

Winchester Unitarian Society

Highlights June 3, 2021
(link to today's full issue of Highlights)



The Theme for June is Many and One

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, June 6
10:30 Worship, ONLINE



Photo by [Aaron Burden](#) on [Unsplash](#)

The Accidental Learner

The Rev. Heather Janules, Rebecca Kelley-Morgan

<https://tinyurl.com/WUSworship>

More information about the worship service can be found on the [website](#) and the Weekend Worship Announcement that comes out on Friday.

WUS Family Worship: We will be meeting for FAMILY WORSHIP via Zoom at 10 a.m. this Sunday, "Goodbye" As we wind down our program year we share our last family worship service with Rebecca and wish each other well on our summer adventures. *Please note this is NOT the main worship Zoom room, but one dedicated to Family Worship and Religious Education.* Please log on a little before 10 at <https://tinyurl.com/WUSFamily>. The separate Zoom link will also be posted in the chat in the usual worship virtual room. All will need to be admitted by Rebecca and sessions are not recorded.

Please see the Religious Education section further down in Highlights for more RE information

Ms. Juanita and story time. Ms. Juanita will be available after First Reflections for our young people at <https://tinyurl.com/WUSFamily> (it will also be posted in the chat). The very youngest may wish to bring an adult friend. All will need to be admitted, for a time to hear stories and sing songs, engage in parallel play and visit with each other.

Joys, Sorrows and Transitions

If you are facing a time of joy, sorrow or transition in your life, your minister and the Pastoral Care Associates are available to offer a listening ear, compassionate presence and, if applicable, resources. Contact the office, 781-729-0949 or office@winchesteruu.org

Congregational News

Progress!

This week, members of the Pastoral Care Resources (PCRs) began sorting the dedicated bricks in preparation for the creation of the walkway from the new terrace to the Welcome Garden.

Many thanks to (L to R) **Maria Shepherd, Karen Erikson, Sara Delano, Barbara Keyes and Maggie Russell.** Not pictured - but greatly appreciated! - is **Julie Khuen**, the designer of the whole project...



Sundays on the Lawn: RE Gardening and a picnic rain or shine. We will learn about the web of life and how we are part of it. Then we will move on to the earth and soil together at the garden near the back parking lot. Bring your picnic on **Sunday, June 6 and 13 from 12:30-2:00ish.** Questions? Contact rec@winchesteruu.org

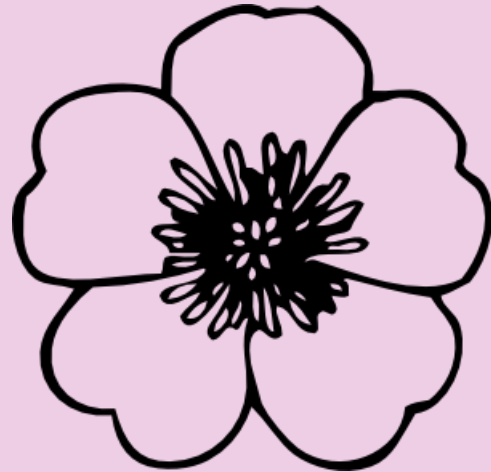
Save the Date: End-of-Year Celebration!

Sunday, June 13th

Flower Communion

Sunday, June 13th, 10:30 am

www.tinyurl.com/WusWorship



A virtual celebration

of Rebecca Kelley-Morgan's
12 year religious education ministry
with WUS will follow the service.

An **Outdoor Afternoon Tea** to reconnect in person, to welcome summer and to say farewell to Rebecca will be held that same day

2:00—3:30 pm

Back yard of the WUS Building
478 Main Street, Winchester

Our newly compiled RESOURCE GUIDE contains valuable information

Have you ever found yourself in need of help, but not even known where to begin to look for it? Our Resource Guide can help identify organizations & companies that can help you. I recently spent an hour reviewing the contents and it was most helpful. The Guide is in the Michelsen Room on the rightmost library shelf. Just knowing that these organizations and services exist is a wonderful help.

