

Dates to Remember...

December 2013

**Dec 29** **New Beginnings** – Stella Hawke S.L. C. Riseing

January 2014

**Jan 5** **The Camino de Santiago: Walking for Serenity** – Sandra Watson

**Jan 5** **Lasagna Lunch** – following the service

**Jan 5** **Building your own Theology 3**  
– contact Jim Glassford for more information

**Jan 12** **The Path to Atheism** – Troy Roberts  
S.L. Ed Gilbert

**Jan 17** **UCN Film Night - Still Mine** – 7:00 p.m.

**Jan 19** **The Importance of a True Leader to Build a Real Democracy** – Ignacio Segovia  
S.L. Sara Jordan

**Jan 19** **Newsletter Submission Deadline**  
– [riseingcarol@gmail.com](mailto:riseingcarol@gmail.com)

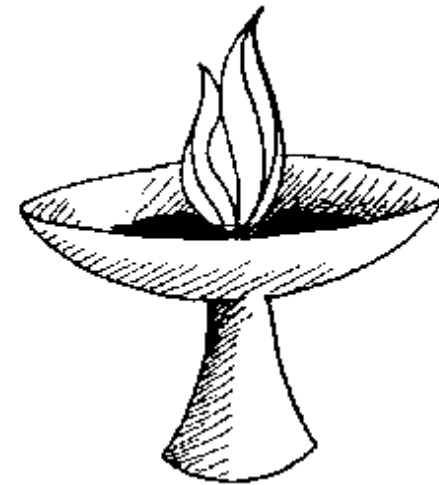
**Jan 20** **AGM REPORTS to John Northover**

**Jan 21** **Book Club - 419: A Novel by Will Ferguson**  
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., contact Joan Rothman if attending.

**Jan 26** **Co-op Groceries in St. Catharines**  
– Karrie Porter S.L. Stella Hawke

**Jan 31** **Out of the Cold** – Knox Church

# *Unitarian Congregation of Niagara*



**Christmas is a Feeling: Thoughts on Christmas  
in Word and in Song**  
– *Karen Johnson-Hosein*

**December 22, 2013**

*223 Church St., St. Catharines, Ontario*

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Ed Gilbert Karen Johnson-Hosein

## **FRAGRANCE-FREE POLICY**

The Unitarian Congregation of Niagara is a fragrance-free zone. Fragrance may be distressful and threaten the well-being of those around you. In order to make this a safe and welcoming environment for everyone who comes here, we ask that you refrain from wearing fragrances. Your understanding and co-operation is appreciated.

***Order of Service***  
**Sunday, December 22, 2013**

Speaker and Service Leader: Karen Johnson-Hosein  
Pianist: Theresa Pothier

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Prelude

Welcome

Announcements

Opening Words:

Always on Christmas night there was music. An uncle played the fiddle, a cousin sang "Cherry Ripe," and another uncle sang "Drake's Drum." It was very warm in the little house. Auntie Hannah, who had got on to the parsnip wine, sang a song about Bleeding Hearts and Death, and then another in which she said her heart was like a Bird's Nest; and then everybody laughed again; and then I went to bed. Looking through my bedroom window, out into the moonlight and the unending smoke-colored snow, I could see the lights in the windows of all the other houses on our hill and hear the music rising from them up the long, steady falling night. I turned the gas down, I got into bed. I said some words to the close and holy darkness, and then I slept.

*From A Child's Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas*

Chalice Lighting:   **#615**           Howard Thurman

Joys and Concerns

Offertory:               **#674**

Address:   Christmas is a Feeling: Thoughts on Christmas  
in Word and in Song – *Karen Johnson-Hosein*  
                  \* denotes congregation singing

Christmas is a Feeling (*The Choir*)  
12 Days of Christmas (*Straight No Chaser*)  
\*It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas  
Christmas Island (*Karen Johnson-Hosein*)  
Some Children See Him (*Andy Williams*)  
\*Angels We Have Heard on High  
\*We Three Kings  
\*Santa Claus is Comin' to Town  
\*Silver Bells  
\*Jingle Bell Rock  
O Holy Night (*Celtic Woman*)  
\*Silent Night



Questions and Comments

Closing Words:   **The Christmas Letter**   John N. Morris

Wherever you are when you receive this letter  
I write to say we are still ourselves  
In the same place  
And hope you are the same.

The dead have died as you know  
And will never get better,  
And the children are boys and girls  
Of their several ages and names.

So in closing I send you our love  
And hope to hear from you soon.  
There is never a time  
Like the present. It lasts forever  
Wherever you are. As ever I remain.

Extinguish the Chalice

Postlude