



January 2016 UNiverse

NWUUC NORTHWEST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

A Small Step, A Big Impact

January is frequently used as a starting point for beginning a new pursuit such as getting more exercise or eating mindfully. Those activities involve improving our physical being, but we also need to think about what we can do to develop our spiritual and social lives. It may be stepping out of our comfort zone to participate in something we've never done before, but January is a good time to take that first step!

According to the Congregational Survey conducted at the end of 2015, when respondents were asked how they were involved in the life of our congregation, the greatest number of respondents stated they were "not involved." It's time to change that! The purpose of participating in a small group activity is to get to know



people better and by doing that, we strengthen our community.

For those who are not already in a ministry team, how about using the new year as a stepping stone for participating in just one activity at Northwest during the month of January? Choose something that fits your schedule, from meeting once a week during the day to once a month in the evening.

There's the Choir, Book Groupies, Dining for Women, Gardens and Spaces, LUUnch BUUnch, Meditation, carpooling down to the capitol for Moral Monday, volunteering in the office and other worship, social and ministry teams that provide a setting by which we can get to know each other better. By knowing more about the people we sit with on Sunday mornings, the bonds of friendship, community and belonging become stronger.

The hardest part of starting something new is taking the first step. If you have thought about creating a stronger bond with people at Northwest so that you feel more a part of the life of our congregation, January is the time to start! You are encouraged to go to just one event or one meeting and meet just one new person. Just take that first step . . .

NWUUC Committee on Ministry Report on Congregational Survey Results



This fall, the Committee on Ministry asked members and friends of Northwest UU Congregation to complete a ten-question survey; 104 people responded.

The responses were overwhelmingly positive. Differences between highly and lower rated elements were very small.

The committee asked you to answer the questions with our mission statement in mind: *Our congregation creates a loving community, inspires joy and spiritual growth, and supports courageous action.*

Continued on page 2

NWUUC Committee on Ministry Report on Survey Results, *Continued*

Demographics: The respondents were mostly members (88%). The two largest groups in terms of length of time attending Northwest were 3 to 6 years, 22%, and more than 15 years, 26%.

The importance of the worship: The element rated most highly was Worship Associate Reflection with more than 60% saying this was very important. Other highly rated elements were Prayer and Meditation, Stones of Joy and Concern, Welcome and Announcements.

Worship Service and Worship Staff: The service experience and Reverend Terry Davis, DOM Tom Godfrey and DRE Elizabeth Hickman received high marks.

RE: Two out every seven respondents answered that they have children in RE. One out of every seven had children in RE in the past. Religious Education mission and activities: The Holiday Pageant was highly rated, with Our Whole Lives (OWL) running second and other elements close behind.



Involvement: When asked what people are involved in, 41% said they were not involved in any of the listed options. Thirty-one percent (31%) reported participating in Adult Learning and Second Hour. Earth Ministry, Stewardship and Social Justice were close behind. Communicating mission and goals: There was a three way tie among Earth Ministry, Social Justice and Adult Learning.

Lay-led Ministry effectiveness in advancing mission: Less than one point separated all the categories: Social Justice, Earth Ministry and Care Corps. Question ten was open-ended. The vast majority of responses were positive. Amongst those that were not positive, there were no themes.

The results will be posted to our website in the near future. Thank you for your feedback.

Michael J. Dierickx
Committee on Ministry

Worship Services January 2015 *Reflecting on a Fresh Start* 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 to sign up.

January 3– Blessed Is Our Unfinished Business

Worship Leader – Rev. Terry Davis
Worship Associate – Paul Payne
Music – The Northwest Band

Unitarian Universalist minister Richard Gilbert wrote:
*Consider that our lives are always unfinished business
From beckoning birth to dawning death we are in process
And always there is more to be done.*

How is our incompleteness a blessing? What are its dangers? Let's explore this together as we kick off the New Year.



Worship Services January 2015, continued

Reflecting on a Fresh Start

Service at 10:00 am

January 10 – In Need of Grace

Worship Leader – Rev. Terry Davis

Worship Associate—Neal Steffin

Music – The Northwest Choir

Attorney and activist Bryan Stephenson writes, “The closer we get to mass incarceration and extreme levels of punishment, the more I believe it’s necessary to recognize that we all need mercy, we all need justice, and – perhaps – we all need some measure of unmerited grace.” What does he mean by that? Rev. Terry Davis’s sermon will explore this notion of grace and other ideas captured in Stephenson’s best-selling book *Just Mercy*, a UUA all-congregation read and the focus of her “Second Sunday Sermon series” starting this month through March.



