

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.)

Membership Ceremony If you have been thinking about becoming a member of Mill Creek, please contact Maggie McLaughlin at mmclaughlin13123@gmail.com. Our next membership ceremony will be held next Sunday, October 15 during the worship service.

Next Sunday, October 15, immediately following worship service, we will be hosting an event called **Taste of Mill Creek**. The purpose of this event is to introduce and connect members and friends to the numerous teams, committees and groups in the church and offer the opportunity for engagement in serving where your talents and interest intersect with the needs of Mill Creek. Come and find out more about Worship and Arts; Spiritual Growth and Development; Congregational Life; Social Justice; and Administration. As you walk about and familiarize yourself with the many facets of church life here at Mill Creek, be sure to enjoy the variety of tasty treats being offered at each table! There will be something for everyone to enjoy. Come and join us, and get a *Taste of Mill Creek*!

Upcoming events

Membership Ceremony, Sunday, October 15

Taste of Mill Creek, Sunday, October 15

UUFN: Coalition to Dismantle the New Jim Crow mtg., Monday, Oct. 16, 7 pm

UUFN: "13th" Film Screening & discussion, Sunday, Oct. 22, 1:30 pm

UUFN: March for Racial Justice & Compassion, Saturday, Oct. 28, 9 am

Fellowship Dinner & Generosity Campaign Kick-Off, Saturday, Oct. 28

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

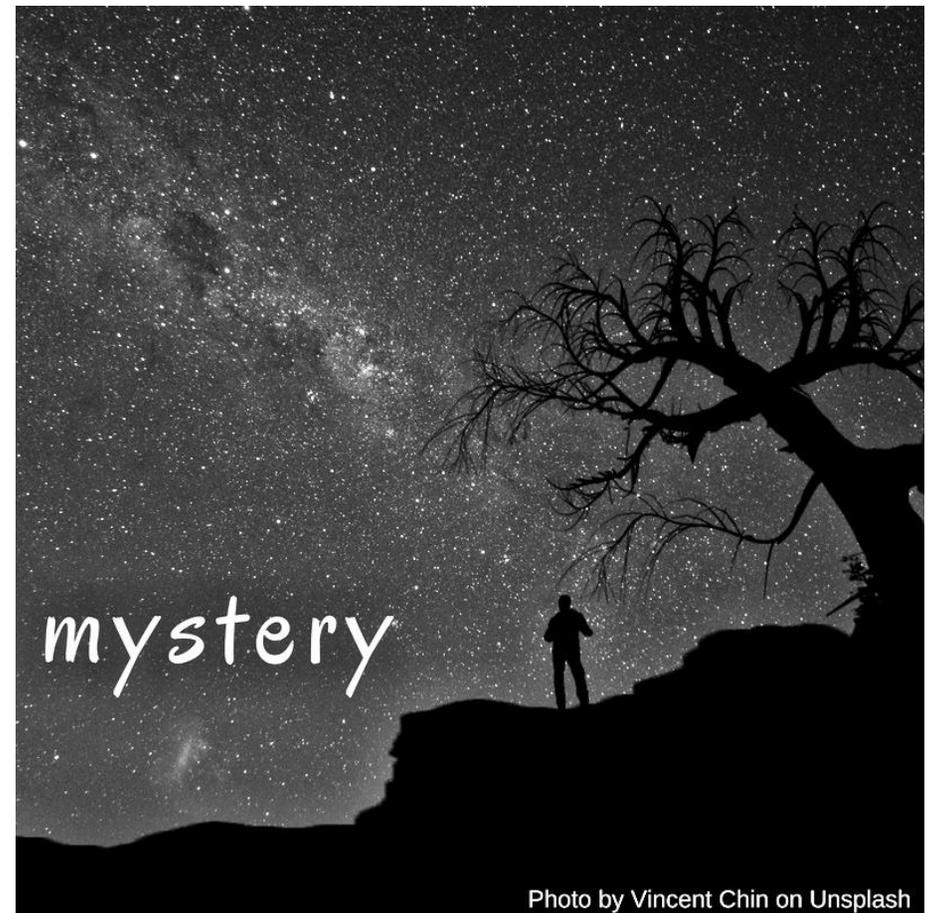
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director

music@uusmc.org

Debra Damiani, Office Administrator

administrator@uusmc.org

>>Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 am – 1 pm



October 8, 2017
Megan Mathieson

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

Unitarian Universalist Society of Mill Creek
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister
~ Order of Service ~
October 8, 2017

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

Welcome & Announcements Diana Saunders, Worship Associate

Prelude *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J.S. Bach

Chalice Lighting

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.

