

# FELLOWSHIP

WAYSIDE PULPIT

"You have to have a darkness for the dawn to come."

-Harrison Ford



UUFC WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 10, 2017

SUNDAY, December 10

9:30 AM Childcare available  
Worship Service

11:00 AM Childcare available  
Worship Service  
RE Classes

Join us after the services in the Social Hall for coffee and conversation. Introduce yourself to someone you don't know.

The Fellowship Care and Support team listeners are available for anyone looking for support. Ask at the greeter desk.

NEW TO THE FELLOWSHIP? CONTACT  
OUR FIRST STEPS COORDINATOR,  
ELONA MEYER  
([elonameyer@icloud.com](mailto:elonameyer@icloud.com)).

BECOME A MEMBER  
OF THE UUFC!  
Our next MEMBERSHIP CLASS is Jan 27,  
2018. Sign up at the welcome table in  
the foyer for the next class.

*Spirit of the empty places, Spirit of  
new beginnings, in this often difficult  
season of cold and night, it seems the  
light might go away forever. Help us to  
catch our breath so we might not  
stumble into despair. Let us see the  
future we need — just on the horizon,  
unlocking, opening, growing.*

Visit the UUFC website to WATCH  
recordings of previous  
SUNDAY SERVICES!

[www.uucorvallis.org/?page\\_id=239](http://www.uucorvallis.org/?page_id=239)

Worship | Two worship services at 9:30 and 11:00 AM

Dec. 10 **"Winter Dark Earth"** Rev. Jill McAllister

Here, where we live, it's the darkest time of the year. The season of short days, bare trees, cold fog, and wet earth. Human cultures tend to bear this season by focusing on lights and the return of the sun, but it's good to remember the gifts of darkness and winter as well. We need the gifts of winter, of earth and of darkness, as much as we need other seasons.

Also today:

~Leonard Higgins, a member of our congregation, will be receiving a red candle carrying our blessings and support today. He is one of the five "valve turners" who in October 2016 shut down the 5 oil pipelines bringing Canadian tar sands oil into the US. He will be available in the gallery at 12:30 after the service to answer questions and talk about his action.

Help us, help you! The Fellowship has created a new system for letting us know about life transitions. If you have an important transition (e.g. illness, death, birth, engagement, etc.) that you'd like us to know about or to announce, please email: [transitions@uucorvallis.org](mailto:transitions@uucorvallis.org) so that we can follow up with you about next steps.

Next Week | Two worship services at 9:30 and 11:00 AM

Dec. 17 Two Different Services:

9:30 AM **"Hannukah: Not a Jewish Christmas"**

Rev. Jill McAllister

It's a story of rebellion against repression, of a military victory, of a miracle (or two), worth pondering for these times.

11 AM **Holiday Pageant with Mummers Play**

Religious Exploration Classes

Don't miss this re-enactment of an old English tradition (brilliantly updated by Rachel Kohler), presented by our RE classes and helpers. A service for all ages.

# HAPPENING SOON

## **Confluence LGBT Chorus Concert today, at 4:30 PM**

Join us for "Creating Peace: With Light" at the Fellowship.

## **Second Volunteer Week at the Men's Shelter Dec. 10-16**

Many thanks to all who volunteered for shifts at the men's homelessness shelter. We've signed up for a second week, Dec. 10-16, with Elizabeth Sollie as the team leader. Please join in and sign up for another shift.

## **6th annual UUFC Christmas Carol Sing-Along!**

When: **Sunday, December 17, 4:00 - 6:00 PM**

Where: Around the piano in the Sanctuary; followed by refreshments in the Social Hall. If you love all the traditional American Christmas songs, it's a wonderful way to share holiday music with your family. Come celebrate the season with song!

## **Living with Depression - yours or someone else's**

First gathering **Monday, December 18, 7 PM**. Depression has no favorite time of year, but the holiday season can be especially challenging for many of us. It's always good to remember we're not alone. Come for this first session of checking in and sharing; together we'll make a plan for further meetings. All are welcome.

## **Celebrate Solstice /Yule at UUFC**

**Friday evening, December 22.** An earth-centered, seasonal celebration for all ages.

## **Cookie Making for Christmas Eve: Sat. Dec. 23, 10 AM - Noon.**

Let's bake together to provide cookies for Christmas Eve at the Fellowship. Bring a favorite batch of cookie dough, if you like, or bring ingredients to mix up, or just come to help mix and roll and decorate. All ages are welcome! Sign up in the foyer so that we can plan for space and supplies.

## **Clearing Space for the New Year, 7-8:30 PM on Wed. Dec. 27**

In this evening service, we will turn our attention to healing the sorrows we carry for ourselves, the community and the world after a challenging year. We will use the tools of singing/toning, readings, sharing and ritual, to coax our stories of loss and suffering into the visible world so that they can be transformed. Facilitated by Anna Coffman and Susan Sanford.

# FELLOWSHIP CONNECTIONS

## **Holiday Giving to Make a Difference**

Please consider these opportunities for holiday giving:

~The Christmas Offerings will support our work with refugees and immigrants, here and in Burundi.

~Contribute to Winter Warmth Care Packages for children and families at Garfield School: Children's pj's, socks, undies, pillowcases, blankets (new or in very good condition) can be added to the red box in the foyer, until Dec. 18.

~The Prison Ministry Team is sponsoring an "Angel Tree" to support an incarcerated person. The tree is set up in the foyer.

~We're helping the Heartland Humane Society with a collection box in the UUFC foyer, for food and other supplies for household pets.

