

THE WINCHENDON UNITARIAN

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This is the Church of the Open Mind
This is the Church of the Loving Heart

This is the Church of the Helping Hands
This is the Church of the Caring Community

Calendar of Church Events

Thursday, November 12

5:30 pm - Our Neighbor's Kitchen serves
Roast Turkey
(Drive-Through/Take-Out)

Sunday, November 15

7:00 pm – Governing Board Meeting,
Dial-In (RSVP Jill Sackett)

Mondays

7:45 pm - AA Meeting, Parish Hall

Friday, November 27

12:00 – 4:00 pm – Spirit of Christmas
Toy Drive, Front Circle

Friday, November 27

12:00 – 4:00 pm – Holiday Decorating
and Pizza Party, Church Sanctuary

Saturday, December 5

10:00 am – 2:00 pm – Holiday Bazaar,
Church Sanctuary & Parish Hall

From Your Editor

November: for me the start of this month represents the last “hurrah” of the fall weather. We still have the occasional warmer day, nature shifts from orange, yellow and red, to golden browns, and we rake leaves. And more leaves. We close the month with Thanksgiving, a time to gather and take stock of what’s really important to us.

This year “gathering” may mean something different. It may be a video chat with older relatives, college age children staying put on campus, or extended relatives skipping the usual congregation at one large diner table. That’s okay. It’s one holiday. Regardless of who we are with, we can still count our abundant blessings. Family and friends, present or afar. A warm home. A good meal. Health. The rural beauty of our community. Take stock of it all, and be thankful.

-Jill Nicholson Sackett - Chair, Governing Board

Holiday Bazaar! Gifts and Treats

As we head into an uncertain holiday season, we all hope to retain what traditions we safely can. For those who identify December with Christmas cookies and gift-giving, we have an event for you! UUCW will be hosting a Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, December 5 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Local vendors will be stationed throughout the upper Sanctuary and lower Parish Hall selling crafts and unique gift items. The church “bake shop” will be offering a selection of Christmas cookies for sale. These can be pre-ordered, pre-paid and gift-wrapped for easy pickup that day. The church will be full of holiday decorations and music to put everyone in a festive mood. Stop on by and find that unique gift for someone on your list!

We will be carefully following state guidelines for COVID-19. Vendors will be well-spaced and face coverings will be required for all who enter. For more information or to pre-order cookies, visit our website: uucw.ncmuuc.org

This is an important end-of-year fundraiser to support our heating and utility costs and to keep our new boiler bubbling along!

UUCW Online

Main Website: uucw.ncmuuc.org

Set in Stone Website: www.set-in-stone.org

Facebook: facebook.com/uuwinchendon

Spirit of Christmas Toy Drive

UUCW has a long tradition of helping the Winchendon Fire Department with their annual toy drive. This year the need is especially acute, with many more families lacking surplus income. On November 27 (the Friday following Thanksgiving) from 12:00 - 4:00 pm UUCW will be collecting donations of new, unwrapped toys, stuffed animals, and cash/gift cards. Donating couldn't be easier! Simply drive through our front circle and our waiting “elves” will be happy to receive your donation while you stay in the comfort of your car!



We'll be there, rain or shine. At the end of the afternoon we take all of the donations over to the Winchendon Fire Department to add to their ongoing drive. Please consider a donation this year. Every little bit helps.

Decorating and Pizza Party

November brings another tradition to UUCW. Every Friday following Thanksgiving, while our toy drive is underway, we pull out our bins of Christmas supplies and set out to decorate our lovely sanctuary. We play holiday music and reward ourselves with Gabby's pizza at a mid-point in our "work."

This is a great opportunity to stop in, meet some of our church members and volunteers, and engage in a pleasant hour or so of conversation, music and creativity. We'll be decorating from 12:00 – 4:00 pm. We have PLENTY of supplies, we just need you! We typically set up at least two trees with lights and ornaments, run garlands, and place window box candles and greens. Below is one of last year's trees:



We have a big space to decorate and can easily set up people to work on socially distant projects in the sanctuary. Please plan to wear a mask. We'd love to see you there. Questions? RSVP? Contact Jill Sackett: jill@sackett.com

Our Neighbor's Kitchen Serves Roast Turkey

Our Neighbor's Kitchen diners are well-acquainted with Dave Faucher's annual roast turkey dinner extravaganza. While our take-out process prevents us from pulling out all the usual stops, Dave is nonetheless putting together a delicious and hearty turkey meal in advance of the actual Thanksgiving holiday. On Thursday, November 12, he'll be serving oven-roasted turkey, sides and oatmeal apple crisp for dessert. Drive on through between 5:30 – 6:00 pm for a delicious meal! This is our only ONK meal for the month. On Thursday, November 26, we'll be taking a break from the church kitchen and resting up for our toy drive and decorating party scheduled for the next day.

Contact Information

Governing Board Chair:

Jill Nicholson Sackett
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Governing Board Members:

Allan Gordon:
Email: 31Allangordon@gmail.com
Rev. Emerita Inanna Arthen (Clerk)

Garden Overhaul

It was time. Our front garden, home to a variety of perennials and shrubs, had gotten away from us. Coming to our rescue was Jay McCrohon, church member and professional landscaper. Jay, Joe Sackett, and Allan Gordon dug up the entire front garden bed, culling out the plants to be kept and composting the rest of the unruly mess. They replanted the select few in groupings and even relocated a volunteer oak sapling to the north side of our property.



We are very grateful for their hard work and look forward to an orderly and pretty garden emerging next spring.

Giving Back

There is a theme in this month's newsletter. Every one of the foregoing articles describes activities that are solely run by volunteers. UUCW is a community of giving. We understand that this is not always practical or possible, but in order to keep a beautiful

building of this size and age maintained, and to perform our community services, we draw on as much expertise and volunteer hours as we can. We are very fortunate to have people willing to give of their time and skills.

Sometimes our help comes from unexpected sources. This past summer, we hired Art Leray General Contracting of Winchendon to replace a large section of failing ceiling tiles in our church Parish Hall. Art's crew had to carefully interlock the new tiles with the old, and work around light panels, crown molding and other obstacles. Imagine our delight when Art informed us that he was donating the entire labor of his crew! Our heartfelt thanks go to Art.

An Offering

Say to thyself,
"If there is any good thing I can do,
Or any kindness I can show to any
human being,
Let me not defer it or neglect it,
For I may not pass this way again."

-Anonymous

Change of Address?

We want to stay in touch! If you change your U.S. mail or email address, please email jill@sackett.com, leave a message on our voicemail at 978-297-0554, or send a written note to the church at P.O. Box 218, Winchendon, MA 01475.