



# THE WINCHENDON UNITARIAN

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WORSHIP SERVICE 10 A.M.

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**

## We're Going Electronic

Starting with the September issue, this newsletter will be primarily distributed electronically. It will be emailed as an attachment to those for whom we have email addresses and will be posted on the church website (as it already is.) If you have an email address that the church may not have, send us an email (whites573@verizon.net) so we will have it.

If you don't have email and need a printed copy, we will send it that way. Please let us know if you want a print copy by mailing us a note to the church box (above.)

## Church Calendar of Events

Monday, July 4, 7 PM. AA meeting

**Sunday, July 10, 10 AM. Church Governing Board**

Monday, July 11, 7 PM. AA meeting

Monday, July 18, 7 PM. AA meeting

Monday, July 25, 7 PM. AA meeting

Thursday, July 28, 5:30 PM. Our Neighbors Kitchen  
(low cost meal – everyone invited)

Monday, August 1, 7 PM. AA meeting

Monday, August 8, 7 PM. AA meeting

**Sunday, August 14, 10 AM. U U Cluster Picnic, Lake  
Dennison**

Monday, August 15, 7 PM. AA meeting

Monday, August 22, 7 PM. AA meeting

Thursday, August 25, 5:30 PM. Our Neighbors Kitchen  
(low cost meal – everyone invited)

Monday, August 29, 7 PM. AA meeting

Tuesday, August 30, September newsletter material due

**Regular Services Resume on  
Sunday, September 11**

## Minister's Meditation

By the time that you read this meditation Dorrie and I will be on our way to Maine, to stay at our tiny (12x18ft) summer cabin. The cabin, on loan from my brother, is on an island in Casco Bay and we get there with our small but hardy open skiff. Last summer we stayed for the month of July and hopefully that will be true for this summer also. We have no electricity, no running water, and no television. What we do have is a tidal cove, the sounds of lobster boats and sea birds and seals. It is my heaven on earth. It sounds really wild unless you know that we can see the shore of the mainland from our dock on the island, we do have cell phone connection most days, my brother and sister-in-law live right next door to us, and just 15 minutes away from the community dock in Brunswick ME with all the amenities of a college town. All in all, it is a delicious and restorative place and I am grateful for the use of it this summer. It reminds me that all of life, the good and the bad, the quiet and the noisy, the summer and the winter, are a gift. My promise to myself this summer is to make the most of this gift by paying attention to each moment. I hope that I keep this promise and that I take home a renewed appreciation for the rest of my life.

As I write this column I am also looking back to June and appreciating how our church year ended. We celebrated with our customary flower communion and a few days later just about all of us gathered again at church to celebrate the Summer Solstice with the town of Winchendon. Those who could not be there had already made their mark in organizing the flea market tables, setting up or baking or offering another gift of their own. I was pleased to see so many of us pitching in to help put on the event and was aware of how much fun it was, at least for me!

*(Minister's Meditation Continued on page 2)*

*(Minister's Meditation Continued from page 1)*

It is my firm belief that a fundraiser is worthless if it does not also have a good element of fun and this one was priceless. The photographs that Donna Marchand put on our Facebook page are telling. Tired but smiling faces, young and old together showed Winchendon the "face" of our church. The flower gardens were beautiful and the sanctuary was a cool and peaceful place where quite a few visitors were drawn to sit, to look at the windows, to ask about our faith, and to listen to John White's Gregorian chant records. *[I don't know where the records came from; we have had them a long time. -Ed.]* It was not only a financial success but it was also a success in community building. We call ourselves the church of the open mind, the loving heart, the helping hands and the caring community. The Solstice Celebration is a testimony to that statement. Thank you one and all for your hard work, your open minds as you negotiated all the details to make the day happen, your loving hearts as you helped each other in countless ways, and the efforts that you made to demonstrate that UUCW is part of a caring community in Winchendon.

Until we meet again in September, take that spirit of community, of fun, and of hard and joyful work with you. Enjoy your summer and come back to church with fresh eyes and an open mind as we continue our work of church renewal. We are all blessed to be a part of this congregation. I look forward to our "home coming."

*Happy Summer!*

*Reverend Marguerite*

## **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-**

## **Summary of June 2011 Governing Board Meeting**

The Governing Board was informed that the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation had approved the following funding: the bell tower project had been approved for \$42,000, a decreased amount of \$8,000 for operating expenses, and \$18,000 in support of the minister's salary. There was discussion about holding the ecumenical Thanksgiving service at the UUCW. Rev. Marguerite Sheehan did note that the clergy of area UU churches would like to hold a brainstorming/community action meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup> on how to work together better. It was noted that the church had received a \$150 anonymous contribution towards a program of the Church of the Larger Fellowship, and that the church matched this amount in this year's budget. This will assist with lay led services and RE programming. Services will begin again on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, with Rev. Marguerite in the pulpit

It was suggested that another fundraising letter be sent out in early fall. It was noted that if personal financial commitments change that either John White or Cindy Malley should be contacted, and that members would not be "chased down." John did note that some members had increased their pledge after the Annual Meeting. Rev. Marguerite noted that the CAC is looking for a place to hold GED classes. The Board approved this usage request.

Dave Faucher noted that Our Neighbor's Kitchen is one of the more successful events, and was wondering if a similar breakfast could be started, ending approximately ½ hour prior to services. This may attract more people to attend services following the breakfast. Donations would be requested. It was suggested that we try this for a period beginning in August, with advertising to be done at ONK in June and July. It was noted that the days of the breakfast, leftover food could be used for coffee hour. It was decided to try the breakfast through December, and then evaluate the program.

The next meeting was scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy O'Brien, Secretary

## 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, Winchendon. Sorry, we have received no more details. We hope to see you there.

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### BIRTHDAYS IN JULY

Patti Stanko July 13

Madeline Faucher July 18

Murray Tuckerman July 19

Dana Malley July 29

We show no birthdays in August.

### 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.

*Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon*

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Winchendon, MA 01475

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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

**[www.uuwinchendon.org](http://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

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<http://uua.org>