



Highlights

4/27/2023

[\(link to today's full issue of Highlights\)](#)

The Theme for April is
Resistance



Upcoming Worship

Sunday, April 30th

10:30 Worship @ WUS Sanctuary AND Online

Virtual Worship Logistics Below

Pain and Joy



"Joy comes to those who have known pain. Exploring the darkness of pain may seem counterintuitive, but often it's the only way to see the light." Join Worship Associate and Standing Committee member **Ivan Correia** as he explores how we can resist pain through drawing from its lessons to heal and find joy.

IN PERSON ATTENDEES

Come to the WUS Sanctuary (478 Main Street, Winchester).

Masks are required until the children leave for Religious Education activities

--VIRTUAL ATTENDEES--

On Sunday at 10:30 am, click here to connect with the livestream from the Sanctuary: <https://tinyurl.com/WUSlivestream>.

The **Order of Service** for Virtual Attendees can be found on our website under the listing for this service.

Livestreamers are encouraged to send an email to checkingin@winchesteruu.org.

We know where you are streaming from but don't know who you are!
We want to hear from you!

More information about the worship services can be found on the [website](#).

Joys, Sorrows and Transitions

Our condolences are with **Mary English** with the recent death of her mother, Elizabeth. You may learn more about her and her life [here](#).

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

Volunteers

Meeting

Sunday 4/30, 12pm in Metcalf Hall

All volunteers are encouraged to attend this informational and inspirational meeting!

Haven't signed up to volunteer yet?

The **Not Your Average Rummage Sale** Needs YOU!

Click [HERE](#) to **VOLUNTEER**.

(see tabs at bottom of spreadsheet)

Can't help in person, but still want to contribute?

Email rummage@winchesteruu.org.

- The major effort will begin on **Saturday, May 27th** with setting up tables and the beginning of donations sorting.
- **Sunday May 28th – Friday June 2nd** we will be collecting, sorting, pricing and arranging donated items.
- **Saturday June 3rd – The Rummage Sale 8 am – 4 pm**
- **Sunday June 4th – The Rummage Sale:** 11:30 – 12:30 for WUS; 12:30 – 3 pm Public

Questions?? Contact Donna Reed, Fritzie Nace and Susan Walewicz at RummageTeam@WinchesterUU.org.

DONATE ITEMS:

Been scouring your attic, basement, closets, drawers? Know someone who is downsizing?

Find the Guidelines for Donations click [HERE](#).

We also need:

- paper bags with handles
- packing materials
- hangers

**Help us make our major fundraiser of the year
a MAJOR SUCCESS!!!**

What Issues Are Important to You?

Climate? Racial and Environmental Justice?

Transportation?

A chance to speak up for your values—

On Sunday, **April 30th, 12 to 1** after morning worship

State Senator Jason Lewis will join us to listen to the issues of importance to our community and discuss legislative priorities in the current session.

Come, listen, and make your voice heard!



Sponsored by the Social Action and Outreach Committee

Summer Services

This year's summer services will begin on **Sunday, June 18th**, with the last summer service on Sunday, September 3rd. With some exceptions, these services are led by lay members of the congregation, who, over the years, have shared wonderful, moving, and thought-provoking reflections with those in attendance (and via livestream). If you are interested in leading such a service, please see coordinator Martin Newhouse at church or contact him at mnewhouse9@gmail.com. You would give a 15- to 20-minute reflection (a bit shorter or longer is o.k. too) on a topic that relates in some way to our Unitarian Universalist values and principles (broadly construed). You would have help planning and carrying out the rest of the service. Please consider sharing your wisdom, passion, and/or life experiences with us in a supportive and meaningful context.





Is WUS Your Spiritual Home? Consider Becoming a Member

If you resonate with the values of Unitarian Universalism and the ministries of the Winchester Unitarian Society, if you have found friends and a sense of purpose here for you or for you and your family, if you attend worship and programs regularly, pledge and give of your resources and plan to serve the community in some way, perhaps it is time to make your affiliation official by signing the Membership Book! **There will be a Signing Ceremony in worship on May 14th.** Contact Rev. Heather or Membership at membership@winchesteruu.org for more information. (The ceremony is sweet and painless - we promise!)

WUS Yoga

Deep breathing (pranayama) brings warmth and focus. Yoga postures (asanas) gently stretch and strengthen, enhance balance and counter patterns of daily tension. Connecting breath and movement deepens self-awareness and enlivens our sense of being. If you have never done yoga before, or only just a bit, Fritzie gives clear guidance through a slow flow of postures, offering support as we go. If you have more experience, you are invited to take the postures to your own depth of challenge. Mats, blankets, blocks and straps are provided.

