

The Gleam

May 2019 Newsletter
Unitarian Universalist Church of Wakefield



*God is at work enlarging the boundaries of my heart.
God is making room in my heart for compassion. – Howard Thurman*

from
the interim
MINISTER

In this column I reflect – become a mirror – for topics big and small. Sometimes I take a life experience as a starting point. Sometimes, it’s an idea that grows into a sermon. Theological reflection is a process that takes place when we pass an experience through the “fire of thought”, in Ralph Waldo Emerson’s words. In doing so, we grow a little, sometimes a lot. We see an issue from more angles. We appreciate more deeply that which drew our attention.

At any given stage of life we are partly free, and partly embedded in the systems that make up our world. We perceive limits in what we can understand and what we can accomplish. Spirituality makes it possible to name these limits, to see beyond them, and even to transcend them. It’s an active process of give-and-take by which we integrate experience and make meaning. With theological reflection, this process becomes a deliberate practice.

We can do this as individuals, and we can do it together. As a Unitarian Universalist congregation we may consider the challenges of walking together; we may consider what justice asks of us in light of our values and beliefs. We engage in dialogue, act upon the resulting insights, and evaluate the result. In this ongoing cycle of action and reflection we continuously enlarge our capacity to feel, to think and to act. We move beyond the limits we thought we had.

In faith,

Rev. Bruce Taylor

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Important Dates for Your Calendar

Thursday, May 2

**Interfaith Service of Prayer for attacks in Sri Lanka, EE Church, 5 Park St., 5:30pm
Church Mice Cleaning Night, 7 - 9pm**

Saturday, May 4

Linden Tree Coffeehouse, 8pm

Friday, May 10

Flea Market Presale, 6:30 - 8pm

Saturday, May 11

Flea Market, 9am - 1pm

Friday, May 17

Rise Up Singing, 7:30pm

Monday, May 20

Church Annual Meeting, 7:30pm

Tuesday, May 21

The State of Hate in Mass., The Savings Bank Theater, WHS, 60 Farm St, 7pm

Sunday, May 26

Book Group, 12pm

Meditation Practice Group, 4pm

Wednesday, May 29

Sanctuary Boston, Climate Justice, 7pm

May Services

All Sunday services begin at 10:30AM
Music by Alla Vishnevetsky starts at 10:20AM

May 5: Chapel Service led by Jackie Millinor
What is the fire of commitment?

Social Hall

What is the fire of commitment? Each Sunday morning, as we extinguish the chalice, we repeat the words "We extinguish this flame, but not the ... fire of commitment." What does that mean to each of us? To us collectively as a beloved community? As we move into a new church year, we face many challenges, but with those challenges, also comes many opportunities. How do we stoke the flames of our fire of commitment so that we truly are serving humanity in fellowship? Join us as we explore how to keep our embers burning!

May 12: Rev. Bruce Taylor

The Arts of Theological Reflection

Sanctuary

We do this naturally from a place of tranquility: recall a significant experience or idea, and ponder its implications in relation to our beliefs, our deeply held values, and the inner voice that some of us call God. Today's service presents theological reflection as a spiritual practice for Unitarian Universalists.

May 19: Lisa Kirk

Chocolate Bar

Sanctuary

In many religious communities comfort is found in what is called a power greater than themselves. How does that translate for Unitarian Universalists? Come join us on May 19th for at least one response to that question.

May 26 : Rev. Bruce Taylor

In God's Image

Sanctuary

In the creation story of Genesis, man and woman are created in the image and likeness of God. Our own Unitarian Universalist traditions retain traces of this exalted view of human nature. Today's service explores the hope and challenge of an *imago dei* theology. How does the sacred reveal itself through our thoughts, actions and evolution as human beings?

May 29, 7PM (Wednesday eve):

Sanctuary Boston Climate Justice

Sanctuary

Come to this informal, energetic and music-filled service and bring a friend! See page 3 for details.



