursday, May 19**, with your name and email address. We will email some materials before the event. To join the session go to <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/95015978727>. *Sponsored by the Pastoral Care Associates at Winchester Unitarian Society and the Jenks Center.*

Wondering what is Happening with our
8th Principle process?

Now that spring is here, the Annual Meeting is not far away. This year we will be voting on the 8th Principle. [Please go here for details about this vote.](#) (This is **not** the official notice for the Annual Meeting.)

The **Racial Justice Team Planning Group** has been busy hoping to make it easy for everyone to be prepared for the voting process at the Annual Meeting on May 15th, 2022. At this point there is one more Sunday when you will have an opportunity both before and after the Sunday worship service to ask in-person questions about the 8th principle in the Parlor.

Remaining Parlor Chats:

10 AM, May 1 – with Sandy Thompson and Claire McNeill

11:30 AM, May 1 – with Sandy Thompson, Phil Coonley and Gordy McIntosh

Also, we did make a [15 minute video recording of the presentation from our evening zoom meetings last week.](#) So if you missed that, you can just take a look at the above link and let us know if you have any questions.

As you may have seen in Highlights and elsewhere, the **Article II Study Commission, of the UUA**, has been offering a number of events and a survey as part of their process of gathering input from individual UU's. [They will be accepting responses to their survey until April 30, 2022.](#)

If you seek further information about the 8th principle, [here are a few more recommended resources.](#)

You can always contact any of us [via email to discuss these issues further with current members of the Racial Justice Team Planning Group](#) .

For clarification or questions, please email shepard.patty@gmail.com

Social Action & Outreach



BUILDING BELOVED COMMUNITY SELF AWARENESS BY SELF AWARENESS

In the context of exploring the 8th Principle for our May annual meeting, please consider the words of respected Zen master Thich Nhat Hanh:

...Our society is based on the dualistic view of self and other, a view which furthers self interest. We aren't used to thinking of ourselves as a community or perceiving reality in terms of universal harmony and peace. Coming back to ourselves and looking deeply into the situation of our society, we can recognize the factors that have brought disharmony, conflict, and suffering. At the same time, we recognize that there is a path of mindfulness and harmony that can bring about transformation and healing, that will lead to true brotherhood and sisterhood, true connection, and true community."

—Gloria Legvold, Racial Justice Team Planning Group

Special Music Service



On **Wednesday, May 25th at 7:30pm**, please join the WUS Adult Choir and the worship team for a special service honoring George Floyd and all those impacted by racism and white supremacy. We will be premiering *A Requiem for George Floyd* by the esteemed composer Henry Mollicone. This beautifully written work memorializes George Floyd and others victimized by discrimination and calls us to work toward a better future.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

Interested in Attending GA this year?

UUA General Assembly (GA) June 22-26, 2022, virtually or in person (Portland Oregon) General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles.

Registration fees go up on May 1st, so if you are thinking of going this year, either virtually or in person, check out their [website](#) to see the wonderful, varied worship and workshop experiences available. Contact [Claire McNeill](#) with any questions, and to **learn how to be one of our 5 delegates** this year. We still have two slots open and it's possible to vote on behalf of WUS while only virtually attending the "General Sessions" on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM plus Sunday, 12:30-2:30 PM. (All Pacific Daylight Time)

PARTNER CHURCH NEWS

We recently received the following note of thanks for our contributions to the Unitarian Providence Charity Organization in Cluj, Transylvania:

Dear friends, dear siblings in faith and good will,
On behalf of the Hungarian Unitarian Church and Providence, its charity organization, we express our heartfelt thanks for your generous support regarding the humanitarian aid work we have been carrying out for the victims of the Ukrainian war.

Attached we are sending you an update of our activities, which would have not been possible without your contribution. We would like to highlight especially this 4 minute video from our trip to Ukraine 3 days ago: [Aid shipment to Beregszasz, 20 April 2022 - YouTube](#). We hope to be able to continue assisting the refugees in Romania and supporting the war victims in their homeland as long as it's needed. With your permission, we will keep you informed regarding the upcoming developments of our work.

May God protect those who suffer from the war and have to flee for their lives. May God bless all individuals and communities ready to help people in need.
Yours sincerely,

Kovács István, the bishop of the Hungarian Unitarian Church
Rácz Norbert Zsolt, deputy bishop of the Hungarian Unitarian Church
Szabó László, president of the Providence Charity Organization

The Partner Church Team thinks you will enjoy the video. The attachments to the email are far too long to include in Highlights. If you'd like to see and read them, get in touch with John Russell at johnroerussell@comcast.net. He'll be glad to forward them to you.

It's not too late to contribute to the Transylvanian Unitarian Church's Ukrainian refugee assistance efforts. You can do so through the website of the International Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Women (IWC).

From the Partner Church 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
 (781) 729-0949 | office@winchesteruu.org | www.winchesteruu.org**

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