

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.)

New Stewardship Committee forming

Mill Creek is creating a Stewardship Committee to guide the use of the generous resources provided by our members. On Tuesday, Nov. 29, we will host a meeting from 7PM to 9PM to gather ideas on how this committee should be chartered, and identify potential committee members. Since this new group will be representing all of us, we would like everyone's feedback and input. Please come to the meeting and share your voice and ideas. If you're interested but cannot attend, please feel free to email Steve Selph at mutiny397@yahoo.com to share your ideas.

Congregational Conversation: Black Lives Matter

Join us immediately after worship on December 4 for a congregational conversation about the Black Lives Matter movement and our congregational responses. This will be a time for us to listen deeply to one another, to ask our questions, to sit both with our knowing and our unknowing. We won't make any decisions, but rather begin to frame our discernment, knowing that whatever our response may be, we will be changed by the conversation. Rev. Greg will facilitate.

Upcoming events

Stewardship Committee meeting, Tuesday, November 28

Congregational Conversation, Sunday, December 4

Winter Solstice Celebration, Wednesday December 21, 7:30 pm

Christmas Eve service, Saturday, December 24, 7:30 pm

Christmas Day service, Sunday December 25, 10:30 am

Chris Crass Workshop, Saturday January 14

Sunday Service featuring Chris Crass, Sunday January 15

Women's March on Washington, Saturday, January 21

Mill Creek Professional Staff

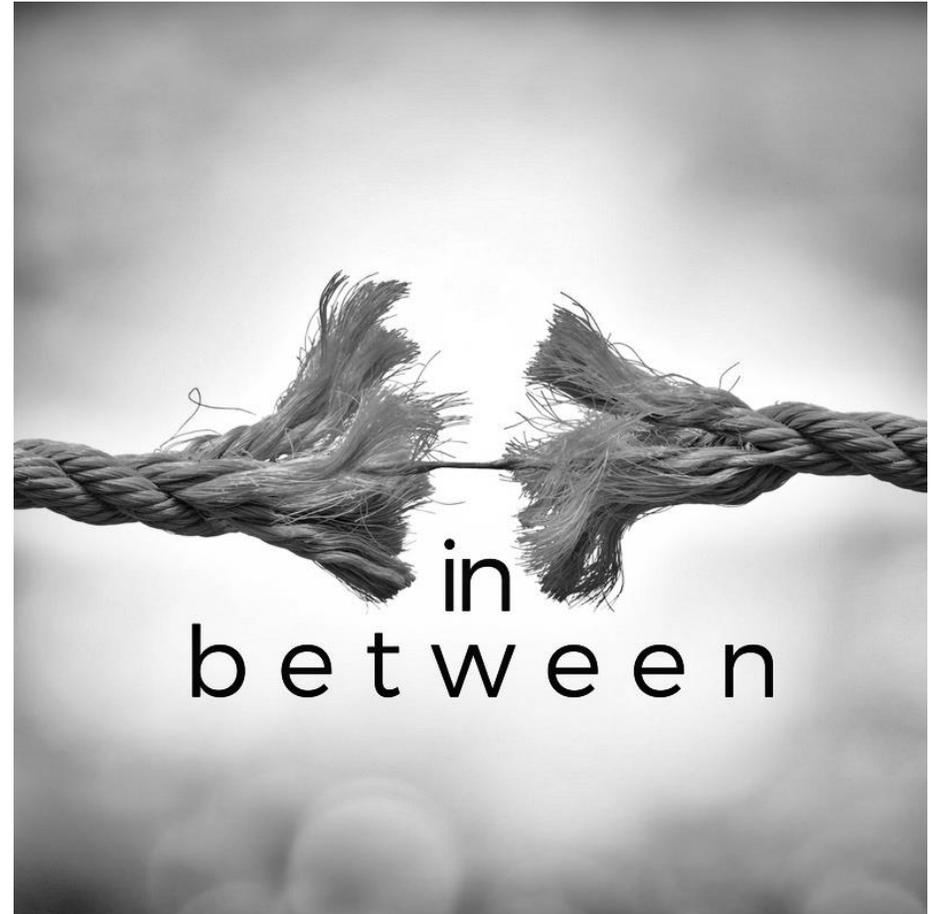
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister minister@uusmc.org

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

Debra Damiani, Office Administrator administrator@uusmc.org

>>Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 am – 1 pm

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



November 20, 2016
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

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 ~
November 20, 2016

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

Welcome & Announcements Linda Lucero, Worship Associate

Prelude **“Thanksgiving Song”** Mary Chapin Carpenter

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 Rev. Pelley

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 **“Bright Those Jewels”** #132

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn **“Comfort Me”** #1002

Meditation

Offering **“Sim Shalom”** Will Lopes

Reading **Kindness** by Naomi Shihab Nye

Sermon **in between** Rev. Pelley

Postlude **“Alleluia”** Randall Thompson

***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.*

*Hymn **“Daooona Nayeesh”** #1032

* Stand as you are able.

