

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

Ingathering, Sunday, September 10. Join us for our annual Ingathering Celebration with Rev. Greg. Everyone is invited to bring a small amount of water to pour into the common bowl – symbolic water from your life – be it from your kitchen tap, garden hose or your favorite stream. This will be a multigenerational service featuring the return of our beloved choir, directed by Kristen Tosh-Morelli. Afterward we'll enjoy fellowship over a delicious potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to share!

Solar Panel Update At an August 13 congregational discussion, members unanimously supported moving forward with the installation of solar panels. The net cost to the church will be \$20,203, and we need to raise funds of at least \$10,203 to make the project financially feasible. We already have more than \$7000 in pledges toward that goal! If you'd like to make a pledge to support this project, contact Matt Doty mattdoty@gmail.com or Debby Damiani administrator@uusmc.org.

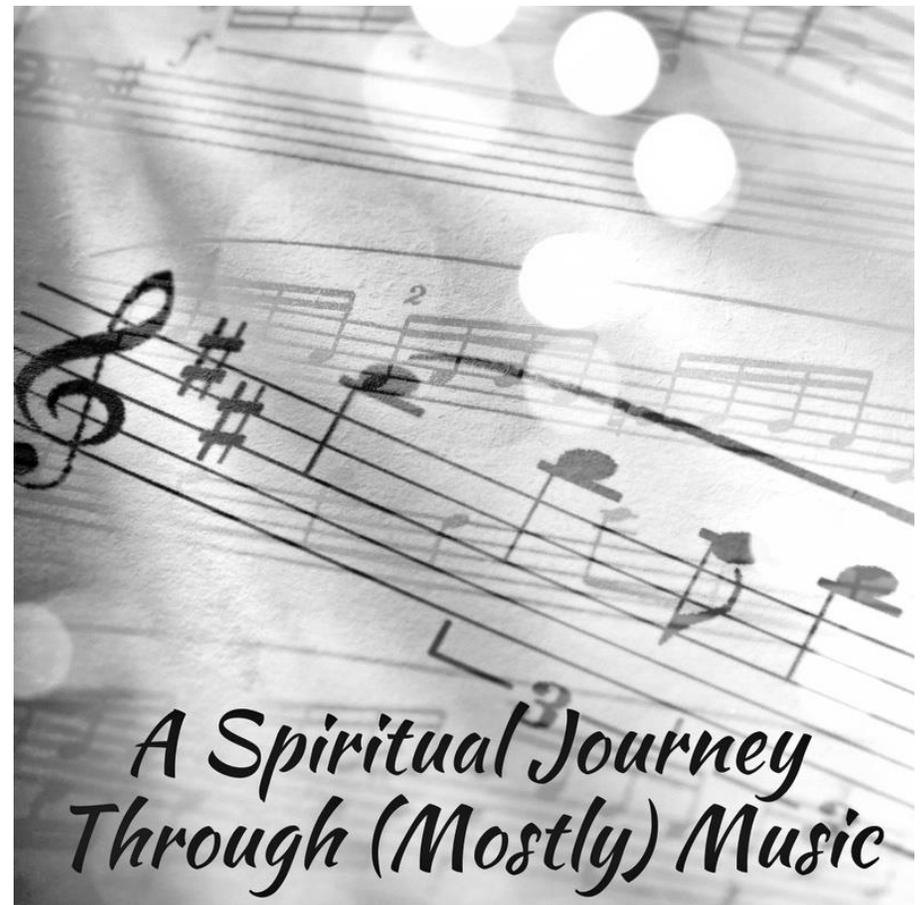
Adult Spiritual Growth and Development Opportunities! See today's insert for more information.

Upcoming events

Listening to Our Lives, first session Wednesday, September 6
Ingathering, Gathering the Waters & Potluck, Sunday, September 10
Shared Pulpit Workshop, first session Saturday, September 16
Spirit in Practice, Sunday, September 17
Family Fun Night, Friday, September 22

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



September 3, 2017

Brian Hanson

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

Unitarian Universalist Society of Mill Creek
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley, Minister
~ Order of Service ~
September 3, 2017

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

Welcome & Announcements Maggie McLaughlin, Worship Associate

Prelude *Je vivoie liement* Guillaume de Machaut (c.1300-1377)

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 Brian Hanson

Story For All Ages Jeanne Hanson

Oh, the Places You'll Go! by Dr. Seuss

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 *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* #108

Joys and Sorrows

Centering Hymn *Spirit of Life* #123

Meditation

Offering *Strathspey and Waltz*

from *The Hill Trow Prologues* Chris Braddock

Reading *Music and Spirituality* by Frank Fitzpatrick

Sermon ***A Spiritual Journey Through (Mostly) Music*** Brian Hanson

Postlude *The Unclouded Day & I'll Fly Away*

J. K. Alwood (1879)/A. Brumley (1929)

***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.***

* 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, Helen Springer, helenspringer@icloud.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.

