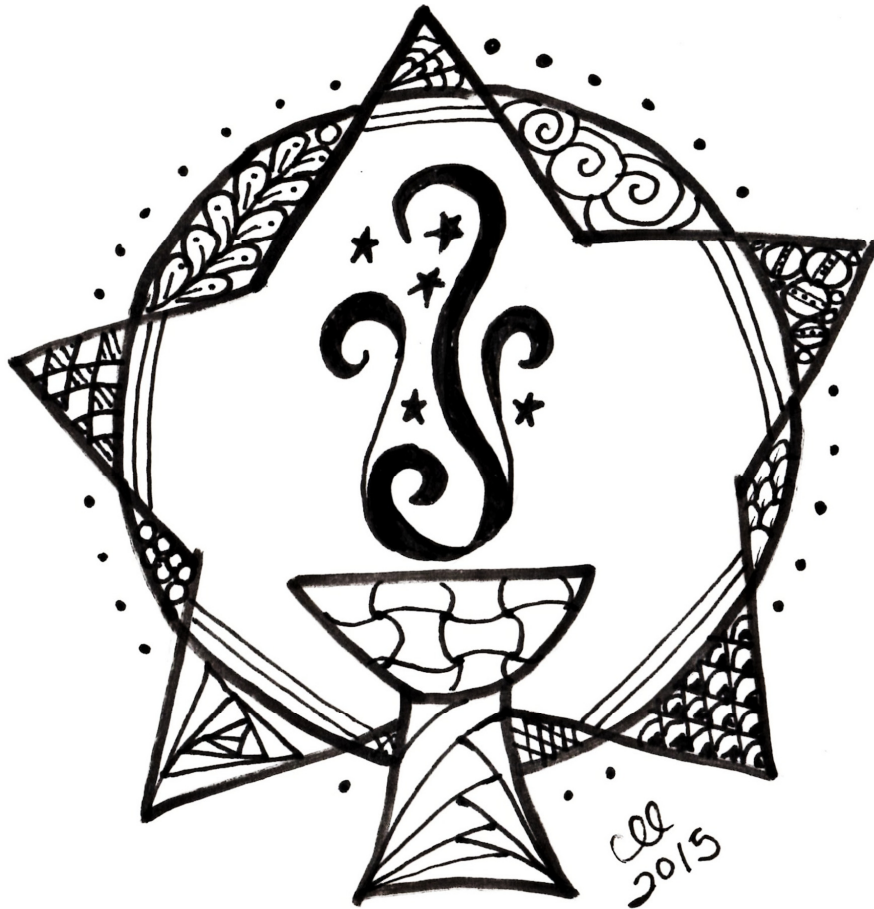


# The Great Star



**BuxMont  
Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship**

***December 18, 2016***

“Looking at these stars suddenly dwarfed my own troubles  
and all the gravities of terrestrial life. I thought of their  
unfathomable distance, and the slow inevitable drift of their  
movements out of the unknown past into the unknown future.”

~ H. G. Wells, from *The Time Machine*

## **BuxMont Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

### **ORDER OF SERVICE: December 18, 2016**

#### **\* Greetings and Announcements**

Dena Condron,  
Worship Associate

#### **Centering gong**

#### **\* Prelude**

#### **\* Words of Welcome**

#### **Invocation**

Reverend Dr. Susan Veronica Rak

#### **Kindling the Chalice Flame**

#### **\* Opening Hymn #1063**

*Winter Solstice Chant*

#### **Sharing of Sorrows and Joys**

#### **Prayer for the Community**

#### **Story Part I: *Great Star Tiamat***

Dawn Star Sarahs-Borchelt,  
Rev. Susan V. Rak

#### **Responsive Reading**

Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.

*Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.*

Carbon, oxygen, copper, nitrogen,

*silver, sodium, iron and trace elements.*

Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.

*Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.*

#### **Anthem**

*Out of the Stars*

(words by Robert T. Weston, music by Betsy Jo Angebrannndt)  
sung by the Adult Choir (9:15) and the Family Choir (11:15)

\* indicates times when latecomers may be seated

### Responsive Reading

Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.

*Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.*

Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars,

*Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.*

Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.

*Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.*

### Song

### *The Family of the Sun*

(words by Melvin Zisfein and Robert W. Wolfe;  
source: Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum)  
sung to the tune of: *Farmer in the Dell*

Refrain: **The Family of the Sun.  
Its planets number eight,  
Plus other rocky, icy worlds  
That we appreciate.**

Mercury is hot.  
and Mercury is small.  
Mercury has no atmosphere;  
It's just a rocky ball.

(Repeat refrain...  
The Family of the Sun.)

Venus has thick clouds  
That hide what is below.  
The air is foul, the ground is hot.  
It rotates very "slow."

(Repeat refrain)

We love the Earth, our home.  
Its oceans and its trees.  
We eat its food. We breathe its air.  
So no pollution, please.

(Repeat refrain)

Mars is very red.  
It's also dry and cold.  
Some day you might visit Mars  
If you are really bold.

(Repeat refrain)

Great Jupiter is big.  
We've studied it a lot.  
We found that it has many moons  
and a big red spot.

(Repeat refrain)

Saturn has great rings.  
We wondered what they were.  
Now we know they're rocks and ice  
which we saw as a blur.

With atmospheres that swirl  
& wispy white clouds too  
Uranus and Neptune  
are so cold that you'd turn blue.

(Repeat refrain)

Pluto's small and cold  
It has an icy face.  
We call it a dwarf planet now,  
But it's still quite a place.

The family of the Sun.  
Its planets number eight.  
Plus other rocky, icy worlds.  
Now our journey's done.

**Responsive Reading**

Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.

*Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.*

Insects, Mammals, Trees, Mollusks,

*Birds, Amphibians, Flowering Plants, and microbes galore.*

Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.

*Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.*

**Anthem**

*Children of the Universe*

(words by John Andrew Storey; music by Jason Shelton)

Story Part IV: *The Magic of Mind*

John Hook

**Responsive Reading**

Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.

*Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.*

Love, Emptiness, Dreams, Fear,

*Hope, Philosophy, Creativity, and the whole human race.*

Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.

*Gift of Tiamat, out of the stardust we are born.*

**Offering – Sharing of Gifts**

The cash in this morning's offering will be shared evenly with the  
**December recipient: Beds for Kids.** Make checks to BMUUF. Write  
“pledge,” “SPR,” or note other intent. If you write “split,” it is divided  
evenly between a non-pledge donation and the Split Plate recipient.

**Offertory**

**Stardust Ritual**

Dawn Star Sarahs-Borchelt

**Closing Words – Blessing**

**Closing Hymn #363**

*Alleluia! Sang Stars*

**Extinguishing the Chalice**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

# HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

**This year, Christmas and New Year's Day both fall on a Sunday!**  
Because of the holiday, on Christmas Day we will have only one service, at 11:15. On New Year's Day, we will have our traditional First Light Service at 7 AM and the regular Sunday service at 11:15. There will be no 9:15 service on either date. *Please mark your calendars!*

## **Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24, 2016**

**5 pm      Intergenerational Christmas Service & Pageant**

Rev. Susan, Dawn Star and participation parts for all ages  
(with music from the Family Choir)

**8 pm      Traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**

(with music from the BuxMont Choir)

***Open Your Heart***

**Reverend Dr. Susan Veronica Rak**

Come share the joy of the season and celebrate the ageless Christmas story in an atmosphere rich with candlelight, music, contemplation and song.

The story of Christmas is a story for each of us. It is the story of the human heart yearning for glad tidings of great joy; the expectation that peace and love shall prevail - for brief moments this evening, and perhaps even over the whole wide world. With readings and familiar carols, this is a Christmas Eve celebration for everyone - so do feel free to invite and bring family and guests.

**11 pm      Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**

(John Hook and other Members,  
with music from the Metaphysical Singers)

## **Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25, 2016**

**11:15 am      Christmas Day Service**

Jerry Johnson will officiate an informal service  
of community, celebration and contemplation.

