

Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights

June 23, 2022

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

The Theme for June is

Celebrating Blessings



Upcoming Worship

Sunday, June 26th

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Virtual Worship Logistics Below

Summer Services



Sunday, June 26th

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

"Woven in a Single Garment of Destiny"

A service offered by the Unitarian Universalist Association exploring and celebrating hallmarks of our Unitarian Universalist theology. *We're all connected: an interdependent whole. Therefore, says Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, "covenant is our religious response to our fundamental interdependence." We make promises about how to be together, and how to be in the world. We also fall short of honoring those promises, inviting us to repair and strengthen the strands of community. The choice to mend broken strands of the web is an act of faithfulness.* This service includes original music, created for this occasion.

2022 Summer Services

Livestream access can be found at

www.tinyurl.com/wuslivestream

IN PERSON ATTENDEES

Come to the WUS Sanctuary (478 Main Street, Winchester)

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](#)

Joys, Sorrows and Transitions

We celebrate with **Dennis Brett and Cindy Crothers** with the birth of their grandson, Leo Edward Brett, on June 11th. Congratulations!

Celebrating Sam Wilson's National Leadership

We are pleased to share that our own Sam Wilson will have a few roles in this month's General Assembly (GA), the annual convening of UUs from around the world to do the business of the Association, in addition to being a voting delegate and WUS rep. Sam was nominated to be on the slate to be elected to serve on the GA Planning Committee (to read his bio and learn more about all the elections, [click here](#)). He is also serving on the Inclusivity Review Team for this GA, and was chosen to be one of the 5 spotlighted "Players" during Virtual Games Night at GA (virtual attendees can watch him compete against others and also vote for winners!) Finally, Sam is leading an in-person workshop for the UU Service Committee, titled "Speaking Justice in the Language of our Faith." Please join us in joy as we celebrate Sam and his representation of the Winchester Unitarian Society in the wider UU world.

Celebrating Staff Transitions: Alex Smith Taylor

Alex Smith Taylor has served as the Assistant Director of Youth Ministries for the past year. Alex brought her strong love of UU youth and social justice to this position; two things that we have really appreciated about her and also that she will continue to hold in her heart for her entire life. However, as a recent college graduate with a lot of transitions going on in their life, Alex has decided that this will be their last year with us. We will be celebrating them and saying goodbye this Sunday during WUSYG

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

And Please Contribute to Annual Evaluations

Rev. Heather is gathering input for evaluations for Director of Music John Kramer and Director of Youth Ministries and Interim Coordinator of Religious Education Sam Wilson. Please use these on-line forms to provide your feedback:

John Kramer: www.tinyurl.com/JKramerEval22

Sam Wilson: www.tinyurl.com/SWilsonEval22

Please provide your input by August 1st. Thank you!

2022 Summer Services Schedule

Livestream access can be found at

www.tinyurl.com/wuslivestream

We are happy to provide the schedule for worship services this summer, which is below. In connection with the schedule, please note the following:

- If you wish to share a favorite poem, or a meaningful poem, or a funny poem, or a poem that you treasure at our poetry service on Sunday, June 19, 2022, please contact Martin Newhouse asap at mnewhouse9@gmail.com or 781-454-9425 with the name and approximate length of the poem so that we can have a good idea in advance of how to schedule the poetry readings. (Please note: John Kramer has volunteered to read poems contributed by those who will be watching the live stream or who would rather not read the poem themselves.)
- Call for Ushers. If you are willing and able to be an usher for one or more of our summer Sunday services, please let Martin know (again at mnewhouse9@gmail.com or 781-454-9425).

For in-person attendees:

Childcare will be available most Sundays. Bring your child(ren) to the playground to sign in before worship begins.

Refreshments and conversation will take place on the Bell Tower Terrace after worship. In the event of inclement weather, attendees are welcome to remain indoors for casual conversation without refreshments in the Symmes Room.

For all attendees:

There will be no worship service on July 3rd due to the holiday and historic low attendance. Have a safe and wonderful Fourth of July!

With the exception of July 10th, a conversation will follow after worship at 1pm via Zoom. Log on at www.tinyurl.com/wusworship

***Indicates a service with pre-recorded content**

6/19/22 A Service in Poetry – Bring your favorite poem to share!

***6/26/22** “Woven in a Single Garment of Destiny”: A service offered by the Unitarian Universalist Association exploring and celebrating hallmarks of our Unitarian Universalist theology. *We're all connected: an interdependent whole. Therefore, says Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, "covenant is our religious response to our fundamental interdependence." We make promises about how to be together, and how to be in the world. We also fall short of honoring those promises, inviting us to repair and strengthen the strands of community. The choice to mend broken strands of the web is an act of faithfulness.* This service includes original music, created for this occasion.

7/3/22 NO SERVICE DUE TO HOLIDAY

**7/10/22 Hymn Sing, Led by John Kramer, Director of Music
No discussion at 1pm**

7/17/22 John Loewy – “What is Meant When ‘I am an Atheist’ is Said?” Summer Choir – Rehearsal at 9:45 a.m.

7/25/22 John Kramer – “8 Bible Vignettes’: Music by Nathaniel Dett”

7/31/22 Dan Hermes – To Be Determined Summer Choir – Rehearsal at 9:45 a.m.

***8/7/22 UUA 2022 General Assembly Service, Led by the Revs. Gretchen Haley, Sean Neil-Barron and Shari Halliday-Quan**

8/14/22 Nancy Schrock – “Recovering Black History: The New Hope Baptist Church in Winchester” Summer Choir Rehearsal at 9:45 a.m.

