

# Winchester Unitarian Society



## *Highlights November 23rd, 2017*

### **Sunday, Nov 26th: Say Their Names: Honoring the Transgender Spirit**

**With Heather Janules and Sam Wilson**

**Worship Associate: Martin Newhouse**

The Transgender Day of Remembrance, held around the world on or around November 20th, invites communities to speak aloud the names of those who have died by violence in the past year. But there is also meaning in saying the names of transgender people in life, the names chosen to reflect their true gender identities. This service honors the transgender spirit and the ways in which all of us are celebrated when we are affirmed as we are.

This Sunday, we share our gifts with **Fenway Health**, a Boston-area healthcare network providing comprehensive care to the LGBT community, including “access to...care for trans women, trans men, genderqueer, gender nonconforming, non-binary individuals [and]...men and women, people with trans histories.”

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## **Music News**

Interested in getting involved? Contact Music Director John Kramer at [John.kramer@winchesteruu.org](mailto:John.kramer@winchesteruu.org)

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## **Religious Education**

### **This Sunday in Religious Education:**

**Morning Programs:** Today we celebrate being unapologetically who we are. We also take some time to get ready for the season of caring and sharing by preparing for our mitten tree holiday gifting project.

**Afternoon Programs:** We're all enjoying a long holiday weekend, no afternoon programs this Sunday, remember we meet on the morning of December 3<sup>rd</sup> to

prepare and serve lunch at Boston's Common Cathedral.

**December's Bonus Religious Education Day:** Cookie baking and decorating December 22<sup>nd</sup>? or 23<sup>rd</sup>? Please let the Religious Education Committee know via this poll. <https://doodle.com/poll/sb4p3ryp4x9myy4z>

**Family Worship at Winchester Unitarian Society 10:00 a.m. Sundays:** Join us in the chapel, this Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, for family worship – “Is it REALLY a leftover?”

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## WUSYG: Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group

Please [click here](#) to see our webpage, which includes a calendar of upcoming WUSYG meetings and events, and other updates for parents/youth.

WUSYG Parents:

Please register your youth for this year by filling out **this mandatory [Google form](#)** and be sure to join our new **[WUSYG Parents Facebook Group](#)** for last-minute updates from us and as a space to ask questions, share stories and generally be in community together.

## Congregational News

### Family & Caregiver Support Group

**Family & Caregiver Support Group** is a drop-in group for family members, caregivers, and loved ones of individuals living with mental illness, facilitated by WUS members Maria Shepherd and Maury Wood and Rebecca Kelley-Morgan, **meets next Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, December 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> 6:45-8:45 pm** in the Michelsen Room. Just follow the signs! **The group meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.**

*All WUS Caregiver support groups are facilitated by NAMI-trained leaders and provide a safe and confidential setting for mutual support and the sharing of resources. Looking for other local support groups or resources? Contact the Massachusetts chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), [www.namimass.org/NAMI](http://www.namimass.org/NAMI) If you have any questions, or would like to speak with someone about our groups or our initiative, please contact any of our facilitators Maria Shepherd [mandmshepherd@comcast.net](mailto:mandmshepherd@comcast.net), Maury Wood [mowood60@gmail.com](mailto:mowood60@gmail.com) or Rebecca Kelley Morgan [rebecca@winchesteruu.org](mailto:rebecca@winchesteruu.org).*

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### From the Music Committee

What a glorious evening of Brahms music we had on Friday, Nov 10th! Our trio played masterfully and delivered a stellar performance. Many thanks to our talented performers and everyone who helped to bring together such a memorable evening. Our 12th concert series is off to a great start with \$9870 raised to date.

Mark your 2018 calendar for the our January 27th jazz concert. This year's jazz theme is food! (Think: Salt Peanuts, Watermelon Man, and Scrapple from the Apple.) And, on March 16th, Vance Gilbert, will bring a bit of the unexpected to the sanctuary. The Fort Worth Star-Telegram describes him as "the voice of an angel, the wit of the devil, and the guitar playing of a god." Should be a very interesting

evening!

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## **Dual choirs in a premiere performance of *The Immigrant Experience* cantata on Music Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**

On Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, during the 10:30 service, the Winchester Unitarian Society choir will be joined by the choir of the Arlington Street Church in Boston to perform *The Immigrant Experience*, a new work by WUS Music Director John Kramer. This timely and topical piece reflects the issues surrounding immigration, and features texts by founding fathers that established the United States as a welcoming place - a place, in the words of George Washington, "open to receive not only the opulent and respectable stranger but the oppressed and persecuted of all nations and religions." The cantata is composed in seven movements for choir, soloists, violin, clarinet, cello, and piano. It also will be performed by both choirs at the Arlington Street Church in Boston, 351 Boylston Street, on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 11:00 a.m.

