

Welcome to the
Unitarian Universalist Society of
Wellesley Hills



February 23rd, 2020
The Touchstone of Generosity

Worship Leader: The Rev. Dr. Kelly Murphy Mason
Worship Associate: Loie Williams
Music Director: Suzanne Cartreine
UU Wellesley Hills Choir
Acting DEFM: Michael Packard, MAPS
Sexton: Fernando Cristancho
Congregational Coordinator: Amanda Spinazzola
Hospitality Team Leader: Loie Williams
Ushers: Cara & Marsha Fearing
Greeter: Jane Sarly

www.uuwellesleyhills.org

CANDLES OF JOYS & SORROWS

You are invited to light a candle for any joy or sorrow.

PRELUDE

Prelude in G
F. Mendelssohn

WORDS OF WELCOME

***HYMN #360** "Here We Have Gathered"

COMMUNITY GREETING

CHORAL INTROIT

Jubilate Deo
M. Praetorius

"Sing joyfully to God, all the earth; sing praises with gladness"

CALL TO WORSHIP

UNISON CHALICE LIGHTING

We light this chalice to illuminate our faithful way forward
as an inspirational community of hope.
Together, we seek spiritual growth.
We strive for just and responsible action.
We dedicate ourselves to leading lives of compassion
and purpose. Knowing how we have been blessed,
we choose to bless the world.

***HYMN #404** "What Gift Can We Bring"

TIME FOR ALL AGES "Generosity Bends The Road"

PARTING SONG #414 "As We Leave This Friendly Place"

*As we leave this friendly place,
Love give light to ev'ry face;
May the kindness which we learn
Light our hearts 'till we return*

MEMBERSHIP MOMENT

Vic Polk

WORDS OF OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Simple Gifts
Trad. Shaker, adapt. A. Copland, tr. I. Fine

***RECEIVING THE OFFERING #380** "Old Hundredth"

*Rejoice in what we know and share,
in love and beauty everywhere,
Rejoice in truth that makes us free,
and in the good that yet shall be.*

TOUCHSTONE REFLECTION Loie Williams

COMMUNAL PRAYER

SILENT REFLECTION

KINDLED LAMPS & KINDRED SOULS

SUNG MEDITATION #1009 "Meditation on Breathing"

*When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love. (3x)*

RESPONSIVE READING #443

"We Come Out of Many Singular Rooms"

MUSICAL INTERLUDE *Romanze, Op. 118, No. 5*
J. Brahms

SERMON "Givens"

***HYMN #128** "For All That is Our Life"

***EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE**

Extinguishing this flame which has burned bright
in our midst, we revere what has been kindled
within each one of us — warmth in community,
the light of truth, a perpetual spark of hope.

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bwana Awabariki*
Trad. Swahili
"May God grant you a blessing"

RECESSIONAL MUSIC

Please enjoy the music as you depart our Sanctuary.

Flowers this week were given by Carolee and Steve Fogg
"With gratitude for our immigrant ancestors."

Plate Collection

This week's plate collection as chosen by the congregation using ranked-choice voting goes to Massachusetts Immigration and Refugee Advocacy Coalition. MIRA is the largest coalition in New England promoting the rights and integration of immigrants and refugees. With offices in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, they are an essential leader on immigrant issues at the state and national levels and an authoritative source of information and policy analysis for policy-makers, advocates, immigrant communities and the media. As a dynamic and multi-ethnic coalition with 130+organizational members. Including grassroots community organizations and refugee resettlement agencies, they strive to build communities where all can thrive, no matter where they came from or how they got here. For more information, visit their website: www.miracoalition.org. Please write plate collection checks out to 'UUSWH' with 'MIRA' on the memo line. As always, please clearly mark your pledge payments.

Today Following Worship

UU Wellesley Silent Auction Ends *This* Sunday! Our bidding opened at 10:00 a.m. in Parish Hall and will close for good at 12:30 p.m. The 2020 silent auction has a range of competitive bid offerings, some with a minimum. There are also a few fixed-price dinner slots available.

Crafts and Conversation Returns - Join us *tonight* Sun. Feb. 23rd at 7 p.m. in Rice House! Crafters have included quilters, weavers, knitters, menders, and those with mandala coloring books — but no one needs a craft or project here. Just come to enjoy the company of others.

Our Family Ministries

Have you heard about our Faith Keepers program for children? Ask Acting Director of Educational and Family Ministries Michael Packard how to get involved. Michael can also be found in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Welcome To Our New Members!

Last Sunday, John and Lynn Foreman signed our UUSWH Membership Book during Fellowship Hour and became the two newest members of UU Wellesley Hills. We are incredibly excited to have them officially become part of this community!

Upcoming Events & Activities

Table Time with Our Ministers - Rev. Kelly will hold her next Community Chat at Quebrada Baking Co. from 2:00-4:00 p.m. on Mon. Feb. 24th. Stop by then for tasty treats and casual conversation. Rev. Kelly is also available for private appointments Sunday through Wednesday; email her to arrange a time.

Soup with Friends Returns Mon. Mar. 2nd - Our next Soup with Friends program will start with a 12:00 p.m. reflection in the Chapel and then moves Parish Hall, where a delicious community meal will be served by members of the Caring Community starting at 12:30 p.m.

Don't Miss Fostering Faithful Practices Wed. Mar. 4th - Our Spring 2020 adult religious education series helps people to find and foster those spiritual practices that support their spiritual flourishing. On Wed. Mar. 4th (and again on Apr. 1st), Rev. Kelly and Joan will continue this 3-part discussion at 5:30 p.m. in Rice House, using the compendium Faithful Practices: Everyday Ways to Feed Your Spirit, available from the UUA InSpirit bookstore. The reading is recommended, not required! Please come to any or all of these sessions of "Fostering Faithful Practices" as we help one another to practice, practice, practice our faith in our daily lives.

Sign Up Today for a Circle Supper on Sat. Mar. 7th - Circle Suppers are back for round two on Sat. Mar. 7th at 6:30 p.m! As usual, we are looking for both hosts and guests. Hosts are responsible for the main course, and guests are asked to bring a potluck dish. People will be assigned to their particular hosts in the week prior to the dinners. If you can join, please email Vic Polk for more information.

Mark Your Calendars

Sorting Sunday for Rummage - Sun. Mar. 22nd in Parish Hall All hands on deck! Please contact the Rummage Committee to get involved in the preparation for our annual Rummage Sale!

Annual Rummage Sale - Sat. Mar. 28th Invite your friends and family to donate to the sale, too! Rummage doesn't just raise church funds — it's also an environmentally-friendly event that benefits the whole community.

Our Social Action Plate Collection Total for January 2020

Last month, our Social Action Council arranged plate collections that raised a total of \$1,766 for such racial justice initiatives as World of Wellesley, A Better Chance, Partakers, and the Equal Justice Initiative headed by attorney Bryan Stevenson. Thank you for giving very generously to these causes we all care about very much.

Stewardship Drive: Growing the Good in 2020

Our Stewardship Drive is making progress. We have now raised \$178,000, which is 52% of our goal. Many thanks to all who have already submitted their pledges! We are currently running roughly in line with last year's very successful campaign, and we look forward to hearing from everyone else. We're encouraging all members to practice "aggressive generosity" by increasing their pledges from last year so that we can meet the needs of our staff and our church. Last Sunday, we heard Sally Watts' Membership Moment and Peter Stoner's Stewardship Update; you can read those in our weekly newsletter if you missed them.



UU Wellesley Hills

Whatever path has brought you here,
UU Wellesley Hills welcomes you

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