



THE WINCHENDON UNITARIAN

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Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon

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October 2011

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**

Church Calendar of Events

Saturday, October 1, 10:30 AM. R E Apple Picking

Sunday, October 2, 10 AM Morning Worship: David Faucher

Monday, October 3, 7 PM. AA meeting

Tuesday, October 4, 4:30 PM Brownies .

Wednesday, October 5, 7 PM. Church Governing Board

Sunday, October 9, 8:30 AM Welcome Table Breakfast

Sunday, October 9, 10 AM Morning Worship: Rev. Marguerite Sheehan

Sunday, October 9, 11:30 AM Religious Education Committee

Monday, October 10, 7 PM. AA meeting

Tuesday, October 11, 4:30 PM. Brownies

Tuesday, October 11, 7 PM Chalice Group, Minister's Study

Sunday, October 16, 10 AM Morning Worship: Cindy Malley

Sunday, October 16, 11:30 AM. Mitten Drive & Bake Sale

Monday, October 17, 7 PM. AA meeting

Tuesday, October 18, 4:30 PM .Brownies

Sunday, October 23 Morning Worship: Rev. Rev. Marguerite Sheehan

Sunday, October 23, 11:30 AM. Congregational Meeting

Monday, October 24, 7 PM. AA meeting

Tuesday, October 25, 4:30 PM Brownies .

Tuesday, October 25, November newsletter material due

Thursday, Sept. 27, 5:30 PM. Our Neighbors Kitchen
(low price meal – everyone invited)

Sunday, October 30, 10 AM Morning Worship: Wendy O'Brien

Monday, October 31, 7 PM. AA meeting

Minister's Meditation

This year our church became an official member of the Church of the Larger Fellowship. The Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) is a Unitarian Universalist congregation. It is mainly an on line fellowship of individual religious liberals who are not in close proximity to a brick and mortar church and who seek to build community together through paper and on-line correspondence. Over the many years of its existence, CLF opened its membership to home based churches and also to smaller churches such as ours who rely on lay members to provide worship on a regular basis. As a member of Church on Line we are gifted with worship material, religious education curriculum and lots of other support. Our lay leaders will be able to access these materials and use them in worship on Sundays.

I look forward to our new relationship with the Church of the Larger Fellowship. I think that these resources will bring in a breath of fresh air as we take in the thoughts and reflections of people outside our close knit congregation. Many of us have benefited over the years by embracing the “world wide web” of the internet. This resource will be knitting us to a worldwide fellowship of other Unitarian Universalists. This addition to our church life will be a reminder that we are larger than we think we are and that reminder is important as we engage in our congregational reflections on church growth and vitality (do not forget to come to our Congregational Meeting after the service on October 23rd so we can continue these in-house discussions!)

We are experiencing this sense of being larger than what meets the eye in other ways this year. We are engaging more closely with our local community by offering our Welcome Table breakfast before our church services on the 2nd Sunday of every month. Last month we shared a delicious meal

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(Minister's Meditation Continued from page 1)

with 12 members of the community and in this way we became a "larger fellowship" right here in Winchendon. Our next Welcome Table is October 9th. This fall we are also hosting a gathering of Unitarian Universalists at our church during the Sunday service on November 13th. This gathering will be focused on how smaller congregations, like most of our UU churches in North Central MA, can work together on social action both on the small and larger scale. This will be another way to practice being a "larger fellowship" locally and in doing so to practice our 7th principle of affirming and promoting the interdependent web of which we are a part.

The Buddhist teacher Thich Nhat Hanh said "It is possible that the next Buddha will not take the form of an individual. The next Buddha may take the form of a community – a community practicing understanding and loving kindness, a community practicing mindful living. This may be the most important thing we can do for the survival of the earth." May all these connections and all this fellowship, help us in our calling to practice understanding and compassion for each and every being that we meet not only in Winchendon but on this earth!

