

# Winchester Unitarian Society



## *Highlights January 18th, 2018*

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**Sunday, Jan 21st: Their Souls Would Not Be Satisfied: Torda 450**

**With Rev. Heather Janules**

**Worship Associate: Phyllis Preston**

450 years ago, Janos Sigismund, the one and only Unitarian king proclaimed the Edict of Torda, granting followers of four Christian sects the freedom to practice their religion without punishment or banishment. This was the first known law protecting freedom of religion. To modern ears, this Edict doesn't sound very liberal but, in that time (1568) and in that place (what is now the Transylvanian region of Romania) it was radical. As we recognize 450 years of the Edict's legacy, this service considers what this means for us today.

This Sunday, we share our gifts with the **International Council of Unitarian Universalists**, a network of Unitarian and UU organizations around the world that "brings together leaders to learn, share resources, develop leaders...inspire, support each other in building spiritual community...[and to] nurture fledgling Unitarian/Universalist groups, encouraging the development of liberal religion." And this Sunday we debut the Give+ app, giving smartphone users the ability to donate electronically. Generosity - there's an app for that! Learn more below...

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## **Music News**

**John Kramer performs his Meditations and other works for piano:**

Tuesday, January 23rd @ 7:30 p.m.  
David Friend Recital Hall  
Berklee College of Music  
921 Boyston St., Boston, MA

**From the Music Committee**

Please plan to attend our January 26th "Jazz in the Sanctuary" concert at 8:00 PM. This year's concert will feature a jazz sextet and a theme of food! (Think: Salt Peanuts, Watermelon Man, and Scrapple from the Apple.) On March 16th, Vance Gilbert, will bring a bit of the unexpected to WUS. 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."

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## Religious Education

### This Sunday in Religious Education:

**Morning Programs: THIS Sunday, January 21st** Welcome to the Third Sunday of **JanFEST**. Cool Cardboard Construction, with Matthew Bronski, Fuzzy Dinosaur Eggs with Victoria Ipolito and De-Engineering with Steve Forccuci and Ivan Correia **WE STILL NEED THINGS TO TAKE APART. Bring in any old electronics and dead technology and leave it outside the RE office.**

**F8th in Action:** Meets at 4:30 in the Parlor. Vanessa Steck and Rebecca Kelley Morgan lead the group.

**Family Worship** in the **Meyer chapel** at Winchester Unitarian Society **10:00 a.m. Sunday:** Today, "A Cup of Light" Our Flaming Chalice. What does it hold? What do we light it for?

Next **Religious Education Committee Meeting February 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM** Michelsen room.

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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

### Tell your minister what you expect

You know what a performance review is, right? Your manager rates you, tells you whether your performance "meets expectations." Or maybe (if you've been really good) "exceeds expectations."



Lots of people hate performance reviews. Not our minister. Heather *wants* annual performance reviews. She wants to know how she's doing and how she can improve. She wants to know if she is meeting our expectations.

But what *are* those expectations? *What does the congregation expect?*

The Committee on Shared Ministry cordially invites you to an after-church meeting at 12 noon THIS COMING SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018. Come tell us (and Heather) what your expectations are. We'll give a quick outline of the review process and share with you the results of Heather's performance review from last year, then launch into an exploration of your wants and expectations.

It'll be fun. Please come.

The Committee on Shared Ministry (CoSM): Lee Barton, Dave McVey, Fritzie Nace, Martin Newhouse, Sheila Rudolph-Correia...and Heather Janules



Save the date for a fun-filled evening!  
**Friday February 9, 6:30-10 pm**  
**2018 Pledge Drive Kick-Off**  
Metcalf Hall