January 17 – We Begin Again in Love (MLK, Jr. Sunday)

Worship Leader – Rev. Terry Davis

Worship Associate – Lynne Dale

Music – The Northwest Band and Join-in Choir

On this Sunday, we will celebrate the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We will look at our history and where we failed to oppose the terrible oppression of Jim Crow laws – then and still today. And we will ask ourselves, “Where do we go from here? What can we do to move racial justice forward?”

On Monday, January 18, the Northwest Earth Ministry Team, Social Justice Team and Children and Youth RE will sponsor an all-congregation service project at the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA) as part of the MLK, Jr. Day of Service. See page 7 for more information.

January 24– Beginning Again

Worship Leaders – Letitia Sweitzer and Glenn Koller

Music – Tom Godfrey and William Fowler

New beginnings are usually motivating. “Starting over” may suggest that something was wrong with or missing in our previous start and we want to do better now. On the other hand, “Beginning anew” suggests we may be repeating a joyful cycle. While some say, “The beginning is the easy part . . .” others just can’t begin at all. What does “Beginning Again” mean to you as the new year overtakes us all, ready or not?

January 31– Starting Over or Staying Put?

Worship Leader – Rev. Terry Davis

Worship Associate – Jay Kiskel

Music—William Fowler

Whether it be work, relationships, or other significant life commitments, is it really possible to make a fresh start when things don’t go according to plans or dreams? When might we be best served by staying right where we are?

Now Is the Time

Dear Friends,

Even though January 1st is truly just one more day, I have to admit that the start of a New Year injects a little optimism into my thinking. I once again get to consider my highest aspirations and ask myself, "Will this be the year when I do (fill in the blank)?"

My long-time friend in Chile awaits my decision on whether this will be the year that I will finally pay her and her husband a visit. If I could read his mind, I feel certain my 10 month-old puppy Miles would like more Mommy time and romps in the dog park in the days ahead. My hiking boots sitting on the top shelf of my closet would also like to see a little more action. And, the books piled on my nightstand ready to be read once I can manage not to fall asleep as soon as I get into bed.

I think New Year's resolutions get a bad rap. I don't mind having a few. I think what's more important is to ask



want in my life and what I do with it requires facing the truth. Responsibilities will always be there. Projects will always be waiting.

In the middle of writing this article, I ran out to grab a quick bite for lunch. As I ate my chicken sandwich

and checked e-mails on my phone, I thought about this notion of not having enough time and that if I weren't careful, I might spend the rest of my life waiting for my schedule to lighten up.

Mother Teresa said, "Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." And, so I did. "Dear Lisa," I typed in an e-mail to my friend as I sat in the middle of Whole Foods. "Remember that conversation we've been having about visiting you in Santiago? Well, I'm ready . . ."

Warmly,
Terry
Rev. Terry Davis

myself if I'm truly willing to put a specific plan in place to help me achieve them. If I want to do something new, it will likely mean that I'll need to let go of something old.

What will that be? I imagine my old attitude of "I don't have time to (fill in the blank)" is what really needs to change. My time is always my own. How I spend it is entirely up to me. And, so, if a trip to see a friend or extra time with my dog just doesn't seem possible, it's likely that I must not really want these things as much as I want other things.

That's an unsettling thought. But, closing the gap between what I say I

What's Up at The Mountain?

Things are slowing down for the winter months on The Mountain. This year has been incredible and The Mountain is now looking to add to their staff in 2016 .

Development Director - We are looking for a creative and resourceful person with strong communication skills to lead the planning, organizing, and facilitation of fund development for The Mountain. Experience in grant writing is preferred. To apply, send your resume to Miriam Witzl (miriam.witzl@TheMountainRLC.org).

2016 Summer Camp Staff - Are you

interested in changing the life of a young person by being a positive Unitarian Universalist role model? Do you want to motivate and inspire campers to be the best that they can be? If you are, then you may be a good fit for a Summer Staff position for Mountain Camp 2016. This is a paid position, go to [our website](#) to apply. Application must be received by **February 15, 2016**.