Our Church's Mission:

We gather in faith to

Welcome with open appreciation,

Worship together in community.

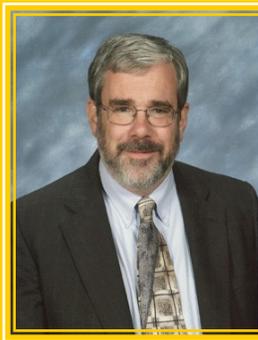
Walk a path of truth, and

Work with love for a better world today.

This Month's Guest Speaker:

Lisa Kirk graduated from Andover Newton Theological School with a Masters of Divinity in 2015. She has served as pulpit supply in several pulpits over the past eight years both in Massachusetts and in Connecticut. During her time in seminary she worked in ministry for the homeless on the streets of Waltham. She is currently serving as a prison chaplain and works full time as a hospice chaplain.

Lisa lives in Marblehead, Mass. with her two cats, Sam and Elly.



Minister's Availability and Office Hours

I respond promptly to emails and cell phone messages (603-233-3554) between 9:00am and 9:00pm, Tuesday through Sunday. (Monday is my Sabbath).

For pastoral emergencies, please call me anytime and I will respond as soon as I can. During the month of January, I plan to be in my office on the following days.

Tuesdays 5/7, 5/14, 5/21 and 5/28
from 1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Thursday 5/2, from 3:00P.M. to 6:00P.M.

Thursdays 5/16, 5/23 and 5/30
from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Since these hours may change due to unforeseen circumstances, I encourage you to call ahead.

The Wakefield Interfaith Clergy Association will hold an **Interfaith Service of Prayer on Thursday, May 2 at 5:30 P.M. at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 5 Park St.** This date is designated by Congress as the National Day of Prayer, with the theme "*Love one another.*" We are invite to attend, and remember the Christians killed in Sri Lanka, pray for their survivors, and rededicate ourselves to building a community of understanding in our town. Following the prayer service, the Clergy Association will host a community conversation on religious diversity and deepening our respect and support for one another.

The Sanctuary Boston HERE on Wednesday, May 29

7:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary

The Sanctuary Boston is a faith community for vibrant, experiential worship grounded in Unitarian Universalism and open to seekers of all kinds. Sanctuary Boston was formed in 2012 by young adults looking to combine progressive religion with worship that comes alive in music and ritual. It caters to the needs of young adults and to people who may consider themselves “spiritual but not religious” and who seek an authentic connection to the sacred.

On Wednesday, May 29, our church will collaborate with The Sanctuary Boston to create a worship service on the theme of Climate Justice. Unitarian Universalism calls us to honor the sacred in every person and the interconnected web of life. Climate Justice calls us to halt global warming and to take responsibility for its impact on current and future generations, including poorer communities and people of color.

We encourage all of our members and friends to come and participate in this informal, energetic and music-filled service. Bring a friend!



Annual Church Meeting, Monday, May 20, 7:30PM in the Social Hall. All church members and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend though only church members may vote.

Rise Up Singing



Our next Rise Up Singing event will take place on Friday, May 17 at 7:30 PM in the Social Hall. It's an informal and spirited evening of shared music-making inspired by, but not limited to the *Rise Up Singing* and *Rise Again* songbooks. Singers and instrumentalists of all ages are welcome! No auditions and no rehearsals – just come & join in. Free Will Offering (\$5 suggested donation). Please consider bringing a non-perishable item for the Food Pantry.

UU Book Group ~All Readers Welcome!

The Book Group will meet on the 4th Sunday in May 26th, at noon in the Gathering Room. There is no particular topic planned, just come share what you have been reading. Happy Reading!

- *Mary Adele Taylor*



Linden Tree Coffeehouse Presenting the Finest of

Folk Music since 1985

Now in Our 34th Season!

