

THE WINCHENDON UNITARIAN

Established 1954

Published by the

Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon



Volume 58 Issue 10

INANNA ARTHEN, M.DIV, MINISTER

Church Telephone 978-297-0554

SUMMER 2014

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 5:00 P.M.

PO 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**

Calendar of Church Events

Sunday, July 20

Group trip to Roger Williams Park Zoo

Monday, June 21

7:00 p.m. - AA Meeting

Saturday, July 26

9:00 a.m. - Yard Sale at UUCW

Monday, July 28

7:00 p.m. - AA Meeting

Thursday, July 31

5:30 p.m. - Our Neighbor's Kitchen community
supper. All are welcome!

Monday, August 4

7:00 p.m. - AA Meeting

Saturday, August 2

9:00 a.m. - Yard Sale at UUCW

Sunday, August 10

11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Lake Dennison - picnic and
beach day

Monday, August 11

7:00 p.m. - AA Meeting

Saturday, August 16

9:00 am - Yard Sale at UUCW

Monday, August 18

7:00 p.m. - AA Meeting

Monday, August 25

7:00 p.m. - AA Meeting

Thursday, August 28

5:30 pm - Our Neighbor's Kitchen community
supper. All are welcome!

Monday, September 1

7:00 p.m. - AA Meeting

Saturday, September 6

9:00 am - Yard Sale at UUCW

Sunday, September 7

5:00 pm - Sunday Worship - Water Communion
Service. Welcome back! Inanna Arthen, M.Div,
worship leader.

6:00 pm - Post-Service Light Potluck Supper

Saturday, Sept 13

Trip to Historic Deerfield

From Your Minister

We're having the kind of summer here in Winchendon that you probably expected after the winter we had—wild and crazy weather. One week we're slogging through rain, the next we're sagging under heat and humidity, then we have thunderstorms. Suddenly we have two or three of the kind of breathtakingly gorgeous days that haunt our dreams when we're old. But that's New England! I wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

UUCW was right in the center of Winchendon's 250th anniversary celebration on Saturday, June 21. Our lawns were packed solid with vendors, craftspeople and information booths from early morning until late afternoon. The ever-popular UUCW food stand sold one-dollar hotdogs (more than 500 of them!), homemade vegetarian chili that had been cooking all morning (thank you, volunteer Catherine Dart from First Parish UU in Ashby!), chili dogs, sodas, coffee, juice, doughnuts and bottled spring water. We want to thank everyone who stopped by for making this our biggest and best Summer Fair ever! A special thanks to the Fauchers for their hard work in advance of and all day on Saturday, and other church members who pitched in through the day.

We had front row seats for the parade. The fireworks were clearly visible from the church lawn, where we were finishing with clean-up and packing things away as the rockets started bursting o'er the Clark Center roof.



The weather was flawless—sunny, not too hot and low humidity—so we’re extending our thanks to Mother Nature as well. It was a great day for Winchendon!

Like many UU churches, UUCW takes a break from regular Sunday services during the summer. But we have a lot going on. We’re holding Saturday Yard Sales two weekends per month this summer because they’re proving to be so popular. Our Neighbor’s Kitchen community supper will be serving delicious meals the last Thursday of each month—on July 31, we’re getting a headstart on the big chili cookoff with our own homemade chili and fixin’s. We’re continuing to host the Winchendon Farmer’s Market.

We have several upcoming events planned. We’re organizing a trip to the Roger Williams Park Zoo in Rhode Island on Sunday, July 20. There will be a church picnic and beach day at Lake Dennison on Sunday, August 10. (For more information about any of these, see our website or Facebook page or leave a message at the church and we’ll get back to you.)

We’re busy behind the scenes, as well. At our annual meeting on June 8, the congregation voted to renew my contract for the coming year, and to continue holding Sunday worship at 5:00 p.m. We’re in the process of redesigning our RE program and our Order of Service. We’re also getting the word out about our church and everything we have to offer.

Along with our own activities, UUCW is reaching out in support to activists on a local issue impacting our town and many of our neighbors.

As many people know, the massive energy company Kinder Morgan proposes to build a high-capacity pipeline through our state to carry liquefied natural gas from Wright, New York to Dracut, Massachusetts. This plan is raising enormous concerns on many levels. The

pipeline will run through private property, protected conservation land and some of the most pristine and beautiful landscapes in our region. Property owners may or may not be adequately compensated (the company is threatening to take land by eminent domain). Leaks and explosions along similar pipelines in the country occur more frequently than the news media report. Property values will be negatively impacted for entire communities affected by the pipeline, not just abutters. The company has not been forthright, open and truthful about its intentions, and state governors have been meeting with them behind closed doors. A tariff on all Massachusetts electric rate-payers to help pay for the pipeline has been proposed.