Congregational Greeting Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

Story For All Ages Megan Mathieson

Animal School by Devorah Greenstein

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 *Spirit of Life* #123

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn *Morning Has Broken* #38

Meditation

Offering *If Thou Be Near* J.S. Bach

Reading *How does one address a mystery?*
by Gordon B. McKeeman

Sermon **Mystery** Megan Mathieson

Postlude *Amazing Grace* Southern folk hymn

***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, Helen Springer, helenspringer@icloud.com, Eileen Selph, caldwelleileen@hotmail.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, Megan Mathieson. Megan is a second-year seminarian at Lancaster Theological Seminary in PA. Her home church is UU Gettysburg, and she is currently working as a student minister at UU of the Cumberland Valley. She hopes to become a UU parish minister soon.

Today's music is performed by Susan M. Peo and Tristan Leung. **Susan M. Peo** has been a local music educator and trumpet performer in Delaware for over 40 years. As a native Delawarean, she attended the University of Delaware where she earned her Bachelors and Master degrees in both Music Education and Trumpet Performance. She currently performs as principal cornetist with the Chesapeake Brass Band and as a long-standing member of the Johannes Brass Quintet. **Tristan Leung** is an undergrad student from Wilmington, DE, studying Music Education (Instrumental) with a concentration in piano at the University of Delaware. He is involved with the school's Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, the Xi Mu chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Music Fraternity.

Children's Religious Education Coming of Age Class Parent Information Meeting Today! This year, the Religious Exploration Program will be offering the Coming of Age Class. We will have a 1-hour meeting with parents, guardians and families of our 7-8th graders immediately following today's worship in Classroom 1.

Share Our Plate For the months of September & October, we'll be donating half of our undesignated plate offering to Family Promise of Northern New Castle County, Delaware.

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Help us build! As we enter into a new church year, it's a time of new beginnings. We are embarking on a journey to build a comprehensive adult religious education program for Mill Creek. If you would like to be part of the adventure and help us shape the program, we will be meeting today after church in the MacArtor Library for about an hour. If you have questions, please see Karen Rege, or Terry Vodery.

Values, Beliefs and Mission

We believe that transformation is possible, that we have within us the potential to move from brokenness to wholeness, from oppression to power, from unjust to just, from separateness to relationship, from isolation to beloved community.

We believe there is a power in community that emerges from belonging to one another, that sustains and nurtures our growth. We have experienced the power of spiritual community to transform lives - our own and others. We believe that our community is created anew each time we gather.

We believe in the power of story to understand ourselves in the cosmos, in the continual process of creation. We design intentional spaces for people to tell their stories, with the expectation that those stories will change us.

We believe that generously sharing our gifts and receiving the gifts of others grows our compassion. We find our gifts flow from discerning the intersection of our heart's deepest yearning and the world's deepest hunger. We know ourselves to be most alive when we honor the earth and all humanity upon it.

We engage the stories of religious peoples to understand how others have wrestled with their own lives and contexts and how stories inform our lives; to understand that each person's experience is valid, true, and limited.

We encourage one another in an ongoing process of spiritual growth; of learning and unlearning; of opening ourselves to all of life with wonder, awe, and imagination. We ground ourselves in spiritual practices that nurture our connection to our spiritual source.

We nurture and empower our children and youth to explore and discover their power, compassion, and hope in the unfolding of their lives.

We embody openness, a courageous vulnerability that invites people to be known, to befriend, to belong, to become fully and vibrantly alive. Our openness is necessarily rooted in trust, in a willingness to participate in mutually accountable relationships.

We experience and express our awakening to love through arts and music; through compassion and caring; through justice and witness; and through knowledge and learning.

***The mission of Mill Creek is to be a community
that invites you to awaken to Love.***