



## December 2015 UNiverse

# NWUUC NORTHWEST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

## Enjoy a Trio of Celebrations this Season!

### Annual Children's Pageant December 13

During the Sunday Service, the children of Northwest will help present the "Almost" No Rehearsal Pageant written by Rev. Jory Agate of First Parish in Cambridge. They will recreate the old story of the miraculous birth of Jesus, with a different slant.

This version draws on two early Christian accounts of Jesus's birth, from the books of Matthew and Luke, and from the story of Hannukah, so this is a story of freedom and liberation. And, of course, coming from our own Universalist heritage, there is a message of hope for all people.



### Welcome Yule! December 21

Hawk's Hoop CUUPS would like to invite everyone to our annual Yule celebration Sunday, December 21 at 7 pm.

Yule is the winter solstice celebration on the Wheel of the Year. The Wheel of the Year is an annual cycle of seasonal festivals, observed by many modern Pagans. Every year we make a potpourri during our Yule celebration that we then burn at each of our rituals. Please join us with an open

mind, loving heart, and something for the communal potpourri. Stay after the service for conversation and light refreshments. Childcare is available upon request; please contact Cynthia Flot ([flotcm@gmail.com](mailto:flotcm@gmail.com)) by Dec. 6.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24

Join us for a lovely holiday tradition of lessons and carols and a beautiful candlelight ritual that will warm our hearts, lift our spirits and help us celebrate the meaning of Christmas. And, stay after for cookies and cider!



## Not Your Usual Congregational Meeting—and More!

Northwest will hold its winter congregational meeting on Sunday, Dec. 6 right after the Worship Café service. We will have several small group conversations to discuss our vision and future direction, prompted in part by the recent offer to purchase the property. Please see David Morgen's column on page 5 for more info.



### And More!

Read on to find out what the Book Groupies are reading (it's a hoot!), who's playing at the Hungry Ear Coffee House™, what's happening during Second Hour and who's having birthdays and joining anniversaries.

# Worship Service December 2015

## *Reflecting on Holy Experiences*

Service at 10:00 am

***The Nursery is staffed and available during services and Fellowship.***

Sunday worship services may be led by our minister, Rev. Terry Davis, guest ministers or members of the Northwest Worship Associates team. Additional information about the coming week's service is published in the weekly NeUUs and on our website. Not getting the NeUUs? Contact Office Administrator Shirley Banks at [office@nwuuc.org](mailto:office@nwuuc.org) to sign up.



### **December 6 – Everything Is Holy Now (Worship Café, a Multigenerational Service)**

Worship Leader – Rev. Terry Davis  
Worship Associate – Lynne Dale  
Music – The Northwest Band

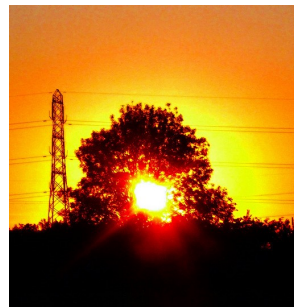
Comparative religion writer Karen Armstrong wrote, “I believe in holiness and sacredness in other people. It doesn't mean that the clouds part and I see God. That's a juvenile way of thinking about it.” So, what does it mean, then, to see the holiness in everyone and everything? Let's explore this topic together!

*Join us for Worship Café, Northwest's casual and interactive service for all ages! A light breakfast and beverages will be served before the service . . . and you're welcome to bring them into the Sanctuary during the service. Stay afterwards for the congregational meeting. See page 5 for details.*

### **December 13 – The Almost No-Rehearsal Christmas Pageant**

Worship Leaders – Rev. Terry Davis, Elizabeth Hickman and the Northwest Children & Youth  
Music – The Northwest Choir and Grace Tian Meng Fowler

This morning, we'll be telling the old story of the miraculous birth of Jesus of Nazareth with our children, our teens and YOU helping bring it to life. Join us as this ancient tale works its magic once again with its universal message of hope, love and peace.



