

TODAY! NICARAGUA—POTENTIAL TRAVELERS MEETING**TRAVEL TO NICARAGUA FOR A SERVICE PROJECT THIS FEBRUARY**

The Union Church has had a relationship supporting Nicaragua for more than 15 years and made its first trip to the country in 2003. The Church has been on service trips every two years since then, has developed many deep connections with the people, and accomplished many goals in the areas of clean water, health and education. Over the past couple of years, since our 2018 trip, Nicaragua has experienced great political unrest and the country has suffered. They are in need of our support now more than ever with service work and prayers. It is with great excitement that we announce that **there will be a service trip this February during Newton School vacation week**. An information session will occur after Church today to answer questions.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: TODAY AT 2:00 P.M.

You and your animal friends are invited to a Blessing of the Animals Service at 2:00 p.m. on Waban Common. The Blessing of the Animals service remembers St. Francis, that great lover of the created world whose feast day is this week.

Our offering will be donations of needed items for the **Buddy Dog Humane Society** of

Sudbury. **Items of need include:** canned dog and cat food, soft dog treats and toys, Martingale collars, non-clumping cat litter, and liquid laundry detergent. For a full wish-list, please visit: www.buddydoghs.com/wishlist.

TODAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR- ALL ARE WELCOME!

Thank you to Brita Gill-Austern for laying our table and hosting our fellowship time this morning. If you would like to host a future, after-church Fellowship Hour, please sign up through the Sign-Up Genius webpage. The link can be found on the UCW website at ucw.org and in the Friday e-blast.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES



SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP REGISTRATION DUE OCTOBER 6TH

Online and Paper Registrations

In order to make sure your child/youth has a safe and great year at UCW, we ask all families to register their children and youth annually. The form includes updated contact and health/allergy information, a photo release, and an opportunity to include other information that may be helpful. We also invite families to share a \$50 per child/youth donation (\$100 family cap) to support our programming and the purchase of supplies and books (PayPal or checks gratefully accepted). We are grateful for your help!

SAFE CHURCH – CORI Forms and Child Safety Policy

We require all adults volunteering with our children or youth to complete a CORI background check, and also to be familiar with our Child Safety Policy. CORI forms and our policy may be found in the Crocker Chapel or online.

EXPLORING OUR FAITH & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP – TONIGHT, October 6th

Exploring Our Faith: 4:00-6:30 p.m.

High School Youth Group: 6:30-8:00 p.m. (come ready to paint!)

We're excited for the first gathering of Exploring Our Faith tonight! We'll meet for an hour longer than usual as we get oriented, and students should bring their cell phones and calendars. We'll get everyone set up on WeSpire and sign up for upcoming events. Also, please also plan to stay for HS Youth Group afterwards! We'll have an easy dinner, and then work on a fun project together. Hope to see you there!

MIDDLE-SCHOOLERS: Service Trip to Catie's Closet in Hyde Park, Wednesday, October 9th

The Middle School Youth Group had an awesome time yesterday at TreeTop Adventures, and now are getting ready to serve at Catie's Closet in Hyde Park. We'll meet at the church at 12:00 noon for a 1-3:00 p.m. visit, returning by 4:00 p.m. We hope you'll join us! Details are on WeSpire (ucw.wespire.com), or you can be in touch with Pastor Amy (amy@ucw.org).

PARENTS GROUP: Sunday, October 20th, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (3rd Sundays, UCW Reception Room)

All who are parenting kids of any age are invited to this warm, supportive group. We'll share the joys and challenges of parenting, learn from one another, and find the spiritual nourishment and support we need for our busy weeks. Come as you are, when you can! We hope to see you.

WESPIRE: Staying Connected and Organized

We are excited to try a new tool this year, donated to us by WeSpire (founded by UCW's Susan Hunt Stevens), that should simplify and improve how we stay in touch, organized and sign up for events and volunteering. Visit ucw.wespire.com to sign up. Please reach out to Susan (susan@hunstevens.com) or Pastor Amy (amy@ucw.org) with questions.

