



# *The Chalice and the Flame*

*Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.*

*A Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem, OR*

## December 2017

### **Winter Blood Drive Needs YOU! December 8**

UUCS is hosting our next blood drive this Friday, December 8, from 12:30 am to 6:00 pm. We need several more donors to reach our goal of 30 pints. Sign up online at <http://www.redcrossblood.org>. Use the Sponsor Code "usalem" to find open slots. For more information contact UUCS Liaison Angela Gross, [uu4peace@gmail.com](mailto:uu4peace@gmail.com).



### **UUCS Celebrates 20th Anniversary of Our Building December 10**

We will remember and celebrate the 20th anniversary of our spiritual home at both of our worship services on Dec. 10. We'll recount the history of Unitarian Universalism in Salem, with a special focus on the story of our building here. Please bring a dessert to share during coffee hour after each service.

### **Giving Tree Ends December 10, Bring Gifts by December 17**

As in past years we have a Giving Tree available with requests for gift certificates and food/snack baskets for people with severe mental health conditions who are lacking support from friends or family. Please join us in reaching out to those who are so often alone and forgotten. The gift certificates are greatly appreciated as most of the recipients are surviving on a very limited income. Please return all gifts wrapped, or in a basket/container, and gift certificates placed in a holiday card by December 17. During the week, the gift certificate basket will be in the office. We appreciate your caring and generosity. For questions contact MORPH treasurer Nina Donnelly at [503-949-6266](tel:503-949-6266).

### **Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve Sunday Services**

Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve fall on Sunday this year. On Christmas Eve, we'll have a morning service at 10:30 am for families and the candlelight service at 7:30 pm. On New Year's Eve, the Worship Team will have a short service at 10:30 am followed by breakfast. See the [Services page](#) for full details.



## Reverential Ramblings

### ~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

On November 24, the day after Thanksgiving, we said goodbye to our dear friend Barbara Hanneman, the sole surviving charter member of our congregation. What a remarkable woman! How she will be missed! Below are some of the remarks I wrote for her memorial (some of which there was no time to share).

*Somewhere around this time (late 1940's) Barbara was doing some exploratory reading and came upon the essays and sermons of a great, wonderful and articulate Unitarian minister A. Powell Davies – he was from Wales but spent his adult life in the U.S. and served as the senior minister in the Washington D.C. area during the 1940's and 50's. Much of his writing had a political angle and he challenged social ills such as racism, anti-Semitism, militarism, and religious fundamentalism. Barbara was enthralled and enlightened by what she read. She realized she was a Unitarian. The only problem was that there was no Unitarian presence in Salem – none at all. The previous Unitarian church here had closed down in 1938 – truly a dark time for us here. The good news is that the American Unitarian Association saw some potential here again and a Unitarian minister came to town to see if there was any interest in creating a Unitarian Fellowship. If any less than ten people came to such meetings and weren't willing to sign on as charter members on the spot then nothing would come of it. It was a bit of a challenge for both Barbara and Gene (her husband) to get to this meeting downtown at the Senator Hotel (now gone), but they made it and signed on as charter members, thank goodness, because they made TEN.*

*Time does not allow for me to detail Barbara's unfailing and generous support of this congregation for nearly seven decades – suffice it to say here that she was not afraid of hard work, she always made sure to support our congregation and do whatever she could to help it thrive. Without such people as Barbara I can't imagine what we'd have become. It's fitting that our fellowship hall is named in her honor: "Barbara Hanneman Fellowship Hall."*

*Barbara was not shy about telling us about all the hard work she and others did during the early days of the fellowship. She didn't do this to get praise or recognition, she did this because she was helping to shape the spiritual DNA of this congregation and remind us that this is a place where commitment and hard work are essential parts of the deal.*

*Of course, it was also a joy to be with fellow members as they journeyed through life, and she was among us with such a generous and open heart. Here's what one member (Ted Cory) emailed to me this past week: "There's lots of things I can't remember but Barbara Hanneman isn't one of them. In 2007 when I started coming to UUCS Services I sat in the back and Barbara frequently came and sat right next to me. It was like I was the most important person at the service and she wanted to make sure I felt welcome. She seemed to always want to give me a hug and kiss me on the cheek. When I performed she was always right there to thank me."*

*In reading this testimony from a member I almost feel like I'm reading something I myself wrote, for this was my experience of Barbara, too, during my twenty five years of ministry here. We have a lot of history, I have a lot of memories and they are good ones, great ones, inspiring ones and yes, funny ones.*

Now Barbara has died and we'll see her here no more (be sure to appreciate the photo of her and Laura Wells - after whom our chalice window is named - on your immediate left next time you enter the foyer). As you look at her image I invite you to reflect on the powerful and positive presence she had during her nearly seven decades of membership.

