



Chalice Chat

Sunday News from the Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church
December 27th 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. 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.

Next Week's Service Jan. 3, 2016

10:00 a.m.

"Less Drama, More Dharma"

Rev. J. Mark Worth

Making New Year's resolutions for 2016? Consider the wisdom of Buddhism to guide your decisions in the coming year.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS: December 27th

Cosmix: Promises vs. hopes; Celebrating the new year

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. 12th

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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. Dec. 27

10:00am Worship Service

A quiet worship service of "Readings and Songs"

Led by Barbara Kemp, Eleanor Toth and Cary Browse

Admin Office open 12/28, 12/29, 12/30 am.
Wed. 12/30

7:00-7:30pm Meditation

Happy New Year to All!

Sun. 1/3/2016

10:00am Worship Service

"Less Drama, More Dharma"

Rev. J. Mark Worth

11:20-11:50am Jr. Choir

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

Save the Date! HUU Church Auction: March 5

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

SHARING OUR PLATE: January UUSC. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), is helping refugees from Syria and Afghanistan in Turkey, Europe and helping communities welcome them in the US if/when our government helps them get here. Since this crisis is reaching enormous proportions, the SAC has decided to give as much as possible to help our Service Committee in this work.

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee advances human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies. UUSC focuses on four major program areas in their efforts to advance human rights and social justice.

They work in partnership with local grassroots organizations in the United States and around the world, standing with these communities as they confront unjust power structures and challenge oppressive policies. In each program area, they focus especially on issues of race, class, and gender and their roles in perpetuating injustice and human rights abuses.

Protecting rights in humanitarian crises. UUSC responds strategically to disasters, whether natural or man-made, focusing especially on defending the rights of marginalized and oppressed populations. People who are marginalized within a society before an earthquake hits or a war begins will find themselves even further down the ladder after the crisis. The

Rights in Humanitarian Crises unit works to defend the rights of marginalized groups to relief assistance, participation in reconstruction, and full recovery. They form partnerships with local or national organizations working with marginalized people and work together to strategize about how to best defend their rights to relief and recovery.

Advancing economic justice. Economic justice is essential for securing basic human rights, alleviating local and global poverty, and achieving a more peaceful and just world. As a human rights and social justice organization, UUSC embraces a vision of economic human rights, recognizing that workers' rights are human rights.

Defending civil liberties and access to democratic processes. UUSC partners with civil liberties organizations and civil society groups working to defend freedom and rights from abuse by government power by strengthening individual liberty and democratic processes in the Global War on Terror.

Promoting environmental justice. UUSC's primary focus in this area is promoting and defending the human right to water, especially in communities facing water-service privatization and resource depletion. The human right to water entitles everyone to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic use. Worldwide, water is becoming scarce as a result of environmental contamination, increased population pressure, climate change, and economic pressures, and marginalized people are losing access.

More information is available at <http://www.uusc.org>.

-The Social Action Committee
Georgia Sassen, Chair
Pat Westwater-Jong, Chris Ready, Ibbly Chiquoine, Nancy Reifenstein