



Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights

2/16/2023

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

The Theme for February is

Love

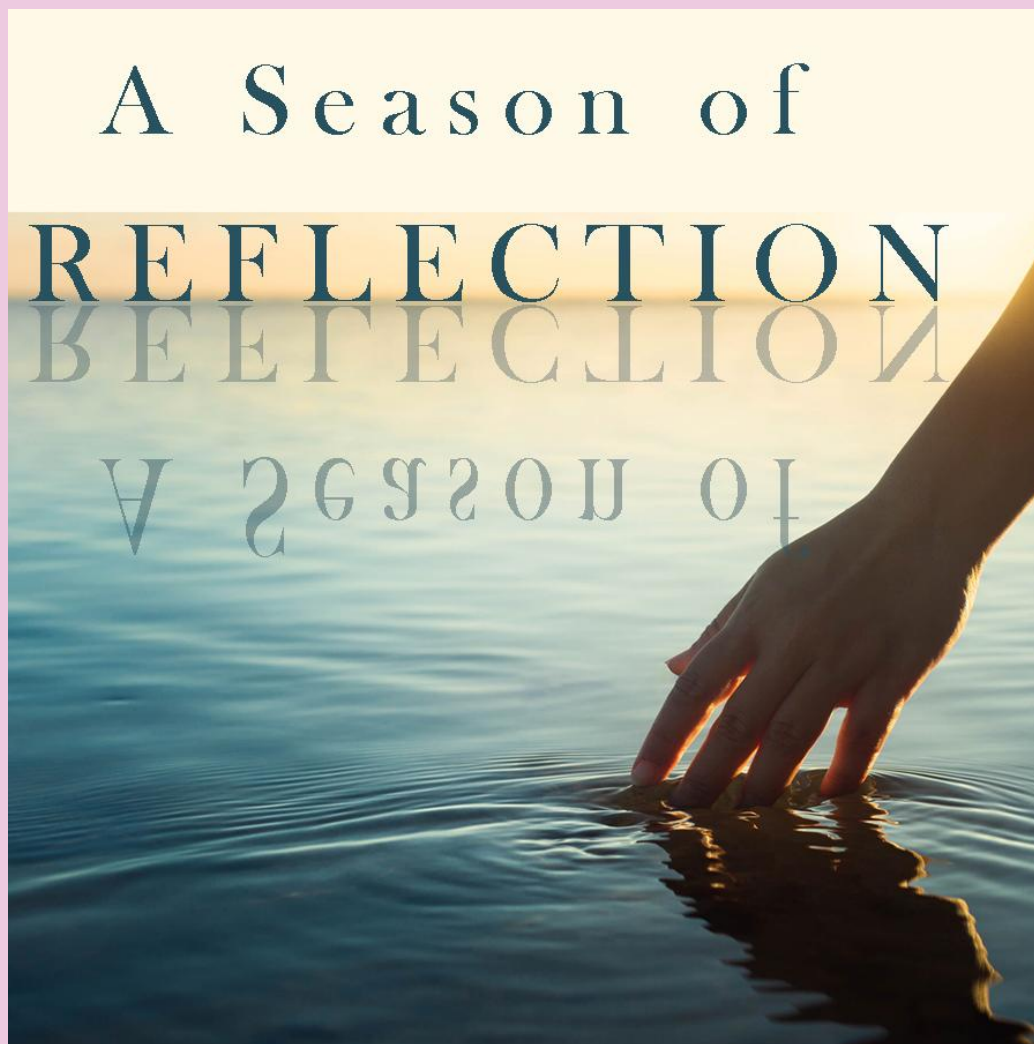


Upcoming Worship

Sunday, February 19th

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Virtual Worship Logistics Below



Lent is a 40-day period when faithful Christians enter into a time of sacrifice and reflection to spiritually prepare for Easter. Some Unitarian Universalists participate in traditional Lent and some take part in a parallel time of awareness, reflection and sharing in community - #UULent. This service will invite us into collective engagement with #UULent, beginning with some initial images and written meditations centered on daily themes. This year, the Sunday themes draw from the proposed re-articulation of Unitarian Universalist Principles - justice, interdependence, equity, transformation, pluralism, generosity and love. Where do you see these Principles appearing

in day-to-day life? Let's prepare to pay attention, document and reflect on the spiritual richness all around us.

IN PERSON ATTENDEES

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

Masks are required until the children leave for Religious Education activities

--VIRTUAL ATTENDEES--

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

The **Order of Service** for Virtual Attendees can be found on our website under the listing for this service.

Livestreamers are encouraged to send an email to checkingin@winchesteruu.org.

We know where you are streaming from but don't know who you are!
We want to hear from you!

More information about the worship services can be found on the [website](#).

