

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

**INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT WREATH-MAKING**

**Today and Next Sunday, December 8th,
following worship on the Stage**

Bring the light of peace, love, hope and joy into your home during this Advent season! We'll have all the supplies you need to create an Advent wreath for your home -- just bring your creativity and a desire to create sacred space in the busyness of the season. If you have a wire frame from years past, please feel free to bring it to add new greens and candles. Donations towards materials are welcome.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – KIDS LEAD US IN ADVENT WORSHIP

Sunday, December 15th (with rehearsal on Dec. 14th)

Calling all UCW Young Musicians!

We're excited to begin thinking about our child-and-youth-led Advent worship service. If you or your kids would like to share music for this special service, lead our storytelling or liturgy, or help behind the scenes, greeting, or in any other way, please let Amy (amy@ucw.org) know, or add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Reception Room. There are ways for everyone to participate! We'll begin rehearsing next week, December 8th, during Sunday School.

CAROLING AT NORWOOD HEALTH – Sunday, December 15th at 1:30 p.m.

All ages are invited to join this joyous tradition, as we bring holiday cheer to our friends at the Norwood Health Center. Please plan to gather at the church at 12:45 p.m. We'll go over a few songs, and then carpool together.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY! Friday, December 13th, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Middle School Youth and members of the Youth Ministry Team are invited to gather at the Hunt-Stevens home with friends for food, Christmas-themed games, and a white-elephant gift exchange (bring something wacky, weird or wonderful under \$10). We'll have a jolly good time! Please RSVP on WeSpire, or contact Amy (amy@ucw.org) or Susan (susan@huntstevens.com).

SAVE THE DATE: CITYREACH Friday-Saturday, January 10th to 11th

High-Schoolers and adults are invited to join this powerful overnight service trip with our partner, Ecclesia Ministries in downtown Boston. We'll learn from and serve with Ecclesia members who currently experiencing homelessness. Please let Pastor Amy know this week if you can join us.

ADULT EDUCATION, SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP



NEW DAY – THURSDAY MORNINGS

PRAYER GROUP: 7:30 – 8:15 a.m.

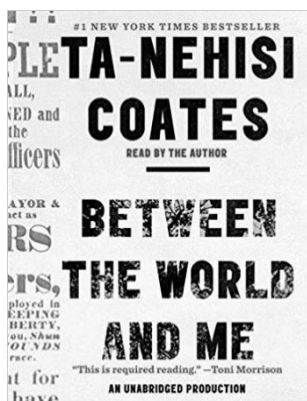
We live in a noisy world. There is much that clamors for our attention. Even when we shut our eyes at night it may take a while for the din to die down enough for us to sleep. You are invited into a practice of cultivating spaciousness and silence. You are invited into the beauty of the morning light streaming in through the windows of Memorial Chapel. You are invited to rest a while in the peace of stillness. If you have questions, please be in touch with Sandra DaDalt or Pastor Stacy.



YOGA WITH ANDREW CONTINUES THROUGH DECEMBER

THURSDAYS, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Join body and spirit in an accessible yoga class. In this hour-long class, we will join breath and body both in energetic flow and restorative stretching. No matter where you are on your yoga journey, you will build strength and find a quiet restful center. This class is accessible to all body types and abilities. Please bring a yoga mat and any favorite props. Andrew has some props and mats available to borrow.



BOOK GROUP

DECEMBER 10TH, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Our next book is "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

"In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation's history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of "race," a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?"

(Amazon review)

MISSION OUTREACH

Reflecting on Mission/Outreach Experiences TODAY at 11:30 a.m.

Mission Outreach Leadership is offering a time to reflect on the experience of being of service today at 11:30 p.m. Whether you participated in the Thanksgiving Community Dinner, the raking and yard clean up activity on the 17th, attended one of the reflection sessions offered by the Montgomery Travelers, or had another opportunity to serve and learn, you are invited to this time of reflection as we think about the role of service in the life of faith. Also, in light of our Hanging of the Greens service where we prepare our church home for the Advent season, we will reflect on our winter mission outreach theme of homelessness and housing and how we may be called into deeper service with those who are experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity.

Homelessness and Housing

This year your Mission Outreach Leadership Team is organizing its work (and coordinating with the other areas of UCW life) around seasonal themes. These will provide an organizing context for the many mission activities and we will coordinate educational opportunities, worship, and children's education around these themes when possible. We also hope to coordinate our seasonal offerings around these themes.

Themes are as follows:

Winter – Homelessness and Housing

Spring – Climate Change (and disaster relief)

For more information about these offerings, please see the Friday e-blast. Or please feel free to reach out to Carol Bascom-Slack, Jaap van Reijendam or Julie Heffernan.

TODAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR- ALL ARE WELCOME!

Thank you to the Molly Owen-Kiritsy for laying our table and hosting our fellowship time this morning. If you would like to host a future, after-church Fellowship Hour, please sign up through the Sign-Up Genius webpage. The link can be found on the UCW website at ucw.org and in the Friday e-blast.

NEWCOMERS – WE WELCOME YOU!

Nametags – Knowing each other by name is important to us. It is a way to say to each other that you and I matter and it is an invitation into friendship and community. If you are new to us and do not yet have a name tag, please use the welcome card in the pew pocket to let us know that you would like one to be waiting for you the next time you come into this place.

Friday e-blast – Every Friday an electronic newsletter/update is sent to the community. It features much information about upcoming events as well as reflections on what has been. If you would like to subscribe to this vital information channel within the church, again please fill out the welcome card and indicate such.

Membership – Could the Union Church be a spiritual home for you and your family? Would you like to learn more about the Union Church in Waban, its history, its present-day programs and offerings, and its vision for the future? If so, please reach out to Pastor Stacy (stacy@ucw.org or 617-759-9016).

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun., Dec. 1	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal	The Union Church in Waban: 14 Collins Road, Waban, MA 02468
	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Hanging of the Greens)	
	11:30 a.m.	Reflections on Service	
	5:00 p.m.	Exploring Our Faith (Monthly Meeting)	
	6:30 p.m.	High School Youth Group	
Mon., Dec. 2	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	
Tue. Dec. 3	6:00 p.m.	Deacons	
Wed. Dec. 4	6:30 p.m.	Council	
Thur., Dec. 5	7:30 a.m.	Prayer Group (Memorial Chapel)	
Sat. Dec. 7	9:00 a.m.	Advent Women’s Retreat	
Sun., Dec. 8	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal	
	10:00 a.m.	Worship	
	11:30 a.m.	Montgomery Traveler’s Meeting	

For a complete listing, and details of upcoming events, please visit our website, www.ucw.org

COPY DEADLINE: Material for inclusion in the Friday e-blast newsletter or our Sunday Announcements insert should be e-mailed to the office at ucw@ucw.org, by **9:00 a.m. on the previous Wednesday morning**. Please specify whether for e-Blast, Sunday Announcements, or both. Thank you!