## **Hats for the Homeless on Sat Dec 16**

On our next Craft Day, Dec 16, all are invited to help out with a "Hats for the Homeless" project. The goal is to make warm fleece hats for clients of the Men's Shelter and others in need. Each hat will have a note inside that says, "This hat was handmade by someone who cares about you. You are valuable." The pattern for the hats is simple, and there are plenty of ways for non-sewers to help out. Those with portable sewing machines and/or rotary cutters are encouraged to bring them. We can also use remnants or scraps of polyester fleece fabric. The pattern will be available at the office for anyone who wants to make hats at home. Contact Liz Conners at [otterplay123@gmail.com](mailto:otterplay123@gmail.com).

# THE WEEK AHEAD: DEC 11 - DEC 16

# FELLOWSHIP CONNECTIONS

Monday, Dec 11	Senior Co-Housing Meeting UUFC Board of Trustees Meeting	3:00 PM LIB 7:00 PM Room 7
Wednesday, Dec 13	Women's Lunch Bunch <i>Friendly conversation with women of the Fellowship.</i> Contact: Elizabeth Waldorf ( <a href="mailto:dewaldorf@comcast.net">dewaldorf@comcast.net</a> ).  Weekly Potluck <i>Please bring a dish (with a list of ingredients) to share. All are welcome.</i>	1:00 PM N. Coop  6:00 PM SH/K
Thursday, Dec 14	Corvallis Transgender Support  Dances of Universal Peace	7:00 PM Room 7  7:00 PM SFH
Friday, Dec 15	Insight Meditation <i>This is a simple yet profound practice originally taught by the Buddha. No experience is required.</i> Contact: Mary Leigh Burke ( <a href="mailto:maryleigh.burke@gmail.com">maryleigh.burke@gmail.com</a> ).  Kirtan Meditation Group	10:15 AM Room 7  7:00 PM Room 7

## Dedication of Children on Christmas Eve

Fellowship members who wish to have their children dedicated at either of the Christmas Eve services (the early service at 5:30 PM or the late service at 9:00 PM) should contact Jill McAllister ([minister@uucorvallis.org](mailto:minister@uucorvallis.org)). Child Dedication is a Unitarian Universalist tradition of naming, blessing and welcome for babies and children.

## Tax Reform??: Pledges and Gifts

UUFC Capital Campaign consultant Jeff Susor sent the following information this week:

“While the tax bills currently under consideration by the US Congress retain the deductibility of charitable contributions, analysts expect 38 million middle income households will no longer be able to receive a tax deduction for their gifts to churches and nonprofits. Because the bills eliminate several current deductions and nearly double the standard deduction (to \$24,000 for couples), 95% of taxpayers would no longer see a benefit by itemizing their tax returns.

There are several strategies consider:

### Year-End Giving

Prepay intended pledges to our operating budget, capital campaign, or other charities you support by making an additional gift before December 31, 2017.

### Gifts of Appreciated Assets

Donors who contribute securities for charitable purposes receive the largest tax benefit by focusing on shares with the lowest cost basis (and largest capital gains). Under the Senate version of the bill, donors would no longer be able to specify which shares are sold or transferred.

### Charitable IRA Distributions

For those 70 ½ or older, supporting charities by transferring funds from retirement accounts will become an even more valuable strategy than it currently is. “

If you'd like to know more, or to make a year-end gift toward UUFC's operating budget or capital campaign, contact Jean Gilbert: [businessmanager@uucorvallis.org](mailto:businessmanager@uucorvallis.org).

# FIND US ONLINE

Connect with us online to stay updated and keep in touch.

 UUCF Website  
[www.uucorvallis.org](http://www.uucorvallis.org)

 FACEBOOK  
[facebook.com/uucorvallis](https://facebook.com/uucorvallis)

 TWITTER  
[twitter.com/uucorvallis](https://twitter.com/uucorvallis)

## Words for Reflection

Dec 10, 2017

What questions do you think you need answered in order to wake up to the morning and step into your life with joy?

Listen:

the dark branches scrolled sharp against a pure sky are the only map you will ever receive.

When you look at those lines, when you attend to them, until you feel yourself lifted by their dark runes into the clear winter sun or the dimming light of evening, there is your guide.

When gratitude rises as the only prayer of your heart, you are learning, at last, what it is to be fully alive.

*Kathleen McTigue*

## Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis

2945 NW Circle Blvd  
Corvallis, OR 97330  
[uucorvallis.org](http://uucorvallis.org)



### WANT TO INCLUDE AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS?

If you would like to include an announcement for your group, please email them by noon Wednesday to [office@uucorvallis.org](mailto:office@uucorvallis.org) with the subject line: weekly announcement.

# NEED TO CONTACT US?

## CHURCH OFFICE

Ph. 541.752.5218

[office@uucorvallis.org](mailto:office@uucorvallis.org)

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

(Closed Dec. 25 - Jan. 1)

## JEAN GILBERT

Business Manager

[businessmgr@uucorvallis.org](mailto:businessmgr@uucorvallis.org)

## RACHEL KOHLER

Religious Exploration Associate

[reassociate@uucorvallis.org](mailto:reassociate@uucorvallis.org)

## Rev. JILL MCALLISTER

Senior Minister

[minister@uucorvallis.org](mailto:minister@uucorvallis.org)

## MICHAEL MOLK

Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

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## JAMIE PETTS

Operations Manager

[operationsmgr@uucorvallis.org](mailto:operationsmgr@uucorvallis.org)

## Dr. DAVID SERVIAS

Music Director

[music@uucorvallis.org](mailto:music@uucorvallis.org)

## LAUREN SERVIAS

Pianist

## ELIZABETH SOLLIE

Ministerial Intern

[intern@uucorvallis.org](mailto:intern@uucorvallis.org)