



# The Unitarian Church in Westport Soundings

10 Lyons Plains Road Westport, CT 06880  
Phone: 203-227-7205

website:  
[uuwestport.org](http://uuwestport.org)

## Holiday Boutique

This Sunday and December 9th after each service



What's your style?  
*Elegant or Eclectic?*  
*Fun or Funky?*  
*Tailored or Trendy?*  
*Do you love Glitz and Glam?*



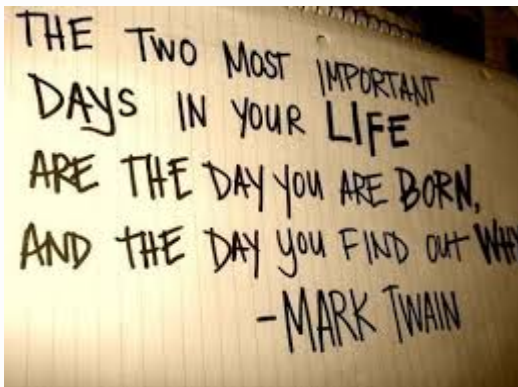
We have it all. Fabulous Jewelry and Scarves  
Find the perfect gift and a few treasures for yourself!  
You won't want to miss this fun event.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Child care is provided for Sunday Services & on an as needed basis for other events. Organizers of events should contact [Saundra Clements](#) to arrange child care.



## SUNDAY SERVICE - December 2, 2018 - 9:00 & 11:00 AM



**Music:** Chamber Choir

### *"Open to the Mystery"*

- Rev. John Morehouse

Rev. John explores the power of mystery in our discerning of the meaning of life and the universe.

**Worship Associate:** Shanonda Nelson

**Pastoral Care Chaplain:**

9:00 Ravi Sankar - 11:00 Jason Black

### Fri Nov 30

Shawl Ministry - MH - 12:30

UU Movie Discussion - MH - 7:30

### Sat Dec 1

ARM Meeting - Chapel - 10:00

### Sun Dec 2

Jewelry Sale after each service - EW

Wreath Sales after both

Sunday, November 4, 2018



### "The Moral Power of Memory"

#### **Voices Café, Saturday, December 8 at 8:00 pm** **Rupert Wates ~ Haunting Songs That Ring True**

His music is an eclectic mix of acoustic, melodic art/folk, with flavors of jazz, vaudeville and cabaret. Since coming to the US in 2006 he has won more than 40 songwriting and performing awards.

Folk And Acoustic Music Exchange has called him "a prime figure in American music" and goes on: "This is one gifted musician... If you're not hip to this guy yet you're missing out."

Audiences everywhere respond to Wates' brand of melodic art/folk-haunting songs that ring true. Rupert Wates has released eight full-length CDs. Each has received outstandingly good reviews, and has been played regularly by radio stations in the USA, Canada, France, The Netherlands, Germany, Israel and Australia. In 2015-2016 alone, over twenty of his songs were recorded by other performers, and 2 tribute albums to his material have been recorded by independent artists in Nashville and Los Angeles.



Listen to Rupert here

Purchase tickets here: <https://voicescafe.org/show/rupert-wates/>

services - Courtyard

Self-Care Support Group  
- Rev. John's office -  
10:15

OWL - OWL Room -  
10:00

OWL Parents - YR -  
10:00

Meditation - Elm Room -  
10:15

6th-7th Grade "Learn" -  
MH - 11:00

Youth Group (9th-12th) -  
YR - 11:00

Building Your Own  
Theology - Rev. John's  
office - 12:30

Immigration Social Action  
- Sanctuary - 12:30

**Mon Dec 3**  
Buddhist Practice Group -  
MH - 6:30

Bell Choir - 6:45

Grief Support Group -  
Rev. John's office - 7:00

O&A - 7:45

**Wed Dec 5**  
Stewardship Committee-  
FR - 7:00

Eliminating Racism - EW  
- 7:30

Chamber Choir - 7:45

**Thurs Dec 6**  
Children's Choir - 5:00

Teen Choir - 6:00

Special Projects Choir -  
7:45

**Sat Dec 8**  
Pastoral Care Associates  
- MH - 1:00



**Rev. Shelly Thompson joins us on December 9.**

Please stay after the 11:00 service to welcome her with soup, bagels and a cake!

(Please contact Cathy McElroy [mcelroy.cathy@gmail.com](mailto:mcelroy.cathy@gmail.com) if you can contribute bagels, fruit, or a soup.)

