

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.)**

#### **Annual Meeting Sunday, May 22**

Mark your calendar so you don't miss this important annual meeting. Committee reports will be heard, the proposed budget for the 2016-17 fiscal year will be reviewed and voted upon, and new board members will be elected.

### **Upcoming events**

Check the weekly news or the online calendar for more information about these and other events at UUSMC:

**Big Music Sunday**, March 20

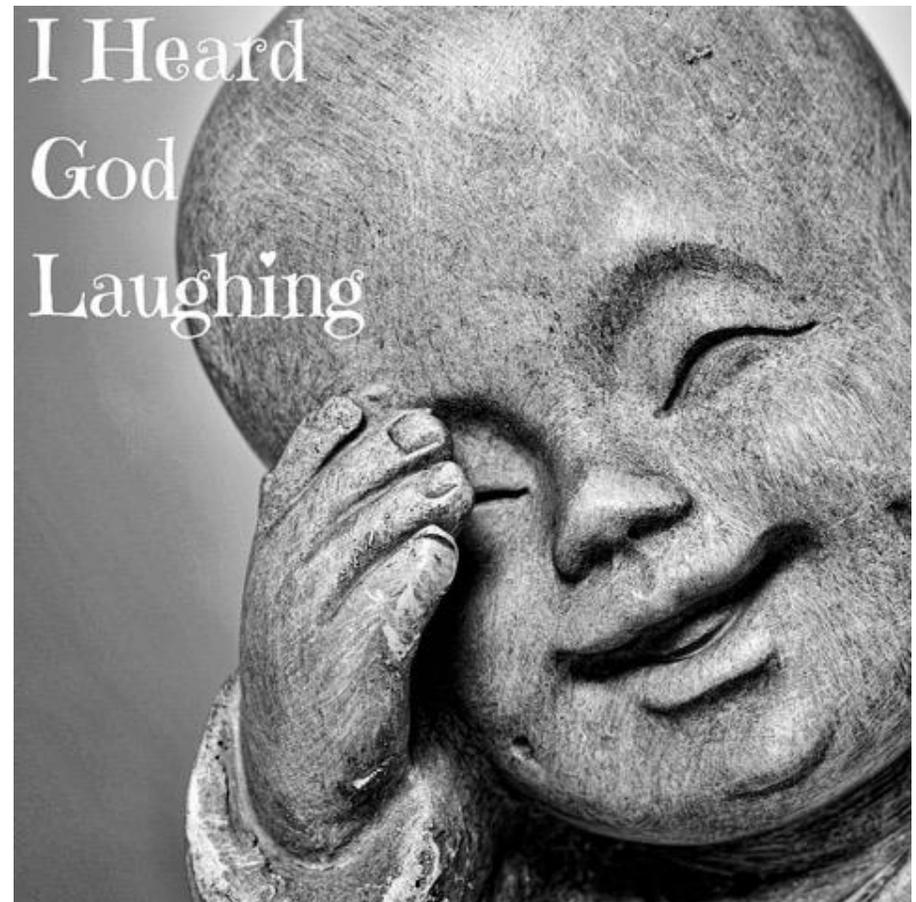
**Service Auction**, Saturday, April 16

**Annual Meeting**, Sunday, May 22

### **UUSMC Professional Staff**

Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister  
Stefanie Anderson, Dir. of Religious Ed.  
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director  
Debra Damiani, Office Administrator

[minister@uusmc.org](mailto:minister@uusmc.org)  
[dreuusmc@gmail.com](mailto:dreuusmc@gmail.com)  
[music@uusmc.org](mailto:music@uusmc.org)  
[administrator@uusmc.org](mailto:administrator@uusmc.org)



**March 13, 2016**  
**Rev. Gregory S. Pelley**

A Welcoming Congregation  
302-369-2712  
[www.uusmc.org](http://www.uusmc.org)

Unitarian Universalist Society of Mill Creek  
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister  
~ Order of Service ~  
March 13, 2016

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

Welcome & Announcements Maggie McLaughlin, Worship Assoc.

