

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

### End-of-Year Giving

Our 2018 *Generosity Campaign* ends on December 31, as well as year two of our 3-year *Celebrating Our Legacy Campaign*. If you would like to make contributions before the end of 2018, here are the payment methods:

- **By Check** (use the memo section to ensure proper allocation)
- **Online** with your Realm profile; or use this link *without* a Realm profile: <https://onrealm.org/MillCreek/Give>; or access the church website, [www.uusmc.org](http://www.uusmc.org), and click on GIVE
- **Use text-to-give:** text the keyword **MillCreek** plus the **Amount** of your gift to **73256** and follow the prompts (standard text message rates apply)

With all electronic giving methods, be sure to select the correct giving fund. As always, contact the church office with any questions, 302-369-2712 or [administrator@uusmc.org](mailto:administrator@uusmc.org)

### Mill Creek Book Group – Next Meeting – Thursday, January 17, 7:30 pm

Everyone is welcome to join us in classroom 2 when we discuss *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters Most in the End* by Atul Gawande. Drop-ins are welcome. Contact Deanna Koepcke with questions, [dkoopcke@hotmail.com](mailto:dkoopcke@hotmail.com)

### Upcoming events

**Christmas Eve Service**, Monday, December 24

**Family Fun (Game) Night**, Friday, December 28

**New Member Class-Intro to UUism**, Sunday, January 6

**Book Group meeting**, Thursday, January 17

**Souper Bowl Sunday**, February 3

**Adult RE Series-Waking Up White**, Sundays, February 10-March 3

### 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)

>>Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9 am – 2 pm, and by appointment

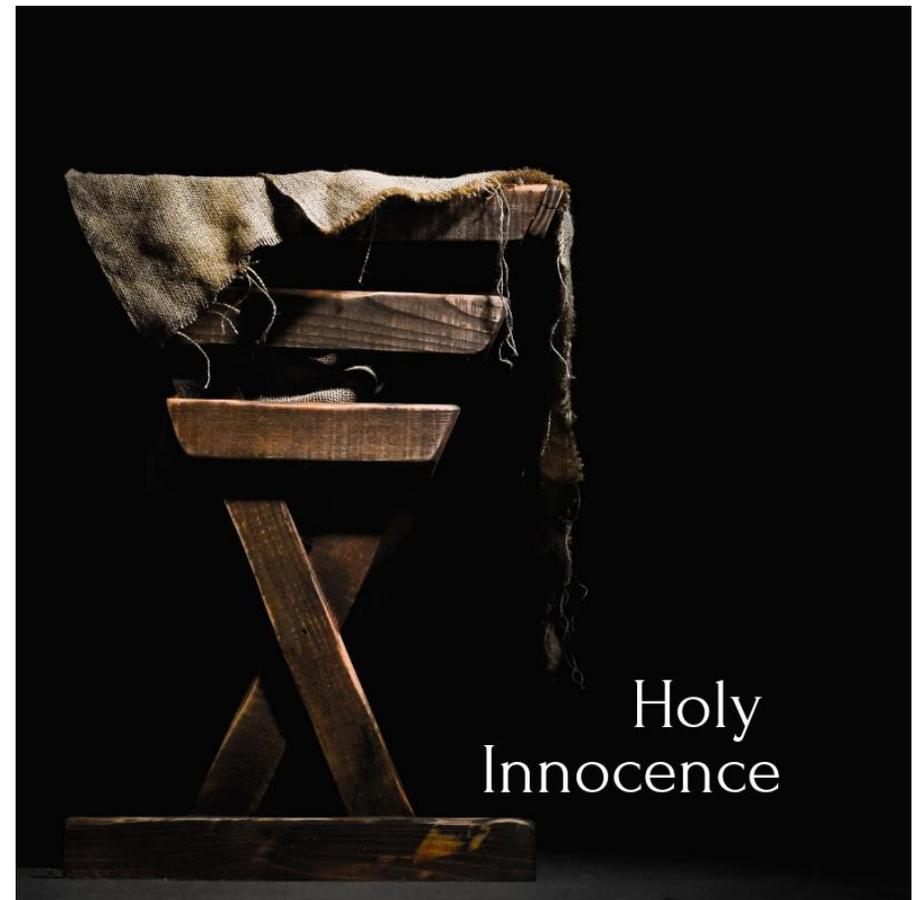
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director

