

This community affirms and promotes the Unitarian Universalist principles:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- The goal of a world community with peace, liberty and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

Announcements (Cont'd.)

What are Chalice Circles? Designed to augment and strengthen Sunday's spiritual experience, Chalice Circles are small groups that provide an environment where people are encouraged and supported in the sharing of stories, experiences and ideas in order to deepen relationships and develop a richer spirituality. We have four Circles that meet in the evening – and a daytime circle which is open to new members. Contact Joanne Knowles for more info, 302-239-2021 or joannebchn@aol.com

CHURCH CANCELLATION PROCEDURES AND NOTIFICATION METHODS

If the decision to cancel is made to cancel Sunday service we will: send out an email to all congregants, post notice on Facebook (both the public and private UUSMC pages), and post notice on the church website, UUSMC.org. We are now linked with the local SnoWatch system. SnoWatch reports are broadcast on **1150 AM WDEL** and **93.7 FM WSTW** and are available online at wdel.com and wstw.com From now through March, if the weather calls for any kind of precipitation, please check the above media or call the church before heading out.

Upcoming events

Adult RE - Wading In: An Introduction, Sunday, January 28

Souper Bowl Sunday, February 4

Service Auction, Saturday, April 14

Mill Creek Professional Staff

Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister minister@uusmc.org

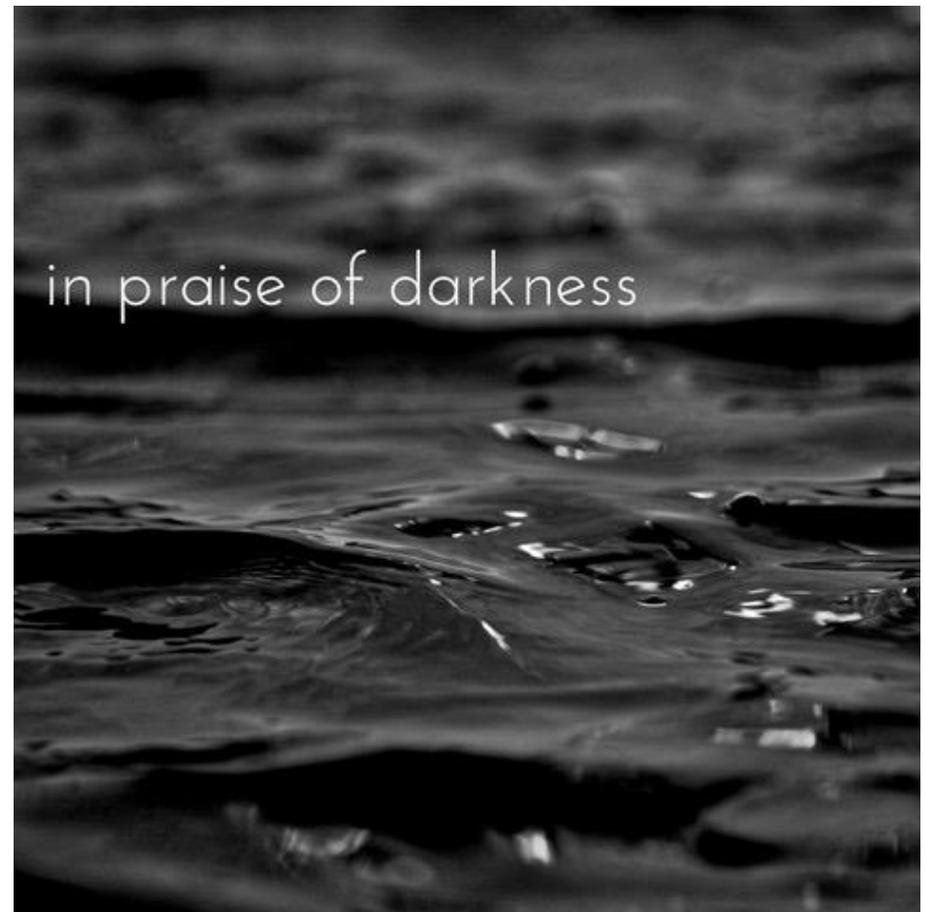
>>Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am – 1 pm, and by appointment

Terry Vodery, Director of Religious Exploration dre@uusmc.org

Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director music@uusmc.org

Debra Damiani, Office Administrator administrator@uusmc.org

>>Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 am – 1 pm



January 21, 2018
Rev. Libby Smith

We are a community that invites you to awaken to love.

