

Winchester Unitarian Society



Highlights February 22nd, 2018

Sunday, Feb 25th: #MeToo and the Radical Notion With Rev. Heather Janules Worship Associate: Carol Cashion

The #MeToo movement has raised awareness and challenged tolerance of sexual harassment and assault in US society. How do we understand this cultural moment and where do we go from here?

As this is an important subject for people of all walks of life, this Sunday is a **"Bring a Friend" Sunday**, encouraging many to be part of this cultural conversation.

NOTE: While this service does acknowledge sexual harassment and assault, there will be no descriptions of exceptionally violent or aggressive incidents. Our Pastoral Care Associates will be available to members of the community after the service. They can be easily identified by the ribbon on their nametag. A safe, supportive space will also be available in the chapel, facilitated by Director of Lifespan Religious Education Rebecca Kelley Morgan and a PCA.

This Sunday, we share our gifts with **Planned Parenthood Massachusetts**, "protect[ing] and promot[ing] sexual and reproductive health and freedom of choice by providing clinical services, education and advocacy. [Their] vision is that sexual health is essential to every person's well-being."

Music News

From the Music Committee

Please plan to join us in the sanctuary on **March 16th, 8:00 PM**, for an evening with Vance Gilbert. Vance is a favorite at UU coffeehouses and a regular at Club

Passim. Here's how First Parish UU describes him: "An electrifying songwriter and a fearless, compelling performer, Vance Gilbert presents his music with deep humanism and bravery, stunning artistry and soul, and unbridled joy. His tunes are pop-catchy, his lyrics are superbly crafted, his guitar playing is fluid and lyrical, and his warm tenor voice is flexible and acrobatic." See you on the 16th for our "almost spring" concert! For more on Vance go to: www.vancegilbert.com

Religious Education

This Sunday in Religious Education

Sometimes we have to hang in there with being uncomfortable. Sometimes we have to keep at it to change the world. We've got stories of young people who are making that happen every day? We'll see you upstairs in our "big group" after first reflections.

F8th in Action: We meet this Sunday at the usual time - beginning our backpack and shoe drive planning and poster making. See you in Michelsen at 4:30 pm!

Family Worship in the **Meyer Chapel** at Winchester Unitarian Society **10:00 a.m.** Sunday: This week, Writing our Stories. Sometimes the best ways to change the world, is to tell stories about what happened, and make up stories about what could.

Potluck Theology for families and friends! Come on March 18th, 25th and April 8th with a potluck dish for a family night of exploring our Unitarian Universalist faith. Each session is stand alone, but we invite you to commit to the series. Week one, Principles, Week two, Where we find Meaning; Sources, Week three, Unitarian Universalist prayers and practices. We begin at 5:00 PM with a potluck meal, a dinner talk and interactive exercises for families.

Next Religious Education Committee Meeting March 7, 9:00 AM Michelsen room.

Next Growth and Learning meeting, March 14, 7:00 PM Michelsen room.

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 by 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

Wanted: Your Pledge Card

Thank you for giving serious consideration to what you can pledge for the next fiscal year. What you pledge now is

what you commit to pay during the church year starting this September 1. Please return your completed pledge card to the church office by **Sunday, March 4th** or pledge online at <http://winchesteruu.org/connection/giving>. We are 33% of the way to our \$400,000 pledge goal. We can pay our operating costs when everyone gives. **Thank you Winchester Unitarian Society Supporters!**



Ann Storer
Bob & Carol Cashion
Chris & Linda Degnen
Claire & Robert McNeill
Cornelia Nichols
David Kronberg & Cindy Stone
Dick Spencer
Donna Reed & Raym de Ris
Eric Hayden & Tove Hellerud
John & Maggie Russell
John & Rebecca Keller
Judith Murray & James Pidacks
Julie & Chuck Khuen
Karen & Chris Erikson
Kristine & Tyson Kamikawa
Larry Banks

Martha Tompson & Mark Richardson
Martha Werler & David Fonseca
Matthew & Susan McPhee
Michael Pontrelli
Nancy & Alfred Wechsler
Patty Cameron
Patty Shepard
Rick Hochman & Warren Orr
Ryan & Terrill Levering
Sandy Thompson
Scott & Cynthia Randall
Sophia Sid
Steve Forcucci & Fritzie Nace
Susan Brokaw & Charles Wright
Tom & Pat Cronin
Vicky & Peter Coccoluto



This Sunday, February 25th "Bring A Friend to Church" Sunday!

