# 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, May 13

5:30 pm - Our Neighbor's Kitchen Serves American Goulash (Drive-Through/Take-Out)

Sunday, May 16

7:30 pm – Governing Board Meeting, Dial-In (RSVP Jill Sackett)

Thursday, May 27

5:30 pm - Our Neighbor's Kitchen Serves Teriyaki Chicken (Drive-Through/Take-Out) Sunday, June 6

11:00 am – Worship Service: "The Blessing of the Bulbs"

Sunday, June 6

12:00 pm – Social Hour: Meet and Greet

Saturday, June 19

9:00 am – 2:00 pm Summer Lawn Fair

Mondays

7:45 pm - AA Meeting, Parish Hall

## From Your Editor

Spring has sprung and so have we... we're planning a couple of nice outdoor events in June for young and old alike. Stop by and collect some gladiolus bulbs on June 6 as we celebrate the miracle of regeneration. We'll follow that service with a social hour "meet and greet." If you haven't visited us in a while, if you're curious as to what Unitarian Universalism is all about, or if you'd like to tour the inside of our lovely sanctuary, this will be a great opportunity! Come for the service, the social hour, or both. We're a friendly and welcoming church.

"Try new things and discover yourself every day."

Bhavya Choudary

- Jill Nicholson Sackett - Chair, Governing Board

## Usher in Summer: The Blessing of the Bulbs

Last year we debuted a new worship service theme: the "blessing of the bulbs." Many congregations observe a flower communion ceremony in June. We opted for a service of similar sentiment but in place of sharing cut flowers, we shared flowers yet-to-come. We distributed gladiolus bulbs to all attendees with the option of planting in church or home gardens.

What a delight it was to see these bulbs sprout, grow and bloom into tall, colorful stalks in late August! We have resolved to do this again.

Our lay-led program will include music, short readings and verse. We will "bless" our bulbs and distribute them to the group. We'll follow the service with a social hour and light refreshments to share amongst ourselves.

#### Welcome summer!



### June 19 Lawn Fair



Please observe Massachusetts state guidelines for wearing masks.

A separate mask-free dining area will be available.

It's official: we've printed the poster ads and you will soon see them displayed all over town! We are very excited to return to one of our longeststanding traditions and fundraisers. At the time of this writing, our vendor spots on the lawn are almost completely sold out. Shoppers can look forward to a wonderful variety of wares including hand-sewn clothing, wood crafts. crochet, jewelry, artwork, books. vintage vinyl records, custom tumblers, baked goods, wreaths, nail products, second-hand items, and the ever-popular freecyle table.

Snatch up the last of the vendor spots by applying and paying online at: <a href="https://www.ncmuuc.org/summer-fair/">uucw.ncmuuc.org/summer-fair/</a>

# Set in Stone – One Tower Buttress Down, Three to Go

Joseph Gnazzo Company Inc. of Union, CT has been making terrific progress on Phase 2 stonework repairs. The most significant part of this phase, already completed, involved a complete dismantling and rebuilding of the northeast buttress. Removal of the exterior ashlar granite revealed a dense layer of rock and mortar underneath.



Each ashlar stone was numbered and arranged in tandem along the scaffolding deck while the underside was washed and prepared for the rebuild. As one of the masons rather modestly remarked, "It's somewhat like reassembling a jigsaw puzzle." For more pictures and description of this ongoing journey, please visit our dedicated website and blog: <a href="https://www.set-in-stone.org/">www.set-in-stone.org/</a>

# Our Neighbor's Kitchen: Survey Says...

UUCW marked the one-year anniversary of ONK's drive-through take-out by conducting a survey of our diners. Our last survey was conducted in November 2018 and we were looking forward to checking in. While none of our results were surprising, they were certainly reassuring.

Most of our diners are Winchendon residents and "regulars". having patronized at least a third of the past year's ONK suppers. Most keep track of our meal dates and menus through friends/family, social media or watching for the banners placed on the lawn the week of the meal. About half of the respondents look forward to returning to sit-down indoor dining, while the other half state a preference for continuing take-out meals. A wide range of "favorite" meals were listed, with the top three being lasagna, meatloaf and our annual Thanksgiving turkey dinner, the latter of which spawned our highwater mark of 120 meals last November!

As the warm weather ushers in, we will look towards options for offering an outdoor picnic style meal for those who miss our breaking bread together. For now, keep on driving through!

#### **UUCW Online**

Main Website: uucw.ncmuuc.org

Set in Stone Website: <a href="www.set-in-stone.org">www.set-in-stone.org</a>
Facebook: <a href="facebook.com/uuwinchendon">facebook.com/uuwinchendon</a>

# Toy Town Outdoor Market

UUCW is pleased to once again host Toy Town Winchendon's Market. The market, sponsored by the town's Agricultural Commission, opens for the season on May 22, 2021. Hours of operation are Thursdays 4 - 7 pm and Saturdays 9 am - 1 pm, weather permitting. The market features fresh produce, homemade foodstuffs crafts. Early in the season you can also find starter plants and seedlings for your own garden. Stop on by and support your local farmers and entrepreneurs. For the latest updates on the week's sales or news, visit their Facebook page:

facebook.com/ToyTownOutdoorMarket

### **Daffodils**

I wandered lonely as a cloud That floats on high o'er vales and hills, When all at once I saw a crowd, A host, of golden daffodils; Beside the lake, beneath the trees, Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay;
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced, but they Outdid the sparkling waves in glee;

A poet could not but be gay
In such jocund company;
I gazed – and gazed- but little thought
What wealth the show to me had
brought.

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

-William Wordsworth



## **Change of Address?**

We want to stay in touch! If you change your address, either U.S. Mail or email, let us know: email jill@sackett.com or write to the church at P.O. Box 218, Winchendon, MA 01475.

#### **Contact Information**

#### **Governing Board Chair:**

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Rev. Inanna Arthen (Clerk)