Farm Internship - We are accepting applications for our Fall Sustainable Agriculture and Experiential Education

internship. Learn about farming techniques, group facilitation, and more! For details and to learn how to apply, visit TheMountainRLC.org/garden-internship/



Dining for Women, January 17

All women are invited to the January Dining for Women on Sunday, Jan. 17, from 5-7pm. Please contact [Mary Perloe](#) or 404.217.8201 for location and more information.

This month we will learn about and support: Amaranth Empowering Rural Women to Improve Nutrition and Family Economy in Valles Centrales and Mixteca Alta regions of Oaxaca, Mexico.

This program will give rural women and girls opportunities to bridge the gender gap, become healthier, play



a larger role in economic decision-making, and work their way out of poverty. Puente's programs empower women to farm with more access to inputs, improve family nutrition and health, and organize with other com-

munity members to create jobs and economic opportunities locally. Amaranth is a pseudo-cereal with remarkable potential; both leaf and grain amaranth are nutrient-rich food sources, and the plant resists drought, allowing farmers to adapt to difficult growing conditions. The current market price is considerably higher than that of other grains, offering economic opportunities for farmer families. The nutritional, agro-ecological, and local economic opportunities make amaranth a remarkable opportunity for community development.

Acting for Environmental Justice and Religious Freedom

On December 6, Northwest Members let their feet do the talking – standing in solidarity with demonstrators at the Paris Climate Conference. After the November terrorist attacks in Paris, French authorities banned demonstrators from assembling to voice their demands for meaningful action on climate change. So demon-

strators instead left their shoes - more than 20,000 pairs of them - many with fervent messages written, standing silently but eloquently in public witness.

Echoing the Paris shoe demonstration, Northwest members decorated pairs of shoes with earth-related messages and graphics. The shoes were placed along the Mt. Vernon Road frontage for several days, and later donated to the Homeless Shelter Clothing Collection. As a public statement for the event, Northwest youth changed the marquee to express the commitment of our congregation, stating "We Stand With the Earth."

Help Defeat RFRA

The movement to pass the Religious Freedom Restoration Act will return to the Georgia Assembly when this legislative session begins in January.

Northwest members will again this year join other Moral Monday activists to help defeat this highly discriminatory bill. Watch the NeUUs for details of our participation, then come join the ranks of protesters from Northwest, other UU Congregations and members of many other faith traditions who oppose this legislation.



Forty-seven Years Later



The December newsletter held an important piece of information that is personal to my family. On December 6, my 85 year old mother, Joyce Buis, celebrated 47 years of being a member of Northwest. She brought up four children in this congregation and is watching three grandchildren being raised here as well.

As a founding member of Northwest she has, through the years, served on numerous committees and the Board of Trustees and on a Ministerial Search committee, was a newsletter editor, an RE teacher, and was even an unpaid Director of Religious Education! Like Don and Marian Langham, who celebrated their 47th Northwest anniversary on December 16, they have all spent over half their lives contributing, with so many others, to our home in the woods. A big thank you to all the founding members and the legacy they have left us.

Elizabeth Hickman
Director of Religious Education



Children's Chapel on January 17

Our youngest Northwest members get a chance to experience all the warmth and magic that Sunday worship can be on January 17 during Children's Chapel! Rev. Terry Davis, along with Director of Music Tom Godfrey and Director of Religious Education Elizabeth Hickman lead a fifteen-minute, kid-friendly worship service starting at 11:30 am in the Chapel.

All children are welcome. They'll be invited to sing our favorite hymns, hear a story and message, and participate in their own rituals just like the grown-ups do! Adults are welcome, too.

For more information on Children's Chapel, contact Elizabeth Hickman re@nwuuc.org.



Northwest Donates to the IRC

Northwest Board President David Morgen and Social Justice Ministry Team Leader Tony Barbagallo presented a check to the International Rescue Committee in early December with Rev. Terry Davis.

The \$1,550 check represented one of the largest Donate the Plate Sunday collections in recent memory, according to Rev. Davis.



It's About Time



In a recent piano lesson, an 8-year-old student told me that it takes forever to get to each birthday. I told her not to worry, that when she gets older, her birthdays would arrive faster and faster. She didn't understand what I was telling her, but someday she will.

Lately, I've been thinking a lot about time, but on a very small level. Believe it or not, one of the most difficult skills to develop and maintain as a musician is the ability to keep good time, or in other words, a steady beat.