Youth Group Midnight Run - MH - 6:00

Voices Cafe - Sanctuary - 8:00

**Sun Dec 9**  
Jewelry Sale after each service - EW

Wreath Sales after both services - Courtyard

OWL - OWL Room - 10:00

OWL Parents - YR - 10:00

Meditation - Elm Room - 10:15

Youth Group (9th-12th) - YR - 11:00

Reception for Assistant Minister - Foyer - 12:30

Building Your Own Theology - Rev. John's office - 12:30

**Mon Dec 10**  
Buddhist Practice Group - MH - 6:30

NVC Practice Group - FR - 6:30 pm

Bell Choir - 6:45

**Wed Dec 12**  
Domestic Violence Task Force - EW - 12:30

COM - Rev. John's office - 7:30

**Thurs Dec 13**  
Pageant rehearsal - 5:00

Teen Choir - 6:00

Special Projects Choir - 7:45

**Fri Dec 14**  
Shawl Ministry - MH - 12:30



**Wreath Sales after both services in the Courtyard Sunday, December 2nd and 9th.**



**SATURDAY EVENING DECEMBER 15, 2018 - 6:00-8:00 pm**  
**Its that time again for our HOLIDAY PARTY!**

**6:00 pm POTLUCK**

Potluck sign-up sheets are on front tables



**6:30-7:00 pm Guess "WHO'S THAT DIVINE BABY?" Game.**

EVERYONE PLEASE BRING A BABY PICTURE (with your name on the back) we will be using your pictures to decorate the tree! PLEASE LEAVE YOUR PICTURE IN SAUNDRA'S OFFICE (PICTURE BASKET). PUT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK AND IT WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU SAME NIGHT!

**7:00 - 8:00 pm Caroling sing-along with Ed Thompson**

Don't miss the fun of the Annual Christmas/Holiday potluck and sing-along, Saturday, December 15, at 6:00.

If you are not able to make the pot-lick, come to sing. (The caroling begins at 7:00.)



[CLICK HERE](#) for details and RSVP or if you prefer: RSVP on the clipboard in the foyer on Sunday.

**Come join us for a hike in the woods!**



**Trail change for our hike on Saturday, Dec 1!**

We will meet at 10am at the beginning of the Falls Trail in Redding. Park at the John Read Middle School (486 Redding Rd, Redding) on the right side of Rte. 53. The trail entrance is across Rte. 53 from the school.

Check our website (<https://groups.io/g/TUCW-hiking>) for cancelation due to heavy rain.

## UCW's Hiking Group Calendar

Saturday, Dec.15: Bennett's Pond State Park, Ridgefield

Any questions contact Gian Morresi ([gmorresi@gmail.com](mailto:gmorresi@gmail.com)) or Jamie Forbes ([jforbes1@gmail.com](mailto:jforbes1@gmail.com))

### First Midnight Run on December 8.

We are going to be collecting clothing donations starting this Sunday, November 11. There are three bins in the foyer for clothing - shirts/sweaters, coats, and pants. But everything is welcome. We need lots of adult volunteers to help sort clothes on the 8th. We will start sorting around 4/5 o'clock.

#### **Volunteers still needed!**

For more information, contact Zulaikha Hasan, Acting Youth Programming Coordinator - [zhasan@uwestport.org](mailto:zhasan@uwestport.org).



#### **Volunteers needed for Youth Group**

If interested, contact Zulaikha Hasan, Youth Program Coordinator - [zhasan@uwestport.org](mailto:zhasan@uwestport.org).

### Sat Dec 15

A Better Man - MH - 8:00

Special Projects rehearsal - 9:00

Small Group Facilitators - MH - 10:00

Congregational Holiday Party/Potluck - Sanctuary - 6:00

### Sun Dec 16

Amnesty International: Letter Writing Event - EW - 9:30-1:00

6th-7th Grade "Reflect" - MH - 11:00

OWL - OWL Room - 10:00

OWL Parents - YR - 10:00

Meditation - Elm Room - 10:15

Youth Group (9th-12th) - YR - 11:00

Building Your Own Theology - Rev. John's office - 12:30

TUCWomen's Brown Bag Lunch - MH - 12:30

**[SEE TUCW'S CALENDAR FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)**



### TUCWomen

Come to our **Holiday Potluck** at the home of Chris Place in New Canaan. Friday, December 7th, 6:30 PM. Bring something to share or just come. There is always plenty. RSVP - [sharon@slpoole.com](mailto:sharon@slpoole.com)

#### **Our next Quota**

#### **ble Women Brown Bag Lunch**

is on December 16th after the 11:00 AM service. Our Guide will be Shanonda Nelson who will use poetry to lead a conversation about resilience and adaptability. Plan to come and enjoy the wisdom and compassion of the women of our Church Community



Are you receiving TUCWomen email notices? If not or if you are not sure sign up here --> [Add me to the list!](#)

Questions about TUCWomen? Send them to [tucwomen@uwestport.org](mailto:tucwomen@uwestport.org)

**Orientation - Saturday, December 8 from 9:00-12:00**





On Saturday, December 8 from 9:00-12:00 we're having an orientation for folks new to Unitarian Universalism. It's a great way to get to know some more people both new to this congregation and some of us who have been around awhile. I always enjoy seeing people who have attended the orientation chatting over coffee the next Sunday! The day consists of sharing our "journey" stories-how we came to be where we are in our life, Rev. John talks about our Unitarian and Universalist history and our Seven Principles, and there's plenty of time for questions and discussion.

