

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

December Theme: *Choosing Hope*

Celebrating Chanukah ~ December 14, 2025

** Congregation is invited to rise.*

***Gathering Song** #231 *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Becky Strum

***Chalice Lighting**

DC Fortune

We light this chalice as a symbol of our free faith.
We light this chalice to remember the miracle of the oil
that burned for eight days...
We light this chalice to mark the nights of midwinter.
We light as we wait for the Sun to return.

Opening Words “We have come into this room of hope...” Rev. Tricia Hart

***Hymn** #221 *Light One Candle*

Time for All Ages

The Story of Chanukah

Julia Santerre

Children to Religious Exploration #118 *This Little Light of Mine*

Pathways to Connection

Claire Tessier, Margy Young

Offering

Share with *World Central Kitchen*

***Response** *From You I Receive* #402

Milestones and Passages

Reflection

Becky Strum



Memory Ribbons

***Hymn**

#225 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Sermon

Choosing Hope

Anthem

Zol Zain Zolem (Let There Be Peace)

Choir with Gregg Humphrey on guitar

Closing Words

Extinguishing the Chalice

We extinguish this flame, remembering always to keep Love at the center.

Postlude

Once in Royal David's City, sung by Dr. Francois S Clemmons

Stay for Social Hour in the Ann Ross Fellowship Hall!

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

Pathways to Connection

Stay in Touch: Complete a *Yellow Card* to share a milestone and put in an offering plate; fill out a *Pink Card* to reach the Caring Network; or a **Blue Sheet** if you're new, so we can be in touch. Cards are in the lobby.

How does CVUUS want to meet the needs of our unhoused neighbors, especially in freezing days? Come to a special Congregational Conversation following worship in Fenn Chapel TODAY. Learn about current efforts, proposed ones and others you'd support CVUUS in offering.

Help Meet Critical Neighbor Needs this Season: Addison County neighbors in Green Mountain Justice's network of care--several of whom came to us through CVUUS--are facing urgent needs. This Vermont UU community ministry invites you to help. Visit greenmountainjustice.org/join-us and scroll to "Critical Needs" to see and respond to specific requests.

RE kids are thrilled and thankful to you that they have already sold enough homemade ornaments in support of GMJ to purchase at least one thermal coat, which was their goal. They'll continue sales today as well as collect GMJ & Charter House wish list items, especially **thermal gloves**.

December Worship Theme: Choosing Hope

Dec 7, *Why (Some) UUs Celebrate Christmas*

Dec 14, *Celebrating Chanukah*

Dec 21, *All Ages Solstice Celebration*

Dec 24, *Christmas Eve Pageant (based on O'Henry's Gift of the Magi)*, 4 pm

Dec 24, *Christmas Eve We Are the Light of the World*, 7 pm

Dec 28, *Quilting a Faith for a New Year*

Christmas Eve Pageant participation opportunity: Rehearsals after social hour TODAY for those with speaking parts & next Sunday Dec 21 for all. See Julia!

Gather, Middlebury's drop-in living room welcomes guests Tues/Thur/Fri (newly added)/Sat 10-2 at 76 Court St. See Colleen Brown about hosting and Dinah Smith about offering lunch casseroles which are really needed for expanded hours.

CVUUS Charles Ave Community Cupboard is open Thurs/Fri/Sun 9-5 for anyone to take what they need. Place donations in the food cart in our lobby. Please avoid canned goods in winter that can freeze. *Snacks & cereals are popular.*

CVUUS building use: Christmas Singalong, TODAY, 6:30 PM (Midd Comm Chorus members only); Indivisible Midd, now Tues Dec 16, 4:30 PM

Want to receive a weekly update from CVUUS? Email office@cvuus.org.

Visit uua.org to learn about the wider work of UUA and our affiliates.

Visit cvuus.org to explore our happenings and most current calendar.