

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.)

Share Our Warmth The Mill Creek Social Justice Committee has distributed all donated cold-weather items. However, the need continues. We plan to keep the collection open during the winter months, and are focusing on the following items:

- blankets & comforters
- men's socks, gloves and hats
- adult sized coats (used & in good condition acceptable)

After-Christmas sales are a great time to purchase these items. Thank you for your continued cooperation. See any member of the SJC with questions, or contact the church office, administrator@uusmc.org

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge to support the **2020 Generosity Campaign!** We are very grateful. Questions about your pledge or giving in general can be directed to the church office, administrator@uusmc.org, or you may contact the Generosity Team, stewardship@uusmc.org.

Upcoming events

- Christmas Eve Service**, Tuesday, December 24
- Congregational Meeting**, Sunday, January 12
- Book Group meeting**, Thursday, January 16
- Service Auction**, Saturday, May 16

Mill Creek Professional Staff

- Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Lead Minister minister@uusmc.org
>>Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9 am – 1 pm, and by appointment
- Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director music@uusmc.org
- Debra Damiani, Congregational Administrator administrator@uusmc.org
>>Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 am – 1 pm



December 22, 2019
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

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
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director
~ Order of Service ~

Prelude *Borukh Ate, Zingt der Tate* arr. Mlotek

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 of the Advent Candle

Story For All Ages

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 *Light One Candle* #221

Reading

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn *Chant for the Seasons* #73

Meditation

Offering *Coventry Carol* traditional

Sermon **Center of Gravity** Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

Postlude *Candles of Hanukkah, Candles of Christmas* B.J. Angebrannt

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 Tracy Morgan, tracymorgan2000@verizon.net, 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 performed by Amanda Ostrusky, Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Brian Hanson and Gordon Roth with Savannah Klumpp, piano.

Religious Exploration After the Story for All Ages, the Chalice Children will have Gift Making Time; the Roots & Shoots friends will work on Classroom Decoration; and the YRUU/Coming of Age kids will have a discussion about social media.

Share Our Plate For the months of November and December we will be sharing half of our undesignated plate offering to **Wings for Success** based in Chester County, PA. This organization empowers women in need to pursue employment and economic security through apparel, advice and advocacy.

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Christmas Eve Service

All are welcome to join us this Tuesday evening at 6:30 pm for our ritual Christmas Eve service, filled with the traditional stories, carols, music and candle lighting of the holiday. Rev. Greg will be joined by the Mill Creek Choir under the direction of Kristen Tosh-Morelli, accompanied by Savannah Klumpp. A special collection will be taken for the benefit of Family Promise, whose mission is to prevent and end homelessness for families by engaging faith-based congregations, volunteers and donors.

End-of-Year Giving Two giving campaigns end on December 31st, 2019: the **2019 Generosity Campaign**, and the **Celebrating Our Legacy Campaign**. If you're unsure of your balance for either of these funds, you can access the Giving page on your REALM profile, or contact the church office, administrator@uusmc.org

Mill Creek Book Group-Next Read The book group welcomes everyone to join our read and discussion of *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. We'll meet on Thursday, January 16, at 7:30 pm in classroom 4. Please join us. Contact Deanna Koepcke at dkoepcke@hotmail.com with any questions.