### **December 20 – My Holy Experience**

Worship Leader –  
Rev. Terry Davis  
Worship Associate –  
Hannah Cowart  
Music – The Northwest Band  
and Join-in Choir

While Moses encountered a burning bush and Jacob wrestled with an angel in the night, many of us have less dramatic, yet equally profound holy experiences. What are they? What happens to us when they occur? Why should we not stop believing that they can happen to us?

*This is your Sunday to join the choir! No prior experience needed – just show up at 9:00 am this Sunday for a 30-minute rehearsal . . . and you're in! There will be no Children's Chapel this Sunday.*

# Worship Services December 2015, continued

## Reflecting on Holy Experiences

December 24 Service at 7:00 pm and December 27 Service at 10:00 am

### December 24 – Lessons & Carols (Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:00 pm)

Worship Leader – Rev. Terry Davis

Worship Associates – The Northwest Youth

Music – Grace Tian Meng Fowler and Yanyue Zhao

Join us as we come together for lovely holiday music, seasonal readings, and a beautiful candlelight ritual that will warm our hearts, lift our spirits and help us celebrate the meaning of Christmas. And, stay for cookies and cider afterwards!



### December 27 – Revival is a Lifelong Friend

Worship Leader – Christina Branum-Martin

Worship Associate – David Stewart

There is a Chinese Proverb that says, “The remedy for dirt is soap and water; the remedy for dying is living.” We make New Year’s resolutions in hope of a new year, a better year, a better life. Yet, those resolutions soon get broken. Why? What are we holding onto? What are we trying to “fix?” Let’s consider that a resolution is the wrong mindset for welcoming in the new. Together, let’s make space for what brings us back to life.

*A seventh generation Unitarian and candidate for the Unitarian Universalist ministry, Christina Branum-Martin was raised in the large church family of First UU in Houston and currently attends the Meadville-Lombard Theological School in Chicago as a non-resident student. Christina is living in Decatur, Georgia with her husband and their two daughters during her years of study.*

## Worship Café Multigenerational Service, December 6

Coffee, juice, mini-bagels, café-style tables and chairs, butcher paper and crayons for the kids – all in the Sanctuary during the 10:00 am worship service.

Welcome to Worship Café, a multi-generational worship led by Rev. Terry Davis. Join us for singing and a different kind of “sermon” about finding the holy in everything that will have meaning for us all.



## “In the Spirit” Contemplative Worship, Dec. 15

Do you long for a meditative worship experience that uses silence, candles, prayer, and simple singing to soothe you and help you connect to the deepest part of yourself?

If you do, join us on Dec. 15 at 7:30 pm (and the third Tuesday of each month) for Northwest’s contemplative worship experience. The 30-minute service is led by Rev. Terry Davis with music by Traci Montgomery.



# In a Hurry

Dear Friends,

These days, it's not unusual to spot children at the airport with their own carry-on luggage. My recent travels through Atlanta's airport, as well as those in Amsterdam and Copenhagen, revealed that children on both sides of the Atlantic zip through the terminals with miniature roll-boards in tow.

Unlike most of the bags accompanying the adults I saw (including my own), theirs weren't the black and boring Samsonite variety. Rather, their suitcases featured bright and interesting graphics, usually of kid heroes and heroines like Spiderman, Elsa, the Incredible Hulk, and Dora the Explorer.

Watching these pint-size travelers whiz by with their (almost) adult-looking baggage reminds me of how much in a hurry I was to grow up. Getting my very own suitcase for a trip instead of sharing my mother's, riding the Greyhound bus alone for the first time to visit my grandparents, getting to wear pantyhose, being allowed to stay up late with the adults – these were some of the milestones that signaled my increasing independence and – over time – the shedding of my dependent kid status.



*I am my own person. I matter. Take me seriously.* That's what I seemed to want with every new "adult" thing I got to do.

