

# THE WINCHENDON UNITARIAN

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Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon



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**JULY 2022**

**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

### Monday, July 11

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

### Thursday, July 14

5:30 pm – Our Neighbor’s Kitchen serves  
Jumbo Hot Dog “Picnic”,  
Front Lawn

### Thursday, July 28

5:30 pm - Our Neighbor’s Kitchen serves  
Chili & Corn Bread,  
Parish Hall

### Mondays

7:45 pm - AA Meeting, Parish Hall

## From Your Editor

Last month we were reeling from yet Another.Mass.Shooting. This month it is the reversal of Roe vs Wade and all of the turmoil and uncertainty that will unleash. Meanwhile, Ukrainians continue to fight the Goliath across their threshold. When national and world events seem impossibly grim, how do we cope? What can we do here in little Winchendon?

Nurture something. *Anything*. A kinder, more understanding world begins at home. No effort is too small. Visit a struggling friend or neighbor. Plant vegetables and give away what you cannot eat. Donate old clothes. Volunteer – those opportunities are endless and can vary from a single day’s work to a life-long passion.

Not sure where to start? Ask your church. We are a congregation of community service. Reach out. You *will* make a difference.

-Jill Nicholson Sackett - Chair, Governing Board.

# UUCW Lawn Fair Kicks Off Summer Solstice

How pleasant it was to continue our 150+-year tradition of summer lawn fairs! UUCW's Summer Lawn Fair was held on Saturday, June 18, concurrent with the Clark Memorial YMCA Summer Solstice Fair across the street. Lawn fairs remain our most significant fundraiser of the year. The church lawns were filled with crafters, retail vendors, non-profits and food concessions.

The cool and overcast weather did not dampen spirits, nor did the dusty condition of Central Street, as the fair enjoyed a steady stream of hungry shoppers, crossing back and forth between the two events.



Crafters offered hand-made cutting boards, lawn décor, painted furniture, sun hats, pottery, floral wreaths, totes, resin art, grinders, and more. The Winchendon Garden Club held their ever-popular basket raffle, and the

Friends of the Beals Library displayed an impressive selection of gently-used books and DVDs. Others sold popular items such as Avon, Scentsy, croc charms, novelty cards and plushies. Bargain hunters cleared off the church Freecycle table. The HEAL Winchendon Youth Changemakers sold iced coffee while Shanes Food Truck ran out of fried dough and the church hot dog stand enjoyed brisk business.



Winchendon Winds professional concert band performed in the church sanctuary at 11 a.m., and their marches and show tunes streamed out of the open doors to the delight of those outside.

All in all, it was “something for everyone” and a wonderful day to be in downtown Winchendon.

## 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](mailto:jill@sackett.com) or write to the church at P.O. Box 218, Winchendon, MA 01475.

## Set in Stone Receives Two Major Grants

We've been patiently waiting....and the wait is finally over. UUCW is the grateful recipient of two matching grants to fund Phase 3 of our continued building repairs. The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) awarded us \$50,000 in Round 28 of their Massachusetts Projects Preservation Program while the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation awarded us \$65,000. The combined sum will allow us to tackle major repairs to the "valley" between the tower and main building and seal up leaky areas that have been allowing water ingress into the sanctuary during heavy rains.

Over the next several months we will undertake several prescribed steps: site visits from MHC, bids from qualified contractors, and initiation of work with oversight by a preservation architect.

We continue to report details of our Set in Stone journey on our dedicated website: [www.set-in-stone.org](http://www.set-in-stone.org). At that site you may see the original conditions report from 2015 that gives color-coded areas of deterioration, and a dated "blog" reporting our journey to date. This remains a multi-year endeavor and we are determined to restore our national landmark to a water-tight, structurally sound condition that will last for years to come.

## Winchendon Winds Final Concert!

You have *one more* chance to hear Winchendon Winds perform this year. "Win Winds" closes its six-concert series on Sunday, July 3 at 2:00 p.m. with their "Happy 4<sup>th</sup>!" concert. In honor of Independence Day, the 40-piece professional band will play an all-American program of marches, folk tunes and other well-known works. UUCW will sell refreshments on the lawn before and during the performance. We have enjoyed a good audience at each of these concerts (below) and have received many compliments from visitors about our beautiful sanctuary, the acoustics, and the quality of the band.



UUCW is pleased to host this fine ensemble for the 7<sup>th</sup> straight year, and play a role in bringing live music to our community. Bring your friends and family to this free, family-friendly gathering and kick off July 4<sup>th</sup> in style!

## Picnic-Time with Our Neighbor's Kitchen

The grass is green, the front garden is blooming, and it is time to enjoy some *al fresco* dining.

Our Neighbor's Kitchen will feature traditional "picnic" food on Thursday, July 14. We'll be serving up jumbo hot dogs with a condiment bar on the front lawn, accompanied by homemade coleslaw and bean salad. Sit and dine with friends and neighbors at one of the tables set out, or take your meal home to your own garden or porch.

We New Englanders are especially grateful for peak summer days. Soak up the warmth of both July evenings and good company.

Main Website: <https://uucw.ncmuuc.org/>  
Set in Stone Website: [www.set-in-stone.org](http://www.set-in-stone.org)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/uuwinchendon](https://www.facebook.com/uuwinchendon)

### Contact Information

#### Governing Board Chair:

Jill Nicholson Sackett

(224) 567-3635

Email: [jill@sackett.com](mailto:jill@sackett.com)

#### Governing Board Members:

Allan Gordon

Rev. Emerita Inanna Arthen (Clerk)

Dave Faucher (Auditor)

## Summer Meditation

Now blows the wind with soft, relaxing warmth.

The sun beats down, the schools are out. Children swarm in the playgrounds and the streets and eager city-folk, vacation-bound, crowd the broad highways.

The lakes and seashores lose their solitude,

And all the world seems turned to carnival.

What of ourselves?

There could be, now, deep peace, a time for soul-searching.

We might turn to examine our own lives, to sort and probe our tendencies of thought.

To sift the true from false in the things of doubt,

The beautiful from ugliness unmarked.

The sun beats down; it is a time for pause.

Even the trees seem resting for a time, as if to meditate and gather strength for the more strenuous times that lie ahead.

And shall not we?

Here's the unfinished clay, half-molded, that still waits on us.

To think what we have been and as we are -

Still yet have to become.

- Robert T. Weston