

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.)

Blue Christmas Service – Monday, December 16, 6:30 pm

Amongst the celebrations of this time of year, in among the lights and carols, the family and friends, there are those of us who struggle with the sense of needing to be joyous — when our hearts tell us otherwise. The “Blue Christmas” worship service is for those of us who struggle with the Holiday Season because of loss or loneliness. Join us for a contemplative service of poetry, silence, and song where we might name our feelings, speak out loud of what we have lost, and find solace and comfort in one another. Rev. Greg will lead this service in the sanctuary.

Winter Solstice Service - Saturday, December 21, 7:30 pm

You are invited to join us by the fire as we celebrate the return of the light to the northern hemisphere, bathed in firelight. At the close of the service, we return inside to share the warmth of refreshments and fellowship. Please bring cider, hot cocoa, or treats to share!

Upcoming events

Blue Christmas Service, Monday, December 16

Winter Solstice Gathering, Saturday, December 21

Christmas Eve Service, Tuesday, December 24

Congregational Meeting, Sunday, January 12

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

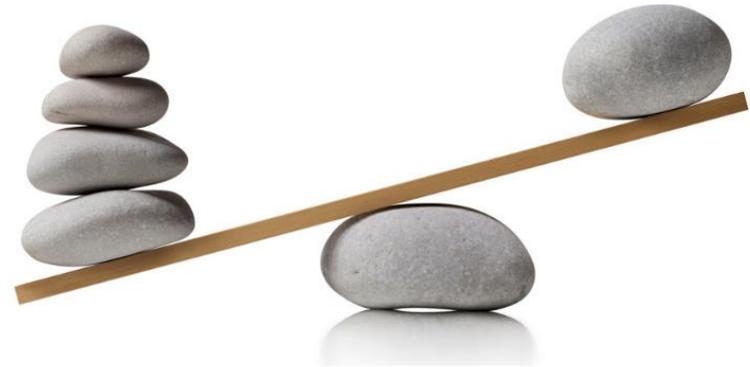
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director

music@uusmc.org

Debra Damiani, Congregational Administrator

administrator@uusmc.org

>>Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 am – 1 pm



the balance of things

December 8, 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 *The Rainy Day* Riggs

Welcome

Lighting the Chalice

Lighting the Advent Candle

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 *The Fisherman's Dream*

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 *The Oneness of Everything* #1052

Reading

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn *When Our Heart is In a Holy Place* #1008
Verse 2 only, no repeat

Meditation

Offering *Be a Candle of Hope* Mayo

Sermon ***The Balance of Things*** Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

Postlude *Shine a Little Light* Beck

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 the Mill Creek Choir under the direction of Kristen Tosh-Morelli, with Savannah Klumpp, pianist.

Religious Exploration Children and Youth are invited to their classrooms for RE learning, sharing and discovery.

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 --

Reminder – there will not be a Potluck Luncheon today after service.

2020 Generosity Campaign Update – Pledge cards are due now!

If you haven't already returned your pledge card, we have a supply in the gathering space OR you can pledge online using your REALM profile. The Finance Team will be working on the budget for 2020 and pledge data is an essential component. 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. **Thank you for your support of Mill Creek!**

Heifer International Holiday Gift Market

Please be aware that there will not be a Heifer campaign this year. Anyone wishing to support this worthwhile organization may do so directly by visiting www.heifer.org

Share Our Warmth The Mill Creek Social Justice Committee continues their annual collection of cold weather clothing items. This year they are focusing on **ADULT SIZES, for both men and women:** socks, gloves, hats & scarves, and blankets. All items will be distributed on location in downtown Wilmington. Please bring in your items and place in the collection bin in the cloakroom. See any member of the Social Justice committee with questions.