Prelude "Feeling Good" arr. by Alan Billingsley

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

Children to Religious Education – "Go Now in Peace" #413

Opening Words

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 "Lady of the Season's Laughter" #51

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn "When Our Heart is in a Holy Place" #1008

Laughing Meditation

Welcoming the New Member See insert

Offering "Mary Poppins Medley" arr. by Mac Huff

Reading "A Letter from God" and "A Disclaimer"  
(adapted) by Rev. Susan Sparks

Sermon *I Heard God Laughing* Rev. Pelley

Postlude "I Love to Laugh" from *Mary Poppins*

\*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 "We Laugh, We Cry" #354

\* 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](mailto:mmclaughlin13123@gmail.com) or Jack Guerin, [jackguerin7@gmail.com](mailto:jackguerin7@gmail.com), 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.

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

**Today's music** is provided by the Mill Creek choir, Kristen Tosh-Morelli, director; Pam Allenstein, pianist. Our lighthearted selections are from two 1964 musicals, Broadway's *The Roar of the Greasepaint, the Smell of the Crowd* and Disney's *Mary Poppins*. We hope you enjoy them, and leave here today with a smile on your face, a song in your heart and a few dance moves in your feet!

**Next Week – BIG MUSIC SUNDAY!**

**Share Our Plate**

For the months of March and April we will be donating half of our undesignated plate offerings to **Premier Charities**. This organization serves a seasonally appropriate, full-course meal of fresh food to the homeless of Wilmington every Sunday, rain or shine.

**Big Music Sunday is next week!** So far, we have only 6 performers. If someone in your family is interested in participating in Big Music Sunday on March 20, please email the following information to Kristen immediately: name of performer, instrument(s), title and composer of song, and which of this year's themes applies. Themes are: Generosity; Compassion; Courage; Grace; Resilience; Mission; Laughter, Song and Dance; Belonging; Forgiveness; Authenticity. Please email Kristen ([music@uusmc.org](mailto:music@uusmc.org)) as soon as possible. Thank you!

**UU Fiber Friends**

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm in the MacArtor Library. UU Fiber Friends is a group of folks who enjoy knitting, sewing, cross-stitch and any other kind of needlework, or just the simple pleasure of warm conversation. Everyone is welcome. The group meets monthly on the second and fourth Tuesdays.

## WELCOMING THE NEW MEMBER

By Manish Mishra-Marzetti

### **New Member Covenant (new members recite in unison)**

We enter this faith with hope and possibility in our hearts,

pledging to participate in and support the ministries of this church.

We covenant to remain true to the spirit of love that flows through this church and guides us.

We seek your welcome as we join you in this faith.

### **Congregational Response (congregation responds in unison)**

We welcome you as once we were welcomed ourselves.

We seek to be open and inclusive;  
respecting your inherent dignity,  
your ideas and your vision,  
in times when it is easy  
and in times when it is difficult.

We seek to be supportive,  
not only when you reach out in courage to us,  
but also when you need us to reach out to you.

In return we ask that you recognize our humanity:

We will not always live up to our ideals.

And, when we fall short  
we invite you to stay in relationship with us  
and help us more fully bring alive the spirit of love.

We welcome you as an equal member  
of this congregation,  
of this faith,  
and of our shared spiritual journey.

**BE True TO  
YOUUR  
SCHOOL!**

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
SOCIETY OF MILL CREEK

*Service Auction 2016*

**Saturday, APRIL 16th**

- Cocktail Hour • Delicious Buffet Dinner
- Live and Silent Auction

5:00 Cocktails,  
Appetizers, Silent Auction  
6:00 Buffet Dinner  
7:00 Live Auction

**Tickets \$20**

Last year's live auction items included everything from vacation packages and beach house weekends; themed dinners, lunches, picnics & BBQ's; to babysitting and transportation services; boat rides, music performances, and guided hikes & tours. The silent auction items included artworks, handmade jewelry, baked goods, tutoring services and gift baskets of every description.

And so much more! What will your offering be?

Contact Adam Kegley, [velgek@gmail.com](mailto:velgek@gmail.com)

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