

Bits and Pieces . . . and please keep them coming in!

Here is your 104th Midland Unitarian Association Bits & Pieces for January 2017. If you want any news from your congregation included here, please send it to me (details below)

**MUA of Lay Preachers & Worship Leaders
Spring Training Day
How do Unitarians do communion?**

Workshop Leaders: Rev. Sue Woolley & Rev. Ant Howe

Where: Kingswood Meeting House, Packhorse Lane, Hollywood, Worcs. B47 5DQ

When: Saturday 18th February 2017

Times: 10.00 am - 4.15 pm (coffee/tea from 9.30 am)

Cost: FREE to MUA participants; £10 a head to others

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**MUA Annual General Meeting**

**Guest Speaker:** Rev. Danny Crosby,  
minister at Altrincham and Urmston

**Where:** Kingswood Meeting House, Packhorse Lane, Hollywood, Worcs. B47 5DQ

**When:** Saturday 25th March 2017

**Times:** 10.30 for 11.00 am - c.4.00 pm

**All are welcome**

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Year's End and Year's Beginning by Keith Gilley

Years come, and years go, always the same, but never the same. And I have known and remember decades of life. There have been times of war and times of peace; times of hope and times of despair when hope was hard to cling to; times of love and times of desolation. And there were times of great joy, when all the pain and suffering of life were hard to credit, like believing in snow in the heat of the day, or sun-burn in a blizzard.

Yet these, and all the in-betweens, I have known. I wasn't someone different at those times; it was the same me in all those times, the same me in continuity in each long decade of living. So are we all, people of all seasons. Can we then be people for all seasons? Celebrating, accepting, rejoicing, grieving, and sorrowing, as the die of the times is cast for us? We are here, each of us, with different burdens as with different gifts.

We would resolve to live fully, richly and wisely in all that pertains to ourselves. We would resolve to live thoughtfully, kindly and compassionately in all that pertains to others. We would be secure in the knowledge that we are all kindred, one of another, bound together in sorrow as in joy, in trial as in celebration.

If you have any contributions for the next *Bits & Pieces*, please send them to me at 5, Martins Road, Piddington, Northampton NN7 2DN or via e-mail to revsuewoolley@gmail.com Thank you!