Pledges serve to Nurture Our Beloved Community and Help to Heal a Hurting World

Our UUCS 2019 pledge drive will begin in January. Early discussions of the pledge drive team focused on the question of why we ask one another each year to support the work of UUCS. The answer, of course, always lies in the principles and actions of Unitarian Universalism. For this reason, we have chosen “nurturing our beloved community and helping to heal a hurting world” as our theme this year.

In January, the team will begin to provide information in print and in person about the work (and fun!) of UUCS in serving our community and the world. You will have chances to learn about the various offerings of our many volunteers. We will also provide information about the operating costs of building and staff that create the need to have budgeted funds to cover those expenses. With this information we hope you will appreciate how much your time, talents and money are needed to nurture our congregational community and to serve our hurting world.

As the New Year begins, please be looking for these resources and join us in celebrating the ways we are abundantly renewed in community and help to heal the wounds of our world. Thank you.

2019 Pledge Drive Team: Bob Muir, Sharon Pierson, Cheryl Randall, Barbara Stebbins-Boaz and Joel Woodman; ex officio or liaison: Rev. Rick Davis, Lynn Cardiff, Board Chair; John Prohodsky, Treasurer; Lorna Youngs, Chair of Finance Committee.

Creating a World that Works for All - A Vision for Our Turbulent Times, January 13

Dr. Shariff Abdullah will speak at the January 13 service and then hold a workshop at UUCS from 2 to 4 pm. You can preview him as a speaker at the 10:30 am service and then join the workshop from 2 to 4 pm. Cost is $15 at the door for the workshop, but no one will be turned away for an inability to pay. Abdullah is a consultant, author and advocate for inclusivity and societal transformation. His meta-vision and mission are simple: we can create a world that works for all beings.

Dr. Abdullah promotes heart-centered inclusivity, compassionate dialog, and a society based on vision. His vision and work are informed by his inclusive spiritual practices, his growing up with racism and generational poverty, his legal background as a successful attorney, and his inclusivity experiences in over 100 distinct cultures, spanning 45 countries.

As a consultant and trainer, Shariff has worked with hundreds of organizations, and has trained thousands of executives and managers in the skills and techniques of inclusivity and authentic, effective leadership. He is a sought-after presenter for consciousness and human potential organizations, as well as for several international forums. You can find more information on the UUCS website.

Building Sacred Ground begins January 27

Looking to deepen your connection to Unitarian Universalism? Plan to attend Building Sacred Ground beginning Sunday, January 27, 2019. We'll meet in the Sanctuary after the service. This 4-week Experiential Group covers the historical and theological roots of Unitarian Universalism, involves the participants personally — through the sharing of their spiritual journeys, and provides guidance on how to get involved in the life of the congregation. The group is open to visitors, those interested in becoming members, and those who are already members. Please join us!
Near the end of last year – Happy New Year! – technical challenges beyond my limited abilities kept me off the internet on my laptop for almost a week. (Thanks to our office administrator Samantha Scales for help getting back online.) While I was still able to check emails on my phone and stay in contact, I wasn’t able to get online to read the news, or google various subjects, or just surf the net. Suddenly, something I had been accustomed to having disappeared.

Since I closely follow the news, the hardest part was not being able to go to my usual online journalistic sources to keep up with what’s going on in the world – especially compelling since we live in such cliff hanger times where new and unsettling developments occur with alarming regularity. What will 2019 bring? It will be interesting, to say the least.

I was about half-way through my first evening of not being able to get on the internet when I began to focus on other things I had been neglecting – like the engaging pile of books on my desk, my family, the world around me.

In other words, as virtual windows shut, real ones opened. And I quickly realized that it was good for me not to be online so much. I found that I could focus better on my work and other things since I had fewer distracting options available at my fingertips. Life seemed calmer, less hectic.

Now that I’m back online, I hope I can remember to observe some periodic mini-sabbaticals from my computer. Sometimes it’s good to break the usual pattern of life to gain a new perspective – go on a retreat or a pilgrimage or, in my particular case, on a sabbatical, which is what I shall be doing in a few months (April, May, June). As your minister, I am granted one month of paid sabbatical leave per year of service (this is a standard agreement between UU ministers and congregations). Over the past quarter century here I have taken a smattering of one month sabbaticals but never a longer one. It was my decision to relinquish a sabbatical leave (it cannot be accrued beyond six months). I don’t regret this choice – I think it was, overall, a good one.