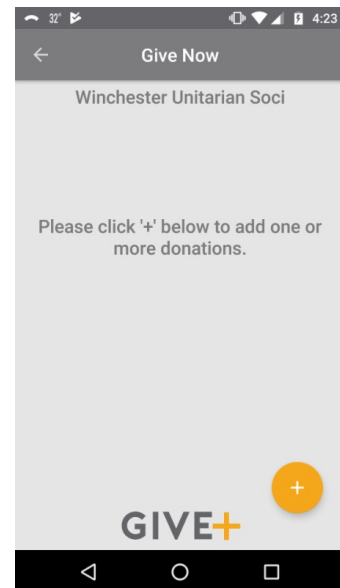
Dinner | Karaoke DJ | Pledge Card Give-Away  
~ Indulge your tummy  
~ Pledge your heart  
~ Sing out your love

***Dinner provided. Cash bar. Featuring top WUS singers! [RSVP here by January 30.](#)*** (Maximum seating is 110 so reserve today.)  
Questions? Contact Cynthia Randall or Rebecca Keller.

## **GENEROSITY: there's an app for that!**

You can now make a contribution to WUS through a mobile app! To get started, download GivePlus Church for free from the App Store or Google Play. Then **make donations easily and directly from your smartphone using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.** You can choose to donate as a guest or set up an account. GivePlus is a program of Vanco, which has been handling the church's electronic payments for years.

***Try it out during the offertory this Sunday, January 21st. (Yes, you can use your phone in church!)***



## **Parent's Conversation, 4:30 PM January 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Do you struggle navigating the minefield of parenting in this technological age?** Understanding both benefits and risks in raising technologically literate kids – we invite parents of **pre-school through high school children** - and managing access to social media? Please join us as we share parenting concerns, experiences, and skills we're developing for the age of 24/7 connectivity.

If you would like more information, the most recent American Academy of Pediatrics thoughts and recommendations for children infant – five years old  
<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/early/2016/10/19/peds.2016-2591.full.pdf>

And for children five-eighteen years old  
<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/early/2016/10/19/peds.2016-2592.full.pdf>

Hard copy is available at the church.

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## Grief Support Group

*Grief never ends...But it changes.  
It's a passage, not a place to stay.  
Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith...  
It is the price of LOVE - Author Unknown*

The Grief Support Group will meet Tuesday, January 23rd 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. 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.

This month John Loewy will facilitate the meeting and will share short reflections like the one above (in italics) to take us on our own journeys of reflections that matter to us during a time of solitude that prick at our heartaches for those we miss.

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 [John Loewy](#), [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.**

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## UPDATE FROM THE BLACK LIVES MATTER BANNER PROCESS GROUP

As you may have heard, after a very civil and meaningful discussion, the two proposed articles below were passed at the 1/7/18 congregational meeting. Here are some of the details:

- **Article IV** To hear and act upon the recommendation of the Standing Committee and the Black Lives Matter Banner Process Group that the Society adopt as a statement of purpose the text as set forth in Attachment 4, carried by a vote of 62 to 1.
- **Article V**, To hear and act upon the recommendation of the Black Lives Matter Banner Process Group that the members of the Society affirm our continuing commitment to racial justice by publicly displaying on church property a sign or banner that reads: “BLACK LIVES MATTER,” passed as written by a vote of 54 to 4.
- Prior to this an amendment to change the wording to ‘Our faith calls us to affirm that Black Lives Matter’ was defeated 17 to 36. (Slightly more than 2/3 voted down the amendment.)

Our congregation has made a very ambitious commitment to racial justice and there is much work to be done. Please do take a careful look at the the statement of purpose and let us know of anything that you are drawn to contribute to this work going forward. The Black Lives Matter Banner Process Group will be proceeding with the remaining items of the proposed process that was approved last spring, which include but may not be limited to the following:

Additionally before the banner is hung we would:

- Have conversations with our local police, the executive director of Winchester Multicultural Network, and other local congregational leaders (with Rev. Heather's assistance, of course.)
- Do a publicity campaign including a press release and/or letters to the editor of local papers to inform them of our commitment.
- Provide a way for folks to contact us about the banner via our website or email.

After the banner is hung, we (or other interested congregants) would continue to provide support to the process in the form of offering continuing conversations for any folks within or outside our congregation who indicate an interest in understanding our public witness position.

If you are interested in helping out with any of the above items, please speak up. We will be sending out a doodle poll to find a time for the next meeting of the Black Lives Matter Banner Process Group soon.

