

This community affirms and promotes the Unitarian Universalist principles:

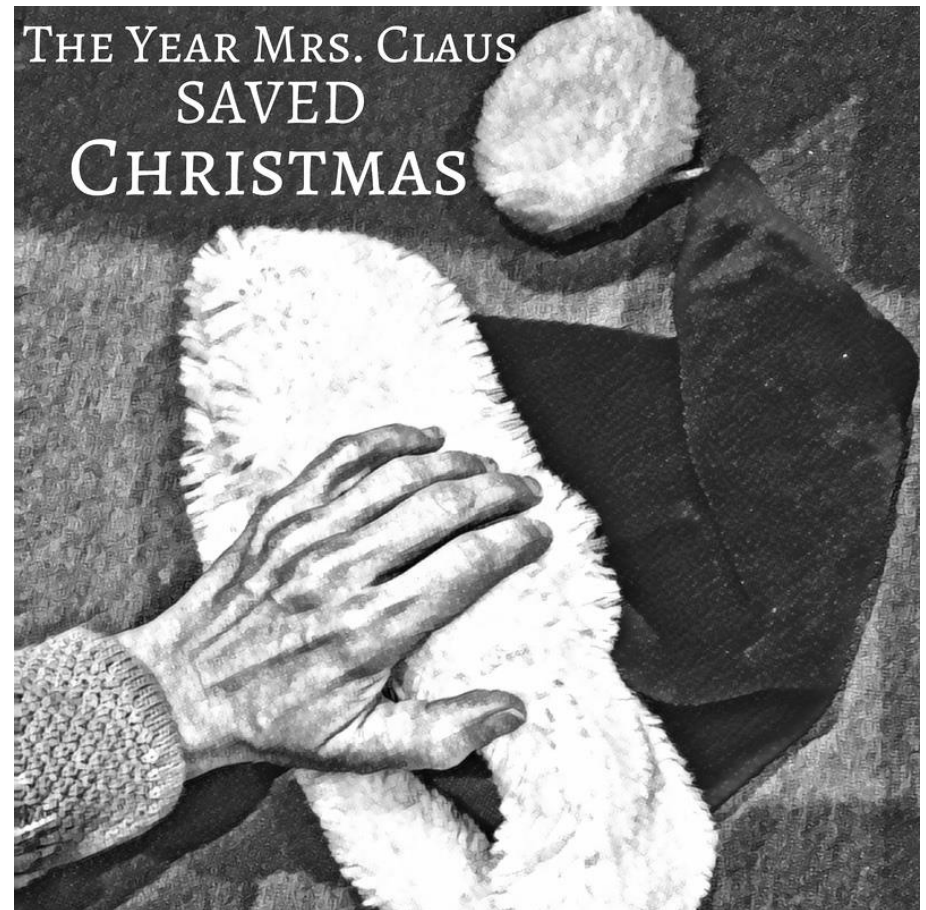
- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process 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

## UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS AT MILL CREEK

Winter Solstice Service  
Thursday, December 21, 7:30 pm

Sunday Service  
December 24, 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
December 24, 7:30 pm



**December 17, 2017**  
**Rev. Gregory S. Pelley**

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

### Mill Creek Professional Staff

Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister [minister@uusmc.org](mailto:minister@uusmc.org)  
>>Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am – 1 pm, and by appointment  
Terry Vodery, Director of Religious Exploration [dre@uusmc.org](mailto:dre@uusmc.org)  
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director [music@uusmc.org](mailto:music@uusmc.org)  
Debra Damiani, Office Administrator [administrator@uusmc.org](mailto:administrator@uusmc.org)  
>>Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 am – 1 pm

Unitarian Universalist Society of Mill Creek  
A Welcoming Congregation  
302-369-2712  
[www.uusmc.org](http://www.uusmc.org)

Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister  
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director  
Terry Vodery, Director of Religious Exploration  
Catherine Kegley, Worship Associate  
~ Order of Service ~  
December 17, 2017

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

Ringing of the Chime

Prelude *Ma Navu*

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.*

Lighting the Advent Candle

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 *Let Christmas Come* #224

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn *When Our Heart Is in a Holy Place* #1008  
(verse 2 only, no repeat)

Meditation

Offering *Winter's Heart*

Special Performance *The Year Mrs. Claus Saved Christmas*

\*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](mailto:mmclaughlin13123@gmail.com), Eileen Selph, [caldwelleileen@hotmail.com](mailto:caldwelleileen@hotmail.com), or our minister, Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, [minister@uusmc.org](mailto: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 performed by the Mill Creek Choir, directed by Kristen Tosh-Morelli, with Pam Allenstein, pianist. "Ma Navu" is an energetic Israeli folksong featuring the Isaiah text "How beautiful are upon the mountains the feet of the messenger of good tidings: of salvation and peace." Happy Hanukkah to those friends who are celebrating! "Winter's Heart" is a lush choral work highlighting the winter solstice, describing the change of seasons as the days grow shorter and the nights grow longer. Please join us again this Thursday evening to celebrate the Solstice at our annual fireside service!

**Religious Exploration** Today is a special intergenerational worship gathering for everyone! The Roots and Shoots friends will be presenting their play, *The Year Mrs. Claus Saved Christmas!* In place of the regular Sunday sermon, we hope you will enjoy this meaningful play about taking action to make the world a better place for people, animals, and the environment.

**Share Our Plate** For the months of November and December, we'll be donating half of our undesignated plate offering to Kingswood Community Center in Northeast Wilmington. The KCC's mission is to enable people in northeast Wilmington and surrounding communities to achieve their potential for economic, social and personal well-being through the operation of an early learning center, and offering youth & teen, community and adult programs. Learn more at [www.kgwcc.org](http://www.kgwcc.org)

**-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --**

**Service Auction Planning Meeting** Everyone is welcome to attend an important informational meeting today after church service to review some preliminary details about our upcoming Service Auction, slated for the spring of 2018. *Attendance at this meeting will not commit you to any aspect of the planning team or the event itself.* Come and find out more about this fun event and how we can be successful again in 2018. We will gather in the sanctuary after church service.