

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.)

#### **Notes on Joys and Sorrows from the Sunday Services Committee:**

Our time of Joys and Sorrows is intended to be a sacred time of sharing. We each carry with us moments of joy that when shared with the congregation, are multiplied. And, in sharing our moments of deep sadness, we find comfort in knowing that we are not alone. The intention of this ritual is to provide a space into which we may put into words what we feel at those moments of transition in our lives, and in the lives dear to us. The birth of a child. The death of a grandparent. The rejoicing of a wedding. The heartache of loss.

We invite those who wish to share to offer their joy or sorrow in a very brief form, a single sentence or two. Names are important, so please tell us yours and tell us the name of the person in your heart. Too many details, descriptions, and commentary diminish the power of this ritual. Keep it simple, and save the details for conversation later, being mindful of all who are in the room.

As this church grows, this ritual will need to evolve and change, else we devote our entire worship time together for this alone. Over the next several months, you will note our experiments with different ways of engaging this ritual. We welcome your feedback — what resonates with you, and what does not.

Finally, we acknowledge that we are in the midst of a highly charged political season as this country considers its leadership. Undoubtedly there will be times when we are excited, and times when we despair, as the election season progresses. We also acknowledge that political speech is important and we encourage respectful and responsible conversation amongst the congregation during our social times together. We ask that everyone please reserve the time for *Joys and Sorrows* for the sharing of sacred and personal moments and find other spaces for political speech or commentary.

#### Upcoming events

**Ladies Art Club**, Wednesday evenings

**Worship Workshop**, Saturday, April 23

**Book Group**, Thursday, May 5

**Leadership Gathering**, Saturday, May 14

**Annual Meeting**, Sunday, May 22



**April 17, 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 ~  
April 17, 2016

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

Welcome & Announcements      Stephen Petersen, Worship Associate

Prelude      **“Flying Free”** Don Besig

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      **“Morning Has Come”**      #1000

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn      **“Comfort Me”**      #1002

Meditation

Offering      **“Let Me Find Some Quiet Place”** Doris Clevenger

Reading

Sermon      **Embeddedness**      Rev. Pelley

Postlude      **“Blessings of Love”** arr. Larry Phillips

**\*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 Are...”**      #1051

\* 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 and Diana Saunders, flute.

**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.

**Worship Workshop** – everyone is welcome to join us **next Saturday, April 23 at 9 am** as we brainstorm ideas for ministry themes for the upcoming year. Now is your chance to make a suggestion for topics you'd like to explore. We will also touch on themes for May and June – Forgiveness and Authenticity.

**Mill Creek Book Group** Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 5th at 7:30 in the MacArtor Library when we will review *The Book of Unknown Americans* by Cristina Henríquez. Contact Amy White with questions, 302-652-1952 or [amywwhite@comcast.net](mailto:amywwhite@comcast.net)

**Leadership Gathering**

All are invited to our Leadership Gathering at the church on **Saturday, May 14 at 9:30 am** as we continue the conversation about UUSMC's DNA (values, beliefs, and mission). The morning will be centered around storytelling about what is most important to us, our core values, and what beliefs are embedded in those values. If you lead a committee or team at Mill Creek, you are strongly encouraged to attend. If you do not consider yourself a leader in our church - you are strongly encouraged to attend!

**Annual Meeting Sunday, May 22**

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