## **New Year's Day: Sunday, January 1, 2017**

**7 am      First Light Service**

Jack Schieber will facilitate this service, continuing our participation in the First Light Program initiated by the Buddhist community at the beginning of the millennium. We join people from all parts of the globe in offering prayers for world peace. This sunrise service in the Sanctuary is a time of quiet and of shared concern and thankfulness.

**11:15 am      Intergenerational Bread Service**

## THE SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OF GIVING

The BuxMont Stewardship Team is thinking ahead to the 2017 Pledge Drive. In preparation, the Stewardship Team will be highlighting the Spiritual Practice of Giving by including a quote related to that thought in each week's Sunday Bulletin, and E-voice. Please reflect on these thoughts as you prepare for your pledge commitment to BuxMont Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in 2017.

*"Think of giving not as a duty, but as a privilege."*

~ John D Rockefeller,  
Industrialist and Philanthropist

### ANNOUNCEMENTS: December 18, 2016

1. **Greetings to Visitors!** If you are visiting us this morning, we welcome you and invite you to join us for refreshments and conversation after the service. Complete the guest form on the clipboards in the lobby, make a stick-on nametag (so we can greet you personally), and stop by our Visitors' Center outside the Library to learn more about BuxMont and Unitarian Universalism. On the first Sunday of each month, we gather to answer questions about our Fellowship or our faith. Join us January 1 at 10:30AM, in room 106 or email your questions anytime to [membership@buxmontuu.org](mailto:membership@buxmontuu.org).
2. **Kindly silence your electronic devices during the service.**
3. **Announcement or Calendar Requests:** Please submit your information for the Calendar, Friday *E-Voice* email, Sunday bulletin, verbal announcements, and monthly *Liberal Voice* newsletter via these forms. (You even get email confirmation.)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**    [www.buxmontuu.org/announcement-request/](http://www.buxmontuu.org/announcement-request/)

**CALENDAR LISTINGS:**    [www.buxmontuu.org/calendar-request/](http://www.buxmontuu.org/calendar-request/)

4. **Craft Fair TODAY!** Grab that last-minute "perfect" gift, and support BuxMont, and our vendors! 20% of sales go toward our "Know and Grow" fund. We'll be in the Social Hall after services and into the afternoon!
5. **A Caring Corner Consideration** – due to the craft fair today, we'll be set up on the round table in the Fireside room during coffee hours. Please take a few minutes to write your brief, warm message to this week's recipients.
6. **UUA Common Read - Get Your Copy Today!** Please join us in reading the UUA Common Read, *The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Hate* by The Rev. Dr. William Barber II and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove. Unitarian Universalists were electrified at General Assembly 2016 by Rev. Barber's call for building and sustaining a movement for justice for all people. We will gather for a discussion session on February 19, 2017 at 12:45 PM. Books will be sold following services today, December 18th. Contact Jeanne Kane ([jeannekane62@gmail.com](mailto:jeannekane62@gmail.com)) or Linda Wisniewski for more information.