[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



December 23, 2018

Rev. Keith Goheen

*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](http://www.uusmc.org)

Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister  
Terry Vodery, Director of Religious Exploration  
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director  
Diana Saunders, Worship Associate  
~ Order of Service ~  
December 23, 2018

Prelude *It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas*

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 *On the Night You Were Born* by Nancy Tillman

Hymn *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #246

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 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* #225  
(Verses 1 & 2)

Reading *The Gospel According to Luke 2:8-19,*  
*The Shepherds and the Angels (and Mary)*

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn *Silent Night*

Meditation

Offering *Winter Wonderland*

Homily ***Holy Innocence*** Rev. Keith Goheen

Hymn Sing *O Come All Ye Faithful*  
*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*  
*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Pastoral Benediction

Postlude *White 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 Tracy Morgan, [tracymorgan2000@verizon.net](mailto:tracymorgan2000@verizon.net), 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.

**Meet today's guest speaker, Rev. Keith Goheen.** The Rev. Keith Goheen is chaplain at Beebe Healthcare in Lewes, DE. He and spouse Margaret share their lives with two grandchildren, Kaylee, age 7, and Robby, age 5, whose vital spirits keep the couple grounded in the emerging world.

**Today's music** is performed by the Vintage Blend Quartet. The Vintage Blend Quartet has been singing and entertaining in the tri-state (DE, MD, PA) area for nearly 20 years. Both the Lead, Bruce Koepcke, and Bass, Jack Michener, are from SE PA, our Baritone, Kirk Anderson, is from DE, and Frank Boyko, our Tenor, comes from MD. We hope you enjoy songs of the season sung a cappella, in the Barbershop style.

**Religious Exploration** There are no RE classes this morning for children and youth. Childcare for infants and toddlers will be offered in the nursery as usual and you are free to bring your "Chalice Child" to their classroom for care and activities during the worship.

**Share Our Plate** For the months of November and December we will be designating half of our undesignated plate offering to PFLAG Wilmington DE.

**-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --**

**Christmas Eve Service – Monday, December 24, 7:30 pm**

Terry Vodery and Bob Broesler will lead a traditional family-friendly Christmas Eve worship service. Bring the entire family to this hour-long service of carols, candles, and the warm excitement of the holidays. Pajamas and ugly sweaters are most welcome! Childcare will be available.

**Family Fun (Game) Night-Friday, December 28, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

Got cabin fever? Ready to get out of the house after the holiday? Join us at Mill Creek for an evening of fun, cocoa and fellowship. Bring along a board game and let's enjoy the sweet spirit of community with one another. EVERYONE is welcome!

**Introduction to Unitarian Universalism** Rev. Greg will lead a session on the history, theologies and polity of Unitarian Universalism. Join us on Sunday, January 6, 12 noon to 2:00 pm in the MacArtor Library.

### **Silent Night**

Silent Night, Holy Night  
All is calm, All is bright  
Round young virgin,  
Mother and Child  
Holy Infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in Heavenly Peace  
Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Silent Night, Holy Night  
Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from Heaven afar  
Heavenly Hosts sing Alleluia  
Christ the Savior is born  
Christ the savior is born

### **O Come All Ye Faithful**

O come, all ye faithful  
Joyful and triumphant  
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem  
Come and behold Him  
Born the King of Angels!

O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord

Sing, choirs of angels  
Sing in exultation  
O Sing all ye citizens  
Of Heaven above  
Come and behold Him  
Born the King of Angels

O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord

### **God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen**

God rest ye merry gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay.  
Remember Christ our Savior  
Was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r  
When we were gone astray

Oh tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our Heavenly Father  
A Blessed Angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by name,

Oh tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

### **Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains

Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo  
Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo  
Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo