



Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights

May 26, 2022

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



The Theme for May is

Nurturing Beauty

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, May 29th

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Virtual Worship Logistics Below



Glory To The Heroes

Remembering Across Borders

Rev. Heather Janules

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky reminds us that the current struggle for the autonomy and sovereignty of Ukraine is a struggle between democracy and tyranny, a struggle that transcends Russia and Ukraine. As we remember those who have died in

service to our nation, we will lift up the lives of those in Ukraine who made a personal sacrifice for the greater good and consider the lessons of their lives, their choices and their deaths.

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: <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

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of long-time member and leader,

John Russell

after a brief time in home hospice care. Our hearts go out to his wife **Maggie**, children **David and Leah**, their extended family and John's many friends within and beyond the congregation.

Maggie, David, and Leah send the following message:

Dear Friends,

Your countless, affectionate thoughts, loving wishes, and offers to help, delivered in so many ways, have eased the hurt of seeing John walk the hospice path. The four of us were together as a loving family during this time, providing as much comfort as we could. John died peacefully. Thank you for your care and support.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the UU Urban Ministry, <https://www.uuum.org>, or the WUS Memorial Fund. The date of a memorial service will be shared when it is known.

We celebrate with **Chris and Karen Erikson** who have become grandparents with the birth of

Henrik Erikson

born to John and Rachel. All are well.

PLUS, they write, "Aunt **Britta Erikson** will wed **Sam Sergi** with her other brother **Neil** officiating in our backyard Kittery Point on Sunday... Quite a week of life events for our family!"

A Celebration of Life for

Paulett Taggart

Saturday, June 18, 2 p.m.

All are invited to attend in person or remotely the **Memorial Service Celebrating the Life of Paulett Taggart** Saturday, June 18th, at 2 p.m. in the Sanctuary. To attend the service virtually during or after the service, go to www.tinyurl.com/wuslivestream

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



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

Winchester
Town Day
June 4th
Volunteers Needed

We especially need
donations of Baked Goods
and Afternoon Helpers

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 and what baked goods you can contribute. 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 of Winchester on [June 4th!](#)
How would *you* would like to pitch in?**

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

sign up [Here](#)

To donate your
Home-Baked Goodies

sign up [Here](#)

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.

Town Day Music

Matt Heaton presents

**"Music for Kids and the
Adults that Love Them!"**

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM June 4th

On The Lawn, Corner of Main St. & Mystic Valley Pkwy



Celebrating Staff Transitions

Juanita Simms

will be stepping back as our Nursery Supervisor at the end of the summer. However, she's not saying goodbye just yet! In her usual thoughtful manner, she has agreed to be on call as a volunteer backup next year, and still plans to come by occasionally and stay in touch with our families and community. Juanita has been providing a wonderful, loving and

consistent presence to our youngest for the last 9 years, even entertaining them with story times on Zoom during the pandemic, and joining our RE team in co-leading K-7 for much of this year when we had no one in need of the Nursery. We are so grateful for everything that Juanita has given our children and we celebrate her for all that she has already given us, and will still continue to give us in a different capacity next year. Juanita will be around during the Church Picnic on June 12th if you would like to share your gratitude directly with her. We will begin searching for Juanita's replacement in the Fall, and will otherwise be looking for a cadre of volunteers to help staff the nursery as needed until we fill the position. Please reach out to [Sam Wilson](#) if you would be willing to join this team or if you have referrals for the job.



We are thrilled to welcome

Brenna Mayer

as our new Children's Religious Education Coordinator. Under Sam's supervision, Brenna will be working half-time to lead programming for our K-6 children on Sunday mornings, and otherwise assist with middle school programming.

From Brenna: I live in Groton with my two sons, 21 and 16. I'm excited to join the WUS community. In the small world department: The first Unitarian Universalist church I attended was the same church Sam Wilson grew up in!

From Sam: I am SO excited to be working with Brenna, and I know we're going to work really well together, because, in fact, we already have! We met at Ferry Beach 3 years ago, where we have worked closely together during 2 summers of Youth Camps. I know that she's going to bring

the kind of energy, enthusiasm, and creativity that will make our RE programs continue to soar ever higher next year!

