

CALLING ALL 2020 NICARAGUAN TRAVELERS!!!!

THERE WILL BE A BRIEF—BUT IMPORTANT---MEETING TODAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE FOR ALL THOSE PLANNING TO GO ON THE CHURCH TRIP TO NICARAGUA IN FEBRUARY 2020.

The Nica team needs to get a final count in order to plan our service project. The group will be leaving on Saturday, February 15th and returning on the following Saturday, February 22nd, and to date we have 21 confirmed travelers. We have some important information to share with you all about the trip. Please come, even if you are still “on the fence” about going. If you are planning to travel and cannot attend, please contact Karen Weisgerber (karen@weisbrown.net) in the next week so that we can make sure you are included in the trip planning!



We need your help! Community Thanksgiving Dinner Saturday, November 23rd at 2:00 p.m.

The UCW Community Thanksgiving Dinner is a week away, and no one has volunteered to help yet! Please let us know how you would like to contribute. The volunteer sign-up link can be found by going to the Union Church homepage at ucw.org. This event brings together local seniors and families who sit down together for a relaxing meal and a time of fellowship. This year's dinner will take place on Saturday, November 23rd at 2:00 p.m., and even if you cannot attend the actual dinner, there are tasks you can do to help. We would also love it if UCW members invite folks who would enjoy our dinner. Reach out to Alicia Collins (aliciamaureencollins@gmail.com) or look in the side chapel for invitations that you can distribute. Thanks for supporting this wonderful event!

Those who participate are encouraged to join in an opportunity to reflect on the experience of sharing a meal with our neighbors after fellowship on Dec. 1st.

TODAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR- ALL ARE WELCOME!

Thank you to the Pursers 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

TODAY! YOUTH GROUPS: HELPING HANDS CLEAN-UP AND DONUTS

Following worship, the Middle and High School Youth Groups, including the Exploring Our Faith group (AND ANYONE ELSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP!) will gather in teams to lend a hand to any members of the congregation who could use help with yard or house work, or other projects. Please grab some food at reception, and then gather in the Vestry as we get organized, and distribute tools, cider and donuts!



TONIGHT: PARENTS GROUP, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (3rd Sundays, Stacy's Office)

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.

KIDS AND YOUTH SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY DINNER

Friday, Nov. 22nd and Saturday, Nov. 23rd

Our beloved Thanksgiving Community Dinner is coming up soon (see details on the first page), and is a great opportunity for all-ages to serve! Come on Friday night to help set up, or on Saturday to help serve and welcome our guests. You can sign up through the link on the ucw.org homepage.

FOURTH GRADE BIBLES and THANKSGIVING SUNDAY – Sunday, November 24th

On Nov. 24th, we'll give thanks for and celebrate our fourth graders as they grow in their faith, and as the church gifts them their own Bibles. We hope you will plan to join us. If you have a fourth grader in your home or family who would like to be part of this special day, please be in touch with Pastor Amy (amy@ucw.org).

SAVE THE DATE: CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – KIDS LEAD US IN ADVENT WORSHIP

Sunday, December 15th (with rehearsal on Dec. 14th) – Calling all UCW Young Musicians!

We're excited to begin thinking about our child-and-youth-led Advent worship service. If you or your kids would like to share music for this special service, lead our storytelling or liturgy, or help behind the scenes, greeting, or in any other way, please let Pastor Amy (amy@ucw.org) know. There are ways for everyone to participate!

ADULT EDUCATION, SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP

NEW DAY – THURSDAY MORNINGS - PRAYER GROUP: 7:30 – 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.

YOGA WITH ANDREW CONTINUES THROUGH DECEMBER – THURSDAYS, 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

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.

BOOK GROUP – DECEMBER 10TH, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Our next book is “Between the World and Me” by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

“In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation’s history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of “race,” a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?”

(Amazon review)

STAR GAZING: THE WISE ONES GAZED INTO THE HEAVENS - NOW YOU CAN TOO!



We are invited on Wednesday, November 20th to join our own Phil Rounseville at the astronomy observatory at Westford MIT Lincoln Lab. The observatory is located at 2 Millstone Road, Westford. Please plan to arrive at 6:30 p.m. and please wear warm clothing. We will have an opportunity to look into the deep beyond and to marvel that the God of the cosmos is also the one who is present to us here on this little blue orb we call earth. If you are interested in joining this remarkable offering, please be in touch with Pastor Stacy (Stacy@ucw.org).

MISSION OUTREACH

HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING

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:

Winter – Homelessness and Housing

Looking forward to our winter theme of Homelessness and Housing issues, you are invited to participate in the Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 23rd and to share a personal moment from this experience in a reflection after fellowship on Dec. 1st.

Spring – Climate Change (and disaster relief)

For more information about these offerings, please see the Friday e-blast. Or please feel free to reach out to Carol Bascom-Slack, Jaap van Reijendam or Julie Heffernan.

NEWCOMERS – WE WELCOME YOU!

Nametags – Knowing each other by name is important to us. It is a way to say to each other that you and I matter and it is an invitation into friendship and community. If you are new to us and do not yet have a name tag, please use the welcome card in the pew pocket to let us know that you would like one to be waiting for you the next time you come into this place.

Friday e-blast – Every Friday an electronic newsletter/update is sent to the community. It features much information about upcoming events as well as reflections on what has been. If you would like to subscribe to this vital information channel within the church, again please fill out the welcome card and indicate such.

Membership – Could the Union Church be a spiritual home for you and your family? Would you like to learn more about the Union Church in Waban, its history, its present-day programs and offerings, and its vision for the future? If so, please reach out to Pastor Stacy (stacy@ucw.org or 617-759-9016).

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun., Nov. 17	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal	The Union Church in Waban: 14 Collins Road, Waban, MA 02468
	10:00 a.m.	Worship	
	11:00 a.m.	Nicaragua Travelers' Meeting	
	11:15 a.m.	Montgomery Travelers Meeting	
	11:30 a.m.	Helping Hands Clean-up	
	7:30 p.m.	Parents' Gathering	
Mon., Nov. 18	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	
Tue., Nov. 19	6:30 p.m.	Worship Team Meeting	
Wed., Nov. 20	6:30 p.m.	Wellspring	
Thur., Nov. 21	7:30 a.m.	Prayer Group	
	8:45 a.m.	Thursday Morning Yoga with Andrew	
	10:30 a.m.	Norwood Health Worship	
Fri., Nov. 22	6:15 p.m.	Set-Up for Community Thanksgiving Dinner	
Sat., Nov. 23	2:00 p.m.	Community Thanksgiving Dinner	
Sun., Nov. 24	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study	For a complete listing, and details of upcoming events, please visit our website, www.ucw.org
	8:30 a.m.	Teacher's Breakfast	
	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal	
	10:00 a.m.	Worship	
	11:30 a.m.	Montgomery Travelers Meeting Personal Reflections from our Journey	

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!