Yet to completely forsake this opportunity would not be a good choice and that’s why I will be taking my first multi-month sabbatical since arriving here in 1993. Many years ago during my first ministry in Southern California I took a four month sabbatical right after our son Zachary was born, and that was a precious opportunity. Now, many years later, having the time during my sabbatical to attend his graduation with my wife Gordana in Baltimore as he receives his Doctorate of Musical Arts in composition from Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University will also be a great joy.

While I love the ministry and take great delight in being with you and working with you, I sense that having an opportunity to let go of my usual duties and responsibilities and have time to work on a writing project, spend more in my garden, meditate, travel, take hikes in the mountains and who knows what else will restore my soul in ways I didn’t even realize I needed.

Rest assured that all matters ministerial will be covered in my absence. My good friend and colleague, the Rev. Mark Gallagher, will be conducting worship three times a month and we’ll have engaging speakers lined up for other services.

Look for a “Sabbatical Guide” soon that will explain this all in much greater detail.

Love,

Rick

~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS’s minister
Dear Families,

January and a new year are upon us! I was thinking of how I can so vividly recall wondering what would happen when 1999 turned to 2000 at midnight! We sat worried a bit about the computers and the like – can it REALLY be 19 years since then? Just another daily reminder to enjoy the now – time passes too quickly!

As we welcome the new year of 2019, what better time to recommit to continue or increase your spiritual practices as a family? A wonderful new tool is available that connects the Soul Matters Themes that our congregation explores in the connection groups and in our Religious Exploration (RE) classes to your home life. A great way to start a family spiritual practice, if you have not already, is to have a guide. A Soul Matters family ministry team has worked on a monthly packet that your family can work through and find things to explore together that enhance the learning from our RE Sundays. The cost for each family is $5.00 a family/per month. The RE program will be paying for a family subscription for as many families as are interested in receiving this packet the first of each month! Please provide me with up to two emails per family and I will get this program started for our congregation. If you are a person that would like to do some of the activities at home yourself or wish to share with nieces/nephews or grandchildren, you are welcome to be a part of this pilot program. Please let me know and I can add your email to our list.

As we start to work through the packets, watch for information to be posted in our UUCS Family Connection page on Facebook for opening the discussions with other families! I am really looking forward to the learning and exploration that this will bring to us!

We have some other fun RE things coming up that you may wish to add to your calendar now so that you have time set aside for them. You will also want to note that every second Sunday we have all of the donated items available to put together bags for people in need in our community. Our Good Samaritan Project continues and is always in need of donations to keep making it happen each month!

**JANUARY 26, 5:30 pm to JANUARY 27, 10:00 am:** **UU EXPLORERS CLASS Sleepover** – Our youth will be having a pizza party, worship time, Soul Matters theme activities and a movie to fill their Saturday evening and night. Participants are welcome to join all of the evening activities and be picked up prior to the movie and sleepover at approximately 10 pm.

**FEBRUARY 10:** **Women’s Retreat Bake Sale** – Please consider bringing items to donate to the sale and/or come prepared to buy a Valentine Treat for someone in your life. The funds make the retreat possible and will help cover scholarships for participants.

**MARCH 22, 3 pm to MARCH 24, 12 pm:** **Women’s Retreat at Oregon 4H Center.** – If you are not able to stay all weekend, we are offering the opportunity to register for just Saturday. We will also be providing childcare all day Saturday to make it easier for parents to attend!

**APRIL 5-7:** **PNWD Highschool Youth Conference**

**APRIL 6-7:** **Willamette Valley UU Cluster Middle School Opal Creek Trip**

Thank you for the MANY DONATIONS to our mitten drive. We had well over 100 items to donate to Family Building Blocks and more to donate to our Good Samaritan bag project!! There is so much good we can all do together!

I am looking forward to the many ways we stay connected in our Religious Exploration program! Hope that your 2019 brings you all kinds of new memories to cherish.