It's easy to tell when you've missed a note, but just as birthdays seem to arrive more quickly as you get older, time can ebb and flow as you are playing an instrument. For example, many musicians tend to speed up when they are playing a difficult phrase. You'd

think the tendency would be to slow down at the hard parts, but I think that many of us subconsciously want to get through the difficult section as fast as possible, and we unintentionally rush through them.



I've gotten to the point where I am usually able to play through a song as a soloist without speeding up or slowing down, but I'll still rush when playing with a group. Musicians in a group

want to stay together, and if one person in an ensemble pushes the pace, everyone else will follow suit. Once that runaway train picks up pace, it's hard to slow it down!

In my effort to grow as a musician, I focus part of my daily practice session on keeping good time. I'll play scales with my metronome set to its slowest speed. I'll record myself and take note of places where I tend to push the tempo. When I perform, I am often concentrating more on time than playing the right notes.

Somehow, when I am more mindful of the time, everything else seems to fall into place.

Tom Godfrey
Director of Music

Jan. 18: MLK, Jr. Day of Service And Seven on the 7th

On Monday, January 18, please pack a lunch and join us for a combined Seven on the 7th and MLK, Jr. Day of Service at the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA).

WAWA is a community-based non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life within the West Atlanta Watershed by protecting, preserving and restoring our community's natural resources. WAWA represents primarily minority neighborhoods in Northwest and Southwest Atlanta that are inundated with environmental stressors, but are

underrepresented at environmental decision-making tables.

We will help to organize and clean up the inside of the facility or make and install pine cone/peanut butter/suet bird feeders. We will meet at the WAWA Outdoor Activity Center (1442 Richland Road, SW, Atlanta 30310, 404.752.5385) starting at 10:00 am.

If you need help finding transportation, please contact [Dave Zenner](#) or [Tony Barbagallo](#).



Hungry Ear Coffee House™, January 2

Bob Bakert Special Quartet

For this special concert, Bob Bakert is joined by three fine musicians. Hot performers all, they will perform originals, pop, R&B and cool jazz with hints of James Taylor, Nat King Cole and George Benson.



Bob Bakert (leader, singer, guitarist) has played with premier groups and performed frequently at the Hungry Ear, which he has produced and directed for the past four years.



Chris Riggensbach (bass) is a sought-after performer and teacher/artist affiliate at Emory University.

Mark Tucker (keyboard) provides a swinging blend of instrumental standards as well as original jazz tunes in the classic blue-note style.



Mark Letalien (drummer) has played with Grammy winner Shelby Lynne, performed with Colonel Bruce Hampton and the Quark Alliance, was a founding member of Insomnia, and toured with renown Beatles tribute band Abbey Road.

Come join us to set a happy tone for the new year at the Hungry Ear Coffee House, aka the Northwest Sanctuary. Doors open at 7:30, show starts at 8:00 pm. \$5.00 donation requested with canned goods for the Community Assistance Center gladly accepted.

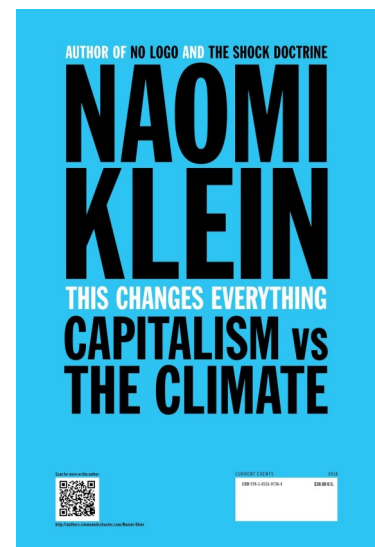
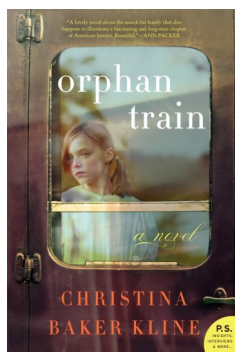
Book Groupies Discuss *Just Mercy*, Jan. 12

The Book Groupies will discuss *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson on Tuesday evening, January 12 at 7 pm in the Art Gallery. This book is the UUA Common Read for 2015 and has so many recommendations and nominations we felt we had to give it a month on our reading schedule. The author founded a law practice to defend the marginal members of our society.

At our February 9 meeting, we will discuss *Orphan Train* by Christina Kline.