Just to give you an idea of the contents here are a few things in it:

Contact information for many social services: Food Assistance, Utility Assistance, Debt Reduction Assistance. There is information about Mental Health Services, such as NAMI (the National Alliance on Mental Health). And there are lists of Literacy or GED programs ... and even Thrift Shops in the area.

This Resource Guide was put together by Carol Delaney. You can [read more about it here](#).

Writers Group: Meets weekly on Wednesdays led and facilitated by Dan Hermes from 9-10ish a.m. Please be in touch if you'd like the URL to join the group. Dropping in is fine and invite your writing friends. Dan can be found here at dan@lexiconsystemsinc.com

You are Invited to Celebrate Rebecca's Ministry

WUS's Director of Lifespan Religious Education Rebecca Kelley-Morgan will finish her time with us at the end of this program year. Plans are afoot to celebrate her twelve years of service and many shared memories.



The "Celebrate Rebecca" team has some special gifts in mind to honor Rebecca. (If you want to know some of the details, contact a member of the team by writing CelebrateRKM@winchesteruu.org)

We invite you to contribute to our community celebration in a couple ways:

- Post your memories, photos, words of gratitude, short video reflections, art by children and then some to this virtual memory book: www.tinyurl.com/CelebrateRKM Please contact a member of the Celebration Team if you would like technical assistance in posting your contribution: CelebrateRKM@winchesteruu.org
- Some of the special gifts need to be ordered so you can support the effort by sending a check or electronic payment to the WUS office with "Rebecca Gift" in the memo line or comment field. Any contributions beyond the cost of the special acknowledgements will be given to Rebecca as a financial gift. (Note: these contributions are not tax deductible.)

Thank you, in advance, for your participation and generosity!

Karen Erikson, Lee Barton, Linda Copeland, Mary McIntosh and Rev. Heather Janules

As many of you know, we're **hiring for 2 different religious educator positions** for next year: the following are our job posts, please consider forwarding them to anyone you know who may be an excellent candidate to join our community!

Director of Religious Education: We previously began a search for an Interim DRE but have switched gears. We now seek a half-time DRE, to work with an Interim DRE consultant next year as we determine the next steps for our religious education program for young children. The link to apply is here: www.tinyurl.com/WUSDRE21App Compensation is midrange for Midsize I congregation in Geo Index 5, half time for 10 months/year.

Assistant DYM: We have a vibrant and renowned youth ministry program led by our Director of Youth Ministries (DYM). We're looking for an awesome Assistant Director of Youth Ministries to make our programs even better! The position is 6 hours a week for 10 months, plus 120 additional hours for sleepovers, service trips, etc. \$20/hour. For more details, please check out: www.tinyurl.com/WUSADYMapp

We will continue to welcome applications for both positions until they are filled. If you have questions about the DRE position, please email dresearch@winchesteruu.org. For questions about the ADYM position, please email wusyouth@gmail.com.

Social Action & Outreach

We can be more effective as we work with other UUs!

Build relationships, learn about UU Mass Action, and be part of conversations to strengthen our collective work towards taking action for justice **Save the Date: June 10 at 7:00PM to join the NEW Boston Area Regional Team Kick Off.** Congregations include: Arlington, Arlington Street, Brookline, Cambridge, Chestnut Hill, Community

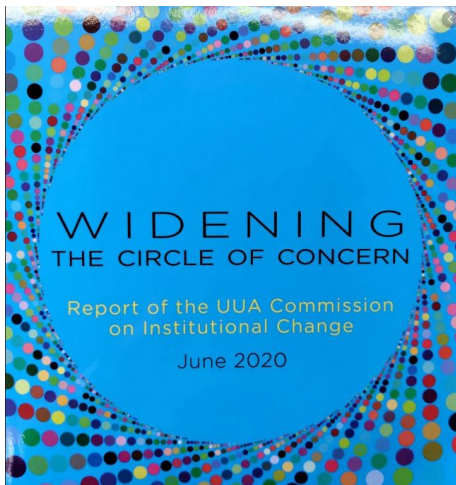
Church, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Milton, Newton, Sanctuary Boston, Watertown, West Roxbury, Winchester [RSVP Here!](#)

Do you know about Ujima? The Boston Ujima Project is an ecosystem centered in working-class, Black and Brown neighborhoods and rooted in community ownership, democratic decision making, and reimagining our economy. To learn more about Ujima visit their [website](#) and watch this short [introduction video](#).