So now it's our turn to be powerful and positive presences. Thank you for being one!

Love,  
Rick



## Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

**DECEMBER** is here and it is a month full of social service projects for RE. “How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment to improve the world,” a great quote from Anne Frank. I believe that it is important to empower children/youth to know that there are many ways to help our world. This time of year many people take extra time to think about helping others. You may consider donating to one of the projects for RE!

In December, we continue our work with the Microfinance Team to raise money to help fund small loans for people in Nicaragua. We are learning about the different businesses that have been started with an amount even as small as \$100!

Our Good Samaritan bag project is happening all year long!. It is never too late to donate toiletry items or dog food to this project. So many supplies were donated during October and November that our youth helped sort to get them ready for the second Sunday when bags were put together in the fellowship hall. So many people left with filled bags to hand out when they encounter people in need. **This project is ongoing throughout the year.** We will be putting bags together again December 10. What a great thing to have a bag ready that has some simple toiletries, a small pack of Kleenex, a granola bar, a couple pieces of candy and in some cases feminine products to hand to someone in need!

December is the start of our annual Mitten Tree project. In the foyer, you will find a tree that we try and completely fill with mittens! (Hats and scarves are also appreciated). Our first Sunday in December for our RE First Service offering, we learned how to knit using looms. This is a great way to make something to donate. If you would like to check-out a loom, please let me know! We spend the month of December collecting these items for the tree and on Christmas Eve morning, following the service, we will ceremoniously remove them to be donated to Family Building Blocks. Last year we donated 100 items! Let's see if we can beat this record this December!

We will be finishing creating Christmas cards in RE to send to our partner church in Simenfalva, Romania. The children/youth are getting to write holiday greetings in Hungarian!

We have so many things that we can do in RE to help our world — right this moment! I am excited about all of our projects and efforts this month that help improve the world.

I HOPE all of you have a very joyous holiday and I am thankful to spend my Sundays with you all.

In peace and *Until Next Time – Christi*

*Christi J Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration*

### ~ Other Notes Of Interest From RE ~

**Third Sunday Faith Exploration** for 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade will be happening on December 17! Watch for the information to be available soon.

**On Christmas Eve morning**, we will have a special worship service at 10:30 am that is geared for families to celebrate Christmas Eve. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

There will **no be individual RE classes on December 31.**

**RSVP for our Intention Setting Workshop** that is happening January 7 from 1:00 – 2:00 pm. All ages are welcome. Space is limited to 12 participants. We will share a short ritual and discussion to set our intentions for the day, month or year. We will make our own intentions bracelets ([MyIntent.org](http://MyIntent.org)) to take home to remind us of this commitment to ourselves.

**FAMILY YOGA** – Our RE First Service Offering on January 7 will be yoga for all ages. Feel free to join us. Please plan to bring a yoga mat if you have one! We will have a limited number of mats available.

# Words from Our Intern Minister



Tennessee Williams wrote, “We live in a perpetually burning building, and what we must save from it, all the time, is love.” It certainly feels true these days that the world is on fire, full of danger and near-catastrophe just waiting to become catastrophe. So much life is threatened, from the inhumane treatment of immigrants and refugees to the looming specter of climate disaster to the crushing implications for many of new and larger tax burdens or the loss of health insurance. What are we to do in a world on fire?

First, I think we are to center ourselves. Grounding spiritual practices help remind us that we can only live each moment as it comes, undertaking the best actions we can (and remembering that stillness is sometimes our best action), caring for ourselves and others, trusting that another moment will follow this one.... and then another. And another.