New to this community? It would be great if you can join us at the Orientation. Please let me know so that we can plan accordingly.

[David Vita, Director of Social Justice and Membership - david@uuwestport.org.](mailto:david@uuwestport.org)

Thank you.

## Have you seen the Strategic Plan?

You can view the draft strategic plan on our website. Preparing a new strategic plan has been the first step in a series of events leading up to the prospective launch of a Capital Campaign that will enable TUCW to address deferred repairs, replacements and upgrades to our facilities - all with an eye to realizing our mission, vision and strategies.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the draft strategic plan.



## Changing a life, changing a family, one loan at a time!



Holiday KIVA card sales are here! Sundays December 2 & 9 after Sunday service.

The Unitarian Church KIVA committee has made 3610 loans totally more than \$100,000 to people starting their own businesses in 76 countries around the world- 98.92% of them women small business owners.

Buy a KIVA holiday card for someone you love and support yet another budding entrepreneur.

### Adzo Mawuli's story

Adzo is a 35 years old married woman who lives in Adidogome, Togo (West Africa). She does not have any dependent children.

We have just provided her with a loan to buy bags of sugar, bags of wheat flour, and cans of oil. She makes and sells wheat flour patties (pancakes, flat cakes) at the local marketplace.

**The Small Group Ministry** has 104 members in 9 groups that meet once a month to discuss a topic. The topic for December is "**Mystery:**"

*"The opposite of knowledge isn't always ignorance. It can be wonder. Or mystery. Possibility."*

Groups meet on different days and at different locations.  
Join a group near you!

For information, talk to a representative in the foyer after the service or contact Steven Rosenberg - [Rosen323@aol.com](mailto:Rosen323@aol.com).



**Meditation is led by Janet Luongo and others from 10:15 to 10:45 every Sunday in the Children's Chapel/Maple Room) by the downstairs entrance.** We center on our inner light and sense our inter-connectedness with all, using a variety of traditions from mindfulness and music to yoga and Zen.

For more information, contact Janet Luongo - [jlungo3@optonline.net](mailto:jlungo3@optonline.net)

## ANNUAL PAGEANT

For several decades we have been producing a Pageant, complete with costumes and carols. It has become a well-loved and magical event for several reasons, but mostly because of the joy which the children bring to us. This event is not just for choir members but for any child (ages 6 to 13 or so). There is room for everyone in the Pageant!!!

Here are a few things to remember:

\* **It would be very helpful if you could [please sign up on line HERE](#).**

I will then have a way to be in touch with you and send details.

\* ***There will be three rehearsals:***

- 1) December 13, Thursday at 5:00 pm
- 2) December 20, Thursday at 5:00 pm
- 3) December 22, Saturday at 12:00 pm

On Christmas eve, December 24th (Monday) the dress rehearsal is at 2:00 pm; the Pageant at 4:00 pm.

For questions/concerns, please be in touch with Ed Thompson 203-227-72-5 ext.18 or [Ed@uuwestport.org](mailto:Ed@uuwestport.org)



***And don't forget these upcoming events:***

**December 15, Saturday, annual pot-luck and carol sing.**  
**December 16, Sunday, annual holiday concert at 11:00 am**  
**February 23, Saturday, Choral Chameleon concert at 8:00 pm**

**Pastoral Care** - If you are going through a challenging time or know somebody in the congregation who needs support from our Pastoral Care Chaplains, call to leave a confidential message in the PCA voice mailbox - (203-227-7205 ext. 19) or email - [pca@uwestport.org](mailto:pca@uwestport.org).



[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about our Pastoral Care Associates.

*you are not alone!*

**For individuals or families of our congregation seeking confidential support or information about addiction issues...** please contact our Addiction Recovery Ministry by calling 203-227-7205 ext. 19 or emailing [pca@uwestport.org](mailto:pca@uwestport.org).

