

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SALEM

*Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.*

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, December 11, 2016

For the most up-to-date information, please verify dates and times on the online UUCS calendar: [uusalem.org/news/calendar](http://uusalem.org/news/calendar)

1. **The Social Justice Team is having a Fundraiser selling “Safety Pins” at their table to show people “You are SAFE with Me”.** Please come by and show your support for our team and your community.
2. **RE MITTEN DRIVE:** We are accepting donations until **Dec. 24th**. Our goal is to fill the whole Christmas tree with mittens, hats and scarves! Items will be donated to people in need in our UUCS community and Family Building Blocks. Thanks for your generosity.
3. **Please come see the charming crocheted ornaments** that our Partner Church women have made and sent to us . The proceeds from the sale will benefit the Simenfalva women’s group to aid in their projects. Fellowship Hall, after both services today.
4. **Join us this evening, at 7pm** for a beautiful candlelight contemplative sung prayer service in the style of the Taize Community in Taize, France. Guitar, flute and vocal ensemble lead this restful and centering meditation in music and silence that includes healing and laying on of hands. All are welcome!
5. **Please join us Dec 15 for a special night of Dances of Universal Peace** as we celebrate the Urs of Rumi, the night he passed through the veil. Rumi, the 13th century Persian poet, is currently the best selling poet in the USA. We will have an entire evening of Rumi poetry, dances inspired by the words of Rumi and community building with tea and

snacks. Dancing starts at 7:00pm. Please come a few minutes early to stow purses and coats. Donations are gratefully received. If able, please bring snacks to share. We are meeting in the Fellowship hall at UUCS. If you'd would like to contribute to poetry reading offered during the evening, please contact Angela [uu4peace@gmail.com](mailto:uu4peace@gmail.com)

6. **On December 23**, we will host a **Red Cross Blood Drive** in the Fellowship Hall. This is an important time to give blood as holiday donations sharply drop off even though the need increases. We have been given 40 slots to fill between 1-6pm. This is also a 2RBC event; a Double Red Blood Cell collection. Please remember to eat a couple of hours before donating. Last time, several people were turned away because they hadn't eaten before giving. To sign up to donate on December 23, go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) using sponsor code uusalem, or call 1-800-733-2767 or sign up in the Fellowship Hall. Please share this far and wide so we can have a completely filled blood drive schedule. For more information contact Angela Gross [uu4peace@gmail.com](mailto:uu4peace@gmail.com), UUCS drive coordinator.
7. **Family Christmas Eve Celebration: 5:45 — 6:25pm, Saturday, December 24th**. Come enjoy a service geared for families of all ages. Following the service there will be an ornament making craft and refreshments. Our traditional **Candlelight Service follows at 7:30 pm**.
8. **There will be no formal Christmas day services. UUCS will be open** for coffee and light refreshments and discussion on how UU's have influenced **Christmas from 10:30-11:30am**. If you can share gluten free goodies for that day, they can be dropped off in the UUCS kitchen any time during the week before Christmas. Thank you. For more information, contact Angela Gross [uu4peace@gmail.com](mailto:uu4peace@gmail.com).
9. **Please join the Dances of Universal Peace for a Global Peace Dance in Salem, Dec 31**. Celebratory and ethnic dress encouraged. Every dance fully taught. No partners necessary. **We will begin dancing at 8:30** with a potluck break at 10pm. More dancing at 10:45. If you can, please bring food to share. Dancing and food will be in the UUCS Fellowship Hall. Please bring a bell or noisemaker to ring in the New Year at midnight! \$10-15 donations gratefully received. No one turned away due to lack of funds. **\*\*Child care NOT provided**. Children are welcome under direct parental supervision. Contact Angela [uu4peace@gmail.com](mailto:uu4peace@gmail.com) if you have questions. .

10. **There will be no formal New Year's Day services. UUCS will be open** for coffee and light refreshments **from 10:30 to 11:30am**. If you can share gluten free goodies for that day, they can be dropped off in the UUCS kitchen any time during the week before New Year's Day. Thank you. For more information, contact Angela [uu4peace@gmail.com](mailto:uu4peace@gmail.com).
11. **We are still accepting donations for the Refugees.** Please stop by the Social Justice Table to see what is needed. Thank you.
12. **Did you notice a change in our website at [uusalem.org](http://uusalem.org)?** Check it out! It is now mobile friendly and includes Google calendars of events and meetings. Use the search function at the top, if you cannot find what you are looking for, contact the webteam at [webteam@uusalem.org](mailto:webteam@uusalem.org).
13. **Our Directory; Your photo welcome!** We continue to welcome new people into our congregation. All are welcome to be included in our UUCS Church Directory. Photos for the Directory will be taken following both services on **Dec. 18** in the Fellowship Hall. Individuals, couples and families are welcome. Anyone who would like to get an updated Directory photo is welcome, too. If you don't have your photo in the Directory stop by. Volunteer photographer and (relatively) new member Sarah Rohrs will be taking photos near the Social Justice table. Bring a smile! The purpose of the Directory is to facilitate communication among the membership, help people put a name to a face, and to give recognition to those who actively participate in our congregation.