

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.)

Consider alternative gift giving with Heifer International Stop by the HI table after church service next two Sundays, December 4th and 11th for more information about this worthwhile organization, and to honor your friends or family by making symbolic purchases of animals. Lauri Rickard will be available to answer your questions and assist you. Learn more at www.heifer.org

Congregational DNA: Continuing our Discovery

Please join us on **Saturday, December 10th** for a meeting where we will share the work done by members of chalice groups, the choir, the leadership team and others, on discovering the values and beliefs that underlie our DNA. Taking this work as where we see our congregation to be today, we will create a vision of the future of our church and how we want to get there. The meeting will start at **9:30 am** and finish with lunch at about 12:30 pm. We value your participation and we truly hope you can all attend.

Upcoming events

Chalice Lighter Sunday, today

Congregational Conversation: BLM movement, today

Congregational DNA meeting, Saturday December 10

Winter Solstice Celebration, Wednesday December 21, 7:30 pm

Christmas Eve service, Saturday, December 24, 7:30 pm

Christmas Day service, Sunday December 25, 10:30 am

Chris Crass Workshop, Saturday January 14

Sunday Service featuring Chris Crass, Sunday January 15

Women's March on Washington, Saturday, January 21

Mill Creek Professional Staff

Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister minister@uusmc.org

>>Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am – 1 pm, and by appointment

Debra Damiani, Office Administrator administrator@uusmc.org

>>Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 am – 1 pm

Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director music@uusmc.org



December 4, 2016
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

Unitarian Universalist Society of Mill Creek
A Welcoming Congregation
302-369-2712
www.uusmc.org

Unitarian Universalist Society of Mill Creek
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister
~ Order of Service ~
December 4, 2016

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

Welcome & Announcements Catherine Kegley, Worship Associate

Prelude "Für Elise" L. Beethoven

Chalice Lighting

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.

Congregational Greeting Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

Story For All Ages Rev. Pelley

"The Uncorker of Ocean Bottles" Michelle Cuevas

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 "Wake, Now My Senses" #298

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn "Spirit of Life" #123

Meditation

Offering "Prelude in C" J.S. Bach

Reading

Sermon *Our Presence* Rev. Pelley

Postlude "Sonata in C" W.A. Mozart

*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.*

*Hymn "This Little Light of Mine" #118

* Stand as you are able.

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, Jack Guerin, jackguerin7@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 provided by Katie August. Katie is a sophomore at Cab Calloway School of the Arts, studying piano. She is a member of the Piano Honor Society. Katie has performed piano at various local shows and concerts and is currently a cantor for masses and sings in the Contemporary Choir at Holy Rosary Church in Claymont.

Share Our Plate During the months of November and December we will be sharing half of our undesignated plate offering with Meeting Ground, Inc. Meeting Ground is a faith-based organization that has responded to the needs of homeless people in Maryland and Delaware since 1981.

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Share Our Warmth The Social Justice Committee begins the annual tradition of collecting hats, gloves, mittens and scarves to be donated to the needy in our area. Handmade and store-bought items are welcomed. A collection box will be placed in the gathering space soon.

Would you please join the many Chalice Lighters in our congregation by signing up today? You are agreeing to contribute \$20 or more three times each year to support growth in our UU congregations in JPD through Chalice Lighters Grants for minister, RE professionals, music, office staff, new congregation organizing, land, building or innovative growth. After the service please visit the Chalice Lighter table, read the brochure and the success stories, and enroll today!

Congregational Conversation: Black Lives Matter Join Rev. Greg immediately after worship today for a congregational conversation about the Black Lives Matter movement and our congregational responses. This will be a time for us to listen deeply to one another, to ask our questions, to sit both with our knowing and our unknowing. We won't make any decisions, but rather begin to frame our discernment, knowing that whatever our response may be, we will be changed by the conversation.

The Social Justice Committee thanks everyone for helping with our efforts this week to co-host homeless families from Family Promise at St. Mark's United Methodist Church on Limestone Road, Wilmington.