



# Chalice Chat

Sunday News from the Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church  
December 20th 2015

**SHARING OUR PLATE: December**  
*Our Father's House*, a private, nonsectarian agency providing shelter and related services to homeless men and women, with facilities in Fitchburg and Devens. Its programs encourage and assist each guest to become self-sufficient. Professionally trained staff offer client advocacy, assistance in searching for housing and employment, crisis counseling, and referral to community resources. 50% of cash donations will go to our church and 50% to Our Father's House, **please make checks out to Our Father's House.**

**This Week's Service Dec. 20, 10:00 a.m.**  
*Intergenerational Solstice Service*  
Come join our dancers and mummers and singers as together we celebrate the arrival of winter.

**Sun. Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> Messiah Sing-In 4:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, Dec. 24**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
*Two Services*

4:00 p.m. – A special Christmas Eve service for families with young children.

This 30-minute service will include familiar Christmas songs and a simple, age-appropriate retelling of the Christmas story.

5:30 p.m. – Pre-Service Concert

6:00 p.m. – Traditional Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols

**Next Week's Service Dec. 27, 10:00 a.m.**  
*A quiet worship service of "Readings and Songs"* How do you feel during the time between December 25 and January 1? We have selected readings and songs to replenish ourselves and to prepare for the new year ahead. *Led by Barbara Kemp, Eleanor Toth and Cary Browse.*

**YOUTH FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS: December 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Nursery opens at 9:45*

Intergenerational Solstice Service in the Sanctuary, with Mummers Play and Sword Dance (Cast list is on a separate sheet)

**SHYG** (10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Gr): Mt. Watatic Hike.

Meet in FB parking lot at 11:30am; depart shortly thereafter. We plan to return to FB lot by around 3:30pm.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Cosmix' to sell Roasted Tomato Soup for "Cow" after this Sunday's service, in the front foyer of the sanctuary.** The Cosmix's cooking talents will be offered again! Sales will go towards their buying a cow through Heifer Project. Roasted Tomato Soup is made of roasted tomato and roasted red pepper, emboldened with roasted garlic. Vegetarian, gluten-free, vegan. \$10/quart, \$5/pint. Thanks for your support. Some small containers of apple crisps are available for \$5.

**Don't miss the Annual Messiah Sing! Our 51 Anniversary Celebration 4:30 p.m.** Whether you come to sing with the chorus, or just listen, you will be thrilled by the magnificent music of Handel performed by professional vocal soloists and volunteer orchestra, with harpsichord, organ, timpani, and you. The packed sanctuary rings with the sound! Directed by our own Ted Johnson, this event is a spiritual high.

In Tim Arnold's words, his mother, Anne Marie Arnold, introduced the Messiah Sing In to our community just after our church burned down in 1965, to bring a moment of joy in a time of sadness: It has become "an evergreen annual tradition weaved into our fabric bringing a sustaining elixir of hope and joy to ourselves and the community through the power and passion of music."

**Meditation for December** Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Feeling overwhelmed, rushed or disconnected? Come join us for 30 minutes of meditation and perhaps a reading. We will sit together in the quiet and peaceful silence. You may leave feeling more present, perhaps with clarity and/or a sense of connectedness to our community and to this moment in time. We welcome all who care to join us, in the Fellowship Building: Dec. 23 Sutherland Hall, Dec. 30 Charlanne Van Wormer Community Room  
David Kendall [davidpkendall@gmail.com](mailto:davidpkendall@gmail.com)  
Pam Frederick [pwfrederick@gmail.com](mailto:pwfrederick@gmail.com)

**Jan. 5th 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Potluck followed by Program.** Fellowship Building. Alliance. "We will recreate our Campfire Days. Joys to greet the winter. Come join the circle for songs and stories!" -Donnalisa Johnson & friends. Hostesses Diane Cordner and Lisa Zhao. Snow date is Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>

**Our words for the chalice lighting and lighting of the Advent candles are from Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman (1899-1981).**

**Bargains in the Belfry will be open after church this Sunday, December 20.** Come on up and you might find something festive for the season, or perhaps a nice gift item.

**We are now recording Sunday Services, available on our church Web page ([UUHarvard.org](http://UUHarvard.org)).** Pull down from "Other Information" to Sermons/Services. If you want to record a concert or event please plan to use your own 'thumb drive.'

### **January 3rd is Loaves and Fishes Sunday**

While many people remember to donate food during the holiday season, sometimes it is easy to forget that the need is great after the holidays as well. If you are able, please bring in **boxed or canned pasta and jars or cans of tomato sauce**, which are some of their most needed items, and leave them in the Loaves and Fishes donation area in the church's foyer. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Risa Goldman at [risajan@aol.com](mailto:risajan@aol.com).

**Music instructor** with over 20 years playing experience and 10 years teaching will be providing **lessons at the Fellowship Building** in guitar, bass, drums/percussion and piano. For more information please email [michaelgeezil@gmail.com](mailto:michaelgeezil@gmail.com)

**Save the Date! HUU Church Auction: March 5**

**Save the Date for the UU Seder –** Friday, April 8, at 6pm

### **CHURCH CALENDAR**

Sun. Dec. 20

9:45am Nursery open

10:00 Solstice Service

*Intergenerational*

*Mummers & Sword Dancing*

Cosmix: Soup Sale

11:30-12:30 Bargains open

**4:30 p.m. Messiah Sing-In**

Wed. Dec. 23

7:00-9:00pm Caring Network mtg

7:00-7:30pm Meditation

Thu. Dec. 24

4:00pm Special Christmas Eve

Service for Families with Young Children

5:30pm Pre-Service Concert

6:00pm Traditional Christmas Eve

Service of Lessons & Carols

Fri. Dec. 25 Office Closed

Sun. Dec. 27

10:00am Worship Service

*A quiet worship service of*

*"Readings and Songs"*

*Led by Barbara Kemp, Eleanor*

*Toth and Cary Browse*

**Sun. 12/27 Pat Westwater-Jong will meet with alumni of last spring's study group about Israel and Palestine to discuss** the proposed UUJME (UU's for Justice in the Middle East, <http://uujme.org/home>) Business Resolution, which we hope will be discussed at the UU General Assembly in June. UUJME needs to collect a minimum of 250 signatures for this Business Resolution to be discussed at GA.