

Winchester Unitarian Society



Highlights February 8th, 2018

Sunday, Feb 11th: The Light, The Warmth, The Fire With Rev. Heather Janules Worship Associate: Phyllis Preston

Each Sunday, we speak of "the light of truth, the warmth of community and the fire of commitment" as what we create when we gather. This service explores the unique community that is a congregation and celebrates the unique congregation that is the Winchester Unitarian Society.

This Sunday, we share our gifts with the UU Fellowship of San Miguel de Allende's new ministry, Caminamos Juntos (We Walk Together.) Caminamos Juntos receives Mexican nationals deported from the United States and provides resources to offer stability and affirm dignity: housing, job referrals, counseling and material support.

Religious Education

This Sunday in Religious Education

Ms. Jill, Max, Georgia and Mia are all looking forward to seeing you again. February's Theme is perseverance with a side helping of self care. Sharing the love this weekend, with some thoughts about connecting with people we might not know well, or always understand.

F8th in Action: Meets at the church **Friday, Feb 9th at 6:00 PM** to begin our City Reach outing in Boston. We return at 4:00 PM on Saturday, and will NOT meet on Sunday afternoon. We will be meeting on the following week at our usual time.

Family Worship in the **Meyer chapel** at Winchester Unitarian Society **10:00 a.m. Sunday:** This week, With Valentines Day coming up, our thoughts turn to love. How do we hang in there with brothers and sisters and parents and friends

who ANNOY us?

Next **Religious Education Committee Meeting March 7, 9:00 AM** 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

SAVE THE DATE - THIS SUNDAY

“Before the Flood” film and Taking Action to Reverse Global Warming: **Sunday, February 11th, 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

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 first session, Beginning I, led by Rev. Heather Janules, invites reflection on

individual spiritual journeys, and is planned for **12-2 p.m.** on **Sunday, February 18th** following the morning service. A light lunch will be provided, and childcare available upon request. Later sessions will explore the historic spiritual journey of Unitarian Universalism and examine contemporary UU theology and practice. 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 18 - Spiritual Journey

February 25 - Our UU History

March 25 - Contemporary UU Theology and Practice

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

"Diaspora" Potluck

February 17th at 6:30 pm at the church

~for WUS members & friends who live outside of Winchester~

25% of WUS members & friends live outside of Winchester. The purpose of this gathering is to share our experiences and to develop a greater understanding of **how WUS is and can be a regional congregation.**

- How we have felt both included and marginalized in congregational culture?
- What would we like Winchester resident members & friends to know about our experiences in the congregation?
- What changes might increase inclusivity?
- How can we communicate these to the congregation?

If you are interested in attending this event, or have any questions, please contact Terry Currier at terrylcurrier@gmail.com.



**Save the Date: 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."**

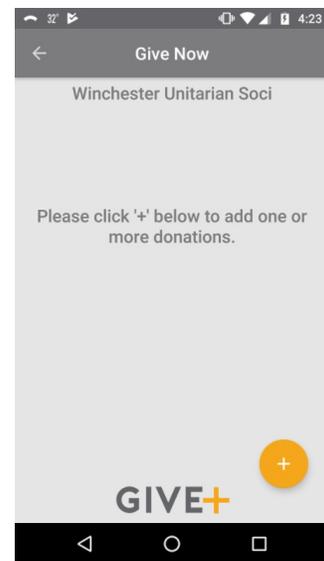
Especially if you regard the topic as an important one, this is your opportunity to reach out to those who might also be inspired by hearing what Winchester Unitarian has to offer in its Sunday worship service.

From: Your Membership Committee

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.
(Yes, you can use your phone in church!)***



Social Action and Outreach

The Social Action and Outreach Committee is now accepting grant applications until **March 18th**. Applications can be found on the church website and on the SAOC table in the Summer Room. Please submit a new application even if your organization has received a grant in the past. Partly due to a limited budget but also due to the success of Share the Plate, our grant budget is about two thirds of previous years. Contact Gordy McIntosh gordon.mcintosh@verizon.net with any questions or talk to any member of the SAOC.

TONIGHT join an **"INTERGENERATIONAL QUEER POWER SING"** to be held at the Arlington Senior Center, 27 Maple St. at 6:30. Join Linda Shoemaker and Louise Grasmere to sing songs of joy, peace, struggle and survival. Sponsored by Arlington Council on Aging for members of area LGBTQ folks and their allies. Questions? Call Marci at 781-316-3419

All are invited to participate in the next planning meeting for the **Racial Justice Book Group** on Monday, February 12 at 10:00 AM at WUS. Please bring your book ideas to share. Contact is Claire McNeill

Let's get the Omnibus Criminal Law Reform Bill Moving! You can Help.