While kids may want to speed up adulthood and the independence it promises to bring, slowing down and appreciating my dependence is what I'm striving for these days. I think of Henry David Thoreau, who asked "Why should we live in such a hurry and waste of life?" and went to live at a simpler, slower pace on Walden Pond – and who also depended on his mother and sisters to bring goodie baskets of pies, doughnuts and meals on the weekends to keep his two-year experiment going.<sup>1</sup>

Thoreau may have been attempting to get back to life's basics, but he also seemed to know that he really could not do the cabin-in-the-woods thing

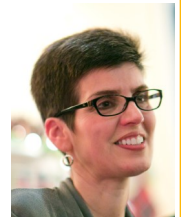
all by himself. For me, slowing down and appreciating my dependence is a way to get back to my center. While I want to be engaged in what life has to offer, I also know I only have so much time and so much energy. I pick and choose my priorities more carefully these days. And, I readily admit that the success of my life depends greatly not on my independence but, rather, on the support of family, friends and colleagues.

Thoreau wrote, "I learned this, at least, by my experiment: that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours."

For me, the independent adult life I wanted to dash headlong into as a child has met reality. And, I'm glad to say, that my life is at its best when I'm keenly aware of my limitations and can gratefully accept the wisdom and help from those around me.

Warmly,

Terry  
Rev. Terry Davis



1. <http://webpages.charter.net/sn9/literature/truewalden.html>.



## Northwest Book Groupies Meet December 8

The Northwest Book Groupies will be discussing *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* by Maria Semple on December 8 at 7:00 pm in the Art Gallery.

Considered a comedy of manners set in modern day Seattle, Washington,

and a "funny, quirky, and wildly entertaining read," this may be just what you need to get you through December.

# Congregational Meeting with a Twist, Dec. 6

Northwest will hold its winter congregational meeting on Sunday, December 6 right after the Worship Café service. However, this congregational meeting will not be like any other one that we've held in my time in this congregation. Instead, the meeting time will be an opportunity for the first of several small group conversation activities for determining our vision and future direction, prompted in part by the recent offer to purchase the property.

There will be only three items on the agenda for the meeting. The Committee on Ministry will make a very brief presentation of the results of the recent congregational survey and the congregation will vote to approve Hannah Cowart as an interim Trustee-at-Large on the Board of Trustees.

Then we will spend the rest of the meeting in small group discussions using the World Café method, which is an internationally recognized pro-



cess for facilitating open and collaborative dialogue and knowledge-sharing, a system for engaging groups of people in conversations that matter. It has been used effectively by several Unitarian Universalist congregations.

The sanctuary will be arranged with small tables for the Worship Café service, so we'll have congregants seated "café-style" in groups of four or five, with beverages and snacks available. The group will be presented with a question that pertains to Northwest's strengths, passions, and future oppor-

tunities, which they'll discuss with the other members of their small group around the table. At the end of a round of discussion, everyone will switch to different groups and then we'll present the next question for discussion.

There will be materials available so groups can make notes as they discuss the topic. After five rounds of such discussions, we'll have a short period when we reunite to harvest the insights that we've gained as a large group.

Directions and the questions will be provided at the meeting. We will follow up this discussion with at least one more World Café style discussion during a Second Hour early in 2016, as well as some additional conversations in other styles.

We hope you will be able to attend this meeting and participate in the conversation.

*David Morgen*

President

Northwest Board of Trustees

## Changes in Northwest Leadership Positions

Hannah Cowart has been appointed to replace Beth Clinton as Board Trustee-at-Large and will be voted upon in the December 6 Congregational Meeting to complete Beth's term, who resigned due to health issues. Keith Kreycik and Marcia Kreycik have also resigned their ministries due to family health issues. Dave Zenner is moving from Gardens & Spaces to Earth Ministry and Tony Barbagallo is taking over as interim Social Justice Team Leader. The Gardens & Spaces Team Leader position remains open.



# Family, Faith and Ornaments

December brings mixed feelings. There is the excitement of the children, time with family, abundant food and decorating the house. On the flip side is the stress of the excitement of the children, time with family, abundant food and decorating the house.