Second, I think we are to de-center ourselves. De-centering means looking at all the ways in which our experience of the world is not the only way people experience the world. We open ourselves to more understanding, more empathy, and a bigger picture of what a world of peace and justice will need to look like to include everyone.

Third, I know we are called to love. The complete quote from Tennessee Williams is, “The world is violent and mercurial – it will have its way with you. We are saved only by love – love for each other and the love that we pour into the art we feel compelled to share: being a parent, being a writer, being a painter, being a friend. We live in a perpetually burning building, and what we must save from it, all the time, is love.” The traditional values of Advent, the Christian season leading up to Christmas, are hope, love, joy, and peace. Whether or not you celebrate Christmas, perhaps this winter you will join me in being oriented toward hope and joy, that more love and peace might come into the world through your actions, your stillness, your attention, and your care.

Warmly,  
Monica

## Happenings and Highlights

### **Yule/Winter Solstice Celebration**

The Wheel of the Year turns once again. On December 22 at 7:00 pm, we celebrate the return of the light and the rebirth of the Sun. This event is sponsored by the Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans. Please bring a bell, rattle or noisemaker. Donations gratefully received and will be shared with the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network as well as for support of the Salem CUUPs Circle. Snacks and fellowship will follow the celebration.

### **Dances of Universal Peace New Year's Eve Celebration**

Please join the Dances of Universal Peace for New Year's Eve dance circles from all around the globe. This is an alcohol-free celebration. Dancing begins at 8 pm on Sunday, December 31. Potluck from 10:00-10:45 pm. Bring a dish to share and a list of ingredients so people with food sensitivities can make healthy choices. Celebratory/ethnic dress is encouraged. Bring a bell for welcoming the New Year. Suggested donation \$15-20. No one will be turned away due to lack of funds. For more information contact Angela Gross, [uu4peace@gmail.com](mailto:uu4peace@gmail.com).

### **SJAT Benefit Concert January 27**

The Sanctuary Team, a sub-committee of the SJAT, is sponsoring a Sanctuary Benefit concert on January 27, 2018, from 6:00 - 8:30 pm. The proceeds will help to replace the window of the Green Room to meet fire-codes so that anyone staying overnight will be able to escape safely in case of a fire.

This special evening will further the awareness of today's climate of racial intolerance and the need for sanctuary. It will also raise awareness of IP22 and the history of racial injustice.

Performers currently include the Azteca Dancers, Loraine Stuart, Ayala's Band, Ted Cory, Peter Bergal with The Atomic Medicine Show. Come and have some fun!

**NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION:** to subscribe to *The Chalice and the Flame* monthly newsletter, email your request to the UUCS office at [office@uusalem.org](mailto:office@uusalem.org) and include your full name and email address. If you are a pledging member and want to receive a printed copy of the newsletter in the mail, also include a physical address.

### Thanks For Helping With Kairos Community Thanksgiving Lunch

A special Thanksgiving Feast was served by UUCS volunteers at the weekly Kairos Community Lunch on Nov. 19. Loads of culinary delights were served to 82 diners and fun was had by all! Many thanks to Glen Morrison, Joan Erickson, Loraine Stuart, Michael and Patrice Pollard, Carolyn and Joel Woodman, Lana Driscoll, Jane Maute, Chris Keese-Ferguson, Deborah Emeny and Gayle Gilmour, who had the room completely set up by the time the rest of us arrived.

Our 2018 Kairos Community Lunch calendar will be out soon. Watch for sign ups at the Social Justice Table. If you have any questions, call Mary Beth Hustoles at [503-587-7949](tel:503-587-7949).

### Survey Participants Needed

Some MBA students at Willamette University are asking for our help with a marketing research class project in partnership with the City of Salem. The goal of the research is to understand how Salem is doing on being an inclusive place to live.

Please take 5 minutes to complete our survey. As a thank you to those who complete the survey, we will hold a drawing in which one respondent will be chosen to receive a \$20 Visa cash card. Click here to take the survey:

[https://qtrial2012.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bO4EyrTqLRg1t8p](https://qtrial2012.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bO4EyrTqLRg1t8p)

For more information, contact Rita Siong at [rsiong@yahoo.com](mailto:rsiong@yahoo.com).