On March 8, we will discuss *This*

Changes Everything by Naomi Klein. Why the early notice? The March book is an important read and 564 pages! More in next month's newsletter.



In The Spirit Walks the Labyrinth, January 19

Begin the New Year with Rev. Terry Davis and others in the Northwest Sanctuary as we give ourselves the gift of walking the labyrinth, which will be on loan to Northwest from the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta for this one evening only.

The labyrinth and its many designs date back to prehistoric times. In the Christian tradition, labyrinths began to appear on church walls and floors around 1000 CE. Today, many newly made labyrinths exist in churches and parks all over the world.

Some think of the labyrinth as symbolic of a spiritual pilgrimage, and walk it with an intentional “destination” in mind. Others use the labyrinth to help them quiet the mind and achieve a contemplative state. Each person does the walk at his or her own pace.

The Sanctuary will be open from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Please drop in at your convenience and join the countless many who have found this ancient spiritual practice moving, soothing and refreshing.



Share The Plate Supports Literacy Action

"Literacy is not a luxury, it is a right and a responsibility. If our world is to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century we must harness the energy and creativity of all our citizens." *William Jefferson Clinton.*

Share the Plate for January supports teaching literacy to adults and children by sharing our collected treasure with Literacy Action. Literacy Action was founded here, in Atlanta, shortly after the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



At the time of Dr. King’s funeral, Central Presbyterian Church in downtown opened its doors in hospitality to the thousands of visitors who came to say farewell to Dr. King. Afterwards, church members felt that it was time for institutions to work to address the needs of the poor and live out Dr. King’s vision. Just two months later, on June 12, 1968, Literacy Action was a product of that congregation’s reflections.

Today Literacy Action works to achieve its mission – “To build better futures for undereducated adults by teaching literacy, life and work skills that empower them to reach their highest potential” – through the teaching of Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, Workplace Literacy, Workforce Literacy, Family Literacy, Citizenship and by supporting literacy research.

Please open your hearts and wallets to this worthy cause. Half of all non-designated funds collected during services in the month of January will go to Literacy Action. If you wish, you can designate all of your donation to go to this worthy organization.

Mid-South Chalice Lighter Call

Happy News! The [Unitarian Universalist Church of Tullahoma](#) (Tennessee) will receive the proceeds from our next Mid-South Chalice Lighter call. Organized in 1958, this growing congregation has been in its current building for over 50 years. The one bathroom in this converted single-family home is no longer adequate, especially for people who are differently-abled. With our support, the members and friends will convert part of their current space into a second handicapped-accessible restroom.



Your individual and congregational contributions toward this Chalice Lighter call will help provide much needed assistance to Tullahoma Unitarian Universalists as we all work together to grow our faith in the Southern Region. Please give generously!

You may make contributions easily online via credit card or Electronic Funds Transfer here: <http://uuasouthernregion.org/clmsd.html> (click the green 'Payments & Donations' button on the left), or send your contribution by check (payable to 'UUA Chalice Lighters' with 'MSD CL' in the memo line) to:

UUA Southern Region
Attn: MSD Chalice Lighters
PO Box 560246
Orlando FL 32856

The closing date for this call is January 31, 2016. Any contributions received after that date will go toward the next call. Thank you for your abundant support of the Mid-South Chalice Lighter program!

New Board Member: Hannah Cowart



Hannah hails from south/central Georgia and spends much of her free time driving those old country roads visiting family. She first found the UU faith in Athens, GA, and was a member of High Street UU in Macon briefly before finding her home at Northwest in 2013. She works in HR at the Georgia Forestry Commission.

At Northwest, she has been involved with the Youth RE program, serves as an Usher and Worship Associate, and enjoys getting involved in minor projects as needs arise.

Hannah will complete the term of at-large Trustee Beth Clinton.

Welcome to new NWUUC member Peggy Emrey



Peggy Emrey grew up in Atlanta and Albany, GA. Single and living in Brookhaven, she works in the IT field. Her interests include choral singing, genealogy and home-improvement projects.

Peggy grew up Episcopalian, but became “spiritually independent” as an adult. Friends introduced her to Unitarian Universalism and her search for sense of community brought her to Northwest, where “I felt at home right away,” she says.

She looks forward to making new friends, supporting the community, pursuing personal growth and seeking inspiration. Please welcome Peggy to Northwest!

