

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 --

Mill Creek Book Group Returns! Everyone is welcome to join us as we recommence our book discussion group. We will briefly review our procedures and make changes if necessary. We don't have a current book chosen so we will have mini-discussions of books we have recently read. We will also welcome suggestions for new books to read. Join us on Thursday, January 18th at 7:30 in the MacArtor Library.

**Save the Date:
Service Auction
Saturday, April 14, 2018
Join the team! Contact Rev. Greg:
minister@uusmc.org**

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 31, 2017
Heather Petit**

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
Diana Saunders, Worship Associate
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director
Terry Vodery, Director of Religious Exploration
~ Order of Service ~
December 31, 2017

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

Ringling of the Chime

Prelude

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

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 *Let It Be a Dance* #311

Reading quote from Gilda Radner

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn *Spirit of Life* #123

Meditation

Offering

Sermon *Embracing Uncertainty* Heather Petit

Postlude

*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, 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.

Meet our guest speaker, Heather Petit. Heather Petit is a lifelong UU and UU preacher's kid who is pursuing UU ministry herself. Her current calling is helping people and organizations move from functions based on fear to more whole, joyful, and values-aligned conditions. Heather is currently an IT consultant, and she plans to pursue her calling within the highly under-served communities we know as the American Corporate Workplace. She lives in Newark with her husband and four children, and is co-enrolled at both Lancaster Theological Seminary and Starr King School for the Ministry, our UU-identity seminary in Berkeley, California.

Today's music is performed by Dr. Michael Arenson. Mike retired in 2008 after teaching Music Theory at the University of Delaware for 30 years. He has played piano and keyboard since he was 14. He performs as a soloist and with larger groups in the Delaware Valley. He is a regular pianist at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Newark and plays occasionally here at Mill Creek and other local churches.

Today in Religious Education our Chalice Children will explore our sixth Unitarian Universalist Principle, "We believe in working for a peaceful, fair and free world." They will explore how our behavior choices matter. The Roots and Shoots Class will celebrate December 31 as a time when many people look to new beginnings. They will have the opportunity to create a group project where they express their hopes for the New Year. Coming of Age and Youth Group have the week off. See you on January 7!

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