



Spectacles

November 2011

A Month of Sundays and Services

December 4 at 10 am – Rev. Brendan Hadash will present a service.

December 11 at 10 am – Rev. Kent McKusick will present a service.



December 18 at 10 am – Intergenerational Service and Santa Potluck. Join us for our annual Christmas Intergenerational service and potluck lunch. There will be a sign up sheet in the Parish Hall for food contributions and numbers of children that will be attending. We also have it on good authority that the Big Elf himself will be in attendance.

December 24 at 6 pm – Christmas Eve Service. Christmas just wouldn't feel the same without joining in a circle of candlelight to sing "Silent Night."

December 25 at 3 pm – Rev. Kent McKusick will hold an informal service.

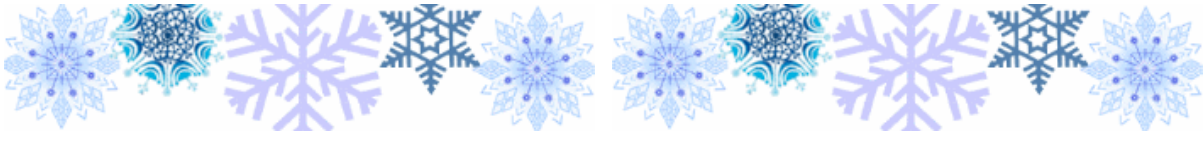


Community Assistance Fund Update

In the past two months we have helped 10 families by giving out \$300 worth of Hannaford cards and \$70 worth of gas cards. We currently have 1 \$10 gas card and \$125 left in the account. The requests continue to pour in at a rate that is far outstripping the ability of our fund to respond. As you celebrate the holidays this year please remember the members of our community who are in need this season. If you are able, consider donating to the UUCF Community Assistance Fund.

-Esther Shartar-Howe





A Minister's Musings ~ Rev. Kent McKusick ~ December 2011

As Unitarian Universalists, we look for meaning in Christmas. In this beautiful story of Mary, Joseph and Jesus, many of us search for a connection to the innermost workings of our spiritual selves, our place in the world, and how the birth of a child influenced and continues to influence us and the world. This search is really about hope, love, and peace. Some find hope, love and peace in the changing seasons and the return of the light...some in the miracle of every child's birth...some in gathering with loved ones and the memories of our beloved and our ancestors...some in singing...some in witnessing the laughter of children and the unfiltered joy, curiosity, and exuberance they share...some in the giving of gifts to family and friends and to those in the community who are less fortunate, and some find hope and love in the Christ child who grew into Jesus, the man...how he lived, and the lessons he taught which still resonate today.

Where do you find hope, love, and peace in the Christmas story?

Remember the images of this Christmas story and how they speak to our lives. Remember the images of past Christmases and the embodied narratives of your own life. Look beneath the literal text and linger with the other beautiful stories and images of the wisdom of women and sisterhood, hope for those living in poverty, the courage of working for social justice, and the triumph of the spirit coming out of exile. The Christmas story offers many avenues to deepen our spiritual lives. If you feel suspicious of a text or image, go deeper. Find your own truth in the story. Find the questions that pull and push you spiritually and emotionally.

There's something happening there.

There's something happening in you.

I wish you all the blessings of Christmas!

Happy Holidays! Happy Hanukkah!

Happy Solstice! Happy New Year!





Poinsettia's will be delivered Friday, December 2. Contact Deb Steadman or Howard Amsden for more information.

The Santa Lucia Tea ~ Saturday December 10 at 4 pm

The Santa Lucia Tea has been celebrated at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Franklin for over 25 years. The tradition originated in Sweden as a way to welcome light into the dark and cold Scandinavian winter.

The oldest girl in the congregation who has not yet had the honor becomes Santa Lucia. This year's crown will be worn by Elena. Wearing a white dress with a red sash and an evergreen wreath topped with 5 blazing candles, she enters the hall to the music of the Santa Lucia song. She leads a procession of the younger religious education students who are dressed as star boys and angel girls. They come bearing trays of saffron Lucia buns. In addition to these sweet rolls, guests enjoy homemade cookies and tea, of course!

After Santa Lucia's entrance, the entertainment continues with a talent show. In the past, acts have included music, dance, and comedy. The event concludes with a Christmas carol sing-along.

Members of the Congregation are asked to bring cookies to share. Anyone wishing to help with entertainment (read, dance, sing, etc.) should contact Gail Morrison at agree1@metrocast.net or 286-4596.

-Esther Shartar-Howe

Lucia Through the Years. . . .



Angel girls Meadow Hartwell, Anna McDougal, Elin Shartar (behind) and Kerstin Ahlgren, with Esther Shartar, as Lucia, accompanist, Shirley Doherty, and star boy, Matt Robinson 1990



Laura Anderson 1990



Lydia Gove as Lucia with Barbara Sen 2003



Ellery Thompson, Anita Sen, and Georgia Shartar-Howe 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 10am - Worship Service	28 4pm - Bread&Roses @	29	30 7pm - Choir Practice	1 10am - Office Hours 4pm - Bread&Roses @	2 Poinsettia Delivery 6pm - Potluck & Set Up 7pm - NA @ Parlor	3 9am - Craft Fair and
4 10am - Worship Service	5 4pm - Bread&Roses @	6	7 7pm - Choir Practice	8 10am - Office Hours 4pm - Bread&Roses @	9 7pm - NA @ Parlor	10 4pm - Santa Lucia Tea
11 10am - Worship Service	12 4pm - Bread&Roses @	13 7pm - Parish	14 7pm - Choir Practice	15 10am - Office Hours 4pm - Bread&Roses @	16 7pm - NA @ Parlor	17 8am - Post Card Club @
18 10am - Worship Service 11:30am - Santa 2pm - Private Party	19 4pm - Bread&Roses @	20	21 Chanukah 7pm - Choir Practice	22 Chanukah 10am - Office Hours 4pm - Bread&Roses @	23 Chanukah 7pm - NA @ Parlor	24 Chanukah Christmas Eve 6pm - Worship Service
25 Chanukah Christmas 3pm - Worship Service	26 Chanukah 4pm - Bread&Roses @	27 Chanukah	28 Chanukah 7pm - Choir Practice	29 10am - Office Hours 4pm - Bread&Roses @	30 7pm - NA @ Parlor	31 New Year's Eve

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Franklin
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Check us out at
www.uucfranklin.org

Esther Shartar-Howe,
administrator and newsletter
editor

Rev. Kent McKusick, Minister
Office Hours Thursdays
10 am to 2 pm



*Craft Fair and
Cookie Walk
Saturday, December 3rd
9 am to 2 pm*



Cookies can be brought to the Meetinghouse
Friday night or early Saturday morning.
Items are needed for the Community Table.

We will be decorating the Fellowship Hall and
holding a Potluck starting at 6 pm on Friday,
December 2.

Let's share some food and have some fun.
All invited!



Guest At Your Table

If you haven't already done so, don't
forget to pick up a Guest at Your Table
box at the Meetinghouse.

Boxes will be collected after January
first.

