

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.)

Social Justice Committee meeting next Sunday, September 23rd after church service.

Family Fun Night – 6:30-8:00 Every Fourth Friday Everyone is invited for a time of fun and activities for all generations. Our next gathering is **Friday, September 28th** when we will enjoy plenty of pizza and a campfire with s'mores! Join us!

Name Tags! Name tags have recently been replaced with a new design. They are sorted alphabetically on the rack by the sanctuary entrance. If you don't see yours or would like a new one, place a note in the collection box (on the opposite wall next to the sanctuary entrance) or send an email, administrator@uusmc.org to request one.

Upcoming events

Social Justice meeting, Sunday, September 23

Listening to Our Lives - first class, Monday, September 24

Family Fun Night – Friday, September 28

Family Promise Host Week – October 9th & 11th



September 23, 2018
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

We are a community that invites you to awaken to love.

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
>>Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9 am – 2 pm, and by appointment
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director music@uusmc.org
Debra Damiani, Office Administrator administrator@uusmc.org
>>Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 am – 1 pm

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

Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister
Terry Vodery, Director of Religious Exploration
Kristen Tosh-Morelli, Music Director
~ Order of Service ~
September 23, 2018

Ringing of the Chime

Prelude *People Get Ready* Curtis Mayfield

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

The Tree with Animal Fruit

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 *Where Do We Come From?* #1003

Reading

Joys and Sorrows

Meditation *Rhythm of the Universe / Meditation on Breathing*

Offering *What's Goin' On* Marvin Gaye

Sermon **Sankofa** Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

Postlude *Shenandoah* Traditional

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 E. Shawn Quissaunee (www.esqmusic.com), a Berklee College of Music Alumnus and recent performer at the Clifford Brown Jazz Festival and recipient of a VCCA (Virginia Center for Creative Arts) Fellowship. Quissaunee is joined by bassist **Scott Lynch**, an in-demand bassist, vocalist and all-around great musician as well as dedicated teacher in the Appoquinimink School District.

Religious Exploration Following the Story for All Ages, Children and Youth will report to their classrooms for an hour of learning, friendship and fun! Welcome back to all our Children, Youth and Volunteers!

Share Our Plate For the months of September and October we will be sharing half of our undesignated plate offering to the Unitarian Universalist Delaware Advocacy Network (UUDAN). UUDAN has a leadership team with representation from all 5 Delaware congregations. It offers a new dimension for UU social justice programs in Delaware, providing a vehicle to research and draft legislation and lobby for reform measures in Dover.

New way to give to Mill Creek!

We now have the ability for you to make contributions to the church via text-to-give on your mobile device. Simply text the keyword: **MillCreek** plus the **Amount** of your gift to **73256** and follow the prompts. The transaction is secure through our processor (Vanco). For Example: Text **MillCreek \$20** to **73256** to give a \$20 contribution using your text messaging. Standard text message rates do apply.

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Adult RE Offering: Listening to Our Lives – Spaces Still Available

This class is designed for those who wish to engage seriously and open-heartedly with the perennial religious topics such as: inspiration, God, community, suffering, death, spiritual practice, living our gifts, and salvation. Rev. Greg will lead the group meeting (9 classes) on Monday evenings from **7:00 - 9:00 pm** beginning **September 24 through December 3**. Enrollment is limited to a minimum of 8, maximum of 12 participants who commit to attending all nine sessions. Please sign up in Realm, <https://bit.ly/2KSikea> Contact Rev. Greg at minister@uusmc.org with questions.



Mill Creek Values, Beliefs and Mission

Mill Creek, Family Promise, and You

WHAT: Family Promise of Northern New Castle County is a non-profit organization that works to prevent and end homelessness by engaging an interfaith hospitality network. Mill Creek is a support congregation in this network and we are committed to assist in this effort a few times a year by providing meals for families currently receiving assistance.

HOW: We donate, prepare and help serve meals a few times a year at the host congregation, St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Stanton. This is a meaningful and rewarding way to engage in the needs of our local community and live the UU principle: *The inherent worth and dignity of every person.*

WHEN: Our next turn to offer support is **Tuesday, October 9th & Thursday, October 11.**

You can help in one or more of the following ways:

- prepare a salad, side dish and/or dessert
- donate food items for the meals
- help serve the meals at St. Mark's

For more details and to offer your support, contact Chitra Vaidy, cvaidy226@gmail.com or see the sign-up sheet on the Social Justice bulletin board!

www.familypromisede.org

We believe that transformation is possible, that we have within us the potential to move from brokenness to wholeness, from oppression to power, from unjust to just, from separateness to relationship, from isolation to beloved community.

We believe there is a power in community that emerges from belonging to one another, that sustains and nurtures our growth. We have experienced the power of spiritual community to transform lives - our own and others. We believe that our community is created anew each time we gather.

We believe in the power of story to understand ourselves in the cosmos, in the continual process of creation. We design intentional spaces for people to tell their stories, with the expectation that those stories will change us.

We believe that generously sharing our gifts and receiving the gifts of others grows our compassion. We find our gifts flow from discerning the intersection of our heart's deepest yearning and the world's deepest hunger. We know ourselves to be most alive when we honor the earth and all humanity upon it.

We engage the stories of religious peoples to understand how others have wrestled with their own lives and contexts and how stories inform our lives; to understand that each person's experience is valid, true, and limited.

We encourage one another in an ongoing process of spiritual growth; of learning and unlearning; of opening ourselves to all of life with wonder, awe, and imagination. We ground ourselves in spiritual practices that nurture our connection to our spiritual source.

We nurture and empower our children and youth to explore and discover their power, compassion, and hope in the unfolding of their lives.

We embody openness, a courageous vulnerability that invites people to be known, to befriend, to belong, to become fully and vibrantly alive. Our openness is necessarily rooted in trust, in a willingness to participate in mutually accountable relationships.

We experience and express our awakening to love through arts and music; through compassion and caring; through justice and witness; and through knowledge and learning.

The mission of Mill Creek is to be a community that invites you to awaken to Love.