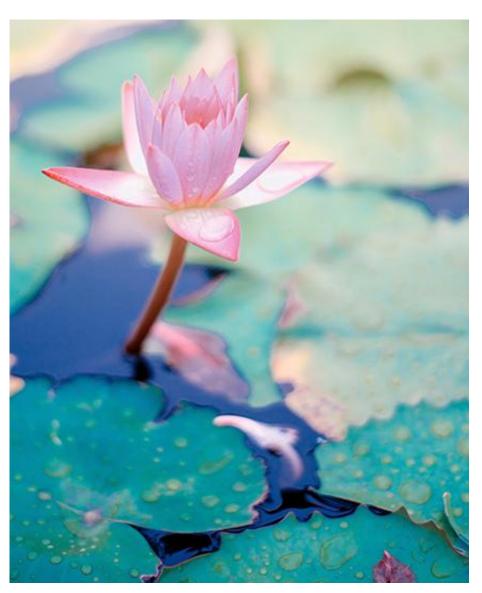
Winchester Unitarian Society



(link to today's full issue of Highlights)



The Theme for May is

Nurturing Beauty

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, May 12th

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Virtual Worship Logistics Below

2022 PHOTO A DAY #UULent

Join a Unitarian Universalist practice of Lent! Each day, Unitarian Universalists and our friends and family intentionally reflect on a daily word, carry our awareness throughout the day, and capture an image that represents the word for us. We share our reflections and images on social media with the hashtag **#UULent**. On Sundays, we challenge each other to reflect on the daily word and also embody and enact it in our lives. (Created by Mr. Barb Greve; designed by Alex Kapitan)

S	М	т	W	т	F	S
MARCH			2 reflection	3 soil	4 breathe	5 vulnerability
6 hospitality	7 flexibility	8 grief	9 alone	10 growth	11 adaptability	12 faith
13 help	14 inspire	15 share	16 serenity	17 energy	18 free	19 trust
20 compassion	21 encourage	22 rest	23 fear	24 foundation	25 gentleness	26 contemplate
27 change	28 play	29 art	30 empathy	31 water		
APRIL					1 movement	2 soul
3 companionship	4 humor	5 love	6 invigorate	7 depth	8 grace	9 solace
10 accountability	11 stretch	12 curiosity	13 focus	14 strength	15 wait	16 hope
17 rejoice						

NURTURE Your Spirit. Help HEAL Our World.

Meditations in the Desert

Rev Heather Janules

During Sabbatical, Rev. Heather participated in #UULent, a practice of focusing on a theme each day and sharing a photograph illustrating the meaning of this theme. This service will draw from these 40 days of paying attention, reflecting, illustrating and offering and invites the community into a similar practice in the future.

(A note about last week's service...The inability to livestream was tracked back to an outage through our livestream service provider. If you missed the email, you may view a recording of this service here: www.tinyurl.com/5822wusworship)

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.

The service will also be broadcast on the Bell Tower Terrace.

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

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

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

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

Our condolences are with

Mary English

and her family as they mourn the death of her father, **William Wyatt English**, after a long illness. You may learn more about him and his life <u>here.</u>

Congratulations are with Allison and Matthew Crooks

with the birth of their second child, **Hugo John Crooks**, born on May 3rd, a "chunky 9 lbs, 5 oz." The family adds, "Calvin is loving being a big brother and learning how to be gentle!"



We also celebrate with Mark and Maria Shepherd

with the birth of their second grandchild, **Sonoma Mericle Shepherd**, born on May 1st to Sam and Sunny Shepherd, joining big brother, Stokes. Happily, "everyone is healthy and well!"



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 www.tinyurl.com/wuslivestream

Livestream attendees can access the order-of-service here: [link]



Luncheon at 11:30 on the Bell Tower Terrace



Save the Date of May 22nd

for this beloved annual tradition, including **Senior Statements** and a **Bridging Ceremony** marking our eldest youth's transition to young adulthood. This will be an All-Ages Service in the Sanctuary with a special VICC Section for Very Important Children & Cats

Special Service Honoring George Floyd



Winchester Unitarian Society

presents

A Requiem for George Floyd

(Born October 14, 1973 - Died May 25, 2020)

bv

Henry Mollicone



A special service to bear witness

Wednesday, May 25th @ 7:30 PM Winchester Unitarian Society 478 Main St., Winchester MA

Offering to support the Mystic Valley branch of the NAACP Masks are required

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.