### Mary Gear Ordination February 10

Members and friends of UUCS have been a great support for Mary Gear on her path to ministry. Please plan to join our congregation as we, together with First Unitarian-Portland, ordain Mary on Saturday, February 10 at 1:00pm. The service will be held at UUCS with a pie and ice cream reception to follow.

## Social Justice News

### Stop IP 22!!

One Oregon, CAUSA, IMIrJ, PCUN, and the Racial Justice Organizing Committee (RJOC) are organizations that are working to stop IP 22 from becoming law in November 2018. If IP 22 passes, it would strip Oregon of its sanctuary status. It is unlikely we can prevent it from being on the ballot, but we can fight to have Oregon vote it down in November, 2018.. Please stop by the SJAT information table in Fellowship Hall after Sunday Services to sign a form pledging that if asked, you will not sign the ballot initiative and if IP22 is on the ballot, you will vote NO. [Click here for more information and forms.](#)

### IP 22 is Bad for Oregon

Oregonians for Immigration Reform, part of the White Nationalist network, is moving forward with IP 22 to repeal Oregon's 30-year inclusivity law. IP 22 will erode community trust, stretch our public safety resources, harm Oregon families and decimate our local economy.

Sign Our Pledge—No on IP 22 <http://bit.ly/2rLVYyP>

**one**  
OREGON

### Racial Justice Organizing Committee Holding Community Party December 15

The Racial Justice Organizing Committee (RJOC) is hosting a holiday party and Causa fundraiser on Friday, December 15, from 6:00 - 9:00 pm in the basement of the Salem UCC Church, located at 700 Marion St. NE. This is a potluck! We will have music, some good words from Causa and politicians and candidates who support us. It's a chance to mingle with like-minded people and relax and feel good about our activism and our shared struggles. This is an all-ages, no alcohol event.

### Stand Up for the EPA

The Trump Administration wants to cut BILLIONS of dollars from the budget of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). His cuts will affect Oregon's programs that ensure that our drinking water is clean, prevent oil spills on our coast, and enforce laws against pollution. We can't let it happen. Stand up now to protect the EPA! Join Governor Kate Brown and voice your objection by clicking on this link: <http://bit.ly/2s3anWP>.

## 20 Years Ago This Month

After our first service in our new church on November 2, we had a joyous month settling into our new space. Millie Rochester, our superb Director of Religious Education - with help, especially from Diana and Gil Nicholson-Nelson - arranged the RE wing to fit the needs of our program. Rick made a unique welcoming and functional space of his new office. Our secretary, with help from many people, set up the office and workroom.



*This photo, from 1984, is included to emphasize how much we accomplished.*

And Barbara Hanneman swung into action! She had some assistance on her Art Committee, but Barbara was in charge. Except for the stained glass window - which was installed December 5, our building was very plain. We loved it, and the "antique white" wall color was appreciated as a welcoming color. But the place needed art, and the art came. Charla Richards-Kreitzberg contributed a few pieces. Janet Neuburg commissioned panels by her friend Leroy Setziol for our sanctuary. April Waters contributed a painting. Many other things appeared and were strategically placed. Barbara also guarded the building zealously against unaesthetic intrusions. A hapless Building Committee Chair incurred her wrath for bringing in an offensive coat rack; he was lucky that only the coat rack was expelled. Not all of the art was installed before the building dedication, but much of it was, and many of the visiting ministers on December 7 complimented us on the tasteful artistic furnishings.

All this led up to the Dedication service on December 7. Shelley Hodges-French was the point person for arrangements for the events of the day - including a buffet supper for the visiting ministers. Actually, there were two services. The first was at our regular time of 10:30 am.; the second was at 6:00 p.m. The morning service was especially for our congregation, with Rick preaching. The evening service drew visiting ministers from miles around; those ministers could come to the evening service after serving their own churches in the morning. John Buehrens, president of the UUA, gave the sermon at the evening service. I remember being thrilled by the procession of ministers in their variegated robes as we sang a hymn usually reserved for gatherings of many UU ministers. (Maybe we will use it in our commemoration on December 10.) As part of both services, the Building Committee presented a symbolic key to the building to Rick and our Board Chair Rob Schiff. That key has hung in Rick's office since then. Rick remembers more about the Dedication services than I do; he can recount more of the story on December 10, if not before.

