

THE WINCHENDON UNITARIAN

Established 1954

Published by the

Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon



PO Box 218, Winchendon, MA 01475

Church Telephone: 978-297-0554

Volume 67 Issue 3

NOVEMBER 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, November 10

5:30 pm – Our Neighbor’s Kitchen serves
Thanksgiving Dinner, Parish Hall

Tuesday, November 15

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

Friday, November 25

10:00 am – 1:00 pm – Annual Spirit of
Christmas Toy Drive and Decorating
Party, Circle Drive and Sanctuary

Saturday, December 10

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

Saturday, December 10

10:00 am – 4:00 pm – Historic Buildings
and Homes Tour, Sanctuary

Saturday, December 10

4:00 pm – Harrisville Brass Quintet,
Sanctuary

Mondays

7:45 pm - AA Meeting, Parish Hall

From Your Editor

November and December likely harbor more family traditions than any other time of the year. UUCW is no exception: we serve a festive, community turkey dinner; we decorate our sanctuary; and welcome donations during our toy drive. December brings more special community dinners; our cookie sale and bazaar; capped off with a peaceful Christmas Eve candlelight service.

Traditions are customs carried through from *generation to generation*. The trials of the COVID pandemic may have thrown many of our cherished traditions asunder. Perhaps new ones have been created. What are your traditions? But more importantly, with what generations, older and younger, can you share these? Some of our earliest memories are experiencing family traditions. Draw your loved ones in, break out that old recipe, sing that favorite song, take that special outing together. Create joy.

-Jill Nicholson Sackett - Chair, Governing Board.

UU Collaborative of North Central Massachusetts

An affirming and invigorating evening...eighteen representatives from seven different UU churches gathered on Wednesday, October 19, to discuss challenges, strengths and opportunities.

We were joined by Wren Bellavance-Grace, UUA Congregational Consultant, who served as facilitator and guide for the evening. We acknowledged challenges common to many including: COVID isolation, technology solutions to live services, cancelled or downsized activities, and small congregations. We also noted bright spots: sharing ministerial services and best practices, unexpected connections, Zoom meetings, and addressing food insecurity.

It was unanimous - everyone felt a breath of relief and fellowship and wants this to continue. Our first step was to establish a group Facebook page to share church events and news across all our North Central Massachusetts colleagues. Those who join will have one central place to follow the activities of our entire cluster of churches: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/832013087933981>

UUCW will be hosting the next meeting in January 2023. Stay tuned for details in a forthcoming newsletter.

“Church Chili” Stands Out at Fall Festival

The planners couldn't have ordered a better autumn day for Winchendon's Fall Festival on Saturday, October 22. Close to 200 vendors and organizations lined Central Street under a bright blue sky and colorful falling leaves. UUCW enjoyed a steady stream of customers at our concession stand as over 3000 shoppers strolled past.



Volunteers Kathy Fugatt, Rev Inanna Arthen, and Jean LaDuke greeted customers and served our mild, meaty chili to rave reviews. The Festival was a great showcase for the town and pushed UUCW closer to our fundraising goals for the year.

ONK Turkey Dinner

Our Neighbor's Kitchen chef Dave Faucher pulls out all the stops for this annual tradition! Join us on Thursday November 10, 5:30 pm for juicy turkey with all the fixin's. Our chefs will then be taking a well-deserved rest until we return to the kitchen in December.

Spirit of Christmas Toy Drive & Decorating Party

November brings one of our favorite annual activities: our toy drive and sanctuary decorating. Every year UUCW helps the Winchendon Fire Department annual toy drive with a collection run on the Friday following Thanksgiving. This year our “elves” will be standing out front on November 25 from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. Look for the brightly colored hats and holiday music provided by DJ Kayden Gordon. Shoppers can drive right through our front circle and deposit new (or like-new) gifts, cash and gift cards into their waiting hands. Your contribution will make someone’s Christmas a little brighter.

During the same time we’ll be decorating for the holidays in our sanctuary. Stop on in and hang a few ornaments on our two trees, string garlands, or arrange window-box candles. We have all the supplies, we just need you!

3rd Annual Holiday Cookie Sale

We’re at it again! For a third consecutive year Our Neighbor’s Kitchen chefs Jill Sackett and Inanna Arthen will be offering tasty holiday cookies for sale. Customers may choose

from classic iced, triple chocolate chip, peppermint plunge, snickerdoodles, or a “variety” sampler.

At only \$7 – 8 per dozen it’s easy to stock up. Those who pre-pay will receive complimentary gift-wrapping. Order now through December 9 at our website:

<https://uucw.ncmuuc.org/order-your-cookies-here/>



Pick up your cookie order at our Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, December 10, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Can’t make that date? We’ll work something out with you. Bazaar shoppers can also

stop in that day and buy cookies while supplies last.

Leave the baking to us – and come away with a lovely selection of freshly baked cookies to satisfy anyone’s sweet tooth. All proceeds will go towards our impressive utility and maintenance bills.

Calling All Vendors! Holiday Bazaar

If you miss Small Business Saturday, you can still “shop local” at our Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, December 10, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Both levels of our church will be open with vendors selling their wares.

We have already begun to book spaces...interested sellers can visit our website for more information and an application form:

<https://uucw.ncmuuc.org/saturday-december-10-1000-am-200-pm-holiday-bazaar/>

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 or write to the church at P.O. Box 218, Winchendon, MA 01475.

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

Set in Stone Phase 3 Pre-Bid Meeting Set

As a recipient of a State-based Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund grant, UUCW must follow strict procedures for execution of our Phase 3 building repairs. The work for this Phase must undergo competitive bidding. We have contacted a number of qualified contractors and have placed “Invitation to Bid” legal ads in three different newspapers. We’re hosting a pre-bid site visit on Wednesday, November 2, at 10:00 am for interested firms. All bids are due on November 11, 2022.

The Phase 3 contract will be awarded before the end of the year so that work may begin in early spring

Visit our website and blog for running updates and pictures of our Set in Stone journey: www.set-in-stone.org

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