Each year I pull out every decoration I have bought in my 23 years of marriage, along with every glittered star and angel one of my three children has made through the years and reminisce with my family, "remember when . . ." This year the tree will be in the family room of our new house, visible from almost every point in the main living areas.

Let me share why this tree is special. When I was a child, my aunt hand-made ornaments for our family. She spent all year creating elaborate decorations to hang on our tree. Every Christmas Eve, after service at Northwest, we would open one box when we got home. The box held two or



three ornaments, depending on the complexity of the design, and we would marvel at "our" ornaments' beauty, hurriedly mark them with "our" colored thread, and hang them on the tree. The tree was always magnificent!

After my aunt's death, my mother inherited her collection of supplies and continued the tradition of ornament gifts for her grandchildren. Needless to say, we have A LOT of ornaments.

Memories of attending Christmas Eve services at Northwest and excitedly

returning home to open those precious ornaments reinforce my belief that traditions and memories around family and faith are strong ones. Lighting a Chalice at the dinner table and having someone share a few words, or talking with your or someone else's kids at Northwest about what they did that day, or even attending the Christmas Eve service

and then going home to open one special present or light one special candle is meaningful. You have created loving memories around our faith.

*Elizabeth Hickman*

Director of Religious Education



## Next Month

Children's Chapel and 7 on the 7th and return on January 17. Look for more information in next month's UNiverse.

## Bellwether Bookstore Volunteers Needed

Love to read? Love books? We need you in our Bellwether Bookstore as a Sunday morning volunteer and you will feel richly rewarded. Be on the front lines of NWUUC's literary scene! To apply for one of these lucrative positions, see, call or email Penny Raney, 770.551.8817 or [raneypb@cs.com](mailto:raneypb@cs.com).



Be sure to shop Bellwether's fine selection of the latest in good reading material this holiday season.

Reduce your carbon footprint by visiting us in the lobby after Sunday services. We've got the latest bestsellers and many used (recycled!) books that still look like new. Also, you'll be helping Northwest's bottom line with your purchases!

# A Surprise Performance



A few years ago, I recorded some solo guitar arrangements to post on my website for potential clients to hear. Sitting in my little home studio, I recorded several takes of the jazz classics that I love. My inner music critic, never far from the surface, was in full swing that evening as I listened intently to each take, cringing at every flaw in my playing. “I sped up a little bit there. That phrase wasn’t as smooth as it could be.” I eventually selected a few recordings I felt I could

live with, but I was deeply unsatisfied with my website demos.

A few years later, I was doing some work while letting iTunes play music at random. A guitarist began to play *Dream a Little Dream of Me*. I didn’t recognize the recording, but I liked what I was hearing. It was a favorite song of mine, the guitar sounded beautiful, and I liked the player’s smooth, mellow style. When I called up iTunes to find out who was playing, imagine my surprise when I discovered it was my own recording that I was enjoying so much—one of the recordings that I deemed cringeworthy a few short years ago.

What had changed? Obviously not the recording—just my perception of it. At the time I was recording, my ears were attuned to every little flaw. I was comparing my ideal of a “perfect” guitarist to my own very real and human

performance. Years later, not knowing I was listening to myself, I was simply enjoying the music and not even thinking about any shortcomings of the performer.

As a professional musician, improvement depends on recognizing my weaknesses, but it’s equally important to see my mistakes objectively. Did I miss a note? It doesn’t mean that I’m a failure as a musician. It just means that I missed a note, and I’ll practice a little more so that I have a better chance of getting it right the next time.

*Tom Godfrey*  
Director of Music



## The Hungry Ear Coffee House™ on December 5

*ANOTHER SPECIAL EVENING AT THE HUNGRY EAR COFFEE HOUSE!*

Angela Reign with Robert Meadows, and Adam Kirkpatrick



Saturday evening, December 5, 2015, **Angela Reign** will appear in a rare up-close and personal acoustic performance. She will be supported by tal-

ented pianist and vocalist **Robert Meadows**, both of whom will debut some new music as well as perform some fan favorites.