We introduced Brenna briefly at Youth Sunday last weekend, but because the service ran so late, she was unable to stick around afterward to meet people. She will also be joining us for Flower Communion on June 12th, so, please find her afterward to give her a warm WUS welcome.

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

Thank you everyone who joined us - both cats and kids - for Youth Sunday last weekend. We are sorry that it went on for SO long, but are so appreciative of your kids for nonetheless sticking around and behaving beautifully. It looked like some of them made some great art pieces, and apparently a few of them liked their ears so much that they wore them to their chorale concert! Yay!



This Sunday, May 29th:

10:30 am - RE for K-6 Outside OR in Metcalf Hall if it's raining or below 40 degrees: 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. May's theme is Nurturing Beauty. We know that some of you may be away for the long weekend, but are still planning to have some fun activities set up for everyone who can join 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

WUSYG: Winchester Unitarian Youth Group

(9th-12th Grade)



Last Sunday was SO much fun! Huge shoutout to all of our seniors who did a beautiful job with their statements on Sunday, plus everyone else who made the morning such a success. Big thanks to our parents for contributing so much food to our afternoon celebration (and filling out that Perfect Potluck so quickly!), and everyone who stuck around to decorate Metcalf. It looked amazing, and was so much fun! We definitely need to make WUSYG Prom an annual thing!

We otherwise continue to be moving full-steam ahead toward the end of our program year.

This Sunday, May 29th: Bring a Friend Sunday

We hope you'll all bring someone who might be interested in joining WUSYG next year. Otherwise, this will be a **regular meeting from 4:30-6:30 pm**.

Save the Date: June 5th is Move Up Day 2.0, 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). Current 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 have some WUSYGers lined up to help decorate and be at the 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 ***NEW TIME*** 2-4 pm. You won't want to miss it!

Social Action & Outreach

**BUILDING BELOVED
COMMUNITY,**

Book By Book



The 1619 Project expands on the New York Times Magazine's award-winning issue published on Sunday, August 18, 2019. Conceived by Pulitzer Prize-winning Times reporter Nichole Hannah-Jones, the book attempts to correct our understanding of the history of slavery and how it has impacted our nation's history from the very beginning. Weaving together essays, poems, and fiction, it is a book to own, to read an essay at a time, to reorder your understanding of our country's history.

PLEASE JOIN YOUR SOCIAL ACTION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE AT THE
2ND ANNUAL

PRIDEfest!

RIGHT HERE IN WINCHESTER
Wednesday, June 8th 5 -7 PM

In-Person, Outdoor Program at the Winchester Town Common

We state each week in church that we are a Welcoming Congregation, we fly a PRIDE BANNER at our main door, but... will WE as a congregation take ACTION and show up at our local town center to SHOW OUR SUPPORT for LGBTQ+ rights and issues on June 8th? The members of the Social Action and Outreach Committee are showing up this year and we are encouraging all members of the WUS community to do so too!

Description of event: Co-sponsored by our own WUSYG & Junior Youth Group, the Network for Social Justice, 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.

Plus, our very own WUSYG & JYG will be there giving out "glitter blessings" in addition to info about our Youth group programming. See you at PRIDEFEST Wednesday, June 8th 5 -7 PM !

**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: <https://www.uua.org/racial-justice/poor-peoples-campaign>
To join the march, [sign up on the national RSVP page](#). To ride one of the buses the Poor People's Campaign has arranged through "Rally.co" then [fill out this bus sign up form](#).

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.

Juneteenth Celebrations Coming Up Soon!

Thursday, June 16 at 7 p.m. via Zoom, Dr. [Kellie Carter Jackson](#), Associate Professor of Africana Studies at Wellesley College, will offer an overview of the history of the holiday and an exploration of the various ways Black communities have created traditions and cultivated the joy of emancipation and freedom. The program is free and open to all but [advance registration is required](#).

**Sunday, June 19th, 12-4
PM at REHAIRATIONS,
339 MASS AVE.
ARLINGTON**

· In partnership with the Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion Division,
Town of Arlington

Sunday, June 19th

Lincoln Commons, Cross Street, Malden

- Flag Raising, Performances, Activities
11 AM -1PM
- Free Community Cookout 1-3 PM
- Free and Open to All

Winchester Unitarian Society | 478 Main St. Winchester MA 01890
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