Of course, there was more work to be done. For example, our parking was way inadequate. The County Building Code required 76 spaces (one space for every four seats in the sanctuary), and that's what we built. But we found that almost exactly 1.5 people came in each car. People parked in the street. Neighbors complained. We pleaded with our members to carpool, but almost no one did. As soon as we could, we expanded our parking lot to the current 114 spaces, the most our lot could hold, which helped a lot. But it wasn't enough. We explored buying the lot just south of the church for overflow parking. The price was too high, and we doubted that our members would be willing to use a parking lot there. Fortunately, some time later, the owner of the lot across Center Street to the north wanted to sell, and we quickly closed the purchase. This purchase, and the expansion of our lot from 76 to 114 spaces, were possible because our members were paying on their Capital Fund pledges, and we diverted some of that money to augmenting our parking.

I was able to report to the Congregation in the December 18, 1997 newsletter that we had only had to draw \$280,000 of our mortgage instead of the projected \$360,000. This was possible because we kept our costs down to \$5000 *under* the total cost projected in February and because our members were paying ahead on their Capital Fund pledges.

A personal note: this whole process was deeply fulfilling to me. I was in the thick of the action from the beginning of the fundraising, and even timed my retirement so I could be fully involved during the construction. The convergence of our committed congregation, our superb architect Crag Carlson, and our excellent contractor Elliott-Sheets made the whole project a joy. I am so grateful to UUCS for giving me that opportunity!

This is the last of my monthly columns on the transforming UUCS events of 1997. As I have already said, even more than constructing a building, *we built our congregation*. It was an exhilarating and fulfilling time for many of us, and bonds formed then are still holding us together.

Have these monthly columns told the full story? No, indeed! There is a move afoot to produce a booklet; it can begin the story in 1977 with purchase of the land, or maybe before that. It can be more comprehensive about certain crucial events, and flow more coherently. But more than that, it can include parts of the story that I didn't know or have forgotten - parts that *you* can provide. Please send your stories to me at [gstruble@willamette.edu](mailto:gstruble@willamette.edu).

~Submitted by George Struble



## Calendar

### **Microfinance Committee meeting**

**Tuesday, December 5, 6:00 pm**

UUCS Microfinance Committee will meet to discuss our October fundraiser and to determine allocations for our partner organizations in Nicaragua and Kenya.

### **Membership Team meeting**

**Tuesday, December 5, 6:30 pm**

### **Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self**

**Tuesday, December 5, 7:00 pm**

The teachings of the Aztec Dance are tied to the Pre-Hispanic roots of ancient Mexico. It serves to connect the dancer to a universal view of the Anawak culture and the Nawatl philosophy: a worldview of nature. The Aztec dance depends on understanding nature and draws its sustenance from it. Hence, the dance does not depend on the Western pedagogical approach but depends on the physical activity, with heavy symbolism in each dance and its specific steps. Aztec dance awakens and develops various human faculties which are essential across society but which the current educational system fails to implement in a conscious and permanent manner. The group meets on Tuesdays from 7 pm to 9 pm. All are welcome to attend.

### **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, December 6, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm**

A welcoming place for meditation practice. Session I is for experienced meditation practitioners. Session II provides attendees with basic instruction, and explanation. The last hour, 8 - 9 pm, is for discussion, compassion, about how to use meditation as a spiritual practice.

### **Choir Rehearsal**

**Thursday, December 7, 6:30 pm**

### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

**Friday, December 8, 12:30 pm**

Winter Blood Drive Needs YOU! UUCS blood drive from 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm. We need at least 25 more donors to reach our goal of 30 pints. Sign up online! <http://www.redcrossblood.org> Use the Sponsor Code "uusalem" to find open slots.