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## **Coming in 2018: The One-to-One Campaign**

A One-to-One Campaign is an intentional process by which members of an organization take the time to learn more about one another and what we find most important in our lives. In this year of "Building and Crossing Bridges," all are invited to participate in this upcoming campaign!

In [this resource](#), the Rev. Louise Green observes, "In most congregations, bureaucracy reigns. We are so accustomed to group meetings, collective agendas, and task-oriented activities that it is easy to perpetuate a system that creates only very minimal relationships between people. Communication happens via worship bulletins, newsletters, email and phone calls, and we rarely meet with someone individually unless we have a job to do or crisis to address. Talented leaders are recruited for many tasks, and attend multiple group meetings until they risk burnout and loss of interest. Congregants may meet for months or even years, and never have a conversation about anything but what is on the agenda page for their committee night."

A One-to-One Campaign challenges the "bureaucracy" of congregational life by inviting meaningful conversation between members. Trained facilitators will schedule short conversations with members of the community. This is not an interview or survey but an opportunity for us to discover what is most important to us as individuals and as a faith community. And stay tuned for more information!

**If you might be interested in serving on the steering committee or as a facilitator, contact Rev. Heather.**

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## **Social Action and Outreach**

### **Comprehensive Criminal Justice Reform Bill Passes the House 144-9!**

Senate bill, [S.2185](#) was passed 10/26/17

House bill, [H.4011](#) (now, [S.2200](#)) was passed 11/14/17

### **What Happens Next**

The next step is for both bills to go to the Conference Committee where members

will decide on a single bill. At this point, the sections of the bill that are in agreement remain the same. Only the sections where the outcome differed will be discussed in committee.

**What you can do** – take a moment to thank your representative! Send them an email or letter and thank them for their vote!

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**On Sunday we will be taking orders for organic Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate bars.** Order forms are on the Social Action and Outreach table. Equal Exchange, a worker owned company, buys organic chocolate coffee from small farmer coops. By ordering cases through the church we pay wholesale prices. For questions, or to have an order form sent to you, contact [Claire McNeill](#).

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**48th Annual National Day of Mourning**  
**Thurs Nov 23, 12:00 noon at Cole's Hill, Carver St, Plymouth MA**  
**Lead sponsor:** [United American Indians of New England \(UAINE\)](#)

Since 1970, Native Americans and supporters have gathered at noon on Cole's Hill in Plymouth to commemorate a National Day of Mourning. Thanksgiving day is a reminder of the genocide of millions of Native people, the theft of Native lands, and the relentless assault on Native culture. It is a day of remembrance as well as a protest of the racism and oppression which Native Americans have experienced.

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**Annual Theodore Parker Lecture: Samer Naseredden: 'Islam and the Beloved Community'** Sun Dec 3, 2:00 – 4:00 PM at Theodore Parker Church, 1859 Centre St., West Roxbury Samer Naseredden is Youth Program Director at the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center (ISBCC) and Muslim Co-Chaplain at MIT. The event is free to the public, but requires pre-registration [here](#).



**350Mass for a Better Future**  
**Michelsen Room**

**Meets every other Wednesday:**  
**November 29<sup>th</sup> (due to holiday)**  
**December 6 & 20, January 3, 17 & 31**

**Time: 11:30 - 12:00 pm Social time and newcomers,**  
**12:00 - 1:30 pm Meeting**

### **Celebrating Our One-Year Anniversary!**

Since Nov. 2016 when our group was formed, we have decided on our primary focus and taken many actions. We have promoted legislation on 5 major energy topics: carbon pricing, increasing the % of renewables in our electricity, advancing solar installation in MA, stopping new gas pipeline infrastructure and taxes and repairing gas pipeline leaks. Along the way, we have learned a lot about these issues, gotten to meet and know our state reps and senators, attended hearings,

written letters and overall had a significant impact.

We welcome all of those who would like to feel the rewards and challenges of interacting with state legislatures as they construct laws to improve our environment. We are aligned with the group 350 Mass and you can learn more about all of the activities of this group at the following website:

<http://350mass.betterfutureproject.org/>

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### **From the Office**

**Office CLOSED**

Today 11/23 & Tomorrow 11/24



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### **Personal Trainer/Physical Therapist Needed**

Do you know of a personal trainer or physical therapist willing to work with someone in their home? If so, please contact Mindy Arbo, [mindyarbo@comcast.net](mailto:mindyarbo@comcast.net) or 781-729-2888.

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### **Meditation News**

Meets almost every Wednesday from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Meyer Chapel. Sitting from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Walking from 7:00 to 7:15 p.m. Optional informal discussion 7:15 to 7:30 p.m. Contact Ron Denhardt ([rondenhardt@gmail.com](mailto:rondenhardt@gmail.com)) for info.