UU Mass Action and six congregations hosted two workshops this past winter, moving over \$47,000 so far to support Ujima's vision. If you or your congregation is interested in exploring more, please join Ujima's next Faith Network Gathering on Monday, June 14, 6:00 - 7:30 PM. [RSVP HERE](#)

Join your fellow UUs in on-going efforts to pass important justice legislation in MA. On a "normal" year, social action event rallies and events might be winding down as people looked forward to summer. This year, there are many opportunities to get involved now. UU Mass Action provides us with the latest updates, via their weekly newsletter. Sign up at: <https://www.uumassaction.org/>

**Building Beloved Community,
Circle by Circle
REGISTER NOW for HOSPITALITY AND
INCLUSION CONVERSATION
to be held on
Tuesday, June 8, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.**



Join us in exploring and challenging ourselves on how to become a **radically inclusive and welcoming community** for every newcomer and visitor who arrives at Winchester Unitarian Society for any service or event!

This is the second in a series of congregational conversations, HOSPITALITY AND INCLUSION. The first was THEOLOGY, led by Rev. Heather.

Your Racial Justice Team Planning Group warmly welcomes you—yes, you!—into this conversation. Please do join us in open-minded, open-hearted discussion.

[Please register here by June 7, 2021.](#)

The study and action guide workshops are designed to help UU congregations move into, understand, and implement the transformative findings of the Report of the UUA Commission on Institutional Change, "Widening the Circle of Concern."

The link below will take you directly to the Hospitality and Inclusion section of the report and includes an audio version. We encourage you to read or listen to this

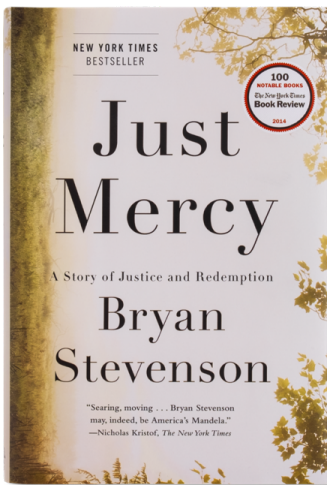
chapter, and it is not required.

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/cic/widening/hospitality-inclusion>

And, our office now has several books, the full report, that you can borrow; please contact our office administrator, Thomas Slack.

The full report is also available online at:

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/cic/widening>.



Building Beloved Community, Book by Book

Once a month the Racial Justice Planning Group recommends a book as a way to expand our understanding of race and racial justice. Recently YWBoston offered a book list with this introduction: "crucial to our vision of creating more inclusive environment is a belief in making space to learn, to listen to one another, and to build community. Reading provides everyone the opportunity to do this while allowing quiet, introspective time to process and reflect."

With that in mind we recommend *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson as our June choice. It's an absorbing true story of how Stevenson, as a young lawyer, became dedicated to defending poor clients, the incarcerated, and those wrongly convicted. Stevenson founded the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama and reading his book which features one of his first clients, will open your eyes to Stevenson's view of the death penalty as a form of lynching.

On June 15 at 7:30 p.m. The Network for Social Justice is hosting a panel discussion on the book (or you can watch the movie) to mark Juneteenth, celebrated on June 19th each year to recognize the end of slavery. Go to www.nfsj or Register [here](#).



On-Going

The Food Pantry at the Council for Social Concern is currently low on: **Canned meats (tuna, beef stew, spam, salmon), baked beans, hearty canned soups and pasta sauce.** Since donating food may not be convenient, contributions may be made directly on their website: www.socialconcern.org

Please find the drop off baskets in a new location - by the back door of the building near the parking lot. Access to this basket is unlocked.