The Seven Principles and Six Sources of Unitarian Universalism

Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven Principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides rather than dogma or doctrine. We live out these principles within a “living tradition” of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from sources as diverse as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience.

The seven principles and six sources of the Unitarian Universalist Association grew out of the grassroots of our communities, were affirmed democratically, and are part of who we are.

1st Principle: The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

2nd Principle: Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;

3rd Principle: Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;

4th Principle: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;

5th Principle: The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;

6th Principle: The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;

7th Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.



These are the six sources our congregations affirm and promote:

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
- Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.



January Second Hour Programming

Second Hour, our adult learning program, follows the regular Sunday Service and social time. If you have suggestions regarding programs and learning experiences, contact [Laura Hall](#) or [Harry Trendell](#).

January 3



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. Whether you've been meditating for years or would like to discover this spiritual practice for the first time, you are welcome.

January 10



Sunday Sermon Discussion:

Just Mercy

Session Leader: Rev. Terry Davis

Following each of Rev. Terry Davis' "Second Sunday Sermon Series" sermons, there will be Second Hour programs to discuss the sermon and your thoughts about the book (you don't have to read it to participate!). Questions? Contact [Rev. Davis](#).

Share the Plate Recipient: Literacy Action

Session Leader: Anthony Barbagallo
Guest Speaker: Austin Dickson

Come hear Literacy Action Executive Director Austin Dickson speak about the organization, its programs and how we can get involved.



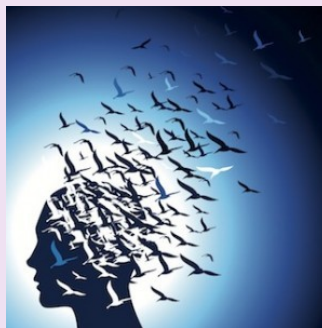
January 17

Mindfulness

Session Leader: Lyn Ucci

Join Northwest member Lyn Ucci as she begins a five-part series on 'Mindfulness', a way of paying attention to, and seeing clearly whatever is happening in our lives. Practicing mindfulness 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.

It helps us recognize and step away from habitual, often unconscious emotional and physiological reactions to everyday events. It provides us with a scientifically researched approach to cultivating clarity, insight,



and understanding. This practice allows us to be fully present in our life and work, and improves our quality of life.

The first three sessions will be offered on January 17, 24 and 31, and the series will finish in February.

January 24

Mindfulness

Session Leader: Lyn Ucci

See above for details.

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.

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.

Continued on page 13

January Second Hour, *Continued*

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.



January 31

Mindfulness

Session Leader: Lyn Ucci

See page 12 for details.

Just Mercy Second Sunday Sermon Series Begins January 10

If you haven't yet picked up a copy of Bryan Stevenson's book *Just Mercy* from the Northwest Bellwether Bookstore, it's not too late.

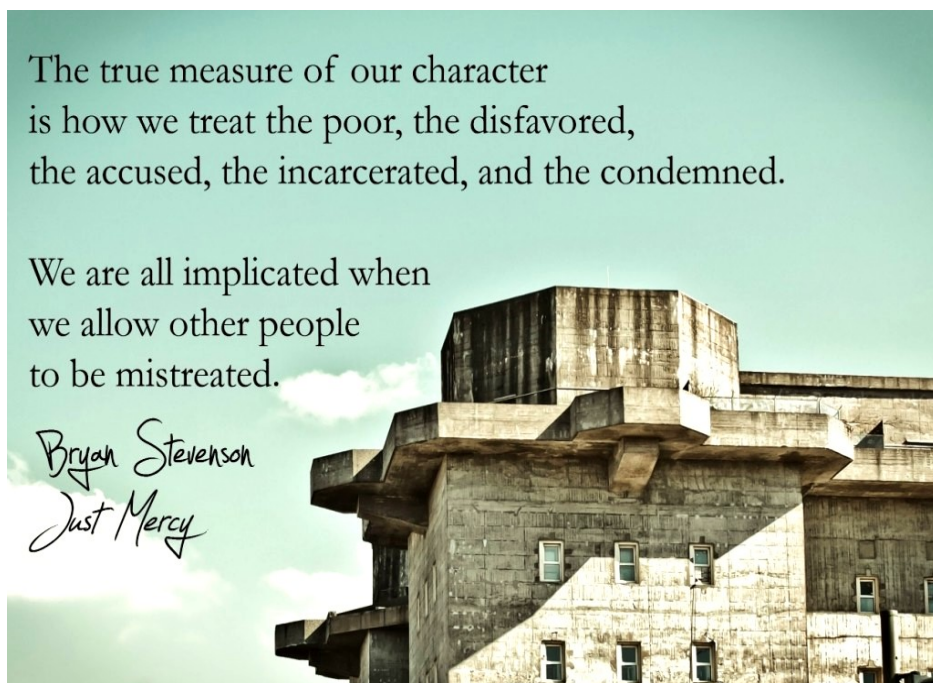
Stevenson tells a compelling story of his work with some of the poorest, most disenfranchised persons in our criminal justice system and how it has profoundly changed him and his understanding of mercy and justice forever.