In 2014, Angela Reign was nominated for *Best Overall Female Artist of the Year*.

Our other special guest, is classical tenor, **Adam Kirkpatrick**. Kirkpatrick and his mini-orchestra band recently released an EP of favorite tenor “popera” hits to iTunes and other online music vendors in an album entitled “Poperazzi.” He has sung operatic roles and concerts at the Atlanta Opera and Tri-Cities Opera (NY), among many others.



The show starts at 8 pm and doors open at 7:30 in the Northwest Sanctuary. Bring your own food/drinks or purchase special delights here. Donation of \$5.00 requested. Please bring canned goods for the Community Assistance Center.

# December Second Hour

## December 6

**Congregational Meeting** – No Second Hour

## December 13

**Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret**

*Session Leader: Dave Zenner*

The Earth Ministry will host a two-part showing of *Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret*, a groundbreaking feature-length environmental documentary film about factory farming. This movie follows an intrepid filmmaker as he uncovers the most destructive industry facing the planet today – and investigates why the world's leading environmental organizations are too afraid to talk about it.



As eye-opening as *Blackfish* and as inspiring as *An Inconvenient Truth*, this shocking yet humorous documentary reveals the absolutely devastating environmental impact large-scale factory farming has on our planet. This 90-minute film will be shown in two parts so that we will have time for discussion within the 60-minute Second Hour format.

## December 20

**Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret**

*Session Leader: Dave Zenner*

Part two of this documentary will be presented.



## Open Meditation

*Session Leader: Gregory Byrd*

This meditation group recognizes that there are many different types of meditation and is open to exploring a variety of meditative practices and interests, including simply seeking calmness of mind. This approach encourages participants to seek new ways of connecting with their spiritual and emotional lives and allows for a sharing of different meditative practices. Whether you've been meditating for years or would like to discover this spiritual practice for the first time, you are welcome.

## December 27

### Fellowship Sunday

Fellowship Sunday is all about making personal connections and building community. It's your time to . . . share a leisurely cup of coffee with old friends, engage with visitors and newer members, browse Northwest's Bookstore, or meet with one of Northwest's Small Groups. However you decide to spend it, this time is for you, to connect, to build, and to grow!



*Small-Group Meetings on Fellowship Sunday:*

### Northwest Senior Network

Session Leaders: Renee and Mike Burke

The Northwest Seniors Network is comprised of seniors, retirees, grandparents and caretakers who gather to discuss life issues, provide support to one another, and engage in social activities. Join us in the Art Gallery.



### CUUPS Discussion Group

*Session Leader: Stan Burch*

The Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) is an organization dedicated to networking Pagan-identified UUs, educating people about Paganism, promoting interfaith dialogue, developing Pagan liturgies and theologies, and supporting Pagan-identified UU religious professionals.

Northwest's Hawk's Hoop CUUPS group invites you to join in a continuing discussion of *Pagan Visions For A Sustainable Future* edited by Ly de Angeles and others. If you don't have the book, it can be purchased at Northwest's Bellwether Bookstore.



# Sneak Peek at January's Second Hour

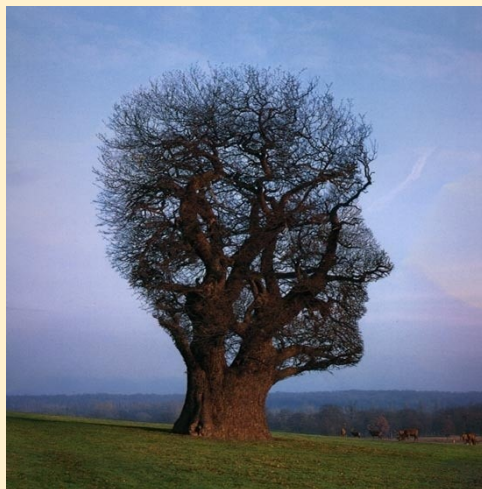
## Looking to the Future . . .

