

# FELLOWSHIP

WAYSIDE PULPIT

"What seem to us bitter trials are often blessings in disguise."  
-Oscar Wilde



UUFC WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 17, 2017

SUNDAY, December 17

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.

*You reveal yourself to us in myriad  
ways, gentlest of ways, and at this  
time of the year you remind us that  
you'll never turn away from us.  
Whether our hearts are merry or  
miserable, may our longing keep  
turning us toward you, and toward the  
presence of your Love among us.*

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. 17 Two Different Services:

9:30 AM "**Hanukkah: 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.

Also today:

~OWL Parent Orientations for 5th/6th (Room 7) and 10th-12th (Room 9) from 12:30 - 2 PM.

~6th Annual Christmas Carol Sing-a-long today from 4-6 PM. Songs in the Sanctuary, followed by refreshments in the Social Hall.

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).

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

December 24 ONE service, 11:00 AM

"**Stories of Christmas**" Elizabeth Sollie, Rev. Jill McAllister, and All

One morning service only, at 11 am. (no 9:30 am service). All ages will gather to hear stories of Christmas, new and old. Baby and toddler care will be available.

**Christmas Eve services**, 5:30 PM and 9:00 PM

5:30 PM Family Service of music, carols, stories and sharing for all ages, including dedication of babies and children. Please let Jill know if you have a child you wish to have a child dedicated.

9:00 PM A Meditative Service of readings, silence, and special music from the Choir, including selections from Handel's Messiah. Child dedications are also welcome at this service.

# HAPPENING SOON

## Join us today! 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.

## Homeless Shelter Volunteer Reflection

Thank you to everyone who helped volunteer at the Corvallis Men's Shelter! Join us either on Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 6:30 PM or Thursday, Dec. 21 at 10 AM in Rooms 6ABC to reflect on a series of questions and share what we have learned so far. Questions? Contact Elizabeth Sollie ([intern@uucorvallis.org](mailto:intern@uucorvallis.org)).

## Celebrate Solstice /Yule at UUFC at 7 PM

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

## Cookie Making for Christmas Eve: December 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, Wednesday, Dec. 27

A quiet space and time together to share pain and grief, to shed tears and concerns, to renew courage and compassion. All are welcome.

## UUFC Office Holiday Closure

A reminder that the UUFC Office will be closed Dec. 25 - Jan. 1. We will still be available via email ([office@uucorvallis.org](mailto:office@uucorvallis.org)).

## For anyone interested in good news from 2017, here's one of the sources of the Sunday "Good Report"

<https://medium.com/future-crunch/99-reasons-2017-was-a-good-year-d119d0c32d19>

# FELLOWSHIP CONNECTIONS

## 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.

## 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.

# THE WEEK AHEAD: DEC 18 - DEC 23

# FELLOWSHIP CONNECTIONS

Monday, Dec 18	Shawl Ministry	7:00 PM Room 7
	Living with Depression	7:00 PM Room 9
Tuesday, Dec 19	Life Raft Corvallis <i>Family members and friends dealing with a loved one's drug addiction are welcome to come share a confidential discussion. Questions? Contact Marcia Chapman (541-757-3809)</i>	6:30 PM Room 9
	Homelessness Volunteer Reflection <i>One of two sessions to choose from to meet and reflect on a series of questions and to share what we have learned so far.</i>	6:30 PM Rooms 6ABC
Wednesday, Dec 20	Women's Lunch Bunch <i>Friendly conversation with women of the Fellowship. Contact: Elizabeth Waldorf (<a href="mailto:dewaldorf@comcast.net">dewaldorf@comcast.net</a>).</i>	1:00 PM N. Coop
	Weekly Potluck <i>Please bring a dish (with a list of ingredients) to share. All are welcome.</i>	6:00 PM SH/K
Thursday, Dec 21	Homelessness Volunteer Reflection <i>One of two sessions to choose from to meet and reflect on a series of questions and to share what we have learned so far.</i>	10:00 AM Rooms 6ABC
Friday, Dec 22	Insight Meditation <i>This is a simple yet profound practice originally taught by the Buddha. No experience is required. Contact: Mary Leigh Burke (<a href="mailto:maryleigh.burke@gmail.com">maryleigh.burke@gmail.com</a>).</i>	10:15 AM Room 7
	Kirtan Meditation Group	7:00 PM Room 7
	Wheel of the Year: Yule Winter Solstice	7:00 PM Sanctuary

## Tax Reform??: Pledges and Gifts

UUFC Capital Campaign consultant Jeff Susor sent the following information note:

"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.

You may want to 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 finance council chair Russ Karow: [Russell.Karow@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Russell.Karow@oregonstate.edu)

# 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 17, 2017

.....Rest in the rhythm of the turning year,  
Trace the bending arc  
Rounding the curve toward justice.  
And vow anew to do no harm.  
The winter trees stand watch  
haloed in the last gleams of the slanting sun.  
Glory sings here.  
Heaven echoes the call:  
Repeat the sounding joy.  
Make your life an answer:  
Bow. Praise. Rise.

*Rebecca Parker, A Winter Prayer*

## 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)

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