### **Yoga at WUS Monday nights 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

The Fall Gentle Kripalu flow yoga class continues through November 20<sup>th</sup>, the final class being the Sample Restorative Yoga class. Our Winter session begins November 27<sup>th</sup> through February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. We meet in the Meyer chapel from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Each class ends with a relaxation, allowing you to pause deeply before facing the coming week. Several payment options are available: a 10-class card for \$130, a 5-class card for \$65 or drop-in for one class for \$15. We are strongly committed to having the yoga class be an integral part of our church ministry and invite all who wish to take part to attend and offer a donation as you are able. For further information, you may contact Fritzie Nace at [fritzie.nace@gmail.com](mailto:fritzie.nace@gmail.com).

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### **Joys, Sorrows and Transitions**

If you are facing a time of joy, sorrow or transition in your life, our minister and the Pastoral Care Associates are available to offer a listening ear, compassionate presence and, if applicable, resources.

A reminder: The memorial for **Emmons Ellis** will be held on Saturday, December 2nd at 1:00 pm. All are welcome.

You may reach the Rev. Heather Janules in the office at 781.729.0949. She can also connect you with a Pastoral Care Associate or the Caring Network (providing short-term, practical support like rides and meals). To learn more about the PCAs, pick up a brochure when you are in the church.

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**25<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Pick-Up –  
Winchester Boy Scout Troop 507  
Saturday, January 6, 2018, starting at 7 AM**

No need to haul your old Christmas tree to the transfer station – let Winchester Boy Scout Troop 507 pick up your tree curbside while supporting the troop in our only fundraiser of the year. Funds raised are put toward off-setting the cost of monthly camping trips, camping equipment, and other troop costs.

To order your tree pick-up, pre-register with a \$15/tree donation.

You can pre-register to have your tree picked up any of the following ways:

- At the Winchester Transfer Station: December 9<sup>th</sup>, December 16<sup>th</sup>, and December 30<sup>th</sup>, Scouts will take your tree order along with a donation via cash, check, or credit card.
- Or, send your order with name, address, and telephone number with a check for \$15 per tree payable to BSA Troop 507, c/o Steve Bell, 39 Myrtle Terrace, Winchester, MA 01890.

\*Or, order and pay on-line at: <http://trees.boyscout507.org>

\*For orders placed on-line, there is a \$1 fee that we add to cover the cost of the transaction.

**Order deadline: Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**All trees must be curbside by 7 AM on Saturday January 6, 2018. YES, we start picking up that early! Please make sure that you remove all wiring, ornaments and plastics.**

If you have any questions, please email us at [boyscout507trees@gmail.com](mailto:boyscout507trees@gmail.com) or call Tree Central at [781-910-7637](tel:781-910-7637). Thank You!

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**Sign Up for Coffee Hour Refreshments**

You can help make Sunday mornings more welcoming and joyful by bringing refreshments for coffee hour! If you are willing to be contacted when sign-ups are needed (usually once a month), please email [janetnelson@comcast.net](mailto:janetnelson@comcast.net) to put yourself on the contact

list. (If you already receive my emails, you don't need to contact me, unless you'd prefer to be taken off the list.) Usually two people sign up to bring finger foods for one Sunday. We truly appreciate your willingness to be asked to help out in this simple way – thank you!



From Janet Nelson for the Fellowship Committee

## Sunday Secretary Volunteers

Do you want to be part of our Sunday Secretary list? Do you want to get trained to be one? Contact the [office](#) or [Sara Delano](#) to learn more about it. You can also click here to [sign up](#) or use the sign up sheets in the Foyer.

**WE**   
**VOLUNTEERS**

Celebrating a special occasion?  
Honoring a loved one?



### Flower Dedications are available for Sundays

Dates are available for flower dedications. You may dedicate flowers in celebration of, in memory of, or in honor of someone and it will appear in the Order of Service. The cost is \$45.00 (or you can bring your own flowers, but let the office know). Please click to [sign up](#) or use the sign up sheets in the Foyer.

*Stay*  
Connected

For information about office hours, worship services, religious education, music, pathways to membership, and church events, visit <http://www.winchesteruu.org/>

To access the members' section of the website, [contact the office](#) for the password and to view the church calendar, please click [here](#).

The deadline for all Highlights submissions: **Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.** and OOS announcements submissions: **Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.** should go to [adminassistant@winchesteruu.org](mailto:adminassistant@winchesteruu.org). All articles submitted should be no more than 250 words.

### Contact Us

To contact any member of the staff at the Winchester Unitarian Society, you may start with the Office: [office@winchesteruu.org](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org) or visit the [Contact page](#) of our website for specific information.

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STAY CONNECTED

