

# Winchester Unitarian Society



## *Highlights* *November 30th, 2017*

---

### **Sunday, Dec 3rd: "A Knock at the Door: Prayer, Hope, Love and the Fourth Source"**

**With Rev. Heather Janules**

**Worship Associate: Ivan Correia**

As we turn towards the winter holidays, we are invited to draw from one of the Six Sources of Unitarian Universalism: "Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves."

The spiritual practice of prayer is an ancient approach to connecting with the spirit. This service draws from reflections on Christian and Jewish prayer to consider how we sustain ourselves in times of little hope and - drawing on this renewal - extend this care to others.

As this is the first Sunday of the month, **a discussion will follow the service** in the Parlor. All are welcome.

This Sunday, we Share the Plate with **the Women's Lunch Place**, providing daytime shelter and care to women and children experiencing homelessness in Boston.

---

## **Music News**

Interested in getting involved?

Contact Music Director John Kramer at [John.kramer@winchesteruu.org](mailto:John.kramer@winchesteruu.org).

### **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.

### From the Music Committee

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!

---

## Religious Education

### This Sunday in Religious Education:

**Morning Programs:** Today we celebrate hopeful acts of kindness with, to and from our neighbors. We also take time to get ready for the season of caring and sharing by preparing for our mitten tree holiday gifting project.

**Afternoon Programs:** F8th in Action meets at **10:00 AM in Metcalf Kitchen** to prepare for serving lunch at Boston's Common Cathedral. We return to the church mid-afternoon.



### Family Worship at Winchester Unitarian Society 10:00 a.m. Sundays:

Join us in the chapel, this Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, for family worship – "What are we waiting for?" Next week we walk the advent spiral together as we celebrate the season of emerging light.

\*\*\*

### OH MITTEN TREE: Mitten Tree UN-decorating begins this Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Symmes Room

This year we are including **Gift Wrapping Concierge Service** by members of **F8th in Action and WUSYG**. If your gifts are dropped off unwrapped and clearly labeled, we will make them look wonderful on the afternoon of **the 17<sup>th</sup>**, before they are distributed to the recipients. This year's recipients are families of undocumented workers. Since their status is a barrier to receiving services in the current political and social climate, we are reaching out to children and adults who are residents of Everett, Revere and Lynn in an anonymous process. Please return gifts no later than **December 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM with "mitten" contents and a name label** securely attached to the gift upon its return. We will need them when the gifts are wrapped and sorted.

### December Happenings:

Next Religious Education Committee Meeting December 6th, 9:00 AM

Michelsen room.

**Solstice Celebration and Caroling: Solstice Celebration Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** Metcalf Hall. Join our extended community as we welcome the darkness and celebrate the returning light on this longest night and shortest day of Winter Solstice. The celebration takes place in Metcalf Hall, with the exception of the wreath burning which takes place in the parking lot! And then...

**Carol Singing Thursday, December 21st at 7:30 PM** After we jump the wreath into the new solar year, we're off to share some holiday spirit with our neighbors in Winchester. Bundle up and join us as we walk through the center of town beguiling all with our rousing renditions of winter classics. We hope to see families of all ages there. Questions? Contact John Kramer or Rebecca Kelley Morgan.

**December's Bonus Religious Education Day:** Our Annual cookie baking and decorating happens Saturday morning, December 23<sup>rd</sup> in Metcalf Kitchen. Watch for your evite. We hope you can join us!

\*\*\*

***A Note from Rebecca:** I will be taking a medical leave for necessary orthopedic surgery from the 12<sup>th</sup> of December through the holidays. Although the timing is not ideal, I hope to return to WUS as soon as possible, probably in a wheelchair (parents please let your children know that it's only temporary). Many people have already offered to step in with meals and other support. Thank you. I am blessed by your generous hearts, but have plenty of support at home.*

*What I do need are your wishes and prayers for good outcomes and a seamless route to recovery. I will rest more easily knowing that you are supporting the religious education ministry by taking on tasks that normally fall to me. Please say "yes" when asked. That's the most healing gift I could receive.*

---

## 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

### THANKSGIVING BASKET FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to all who participated in the Thanksgiving Basket drive this year: from those who provided food baskets, to those who helped keep the madness to a minimum when the boxes were delivered at church, to those who kindly offered their time and cars on Tuesday morning to haul them to the American Legion Hall. We donated 39 boxes and additional food items to



## Chaperones Needed

Click to Sign up



## Calling Chaperones for WUSYG's Service Trip

WUSYG is looking for 2 chaperones for their upcoming service trip in April to

Nicaragua! If you're interested in serving as a chaperone, [click here](#) for more information and to fill out a short application. The deadline to apply is December 9th.

---

## 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, Maury Wood and Rebecca Kelley-Morgan, **meets next December 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, January 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<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.**

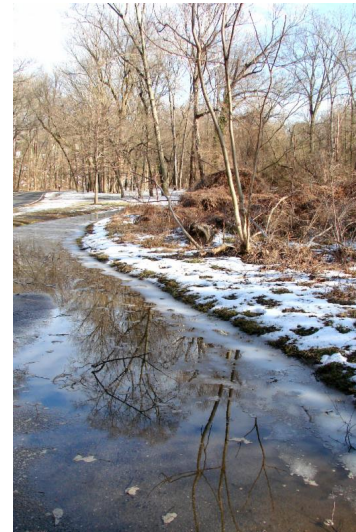
*All WUS Caregiver support groups are facilitated by NAMI-trained leaders and provide a safe and confidential setting for mutual support and the sharing of resources. Looking for other local support groups or resources? Contact the Massachusetts chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), [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).*

---

## Grief Support Group

The Grief Support Group will meet Thursday, December 14th from 7:30-9:00 pm (to be held in the Winchester Unitarian Society Parlor / go in the 478 Main Street circular drive door and to your right.) All are warmly welcome to attend.