The Early Mays Trio

Saturday, May 4

Doors open at 7:30pm

Show begins at 8pm

Tickets are \$20

For further information and updates:

www.lindentreecoffeehouse.org

lindentree85@comcast.net

Phone: 781-246-2836



Meditation Practice
Group—
The Silent Pause
led by Joe Cresta

This is held monthly on the **fourth Sunday of the month at 4:00 PM** on the stage in our Social Hall. The next session will be on Sunday, **May 26**. Allow about an hour, bring your meditation cushion, if you have one, or you can sit in a chair. At times there may be others leading meditation, including our Affiliate Community Minister, Ralph Galen. The group is open to everyone; there is no commitment to be there every month and no cost. A free-will offering to benefit the ministries of the church is appreciated. For more information, call Joe Cresta at 781-640-2619 or email him at j7cresta@comcast.net.



President's Message

I would like to thank all of the members and friends who attended our Pledge Dinner on April 13th. I explained at the dinner the challenges that we face in the upcoming year. I will discuss them at the annual meeting as well. In the meantime, what I'm asking everyone to do is to please turn in your pledge card so we can finalize the budget for next year. Please turn in your pledge card by Friday, May 10th.

Don't forget our annual meeting will take place on Monday, May 20th at 7:30 PM in the Social Hall. All committee chairs must have their reports in no later than May 14th. Eric, and I have to put the report together and have it ready for distribution by the 17th. The warrant for the annual meeting will be sent to you via email and posted in the church by Friday, May 10th.

Website Fixed!

Many of you are aware that we were having problems trying to reach our website. It is now fixed thanks to Nick. In fixing the website, we had to change our website address to www.wakefield-uu.org. Please note that a dash symbol is before the "uu." All materials that you may have our website address listed must be changed to ensure everyone can access information about the church. This includes any press releases, public announcements, and social media platforms. It has already been changed on Facebook.

I hope to see you at the annual meeting!

Joe

The 2019-2020 Stewardship Drive, "Joining Together as We Work with Love for a Better World Today" is underway. The drive kicked off on Saturday, April 13 with a wonderful Pledge Dinner hosted by church president Joe Cresta. The evening featured delicious food, delightful conversation among church friends & informative presentation on the year past and the years ahead. The pledge packets were handed out during this dinner and at the following day's service. The remaining envelopes were mailed out. Please look for your packet in the mail & contact Janine Fabiano at j9fabiano@yahoo.com if you did not receive your pledge packet. **Pledge cards are due back by May 10th.**



Church Mice Cleaning Night!

Thursday, May 2, 7-9pm

Thursday, May 2 is the next opportunity for people to clean the church together. Typically, the Church Mice Night is the first Thursday of the month.

POC: Janine Fabiano



Fleas, Jewelry and Volunteers Wanted!

This year's Flea Market & Jewelry Sale:

Saturday, May 11, 9am – 1pm

*** *Special Members & Friends Pre-Sale:***

Friday, May 10, 6:30-8pm

Wanted: Fleas & Jewelry!!! Drop off is Sunday, May 5 thru Thursday evening, May 9. All fleas & jewelry may be left in the Social Hall. Please no clothes, linens, TVs, computers or text books.

Wanted: Strong people to help with Table Set-up on Monday, 5/6, 7pm and breakdown on Saturday, 5/11 at 1pm.

Wanted: Helpers!!! Many volunteers are needed for prepping, sorting, and pricing Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, evening 7-9pm, and selling & clean up on Saturday from 8:30am – 2:00pm. Please check your schedule for when you can help and sign up with Janine Fabiano at j9fabiano@yahoo.com; 781-245-0631 or Nancy Trimper at nptrimper@gmail.com 781-245-8562.