7. **Immigration Justice Action in Harrisburg on Monday!** The Shut Down Berks Coalition will hold a demonstration in front of the capitol building tomorrow, December 19 at 11 AM. (State Capital -- intersection of State St. and 3rd St., Harrisburg). This is an effort to close the family detention center in Berks County where some immigrant families have been detained for over a year. Members of the Shut Down Berks Coalition will be delivering a message directly to Governor Tom Wolf and Secretary Ted Dallas. Celia Sharp will be going and would be delighted to have YOU come along. You can reach Celia at 215-794-5730 or 267-261-3264 or [celiamsharp@yahoo.com](mailto:celiamsharp@yahoo.com), or call Tom Thomas at 215-348-3340.
8. **Christmas Eve Receptions:** Refreshments and volunteers are needed to help us continue our Christmas Eve tradition of hospitality after each evening service. Sign up today to provide a plate of healthy appetizers or homemade cookies. Set-up and clean-up volunteers also needed for all services, but especially around midnight. Sign up today in the Social Hall or talk to Susie Hook for more information.
9. **Connect with local UU's:** The Greater Philly UU Cluster (GPC) ([www.greaterphillyuu.org/](http://www.greaterphillyuu.org/)) is actively connecting 14 local congregations to share our message, grow our faith and strengthen community. The next GPC meeting is Saturday, January 7, at the Thomas Paine UU Fellowship from 9:30-11:30 AM (meet and greet at 9:00). Howard Bennett is our GPC representative and can answer questions. ([howbenn@gmail.com](mailto:howbenn@gmail.com))
10. **Help fund a UU Message on SEPTA!** The GPC is also running a Faithify campaign (UU crowdfunding) to raise funds for ads to be placed on rail and subway platforms in February. Please donate and spread the word. The funds need to be raised by December 29! Details can be found on the Faithify site: [www.faithify.org/projects/spreading-uu-love-and-hope-in-a-hurting-world/](http://www.faithify.org/projects/spreading-uu-love-and-hope-in-a-hurting-world/).
11. **UU Book Club:** The BuxMont Book Club will be reorganizing in January with a new format and a new leader. A new member, Marion Rosenbaum, has agreed to lead and is proposing a new format of each person discussing a book that has been important to them. We will plan to meet on the first Friday of each month in the library at 1:30 PM, so the next meeting will be on January 6, 2017. New members and guests are always welcome. Please RSVP to Marion at (215) 285-2316. We thank Dave Jones for all the years he has led this group!
12. **Special Congregational Meeting:** There will be a special congregational meeting on Sunday, January 15 after the first service. The purpose of this meeting will be to vote on a motion to change the Sunday service schedule to one service at 10:15. Please plan to attend this important meeting. See any board member with questions.
13. **Choir Concert Moved to January 29:** Our January concert featuring our choirs is rescheduled from January 22 to Sunday, January 29 at 2:00 PM. More information on tickets and sponsorships will be coming soon, but we wanted to get word out so that you can hold the date. For more info or to get involved contact [music@buxmontuu.org](mailto:music@buxmontuu.org).

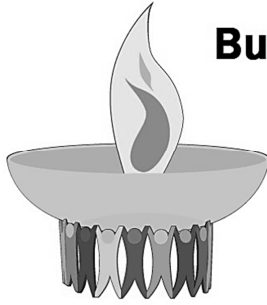
14. **Leadership Training Opportunities:** Register for UU Leadership Institute courses for Spring 2017 at [www.uuinstitute.org/](http://www.uuinstitute.org/).
15. **Explore Our Library Collection!** If you find yourself with a little time over the holidays, remember that our volunteer librarians maintain an extensive collection in the Fireside Room. Our collection is listed on Goodreads to make it easy to browse for topics that interest you. ([www.goodreads.com/review/list/32952744-buxmont-unitarian](http://www.goodreads.com/review/list/32952744-buxmont-unitarian)) All books are cataloged, and members may check them in and out using the card file on the bookshelf by the doors. For more information about the library, email Jeannie Bellavance ([library@buxmontuu.org](mailto:library@buxmontuu.org))
16. **Security Reminders:** Please be aware of your personal items when at the Fellowship. Don't leave electronics or bags unattended. Remember to turn off lights, close fire doors, and lock all outside entrances when you leave the building. It's better to have someone ring the bell to come in, or use their key, than to leave the building unsecured.
17. **Cradles to Crayons Donations:** BuxMont is a community drop-off point for new or nearly new clothing, books, school supplies and essentials for children in need in the Philadelphia area. Donations can be placed in the outdoor storage box on the front sidewalk, or if you have a lot of items, contact Melissa about dropping them off indoors. This is a great time to make space for any new toys Santa might bring, and let the hardly-used ones go to someone new. See [www.cradlestocrayons.org](http://www.cradlestocrayons.org) or contact Melissa Egbertson ([egnick14@gmail.com](mailto:egnick14@gmail.com)) for more information.
18. **Is it *COLD* in here?** A gentle reminder that it is heating season. Our set-point for occupied spaces is 68°, but sometimes the heaters struggle to get there for a 2 hour meeting slot. If you tend to be cold, please bring an extra layer for comfort. Also, if meetings aren't on the calendar there won't be heat, so plan ahead!
19. **Sunday Service Flower Dedications:** Honor a loved one, celebrate a special occasion or just further enhance the beauty of the Fellowship with fresh flowers. Providing a display for both Sanctuary pillars is \$50. One table arrangement in the Social Hall is \$25. Request online at: [www.buxmontuu.org/donateflowers/](http://www.buxmontuu.org/donateflowers/)