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, Jack Guerin, jackguerin7@gmail.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.

Today's music is provided by the Mill Creek choir, Kristen Tosh-Morelli, director; Pam Allenstein, accompanist. This Thanksgiving Sunday our music reflects the many thoughts and feelings that many of us are experiencing. We start with Mary Chapin Carpenter's "Thanksgiving Song", a heartfelt, tender message of gratefulness for family and friends. A gift of loving kindness. "Sim Shalom" is a Hebrew liturgical text, a fervent prayer for peace, loving kindness and blessings for all people. Bea Webb's violin adds a beautiful obbligato. We end today with "Alleluia", which means to praise God, normally a joy-filled exclamation. In Randall Thompson's setting, composed in July of 1940 and with the world's events in mind, it is more of a plea for healing. If you listen, you can hear the individual parts as they wax and wane between crying, pleading and standing strong, their faith and confidence levels evident. You can hear the alliances form and change, as groups, countries, peoples, do. Listen as the pleading intensifies, crests, and then- there is a breath. A collective breath, the cathartic release. We will carry on. Praise be, Amen.

Share Our Plate During the months of November and December we will be sharing half of our undesignated plate offering with Meeting Ground, Inc. Meeting Ground is a faith-based organization that has responded to the needs of homeless people in Maryland and Delaware since 1981. This organization respects and serves persons at risk of, or experiencing homelessness by meeting basic human needs, connecting people to services, fostering spiritual and emotional well-being, and advocating for those whose voices need to be heard, with the goal of creating a path to a place they call home.

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Share Our Warmth

The Social Justice Committee begins the annual tradition of collecting hats, gloves, mittens and scarves to be donated to the needy in our area. Handmade and store-bought items are welcomed. A collection box will be placed in the gathering space soon.



ALL women, femme, trans, gender non-conforming and feminist others, including male allies, are invited to participate in the **Women's March on Washington** on Saturday, January 21, 2017 in Washington DC, the day following the inauguration of the President elect. This march is a show of solidarity to demand our safety and health in a time when our country is marginalizing us and making sexual assault an electable and forgivable norm.

The group will march from the Lincoln Memorial to the White House to demonstrate the strength, courage, and power of women; with the aim to illuminate issues including sexual assault and workplace discrimination. "We're strong, but this has been a very difficult election for a lot of women," says Fontaine Pearson, an organizer in Memphis.

"The Women's March on Washington will send a bold message to our new administration on their first day in office, and to the world that women's rights are human rights. We stand together, recognizing that defending the most marginalized among us is defending all of us," writes the national organizers of the march.

Mary Higgins and Linda Lucero are in the preliminary stages of organizing transportation for anyone interested in going to this march. As soon as possible, we need a commitment from those of you who want to join us so we can move forward on securing a bus. We are estimating a cost of approximately \$55 per person. If you are unable to go, you might consider gifting a ticket to those who cannot afford the cost.

Please see Mary or Linda after this Sunday's service to put your name on the sign-up sheets. You can also email or call: Linda: lindajlucero@gmail.com (302-463-1894). Mary: marychulakhiggins@gmail.com (610-932-2696).

Martin Luther King Day Weekend

Saturday, January 14, 2017
Chris Crass Workshop
at UUSMC

Sunday, January 15, 2017
Chris Crass preaching
at UUSMC

Monday, January 16, 2017
Martin Luther King Day of Service
with First Unitarian Church of Wilmington
and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Newark

We are privileged to have Chris Crass here at Mill Creek for what will be a transformative, challenging, and inspiring weekend.

Chris Crass is a longtime organizer, educator, and writer working to build powerful working class-based, feminist, multiracial movements for collective liberation. He gives talks and leads workshops on campuses and with communities and congregations around the U.S. and Canada, to help support grassroots activists' efforts. He balances family with his public political work and believes they are deeply interconnected, as both are about working to bring our vision and values into the world. He is a Unitarian Universalist and works with faith-based communities to help build up the spiritual Left.



"Our goal is not to have white people sit alongside a person of color so as to affirm that those white people aren't racist. Our goal is to build and be part of beloved community united to end structural oppression and unleash collective liberation in our congregations, houses of worship, faith communities, schools, neighborhoods, workplaces, and throughout society." - Chris Crass