Meet today's guest speaker, Brian Hanson. Brian and Jeanne have been Mill Creek members for 25 years, and have served in many capacities over that time. Currently, Brian heads up the Pastoral Care Team and with Jeanne, sings in the choir and teaches Our Whole Lives and Coming of Age programs to junior-high age youth. Brian is also active in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, where he plays in a couple of bands, sings in a couple of choirs, teaches yoga, and conducts brass and string groups. Brian takes pleasure in sharing his spiritual journey with you this morning.

Today's music is performed by Jeanmarie Braddock, violin and voice, and Christopher Braddock, guitar and dobro. **Jeanmarie Braddock** is active both as a soprano soloist and violinist throughout Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Jeanmarie is currently a director of elementary school orchestras in the Brandywine School District. A graduate of West Chester University, she majored in voice and minored in violin. **Christopher Braddock** holds a Bachelor of Music Degree in classical guitar performance from the University of Delaware. He teaches at The Music School of Delaware, where he serves in several capacities.

Children's Religious Education Asian pears, grown and harvested by our kids in the Mill creek orchard, will be available for sale today after church service. Proceeds will benefit the RE program. Our next Family Fun Night is Friday evening, September 22, 6:30 PM. Come out and help us celebrate the arrival of autumn!

Share Our Plate For the months of September & October, we'll be donating half of our undesignated plate offering to Family Promise of Northern New Castle County, DE. Family Promise is a coalition of volunteers, faith communities, and donors working to prevent and end homelessness. Family Promise helps families access affordable housing, in many cases bypassing the homeless shelter system, and works to mentor families, teaches financial literacy, helps to find jobs, and advocates for public policies to promote the economic stability of low-income families.

**Visitor Reception today after service in the MacArtor Library.
Join us for refreshments and fellowship.**

Shared Pulpit Workshop

You have a story. Each of our stories is part of a larger narrative of being human in this world, in this time. One of the most powerful spiritual practices we have is in the sharing of our stories and reflecting on the ways those stories awaken us to love, illuminate our humanity, connect us to the holy and ineffable - and common - experience of life.

We invite you to join Rev. Greg for a **Shared Pulpit Workshop**, which will guide you in developing your story into a sermon and worship experience that you can share with the congregation.

Using a series of small group meetings, this program aims to deepen connection and trust among you — the seeking minds and caring hearts of Mill Creek. The workshop contains advice, tools, and a process designed to equip you to be even more skilled, confident leaders (because anyone brave and curious enough to share their journey publicly with a congregation is, in fact, a leader). Along the way, you'll discover your authentic voice by writing a sermon to deliver to the congregation.

This program is pulpit-and-pew tested, producing dozens of graduates who report that it transformed their relationship to their congregation and to Unitarian Universalism. As a participant, you don't need to think of yourself as a writer. You don't have to know what you want to say. You don't even need to be a visible leader in your congregation. As you had five to seven others navigate your way through the eight sessions — under the guidance of Rev. Greg - you are invited to do three things:

- commit your time and energy to the program — including doing the required writing between sessions
- create and uphold a group covenant so that those in your group can risk being vulnerable
- trust that the first two steps will reveal your voice and truth.

The workshop will meet on Saturdays from 9:00 - noon, **beginning September 16**. We will then meet approximately every three - four weeks: October 7, October 28, November 18, December 2, January 6, February 3, and February 10. Contact Rev. Greg (minister@uusmc.org) with questions.

Use this link to register online: <http://bit.ly/SharedPulpit>

Listening to Our Lives

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 on **Wednesday evenings** from **7:00 - 9:00 pm** beginning **September 6 - October 25**, and completes on **November 15**. Enrollment is limited to a minimum of 8, maximum of 12 participants who commit to attending all nine sessions. Contact Rev. Greg with questions.

Use this link to register online: <http://bit.ly/ListeningToOurLives>

Spirit in Practice

Spirit in Practice is a workshop series created to help you develop regular disciplines, or practices, of the spirit—practices that help you connect with the sacred ground of your being, however you understand it. Developed in response to a desire to engage in life-giving spiritual practices, the ten workshops of *Spirit in Practice* provide avenues for deepening spirituality and affirming spiritual growth. Participants will be invited to reflect, share, and grow together, exploring ways to nurture connections with the sacred in everyday life.

Spirit in Practice weaves Unitarian Universalist values, principles, and sources with four "strands:" spiritual development, ethical development, and Unitarian Universalist identity development, and faith development. Drawing on a model developed by the Zen Mountain Monastery in Mount Tremper, New York, *Spirit in Practice* focuses on eight spheres of holistic and wholehearted spiritual practices. These eight spheres are:

- Personal spiritual practices
- Communal worship practices
- Spiritual partnerships
- Mind practices
- Body practices
- Soul practices
- Life practices
- Justice practices

This fall, you are invited to join us each Sunday morning from 9-10:15 am in the MacArtor Library beginning on September 17th. Facilitators will rotate each week and include Robert Broesler, Mary Higgins, Maggie McLaughlin, Michelle Cavanaugh, and Karen Rege. No registration is necessary, and you are not required to attend the whole series. Just drop by and learn to develop your own spiritual practice! For more information, contact Karen Rege at 302-373-1832 or karenrege@gmail.com.