



The Unitarian Church in Westport Soundings

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

website:
uuwestport.org



Christmas Service Schedule

Sunday, December 23rd services are 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM
Monday, December 24th the Pageant Service is at 4:00 PM
Monday, December 24th Candlelight Service is at 9:00 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

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



SUNDAY SERVICE - December 23, 2018 - 9:00 & 11:00 AM



"O Come All Ye Faithful"

- Rev. Shelly Thompson,
Assistant Minister for Faith Formation

Have you ever been guided by an inexplicable sign, message, or dream? In the Christmas story, angels beckoned shepherds to visit the baby Jesus and a bright star appeared to guide the wise men to the scene. The men didn't ask questions about these mysterious invitations, they just said yes and showed up when and where they were told to go. Rev. Shelly will explore what it means to be a people of faith who answer yes when Mystery calls.

Worship Associate: Cheryl Dixon Paul

Pastoral Care Chaplain: 9:00 Stapley Emberling - 11:00 Ann Taylor

Music: 9:00 Soloist - 11:00 Bell Choir

Fri Dec 21

Blue Christmas Service
- Sanctuary - 7:00

Sat Dec 22

Christmas Eve Choir -
10:00

Pageant rehearsal -
12:00

Sun Dec 23

Meditation - Elm Room
- 10:15

6th-7th Grade "Learn" -
MH - 10:00



"Open to the Mystery" - Rev. John Morehouse

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

Christmas Eve Choir - 5:00

Mon Dec 24

Pageant Rehearsal - Sanctuary - 2:00

Pageant Service - - Sanctuary - 4:00

Christmas Eve Service - Sanctuary - 9:00

Fri Dec 28

Shawl Ministry - MH - 12:30

UU Movie Discussion - MH - 7:30

Sun Dec 30

8th Grade OWL - OWL Room - 10:30

8th Grade OWL Parents - YR - 10:15

Meditation - Elm Room - 10:15

Wed Jan 2

Buddhist Practice Group - MH - 6:30

Stewardship Committee - FR - 7:00

Eliminating Racism - EW - 7:30

Chamber Choir - 7:45

Thurs Jan 3

Children's Choir - 5:00

Teen Choir - 6:00

Men's/Women's Choirs - 7:45

Sat Jan 5

Sight Singing - Sanctuary - 9:30



The church business office will be closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (December 24-26) in observance of the Christmas holiday. Happy Holidays to all!



Blue Christmas Worship Service
December 21, 2018, 7:00pm-8:00 PM
Lead by Margalie Belizaire, Intern Minister

We recognize that the holiday season can be a sad and difficult time for some. We want to acknowledge this and make room for it; for you, if this is your story. So, I invite you to come and be in a reflective space for the holding of your spirit without the trappings of commercialism.

Welcoming Visitors - Greeters Needed

Good morning! Welcome! Don't those words make you smile on a Sunday Morning when someone opens the door and invites you in. Would you be willing to be the person at the door wishing visitors and friends welcome?



The Membership Committee is seeking church members to act as Greeters at the Welcome Table at the front door of the church on Sunday mornings. Greeters provide information about our church, our programs, Unitarian Universalism and, above all, make visitors feel welcome. If you are interested in becoming a Greeter and/or want more information, please contact Stephen Polmar - stephen.polmar@gmail.com.

Voice Classes -
Sanctuary - 11:15

ARM - EW - 12:00

Sun Jan 6

6th-7th Grade "Reflect"
- MH - 10:00

8th Grade OWL - OWL
Room - 10:00

8th Grade OWL Parents
- YR - 10:00

Meditation - Chapel -
10:15

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

Harvest the Power -
Sanctuary - 12:30

Immigration Social
Action - Sanctuary -
12:00

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



SIGHT-SINGING classes are scheduled as follows:

JANUARY 5, 12, 19, 26, FEBRUARY 2, 9. These are Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00.

These sight-singing classes are free. It is necessary to sign up by sending an email to Ed Thompson - Ed@uwestport.org.

Also, there will be

VOICE CLASSES with Marcella Calabi.

The schedule is:

JANUARY 5, 12, 19, 26, FEBRUARY 2, 9.

These are Saturday mornings from 11:15 to 1:00.

The cost per class is \$25 (auditors \$15). To sign up, please send an email to Ed Thompson - Ed@uwestport.org or send an email to Marcella Calabi - mc@clarityworks.net

I ♥
Singing

Please contact [Ed Thompson](mailto:Ed@uwestport.org) or [Marcella Calabi](mailto:mc@clarityworks.net) for questions.concerns.