The Grief Support Group is open to anyone in the community who has experienced loss and seeks a caring environment to process the complex feelings of grieving. **These feelings can be particularly intense during the holidays.** If you have experienced a death of someone in your life and would like to explore your grief with other people who have also experienced loss, please consider attending a grief support group meeting.



The grief support meetings start with a reading and then a check-in by participants. You can say as much or as little as you feel comfortable saying (you can also choose to pass if you want.) Usually personal check-ins last a few minutes each and should be uninterrupted. Then the conversation opens up. The facilitator usually starts off this conversation with a topic or question to discuss. The meetings conclude at 9pm.

Our meetings are confidential - we ask that everyone observe the guideline that what is said in a meeting, stays in the meeting.

Please feel free to contact Lee Barton or Heather Janules if you would like more info on the Grief Support Program at WUS -or- feel free to just show up at a meeting. **No rsvp needed.**

---

## **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.**

---

## **Social Action and Outreach**

**Looking for a way to serve others during the holidays?** We have signed up to provide lunch and fellowship at **Common Cathedral** on **Sunday, December 31, 2017**. WUS will be making and serving sandwiches at noon that day to the homeless. Each Sunday, up to 50 people gather on the Boston Commons for lunch and Christian service. We need 6-8 volunteers to prepare food, and 8-12 at the Commons.

Volunteers are needed to:

- shop for food and paper goods (you will have a list)
- prepare soup on Saturday (optional, for anyone interested)
- prepare or buy a sheet cake on Saturday
- prepare sandwiches (Sunday morning, at church, before service)
- drive volunteers and food after church
- set up, serve and socialize with congregants (12:00-2:30 pm)

Please contact Gordy McIntosh [gordon.mcintosh@verizon.net](mailto:gordon.mcintosh@verizon.net) about how you could help. More information about Common Cathedral is available at the following link: <http://commoncathedral.org/common-cathedral-ministry/>

\*\*\*

## **Muslim Bans, Refugee Bans, Ending DACA – A Threat to All Our Freedoms** How Did We Get Here – and What Can We Do?

**Tue Dec 5, 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm Check-in and Refreshments,  
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Panel Discussion**

**Harvard Law School, Hauser Hall, Room 102** [Facebook Page](#) Come participate in an important discussion afterward on how we got here, what's at stake, and what **actions** you can take.

\*\*\*

## **Daring Democracy**

**Thursday Dec 7, 7:30-9:00 PM**

**First Parish in Concord, 20 Lexington Road, Concord**

Legendary, "Diet for a Small Planet," author Frances Moore Lappé and organizer-scholar Adam Eichen will share highlights of their wonderful and empowering new book (a UU Common Read) "Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want."

Winona LaDuke: Celebrating a Decade of Community Conversations

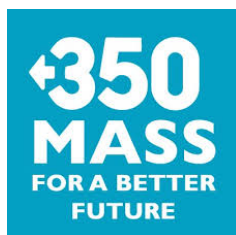
**Friday Dec 8, 7:00 – 11:00 PM First Church in Jamaica Plain, 6 Eliot St, Jamaica Plain** [Tickets](#) Winona LaDuke is an internationally renowned activist working on issues of sustainable development renewable energy and food systems. She lives and works on the White Earth reservation in northern Minnesota. [Learn more](#)

\*\*\*

**UU Urban Ministry** volunteer opportunities at the Meetinghouse in Roxbury include:

- tutors in all subjects for grades 8-12, during the week of **Dec 11-14 and Dec 18-19, 2:00-5:30 pm**
  - carrying, unpacking, redistributing donated food at Fair Foods, **every Saturday morning**, 10:30 am-1:30 pm. (a couple hours is appreciated)
- To volunteer, contact Marvin Venay, [mvenay@uum.org](mailto:mvenay@uum.org) or 617-318-6010 x214.

Check the SAOC bulletin board in Symmes Hall for other opportunities and more information.



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

**Meets every other Wednesday:  
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/>

---

## 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 winter session of gentle Kripalu yoga began November 27<sup>th</sup> and runs 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).

---

## 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.

Our deepest condolences are with **Martin and Nancy Scott Newhouse** with the unexpected death of their 13-year-old grandnephew, Julius Adler, grandson of Nancy's late sister, Sue Scott. Julius died in his sleep on Thanksgiving weekend. Please hold the family in your thoughts and prayers as they gather for a funeral this weekend in Austin, Texas.

As noted above, **Rebecca Kelley-Morgan** will undergo orthopedic surgery on December 12th. She has our best wishes for a successful procedure and swift recovery! When asked how we can best reach out to Rebecca during her convalescence, she said that receiving a card a day and photos of candles lit as people think of her would be best. You may leave get well cards in the office to be delivered for you. All are welcome to text or email photos of "holding her in the light" directly to Rebecca.

A reminder: The memorial for **Emmons Ellis** will be held this 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.

---

**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!

---

**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.

Winchester Unitarian Society | 478 Main St. Winchester MA 01890  
(781) 729-0949 | [office@winchesteruu.org](mailto:office@winchesteruu.org) | [www.winchesteruu.org](http://www.winchesteruu.org)

STAY CONNECTED