ADULT EDUCATION, SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP

NEW OFFERING -- YOGA: PRAYING WITH THE WHOLE BODY WITH ANDREW HEINTZ

Join body and spirit in an accessible yoga class. In this hour-long class, we will join breath and body both in energetic flow and restorative stretching. No matter where you are on your yoga journey, you will build strength and find a quiet restful center. This class is accessible to all body types and abilities. Please bring a yoga mat and any favorite props. Andrew has some props and mats available to borrow.



- Thursdays, 8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
- October 3rd to November 7th
- In the sanctuary of the Union Church in Waban
- Accessibility: The church has an elevator to the left of the office entrance.
- These classes are freely provided by Andrew and therefore there is no cost to participate.

Andrew is a minister and yoga teacher in the Boston/Newton area. He served as the ministerial intern at Union Church from 2016-2017, and he continues to be active in the Newton community. In addition to being an RYT-200, Andrew holds certifications in plus-size and chair yoga so that he can help everybody feel their best. YogaWithAndrew.com IG: yogawithandrewh

WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP: 7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

We live in a noisy world. There is much that clamors for our attention. Even when we shut our eyes at night it may take a while for the din to die down enough for us to sleep. You are invited into a practice of cultivating spaciousness and silence. You are invited into the beauty of the morning light streaming in through the windows of Memorial Chapel. You are invited to rest a while in the peace of stillness. If you have questions, please be in touch with Sandra DaDalt or Pastor Stacy.

CHURCH MATTERS

CALLED TO SERVE?

As we begin a new program year at the church, there are several leadership opportunities that are open. Perhaps you are feeling a call to serve? Clerk of Council - this member of our governing council that meets once a month on the first Wednesday is responsible for assuring the minutes of the Council and the records of the church are in good order. In addition, we are looking for another Deacon, someone to join the Human Resources Team, someone to join the Christian Education Leadership Team, and someone to join an ad hoc group to begin to plan coverage during Pastor Stacy's upcoming sabbatical (May, June, July 2020). If you are interested in learning more about these positions or being considered for one of them, would you please be in touch with Co-Moderator, Diane Tillotson at dtillotson@hembar.com.

MISSION OUTREACH **INEQUITY AND INEQUALITY IN PUBLIC EDUCATION**

This year your Mission Outreach Leadership Team is organizing its work (and coordinating with the other areas of UCW life) around seasonal themes. These will provide an organizing context for the many mission activities and we will coordinate educational opportunities, worship, and children's education around these themes when possible. We also hope to coordinate our seasonal offerings around these themes.

Themes are as follows:

Fall – Inequality and Inequity in Public Education
Winter – Homelessness and Housing
Spring – Climate Change (and disaster relief)

For our fall exploration of Inequality and Inequity in Public Education, we invite you to partake of the following opportunities for service, education and reflection.

- Oct. 27th after church: Equity and Equality in Public Education - information session
- Next book group continues the discussion of race in America -- Oct. 29th at 7:00 p.m.
"Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison

For more information about each of these offering please see the Children, Youth and Families and Adult Education/Spiritual Formation section of these announcements or the Friday e-blast. Or please feel free to reach out to Carol Bascom-Slack and Jaap van Reijendam.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun., Oct .6	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study	The Union Church in Waban: 14 Collins Road, Waban, MA 02468
	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal	
	10:00 a.m.	Worship	
	2:00 p.m.	Blessing of the Animals	
	4:00 p.m.	Exploring our Faith	
	6:30 p.m.	High School Youth Group	
Mon., Oct .7	7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	
Tue., Oct .8	4:30 p.m.	Montgomery Travelers	
	6:00 p.m.	Teaching Parish Committee	
Wed., Oct .9	7:30 a.m.	Prayer Group	
	12:00 p.m.	Middle School Youth Group Service Trip - Catie's Closet	
	6:00 p.m.	Mission Leadership Meeting	
Thur., Oct .10	8:45 a.m.	Thursday Morning Yoga w/Andrew Heintz	
Sun., Oct .13	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal	
	10:00 a.m.	Worship	

For a complete listing, and details of upcoming events, please visit our website, www.ucw.org

COPY DEADLINE: Material for inclusion in the Friday e-Blast newsletter or our Sunday Announcements insert should be e-mailed to the office at ucw@ucw.org, by **9:00 a.m. on the previous Wednesday morning**. Please specify whether for e-Blast, Sunday Announcements, or both. Thank you!