### **UPCOMING SERVICES**



**December 9, 2018 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM**  
**"Letting the Mystery Heal Us" - Rev. John Morehouse**

**December 16, 2018 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM**  
**"Holy Days, Holy Nights"**  
**Annual Holiday service/concert, Special Projects Choir**

**December 23, 2018 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM**  
**Rev. Shelly Thompson will preach.**

**December 24, 2018**  
**Our traditional pageant at 4:00 pm**  
**and our Candlelight Service at 9:00 pm**

**December 30, 2018 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM**  
**"It's That Time of Year Again"**  
**- Intern Minister Margalie Belizaire**

### **LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018

THIS WEEK INFORMATION for (Pre-K to 5)

Theme: LET THE MYSTERY BE

Topic: Mystery

UU Source #1: A sense of wonder in all that we do

**Pre-K- 1st grade**

\* 9:00 am and 11:00 am service

\* LOWER LEVEL - Pine Room

**2nd-3rd grade**

\* 11:00 am service: start upstairs for story/Oak Room

**4th-5th grade**

\* 1100 am service: start upstairs for story/Birch Room

**[CLICK HERE](#) for PreK-5 FAMILY "take-home" for SUNDAY, December 2, 2018**



**Families please pick up your children after the service ends 😊 Together, get that snack, juice & cup of coffee.**



**We are still in need of volunteers to teach LFD for 4th and 5th graders at 11:00 am for some Sundays.**



**We still need:**

- \* 2/3 need one (1) volunteer
- \* 3/3 need one (1) volunteer
- \* 3/24 need two (2) volunteers
- \* 4/21 need two (2) volunteers

Please sign up here at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054ea8a923a02-45th2> or call [Saundra Clements](#) 203-216-7708 cell/text

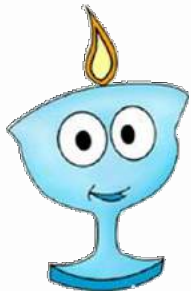


### **ATTENTION 4th-5th grade PARENTS**

Our 4th/5th grade OWL (Our Whole Lives) program is starting to take shape!  
January 2019 through April 2019



- \* **Tuesday January 22nd - 7:00 pm Parent Info Session**
- \* **Sunday January 27th - 9:00 am - 11:30 am Mandatory Parent/Child Orientation**
- \* **Sessions 1-10 occur weekly on Sundays at 9:00 am from February 3rd through April 7th**



Sign-up sheet will be available in Sandra's office or [HERE](#).  
Please feel free to come in and sign up even if she is not there.

Or contact Sandra Clements to sign up via:  
203-227-7205 x 15 wk  
203-216-7708 text/cell  
email Sandra Clements - [sandra@uwestport.org](mailto:sandra@uwestport.org)

## **YOUTH GROUP**

**Volunteers needed for Youth Group.** Also - volunteers for December 8 Midnight Run needed. If interested, contact Zulaikha Hasan, Youth Program Coordinator - [zhasan@uwestport.org](mailto:zhasan@uwestport.org).



**Mark your calendars! We are having our first midnight run on December 8.**

If you'd like to get more involved, let Zulaikha Hasan know at [zhasan@uwestport.org](mailto:zhasan@uwestport.org). Acting Youth Programming Coordinator, know. We are going to be collecting clothing donations starting Sunday, November 11. There are three bins in the foyer for clothing - shirts/sweaters, coats, and pants. But everything is welcome. We need lots of adult volunteers to help sort clothes on the 8th. We will start sorting around 4/5 o'clock.

**Mark Your calendars!:** the trip for the Crossing Faiths kids 6/7th is going to be December 9.



**Wreath Sales are December 2 and 9th.** We need volunteers to run the booths after both services. Email Zulaikha Hasan, Acting Youth Programming Coordinator - [zhasan@uwestport.org](mailto:zhasan@uwestport.org).



### **SOME DATES:**

- \* **November 25 (Sun):** Wreath Sales 10:00 am-12:45 pm
- \* **December 2 (Sun):** Wreath Sales 10:00 am-12:45 pm
- \* **December 23 (Sun):** YG Holiday Party w/alums 11:00 am-12:30 pm
- \* **March 15 (Fri) - 17 (Sun):** CON at TUCW
- \* **March 17 (Sun):** Youth Services (both)
- \* **April 26 (Fri)- 28(Sun):** Youth (8th Gr) BOSTON Trip
- \* **May 5 (Sun):** Youth (8th Gr) Coming of Age Ceremony
- \* **May 19 (Sun):** Youth (8th Gr) comes to Youth Group
- \* **June 2 (Sun):** Bridging Ceremony (Seniors)

The Unitarian Church in Westport is a diverse and welcoming religious community, free of creed and dogma, and open to people of all backgrounds and beliefs.

**WE INSPIRE** and support individual spiritual growth.

**WE CONNECT** through worship, music, learning, and caring ministries.

**WE ACT** in the service of peace and justice.