Concerned residents in Winchendon include numerous people who may see the pipeline built directly through their property (in some cases, through their homes), along with many others who understand the environmental, economic and health risks. UUCW has become a part of their efforts to raise awareness of the pipeline project and its implications, before it’s too late. So far, we have hosted a film screening, a talk and a letter-writing group. On Friday, July 18, we opened the church as a “water stop” for people participating in the Winchendon segment of a state-wide “rolling walk” along the proposed pipeline route. We’ll be doing more to help in the coming months.

Social activism and controversy have always been a part of Unitarianism. Unitarian churches were illegal in Europe for centuries, until the 1800s in England. That’s one reason that Unitarian congregations were among the first churches here in America in Colonial times. A number of the Founding Fathers (and Mothers) belonged to Unitarian churches or agreed with their beliefs. Standing up for our principles against even the strongest resistance is part of our heritage. It’s always taken a lot of courage to be a Unitarian.

This isn’t an easy legacy. During the Vietnam war, many UU congregations in the United States split into factions about whether the war should be resisted or supported. Some of them never recovered. But UUs, historically, don’t shrink away from hard issues. Social justice is vital to us as a denomination. Our churches are open to everyone, especially those who may not feel welcome in the mainstream. When an individual or a community is fighting for their basic human rights against an abuse of power, we’ll open our doors—because we’re UUs, and that’s what we do.

If you’re concerned about the pipeline project or want more information, see <http://www>.

into several classes by age so that each age group will have activities and lessons most appropriate to their needs and capabilities. The classes will coordinate their themes, but we're leaving plenty of room for creativity, spontaneity and surprises.

Inanna Arthen, M.Div



Congregational Picnic at Lake Dennison

Summer Yard Sales have kicked off very successfully. There will be two yard sales each month this summer, and we may be joined by some vendors and craftspeople, as well. Interestingly, we've found that some 40% of our sales so far are books. It looks like Winchendon is a well-read town!

If you'd like to donate materials for a Yard Sale, or have a table of your own, please contact the church or Sue Faucher (978-632-5588 or sfaucher@on24seven.com). Items can be dropped off or we can arrange to pick them up.

Trip to Historic Deerfield

On Saturday, September 13, we'll carpool to Historic Deerfield for an educational and fun outing. Tour an authentically restored 18th century New England village with demonstrations of traditional Yankee crafts and many exhibits. For more information, see <http://www.historic-deerfield.org/>.

We'll be meeting at 9:00 a.m. in Orange, at the Shell station at Rte 2 and 202, and traveling to Deerfield in a convoy. If you need to carpool, you can arrange to be picked up at the church at 8:30 a.m.

We're Hiring!

Seeking RE Teachers for Fall 2014

A vibrant and organized RE program is essential for a growing church. We're hiring teachers for our revitalized RE program. We'll be separating the kids

Water Communion Worship Service on September 7

If you're taking a vacation to someplace special or doing something meaningful to you this summer, don't forget to collect some water to share at our Water Communion Service on Sunday, September 7. At this

traditional “ingathering” service, each person brings a small amount of water to pour into the congregational container. The water is blessed and will be used to water the church garden in the spring.

Spiritual Calendar

July 3: Festival of Cerridwen (Celtic). Cerridwen was a goddess of fertility, agriculture and abundance. Pork is a traditional food for her feast!

July 13: Celebration of our Lady of Fatima (Christian). Anniversary of the day children in Fatima, Portugal reported seeing a vision of the Holy Virgin.

July 13: Asalha Puja Day (Buddhist). Commemorates Buddha’s first sermon to his disciples on the Four Noble Truths.

July 13-15: Obon (Shinto). Japanese Buddhist festival to honor deceased ancestors. Celebrated with bonfires, paper lanterns, dancing and traditional meals.

July 29-31: Eid al Fitr (Islam). Marks the close of Ramadan. A festival of thanksgiving to Allah observed with prayer, dressing in fine clothing and fostering understanding with other religions.

August 1: Lammas or Lughnasadh (European). “Loaf Mass,” or festival of the first fruits of harvest, especially the first new corn and grain. Pagans honor the god Lugh with competitions of skill and craftsmanship.

August 13: Festival of Diana and Hecate (Roman). Women in ancient Rome whose prayers to these goddesses had been answered held a torchlight procession to show their gratitude.

August 15: Birthday of Isis (ancient Egypt). Isis was worshiped throughout Asia Minor and the Mediterranean region at the turn of the first millenium. All ships and boats were blessed on this day, which was also a festival of lights.

August 17: Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu). Celebration of the birth of the god Krishna.

