

December 2017

340 North Queen St. Dover, DE 19904
uucdcontact@gmail.com & UUCD.ORG

CONNECTIONS

AN *take a look at yourself
and make that change*
EXAMINED
LIFE

UUCD
Fall 2017

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS
OF CENTRAL DELAWARE**
A Welcoming Congregation
Chartered 2009

Sunday Services

Save These Dates

Mon 12/4

DIMH dinner
Head Chef: Leigh Hesseltine

Sun 12/10, 11.30am

Social Justice Committee
meeting

Fri 12/15

Moms Night Out

Sat 12/16, 9-noon

Adopt A Highway

Wed 12/20, 6.30-8

Board Meeting at CBS

Wed 1/3, 7-8.30

"Walk With Me" Movie night
at CBS

12/3

**ADVENT: IN PREPARATION OF WHAT?
REV GREG CHUTE**

December is a festive month; an ancient calling. As the days get shorter, the human spirit feels the need to fill the nights with lights and laughter, to celebrate and be joyful. So we open the little windows on advent calendars and we light candles in preparation & anticipation; but for what?

12/10

**AN ABUNDANT LIFE
REV KAREN LAUGHMAN**

Reverend Karen Laughman's own life focus has been bringing equality and quality of life to all people. Please join us as we continue to celebrate this season of gratitude and generosity through joyful song, peaceful meditation and intense reflection.

12/17

**EMBRACING THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON
REV GREG CHUTE**

No matter what our religious tradition, this holiday season invites us to celebrate. It is a time of lights, laughter, gifts, gathering of friends & family, and rejoicing in the human spirit. We welcome this opportunity to reflect and to remember all that is most important to us.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY
OFFERING GOES TO FOOD BANK OF DELAWARE**

12/24

**CHRISTMAS MAGIC
REV GREG CHUTE**

Christmas Eve Day is full of hustle & bustle, anticipation & expectation. Something magical & mysterious is coming. Anything and everything seems possible. Our hopes & dreams seem just a moment away. Tomorrow just may bring a brand new day.

12/31

**FRUITCAKE EVE
SHERYL WINSBY**

We will work to jointly get closure on 2017 and prepare for a better 2018. We will contemplate our hopes for 2018. What are our intentions and how can we optimize our chances of making them happen? If you would like, please bring something to share--a poem, a joke, a cartoon, a song, etc., and we will share as many as we have time for.

12/21, 7PM

**THE WINTER SOLSTICE
CATHY MARSH AND REV
GREG CHUTE**

This is the longest night of the year: a time to mark the passing of the days, a time to sit in the dark, a time to light candles, a time to gather in peace & quiet, a time to exhale and to embrace the comforting night.



Eating soup!

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Reflecting on the seasonal decorations and celebrations, we finished our holiday weekend by going to explore the Winter Wonderfest at the Cape

Henlopen State Park and Lewes Ferry Terminal. This year's celebration is much bigger than last year's, and the cause is to raise money for Sussex County non-profits. The driving lights tour costs \$20 per car, but you get a coupon for \$10 to spend in the

outlets. The Ferry Terminal has a mini north pole street, carnival rides, midway games and a mini ice skating rink. The only food is a Grotto Pizza truck or snacks. Our family has done a lights driving tour as part of our traditions for years, this was one of the best we have seen. Santa is also ready to greet the kids in the Terminal. Blessings for the holidays.

-Kerry



Recently, UUCD purchased a new projector (check it out [here](#)) and a new laptop (here). The funds were from the Chalice Lighter Grant. On Sunday, December 10th after the service, Cade Gibson will be offering a training on these exciting new machines!

Theo Newman (4), Phil Troxler (7), Krissy Deskiewicz (16), Ethan Lettieri (19), Hannah McLennan (20), Sandy Nelson (21), Stuart Marsh (25), Paul Kuras (28), Ariel Peters (29)

search committee

The Leadership Development Committee (LDC) is in the beginning stages of recruiting members for a Minister Search Committee to recommend a new minister for our congregation when Greg's term ends in 2019. The LDC plans to identify potential members and conduct interviews in roughly the next month. Our goal is to create a Minister Search Committee comprised of members who will work creatively and collaboratively to represent the spirit and objectives of our congregation. There will be a member-wide vote to approve the recommended committee members. Please let Alissa, Erv, or Mara know of any ideas or questions.

community concerts

Get in the spirit with seasonal music, Sunday Dec. 10 at the Milford Senior Center, 111 Park Ave. from 3-4 and Sunday 12/17 at the First Baptist Church, 301 Walker Rd., Dover from 3-4. The Delaware Choral Society, together with the Dover High School Vocal Arts Academy, will present Handel's Messiah with orchestra on December 2 at Dover High School at 7pm at 1 Dover High Drive.

volunteer opportunities



"Greeting" on a Sunday morning is a great way to get to know your community as well as provide a needed service to our congregation. It is an opportunity to be that welcomed friendly face to both the familiar crowd and also to potential new members and friends. Please consider volunteering as a single or as a couple. Currently we have Greeters assigned up through Dec. 10th, but we need volunteers for the remaining weeks in December and January. If interested, please email Ed Daniels at edaniels615@gmail.com or see him after a service. Greeter responsibilities include: arrive by 9.40, pull out the book cart, greet arrivals, distribute Orders of Service and hymnals if needed, close the sanctuary doors when the service begins, count adult attendees, and open the doors at the end of the service.

Deep Thought: If the greeter fails to open the doors, will we all be trapped forever?