In his famous 1897 editorial response to a child's inquiry, New York Sun editor, Francis Church, wrote, "Yes, Virginia there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist"

In that same spirit, and spearheaded by our own Santa, Felicity Medinger, 45 UU Elves provided Christmas for nine Beardsley school families this year. Our elves purchased and

wrapped multiple gifts for 23 children, 16 adults and 6 cats, dogs, turtles and ferrets. Those families will experience the magic of Christmas morning thanks to the love, generosity, and devotion of our our UU members. Francis Church would be pleased.

If you would like to be on the elf list next year, please contact Felicity at felicitymedinger@yahoo.com.

Holiday Boutique -- A 50-Year Legacy Continues

It was about 50 years ago and it began as the Children's Market, or C-Mart. Barbara Thormahlen wanted to provide a way for young children to buy gifts for their family members. The kids arrived with their gift lists and dollar bills and volunteers helped them with their choices, but parents were not allowed. For many years Barbara's C-Mart was such a success, and so many lovely gifts were donated, that Barbara eventually gave in to the adults and let them come and 'shop' too. The Holiday Gift Boutique, later the Jewelry Boutique, expanded under Barbara's leadership with the ongoing help of dear friends who are no longer with us like Midge Lanouette and Jean Northup, and became one of the most anticipated events of our Church year. Because of this continuous contribution to our Church, among others, Barbara and Hal Thormahlen were recognized with the Very Fine Award several years ago. It was only a few years ago that Barbara turned over the leadership of the Boutique.



The legacy continued this year and together we raised over \$7000 for the Church. It was as much fun as ever with many treasures available. Thanks go to all who made this event such a success - all who donated lovely jewelry and scarves, everyone who worked to prepare the items for sale, the many who helped with set-up, assistance during the two-Sunday sale and packing up afterwards. And, most importantly, thank you to everyone who came and shopped!

We will keep the legacy going. Your donations of jewelry and scarves are welcome all year!



Four Assumptions About Addiction:

We all have addictive tendencies. Human beings are addictive by nature. When issues or problems surface we seek resolution, relief or escape. Personal traumas can be the occasion for setting destructive patterns of response for a lifetime. Whether starting with our personal ways of thinking and behaving or attached to a substance, person or behavior... we can get trapped. The pursuit of **MORE** in the face of negative physical, emotional, spiritual, financial or legal consequences surely confirms we have landed in the swirling pool of addiction. The pursuit of "MORE" often creates a flood of adrenaline that we become seriously attached to. [READ MORE...](#)



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

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Happy Holidays from the Committee on Ministries!

Since the beginning of this church-year, we have heard from so many of you about what you love most here at TUCW, as well as your wishes for our congregation. We have enjoyed listening to your stories, talking with you, and sharing in your passion for this special community. Your voice matters! Now, your COM wishes you the brightest of holidays with friends and family near and far, and we look forward to a new year filled with *Inspiration, Connection, and Action.*

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.

[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.

UPCOMING SERVICES



December 21, 2018 - 7:00-8:00 PM
Blue Christmas Worship Service
- Intern Minister Margalie Belizaire

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



THIS WEEK INFORMATION for (Pre-K to 5)

Topic: The Mystery of giving

Theme: Mystery

UU Principal Source #2: All people should be treated fairly and kindly

Pre-K- 1st grade

* 9:00 am and 11:00 am service

* LOWER LEVEL - Pine Room

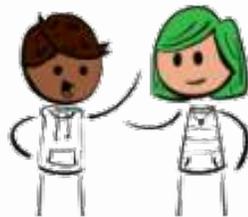
2nd-5th grade

* 1:00 am-12:00 pm - Chapel



[CLICK HERE](#) for PreK-5 FAMILY "take-home" for SUNDAY, December 23, 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:

- * 1/13 need (1) volunteer
 - * 2/10 need (1) volunteer
 - * 3/24 need two (2) volunteers
 - * 4/21 need two (2) Easter Sunday volunteers from 11:30-12:00
- Please sign up here at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054ea8a923a02-45th2>
or call [Saundra Clements](mailto:Saundra.Clements@uu.org) 203-216-7708 cell/text

STILL TIME TO SIGN UP!

4th/5th grade OWL - January-April 2019

Please contact Jen Boland: jenboland24@gmail.com

or Jason Sandler: sandman933@gmail.com

* Tuesday January 22nd - 7:00 pm Parent Info Session

* Sunday January 27th - 9:00 am - 1130 am

Mandatory Parent/Child Orientation

* Sessions 1-10 occur weekly on Sundays at 9:00 am from February 3rd through April 7th



YOUTH GROUP



Volunteers needed for Youth Group. If interested, contact Zulaikha Hasan, Youth Program Coordinator - zhasan@uwestport.org.

No OWL Sunday, December 23 or December 30.



Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS



SOME DATES:

- * **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.