



THE WINCHENDON UNITARIAN

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Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon

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June 2011

Rev. Marguerite Sheehan, MINISTER

WORSHIP SERVICE 10 A.M.

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P. O. Box 218, Winchendon MA, 01475

**This is the Church of the Open Mind
This is the Church of the Helping Hands**

**This is the Church of the Loving Heart
This is the Church of the Caring Community**

Church Calendar of Events

Sunday, June 5, 10 AM. Morning Worship: Religious Education Sunday

Monday, June 6, 7 PM. AA meeting

Tuesday, June 7, 5 - 8 PM. Daisies/Brownies

Wednesday, June 8, 6:15 PM. Church Governing Board

Sunday, June 12, 10 AM. Morning Worship: Rev. Marguerite Sheehan. Flower Communion Sunday. Last service of regular church year.

Monday, June 13, 7 PM. AA meeting

Tuesday June 14, 5 - 8 PM. Daisies/Brownies

Saturday, June 18, 8 AM. Church Solstice Breakfast

Saturday, June 18, 9 AM.—2 PM. Church Flea Market

Saturday, June 18, Various Times: Summer Solstice Celebration

Monday, June 20, 7 PM. AA meeting

Monday, June 27, 7 PM. AA meeting

Wednesday, June 29, 7 PM. Chalice Circle

Thursday, June 30, 5:30 PM. Our Neighbors Kitchen (low cost meal – everyone invited)

Tuesday, June 21, July-August newsletter material due

Minister's Meditation

The month of June is both a month of beginnings and of endings. Children, youth and many adults end school and begin vacation. Spring ends and summer begins. And yes, our formal church year ends on June 12th with our flower celebration, to be immediately followed by our Solstice Celebration and fundraiser on June 18th. Maybe the whole idea of beginning and ending is just semantics because truly time just keeps rolling along, with us in tow.

Yet still, June does include saying goodbye, or at least “see you later” to some of our holy routines. We say goodbye to our Sunday services, our formal religious education program, and our habitual ways of seeing each other at church. But this summer, we do not really have to say goodbye to “church” after all! This summer the Unitarian Universalist Church in Gardner has invited us to keep “church” going by visiting with them on **July 17th** and **August 21st** for their 10AM service. This sounds like a great way to keep up the friendships we have been developing through our Association Sundays. In this newsletter there is also a listing of great UU services just down the road at the Universalist Heritage building in Winchester NH. Another opportunity for doing “church” this summer is to attend an inter-church picnic and service at Lake Dennison (the day use area) on **August 14th**. The plan is for members and friends of all the local North Central UU churches (most of whom participated in the Association Sunday services) to gather between 10-2PM, to visit, to swim, to eat and to get to know each other better. There will be a short outdoor worship service at 11AM. And finally, I hear that some folks are considering how to have a sunset gathering and worship service this summer on Mt Wachusett. As more information comes out about that, we will let everyone

Final Service of our Church Year

On Sunday, June 12 we will have our last service of our church year. The Rev. Marguerite will preach.

This will be Flower Communion Sunday. Each person is asked to bring a flower to share. This custom originated by the Rev. Norbert Capek in Prague in 1923 and was brought to this country in 1940.

Please join us for the special observance.

(Minister's Meditation Continued on page 2)

(Minister's Meditation Continued from page 1)

know the details.

This summer I will be on vacation in Maine during the month of July. This is my time to relax, rejuvenate, and fill my spirit with ocean water and family time. In August I will be "on call" for pastoral emergencies and will be planning fall and winter sermons. I hope to get up to Winchendon for the picnic as well. All summer I will be keeping you and our church and the town in Winchendon in my prayers and best thoughts as we continue to search our hearts and our minds and our souls for more guidance about what UUCW is being called to do and to be in these changing times. Did you hear that we did receive a substantial grant from the Robinson Broadhurst foundation earmarked specifically for the restoration of our church bell tower? It is my hope that the restoration of our bell tower becomes a clarion call to us as a congregation. As we restore the bell tower, how do we restore our spirits? As we restore the bell tower, how do we respond to the Spirit within? As we restore the bell tower, who will hear that bell ring and say to themselves "church is starting" and feel welcomed to come into our doors? Hmmmm, sounds like a theme for next years worship services "Restoring our church and Responding to the call!"

Enjoy your summer break from formal church services. Get together with your neighboring Unitarian Universalists friends. Before you know it September will be here and we will be back in action again!