Task	Date & Hours	# of Volunteer Needed
Flea Drop Off begins	Sun, 5/5, 10am-12pm	
Table Setup, Setup & Flea Drop Off	Mon, 5/6, 7-9pm	5
Flea Drop Off, Sorting & Pricing	Tues, 5/7, 7-9pm	5
Flea Drop Off, Sorting, Pricing	Wed, 5/8, 7-9pm	5
Flea Drop Off, Sorting, Pricing	Thurs, 5/9, 7-9pm	5
Pre-Sale for Members & Friends	Fri, 5/10, 6:30-8pm	3
Sell, Wrap & Carry out large flea	Sat, 5/11, 8:30am-1pm	12
Cleanup: breakdown table, discard/pack up/ remove leftover fleas	Sat, 5/11, 1pm-2pm	10

* If a daytime drop off or volunteer session works better for you, please contact Janine to make arrangements.

Social Action Corner

UU Annual Food Drive

Wakefield Food Pantry 

Hunger Hurts -- A Community Responds

Thank you to everyone who brought in food, personal care items, cleaning supplies, and money in April for our weekly donations to the Wakefield Food Pantry. Each week, members of the Social Action Committee transported bulging bags of goodies from our church to the Food Pantry housed in the lower level of the Americal Civic Center on Main Street, Wakefield.

The Food Pantry is a not-for-profit, volunteer organization with a mission to provide emergency food supplies to Wakefield residents who need a helping hand. The Pantry also runs various specialized programs throughout the year to support youth and seniors who may need extra resources for food, supplies, and support.

Wakefield UU Church members and friends have supported the work of the Wakefield Interfaith Food Pantry through regular donations and an annual food drive since the early 1980s when it was founded. We also encourage other means of support such as volunteering at the pantry and providing monetary gifts.



Our next service date at *My Brother's Table* is **Saturday, May 25**. Everyone intending to help prepare and serve dinner will meet in front of the Wakefield UU Church on Saturday at noon for carpooling to Lynn. Food preparation is from 12:30pm to 2:30pm followed by serving the food. Clean up is over by 4:30pm at the latest. New volunteers are welcome!

On the 4th Saturday of every other month volunteers from the Wakefield UU Church join with other volunteers to assist with the preparation and service of meals at My Brother's Table (98 Willow St., Lynn), a soup kitchen serving the greater Lynn area for an average of 200 guests each day. Volunteers are encouraged to help for any part of the afternoon as schedules and stamina allow. Families with children are welcome to help. For more information, contact Laura Broding at brodingl@gmail.com, or 617-312-6718.

The State of Hate in Massachusetts featuring Robert Trestan, Regional Director, ADL New England

Join the Wakefield Human Rights Commission and Anti-Defamation League's Metro North Advisory Committee for an eye-opening presentation by ADL New England's Regional Director on the state of hate in Massachusetts and how communities can come together to respond after hate and bias incidents occur.

May 21, 2019, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

The Savings Bank Theater, Wakefield High School, 60 Farm Street, Wakefield.
This event is free. Registration is required.

RSVP AT: <http://tinyurl.com/mastateofhate>

For questions, please email

WHRC@wakefield.ma.us



Refreshments are generously provided by The Savings Bank.



Social Action Committee

The May meeting of the Social Action Committee (SAC) will be at the church on **Tuesday, May 21, from 7-8:30pm** in Gathering Room. The SAC meets monthly to discuss and plan our many activities. The SAC is open to all, and we would love for you to join us! If you are interested in knowing more about this committee, please contact Laura Broding at brodingl@gmail.com, or speak with any of us at coffee hour: Laura Broding, Vicky Doran, Janine Fabiano, Sheila Moran, Eric Reid, Mary Adele Taylor.

As UUs we are guided and inspired to live by the words of our seven UU Principles. Through our work on the Social Action Committee we affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person,
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all

Social Action Corner, cont.



Register Now!

- www.campwakefield.com
- June 24th-August 30th
- 467 Main St.
- Wakefield, MA
- 781-716-5507
- Vacation Camps Included!
- Questions? Email: chris@bgcwakefield.org

Programs:

- Weekly Sessions
- Ages 5-16
- Swim Lessons
- Hall Memorial Pool
- Club Clash
- Sports & Games
- Performing & Creative Arts
- Camp Kiddos
- Teen Travel

Visit our new website to register and learn more about our summer programs!

www.campwakefield.com



Join a Human Chain of Hope!