*In peace and until Next Time...Christi*
Warning: Do Not Leave Valuables in Your Vehicles
Recently, UUCS has seen an increase in car break-ins. Do not leave anything of value, such as a bag or backpack, visible through the windows of your car. This is a problem that is occurring all over Salem, and we are sad to see it reach our parking lots. The Facilities team is taking steps to increase the security of the lots. If you have a meeting that runs after dark, be sure to turn on the timer for the parking lot lights.

Birthday Celebration for Mary Hart January 5
Mary’s children, Bob, Susan, Debby and Rick, would be honored if you would join them on Saturday, January 5, from 2:00-4:00 pm to celebrate their mother’s birthday. She is turning 80 years old! Refreshments will be provided. They hope to see you there!

Calling All Artists for Show Beginning March 24
Oil Painters, Water Colorists, Fiber Artists, Photographers and more are invited to participate in the first art exhibit by and for UUCS congregants. "Celebrating Creativity" will be held in the Fellowship Hall Sunday, March 24 - 31, 2019. START NOW to create a special piece for this Art Works Team event. All art must be for sale and be able to hang on a wall for display. Details to enter the show will be available in the coming weeks in a Call to Entry Form.

Splinters from the Board

Sanctuary remodel – The Board approved the concept of the sanctuary remodel plan presented by the Worship Team but made funding contingent on cost estimates and a fundraising plan from the Worship and Music Teams. The Worship Team presented a conceptual plan for a sanctuary remodel to the Board in August. The Team returned to the Board in November with a request for approval of the plan. The Board discussed the purpose of the remodel, which is to make the sanctuary more functional. The Board discussed other renovations needed in the sanctuary, including replacing the worn and dangerous carpeting. It was noted that the Worship Team will be responsible for funding the remodel, and other teams, such as the Facilities Team, will be responsible for the cost of other necessary renovations. The Board is concerned about the cost of the remodel and the need to get actual bids for electrical and other work, and to firm up the cost estimates for work that will be done by volunteers.

Habitat and Hope Ministry – The Board acknowledged Habitat and Hope as an affiliated ministry of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem. The Board requested that Habitat and Hope report back in six months or sooner on its progress in organizing, obtaining its own nonprofit status and adopting bylaws. A detailed proposal was presented at the September 2018 Board meeting. The Board has had discussions about a number of aspects of the proposal. It separated the proposal into two components: an affiliated ministry status and the transitional village proposal. It reiterated its expectation that Habitat and Hope will create its own organizational plan, nonprofit status and bylaws, and operate with support from UUCS. This approach corresponds with that taken with other affiliated ministries at UUCS that have a private nonprofit status. The Board deferred action on the transitional village and encouraged Habitat and Hope to work in cooperation with other service providers to identify the optimal site to locate a transitional village and to obtain the necessary permits. (See the Habitat and Hope article below.)

Security Issues - There have been car break-ins in the parking lot. On December 11, a sheriff’s deputy met with UUCS representatives to review security issues. Recommendations include better signage, cameras and locking the gate at night. There was also a recommendation to improve the lighting in the parking lot with LED lights. The UUCS congregation is encouraged to lock cars in the parking lot and to keep valuables out of sight.

Furnace Issues – The Facilities Team is working on furnace problems, including thermostat and air handler issues but may need to replace the furnace at some point. At this time, the ducts on the fellowship hall furnaces and perhaps the air handler appear to need some work. The Facilities Team is currently getting bids for the work.
Help Needed and Appreciated!

**Resource Center Bottle Drive January 6**
Just a reminder that the Resource Center Bottle Drive is still going strong. You can bring in your redeemable bottles and cans on the first Sunday of every month and leave them in the Resource Center. Funds raised from the bottle drive are divided to help the Resource Center, the Ministerial Discretionary Fund and Salem CUUPs. Also, if you would like to donate to the Resource Center and have an Oregon BottleDrop account you can donate money from your account to the UUCS BottleDrop account. If you have any questions, please contact Benjamin Boschee, by email at benjahminboschee@yahoo.com or phone 503-851-9456.

**Friendship Minute - Requesting Submissions!**
Would you like to participate in the Friendship Minute at Sunday Services? This is an opportunity to share who you are with the congregation, and to help form friendship connections and build fellowship at the UUCS. If you think you might be interested, check out our website post for an example. Send your story to David Haber at haberd@wou.edu.