Concert for Ukrainian Musicians



May 23 at 7:30 PM

Winsor Music presents a benefit concert for Ukrainian musicians who have lost all of their work and been so displaced by this horrific war in Ukraine. All donations will go directly to The Relief Fund for Ukrainian Musicians, providing direct assistance for Ukrainian musicians in need. More information on that fund can be found here.

Musicians from Winsor Music and Boston Hope Music will play a mix of uplifting and soulful works by Ukrainian composers Lysenko and Skoryk, as well as works by Debussy, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Dvorak, Florence Price, and Bach. Please join us!

Save the Date!

After worship on June 5th, we will engage in a reflective conversation, Taking Stock, a time to consider what we have gained and lost through the pandemic on a personal level and then collectively as a congregation.

There will be a virtual gathering on Tuesday, June 7th at 7pm to consider the same questions. Log on via www.tinyurl.com/wusworship

Contact Rev. Heather with any questions: heather.janules@winchesteruu.org

Religious Education

Thanks everyone for joining us last Sunday as we learned about how each of us has the ability to bring beauty into this world.

> This Sunday, May 15th

we're going on a field trip to Wright Locke Farm! If you were not at RE last week, please click here for the permission slip, then print and bring it with you on Sunday. We'll be at the farm for an hour to explore and learn a bit more about it together, and also drop off the rags that we made for them during RE a couple weeks ago. We're asking



Constant Contact

families to please bring your children to meet us at the farm at 10:15, where we'll stay until 11:15. At that point, parents have the option of picking their kids back up or having Sam, Naomi or another licensed/insured adult drive them back to the church. This Sunday is also the WUS Annual Meeting, which starts at noon, so there will be a light luncheon provided from 11:30-12. We will be providing childcare on the playground during the Annual Meeting.

The following **Sunday, May 22nd, is Youth Sunday**, which will be another All-Ages Worship Service (similar to what we did on April 3rd). We will have a special section for Very Important Children and Cats again, plus a child-friendly Order of Service, 1st reflection and other ways to involve our kids. This special service is led by our youth and features the seniors giving statements about their time in WUS. You'll also hear a bit more about our recent trip to West Virginia with WUSYG.

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

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

We hope everyone enjoyed spending some time with their mamas and/or other loved ones this past weekend. We missed seeing you!

This Sunday, May 15th: WUSYG Meeting, 4:30-6:30 pm We have a regular WUSYG meeting this Sunday. We will be preparing for Youth Sunday and WUSYG Prom, plus playing some games together! Senior Statements are also due to Sam on the 15th (for review by YAC).



Next Sunday, May 22nd: Youth Sunday, BBQ & WUSYG Prom This is a busy Sunday for us which includes the service in the morning, then a BBQ/potluck in the afternoon while decorating the space for WUSYG Prom that will be later that night! We're so excited to spend (almost) the whole day with you!

Save the Date: May 29th is Bring a Friend Sunday, so we hope you'll all bring someone who might be interested in joining WUSYG next year.

Save the Date: June 5th is Move Up Day,

so 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are all invited to join us from 5-6:30 to learn about WUSYG (and the Junior Youth Group for 7th and 8th graders). Currently WUSYGers will arrive at 4:30 per usual to plan what to do with the younger kids.

Save the Date: June 8th is **Winchester PrideFest** and WUS will have a table. We're hoping that WUSYGers will help decorate and hang out at our table, which will be advertising OWL, WUSYG and the Junior Youth Group as inclusive and welcoming spaces for people of all genders and sexualities.

Save the Date: June 12th is our **last WUSYG** meeting of the year from 4:30-6:30 pm. You won't want to miss it!



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 <u>Richard.Dorbin@WinchesterUU.org</u> 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.

