

THE ORACLE

FEBRUARY 2026

Unitarian Universalists embrace six shared values:

- **Interdependence:** We honor the interdependent web of all existence and acknowledge our place in it.
- **Pluralism:** We are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience, and theology.
- **Justice:** We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all feel welcome and can thrive.
- **Transformation:** We adapt to the changing world.
- **Generosity:** We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.
- **Equity:** We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion.



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WORSHIP MATTERS – SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30AM

February 1, 2026

"Hope, Fear and Cracking the Pillars of an Authoritarian Regime"- Jim Highland

This service will focus on some Tibetan Buddhist teachings as well as the work PIIN and our parent network, the Gamaliel Network, are gearing up for in 2026 and beyond.

Jim Highland is an Organizer for Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network, PIIN, (www.piinpa.org), a coalition of progressive, interfaith congregations and organizations mostly in Allegheny County but looking for more partners in Western PA. He works with PIIN's Environmental Justice Task Force, Immigration Task Force and Integrated Voter Engagement Program, and generally helps with whatever else needs done when necessary. He is a father of four who has worn many hats thus far in his life. He has worked as a painter, a digital printer, a deli clerk, a newspaper delivery boy, a relief cottage-parent for troubled young men, a recreation supervisor, a pizza deliveryman, a real estate agent, a cross country coach, a violin teacher, and a university philosophy professor. He still thinks of himself as a cross country runner, though there are several schools of thought regarding that claim.

February 8, 2026

"Being Kind"- Rev. Jane Ellen Nickell

In these overwhelming times, many people wonder what they can do that will make a difference. While few of us are in positions to make systemic changes, we can all show each other kindness, an under-rated practice that can brighten someone else's day in these stressful times. We'll look at teachings about kindness from various religions and from the novelist George Saunders, to see how we can foster that practice in our own lives.

February 15, 2026

"Celebration"- Josh Searle-White

In honor of the traditional Mardi Gras observance, let's explore how much we can find to celebrate, even in times of challenge. We'll have special music to expand our mood, and Mardi Gras activities will follow the service.

February 22, 2026

"Music, Together"- Aimee Reash and Sany Ball

Making music in groups enables us to feel safer, happier, more content, and gives us a sense of belonging. Engaging in music-making with others encourages us to work together, feel bonded to each other, and feel more secure in ourselves as individuals. Boost your physical and emotional health as we experience an hour of joy, music, and togetherness!



MARDI GRAS

What is Mardi Gras?

Why is it celebrated in the USA and many other countries?

Join us at UUCM Parish House on Sunday, February 15, 2026

10:30 Church Service featuring the UUCM Band

11:30 Learn about Mardi Gras origins and customs, and decorate a Mardi Gras mask to take home.

12:00 Potluck with Mardi Gras themed foods

Everyone is welcome to join in any or all activities!!!

For anyone wanting to make King Cake, Naima has made available a cookbook and “babies” to be baked inside in accordance with the tradition. They can be picked up during office hours. Email Jodi to schedule a pick up time.

[CLICK HERE FOR UU MARDI GRAS COOKBOOK](#)