In January, we look forward to Rev. Terry Davis' Second Sunday Sermon Discussion Series, which is covered in more detail below.

In addition, our own Lyn Ucci will lead several sessions focusing on Mindfulness. As described by Lyn:

*Mindfulness is a way of paying attention to, and seeing clearly, whatever is happening in our lives. It will not eliminate life's pressures, but it can help us respond to them in a calmer manner that benefits our mind, body, and heart.*

See you at Second Hour!



## Share the Plate

STP for the month of December will go to the minister's discretionary fund. This fund allows the minister to address emergencies and to discreetly help those in need who may not want to call attention to their circumstances. The holidays are traditionally a time when we share with those less fortunate, and so it is fitting that we replenish this important source of help to those in need.

# UUA Common Read and Second Sunday Sermon Series - Coming in January 2016

Join Rev. Terry Davis and your fellow Northwest members and friends as we participate in the UUA's "Common Read" program and Rev. Terry Davis presents her new "Second Sunday" sermon series starting in January 2016 to explore the selected book's themes in greater depth.

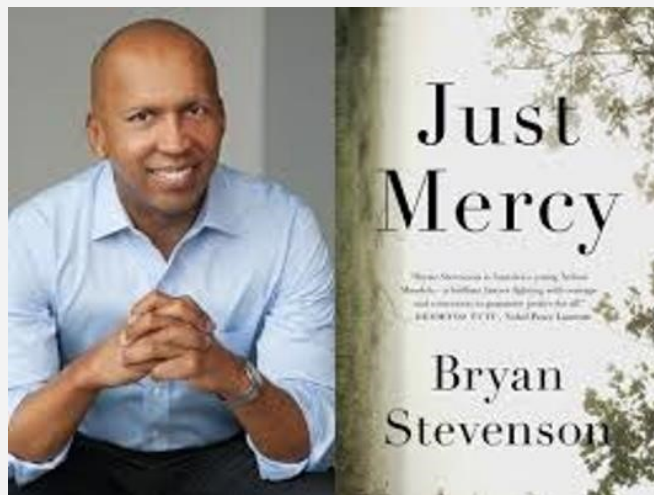
The 2015-16 Common Read selection is *Just Mercy*, by Bryan Stevenson, a *New York Times* bestseller and the winner of the Carnegie Medal for Non-fiction.

Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending

those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system.

*Just Mercy* is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.

Copies of *Just Mercy* will be available soon at Northwest's Bellwether Bookstore.



# Celebrate!

## Birthdays

Emma Davis	12/02
Anthony Kahn	12/04
Melanie North	12/04
Virginia Nelson	12/06
Evelyn Alford	12/08
Maria Drinkard	12/08
Karen Lawrence	12/10
Judy Seaman	12/12
Caroline Romines	12/20
Flore Vinton	12/20
Beth Clinton	12/22
Darin Kahn	12/22
Chloe Morgen	12/22
Peter Tartikoff	12/25
Roland DeWitt	12/26
Ethan Freeman	12/26
James Taylor	12/26
Brock Stitts	12/27
Dana Suite	12/28
Doyle Jones	12/29
Allen Rider	12/29
Letitia Sweitzer	12/30
Joy Hickman	12/31

## Anniversaries

Rebecca Cabral	12/04/1996
Mani Subramanian	12/04/1988
Ruth Subramanian	12/04/1988
Joyce Buis	12/06/1968
Mark Livezey	12/06/1998
Marian Lynch	12/06/1987
Nancy Boothe	12/07/2014
Gregory Byrd	12/07/2014
Lori Guy	12/07/2014
Bruce Wobeck	12/11/2011
Linda Keller Wobeck	12/11/2011
Audrey Marroquin	12/13/2012
Barbara Ericson	12/15/2002
Anne Bennett	12/16/1990
Don Langham	12/16/1968
Marian Langham	12/16/1968
Edward Lawrence	12/16/1984
Sarah Beth Nelson	12/16/2012
John Nelson	12/16/2012
Gene Zanella	12/16/2012
Darin Kahn	12/23/2012
Helene Johnson	12/24/1977