Please let me know of your interest by emailing Fritzie.Nace@gmail.com.

You Are a Generous People

On April 22nd, a team of ten walkers (plus one canine mascot) joined Boston University and Simmons University students in a 2-3 mile walk benefiting the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. It was cold and windy but spirits were warmed by coming together in community to raise awareness, witness the need for mental health support and remember those who have struggled or died.

Our team had a goal of \$1,000 and, through your generosity and the generosity of others, we raised \$2,568.

Thank you for your support!

To join or support Ginger Hanson's team for the June Out of the Darkness walk in DC, please click [here](#).

"May our love be like a circle...no beginning and no end..."

Staff Evaluation Season

Each Spring, we take stock of the concluding program year and prepare for the next. One important part of this reflection and planning is the staff evaluation process.

All are invited to contribute feedback regarding the work of our hard-working program staff: Director of Music John Kramer, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry Sam Wilson, and Director of Administration and Outreach Richard Dorbin.

To this end, please complete the forms below before May 20th. Note that we seek feedback specific to job descriptions and do not factor in any anonymous feedback. Thank you! - Rev. Heather

John Kramer tinyurl.com/JKramerEval23
Sam Wilson tinyurl.com/SWilsonEval23
Richard Dorbin tinyurl.com/RDorbinEval23

ANNUAL EVALUATION FOR REV. HEATHER – PLEASE PARTICIPATE!

In past years, the Committee on Shared Ministry (CoSM) would conduct an annual survey and evaluation of the parish minister. We currently do not have a CoSM. This year, the Standing Committee, in its employer role to the Parish Minister, is conducting the annual evaluation for Rev. Heather Janules.

The Standing Committee and Rev. Heather have begun a process of setting goals for each program year to guide and acknowledge her good work and maintain a healthy awareness of our relationship as minister and congregation. To that end, we invite and encourage all to offer feedback for our year-end evaluation by clicking the link below. You will be asked to give your email address. The responses are not anonymous, but we will be collating the responses. Please complete the questionnaire by May 20th. Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback!

The 2022-23 Standing Committee

[**CLICK HERE TO GIVE YOUR FEEDBACK**](#)

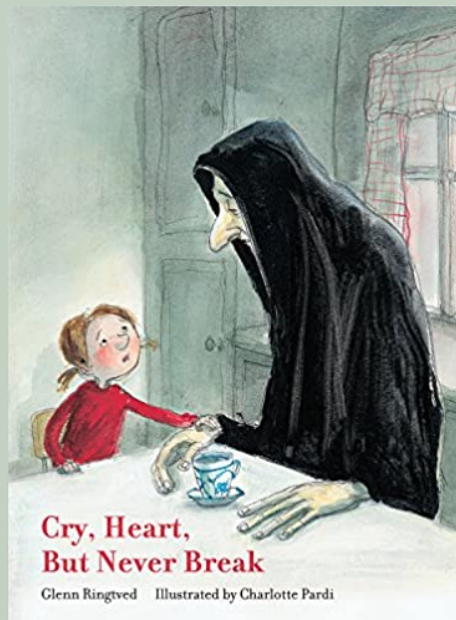
Let's Plan Ahead!

On May 9th, the Program Staff will begin planning events for the next program year. Trying to find time on the WUS calendar for events this spring suggests it would be good for us to begin putting down tentative dates as soon as possible!

If you are part of a committee or WUS group that knows they will organize a special meeting or event beginning September 2023, please let the Program Staff know by emailing programstaff@winchesteruu.org

Religious Education

This past Sunday, Reverend Heather welcomed guest preacher Martha Dallas to read a story to the kids. She read *Cry, Heart, But Never Break*, by Glenn Ringtved, a story about how life and death are dependent on one another, and that life is more precious because of death.



This Sunday, April 30th: RE Classes for Grades K-6

Spirit Play.

This Sunday, the Spirit Play class will hear a story that explores our violet promise (value our home, earth, that we share with all living things). The story is about a little ant that teaches a young boy about empathy and caring for the earth and all its creatures.

Neighboring Faiths

This Sunday Neighboring Faiths class will discuss our impressions after our visit to Parish of the Epiphany last Sunday. We'll also continue its study of Christianity by moving on to the reform movements within Protestantism, then we'll do some reading and play a game or two. We have no more snack sign-ups, so please go to the sign-up page to sign up to bring snacks for NF class this Sunday:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0948AFA92FA0FACF8-neighboring>.

