



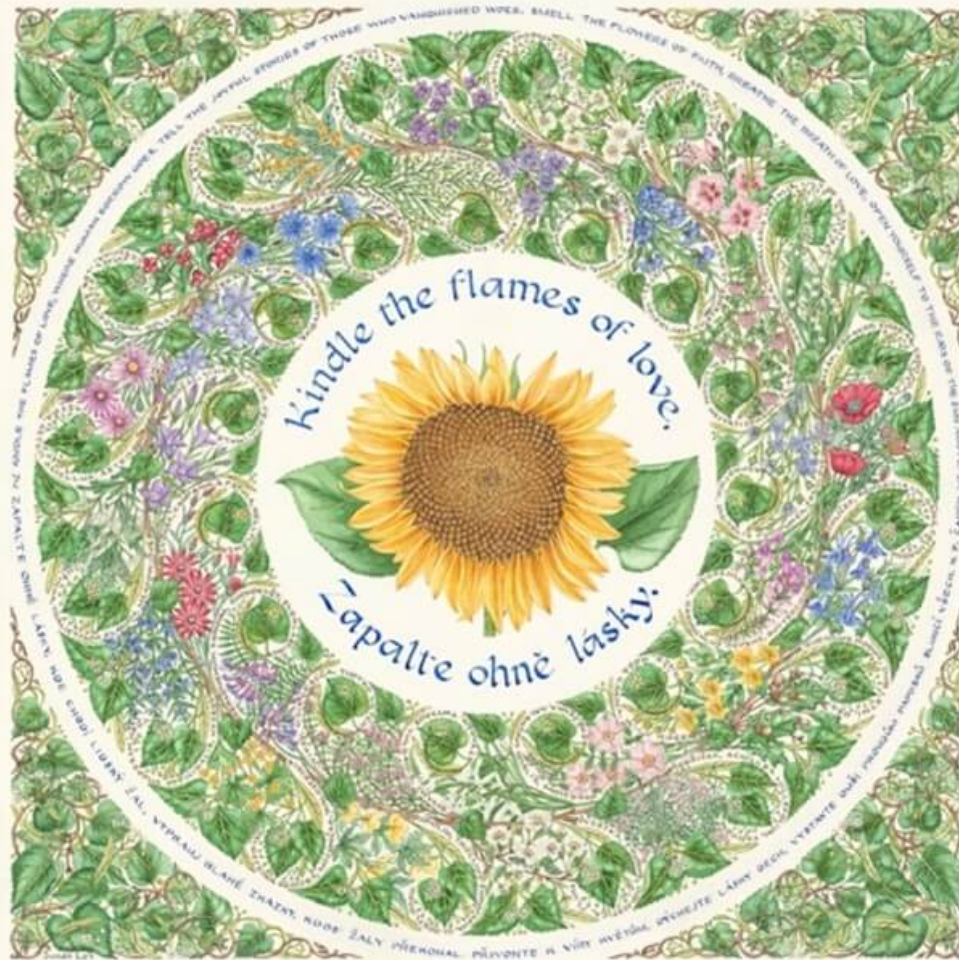
Highlights

6/15/2023

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

The Theme for June is

Delight

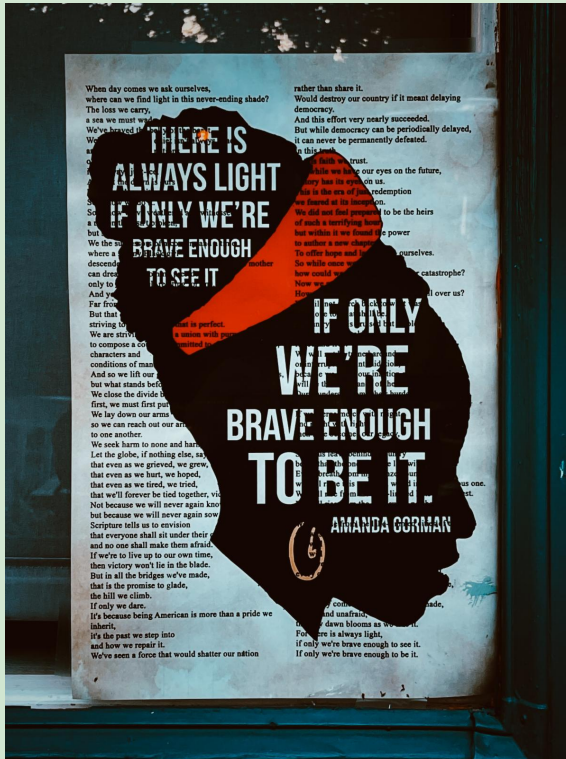


This month's image commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Rev. Norbert Čapek's Flower Ceremony in what is now the Czech Republic. We celebrate the delight of spring flowers and the beauty of diverse community!

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, June 18th
10 AM Worship
@ WUS Sanctuary AND Online
 Virtual Worship Logistics Below

The Delight of Poetry



What are the poems that make your heart sing? In lieu of a sermon, this Sunday we will delight each other through sharing our favorite poems. The poems can be about most topics. Perhaps you even wrote one! Bring your relatively short poems (free of profanity or images or ideas that don't need to come from the pulpit) and prepare to make them come alive through their reading.

Summer Services are most often attended by grownups but people of all ages are welcome!

Should young friends come to worship, adult companions are welcome to pick up a Pew Pack at the back of the Sanctuary to help keep them entertained. (Grownups who become bored during the service are also welcome to pick up a Pew Pack. Coloring is good for the soul!)

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES

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

Note change:

Masks are encouraged, but not required.

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

On Sunday at 10 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

Our condolences are with **Sarah Milt** and her family as they mourn the recent death of her father, George Dallas. You may learn more about him [here](#). His memorial service will be September 9th at 11am at Trinity Episcopal Church, Concord.

Note: Rev. Heather will be attending General Assembly from Monday, June 18th, to Sunday, June 25th. She will be available for remote pastoral care on an unpredictable schedule.

Summer Pastoral Support: If you are in need of pastoral care, contact the office, **781-729-0949**, or office@winchesteruu.org and ella.kromm@winchesteruu.org. They will connect you with the on-call Pastoral Care Associate. In the event that the PCA seeks the support of a minister, they will contact the on-call minister for additional support.