Food Pantry is open to Woburn & Winchester residents
If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment, please call Paula Matthews, Food Pantry Director at (781) 935-6495

ext. 208



WUSYG Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group

END of YEAR WUSYG HAPPENINGS!

*NOTE the weird times!

Sun. June 6th: In-Person WUSYG 2-4 pm

Wednesday June 9th: In-Person Goodbye
Party for Haley, 7-9 pm

- Families are invited to this intergenerational goodbye party. Youth will be submitting videos to create a Tribute Video for Haley. We will also be giving her some gifts. To contribute to the gifts, please Venmo Sam: sam-wilson-40 (or bring a check on 6/6, made out to WUS). Write Haley in Memo. Thank you!

Sun. June 13th: In-Person End of Year
Party 4-6 pm (following in-person Tea for Rebecca at 2 that
everyone is invited to, too!)

*ALL EVENTS AT WUS will be MASKED & SOCIALLY-DISTANT, OUTDOORS
(or in a big room indoors with doors open, during inclement weather).*

Questions: Email Sam srw2108@gmail.com

Religious Education

Middle School Crossing Paths Interfaith exploration has ended for the program year with many thanks to our friends in Chicago who have been our virtual companions for this world religions exploration.

Our Whole Lives is tentatively planned to begin Fall of 2021. Please let your friends and neighbors know that the program is available to all interested members of the community in 7th and 8th grades.

Music

Virtual Choir

The music program will be experimenting with a "virtual choir". This is new to all of us so it will be interesting to see how it comes together. Choir members should already have been contacted about this. Please contact Music Director John Kramer at john.kramer@winchesteruu.org if you have any questions.

Beyond the Congregation

DONATE FOR FOOD SECURITY

Please help people in need of food security in Winchester, Woburn and surrounding towns by contributing to the Anna LaViolette SNAP Matching Fund, created by the Winchester Farmers Market to honor the memory of our great friend, Anna LaViolette. Anna, an 85 year-old volunteer, embodied the spirit of the Market's mission to provide healthy, fresh food for all families. Through Anna's Fund the Winchester Farmers Market matches SNAP benefits up to \$15 per customer card, per market day. With your donations you can help us increase the number of customers served and the amount of our match.

To Donate by Credit Card or PayPal:

<https://www.winchesterfarmersmarket.org/market-programs/snap-hip-and-farmers-market-coupons-wic-senior-fmnp/>

Checks: Please make out to Winchester Farmers Market with "Anna's Fund" in the memo line, and send to: Winchester Farmers Market, PO Box #365, Winchester, MA 01890

Juneteenth Commemoration

Tuesday, June 15 @7:30 PM via the Internet in your own space

Juneteenth is celebrated throughout the US on June 19th to recognize the end of slavery. 155 years later, chattel slavery is illegal and mass incarceration has replaced it as a form of bondage in Black and Brown communities. We invite the community to read "Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson (both adult and YA versions available at BookEnds and the Winchester Public Library,) or watch the 2019 award-winning movie of the same title, and then learn from local experts during a panel discussion and conversation. Register at <https://bit.ly/3tuzzV3>

PRIDE Bingo Night!

Tuesday, June 22 @7:30 PM via the Internet in your own space

The Network is once again celebrating Pride Month remotely by hosting a fun evening of bingo featuring LGBTQIA+ Pride terms. Prizes will be available for winners! All are welcome--this is a family-friendly event appropriate for those of all ages. Register in order to receive a bingo sheet, an optional Pride Zoom background and the Zoom link to participate! nfsjpridebingo2021.eventbrite.com

This summer, **Empow Studios** will be offering their award-winning **STEM camp for kids ages 7-15** at **Winchester Unitarian Society** during the weeks of **August 9th and August 16th**. Campers have fun learning coding, robotics, movie-making, Minecraft, Roblox, 3-D printing, and more.

You can register for camp [here](#).

Winchester Unitarian Society | 478 Main St. Winchester MA 01890
(781) 729-0949 | office@winchesteruu.org | www.winchesteruu.org

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