Joys, Sorrows and Transitions

Healing wishes are with **James Pidacks** who is recovering at home from a broken hip as a result of a skiing accident. Cards, calls and visits are welcome.

Update on **Alberto Araoz**: He remains at Encompass Health Rehabilitation in Woburn. Friends willing to wear a high-quality mask are welcome to visit.

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

We are underway! Thank you to our Pioneer Pledgers who have already expressed their love with pledges ranging from \$500-\$20,000 for the coming fiscal year.

You should have received a pledge drive packet in the mail this week. If you didn't, please get in touch and we'll update your contact information. Please take a look at the information page and feel free to get in touch with any questions by clicking on one of our names below. Make use of the pledge card and mail it in, or drop it off at church, or pledge online using this [form](#).

Our generous gifts comprise the majority of the operating income for WUS and our pledges provide our Standing Committee with the information they need to establish priorities for next year's spending. Due to significant increases in expenses, our pledge goal this year is \$400,000, 7% more than we raised last year. Thank you in advance for submitting your pledge before our campaign ends on **March 15th**.

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant. -
Robert Louis Stevenson

[John Healey](#), [Liz Scott](#), and [Claire McNeill](#) (liaison to the Standing Committee)

The Return of.....

This year's **FUN**draiser is our famous **Not Your Average Rummage Sale** ("NYARS") to be held in conjunction with **Winchester's Town Day** on **Saturday, June 3rd**, from **8** to **4**.

On **Sunday, June 4th**, from **Noon to 3** we will have a "**Clearance Sale**." Please put these dates on your calendar!

Many loving hearts, thoughtful minds and helping hands will be needed to make this fundraiser a success. Our ambitious goal is to

raise \$25,000. Our last rummage sale raised just over \$22,000 after expenses. So, please start gathering the things you wish to donate (starting in May) and ask friends and neighbors to donate too.

[PLEASE click HERE to Volunteer.](#)

All volunteers, please join us **this Sunday, February 19th, 12-1 pm in Metcalf Hall** for an important organizing meeting.

You may choose to help in specific sale categories like “Children’s Department” or “Kitchen Goods,” or logistical categories like “Publicity” or “Cashiers.”

Much of the sales department work will happen from May 27th – June 2nd when we are collecting, sorting and pricing donations. Some of the logistical categories need a bit more research & planning before then. We will also need many folks on June 3rd and some on June 4th to work the Rummage Sale and then to sort and distribute the Reminders to various charities.

At the **Volunteers meeting on February 19th** after our Sunday service, volunteer categories teams will meet. If you’re not sure where to sign up, but want to help, please come to this meeting and we’ll help connect you to a spot that works for you.

If you have questions, please email us before then or call one of us. If you email **rummageteam@winchesteruu.org**, all three of us will get it.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Your NYARS Leadership Team: Susan Walewicz, Donna Reed and
Fritzie Nace

Susan (617) 416-4463

Fritzie (339) 927-0794

Donna (781) 626-1785

5 week Grief Group
Led by Carol DeLaney and Rev. Heather Janules

Wednesdays 3:30 – 5 pm
in the Michelsen Room
3/1 through 3/29/2023

In a safe and confidential setting you will be invited to share your story and listen to others who have experienced loss. You will learn ways we mourn and how to express your emotions through journaling or practices such as breathing exercises. You will be encouraged to discover how to nurture your own grief spaces.

Please pre-register by contacting Carol DeLaney by email at ccdolaney1@hotmail.com or by telephone at **781.507.3366**.

March 5, 2023 in Metcalf Hall

The **Nominating and Leadership Development Committee** is bringing back the **Committee Fair** where you will have an opportunity to check out the many ways you can give back to WUS with a twist. We are also hosting **Sundae Sunday** in lieu of a traditional coffee hour.

What is **Sundae Sunday**? After the church service, congregants and friends of WUS will be invited to Metcalf Hall where you can engage with ten different Committees. To earn a **sundae** (ice cream and toppings), you need to visit and learn about some of our Committees and ideally sign up for one. The more Committees you engage with, the more ice cream and toppings you will receive.

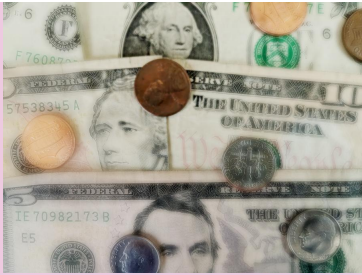
You will receive a passport that a Committee member needs to sign off on. Visit five Committees, get two scoops of ice cream, Fritzie's home-made hot fudge sauce, whipped cream and a cherry! The combinations are endless. And, we will even have ten different toppings if some brave soul visits all ten Committees and signs up for one!

So, mark your calendar and be prepared for a fun, social and delicious **Committee Fair**!