Congregational News

6-13-2023 Update from the Pandemic Planning Task Force (PPTF)

The Staff and PPTF gathered this week for our final meeting of this church year. Although Covid-19 is still circulating, we are no longer in a declared pandemic. The national public health emergency has been lifted. People of all ages can be vaccinated with multiple boosters, and there are medical treatments widely available. Using the many tools available, we are learning to live with the virus, as well as the potential threat of pandemics in the future. In recognition of this new phase, the Pandemic Planning Task Force and Staff have updated our protocols and guidelines. The full text can be found on the home page of the website and [HERE](#). At this time,

- Masks are encouraged but not required for all who enter the building and for Sunday Worship.
- In order to maximize air circulation while our heating and venting system is not in use, windows may be opened, the ceiling fans may be on, and the doors in the back of the sanctuary kept open during the service.
- When possible, we will continue to have coffee hour outdoors and offer outdoor options for dining at potlucks.

The PPTF wants to reinforce that Long Covid is an issue that many folks, including in our congregational community, are dealing with. Some information is [HERE](#) that we hope helps us all appreciate what this can involve.

The PPTF will remain an active resource to the staff and W.U.S. We will meet again in early September to assess the current situation.

We want to see everyone in person to have a vibrant sense of connection and community, BUT if you feel unwell, please do not come to church. Share the Love, not the virus...any virus!

The Pandemic Planning Task Force and Staff
pandemicplanningtf@winchesteruu.org

Fritzie Nace, Dirck Stryker, Kim Foley, Cynthia Randall

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 in the warm-weather months. You don't need a dog to participate!

All participating dogs must be friendly and vaccinated.



We next gather Saturday, June 17th. We will meet at the second of three entrances to the Middlesex Fells on Hillcrest Parkway at **10 am** and start walking around 10:05.

