



Volume 22 | Issue 2 October 2019 Unitarian Universalist Congregational Society of Westborough

## October Worship Schedule

THIS MONTH'S WORSHIP THEME IS:

**BELONGING**



### SUNDAY OCTOBER 6, 10:30 AM

*Sunday Service – Reverend Laurel Gray*

#### **Belonging to Ourselves**

Reflecting on Brene Brown's book *Braving the Wilderness*, we'll consider what it means to belong to ourselves, and the ways that our relationship with ourselves informs how we build community.

### SUNDAY OCTOBER 13, 10:30 AM

*Sunday Service – Andy Koenigsberg*

#### **Common Sense Is neither Common or Sense**

How often have you said – "It's just common sense"? Well, what used to be common sense has changed through the ages. From the world being the center of the universe to the universe being made up of mysterious stuff we cannot see. Andy will explore some observations of how the world is not as we perceive it to be.

### SUNDAY OCTOBER 20, 10:30 AM

*Sunday Service – Reverend Laurel Gray*

#### **Belonging to Each Other**

Today we'll reflect on what it means to belong to each other, to be in relationship as a community. As a congregation, we are a community who shows up for the joys and the sorrows of each other's lives, a community that helps us aspire to our own goodness and can be resilient amidst conflict and struggle.

### SUNDAY OCTOBER 27, 10:30 AM

*Sunday Service – Zach Wolfson*

#### **Oops, we were wrong about God. What now?**

Historically, belief in God has helped to order societies and has given great hope to individual lives. But our modern secular scientific era has begun to seriously undermine this traditional belief, and the trend lines seem to indicate that people are responding by becoming more extreme on both ends, but the fastest growing group in the U.S. are the "nones," people who simply forego any religious identity at all. Is it still possible to find identity, community, and meaning if we've realized that God doesn't exist?

## *From the Minister*

Dear UUCSW,

What a whirlwind this first month has been! And a joyful one at that. It has been wonderful getting to know all of you as we all get the church year into full swing. I am so touched by your warmth and kindness, and I am so very glad to be here – you all certainly know how to welcome someone!

Our first Sunday of the year was a great success, with many new and returning faces, as we gathered for our Water Communion service. It was beautiful hearing all of your stories about where your water had come from and watching all those stories blend together into one sacred well. And I am proud to announce that I got the water home safely (securely seat belted in the back seat of my car – see photos below) and successfully filtered and sterilized it (repeatedly), so it is ready to be used for blessings!

I'm looking forward to all that we have planned for this year and I am so thankful to all of you for the ways you make this congregation so vibrant. From all of the building renovations and cleaning that you've done to the welcome events to the Program Committee having nearly the whole worship calendar full for the year - you all are a pretty incredible congregation.

Sincerely,

*Laurel*

[Laurel.Gray@uucsw.org](mailto:Laurel.Gray@uucsw.org)



## Money Matters – October 2019

Online giving is now available!

Would you like to make your pledge contributions online, through a credit or debit card or checking account? This functionality is now available through Realm. You can access online giving on your computer account or through the Realm Connect app on your mobile device.

From your computer:

1. Log into your OnRealm.org account.
2. From the left-hand menu, select “community”, then “giving”.
3. Look for and click on the blue “+Give” button.
4. Fill in the requested information to make an online gift to either the 2019-2020 Annual Campaign or the Minister’s Discretionary Fund (select from pull down menu).

Click on the “?” in the upper righthand corner for help.

From your iOS device:

1. Open the Realm Connect app.
2. Select the “Giving” icon at the bottom of the screen.
3. Select “Make a gift”.
4. Fill in the requested information to make an online gift to either the 2019-2020 Annual Campaign or the Minister’s Discretionary Fund (select from pull down menu).

More information is available from the Realm help center link below. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Shumway at [Treasurer@uucsw.org](mailto:Treasurer@uucsw.org).

[Help page for online giving from your Realm computer account](#)

Thank you – Lisa Shumway ([LSS0907@gmail.com](mailto:LSS0907@gmail.com)), Treasurer

## UM's at Lunch, Wednesday, October 9th



We will meet for lunch at the Red Rock Grill on Route 140 in Upton on Wednesday, October 9th at 11:30. The weather should be nice for a little autumn drive then. All are welcome, and a good time is always had by all, so please, feel free join us.

If you'd like to join us please notify Mary Tribe ([marytribe5@gmail.com](mailto:marytribe5@gmail.com)) by Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, so we can make our reservations.

# Children and Youth Religious Education Program

Hello Friends and Families, both returning and new, for another RE Program year!