Social Justice Committee still needs another volunteer to be head chef on the the following dates:

1/1/18 4/2/18
7/2/18 10/1/18

If you would like to serve as head chef for one or more of these Mondays, contact Sara Russell- 302-542-1982 or srr1023@outlook.com

anti-racism training

The Central East Region of the UUA is sponsoring two opportunities for those UUs interested in nurturing a multicultural community and working against racism in all of its forms. This Jubilee Anti-Racism training will be held twice in the coming months in our area:



All Souls Unitarian Church
1500 Harvard St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

Friday, January 12, 2018 through
Sunday, January 14, 2018
Fee \$160



Main Line Unitarian Church
816 Valley Forge Road
Devon PA 19333

Friday, March 2, 2018 through
Sunday, March 3, 2018
Fee \$155

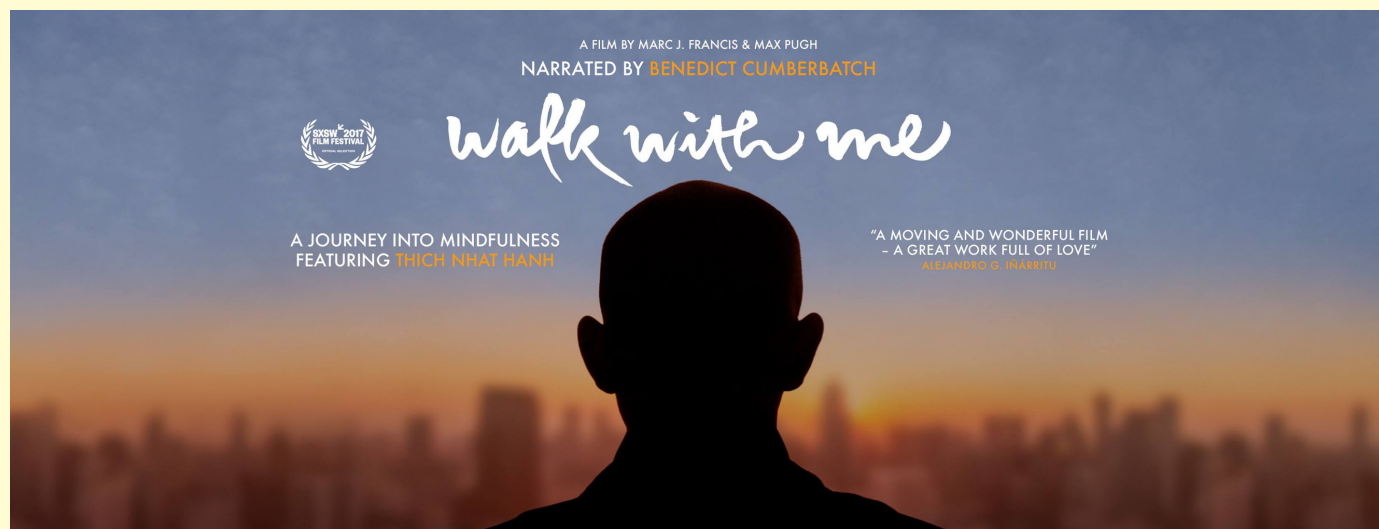
For more information contact cer@uua.org

mindfulness movie night

The monthly Mindfulness group will resume meeting on the first Wednesday of the month as of Wednesday, January 3, 2018. We meet from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. At the January 3, 2018 meeting we will suspend our usual practice in order to enjoy a film together.

"Walk With Me" features an in depth exposure to the monastic life and practice of Thich Nhat Hanh. It is narrated by Benedict Cumberbatch and runs about 90 minutes.

We will enjoy this film together at CBS in the small sanctuary. All are welcome. For further information please contact Molly Keogh 302-399-9134.



Soup for a cause!

The kids raised about \$125 for Adopt-A-Family



Dressed up for Halloween!



Have some reflections on a recent service?
Or maybe a few thoughts to share?
Send your letters to
laura.e.parks@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor

One of the things I love about our liberal religion is the freedom to hold views that some might not agree with. I find myself thinking about our focus on inmate rights, death penalty issues and re-entry issues and the great work that we have put into supporting these efforts. In thinking about these issues I feel we need to offer a balance of victim centered issues as well. While some may feel these are opposing views, I feel they should be considered in tandem. Victims frequently state they want the "life lessons" learned so someone else does not have to experience the same pains they are coping with. Since the issues we have discussed frequently focus on the humanity of inmates or offenders, these are more common wishes for all. Please consider the crime victim views as well when raising an offender centered concern. Victims and survivors experience many forms of social isolation as a result of the crime and we should provide the same safe place to discuss their concerns as well as we do for offenders. You might be surprised to hear the victim services available in our community are just as limited if not more than those for offenders. Could we become part of the solution?

Kerry McElwee

Working Groups/Contacts

Social Justice Committee: Mark Jarrell
Worship Committee: Laura Parks
Leadership Development Committee: Mara Ormond,
Erv Schleifer, Alissa Bennet
Stewardship Committee: Sandy Nelson
Caring Team: Gloria Gross
Religious Education Team:
Susan Guiteras, Sarah Unruh
Fund Raising: Steve Unruh
Web Site: Tom Gower
Newsletter: Laura Parks
Social Media: Sheryl Winsby,
Susan Guiteras
Hospitality: Cindy Hesseltine
Greeters: Ed Daniels
Email Updates: Greg Chute



Hospitality Schedule

12/3/17. Sara Russell & Sheryl and Tom
12/10/17 Judy & Wayne Kling
12/17/17 Steve & Sara Unruh
12/31/17 Yolande Jackson & Rose Akerman