

**JOIN US IN THE PARISH HOUSE FOR A CHRISTMAS EVE RECEPTION OF LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE SERVICE.**

### **OUR CARING CONNECTIONS**

Pastoral care is available to all members and friends, new and longstanding. Our lay pastoral team works with our minister to offer support, practical assistance, and companionship. Please let us know (through our team, staff, musical or affinity groups) of needs for our caring connections. Rev. Robin: 814-724-4023 (x 302), 412-727-6870 (home study, preferred number – talk or text) or rzflowingforce@gmail.com Fran Smith: 814-337-2822(home), 814-853-9177 (cell) or smithfb65@zoominternet.net

### **OUR SEVEN UU PRINCIPLES**

*As a Unitarian Universalist congregation, we covenant to affirm and promote:*

- ✚ The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
- ✚ Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.
- ✚ Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.
- ✚ A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.
- ✚ The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.
- ✚ The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.
- ✚ Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

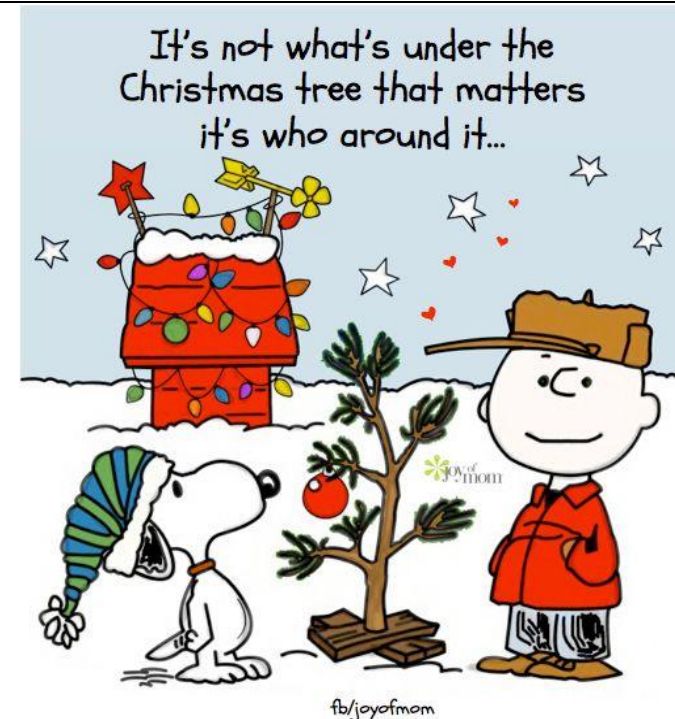


## **UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF MEADVILLE**

**346 Chestnut Street  
Meadville, PA 16335**

**814-724-4023**

**Reverend Robin Landerman Zucker, Interim Minister**



**Sunday – December 24, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Eve Concert and Service**

**Rev. Robin Landerman Zucker,  
Interim Minister**

*\*An asterisk invites you to rise in body or spirit as you are able*

Prelude Concert (see insert)

We extend our gratitude to Music Director, Aimee Reash,  
the UU Church of Meadville Choir,  
and all of the musicians and singers whose talents and voices  
are offered as gifts to our faith community during tonight's  
Prelude Concert and Candlelight Worship Service.

*"Fall, snow. Dream, night. Shine, tree. Fire, be bright."*

WELCOME AND PASSING THE PEACE *Deb Lehman, Pulpit Assistant*

CALL TO WORSHIP *The Rev. Robin Landerman Zucker*

\*CHALICE LIGHTING

Minister: We see the holy fire flaming this night  
far above the manger-cradle.

**Congregation:** *It signifies hope and promise to lift  
against the darkness of the night.*

Minister: Many there have been in other centuries  
who have been guardians of this flame.  
Now it is our watch.

**All:** *Come apostles, come great hearts,  
come builders. Carry the Sacred Flame  
to make light the windows of the world.  
It is our watch now.*

\*OPENING HYMN #255 "There's A Star in The East"

ANCIENT READING from The Gospel according to Matthew 2:1-12

A STORY FOR ALL AGES "The Bicycle" *Marvin Wolf*

\*HYMN #229 "Gather Round the Manger"

MODERN READING "O Tannenbaum" *Vanessa Rush Southern*

ANTHEM "Christmas Time Is Here" *Lee Mendelson and Vince Guaraldi*

HOMILY "The Perfect Imperfection of Charlie Brown's Christmas Tree"  
*Rev. Robin Landerman Zucker*

\*HYMN #249 "On This Day Everywhere"

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Our special offering this evening is for the Minister's Discretionary Fund  
to support congregational needs.

OFFERTORY "O Come All Ye Faithful" based on *Cantus Diversi*  
*John F. Wade*

COMMUNION OF LIGHT *Lindsay Bates and Charles Slap*

\*CANDLE LIGHTING AND HYMN #251 "Silent Night"

\*EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES AND CHALICE *Elizabeth Selle Jones*  
We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth,  
the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment.  
These we carry in our hearts until we meet again.

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"  
*Felix Medelssohn/Arranged by Cindy Berry.*

*To our guests: Worship in our tradition aims to create a foundation for  
people to carry out their own personal and spiritual pilgrimage. Unitarian  
Universalism is a Free Faith, open to inspiration from many sources. Our  
bond is a shared discernment of how this church ministers to our world.*