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

Time for a **Happy Dance!!**
THANK YOU to all who helped make our



A HUGE **\$27,400** Success!!

Over 900 people came through our doors to shop.

Over 60 people volunteered time and energy before, during, and after the sale, including staff and youth, long-time members, and brand new folks. Everyone brought special talents that created an amazing event!

We heard multiple comments about how friendly everyone is and how well organized everything was. We even had someone volunteer to help next time because she enjoyed her experience so much! We're a community based on Covenant and Principles. Look what we can do together!

Donna, Fritzie, and Susan can't thank you all enough! We would love to hear feedback that can help in organizing future rummage sales and events. Please use this form [HERE](#) and/or come in person to share your thoughts.

Please join us to celebrate and debrief next Sunday, June 25th, at 9:30 am. Light breakfast will be served and Coffee Hour will be from 10:30 -11 am

that morning. The service will be live-streamed from General Assembly at 11 am. Please RSVP [HERE](#).

2023 Summer Services Schedule

Please Note: All summer services will start at 10 am, *except for* the Service on June 25th, when we will gather for coffee and conversation at 10:30 am before the General Assembly livestream, which is scheduled to start at 11am. **Also please note:** There will be a discussion in the parlor following the Summer Services on July 9, 16, and 30, August 6, 13, 20, 27, and September 3. For those attending by livestream, the Zoom link for the discussions is: <http://www.tinyurl.com/wusworship>

- **Sunday, June 18** 10 am **Annual Summer Poetry Service**
(Rev. Heather, leader)
- **Sunday, June 25** 10:30 am **General Assembly livestream**
(Livestreaming starts at 11 am)
- **Sunday, July 2** **No Service due to July 4th holiday**
- **Sunday, July 9** 10 am **Green Sanctuary Service**
(Phil Coonley, leader) (Summer Choir)
- **Sunday, July 16** 10 am "Faithfully Becoming: General
Assembly"
(Rev. Heather, leader)
- **Sunday, July 23** 10 am **Annual Summer Hymn Service**
(John Kramer, leader) (Summer Choir)
- **Sunday, July 30** 10 am "A Broader View of Reparations"
(Patty Shepard, leader)
- **Sunday, August 6** 10 am Service TBA
(Dan Hermes, leader) (Summer Choir)
- **Sunday August 13** 10 am "This is Your Brain on Lies"
(Lee Barton, leader)
- **Sunday, August 20** 10 am Service TBA
(Chris Weigand, leader)
- **Sunday, August 27** 10 am "Principles to Pinwheels: Article II"

(Rev. Heather, leader)

- **Sunday, September 3** 10 am “**Sexuality, Faith and Self-Acceptance – Lessons from the Diaries of the 'First Modern Lesbian' Anne Lister**”
(Alison Kirchgasser, leader)

Religious Education

I was sorry to miss our last Sunday of the year, but I heard that Riley did an excellent job with the First Reflection! She talked about how we're all different and that sometimes difference makes us fearful, but that it's actually what makes us such a beautiful and powerful community.



RE classes are on hiatus for the summer. We'll return for our all-ages Water Communion service on September 10th, and RE will begin the following Sunday, September 17th. I hope that everyone has a wonderful summer and returns to WUS rejuvenated and ready for more spiritual exploration, social action and service, and good, plain fun!

Other RE Happenings

Preregistration is open for next year's RE classes. It helps us immensely if you can tell us in advance that you're planning to enroll your children in RE for next year. You can find the registration form here: <https://forms.gle/kuLNTs8AFZi72jyB6>. Our RE family will be expanding next year, welcoming another Spirit Play classroom. Here are the classes we're enrolling for the coming year:

- **Nursery and Toddler Room:** Lots of love and fun abound in our nursery and toddler room for infants through preschool age children, with each Sunday providing another craft or other activity related to the subject the other classes are working on.

