

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.)

Second Sunday Potluck & Holiday Decorating

Join us as we deck the halls for the holidays during December's potluck lunch on **December 13**. We'll put some music on, pull out the boxes, bags and baubles, and have a merry time making our church home look festive! Please bring a dish to share!

Kaleidoscope Concert Series – featuring CoroAllegro

Join us on **Friday, December 18 at 7:30 pm** to hear CoroAllegro – Delaware's Chamber Choir, perform. Tickets are \$15 in advance

(<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2386399>) or \$18 at the door (cash or check only). For more info about the Series, check out www.uusmc.org/concerts

Worship Workshop –Saturday, December 19, 2015, 9 am - 11:30 am.

Join Rev. Greg and the Sunday Services team as we brainstorm our worship themes for January and February (Resilience and Mission, respectively). Everyone is welcome!

Contact Rev. Greg with questions.

Share Our Warmth – the Social Justice committee begins this annual collection of hats, gloves, mittens & scarves to donate to the needy in our area. Look for the collection box in the gathering space.

Upcoming events

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

UU Fiber Friends, Tuesday, December 8, 7 pm

What's Next? Hope, Opportunity & Race, Thursday, Dec. 10, 6:30 pm

Pastoral Care training, Saturday, Dec. 12, 9 am

Sunday Potluck & Holiday Decorating, Sunday, December 13

Kaleidoscope Concert Series – CoroAllegro, Friday, Dec.18, 7:30 pm

Worship Workshop, Saturday morning, December 19, 9 am

Holiday Party, Saturday evening, December 19

Solstice Service, Tuesday, December 22, 7:30 pm

Christmas Eve Service, Thursday, December 24, 7:30 pm



December 6, 2015
Rev. Gregory S. Pelley

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 or Jack Guerin, jackguerin7@gmail.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.

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Today's music is provided by singers Amanda Ostrusky, Kathe Erickson, Kristen Tosh-Morelli and Pam Allenstein. Our prelude this morning is a beautiful, four-part a cappella arrangement of the Appalachian folk song "Bright Morning Stars Are Rising." "Hava Nashira" translates to "let us sing together, sing alleluia"- a message of togetherness as we enter the holiday season, beginning with the first night of Hanukkah tonight. "I Ask For One Day," accompanied by Pam Allenstein, was written by American composer Jim Papoulis following a workshop with 5th grade students, who came up with the text- "I ask for one day where I don't have to hear about pain, or life that's lost, I ask for one day where whispers of hope are alive inside my heart." An especially poignant message from our youth to our world's leaders.

Share Our Plate For the months of November and December we will be sharing half our undesignated plate offering with Limen House, which provides assistance to recovering alcoholics.

What's Next? Hope, Opportunity and Race. Since July we have had a focus group, a worship service and a workshop about racism. Then in November many of us attended the Coalition to Dismantle the New Jim Crow's public forum, Hope, Opportunity & Race. Now you are invited join us on **Thursday, December 10, 6:30 pm**, for a follow-up conversation about racism. Where will be put our energies, our hopes, our compassion, our love in service to healing this country's legacy of racism? What will be our work to do? Even if you have not been able to participate in these conversations thus far, you are welcome to join Rev. Greg, Linda Lucero, and Chuck Singleton as we work to discern *What's Next*.

While Still There is Light: A Retreat on Death and Dying

Saturday, December 12, 9 am - 1:30 pm at UU Society of Mill Creek. During this retreat, we will use Rev. Nancy Schaffer's book, *While Still There is Light* as a framework to reflect on death and dying. We will reflect on our understanding of death, how we think about our own mortality, and how we experience the death of others. We will then shift to ways in which we are able to serve, to care for, others who are dying, as well as their loved ones. A light lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Rev. Greg or Brian Hanson.