**Join the Committee on Human Resources**
The future of UUCS depends on the financial support of its congregation as well as the commitment of its volunteers.

Becoming a member of the Committee on Human Resources (CHR) is a great way to fulfill your volunteer commitment! Our mission is to support a shared ministry environment that provides a fun, respectful, efficient and effective work culture in keeping with the UUCS covenant of good relations and UUA principles. Our purpose is to recruit and retain a highly qualified, diverse and talented work force that supports the UUCS mission.

You can find additional information on the UUCS website.

Social Justice News

**SJAT Monthly Report for January**
The Social Justice in Action Team is re-energized and committed to working together again for justice in 2019. The team recognizes all UU members are called to serve the needs of the world. We all have a role to play in creating a better world. Everything we do in our daily lives, from smiling and listening to those who have no one else to listen to them, teaching our children the value of being inclusive, listening without judgement, vowing to look for the best in each other and giving the best in ourselves -- these quiet activities make a positive difference. When we work together, we are closer to our shared vision of a more just and kind world. To affirm that all are called to work for justice, the Worship Team agreed to put more emphasis on social justice in our Sunday service. A candle will be lit at the end of each service and carried to the SJAT table in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you, Worship Team!

Opportunities for congregational involvement in January include the Oregon Department of State Lands hearing on Jordan Cove/Coos Bay Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) Export Terminal and Pacific Connector Pipeline. A rally will be held at 4:00 pm, on Tuesday, January 15, and an opportunity for public comment at the 5:30 pm hearing.

Also, the film, In the Executioner's Shadow, will be shown at The Grand Theatre on Tuesday, January 15 at 7:00 pm, and the 3rd Annual Women's March on Saturday 19 will begin at the Oregon State Capitol at 12:00 pm. Complete information about these events will be available at the Social Justice Table on Sundays.

Daniel Rollings of PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gays) requested a space for meetings at UUCS and a team member graciously agreed to host the meetings, tentatively scheduled to begin in February, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm, on the second Monday of the month.

The Share the Plate recipient for November, Meals on Wheels, received $592.10 in donations. The team did not meet its expected goal of $10 per congregant for BLUU; we collected less than $800 from June to December. Thank you to all who donated.

~Submitted by Patrice Pollard
Habitat and Hope Transitional Village

The Habitat and Hope Transitional Village committee is a group of UUs and committed people from the Salem community dedicated to creating a transitional village in the Salem/Keizer area. It has been designated an Affiliated Ministry of UUCS. Rev. Rick Davis and Bob Francis, Chair of the Committee, were in the pulpit on Sunday, December 23 to talk about this project, and the possibility of locating it on UUCS property.

What is a transitional village? This transitional village will house 20 individuals (male and female) with the purpose of helping them move from homelessness to a more stable life. Working in coordination with ARCHES (who will be responsible for the screening and case work), Habitat and Hope will provide a safe space for the residents. Learn more on our UUCS website.

What will it look like? The village will have 10 duplexes consisting of 64 square feet per room. Each room will have a bed, a small desk shelf, shelves for clothing and personal items, electricity and heating. A central facility will house the administrative office, kitchen, laundry, showers and restrooms. The space required for the village will be ½ acre.

What are we asking of the church for the project?
• To lease us the ½ acre of land in order for us to build the transitional village.
• To provide individual financial support of the project.
• To become volunteers in assisting in the building, maintenance and running of the facility.

When will this happen? We are in the early stages of our project but are hopeful to complete the project in the next two years.

Where will it be built? Our plan is to build it across the street from the church on the corner of Center Street and Cordon road, where the current parking lot is located. The overflow parking would move to the east end of that lot. The permitting process and zoning issues are just beginning to be addressed. We hope that by educating ourselves and the congregation, that the congregation will approve the lease of the land to us at the annual congregational meeting in May.

Why the need for a transitional village? Currently, over three thousand fellow citizens are homeless in our Salem/Keizer area. To date, no transitional village exists, which makes it all but impossible for these people to move from homelessness to a more stable life. This village is an essential link toward making this goal possible.

If interested in becoming involved, please contact Rev. Rick Davis or Bob and Cindy Francis.