Status: Right now we have one last chance to influence the outcome to get real Criminal Law Reform.

Focus: Mandatory Minimum Drug Sentencing Provisions. Of our three focus areas, this will be the most controversial and at risk!

Goal: We need your reps to contact conference committee members to support the repeal of Mandatory Minimum drug sentencing provisions in the Senate bill, while rejecting new, low level fentanyl trafficking provisions.

Our friends at [GreaterBostonInterfaith](#) have shared this easy tool - [CLICK Here](#)

1. You'll be brought to a screen where you'll enter your name and address.
2. Then, *You'll receive a call from 617-433-5281 that will provide you guidance on what to say to your officials, and then patch you through directly to them.

Celebrate Progress Towards Justice

When: Sat Feb 11, 2:00 – 4:30 PM

Where: First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington,

630 Massachusetts Ave, First Parish Arlington's Mass Incarceration Working Group invites everyone to celebrate the fifth anniversary of our group and all the people who have contributed in the past 5 years. [RSVP](#)

“Uncovering the History of Cape Cod’s Sea Captains and the Transatlantic Slave Trade”

When: Sat Feb 11, 12:00 PM

Where: First Parish Brewster, 1969 Main St, Brewster [FLYER](#)

Look on the Social Action Bulletin Board for more volunteer opportunities and upcoming events.

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 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:
February 15th (Thur) & Feb 28th,
March 14th & 28th, April 11th & 25th
(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) 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 at ccdolaney1@hotmail.com



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

Black History Month Celebration

For the 25 Year Anniversary of Winchester's Celebration of Black History, the Network and the Interfaith Community of Winchester has invited The Karolines who will be performing two sectarian Ugandan dance and vocal pieces for the audience.

The Karolines is a group of youths and young adults in the Uganda Catholic Community in the archdiocese of Boston that was started in 2010 by a group of youths at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Waltham, Massachusetts.

"We are a dynamic, enthusiastic team of youths and young adults who chose to preserve and uphold our African culture in the diaspora by practicing and teaching the new generation that was born here in the USA the African dances, songs, drama and where need be, the language too. We perform traditional African Arts at concerts as Karolines that we hold in the summer and at all kinds of events," says Charlotte Ssebutinde, one of the group's founders.

Please join us on **This Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 2:00 PM at St. Mary's Parish Hall, 162 Washington Street** (the Hall is on the hill opposite the church). Sponsored by: Winchester Multicultural Network, St. Mary's Parish Peace and Justice Ministry, and the Winchester Interfaith Council, made possible with grants from EnKa and the Cummings Foundation.

For more information: www.wmcn.org

HOUSE PARTY FOR FREEDOM FOR ALL MASSACHUSETTS FEB 15 IN CHELMSFORD

The Welcoming Congregation Committee of First Parish UU Church of Chelmsford invites you to a House Party on Thursday, February 15, from 6-7:30 to learn more about how you might help Freedom for All Massachusetts prevent the repeal of the transgender-rights Public Accommodations Act. There will be pizza.

There is a dangerous statewide ballot question this November that would repeal our state's transgender non-discrimination law. If passed, existing protections that ensure fair and equal treatment for our transgender neighbors, family, and friends would end. The existing law was passed in 2016 and protects transgender people against discrimination in such public places as restaurants, hotels, hospitals, homeless shelters, and transportation. There have been ZERO incidents of problems in the sharing of facilities since the passage of the bill.

A lot of people worked hard to see the bill passed but many around the state are still unaware that the repeal vote is happening this year, an off year that tends to draw less voters, so a lot of public education is necessary to prevent the repeal.

Please come to the party and learn how you can help.

The church is located at 2 Westford Street on the Chelmsford Common. Parking is available in our lot and on Westford Street. There is also municipal parking nearby. The event is being held in the Vestry, the large room on the first floor, under the Sanctuary.

If you have any questions, please contact Dee Halack, dehfpcc@gmail.com,

Sounds of Grace invites you to their 10 year Celebration

Sounds of Grace, an interfaith hospice choir based in Winchester, is celebrating ten years of singing songs for healing to people in the surrounding communities. Sounds of Grace invites everyone to come to this special event, to enjoy some of the group's songs and to learn about the group's activities in the community. This event will be held on **Sunday, March 4, 2018, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.** at First Congregational Church, Winchester. There will be a reception and an opportunity for questions and discussion.

Joys, Sorrows and Transitions

We celebrate with **Patty Cameron** with the recent birth of her latest grandchild. Caroline Sue Cameron, was born on January 26th at 8lbs 5oz. All is well!



Marcy Tompson's "Boston Story in 50 Words" was recently printed in the *Globe*. You can read it here: <https://tinyurl.com/y89o8n87>

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.

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

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. 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