February, whose theme is perseverance, marks the halfway point of our church year of "building and crossing bridges."

Reflecting these themes and our collective goal of building WUS's community, the Membership Committee again invites you to participate in **"Bring a Friend to Church Sunday."**

Our third "Friend Sunday" this church year will be held on **February 25th**, with a very timely worship service entitled **"#metoo and the radical notion."**

Especially if you regard the topic as an important one, this is your opportunity to reach out to those who might also be inspired by hearing what Winchester Unitarian has to offer in its Sunday worship service.

From: Your Membership Committee

**Save the Date: March 11th,
Youth-Led Service followed by a
CHILI COOK-OFF & WUSYG Fundraiser!**

Following a traditional morning service led by our youth



(not Youth Sunday, which will be in May), the chili cook-off will take place this year as a WUSYG Fundraiser and community event for families and all-ages, featuring a chili competition, mac n' cheese, and other fun ways to support WUSYG in raising money for their upcoming trip to Nicaragua.

We are still looking for more chili competitors, as well as people to bring cornbread and desserts. If you'd like to enter the competition, please contact [James Pidacks](#): 781-729-1657. For other questions about the event, please contact [Sam Wilson](#).

Review of the new **WUS Directory**

The Membership Committee has produced a new version of the WUS Directory. It does include photos of people who have sent them in. We are now in the review phase and we need your help! This Sunday there will be 3 copies of the Directory printed and in the Symmes Room on a card table with a sign "**WUS Directory Review**". If you are at church on Sunday, would you please drop by before the service or at social hour and check your listing and see if all the info is complete and correct? On any one of the copies make corrections and initial your entry, or just write "OK" and initial it.

Next week we will load the Directory to the Members portion of the WUS website, where it can be accessed by members.

Over time we hope to receive photos from everyone and to continue to make corrections as people submit them. Please call the office if you need the password to access the Members portion of the website.

Special thanks to Alison for her patience and help with this project!

From the Standing Committee

Following is a brief synopsis of the topics covered by Standing Committee in our February 13 meeting:

Pledge Drive: The Kick-Off Dinner and Karaoke event was a lot of fun. Our musical members sang with their hearts and the delicious grilled salmon was enjoyed, and devoured, by all. Many thanks to those who helped and to the attendees who joined in to celebrate our community. Pledges are due by March 4.

Budget: Representatives from Finance and Stewardship are working with Standing Committee on the 2018-2019 budget. Outreach to committees has begun, with requests due in to Steve Butterfield by March 1.

Personal policy manual: Sue Kiewra attended as a special guest presenter and shared an initial draft of the proposed policy. Most changes are organization or clarification of the document. The goal is to create guidance rather than mandates. We are close to a final version.

Safety Policies Manual draft, for pastoral care: Rev. Heather circulated a draft, from another church, and feels it would be good to have one in place at WUS. The purpose of the document is to guide the actions of the people giving the care. This will continue to be worked on and discussed in upcoming SC meetings. Finally, there has been a request for a "Suggestion Box." We will have one in place soon so all members and friends can make suggestions for WUS. As always please reach out to any SC member if you would like something discussed in our

upcoming meetings.



One on One Campaign

We are in a time when members of the congregation are reaching out to others for a half-hour or 45 minute conversation, a time to become better acquainted and to reflect on what is most important in life. If a One to One facilitator reaches out talk, please say yes!

If you would like to have one of these conversations, please write to onetoonewinchesteruu.org As the saying goes, "the most radical thing we can do is introduce people to one another."