Check Out the New Salem Warming Centers' Website
The Salem Warming Centers now have a centralized website that you can check to see when the centers are open, where they are located and to volunteer to help during cold snaps. The centers cannot open without enough volunteers to staff them through the night. Check out https://salemwarming.weebly.com/

Movie - In the Executioner's Shadow January 15
Salem Progressive Film Series will present In the Executioner's Shadow on Tuesday, January 15 beginning at 7 pm at the Grand Theater. This documentary looks at the consequences of the death penalty through three powerful stories – a former state executioner who comes within days of executing an innocent person; a Boston Marathon bombing victim who struggles to decide what justice really means; and the parents of a murder victim who choose to fight for the life of their daughter's killer. Stay after the movie for a panel discussion.

Find the UUCS Social Justice Page on Facebook
UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation  
Every Wednesday, 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, 8:00 – 9:00 pm, is for discussion, compassion, about how to use meditation as a spiritual practice.

Habitat and Hope Meeting  
Every Thursday, 12:30 pm  
Homeless Coalition partnership with other Interfaith groups

Dances of Universal Peace  
Friday, January 4, 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.

Refuge Recovery  
Every Friday, 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.

Life Lines Lay Ministry Meeting  
Saturday, January 5, 9:30 am

Holiday Vacation - NO RE Classes or Nursery  
Sunday, January 6

Team Council Meeting  
Sunday, January 6, 12:00 pm

Communications Team Meeting  
Monday, January 7, 4:00 pm  
Join the communications team for discussion of progress on our UUCS newsletter, website, Facebook, publicity and video projects. Newcomers or visitors welcome.

Membership Team Meeting  
Tuesday, January 8, 6:00 pm

Abundance Team Monthly Meeting  
Thursday, January 10, 4:00 pm  
Monthly planning meeting for the Abundance Team (formerly called "Pledge Team").

Board Meeting  
Thursday, January 10, 5:30 pm

Choir Rehearsal  
Every Thursday, January 10, 6:30 pm

ArtWorks Team Meeting  
Friday, January 11, 10:00 am  
Monthly business meeting of the ArtWorks Team. Open to all interested UUCS members.

Compassionate Connection  
Sunday, January 13, 11:30 am  
Please join us, following service, for Compassionate Connection, a time when we lay our hands upon those in distress and our minister offers a prayerful reflection. We also invite other members to join us and offer compassionate support.

Social Justice in Action Team Meeting  
Sunday, January 13, 12:30 pm  
The monthly SJAT meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Creating a World That Works for All - a Vision for Our Turbulent Times  
Sunday, January 13, 2:00 pm  
See article.

Age 60+? Improve Your Health or Your Money Back!  
Tuesday, January 15, 2:00 pm  
Four (free) workshops on health and aging. The workshop is full. If you are interested, but missed the signup for this session, watch for more information in the February newsletter.

Safer Congregation Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, January 15, 5:00 pm

Danza Azteca  
Tuesday, January 15, 7:00 pm  
(See January 4)

Board Retreat  
Wednesday, January 16, 5:30 pm

Journey to Belonging  
Thursday, January 17, 6:30 pm  
A 3-month covenant group to explore our spiritual journeys.

Dances of Universal Peace  
Thursday, January 17, 7:00 pm  
(See January 4)

Finance Team Meeting  
Friday, January 18, 10:30 am
Dharma Group
Sunday, January 20, 9:00 am  
Facilitator: Tom Ellis

RE Team Meeting
Sunday, January 20, 12:00 pm

Men's Group Meeting
Sunday, January 20, 12:30 pm
  UU men will be meeting to connect with each
other, continuing the spirit of the two retreats. All UUs
identifying as men are welcome! Men attending will
check in and there will be discussion. All that is
discussed will be kept confidential unless the safety of
a participant or someone else is at risk.