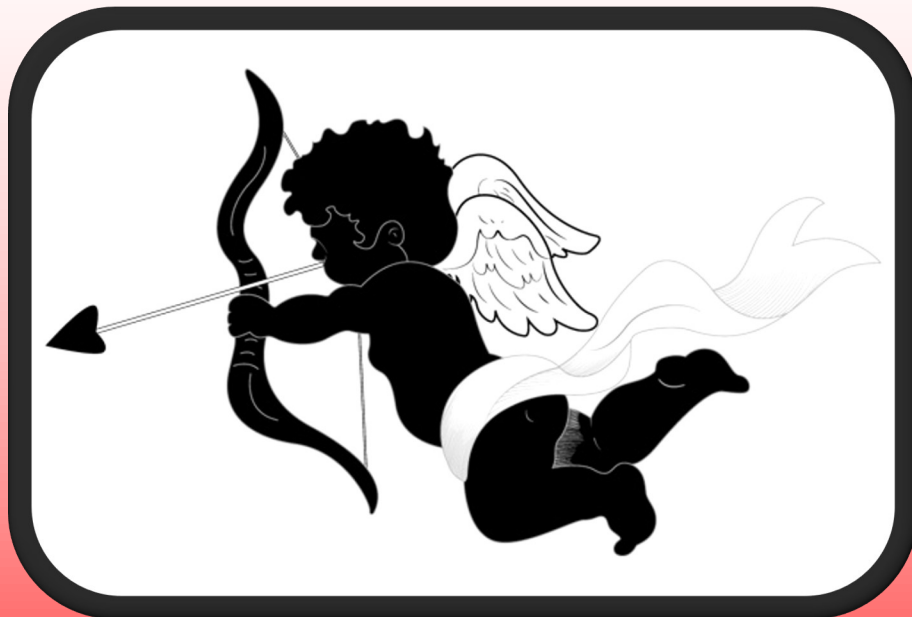


SOUP ON SATURDAY



Below is our tentative menu for February. Each week will also have a vegetarian option.

Date	
February 7	Hearty Vegetable Soup
February 14	Chicken Noodle Soup
February 21	TBA
February 28	Beef Stew



FAITH IN ACTION

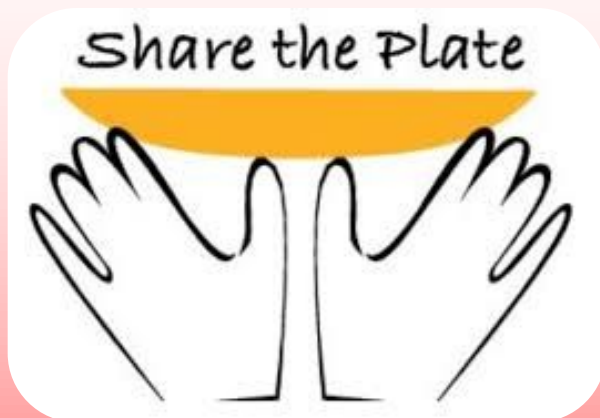
SOUP KITCHEN

Every second Friday each month a group of UU volunteers serve meals at the Meadville Area Soup kitchen as a way to help alleviate some of the symptoms of poverty in our region. You are welcome to volunteer.



WHY WE SHARE: FEBRUARY'S SHARE-THE-PLATE RECIPIENT: SOUP ON SATURDAY

Soup on Saturday provides nutritious homemade meals for no cost every Saturday.



Thank you for all who donated in January. The recipient was the Meadville Soup Kitchen. We donated \$168.07.

FEBRUARY SAVE THE DATE

CHOIR PRACTICE

Sundays 9:00-10:00 am

MEDITATION GROUP

Mondays at 5:15 pm

Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:00 am

SOUP ON SATURDAYS

Saturdays 3:00-5:00 pm

PAGAN GROUP IMBOLC

Sunday 1st at 7:00 pm

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 10th at 11:00 am

SOUP KITCHEN

Friday 13th at 10:00 am

MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION & POTLUCK

Sunday 15th

ORACLE SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE

Monday 23rd by 9:00 am



RESOURCES

UU- Useful Web Links

UU Church of Meadville:

www.uumeadville.org

Oracle: www.uumeadville.org/Oracles

UUA: www.uua.org

UU Service Committee: www.uusc.org



2026 Church Officers

President: Rick Holmgren

Vice-President and Liaison to Events
Committee: Deb Lehman

Treasurer and RE Liaison:
Jane Anderson

Worship and Bicentennial Teams:
Josh Searle-White

Liaison to the Caring Committee and
the Soup on Saturday Team:
Todd Fox

Board Member:
Melissa Mansfield

Church Staff

Community Care Minister:
Rev. Jane Ellen Nickell

Music Director: Aimee Reash

Office Administrator: Jodi Sipos
(church@uumeadville.org or
(814)724-4023)
Monday-Friday: 7:30 AM – 1:30PM

RIDES TO SERVICE

If you need a ride to any event or to
Sunday's worship service, please call the
church office by 9:00 am on Wednesday
and leave a message
(814-724-4023).