



Home for the Holidays

**Happy Holidays Cherished Unity Family,**

The holiday season is upon us once again. Even though this occurs annually, it always seems to sneak up, doesn't it? We had wonderful Pic-A-Parties, hiking, a Regional Uniteen Retreat, Chili Cookoff and the first ThanksLiving dinner since 2019! Now, here are the holidays! Turn on the television, look at Facebook, Instagram, your emails or text messages. They prove how deeply we are captivated by this season. What does this mean? Some are really excited about the festive lights shining from front porches, decorating trees in homes and going to shop in person more often. Some have been excited by being with loved ones in person again. In similar ways many may be elated by the possibilities with new leadership at UoG. I encourage all of us to be excited by the newness of this time. During this season we can support all by seeing the birth of Christ as our own rebirth to our Divine essence. At this time may we awaken to the Christ presence within us and see this Bible passage as our guide:

**Isaiah 43: 18- 20**

<sup>18</sup>Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.

<sup>19</sup>I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

During this holiday season I invite you to affirm, "I joyously give birth to the Christ presence within me and others."

**We have created many ways for us to connect during this holiday season.** You are also invited to our special services and events. Below is the schedule for the season:

**\*\*\*The Giving Tree will be in the sanctuary for your holiday donations to Unity of Gaithersburg.\*\*\***

**Handling Holiday (and Other) Stress Mini-Workshop**

**with Carol Plummer, LUT**

6:30-9:00pm

Wednesday, November 30

**Hiking at Sugarloaf Mountain**

9:30am

Saturday, December 3

**Painting with a Cause with Sharon Doyle**

1:00pm

Saturday, December 3

**Drop & Shop (parents drop kids off while u go shop)**

11am-3pm

Saturday, December 17

**Music Sunday**

11am

Sunday, December 18

**YFM Holiday Party in Ed Building**

11am

**Winter Solstice Labyrinth Walk**

7 – 11pm

Wednesday December 21

**Candle Lighting Service**

5:30pm

Saturday, December 24

**Christmas Breakfast**

9:30-10:30am

Sunday, December 25

**Christmas Service**

11am (wear Christmas pajamas or your favorite ugly sweater!)

**Burning Bowl Service**

5:30pm

Saturday, December 31st

**Kwanzaa Service includes Youth & Family Ministry**

11:00am

Sunday, January 1, 2023

*with a Kwanzaa Potluck Meal afterwards*

**Vision Board with Akosua**

11am-1pm

Saturday, January 7, 2023

*Create 2023 Vision Boards for our church & yourself*

**White Stone Ceremony**

11am

Sunday, January 8, 2023

With love and gratitude,

Reverend Edith Washington-Woods, M.Div.