Beginning, Becoming, Belonging

For Newcomers and all who are interested in Unitarian Universalism

Beginning, Becoming Belonging is a series of workshops oriented to those first coming to Unitarian Universalism and/or WUS, but they are also open to everyone. The series is sponsored by the Membership Committee; please respond with your interest in attending to Membership Committee at Sophia Sid sophia.sid@gmail.com and Vicky Coccoluto, vcoccoluto@yahoo.com.

Membership Classes: Join us!

Following Sundays at 12:00 pm in Michelsen

February 25 - Our Spiritual Autobiography

March 25 - UU History and Contemporary Theology and Practice

April 15 -The meaning of belonging – in a covenantal community

Social Action and Outreach

It's Grant application time. The Committee invites members to recommend non-profit organizations via completion of the [Grant Application Form](#). The deadline this year is March 18. Please tell the committee chair this month which organization(s) you plan to sponsor. We need a new application each year even if your organization has received a grant in the past. Members of the Social Action and Outreach Committee or [Gordy McIntosh](#) can answer your questions.

MA Coalition to Prevent Gun violence is asking UUs to support House bill H.3610: "An Act temporarily preventing firearm access for extremely dangerous or suicidal individuals," <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/190/H3610>. It's easy to ask our state legislators to get the bill out of committee by April 15. Just click [here!](#)

"Supporting Refugees and Immigrants in our Communities" Cheryl Hamilton, is the Site Director of the International Institute of New England (IINE). FEBRUARY 25th, 2:00 PM Learn about the current situation and important work being done. One of IINE's clients will share the personal experience of a recent refugee to the United States. Location: St. Paul's Episcopal Church 100 Pine Hill Road, Bedford MA 781-275-8262

QUEER NIGHT Saturday, March 3, 7 - 8:30 pm at Fox Library in Arlington:

A relaxed evening for LGBTQ+ youth and allies to hang out together. Queer Night is chaperoned by two adults, at least one of whom is LGBTQ+. For questions or more information, please contact us at queermystic@gmail.com

Interfaith Book Club and Discussion, Islamic Center of Boston, Wayland
Sun March 4, 3:00 – 5:00 PM at Islamic Center of Boston, 126 Boston Post Rd, Wayland. Discussing: “Sacred Ground: Pluralism, Prejudice and the Promise of America,” by Eboo Patel (It is not necessary to read the book) For information and to RSVP: bookclub@icbwayland.org Contact Claire McNeill to carpool.

What a Difference a DA Makes

What Does a Good District Attorney Do?

With Donna Patalano, candidate for DA

When: Mon, March 5, 7:00 – 9:00 PM FLYER

Where: First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington

Racial Justice Team

The Racial Justice Book Group has established a shelf of books for lending to members. Located in the Michelsen Room, the books are available on the honor system. It includes copies of the books we have read this year, including “Between the World and Me” and “Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting together in the cafeteria” (about developing racial identities). Please return books within a month.



Winchester Multicultural Network

As a member of the Town Common Task Force, I invite you to attend

- Civic Gathering #5 on **February 28, 2018,**
- “Fostering Collaboration,” in the Service of a Caring and Inclusive Community.
- At the Griffin Museum of Photography, **67 Shore Road, 6:30 to 9 p.m.**
- Sponsored by The Winchester Multicultural Network, the Board of Selectmen, the School Committee, and the Town Common Task Force. The evening is free of charge and open to all.

The first four civic gatherings have drawn groups of 60 to 110 engaged residents for focused evenings of community building and strengthening. Join us now in **“FOSTERING COLLABORATION.”** Let’s get connected!

On February 28 we will open the evening

- with a delicious, hot cup of vegetarian koshari, a staple of Egyptian-street vendors, to strengthen you after a busy day (catered by Koshari Mama)
- there will be brief sharing around new “actual” activities (led by Hillary Turkewitz) and later a survey about potential “virtual” space (led by Shelby Meyerhoff)
- and, to strengthen our collaborative, inclusive skills Essential Partners (formerly Public Conversations Project) will lead a special interactive presentation that will strengthen us in holding more productive conversations.

We will leave with a deepened awareness of our own identities, how those identities influence the issues and the activities we are involved with, and what

impact that has on our ability to work with others.

