

# THE WINCHENDON UNITARIAN

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Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon



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**OCTOBER 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

### Thursday, October 13

5:30 pm – Our Neighbor’s Kitchen serves  
Menu TBD, Parish Hall

### Tuesday, October 18

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

### Wednesday, October 19

6:30 pm – Collaboration of UU Churches  
& Potluck, First Parish UU Church of  
Fitchburg

### Saturday, October 22

10:00 am – 4:00 pm – Fall Festival,  
Church Booth and Concessions

### Thursday, October 27

5:30 pm - Our Neighbor’s Kitchen serves  
Roast Pork with Apples and Onions,  
Parish Hall

### Mondays

7:45 pm - AA Meeting, Parish Hall

## From Your Editor

The last six years have seen a troubling surge of polarization; marginalization and even verbal and physical attacks for those perceived as “different;” and general unrest. It began with a caustic political environment, and was exacerbated by a pandemic, the likes of which we have not seen in over 100 years. Our new “normal” seems to feature greater home isolation and virtual connections over in-person contact.

Say it ain’t so! Those wishing for a kinder, more accepting society; those craving a warm handshake and smile; those embracing the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism, are *still here*. Let’s step beyond the imaginary borders of our church and town and connect. Please consider attending the Collaboration Potluck on Wednesday, October 19, hosted by the UU Parish of Fitchburg. Don’t let the “potluck” part of it hold you back. Just bring yourselves... there’s plenty of food planned.

See you at church.

-Jill Nicholson Sackett - Chair, Governing Board.

## **Strength in Numbers: A Collaboration of UU Churches**

There are more of us around than you think. We've heard from several area UU churches who are ready to congregate on Wednesday, October 19, 2022, 6:30 pm, for an evening of information sharing and camaraderie. UUCW will be sending representatives and all UU's are encouraged to RSVP and attend.

Where:

First Parish UU Church of Fitchburg,  
923 Main Street

What: Potluck Dinner and Discussion

Who: Representatives from UU  
Churches in North Central  
Massachusetts

RSVP: [fitchburguu@gmail.com](mailto:fitchburguu@gmail.com)

We plan to discuss topics that are relevant to all...do we have ministerial support? Are we holding regular services? What are our strongest activity areas? Where do we have deficits? We hope to be buoyed by many kindred spirits and look at how we can better network amongst ourselves.

This collaboration is being spear-headed by Jill Sackett of UUCW and Wil Darcangelo, First Parish UU Church, Fitchburg & First Church of Lancaster, UU. Please come. We look forward to meeting you!

## **Fall Fest Fundraiser – Return of the “Church Chili”**

The Central Street construction stymied our lawn fair fundraising this past summer. As the dust clears and new pavement appears, we are especially pleased that the Town of Winchendon is proceeding with their annual Fall Festival on Saturday, October 22, from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. UUCW will be hosting a table right in front of our church, offering information and concessions.

Counting on a brisk, typical fall day, we'll be reprising last year's popular rich, meaty chili, plus corn muffins, hot dogs, chili dogs and beverages. Stop on by and say hello! Better yet, if you can spare an hour we'd love a hand in the booth. It's fun, and trust us...you meet a lot of people! Please email us at [info@set-in-stone.org](mailto:info@set-in-stone.org) if you'd like to help!

### **Contact Information**

**Governing Board Chair:**

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**Governing Board Members:**

Allan Gordon

Rev. Emerita Inanna Arthen (Clerk)

Dave Faucher (Auditor)

## Set in Stone Phase 3: Invitation to Bid

Our funding is in place for the third phase of our Set in Stone building repairs, thanks to generous donations from The Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund, the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation and our own dedicated Set in Stone church account. We will soon be placing a call for bids for Phase 3 repairs as follows:

“The Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, a.k.a. The Church of the Unity, 126 Central Street, Winchendon, MA, requests bids for tower and cricket repair of their 1866 granite building which is listed in the State Register of Historic Places, and in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Winchendon Village Historic District.

The project is being partially funded with a grant from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund through the Massachusetts Historical Commission. All work must be performed in accordance with the documents prepared by Spencer Preservation Group, Architect, 41 Valley Road, Nahant, MA 01908 (Telephone 617-227-2675) and meet the Secretary of Interior’s *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. State law prohibits discrimination. Awarding of this contract is subject to Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity guidelines. A copy of bidding documents may be

obtained by writing or telephoning the architect at the above address.”

A pre-bid meeting will be held this Fall at the church. The date and time will be published on our website once set.

Visit our website and blog for running updates and pictures of our Set in Stone journey: [www.set-in-stone.org](http://www.set-in-stone.org)

## Fall in New England Means Weddings

There’s no happier time than a wedding...and no better time for a wedding than during our cool, colorful autumn days. UUCW was pleased to host the Davis-Harvey wedding on September 22, complete with a pink stretch limo with...eyelashes?



Our imposing gothic structure, cathedral ceilings, beautiful carved hardwood and stained-glass windows make a beautiful and dramatic setting for any wedding. Interested in booking a ceremony? Give us a call or email to discuss our flexible and affordable options.

## United Way Day of Caring Delivers

Sincere thanks for all of the fantastic help we received during the September 16 United Way Day of Caring!

We were joined by Kathy, Dina, Alysia and Angelina from Fitchburg Family Services of the [Seven Hills Foundation](#). They were a white tornado of friendly, energetic help. In just a few short hours, we got cupboards cleaned, relined, and organized; our commercial stove scrubbed; dishes washed; floors vacuumed, dusted and mopped; and more. We are READY for reopening and our upcoming weddings.



A big shout out to the [United Way of North Central Massachusetts](#) for including us in this program. We certainly do feel “cared for.”

### Change of Address?

We want to stay in touch! If you change your address, either U.S. Mail or email, let us know: email [info@set-in-stone.org](mailto:info@set-in-stone.org) or write to the church at P.O. Box 218, Winchendon, MA 01475.

## Water Meditation

For those of you who missed our Water Communion service on September 18, we’re sharing here our words spoken as we combined our individual water samples into one vessel of hopes and dreams:

We draw from many wells,  
From oceans and rivers,  
From lakes and streams,  
From the middy Mississippi to the  
roaring Rio Grande,  
From faraway places and the ponds and  
puddles in our own backyards.

Yet all are refreshing,  
Each rivulet is cleansing,  
Each capable of nurturing and  
sustaining life.

As people of faith, we draw inspiration  
from many sources:  
From earth and sky,  
From poetry and legend.  
From art and music,  
From conscience and the law written in  
our own hearts.

Each satisfying our deep thirst for  
meaning  
And the yearning for justice that rolls  
down like waters in the soul.

- Gary Kowalski

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://facebook.com/uuwinchendon)