Refugee Immigration Ministry

12th Annual International Concert

Thursday, May 2, 7 P.M.

Temple Reyim, 1860 Washington St, Newton

Participating Choirs

Koleinu-Boston's Jewish Community Chorus

Philadelphie SDA Haitian Church, Malden

Sikh Chorus, Westborough

Compassionate Hearts Children's Chorus

St. Peter's Church, Ugandan Choir, Waltham

Islamic Call to Prayer

Speaker

Robert Trestan, Anti-Defamation League New England Regional Director

Visit RIM's Web-site to purchase tickets: \$25. Students free ~ www.r-i-m.net

Make a Contribution to support RIM's work!

Learn About Volunteer Opportunities

Refugee Immigration Ministry 6 Pleasant St., Suite 227, Malden, MA 02148; Phone: 781-322-1011

Around the Block

Lucy Skeldon reports that Mike's surgery for a pancreatic tumor went very well, and he is recovering at an impressive pace, according to his doctors. Many thanks for all your good wishes and positive vibes!

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*Do you know of some news that should be shared with our congregation? Please send it to [news@wakefielduu.org](mailto:news@wakefielduu.org), and it will appear in next month's Around the Block.*

### Nominating Committee News

#### Volunteers Needed to lead our church in 2020

If you wish want to contribute to the church in a meaningful way or wish to improve your leadership skills, or have new ideas for the direction of the church, we need you and you need us.

These are the committee or position openings:

- President - one opening
- Clerk - one opening
- Board of Directors- two openings
- Board of Trustees- one opening
- Nomination Committee - two openings

To be considered for these positions, you must be a certified member. Please contact Sheila Moran at 781-246 - 9442 if you wish to help or have any questions.

### Worship Committee News

The Worship Committee will meet to plan for next church year and would love lots of input from church members and friends. All are encouraged to attend any or all of the following meetings in the Gathering Room:

5/14, 6pm (preceding BOM meeting)

5/28, 7pm

6/11, 6pm (preceding BOM meeting)

Areas to discuss:

1. General Worship Schedule for 2019/2020.
2. Sunday morning worship speakers
3. Chapel Services
4. Congregational input on WUUC worship offerings



## This Month in Religious Education

This year's RE program, A World of New Friends, continues. Here is our May schedule:

May 5: Sikhism: Meet Devasheesh

May 12: Special Projects with Youth Mentors

May 19: Judaism: Meet Ben

May 26: Special Projects with Youth Mentors

### **April Religious Education Highlight**

In April we learned about Earth Centered religions and started working on special projects....

It all started with the Bin of Randomness. What's that, you ask? The Bin of Randomness is a Lucy Skeldon Special. When Lucy has odds and ends that many would throw away (gasp!), Lucy adds them to the Bin of Randomness (these three words should be said in a deep, dramatic tone of voice). Once in a while, Lucy brings her special, ever evolving Bin in to church so our UU kids can eagerly explore it's contents. Invariably, the kids come up with beaming faces having found absolute treasures inside. These finds then become the focal point of their art projects. One art project, starring Damaris the hot-glue-gun goddess and a large supply of used CDs, might become a mobile sculpture centered on our seven UU Principles as the theme. But, you never know with art -- it may turn into something else; something not yet even imagined.

While Damaris has been perfecting her glue-gun prowess, Miriam and Coralee have been avidly applying themselves to the process of creating an original skit. Starting with a storyline about a Polar Bear, to creating the scenery, costumes, lighting and more, these girls are proving themselves to be quite adept playwrights, scenic designers, and thespians. A date has not yet been set for the performance.