## Sunday Morning Programming for October:

**October 6th** - RE This is a sanctuary start for RE students before continuing to RE classes.

**October 13th** - This is a sanctuary start for RE students.

**October 20th** - This is a sanctuary start for RE students. High School Youth are welcome to join us for an informal visioning *Youth Group Meeting* at 12pm.

**October 27th** – RE students *will begin in the chapel* for a youth oriented opening service before going downstairs for a Halloween themed party!

## CALLING ALL TEACHERS!

There is still time for you to volunteer your time and talents as a teacher for this year's RE program! It is a tremendously rewarding experience and you will end up learning from the kids as much as you are teaching! Please consider helping out, regardless of if you have a child in the program – the children can always hear from their parents, but you've got unique perspectives and experiences that they could benefit from!

Please consider volunteering to teach this year. We have had some new families interested in attending RE as well as many returning families, and we want to be able to fully staff this amazing ministry for our community. Without your help, we cannot maintain our commitment to teaching our values to the next generation. If you cannot volunteer to be a consistent teacher, you can still offer what you can by picking which dates you can teach. Also, if you have any special talents that you would like to share with our youth, see DRE Cassie Lengel to talk about how you can lead an activity or discussion.

## Food Drive

Once again, we are going to be collecting food during the month of October for the Westborough Food Pantry! Items they have requested include: Instant Oatmeal, Ramen, Fruit cocktail, Brownie mix, Beef Stew, Pasta sauce, and Tomato products. Of course, any shelf-stable food that you can donate would be greatly appreciated! I'm sure things for children to pack in their lunches, sugar free items, and thanksgiving favorites would always be a good choice too!

## Magazine Collection

During our RE classes our youth participate in crafts and artistic creations that occasionally benefit from having magazines to cut up and glue on. If you have old magazines that you no longer want, we would love to have you donate them to our program! Our current supply is getting well cut up and we could use some new materials! Please leave them in the collection box in the chapel if you can donate. Thank you!

## Youth Group Meeting

Welcome to all our High School Youth who would like to join us for another year of Youth Group! We will meet at 12pm on October 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss our vision for what we'd like to do this year. There will be pizza!!

## *UU Knits*

Do you enjoy any type of needle or yarn craft? Then bring your WIP (Work in Progress) to sit and gab with other crafters while you make some progress! We provide a zero-pressure setting, and we have a great time. We welcome all skill levels. Join us in the parlor on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 6:30 pm.



*We need your help to create a welcoming environment at*

*UUCSW!*

In order to create a welcoming environment on Sundays, which we all value, from the greeters at our doors to coffee and snacks after the service, we all need to chip in. Please volunteer to be a greeter and/or coffee hour host. There is a sign-up board in the chapel or you can use the sign-up genius link below. In order to fill all the spots, we ask that each of you, to the best of your ability, signs up to greet twice and host coffee hour twice, over the course of the church year. If you are not sure what these tasks entail, please contact Lisa Shumway at [Membership@UUCSW.org](mailto:Membership@UUCSW.org).

[Greeter and Coffee Hour sign-up](#)

# October Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
10:30 AM – Sunday Service						
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
10:30 AM – Sunday Service	6:30 PM – UU Knits 		11:30 AM – UU's at Lunch			
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
10:30 AM – Sunday Service						
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
10:30 AM – Sunday Service 12 Noon – Youth Group	6:30 PM – UU Knits 					
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
10:30 AM – Sunday Service						

**THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY OF  
WESTBOROUGH**

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**THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATIONAL  
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Minister..... The Reverend Laurel Gray  
[Laurel.Gray@uucsw.org](mailto:Laurel.Gray@uucsw.org)

Minister Emerita .....The Reverend Cindy Frado

Director of Religious Education.....Cassie Lengel

Music Director.....Kala Farnham

Office Assistant.....Elisa Scully

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

John Metzger Janet Purney-Balabanis

Kim Hall David King

Judith Nicholson

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

Treasurer..... Lisa Shumway

Collector..... Susie Wells

Clerk.....Robin Fleming

Moderator..... Andy Koenigsberg

Historian..... Stacy Spies

Membership ..... John Metzger, Lisa Shumway

**DUE DATES**

**FOR VISTA NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Announcements, suggestions, or questions?

The VISTA is published monthly and submissions are welcome. Please email submissions to:

**Andy Koenigsberg at [Vista@uucsw.org](mailto:Vista@uucsw.org).**

Please put "VISTA" in the subject line.

**October Vista articles due by  
Noon, Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.**

For updates visit  
[uucsw.org](http://uucsw.org)