Thank you!

Our Whole Lives (OWL)

This Sunday (4/30) will be the final OWL class and party! Parents and caregivers are invited (and strongly encouraged to come) to the last part of class this Sunday. **The final class will also start 30 minutes earlier than usual – so a full 2 hours – from 4:30 to 6:30.** For the first half of OWL, kids will be upstairs. The second half will be the celebration downstairs in Metcalf Hall, where facilitators and kids will welcome families. Please sign up to bring something to the celebration! Here is a link to the sign-up list. The kids requested all of the items on this list: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C45AFAF2DA13-owlclosing>. Thanks in advance for helping to make this a fun evening for everyone!

Other RE Happenings

In addition to regular Sunday morning RE classes, see the activities below for other RE family events. Please take a look and join in with us in building a strong RE community!

***Aberjona Canoe Trip and
River Cleanup Spring
Service Project:
Saturday, April 29th
(rain date of Saturday,
May 6th)***



Thanks to everyone who signed up for the canoe trip! We'll be heading

out this Saturday, April 29th, weather permitting. The planning group will meet on Thursday when we'll do a final assessment of the weather and get our canoe assignments finalized. If you didn't get a chance to register but would still like to go, feel free to reach out to me. brenna.mayer@winchesteruu.org

JUSYG: Junior Youth Group (7th & 8th Grades)

We're looking forward to having another regular meeting with everyone this Sunday, April 30th, 6:30-8 pm per usual. Please also mark your calendars for May 12-13, which will be a JUSYG Semi-Formal, Sleepover and then Service Retreat.

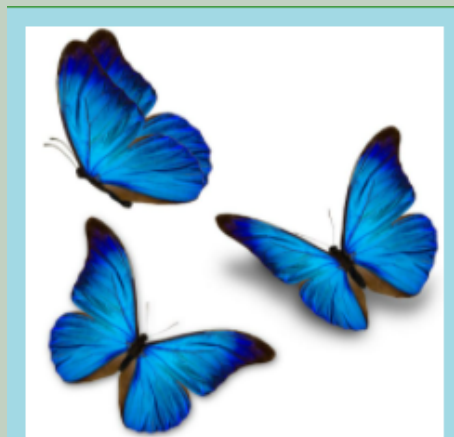
WUSYG: Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group (9th-12th Grades)

We look forward to seeing everyone at our next regular meeting this Sunday, 4/30 from 4:30-6:30. We're also excited for youth to have the opportunity to ask questions directly of our State Senator (5th District) Jason Lewis at this Sunday's "Listening Session," which is scheduled from noon to 1 pm in the WUS sanctuary. Jason has asked for time to hear about our issues and concerns and will prioritize those from youth. We know several WUSYGers plan to attend. Parents are invited to join them or join the Rummage Sale Volunteers Meeting happening at the same time.

WUSYGers who went on the trip should also save the date of May 7th after worship (11:30) to share stories with the congregation about the trip.

Building Beloved Community

Resource
by
Resource



Carlos Hoyt got our attention when he recently presented a workshop for the local organization NonProfit Net. He is a Costa Rican-born scholar, teacher and leader in the field of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. He approaches the issue of racism by confronting the term race which is, in fact, a social construct. He uses the term racialize or racialization. "When we apply the process of selecting, sorting, attributing, essentializing and acting to how we understand and should treat human beings, we are performing the process of racialization. We are literally creating the social construct of race within which we stay trapped and harmed."

Just google **Carlos Hoyt Ted Talk** for an enlightening perspective on race and racism.

Sandy Thompson for the Racial Justice Planning Group

Beyond the Congregation

27TH ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE

05.14.2023



Cultivating Cycles of Peace

The Mother's Day Walk for Peace (MDW4P) is a beloved 27-year-long Boston tradition and celebration of our potential to create more peaceful communities. It is the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's (LDBPI) largest fundraising event to grow and sustain our services, advocacy and training. Our 2023 theme is "Cultivating Cycles of Peace." In our society, we are constantly looped into cycles of violence that overshadow the transformative power of peace. Like a blooming flower, cycles of peace flourish when carefully cultivated. We have the agency to cultivate these cycles by empowering survivors, supporting returning citizens and their families and investing in Generation Peace.

[Join us on Mother's Day,](#)

Sunday, May 14, 2023, at 8 am.

For more details [click here.](#)

Parting Shot

A view of the blooming tulips in the garden alongside our back parking lot.
Come visit: the tulips are even more beautiful in person!

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

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