



Chalice Chat

Sunday News from the Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church
December 1, 2019

Sharing Our Plate – Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry – December

Each month, 33% of the cash contributions in the collection plate, other than those specified for pledges, go to a designated tax deductible social justice organization or local charity. Loaves and Fishes is a food pantry in Ayer, MA whose mission it is to serve nutritious food in an atmosphere of kindness and respect to individuals in need who reside in Ayer, Devens, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley. More than 350 volunteers help over 900 client families who are food insecure. For more information about Loaves and Fishes, please go to loavesfishespantry.org. If you would like 100% of your donation to go to Loaves and Fishes, please make your check out to Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, Inc.

“Laughter and Love” December 1

Rev. Jill Cowie

LM Montgomery, author of *Anne of Green Gables* said, “Sometimes a good laugh is as good as a prayer.” That when things are tough, laughter is an act of faith that connects us to the enduring power of love, even in the hardest of times. Come, let us laugh together as we light the first candle of advent, the candle of faith.

Sharing Our Stories, December 8

We will be hearing a collection of personal stories written by members of one of Carol MacFarlane’s writing groups. These essays, on topics ranging from childhood to spirituality, will reflect the individuality of each writer’s voice. We will learn more about the life journeys and the personal reflections of our fellow church members as they let us in to their lives, thoughtfully, warmly and at times humorously. Hope you

can join us. Perhaps you will become inspired to write and share one day some of your own story.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children/Youth Programming

This Sunday, Stacie Green and I will be working with the children and youth on the art of writing advocacy letters. We’ll write to potential donors for items to fill February’s Valentine’s Day bags to Loaves and Fishes. We will also be making holiday cards for prisoners.

Last Sunday, Ginger Kendall and Colleen Pearce spoke to kids about what social justice means.

From valuing the first native people as land stewards to understanding their systemic removal from our country, the kids were inspired to redesign the current Massachusetts State seal and flag to better reflect their UU values.

Let’s all encourage our youth in their work. Ask them about being activists to make changes to the Massachusetts State seal and flag.

Holiday Shoe-Box Tree

This year we are donating a shoebox of new gifts to 11 youth/children—immigrants and refugees—who are part of the African Community Education (ACE) program of Worcester. You’ll find notecards describing your child pinned to a small tree in the church foyer. Fill a shoebox with hats, mittens, scarves, warm socks, journals, T-shirts, games, flashlight, art/school supplies, gift cards, etc.; write a note; wrap the box;

and write the name of your child on the box.
Drop-off on Sundays, Dec. 8th or 15th.
Thank you for helping!

Celebrate Chalica



Please pick up a Chalica brochure, soon to be put on our webpage. Chalica is a uniquely Unitarian Universalist holiday celebrating the weeklong observance of our Principles. The first week starts Monday, Dec. 2, with the 1st Principle, We covenant to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

Caroling on the Common

Save the Date: Wednesday, 12/18/19, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Traditional songs with preprinted lyrics; bring your voices and a flashlight!

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stewardship Campaign



We're almost there! The current total is \$178,893 or 85% of our goal of \$210,000. If you haven't turned in your pledge yet we urge you to please do so today. Thank you!

Boxwood Tree Bow Making and Greenery Cutting; Assembling the Boxwood Trees and Centerpieces.

Women's Alliance next meetings will be Tuesday December 3 at 6:30 p.m. and Friday December 6 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. -Alice Rennie & Teddy Coffin

Tuesday December 10, 7:00 p.m. Vespers Service

Deepening of the Spirit: In this time of gathering darkness and introspection, HUUC will offer an evening Vespers service of quiet, calm beauty. All are welcome at the 45-minute service in the

sanctuary. This contemplative service will offer readings, quiet music, and poetry, as well as time for shared silence. Candles can be lit throughout the service. Please enter and leave in silence.



Save the New Date!
Our next HUUC Potluck has been changed to Sunday December 22nd right after the Solstice Service! We'll celebrate the Power of We and the end of the Stewardship Campaign.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sunday December 1
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
"Laughter and Love"
Rev. Jill Cowie
12:00-1:00 Chimers
- Tuesday December 3
6:00-9:30 p.m. Alliance Potluck & Program, Boxwood Tree Bow Making and Greenery Cutting
7:00-9:00 p.m. Worship Team meeting
- Wednesday December 4
5:00-6:00 p.m. Caring Network
7:00-8:00 p.m. Meditation
- Thursday December 5
4:00-5:30 p.m. Caring Network
7:00 p.m. Welcoming Congregation
7:30-9:00 p.m. Choir
- Friday December 6
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Alliance: Assembling the Boxwood Trees
- Saturday December 7
8-10:30 a.m. Pageant rehearsal, sanctuary
10-11:30 Mummies rehearsal, FB
12:00-2:00 p.m. Memorial Service
Richard Kronauer
- Sunday December 8
10:00-11:30 a.m. Mummies rehearsal, FB
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sharing Our Stories
Carol MacFarlane & Friends
11:20-11:50 a.m. Jr. Choir
11:30-12:30 Coming of Age meeting
12:00-1:00 p.m. Chimers