

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.)

Service Auction Planning Meeting Everyone is welcome to attend an important informational meeting on Sunday, December 17 after church service to review some preliminary details about our upcoming Service Auction, slated for the spring of 2018. Our annual Service Auction is Mill Creek's primary fundraiser and is a wonderful community building event. The Auction generates about \$20,000 toward our annual operating revenue. The events offered and purchased then have the effect of deepening the connections between our members and friends. To make this even successful, we require a team of committed folks to organize the event -- from cataloging member and community donations, to collecting ticket sales, to organizing the silent auction, to planning the food, and collecting and recording the purchases on the night of the event. *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.

Upcoming events

Pledge Cards Due Today

December Potluck Lunch, Sunday, December 10

Christmas Play, Sunday, December 17

Service Auction Planning Meeting, Sunday, December 17

Winter Solstice Celebration, December 21

Sunday Service, December 24, 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Service, 7:30 pm

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



December 3, 2017
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
Maggie McLaughlin, Worship Associate
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director
Terry Vodery, Director of Religious Exploration
~ Order of Service ~
December 3, 2017

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

Ringling of the Chime

Prelude *Fantasiestücke Op. 12, movement 1* Robert Schumann

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 Rev. Gregory S. 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 *Go Tell it On the Mountain* #239

Reading excerpt from *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn *Spirit of Life* #123

Meditation

Offering Excerpts from *Èlegiè* Op. 24 Gabriel Faurè

Sermon **Reverence** Rev. Pelley

Postlude *Song Without Words in D major Op.109*
Felix Mendelssohn

***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, 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 performed by returning guest musician Tristan Leung on piano, along with Jasmine Lee on cello. **Tristan Leung** is an undergraduate student from Wilmington, DE, studying Music Education (Instrumental) with a concentration in piano at the University of Delaware. In addition to solo work, he is very involved with collaborative work as an accompanist and chamber player. **Jasmine Lee** is an undergraduate student Music Education Major with a concentration in Cello and a Theater Production Minor from Glen Head, NY, at the University of Delaware. She is an active member of the women's music fraternity, Sigma Alpha Iota, as well as the Harrington Theater Arts Company.

Religious Exploration Today during the Religious Exploration hour, our Chalice Children will begin the process of planting Milkweed seeds in the meadow and watching them grow over time (Please prepare your child to go outside for a portion of RE hour). Roots and Shoots Friends will continue their play rehearsals. Coming of Age students will explore Judaism as one of our UU sources and Youth Group members will have an opportunity for service hours.

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

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Pledge Cards Due Today! In order to give church leadership adequate time to calculate our funding for 2018, we are requesting all pledge cards be returned today. You can place yours in the collection box on the wall located in the gathering space. Blank forms are available. Or send a note with your pledged amount to administrator@uusmc.org
Thank you for your support of the mission of Mill Creek!