### **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, December 8, 7:00 pm**

UUCS' Addiction Recovery Ministry and Support program is glad to sponsor the Refuge Recovery group meeting every Friday from 7 to 8 pm at UUCS. The mission of this national non-profit organization is to build an extensive and comprehensive network of groups, meetings, and communities that practice and promulgate Buddhist teachings and meditations for anyone seeking recovery from addiction. Drawing inspiration from the core teachings of the Four Noble Truths, emphasis is placed on both knowledge and empathy as means for overcoming addiction and its causes. Those struggling with any form of addiction greatly benefit when they understand the suffering that addiction has created while developing compassion for the pain they have experienced.

### **Aztec Dancers**

**Saturday, December 9, 8:00 pm**

### **Compassionate Connections**

**Sunday, December 10, 10:30 am & 12:15 pm**

Life Lines Lay Ministers and sympathetic members of the congregation meet with those who want to share

their life challenges with a small group and receive 'hands on' comforting. While the circle is not comprised solely of Life Lines Lay Ministers and therefore matters spoken of there should not be assumed to be held in confidence, many derive solace from sharing and connecting with a small group.

### **Drop-in Covenant group**

**Sunday, December 10, 12:45 pm**

If your schedule did not allow a commitment to an ongoing monthly covenant group or you are new to our congregation and missed the sign-up period, plan to join our drop-in covenant group every second Sunday to discuss the Soul Matters theme for the month. You are welcome to attend every second Sunday meeting or just come when you can! This is an opportunity to extend the sermon topic into a small group discussion following the Soul Matter's theme service that happens on the second Sunday of each month through June.

### **Making Ornaments for UUCS Children**

**Monday, December 11, 11:00 am**

Women's Alliance work party, carrying on this tradition.

### **Social Justice in Action Team Meeting**

**Monday, December 11, 6:00 pm**

Regular monthly meeting.

### **Salem Covenant of UU Pagans Meeting**

**Monday, December 11, 6:30 pm**

Monthly business meeting for the executive team of SCUUPs, discussing items that are relevant to the spiritual and business needs of the group, planning for events, and addressing and supporting the greater pagan community at UUCS. The meeting is open to anyone to attend.

### **Women's Alliance Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 12, 6:00 pm**

Decorating the sanctuary and hall, then refreshments and short business meeting. All welcome; greens for decorating also welcome! (**Note early start time for this month.**)

### **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, December 13, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm**

(See December 6)

### **Long Term/Strategic Planning Team meeting**

**Wednesday, December 13, 7:00 pm**

### **Board Meeting**

**Thursday, December 14, 6:00 pm**

### **Choir Rehearsal**

**Thursday, December 14, 6:30 pm**

### **Finance Team meeting**

**Friday, December 15, 10:00 am**

### **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, December 15, 7:00 pm**

(See December 8)

### **YRUU Faith Exploration**

**Sunday, December 17, 11:00 am**

Every third Sunday, our YRUU (Young Religious UU's/8th-12th grades) group will travel to a different faith

service as part of their learning about diversity and exploring their own faith development.

### **Service Planning meeting**

**Sunday, December 17, 12:45 pm**

### **RE Team Meeting**

**Sunday, December 17, 1:00 pm**

### **Worship Team meeting**

**Monday, December 18, 6:00 pm**

Monthly Meeting of the Worship Team to plan & discuss Sunday Services

### **Journey to Belonging**

**Tuesday, December 19, 6:30 pm**

A 3 month covenant group to explore our spiritual journeys.

### **Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self**

**December 19, 7:00 pm**

(See December 5)

### **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, December 20, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm**

(See December 6)

### **Safer Congregation Committee meeting**

**Thursday, December 21, 6:00 pm**

### **Service Dress Rehearsal**

**Thursday, December 21, 6:00 pm**

### **Dances of Universal Peace**

**Thursday, December 21, 7:00 pm**

Simple, easy-to-learn movements and songs honoring spiritual traditions from around the world. The dances bring together sacred phrases from the world's religious traditions in heart-awakening circle dances dedicated to peace within and without.

### **Yule/Winter Solstice Celebration**

**Friday, December 22, 7:00 pm**

[See article.](#)

### **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, December 22, 7:00 pm**

(See December 8)

### **Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self**

**Tuesday, December 26, 7:00 pm**

(See December 5)

### **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, December 27, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm**

(See December 6)

### **Newsletter Deadline: 8pm**

**Friday, December 29, 2017**

### **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, December 29, 7:00 pm**

(See December 8)

### **Peace is in Our Hands - Global Peace Dance**

**Sunday, December 31, 8:00 pm**

[See article.](#)

# Worship Services and Religious Exploration

December Share the Plate: [The Center for Hope and Safety](#)

**Sunday, December 10**

**9:30 am and 11:15 am**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

## "20 Years and Counting"

**Celebrant:** Lennie Martin; **Anchor:** David Gortner

**Music Both Services:** Cello Trio and Ted Cory

Join us for the 20th anniversary celebration of our wonderful building and learn more about the history of Unitarian Universalism in Salem. George Struble, Diana Bodtker, Rob Schiff and Rev. Rick have an inspiring story to tell! If YOU bring a dessert dish for after the service this will add to the sweetness of this celebration.

**Soul Matters Sunday:** Drop-in covenant group at 1 pm discussing "hope".

**Sunday, December 17**

**9:30 am and 11:15 am**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

## "Beethoven's Life Lessons"

**Celebrant:** Gloria Holland; **Anchor:** Benjahmin Boschee

**First Service Music:** Sara Greenleaf; **Second Service Music:** UUCS Choir

This is not a sermon, or a lecture, about classical music (although his music will be mentioned). Nor is it a sermon about how his profound and sublime music changed my life and has been one of the very finest gifts I have ever received. It is a sermon about life – not only Beethoven's life, but life in general – it's great challenges and opportunities.

**RE Information:** Judi Day (Christi's Mom) a retired teacher, will share a story and help create **snow globe ornaments** for your holiday decorating fun! RE classes will continue learning about our Soul Matters Theme through a variety of learning experiences. **YRUU** - (8th-12th) will attend service at another church.

**Sunday, December 24**

**Morning Service at 10:30 am**

**Monica Jacobson**

## "Christmas Eve Family Service"

**Celebrant:** Christi Olsen; **Anchor:** Sara Pickett

**Music:** Jacob Tennesen

Join Christi and Monica for a family-oriented Christmas service. All ages are welcome to this service of stories and songs.

You are invited to bring mittens, hats, and scarves for our Mitten Tree. During the service, we'll perform the annual ritual of removing donated items from the Giving Tree and preparing them for donation to Family Building Blocks for people in need of warmth.

**Sunday, December 24**

**Evening Service at 7:30 pm**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

## "Christmas Eve Candlelight Service"

**Celebrant:** Sara Pickett; **Anchor:** Steve Rosen

**Music:** UUCS Choir

The UUCS Choir and musicians provide exalted sounds, readings of the ancient biblical narratives, a modern reading by Sophia Lyon Fahs, a Christmas Eve homily by Rev. Rick, a Christmas Prayer to the World, Singing "Silent Night" by candle light. A special night to be together and experience the spirit of peace and love.

**Sunday, December 31**

**Single Service at 10:30 am**

**Worship Team**

## Community and Breakfast: What Could Be Better?

The Worship Team will conduct an informal service around the theme of the importance of community and eating together. After the service, breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy some fellowship on New Year's Eve morning.

## Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Salem

5090 Center St. NE, Salem, OR 97317

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This issue was edited and formatted by Sharon Pierson, edited and proofed by Elsa Struble and Vicki Cunningham.

### DEADLINES:

**Newsletter Submissions** for *The Chalice and the Flame* must be received by the Friday before publication. The deadline for the **January 2** newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, **December 29**. Please send your submissions, including personal news items, directly to [editors@uusalem.org](mailto:editors@uusalem.org).

**Announcements** for "This Week At UUCS" must be submitted to [editors@uusalem.org](mailto:editors@uusalem.org) by noon **Tuesday**.

**EVENT SCHEDULING:** please use the [Event Scheduling Request](#) form on the UUCS website to add your event to the UUCS calendar and/or reserve a UUCS space.

**PUBLICITY:** please use the [Event Publicity Request](#) form on the UUCS website! This form is a one-stop place to put a notice in the Sunday announcements, the UUCS newsletter, the UUCS website and or Facebook.