Happy Summer!

Reverend Marguerite

RE NEWS

RE Sunday is on June 5th. The children and adults of our Religious Education Program are proud to lead the worship and share with the congregation a little bit about their church year together. Of course, this service is followed by the annual ice cream social so come have a Sunday sundae! Flower Communion is on June 12th. Please bring in a flower to place in our communal vase and we will each choose a flower to take home. It is a unique and beautiful way to symbolize our individual gifts to the church community and also show that we each take something with us from the church.

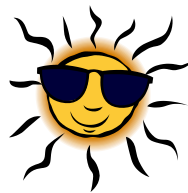


We need you at Winchendon's Summer Solstice Celebration on Saturday, June 18, 8am – 3pm. There are many ways to get involved on and before that day – post flyers, set up for flea market, watch over tables, prepare breakfast, serve breakfast, donate a theme basket, sell tickets for the basket raffle, make goodies for the bake sale, be a general helper that day, walk in the parade, help with clean up. Whether you can help for an hour or be there all day Saturday, we want you! EVERYONE is invited to

walk in the parade at 12pm.

Please wear a tie dye shirt if you have one or a solid color shirt

(picture a rainbow moving down the street) ... and don't forget the sunscreen!



Tracy

NOW ON FACEBOOK

Thanks to Donna Marchand, our congregation now has a page on Facebook:

Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon

Check it out and sign up as a friend. Questions? Call Donna at 978-730-8413.

CARING CONNECTIONS

UUCW is a caring congregation. Along with our Putnam Alliance, we reach out to each other to offer caring and we remember each others' joys and concerns. Please let Reverend Marguerite know if you would like to visit other members and friends, deliver flowers or an occasional meal, act as a greeter on Sunday services, offer a ride to church or any number of "caring connections" or if you are in need of a "caring connec-

Clara Barton and Mass Bay Districts
of Unitarian Universalist Congregations

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As you have probably heard, a series of storms and devastating tornadoes ripped through western and central Massachusetts yesterday.

A tornado sheered off the steeple of the Unitarian Universalist Parish of Monson. Fortunately no one was hurt, but the damage comes at the very end of a major building restoration project. At least one family in each of our congregations in Brookfield and Sturbridge suffered catastrophic damage to their homes, and a staff member of our Springfield congregation also experienced serious property damage.



UU Parish of Monson in wake of tornado - with "before image" inset

The Clara Barton District has advanced emergency relief funds to several of our affected congregations, and the UU Trauma Response Ministry Team has been deployed.

We invite you to support affected congregations and families by making a generous donation to the Clara Barton District's Massachusetts Tornado Relief Fund. Proceeds from the Fund will be used to provide immediate relief to congregation members and staff, for cleanup efforts in at the UU Parish of Monson, and for longer-term needs as they arise.

For more information and to donate, please go to the Clara Barton-Mass Bay District website at this [link](#).

The ministers of our affected congregations send heartfelt appreciation for the outpouring of love and care that they and their people have already received, and they are grateful for possible financial support to help see their congregants and communities through this hard time.

All of us in the Clara Barton District are grateful for the support of our brothers and sisters in the wider Unitarian Universalist community!

In faith,

[Rev. Sue Phillips](#)
District Executive

LAST CHALICE GROUP FOR THIS YEAR - JUNE 29TH, 7PM

Please join Rev Marguerite and other church folks for our last Chalice Group for this church year. This is our reflection/listening circle where we ponder a spiritual question, build our relationships and enjoy a quiet time in the evening. The Chalice Groups are open to the public, no experience necessary, so feel free to bring a friend. If there is interest in keeping the groups active we will start up again in September. Hope to see you on June 29th at 7PM!

Ferry Beach Conference

The 11th annual U U Heritage Week, August 27 to September 2, at Ferry Beach Camp and Conference Center will explore "Peacemaking as History: Peacemaking as Transformation."

Ferry Beach Center is located on the coast at Saco in southern Maine. For more information: www.ferrybeach.org.

SUMMER SERVICES IN THE AREA

Services at the Historic Universalist Memorial Church, Winchester New Hampshire.:

Winchester is in easy driving distance via route 119 west from Fitzwilliam. It is a brick building on your right as you come into the center of Winchester. The Winchester Confession of 1803 was adopted in this building. That brief document was the first statement of Universalist principles to be adopted in the United States and served as guidance to Universalists for many years.