*Peace to all,
Reverend Marguerite*

CHALICE GROUPS BEGIN AGAIN!

Everyone is invited to the first Chalice Group for this church year held this month on Tuesday, October 11, at 7 PM in the Minister's Study. Come join us for a time of quiet reflection and good listening on a topic loosely defined as "spiritual." You do not need to have attended any of the groups before. Feel free to bring a friend. Everyone is welcome!

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-

RE NEWS

Our Open House last month was a success and I thank everyone who participated in any way. It was a beautiful day to be chatting, playing, and crafting on the front lawn of the church. We met some great families! Last month we also enjoyed a sunny afternoon of mini golf at 202 Entertainment. We watched skydivers float from their parachutes and planes circle above our heads to land at the Orange airport. Some people finished the outing with tasty ice cream.



Join us at the Red Apple Farm on Saturday, October 1. The package is \$6 per person and includes ¼ peck apples, a small pumpkin, and a fun-filled hayride around the farm (adult chaperones are free). If you want more apples or pumpkins, a 25% discount applies to pick-your-own prices. Find more info about the farm at www.redapple.com. Please speak with Tracy if you plan to go.

What will you do with all those apples? How about making something for the "Fall Flavors" Bake Sale happening on Sunday, October 16! From 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM we will hold a Bake Sale and Mitten Drive. The bake sale benefits the RE program and we need help filling the table with treats like pies, cookies, breads, and muffins...full of fall flavors like pumpkin, apple, and cinnamon. New and gently used mittens and gloves of all sizes will be collected for the Winchendon CAC. These donations will help many hands stay warm this winter. Your support is greatly appreciated – thank you!

The REC will meet in the pine room at 11:30am on Sunday, October 9, to brainstorm about the children's Christmas Eve presentation. Anyone may attend and all ideas are welcome.

Please return registrations to me by October 9.

Fall Greetings,
Tracy

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, October 23

The members of the Church will meet just after the morning service on **Sunday, October 23** to take up the questions of setting our priorities, determining our program for the current year and then adopting a budget. There is much concern about what program we can maintain if our budget continues to be unbalanced. The reserve funds on which we have operated in recent years are very nearly exhausted.

All members are urged to attend this very important meeting.

MURRAY TUCKERMAN

The memorial service for Murray Tuckerman, who passed away June 6 will be held in the Church on Sunday, October 9 at 1:30 PM. Everyone is welcome.

While most of their activity was some years ago, Murray and his late wife Byrde were very active in both the Church and the community. Murray served on the Planning Board for several years. Byrde was a prime mover in local art and cultural activities. They are survived by three daughters, a son, and several grandchildren.

We've Gone Electronic

This newsletter is primarily distributed electronically. It is emailed as an attachment to those for whom we have email addresses and is posted on the church website. If you have an email address that the church may not have, send us an email (whites573@verizon.net) so we will have it. Doing it this way saves us considerably in postage, paper and copier costs.

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.

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BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER

Tracy Gambill	10/05
Katherine R. Faucher	10/11
John H. White	10/16
Ronald Gaspard	10/20

COFFEE HOUR HOSTESSES

October 2	Wendy O'Brien
October 9	Breakfast—no hostess
October 16	Volunteer needed
October 23	Volunteer needed
October 30	Volunteer needed

GREETERS

October 2	Cindy Malley
October 9	Julie Gambill
October 16	Volunteer needed
October 23	Heather Mahoney
October 30	Cindy Malley

CHALICE LIGHTERS

October 2	Violet Malley
October 9	Heather Mahoney
October 16	Volunteer needed
October 23	Volunteer needed
October 30	Volunteer needed

The Spirit of Christmas

Toy Drive



Friday, Nov. 26
12 – 4 pm



UU Church of Winchendon
126 Central Street

Drive Thru & “Elves” collect at your car!
Please leave new or gently used toys unwrapped.
Thank You!

Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon

Behavioral Covenant

We, the Governing Board of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, covenant together to grow ever more dedicated to our work as a leadership team of our church. In order to help our church become the faith community that we are called to be, we the Governing Board promise to work together to promote an atmosphere of respect, open communication and responsibility in our work together. We see our work in governance to be spiritual work that demands a spiritual practice of right relationships.

THEREFORE, WE PROMISE:

To respect ourselves and one another.

To keep our minds open and curious to different points of view and suggestions.

We will assume that each of us is working with the best intentions.

We value deep and respectful listening and discourage interrupting.

We will be transparent in our work and will not make decisions outside, after or before the meetings unless as a group we agree to do so.

We will speak in a respectful tone with each other and will be personally responsible to speak up when we are concerned about a situation, behavior, or other problem.

We will strive toward “oneness” while appreciating diversity of opinion and experience.

We will be on time for meetings, will have written agendas ahead of time and will have minutes available in a timely manner.

CHUCH NOTES

Happily, we have some new faces in our congregation. Since we do not all know each other, it is important that everyone use their **name tags** at Sunday services so we can become better acquainted. If anyone does not have a name tag, there are materials at the rear of the sanctuary so that you can make your own. There is a place on the upper landing of the equal access entrance where people can hang their tags during the week.

We need volunteers to serve as coffee hour hosts, greeters and chalice lighters. These are not difficult jobs and they are greatly appreciated. So, please take moment and sign up in our Fellowship Hall or speak with Cindy Malley. Thank you!

Help our local community of churches and help us too! Become a Chalice Lighter for the Clara Barton District of the UUA. This is easy to do and requires only a small monetary commitment: only \$20 up to twice a year for a grand total of \$40 (of course, if you're feeling generous you may donate more!) The Clara Barton District uses the money to fund worthy projects related to growth requested by our own churches. This is local money that stays local. This year, our Governing Board will be applying for our own grant. So the money provided by people throughout our entire region has a chance to be given to our church. Since a slight preference is given to congregations which have Chalice Lighters as members, anyone who signs up will help us as well as other worthy causes. For more information go to www.cbd-mbd-uua.org and search for "Chalice Lighters". Thank you!

There will be Sunday afternoon classical piano concerts at the Ashburnham Community Church On October 2, 9 and 23 at 4PM. Admission is \$10 for adults; children and students, free. For more information, please go to www.frederickcollection.org/events.html.

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Gardner, 66 Elm Street, will hold its 127th annual Fall Fair, Craft and Flea Market on Saturday, November 5. Hours are 9 AM. to 2 PM. Featured will be a teacup auction, silent auction, 50/50 raffle, brunch café, and baked goods. Vendors may apply at UUSG.net or call 978-632-0222.

Julie Gambill (with help from parents Scott

and Tracy) have redone the red sign on our front lawn. The new lettering is much more readable and they have even included the church address. A great job, and much appreciated. Many Thanks to all of you.

We are saddened to report the death of Lorey G. Tourtellot. Lorey and his wife, Caroline, were very active members in the '50s and '60s but then moved to White River Junction, VT. Caroline survives.

After having little music during our first fall service, we have been happy to have Robert Pople as organist and pianist the past two Sundays. He has shown us what our historic old organ is capable of. Everyone seems pleased. We anticipate he will become our regular musician.

With the grant from the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation in hand, we will be able to repair the church belfry. As people may know, the floor has rotted and the bell settled enough so that it can no longer be rung. Plus moisture is working its way down and loosening the plaster in the vestibule. We have met with the contractor and gone over the job. He is updating his previous proposal and we hope to have the job started in the next few weeks. Hopefully, we will have our bell ringing for our Christmas Eve service.

Planning, at least by the Religious Education Committee, for our annual community Christmas Eve service is underway. As Christmas Eve falls on Saturday this year, we will omit the usual Sunday service on Christmas day.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon

126 Central Street P. O. Box 218

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

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>