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, May 21st. 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.

Let Rev. Heather know if you plan to come: <u>heather.janules@winchesteruu.org</u> 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.

The **Town Day** Hotdogs and Bake Sale will be arriving soon!

Many thanks to all those who responded to our survey to offer their help. We now have Sign-Up Genius links below to let us know when you are available. Signing up with these links also allows us to email just these volunteers with more detailed information. Thank you for your participation!

Help us bring the wonderful world of WUS to the streets on June 4th! How would *you* would like to pitch in?

To be Helping Hands on Town Day, sign up here

(Set-up, Cooking Hotdogs, Serving, Sales, Clean-up: *many slots available*!)

To donate your **home-baked goodies**, sign up <u>here</u>.

If you would like to support this effort, but are unable to contribute physically, you may help cover costs with a donation by cash, check or credit card at the church office, noting that the donation is for the Town Day fundraiser.

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 <u>gay_mohrbacher@wgbh.org</u> and thank you.

Social Action & Outreach



BUILDING BELOVED COMMUNITY

with ALL

THE DIMENSIONS

of LOVE

As we approach our Annual Meeting on May 15, we focus on a phrase from the **8th Principle**,

"...journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural **Beloved Community** by our actions.

Black feminist scholar, bell hooks (sic), writes in her book All about Love: New Visions:

"Commitment to a **love ethic** transforms our lives by offering us a different set of values to live by...Living by a **love ethic** we learn to value

loyalty and a commitment to sustained bonds...Embracing a love ethic means that we utilize all the dimensions of love—care, commitment, trust, responsibility, respect, and knowledge...We can successfully do this only by cultivating awareness....Domination cannot exist in any social situation where a love ethic prevails... All the great social movements for freedom and justice in our society have promoted a love ethic. Concern for the collective good of our nation, city, or neighbor rooted in the values of love makes us all seek to nurture and protect that good..."

The word "beloved" states a renewed aspect of our relationships, affirming that we as UUs do stand, buttressed by work and action, on the side of love.

Wondering what is Happening with our **8th Principle** process?

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. <u>15 minute video recording of the presentation from our evening zoom meetings last week.</u>

If you seek further information about the 8th principle, <u>here are a few more</u> recommended resources. <u>Please go here for details about this vote</u>.

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

Music

End of Year Chorale/Youth Choir concert Tuesday, May 17th @ 6:30pm WUS Sanctuary

We are thrilled to be back singing together and are excited to present our annual endof-year concert after a two year hiatus. Join the **Children's Chorus and Youth Choir** as they present their greatest hits from the past year and some songs you haven't heard them sing yet.

SAOC

IT'S SPRING AND THERE IS LOTS OF SOCIAL ACTION GOING ON! HERE ARE JUST A COUPLE OF EXAMPLES

Moral March on Washington – JUNE 18TH

For more info go here: <u>https://www.uua.org/racial-justice/poor-peoples-campaign</u> To join the march, <u>sign up on the national RSVP page</u>. To ride one of the buses the Poor People's Campaign has arranged through "Rally.co" then <u>fill out this bus sign up</u> <u>form</u>.

Buses will leave the evening of Friday June 17th and will arrive in DC early the next morning. The Rally itself will gather at 9:00 AM and begin at 10:00 AM Saturday June 18th at 3rd and Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington DC. Buses will leave DC at 4:00 PM and arrive back in Massachusetts late Saturday night or very early Sunday morning.

RIGHT HERE IN WINCHESTER! ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 8TH AT 5 PM 2nd annual PRIDEfest!

In-Person Program I Winchester Town Center

Save the date for Winchester's 2nd annual **PRIDEfest!** Co-sponsored by NFSJ and the Town of Winchester, **PRIDEfest** is a community-centered Winchester-based event featuring multiple ways for attendees to educate themselves about LGBTQ+ rights and issues, engage around Pride related themes, and celebrate Pride as artistic expression through music, crafts and creative games. This year's festival will include students and community staffed tables and a mainstage with musical performances, a DJ, and speeches by Winchester middle and high school students.

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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