Unitarian Universalist Society of Mill Creek
A Welcoming Congregation
302-369-2712
www.uusmc.org

Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister
Maggie McLaughlin, Worship Associate
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director
Terry Vodery, Director of Religious Exploration
~ Order of Service ~
January 21, 2018

♥ Please silence cell phones, and hold applause until the end of service.

Ringling of the Chime

Prelude *Flying Free* Don Besig

Welcome

Lighting the Chalice

Response:

We gather this hour as people of faith, with joys and sorrows, gifts and needs. We light this beacon of hope, sign of our quest for truth and meaning, in celebration of the life we share together.

Story For All Ages Rev. Libby Smith

Children to Religious Education – *Go Now in Peace* #413

Covenant

Sacred is this place of acceptance, this home for the spirit. Here, all are welcome, with all our differences, who come in peace and with an open heart. We enter in celebration, to learn, to share, and to grow together in our Unitarian Universalist faith. Blessed be this gathering.

*Hymn *Woyaya* #1008

Reading *In Praise of Darkness* by John Marsh

Joys and Sorrows

Hymn *When Our Heart is In a Holy Place* #1002
(verse 2 only, no repeat)

Meditation

Offering *The Oneness of Everything* #1052

Sermon *In Praise of Darkness* Rev. Smith

Postlude *You Raise Me Up* arr. Emerson

*Unison Benediction

*May we go from here with Love in our hearts,
Hope in our minds, Help in our hands,
To live our Principles and give of our gifts,
For those whose lives we touch, whose lives touch ours.*

Welcome, visitors and guests. We invite you to fill out a contact information card, and hope you'll stay with us after the service for coffee, tea, & conversation. We welcome you to all meetings and social activities. To discuss membership, please contact Maggie McLaughlin, mmclaughlin13123@gmail.com, or our minister, Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, minister@uusmc.org. We hope you have found the service meaningful and our fellowship warm, and that you will be with us again.

Meet our guest speaker, the Rev. Libby Smith. Rev. Smith received her M.Div. from Harvard Divinity School in 1992. She has served Unitarian Universalist congregations in Rockport, MA, Warrington, PA, and Langhorne, PA and was chaplain for five years at Unitarian Universalist House, a small nursing home in Philadelphia. Now retired from congregational service, she provides rites of passage, pulpit supply and workshops on request.

Today's music is performed by the Mill Creek Choir, under the direction of Kristen Tosh-Morelli, with Pam Allenstein, pianist.

Today in Religious Exploration Our Chalice Children will create their own hanging mobiles displaying our shared UU Principles. The Roots and Shoots friends will continue their Time Capsule project and enjoy part 2 of "Take Apart Month." The Coming of Age Class will begin their Credo writing exercise and the Youth Group will consider seeing themselves as social activists or justice makers.

Share Our Plate For the month of January, half of our undesignated plate offering will be donated to the Delaware Coalition to Dismantle the New Jim Crow.

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Adult Religious Exploration: Faith Like a River We will begin our *Faith Like a River* series next **Sunday, January 28, 2018**, with a session called: *Wading In: An Introduction*. The course is designed to be a drop-in discussion beginning at **9:00 am**. No registration is necessary. Course brochures featuring this and other ARE opportunities are available on the table in the gathering space, or you can view the brochure on the church website under the 'Learn' tab, Adult RE, Adult RE Catalog (<https://www.uusmc.org/learn/adult-re-catalog/>).

Souper Bowl Sunday, February 4th. The Social Justice Committee is again coordinating this fund raiser for the Food Bank of Delaware. Plastic containers, in two sizes, are available in the gathering space for taking home today and next Sunday. Fill with your delicious homemade soup and bring in on Feb. 4th for the sale. Thank you for your participation!