## UNiverse

UNiverse is published monthly by the Northwest Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
1025 Mount Vernon Highway, NW  
Sandy Springs, GA 30327  
([www.NWUUC.org](http://www.NWUUC.org))

Northwest is a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

**Newsletter submissions deadline: 15th of the previous month.**

Send to [nwuupublications@gmail.com](mailto:nwuupublications@gmail.com)

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Accompanists, **Grace Tian Meng Fowler**  
and **Will Fowler**

Sexton, **Kevin Coleman**

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### Board of Trustees

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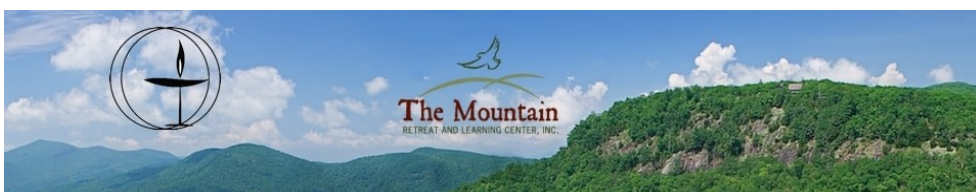
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**Hannah Cowart**

**Glenn Koller**

**Roland DeWitt**



## What's Up at The Mountain?

**Farm Internship: March 9 - August 3, 2016 or August 10 - November 20, 2016.**

The Mountain is still accepting applications for our Sustainable Agriculture and Experiential Education internship! Learn about farming techniques, group facilitation, and more! For all the details, visit [TheMountainRLC.org/garden-internship](http://TheMountainRLC.org/garden-internship).

The Mountain has a new website ([TheMountainRLC.org](http://TheMountainRLC.org)) with features to make navigation and information dissemination easier. Check it out for the latest info on upcoming events, retreats, and more.

You can also check The Mountain notebook on the Community Table in the Lobby or the bulletin board for more detailed information.

**DECEMBER**

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**December 2**

**Choir Practice, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary**

**December 5**

**Hungry Ear Coffee House™, 8:00 pm, Sanctuary**

**December 6**

**Multigenerational Worship Café, 10:00 am**

**Congregational Meeting, 11:15 am**

**Pageant Practice, 11:30 am**

**December 8**

**Book Groupies, 7:00 pm, Art Gallery**

**December 9**

**Choir Practice, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary**

**December 13**

**Worship Service/Pageant, 10:00 am**

**Second Hour, 11:30 am**

**Pageant Cast Party, 11:30 am**

**December 15**

**In the Spirit, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary**

**Deadline for January Universe**

**December 16**

**Choir Practice, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary**

**December 20**

**Worship Service, 10:00 am**

**Extended Activity Time, 10:15 am**

**Second Hour, 11:30 am**

**Yule Celebration, 7:00 pm**

**December 24**

**Candlelight Service, 7:00 pm**

**December 27**

**Worship Service, 10:00 am**

**Extended Activity Time, 10:15 am**

**Fellowship Sunday, 11:30 am**





# NWUUC NORTHWEST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

1025 Mt. Vernon Highway, NW, Sandy Springs, GA 30327

*A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association*

## December UNiverse Newsletter

### Publications Available Online

If you have a print version of the UNiverse and want more information about any programs featured here or about others happening this month, please go to our website ([nwuuc.org](http://nwuuc.org)) and access the electronic version under the Publications tab. You can use the live links in these electronic publications to easily contact event organizers and while you're there, you can read more about our congregation, its programs and services.

### Northwest UUC Mission Statement

*Our congregation creates loving community, inspires joy and spiritual growth, and supports courageous action.*

### Unitarian Universalist Principles

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, 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.