Brought to you by your Nominating and Leadership Development Committee

**LARGE PRINT ORDERS-OF-SERVICE ARE BACK!
ASK AN USHER IF YOU WOULD LIKE ONE**

It's Grant Application Season Again!



The **Social Action and Outreach Committee** invites members and staff to sponsor organizations whose work reinforces our mission. As we become increasingly aware that many of the inequalities in the U.S. have systemic causes, **we must also work for changes in policies and procedures that contribute to systemic oppression.** We encourage you to find groups that are working toward new solutions at the local, state, national and international level, in addition to the groups that we have been honored to support for many years.

Here are the steps for participating this year:

- All potential sponsors should notify Patty Shepard by **February 28th** via email at shepard.patty@gmail.com about any group they plan to sponsor this year.
- Early in March, SAOC members will contact the sponsors of the organizations applying for grants, for which they will be the reviewer, and clarify the process, as needed.
- Sponsors notify the organization about the grant opportunity, obtain complete contact information, and learn about any possible special project to which the grant might contribute.
- Sponsors find the [Grant Application Form](#) and complete Section I and II, before sending it to the organization. Please convey our strong preference for simple financial statements and request the application be returned to the sponsor **electronically, well before the March 26th deadline.**
- On receipt of the application, sponsors should make sure it is complete, and then send it via email to the designated reviewer on the SAOC.

Complete applications must be submitted by the sponsor to the reviewing SAOC member no later than Sunday, March 26th.

Please Note:

Sponsors with questions about the process should contact Patty Shepard at shepard.patty@gmail.com or the person who will be reviewing your grant, which will be determined after March 7th.

A Fall Arts Fundraiser...

To make space and resources for the Town Day Rummage Sale, **“Spring Into the Arts”** will now take place in Fall 2023 as a Fall Arts Fundraiser and community outreach event with a tentative date of November 5th.

There is lots to do to make this a successful event for our community. **We are looking for an early indication of interest specifically in teaching a single day art/craft class here in our WUS classrooms on November 5th, where participants would be charged a fee as part of our fundraising efforts.** A list of possible classes is listed below – but we are open to any relevant ideas you may offer. Please email wusartspring@gmail.com to let us know what you would be willing to teach. Thank you so much!!!

- Flower Arranging?
- Cake Decorating?
- Cooking?
- Pottery?
- Needle Felting/ Wet Felting?
- Sewing/Embroidery/Sashiko?
- Needlepoint?
- Punch Needle?
- Knitting/Crocheting?
- Loom Knitting?
- Drawing/Painting?
- Card Making/Collage?
- Decoupage?
- Calligraphy?
- Holiday Ornaments
- Origami?
- Bead Making (Sculpey or other medium)?
- Friendship Bracelets/Jewelry?
- ETC!!!!!!!

New Staff Photos!

WUS staff photographs have recently been updated! Please look for the new photographs in the main foyer outside of the sanctuary, as well as on our website: [WUS Staff Photos](#). The portraits were taken by Administrator and Outreach Director, Richard Dorbin, .

W.U.S. Yoga

Nurture your Spirit ~ Nourish your Body



**Gentle Kripalu-style yoga led by
Fritzie Nace
Thursdays 5:30 – 6:45 pm in the
Meyer Chapel
Winter 2 Session: 2/09 – 3/30/2023
\$100 for 8-week session, \$15 drop-in**

Deep breathing (pranayama) brings warmth and focus. Yoga postures (asanas) gently stretch and strengthen, enhance balance and counter patterns of daily tension. Connecting breath and movement deepens self-awareness and enlivens our sense of being. If you have never done yoga before, or only just a bit, Fritzie gives clear guidance through a slow flow of postures, offering support as we go. If you have more experience, you are invited to take the postures to your own depth of challenge. Mats, blankets, blocks and straps are provided.

Please let Fritzie know of your interest by emailing Fritzie.Nace@gmail.com.

Religious Education

This past Sunday was the youth service, run by the junior and senior youth groups – JUSYG and WUSYG. In the First Reflection the teens did a play about three flowers and who got picked. The little dandelion was sad not to get picked, but the bee pointed out that she lasts a long time and her seeds plant more dandelions to help the birds and lots of others in the meadow. She learned to love herself just as she was.

In RE, everyone joined in for some fun workshops in our second Sunday of FebFest. Some made sushi rolls. Others made colored powder for Holi and learned a story about the holiday. Still others learned how to write in special calligraphy letters. Along with all of this, the Lego station still managed to draw a crowd. See the schedule below for the remaining workshops this week and next!

This Sunday, February 19th: RE Classes for K-6

Spirit Play and Neighboring Faiths

This Sunday and all Sundays in February, all kids in RE will join different workshops of their choosing as a part of the WUS tradition of FEBFEST (formerly JanFest). **See the FebFest paragraph below** for more information. It's a blast!