Worship Team Meeting
Monday, January 21, 5:30 pm
  Monthly Meeting of the Worship Team to plan
and discuss Sunday Services

Age 60+? Improve Your Health or Your Money
Back!
Tuesday, January 22, 2:00 pm
  (See January 15)

Facilities Team Meeting
Tuesday, January 22, 6:00 pm

Danza Azteca
Tuesday, January 22, 7:00 pm
  (See January 1)

ArtWorks Art Making
Friday, January 25, 10:00 am

Building Sacred Ground, Session 1
Sunday, January 27, 12:00 pm

Communications Team Meeting
Monday, January 28, 4:00 pm
  Join the communications team for discussion
of progress on our UUCS newsletter, website,
Facebook, publicity and video projects. Newcomers or
visitors welcome.

Age 60+? Improve Your Health or Your Money
Back!
Tuesday, January 29, 2:00 pm
  (See January 15)

Danza Azteca
Tuesday, January 29, 7:00 pm
  (See January 1)

Dances of Universal Peace
Friday, February 1, 7:00 pm
  (See January 4)

Life Lines Lay Ministry Meeting
Saturday, February 2, 9:30 am

Family Promise (formerly SIHN)
February 3 through 10

Building Sacred Ground, Session 2
Sunday, February 3, 12:00 pm

Age 60+? Improve Your Health or Your Money
Back!
Tuesday, February 5, 2:00 pm
  (See January 15)

Membership Team Meeting
Tuesday, February 5, 6:00 pm

Danza Azteca
Tuesday, February 5, 7:00 pm
  (See January 1)
## Worship Services and Religious Exploration

**January Share the Plate Recipient:** Family Promise of the Mid-Willamette Valley  
**Service Time:** 10:30 am

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker/Leader</th>
<th>Service Title</th>
<th>Celebrant/Anchor</th>
<th>Music</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, January 6</td>
<td>The Rev. Richard R. Davis</td>
<td>&quot;Safely Through the Rapids&quot;</td>
<td>Janet Stevens; David Gortner/Tom Ellis</td>
<td>Laura Christian and Guy Hallman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shariff Abdullah</td>
<td>&quot;Creating a World That Works for All -- A Vision for Our Turbulent Times&quot;</td>
<td>Gloria Holland; Janet Stevens</td>
<td>UUCS Choir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday, January 13</td>
<td>Author Shariff Abdullah promotes heart-centered inclusivity, compassionate dialog, and a society based on vision. His vision and work are informed by his inclusive spiritual practices, his growing up with racism and generational poverty, his legal background as a successful attorney, and his inclusivity experiences in over 100 distinct cultures, spanning 45 countries. Beginning at 2 pm, Abdullah will conduct a workshop at UUCS. See the article on Page 1 or our website for more information.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, January 20</td>
<td>The Rev. Richard R. Davis</td>
<td>&quot;Out of Alienation&quot;</td>
<td>Sara Pickett; Laura Christian</td>
<td>Alma Marianos and Sally Crawford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday, January 27</td>
<td>&quot;On Keeping a Stiff Upper Lip&quot;</td>
<td>Sara Pickett; Lennie Martin</td>
<td>UUCS Choir</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RE Information:** RE is on holiday vacation and will return on January 13.

**Sunday, January 20**

"Out of Alienation"

**Celebrant:** Sara Pickett; **Anchor:** Laura Christian  
**Music:** Alma Marianos and Sally Crawford

Paradoxically, even as we are more connected digitally, the more isolated and alienated many become. Social disconnection is a grievous condition that more and more fall prey to. To counter the forces that drive us apart Martin Luther King, Jr. held out a vision of "Beloved Community" What does this mean for us?

**Sunday, January 27**

"On Keeping a Stiff Upper Lip"

**Celebrant:** Sara Pickett; **Anchor:** Lennie Martin  
**Music:** UUCS Choir

So often, you may try to keep a "stiff upper lip" (don't show sorrowful emotion), but sometimes you just need a time and place to be true to yourself.

**NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION:** to subscribe to The Chalice and the Flame monthly newsletter, email your request to the UUCS office at 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.
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 and ANNOUNCEMENTS: Fill out the Publication Request form on the UUCS website for any announcement, event or news item. This form is a one-stop place to put a notice in the Sunday announcements, the UUCS newsletter, the UUCS website, the This Week email and or Facebook.

DEADLINES:

Newsletter: The deadline for the next newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, February 1

Sunday Announcements and This Week submissions are due by noon, Tuesday.

Use the Publication Request form for all submissions.

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