## BUXMONT UU CALENDAR

Dec 18	9:15 AM:	First Sunday Service & Children's RE
	10:30 AM:	<b>BuxMont Craft Fair</b> (Soc. Hall)
	10:30 AM:	BuxMont Meditation Group (103)
	10:30 AM:	Family Choir Rehearsal (101B)
	10:30 AM:	Finance Committee Meeting (105)
	11:15 AM:	Second Sunday Service & Children's RE
	12:45 PM:	Quest for Meaning Discussion Group (106)
	3:00 PM:	Music Committee Meeting (off-site)
	6:00 PM:	Small Group Ministry – Warrington (Fireside)
	6:00 PM:	Youth Religious Education Program (105 & 106)
Dec 19	7:30 PM:	Bible Study (105)
Dec 20	10:00 AM:	JB Walk (off-site)
	7:00 PM:	RE Board Meeting (103)
	7:30 PM:	SGM Facilitators monthly meeting (106)
Dec 21	5:30 PM:	Safe Congregation Task Force (Fireside)
	6:15 PM:	Metaphysical Singer's Rehearsal (Sanc.)
	7:00 PM:	Choir Rehearsal (Sanc.)
Dec 22	7:00 PM:	CCR Rehearsal (Sanc.)
	7:30 PM:	Meditation Group (103)
Dec 23	7:00 PM:	Peace & Justice - Fourth Friday Film (Soc. Hall)
Dec 24	<b>Christmas Eve Services at 5PM, 8PM &amp; 11PM</b>	
Dec 25	10:30 AM:	BuxMont Meditation Group (103)
	11:15 AM:	<b>Intergenerational Christmas Day Service</b> (Sanc.)
	12:45 PM:	UU Christian Fellowship (105)
Dec 27	10:00 AM:	JB Walk (off-site)
	7:00 PM:	4th Tuesday Small Ministry Group (Fireside)
Dec 29	7:00 PM:	CCR Rehearsal (Sanc.)
	7:30 PM:	Meditation Group (103)
Dec 31	9:30 AM:	Metaphysical Singers Rehearsal (Sanc.)
Jan 1	10:30 AM:	BuxMont Meditation Group (103)
	10:30 AM:	First Sunday Newcomers Q&A (106)
	11:15 AM:	<b>Annual Bread Service – Intergenerational</b> (Sanc.)
	12:30 PM:	Membership Committee Meeting (106)
	1:00 PM:	Green Sanctuary Meeting (105)

The full calendar, with rentals, set-up times, contact information  
and notes, can be found at [www.buxmontuu.org/calendar](http://www.buxmontuu.org/calendar)



# **BuxMont Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

Moved by love,  
we share lifelong journeys of growth, wonder and healing,  
nurturing wholeness in society and spirit,  
creating a community of justice and compassion.

**[www.BuxMontUU.org](http://www.BuxMontUU.org)**

**2040 Street Road, Warrington, PA 18976**

**Office: 215-343-0406**

**Minister: 215-343-6146**

Interim Minister:	Reverend Dr. Susan V. Rak
Board of Trustees President:	Howard Barkan
Director of Religious Education:	Dawn Star Sarahs-Borchelt
Administrator:	AmyBeth Gibbs
Music Director:	John Hook
Accompanist:	Margaret Lea
Membership Coordinator:	Howard Bennett

**This is a free, creedless religious congregation.  
In the discipline of truth and in the spirit of universal kinship,  
we join together in a cooperative quest for religious and ethical values,  
seeking to apply these values to the development of character,  
the enrichment of the spirit and service to all.**

**You are welcome here, whatever your age, gender or gender identity,  
physical or mental capabilities, social graces, beauty of body or spirit,  
sexual orientation, ethnic origin, or position in life.  
Join us as we journey toward peace and justice for all persons.**

**Our Principles:** We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Adopted by the 1984 and 1985 General Assemblies