- **Spirit Play 1:** Children in kindergarten through second grade are welcome to this Spirit Play class that explores our UU principles (or promises, as SP calls them) through stories and activities presented and facilitated using the Montessori Method.
- **Spirit Play 2:** Children in grades 3 and 4 are welcome to this Spirit Play class that makes good use of the curriculum's extension materials to adjust the content to an older audience.
- **Neighboring Faiths:** Children in grades 5 through 7 are welcome to Neighboring Faiths, where we spend a few months exploring Unitarian Universalism and then move on to study other world religions. This two-year curriculum will be in its second year, so we encourage the current NF kids to stay for the second year to get the full experience!

We'll be returning to the RE classrooms in the fall, so we'll be able to make all of the spaces more welcoming, comfortable, and "ours"!



Building Beloved Community Holiday by Holiday

This coming Monday, June 19th, honors the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States. The name "Juneteenth" is a blend of two words: "June" and "nineteenth." It's believed to be the oldest African-American holiday, with annual celebrations in different parts of the country dating back to 1866. In addition to recognizing the end of slavery, many take the day to celebrate African-American culture.

The first Juneteenth flag was flown at Heritage Park in Roxbury, MA, in 2000. The flag intentionally uses the same colors as the United States flag to show that the formerly enslaved and their descendants are free Americans, too. The individual symbols depicted in the flag represent:

- **The Arc:** A new horizon, meaning fresh opportunities and promising futures for Black Americans.
- **The Star:** A nod to the Lone Star State where Juneteenth was first celebrated in 1865, and it also stands for the freedom of every Black American in all 50 states.

- **The Burst:** The outline surrounding the star is meant to reflect a nova — or new star—which represents a new beginning of striving for freedom and equality for all.

We can honor this holiday by patronizing Black-owned businesses and/or by donating to organizations that serve and/or are run by African-Americans.



W.U.S. Yoga

Summer Session: 6/29 – 8/3/2023

Nurture your Spirit

~

Nourish your Body

Gentle Kripalu-Style Yoga Led by Fritzie Nace

Thursdays 5:30 – 6:45 pm in the Meyer Chapel

ALL ARE WELCOME!

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

Highlights: Plans for the Summer

During the summer, **Highlights** will be published every other week starting this week.

Look for **Highlights** to come to your in-box on the following dates:

6/29, 7/13, 7/27, 8/10, and 8/24.

If you have items that you want to include in Highlights for the above publication dates, please remember that the deadline for submissions is 10 am on the Wednesday prior to publication/ mailing.

For submissions, email: office@winchesteruu.org

WUS Office Summer Hours

Please note that the WUS office will have limited open hours from **12 - 3** from July 3rd through July 12th.



Update for Council of Social Concern's Food Pantry

Next time you go shopping, please consider buying **white tuna, Spam, and Jell-O pudding** for the Council of Social Concern's Food Pantry. These are the items they need this month to stock their shelves.

Thank you for your generosity.

Beyond the Congregation

REPAIR CAFE

Winchester

**HAVE SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN MEANING TO FIX FOR AGES?
BRING IT TO US. WE LOVE A MENDING CHALLENGE.**

**THE NEXT REPAIR CAFE IS ON
SATURDAY JUNE 17TH
FROM 9.00AM TO 12.00PM**

**AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
WINCHESTER.
ACROSS FROM THE COMMON.
FREE FOR EVERYONE.**

**WALK-INS AVAILABLE, BUT TO MAKE AN
APPOINTMENT GO TO
REPAIRCAFEWIN.COM OR SCAN THIS
CODE TO SIGN UP.**



**REPAIR CAFE IS A COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE BETWEEN;
WINCHESTER UNITARIAN SOCIETY GREEN SANCTUARY,
FCC WINCHESTER ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MINISTRY,
SUSTAINABLE WINCHESTER
AND MANY LOCAL COMMUNITY INDIVIDUALS.
WE SHARE OUR KNOWLEDGE TO INSPIRE REPAIRING RATHER THAN REPLACING.**

Parting Shots



Congregant Patty Shepard at Winchester PRIDEfest.



Many thanks to Raegan McCain for designing our Pride banner!

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