***8/21/22 UUA 2022 General Assembly Ware Lecture - Dr. Ibram X. Kendi**
Dr. Kendi's "relentless and passionate research puts into question the notion of a post-racial society and opens readers' and audiences' eyes to the reality of racism in America today. Kendi's events are sharp, informative, and hopeful, serving as a strong platform for any institution's discussions on racial discrimination."

8/28/22 Ivan and Joshua Correia – "Extreme Gardening"

9/4/22 Lee Barton – To Be Determined

Note that the **annual Animal Blessing Service**, traditionally held on Labor Day Weekend, will be held in the Fall.

There will be a post-worship conversation held over Zoom at 1:00 pm, giving those who attended at WUS to return home and turn on the computer! The link for this Zoom room is www.tinyurl.com/wusworship

Many thanks to Martin Newhouse, Dennis Brett and Director of Music John Kramer and our Worship Associates team for creating and implementing the summer ministry!



Summer Ministerial Support

WUS frequently hires a summer minister while the settled minister is away for vacation and study leave. For a variety of reasons, this year we are not hiring a summer minister. However, we have made arrangements for a local minister to work with our pastoral care team, the Pastoral Care Associates, should they need guidance or support.

You may read the biography for the Rev. Megan Lynes below. Megan is a trusted friend and colleague of Rev. Heather and, as her bio reflects, offers a lot of experience should there be a need for her to work with WUS leadership.

Should you or your family be in need of pastoral support in July and August, **contact the PCA team directly at PCA@winchesteruu.org or call the WUS office at 781.729.0949**...But here is hoping for a happy and healthy season!

The Rev. Megan Lynes

Rev. Megan Lynes grew up UU in the Boston area, and was ordained in 2008 by the congregation of Canton MA, where she did her student ministry. Megan's ministry has included serving as a chaplain at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, with

interfaith youth at Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries, and as the president for the Mass Bay Ministers' chapter. She served nine years as the Parish Minister of the First Parish in Bedford, MA, and two years as the Minister of Faith Formation at the First Church in Sterling, MA. Some of her favorite pastimes are volunteering at The Children's Room (a center for grieving children and families,) and making art. Since the start of the pandemic, Megan has stayed home to be with her three year old son full time. She is a single mom by choice and lives in Stow with her best friend, her son Jesse, two cats and five chickens.



for June, July, and August is now available on our website at:

[Http://Mystic-Messenger-Vol-7-Issue-4](http://Mystic-Messenger-Vol-7-Issue-4)

Religious Education

Summer Services and Childcare, June 26th-Sept. 4th

During the summer we do not offer structured RE classes. However, we will be providing childcare with unstructured time on the playground, monitored by Juanita and our teen teachers. Please meet them in the playground to drop kids off and sign them in before the service, then come pick them up and sign out by 12:45. As Sam will be away for some parts of the summer, please email both Sam and the RE Committee if you have questions or concerns: sam.wilson@winchesteruu.org and rec@winchesteruu.org

Social Action & Outreach

BUILDING BELOVED COMMUNITY,

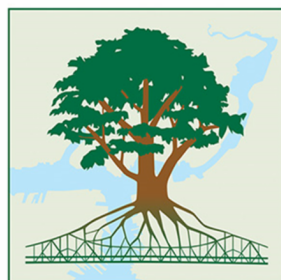
Action by Action

As our Winchester Unitarian Society delegates participate in the UU General Assembly in Portland, Oregon, this week, they will be joining some 201 UU sister congregations in affirming the 8th Principle, **“working to build a diverse, multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”**



We wish them safe travels and appreciate their representing us this year!

Gloria Legvold, Racial Justice Team



Celebrating **25** Years
of Fighting for Social and
Environmental Justice!

GreenRoots

Our hearts break for the victims and families in Uvalde, Buffalo and Laguna Woods. There are no words that can capture the emotion and sadness of these tragic moments, and how they affect our lives and sense of safety. Our schools, our grocery stores, our churches, and our communities must be safe for all.

To everyone who has lost a child, a family member, or a friend to gun violence - we hold space in our hearts and grieve with you. Gun violence and racism are public health crises and we must continue to do the work of creating a future where everyone can safely thrive.

Below please find resources to help support you and your loved ones as we process these past few weeks together, and let's make sure to check-in on one another in the days ahead. For more information: <https://www.greenrootschelsea.org/>

[**American Psychological Association: Helping your children manage distress in the aftermath of a shooting**](#)

[**Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers**](#)

[**Coping During Community Unrest**](#)

Please join us for a Virtual Conversation about

Dying Well:

How to have a Peaceful Death

June 25, 2022

11am to 12:30 pm



Please join us for a virtual conversation:

Dying Well, How to Have a Peaceful Death

Kathleen Rouleau, RN and ordained minister, will discuss hospice vs. palliative care, home funerals and the psychological and spiritual aspects of death. There will be time for questions.

To register, please email Richard.Dorbin@WinchesterUU.org or call the WUS office at **781-729-0949** by **June 23** with your name and email address. To join the session go to tinyurl.com/WUSPCAs Sponsored by the Pastoral Care Associates at WUS

June 25, 2022 11am to 12:30 pm

tinyurl.com/WUSPCAs

Contribute to Richard's 90 Day Evaluation

Our Administration and Outreach Manager, Richard Dorbin, is nearing 90 days with WUS. It is our policy to provide an evaluation at or slightly after 90 days of employment.

You are invited to contribute to this process by completing a simple form:

www.tinyurl.com/RDorbinEval



Please provide your input by today, June 23rd. Thank you!

**Winchester Unitarian Society | 478 Main St. Winchester MA 01890
(781) 729-0949 | office@winchesteruu.org | www.winchesteruu.org**

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