July 10 at 10:30 AM.

The Reverend Lee Page, Affiliate Minister,
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Vero Beach
Florida

July 17 at 10:30 AM.

The Reverend Stephen M. Shick, Minister
Unitarian Church of Marlborough and Hudson,
MA

July 24 at 10:30 AM.

The Reverend Stephen D. Edington, Minister
Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua, NH

July 31, at 10:30 AM.

2011 Universalist Heritage Foundation Sermon
Award Winner (TBA)

August 7 at 10:30 AM.

The Reverends Peter L. and Faith Scott, retired
Unitarian Universalist ministers

August 14 at 10:30 AM.

The Reverend Steven M. Wilson, Consulting
Minister, All Souls Unitarian Universalist
Church, Braintree, MA

Services at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Gardner, Elm Street

Sunday, July 17, 10 AM.

Sunday, August 14, 10 AM.

Inter-Church Picnic and Service

Sunday, August 14, 10 AM—2 PM. Lake Dennison Day Use Area, off route 202 south, Winden-don. More details in the next newsletter.

Flea Market Sat. June 18

Our Church Flea Market on the lawn is held in conjunction with the town and Clark Memorial YMCA Summer Solstice Celebration. It's the most important fund raiser for the Church and everyone's help is needed.

First off, Dave Faucher and his helpers will serve breakfast at 8 AM. This is intended for the vendors but everyone is welcome. Dave can use more helpers starting Friday evening for advance preparations and on Saturday starting around 6 AM. Can you help. Speak with Dave.

Numerous vendors will set up on the church lawn that day. They tend to arrive early; we cannot say what time. Lots of things to tempt one's pocketbook. While the vendors pay a fixed fee for their space, the better they do, the more likely they will return for another year.

As usual the church ladies will have a food table. Cindy Malley is leading this part of the day. Its success will depend on goodies being provided by our church people. Plan to get to the kitchen and turn out some of your best creations for the sale. There is a sign-up sheet for bake-sale bakers in the Fellowship Hall. If you can bake, please sign-up or contact Cindy at b.charmer@verizon.net or call 978-297-9562.

The Alliance flea market table is an important center for revenue generation. Donations are needed. We do not take clothing. Electronics need to be in working order. If you bring items (particularly large ones) that do not get sold, please take them away with you; we have no place to store them for next year. Helpers to man the table will be needed.

Whether there is a basket raffle is not clear in this writer's mind. It has been a success in prior years.

This event is also an opportunity to show off our Church. Most people have seen the outside but many have never seen the inside. We know we have a jewel here and this is an opportunity to show it off. We could use volunteers to show visitors around. Maybe someone will want to have their wedding here and help the church financially or, better yet, join our congregation.

Contact Information

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BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE & JULY

Heather Mahoney June 2

Pauline Michalewicz June 6

David Faucher June 28

Patti Stanko July 13

Madeline Faucher July 18

Murray Tuckerman July 19

Dana Malley July 29

COFFEE HOUR HOSTESSES

June 5 Ice Cream Social

June 12 No information

GREETERS

No Information Available

You might be a UU if . . .

You have ever been in an argument over whether or not breast milk is vegan.

When you dress for a formal evening out you wear a little black dress, pearls-and Birkenstocks (and your wife thinks you look great!)

You are unsure about the gender of God.

You own six pairs of Birkenstocks and your favorite pair needs to be thrown away.

You get Newt Gingrich confused with the Grinch who Stole Christmas.

The money you sent to the Sierra Club last year was more than you spent on your mother at Christmas.

You think the Holy Trinity is "reduce, reuse and recycle."

You study the "ten suggestions" instead of the "Ten Commandments."

The only time "Jesus" is mentioned at church is when someone trips or stubs a toe.

Your child says to you before eating dinner at a friend's house "I'll remember to say my 'pleases' and 'thank yous' but I'm not going to say that dinner 'pledge of allegiance'."

You think a Holy day of Obligation is your turn to do coffee.

You get mail from committees you didn't know you were on.

You know at least two people who are upset that trees had to die for your church to be built.

Contributed

Visit Our Church on the Internet:

www.uuwinchendon.org

Our newsletter is now being posted on our internet page.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



For more information, service times, and past topics, please visit our website at

www.uuwinchendon.org

Please watch for updates, new sermons, and Photos of good times



The Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon

is a member of the

Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

<http://uua.org>