Our Whole Lives (OWL)

There will be no OWL class this Sunday, February 19th, due to the beginning of February break. Classes will be back on the following Sunday, February 26th, at the usual place and time

Photo by Andy Chilton on Unsplash



Without further ado, take a look at the wonderful workshops on offer for RE's FebFest 2023. Thanks to all those who stepped up to offer a workshop. It's a great time for all.

Workshop Schedule

Workshop Descriptions

Rubik's Rave

Alex and Calvin will share their love of and expertise in solving Rubik's cubes. Come enjoy playing and solving with many different sizes and shapes of Rubik's cubes. Alex and Calvin will demonstrate and provide handouts with solutions to take home! *(Note: Limit of 5 participants in grade 2 or higher)*

Trash = Art

Don't throw that away, that's art! Take everyday items that normally go in the trash and let Brenna show you the various ways to turn them into art to hang on your wall or send to a friend. You'll never look at trash the same way again!

Sculpey Beads

Are you interested in jewelry, beads, or just making something beautiful and useful? Join Sue in this workshop to learn how to make jewelry beads out of Sculpey clay. Each participant will make and take home lots of beads (and instructions for adults on how to dry them).

Nachos Your Way

Do you like to cook? Come into the kitchen to prepare vegetarian nachos with guacamole your way. Naomi will have chips, cheese, salsa, avocados, lime, black olives, cinnamon, salt and pepper, garlic, onions, and field day organic refried beans. Do you think something is missing? Bring it along. Let's have a fiesta!

Shrinky Dink Keychains

Make your own designs and shrink them down to something permanent, useful, and fun. Victoria will show you how to make a keychain from used plastic and your own creativity!

Culinary Creations

Join Sam in the kitchen and unleash your imagination as you create edible art!

WUSYG & JUSYG: Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group & Junior Youth Group

Last Sunday was so awesome! Big high fives to everyone who helped lead the service and/or brought food to make the Valentine's party such a success.

This Sunday there are no youth groups due to February vacation. See y'all on the 26th!

Questions/concerns/compliments: Message Sam,
sam.wilson@winchesteruu.org



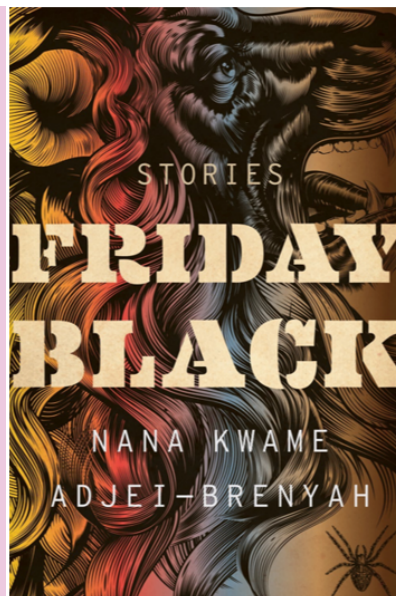
**Building
Beloved
Community**

**Book
by
Book**

Stories bring us directly into experiences we might otherwise never know. In this brilliant debut *Friday Black*, author Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah, of Ghanaian heritage, lets readers into the “lives of ordinary people in extraordinary situations of violence, injustice, and painful absurdities,” says the book jacket. Yes, and written with a disarming, harrowing amplification that includes the surreal, the satirical, and the humorous.

The title comes from a story midway in the collection featuring a renowned salesclerk. “The Ice King” works Black Fridays, managing the consumerism-frenzied hordes trampling over each other for bargain brand-label ski jackets.

An interviewer asked Adjei-Brenyah how he arranged the stories’ order. He said he might have only one chance to engage his readers so he placed multilayered “The Finkelstein Five” first. And then he followed it with “Things My Mother Said,” a simple, touching tribute.



“The Finklestein Five” carves into one’s conscience. Emmanuel, who had learned the Black basics as a boy, like smiling when angry, constantly measures his Blackness on a scale of one to ten. Awakening from a nightmare, he answers a call from a job interviewer with Blackness set at 1.5. His dream had replayed the recent news of five Black children murdered by a white man allegedly protecting his children as they left a library. The murderer was acquitted by a jury of his peers. In solidarity with the five children, Emmanuel leaves his house, his parents already off to work, wearing a long-abandoned black hoodie, a 7.6 on his scale. Emmanuel’s day continues, with each incident scaled—entering the mall, being hassled for a receipt, joining a bus stop line, meeting a school friend. Part of his long day will be calling out each name of the murdered children: Naming, a Black tradition. At one point, his scale hits a 10. Another, a 0.0.

My copy of *Friday Black* is available to borrow.

—Gloria Legvold, Racial Justice Team Planning Group

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