You are a vital part of our town and your civic participation on February 28 is important. Who else can provide your perspective and experience and, importantly, carry new learning back to your circles of influence.

Perhaps you attended all, one, or none of the prior gatherings - no matter! February 28 is the night to join us in fostering collaboration in face-to-face community, where Winchester comes together.

I look forward to seeing you on the 28th at the Griffin. Please let me know if you, or perhaps another colleague from your group, will attend so that we can plan well!

Thank you for all your contributions to our Town.

Sincerely, Gloria Legvold

(For summaries of the past four gatherings, please go to wmcn.org.)

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](#).



350Mass for a Better Future

**Meets every other Wednesday in Michelsen:
Feb 28th, March 14th & 28th,
April 11th & 25th**

**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) 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. 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



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

The winter session of gentle Kripalu yoga began November 27th and runs through February 26th, 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.

Community News

Spirituality and Mental Health: Creating Your Own Connection

All are invited on Sunday, March 18, at 2:30 p.m. at Temple Isaiah in Lexington to a program on how spirituality supports our mental well being. The keynote speaker will be David Rosmarin, PhD and Director of the Spirituality and Mental Health Program at McLean Hospital, with guest panelists that include the Rev. Anne Mason, Minister at First Parish in Lexington, and the Rev. Dr. Eno Mondesir, President of Agape Global Health and Senior Pastor of the Haitian Baptist Church of Cambridge. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

You are Invited to Support First Parish Bedford's Sanctuary Ministry

<https://faithify.org/projects/supporting-our-guest-in-sanctuary/>

In April 2017 First Parish in Bedford asked fellow Unitarian Universalists to help create a space in our church where we could offer physical sanctuary to our neighbors in danger of imminent deportation. You responded rapidly and generously. The \$9240 raised was used to install a shower, build a privacy wall, purchase a washer/dryer, and acquire major furnishings.



The space has had two occupants. Our first guest received a stay of deportation after only one day in sanctuary. Our second guest, a Central American woman with children and grandchildren, arrived a month ago on January 6. She is still with us and will remain as long as she chooses to be in sanctuary.

Recently, in order to receive an occupancy permit as a Temporary Shelter, additional fire and safety code work was required to meet state requirements. First Parish is now installing a sophisticated smoke/CO alarm system in the spaces where our guest and overnight volunteers sleep, and along the emergency egress routes from these second floor temporary residences. To hard-wire these alarms and tie them into our current alarm system, we had to spend \$9400 not in our budget.

Our current guest lost nearly all her savings when an unscrupulous attorney charged her family exorbitant fees for few services and NO positive results. Her current attorney is highly competent, experienced in matters of immigration, and is so committed to our guest's case that she would continue her work even without further payment. That, however, is unjust, and we want to ensure that this lawyer can earn a living and support her family as she works skillfully to get our guest's case reopened and adjudicated positively. This attorney's modest fees on behalf of our guest currently amount to \$6000.

WHILE THE FAITHIFY GOAL HAS BEEN MET, NEED REMAINS. Please join us in our support by adding to the Faithify collection.

Our Sanctuary Coalition includes 8 congregations of differing faiths. Over 200 members of the coalition are now volunteering to provide a 24/7 presence of at least two volunteers at each of 5 daily shifts. They know what to do if ICE agents come to the church, how to handle emergencies, how to recognize signs of trauma, and how to interact with our guest in a culturally competent manner. Wonderful, committed people!

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.

It is with sadness that we announce the death of long-time member **Evelyn Trageser**, who died on Monday after a time of decline. The date for a service in celebration of her life will be announced once it is known. Our condolences are with Evelyn's children, Kenneth and Linda, and her many friends.

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.

Woburn Food Pantry

Next time you go shopping, please consider buying extra **solid white tuna**, **apple juice** and **shelf-stable milk** 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. [Flyer](#) attached.



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 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.



Flower Dedications are available for Sundays

in the Foyer.

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

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. 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 or visit the [Contact page](#) of our website for specific information.

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STAY CONNECTED