### **Planning an Event at the Church?**

**Please check in with Elizabeth Lowry, the shared-space coordinator, to schedule an event. We are transitioning to a new calendar system; at this point, only Elizabeth & Joe Cresta can edit the Google Calendar.**



## **Church Officers and Staff**

**Interim Minister** - Rev. Bruce Taylor

(603) 233-3554 [bruce.carey.taylor@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.carey.taylor@gmail.com)

**Affiliate Minister** - Rev. Ralph Galen

(978) 566-4703 [ralphgalen@gmail.com](mailto:ralphgalen@gmail.com)

**President** - Joe Cresta

13 Lafayette Street, Wakefield, MA 01880

(781) 640-2619 [j7cresta@comcast.net](mailto:j7cresta@comcast.net)

**Treasurer** - Chris Fontein

44 Church Street, Wakefield, MA 01880

(781) 246-2816 [cemf@rcn.com](mailto:cemf@rcn.com)

**Clerk** - Eric Reid

26 Crescent Street, #102A, Wakefield, MA 01880

(339) 293-7613 [reideric@yahoo.com](mailto:reideric@yahoo.com)

**Collector** - Janine Fabiano

29 Lafayette Street, Wakefield, MA 01880

(781) 245-0631 [j9fabiano@yahoo.com](mailto:j9fabiano@yahoo.com)

**Board of Directors** -

Kurt Barkalow: (781) 621-8194

[barkalow@rcn.com](mailto:barkalow@rcn.com)

Jackie Millinor: (978) 886-7792

[uumillijac@gmail.com](mailto:uumillijac@gmail.com)

**Religious Ed. Comm. Chair** - Vicky Doran

(781) 771-4863

[vickydorand2@gmail.com](mailto:vickydorand2@gmail.com)

**Pianist** - Alla Vishnevetsky

(617) 776-5362

[markalla@hotmail.com](mailto:markalla@hotmail.com)

**Church Rentals** - Elizabeth Lowry

(781) 246-2524

[elizlowry86@gmail.com](mailto:elizlowry86@gmail.com)

### How to Reach Us:

**Address:** 326 Main St, PO Box 529,

Wakefield, MA 01880

**Telephone:** 781-245-4632

**Web site:** [www.wakefield-uu.org](http://www.wakefield-uu.org)

**Email :** [admin@wakefielduu.org](mailto:admin@wakefielduu.org)

**For Newsletter Submissions:**

[news@wakefielduu.org](mailto:news@wakefielduu.org)

**For "This Sunday & Beyond" Weekly Email**

**or Other Submissions:** [admin@wakefielduu.org](mailto:admin@wakefielduu.org)



## Sunday Morning Volunteers

The following volunteer positions are available each week. Please consider helping out on a weekly, monthly or occasional basis:

**Coffee hour:** Set-up, clean-up, or provide baked goods, fruit, cheese or juices.

**Greeter:** Starting around 10:15am, greet and distribute the Sunday order of service in the foyer.

**Heat:** Open the sanctuary radiators and make sure heat is working early Sunday mornings.

**Trash & Recycling:** Take a bag or two of trash or recycling away to discard through home pickup.

If you are available to help with any of these Sunday morning duties, please send an email at [admin@wakefielduu.org](mailto:admin@wakefielduu.org) or call Joe Cresta at (781) 640-2619 with task and available dates.

**Worship Associate:** Set up sanctuary for service, make announcements and light & extinguish chalice. Training is provided.

Contract Jackie Millinor at [uumillijac@gmail.com](mailto:uumillijac@gmail.com) or (978) 886-7792 to volunteer.

## With Mugs, Red Means Go...

...and introduce yourself!

We invite our guests and visitors to use our red mugs at coffee hour, so we will know who is new to our church. Please look out for the RED mugs and take a minute to say "Hi" to our guests and visitors. If you are a guest or visitor, or have been away for a while, please use one of our RED mugs.



**From Gleam Editor:** All submissions to the *Gleam* must be in writing - either email or paper copy. Please include the contact name, phone #, and/or email address for each article. Please send email submissions with the word "Gleam" in the subject line to: [news@wakefielduu.org](mailto:news@wakefielduu.org)

The next *Gleam* deadline is **May 21**

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