Thanks again for you interest,  
*Steve Butterfield, Phil Coonley, Sarah Kelley, John Loewy, Gordon McIntosh,  
 Kathy Richardson, Patty Shepard, and Sophia Sid*

Black Lives Matter Banner Process Group  
[wusblmbannerprocessgroup@gmail.com](mailto:wusblmbannerprocessgroup@gmail.com)

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## SAVE THE DATE

**“Before the Flood”** film and Taking Action to Reverse Global Warming:  
 Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 – 6:45 pm at the Winchester Unitarian Society  
 Sponsored by the WUS Green Sanctuary Team, the Growth and Learning  
 Committee and 350.Metro North (local chapter of 350.Org).

**Join us for a screening of Leonardo DiCaprio’s film *Before the Flood*** (rated PG). This 96 minute film presents a riveting account of dramatic changes occurring

around the world due to climate change and includes actions we can take to prevent catastrophic disruption of life on our planet. A brief presentation by members of our local 350.MetroNorth chapter of 350.Org and of the Citizens' Climate Lobby will update us on legislative action for clean energy. Additional information will be presented on "The most comprehensive plan ever proposed to reverse global warming." (from **Drawdown** edited by Paul Hawken). **We hope that you leave this event impacted with a sense of urgency and armed with information about how you can take action to reversing global warming now.**

Food and refreshments will be served.

We are hoping for a LARGE turnout for this important film and presentation. We would greatly appreciate your help spreading the word!

Thanks very much!

Green Sanctuary Team & Growth and Learning Committee  
at Winchester Unitarian Society [www.winchesteruu.org](http://www.winchesteruu.org)

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## Stories of WUS Support

There is a saying that "we are stronger together than we are alone." This is one reason why people seek and commit to a faith community; spiritual and personal growth are often the results of connecting with others, serving with others, caring for and being cared for by others.

How has your connection with WUS changed you? Strengthened you? Challenged you in a positive way? Inspired you to build and cross a bridge? Send your story to Rev. Heather ([heather.janules@winchesteruu.org](mailto:heather.janules@winchesteruu.org)) or make an appointment to talk. These stories will become part of an upcoming worship service in February.

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## One to One Campaign

WUS leaders are organizing a one to one campaign, an intentional time of outreach to members of the community with the primary purpose of listening to our collective gifts, concerns, dreams and values. We seek to have 100 conversations between January 1 and June 1 of 2018. Contact Rev. Heather if you wish to be one of the first people facilitators reach out to or if you have questions. To learn more about this campaign, go to: [One to One Campaign Brochure](#) or email [onetooone@winchesteruu.org](mailto:onetooone@winchesteruu.org)

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## 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. For more information, please [click here](#).

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**Do you have any old, broken or unwanted**

## electronics or appliances sitting in your attic or basement?

If so, please bring them to church for kids to take apart and explore. As part of our Jan Fest program many kids will participate in the very popular De-engineering class on Sunday Jan 21. Small radios, keyboards, telephones, dust busters, etc are all needed!



Please no electronics with CRTs or mercury. Items can be left in the hallway outside Rebecca's office. Thank you!



### 350Mass for a Better Future

Meets every other Wednesday:  
January 31 (Michelsen Room)

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

More information are available on our [website](#).

### 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.



### Qi Gong at WUS

Tuesday nights 6:45 - 8:30 pm

Come experience the relaxation and rejuvenation of Qi Gong. Lee Holden's (Deb Morgan-Bennett's teacher) class will be down-streamed and projected on to a large screen. **Classes resume weekly in January.** We will meet in the Symmes room (next to the Sanctuary). Tea will be available at 6:45 pm and classes will be held 7pm - 8:30pm. Classes are free and invite all who wish to take part to attend and offer a donation as you are able. For further information, you may contact Carol DeLaney at [ccdolaney1@hotmail.com](mailto:ccdolaney1@hotmail.com)



### 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





Celebrating a special occasion?  
Honoring a loved one?



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