Rev. Terry Davis will explore Stevenson's story and his ideas in her three-part "Second Sunday Sermon Series" and related Second Hour discussions beginning January 10.

The true measure of our character is how we treat the poor, the disfavored, the accused, the incarcerated, and the condemned.

We are all implicated when we allow other people to be mistreated.

Bryan Stevenson
Just Mercy



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 a book-lover's dream job, see, call or email Penny Raney, 770.551.8817 or 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!



Birthdays

Stan Burch
Matthew Manely
Raegan North
Sophie Smith
Zachary Smith
Fay Mann
Sharon Beecher
Sydney Kahn
Marc von Mandel
Shirley Banks
Jared Freeman
John Marroquin
Mani Subramanian
Neal Steffin
Daniel Smith
Marian Langham
Jamie Williams
Marti Wilson
Suzy Alford
Clarence Rosa

01/01 Peg Gary
01/03 John Reeves
01/04 Rebecca Reeves
01/04 Glenn Koller
01/04 Sandra Niven
01/05 Nancy Tartikoff
01/06 Peter Tartikoff
01/07 Darrick Alford
01/09 Suzy Alford
01/10 Bill Peterson
01/11 Gwen Kahn
01/11 Steve Stern
01/11 Sharon Cameron
01/12 Ilene Goldman
01/13 Bill Cox
01/14 Marilyn Matlock
01/19 Greg Pattison
01/25
01/27
01/27

Joining Anniversaries

01/03/2004
01/04/1987
01/04/1987
01/06/2013
01/06/2013
01/09/1977
01/09/1977
01/13/2013
01/13/2013
01/13/2013
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01/28/2007

UNiverse

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Send to nwuupublications@gmail.com

Minister

Rev. Terry Davis, minister@nwuuc.org
Pastoral Care Emergencies:
404.455.5764

Staff

Elizabeth Hickman
Religious Education Director
re@nwuuc.org

Tom Godfrey
Music Director
music@nwuuc.org

Shirley Banks
Office Administrator
office@nwuuc.org
770.955.1408

Nursery Attendant, **Nancy Johnson**
Accompanists, **Will Fowler and Grace Tian Meng Fowler**
Sexton, **Kevin Coleman**

Affiliated Community Minister

Rev. Joan A. Davis joan@yourvows.net

Board of Trustees

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JANUARY

January 2

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

January 3

Worship Service, 10:00 am
Activity Time, 10:15 am
Second Hour, 11:30 am
Religious Education, 11:30 am

January 6

Choir Practice, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary

January 10

Worship Service, 10:00 am
Activity Time, 10:15 am
Second Hour, 11:30 am
Religious Education, 11:30 am

January 12

Book Groupies, 7:00 pm, Art Gallery

January 13

LUUnch BUUnch, 11:45 am,
Art Gallery
Choir Practice, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary

January 15

Deadline for February UNiverse

January 17

Join-In Choir Practice, 9:00 am
Worship Service, 10:00 am
Activity Time, 10:15 am
Second Hour, 11:30 am
Children's Chapel, 11:30 am

January 18

**MLK, Jr. Day of Service and
Seven on the 7th, WAWA**, 10:00 am

January 19

In the Spirit Walks the Labyrinth,
6:30—8:30 pm, Sanctuary

January 20

Choir Practice, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary

January 24

Worship Service, 10:00 am
Activity Time, 10:15 am
Second Hour, 11:30 am
Religious Education, 11:30 am

January 27

Choir Practice, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary

January 31

Worship Service, 10:00 am
Activity Time, 10:15 am
Second Hour, 11:30 am
Religious Education, 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

January 2016 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) 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.