July and August in UU History

July 15, 1838: Unitarian Ralph Waldo Emerson delivered the Divinity School Address at Harvard Divinity School. The ensuing furor prevented Emerson from speaking at Harvard again for a generation. HDS preserves a legend that Emerson’s ghost sometimes appears in the chapel of Divinity Hall where the address was given.

July 21, 1813: King William IV of England signed the Trinity Act, which repealed criminal penalties in England for Unitarian belief. Although no longer prosecuted or punished, Unitarianism itself remained a crime in England until the Dissenter’s Chapels Act was passed on July 15, 1844.

July 28, 1866: Artist and writer Beatrix Potter was born in Kensington, London. She was a known Unitarian and wrote 23 children’s books illustrated with her own drawings and watercolor paintings.

August 1, 1815: Richard Henry Dana was born in Cambridge, MA. A Unitarian, Dana spent two years at sea and wrote a graphic account about the life of sailors, *Two Years Before the Mast*. He became an attorney who defended runaway slaves and help found the anti-slavery Free Soil party in 1848.

August 8, 1763: Architect Charles Bullfinch was born in Boston, MA. He was a founding member of the Unitarian All Souls Church in Washington, D.C. and designed its first building. He also designed the State House in Boston, the Boston Theatre, the State House in Hartford, CT, and churches in Boston, Taunton, Lancaster and Pittsfield.

August 11, 1901: Margaret Moseley was born in Dorchester, MA. Moseley was refused entrance into every hospital nursing program in Boston because she was African-American. She became President of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, was a leader in the fight against McCarthyism, marched in Selma, Alabama for voting rights for African-Americans, and started a local chapter of the NAACP. She was President of the Community Church (Unitarian) in Boston and the first woman to chair the governing body of the Unitarian Church of Barnstable MA.

August 18, 1818: Lucy Stone was born in West Brookfield, MA. A Unitarian and leader in the fight for women’s rights, Stone attended Oberlin College, the only college then open to women, and was the first woman in Massachusetts to earn a B.A. degree. She became a famous speaker on abolition and women’s rights and traveled widely to lecture, addressing every state legislature in the country. In 1855, she married Henry Blackwell (in a ceremony conducted by a Unitarian minister) but kept her own name.

August 15, 1696: Ebenezer Gay, the first Unitarian minister in the United States, was born. He earned a D.D. from Harvard and is called “the father of American Unitarianism.” He was greatly admired by John Adams and other patriots although he was loyal to Great Britain during the Revolutionary War.

August 22, 1920: Unitarian science-fiction writer Ray Bradbury was born in Waukegan, IL. Among his works are *The Martian Chronicles* and *Fahrenheit 451*, about a dystopian society in which all books are destroyed.

Summer Birthdays

Heather Mahoney	June 2
Pauline Michalewicz	June 6
Inanna Arthen	June 20
David R. Faucher	June 28
Patti Stanko	July 13
Madeline Faucher	July 18
Murray Tuckerman	July 19
Dana Malley	July 29
Jessica Bacigalupo	August 31



(If I'm missing any birthdays, please let me know!)

Change of Address?

We want to stay in touch! If you change your address, either U. S. Mail or email, please let us know. Email dfaucher@on24seven.com or send a written note to the church at P. O. Box 218, Winchendon, MA 01475. Thanks!

UUCW has a New Website!

Please bookmark our new website:

<http://uucw.ncmuuc.org>

With a shiny new design, new content and regular updates, this is the place to go online for in-depth UUCW information!

Caring Connections

UUCW is a caring congregation. We reach out to each other to offer caring and we remember each other's joys and concerns. Please let Inanna know if you would like to visit other members and friends, deliver flowers or an occasional meal, act as a greeter for Sunday services, offer a ride to church, or make any other "caring connection." Please let us know if you or someone close to you is in need of such a "caring connection" from us. You can call Inanna directly at 978-433-8866 (home) or 508-572-1624 (cell).

Like Us on Facebook!

If you're on Facebook, be sure to "like" the UUCW page for all our news and updates. We're putting announcements of upcoming events, photos, reports on activities (some in "real time" as the activities are happening) and news about related things of interest here, so "like" us to stay informed.

<https://www.facebook.com/uuwinchendon>



Contact Information

Minister: Inanna Arthen, M.Div

Phone: 978-433-8866

Cell: 508-572-1624

Email: iarthen@inannaarthen.com

Musician: Lucinda Ellert

Phone: 781-944-7254

Email: lucindajellert@gmail.com

Governing Board Chair: David Faucher

Email: dfaucher@on24seven.com

Governing Board Members:

Allan Gordon: lilpun31@mass.rr.com

Secretary, James McCrohan:

jmccrohan@yahoo.com

Sexton (Custodian) Sue Faucher

Phone: 978-632-5588

Email: sfaucher@on24seven.com