



# NEWSLETTER

## Gratitude

**Rev. Bob Renjilian — Facebook Livestream at 10:00am, Sunday**

It is said that the deepest prayer is “Thank You.” This pre-Thanksgiving service brings our spiritual center into that space of gratitude.



Photo by [Prachi Palwe on Unsplash](#)

*“Gracious words refresh, restore and revive the soul.”  
—Lailah Gifty Akita*

# "Upcoming Events \*For All Ages!\*

Kevin Lausch, Director of Children's Religious Education

Please remember masks and physical distancing at all events!



## Saturday, Nov 21 at 10:00 am - Pisgah Hike and Picnic

Meet at the Pisgah Ranger Station/Visitors Center on highway 276 (1600 Pisgah Highway, Pisgah Forest) for a hike on the Andy Cove Nature Trail and then a picnic at Sycamore Flats Picnic Area. The trail is approximately 1.5 miles and has a few hills and a wooden suspension bridge. Dogs on leash are welcome.

## Saturday, December 12 at 4 PM - Holiday Caroling and S'mores

Join us for singing holiday carols around a bonfire with s'mores on the Fellowship Green behind the church. Remember your masks/face shields and social distancing please. [Please RSVP.](#)

*If an event is rained out, it is automatically scheduled for the next Sunday at 1 PM.*

## GIVE TO SUPPORT OUR SOCIAL ACTION TEAM

At each All Ages Event, we will support the social action group of the month. In November help "Operation Keep Warm" help our neighbors survive the cold winter months. Please donate the following (new or gently used) at the church (Mon-Friday, 10am-7pm) or at the Nov 21 hike:

- Warm gloves (all ages)
- Men's Large (L) and Extra Large (XL) hoodies. These should have a zipper in the front and a hood.
- blankets to use indoors
- Tarps (max 10'x10')
- New Hand warmers gel packs
- New Emergency blankets (foil)
- New Batteries sizes AAA, C, and D.

In December, you can be part of our Angel Tree for Davidson River School students. Select an angel from the tree in the vestibule at church and buy the gift suggested for a student.

Thank you for helping our children learn UU values!

# Calendars Have Arrived!



## Your Stewardship Team

It was hard to choose from among the 30+ photo submissions we received that highlighted the beauty of Transylvania County, but we think we've come up with a great selection of photographs for the 2021 Wall Calendar! These calendars feature scenes from around the county by UUTC's own amateur (and not so amateur!) photographers. They would be a great gift to yourself and your family and special friends that Transylvania County is the place to be — or at least visit!



Photographers whose work was accepted are: Luanne Allgood, Mark Allison, Hilly Bernard, Dan Carter, Ian Cowie, Carter Heyward, Betty Kendrick, Don Lander, Peter Magistri, Kate Renner, Tom Stanwood, Susan Zelle and Royce Zia. *(Not all images shown here.)*



Calendars are priced at \$15.00, and the profits from these sales will go into UUTC's Operating Fund. The Stewardship Team will arrange a pickup schedule in late November in time for holiday shipping. You can drive by and pick up your calendars from a Stewardship Team member without even getting out of your car! If you are interested in purchasing, but unable to pick up the calendars, let [Phil Stewart](#) from the Stewardship Team know and the Team can arrange a delivery for special circumstances.



Celebrate the creativity and vision of your fellow UUTCers and get a beautiful calendar to keep track of 2021. [Click HERE TO ORDER!](#)



# A Powerful Power UP!

## Kathy Reiff, Social Action Team

Power Up was power-full! Full of enthusiasm, full of generosity and full of gratitude. On Nov. 8th, members of UUTC joined with members from St. Philip's Episcopal Church and the Jewish community to deliver meals to raise funds to aide in assisting Sharing House in the coming winter months. Sharing House used the monies raised to help those who need help in paying their heating bills. Over \$21,000 has been raised!

Thanks to the great planning by Polly Averette and UUTC Friend Luanne Allgood, the event evolved smoothly from an inside sit-down meal to a completely Covid safe happening. Reservations for meals were taken ahead of time. On the day, cars were driven up, number of meals noted and delivered in a bag to their cars. Steve and Beth Womble cooked a delicious meal of chicken and rice casserole, rolls and salad. The meal was topped off with delicious brownies made by Jane Hilliard and Jim Null. Bobby King heard a rumor that the first drive-ups were so delighted with the UUTC brownies that they then called their friends to get out and make a donation. ;)

This delightful experience shows how much can be done successfully during this unusual time when we all work together! Thanks to all who participated by ordering meals, donating funds and helping out at the event. [SEE THE PHOTOS ON OUR BLOG!](#)

## How Music Gets Made

### RK Young

In case you've wondered why you only see certain faces, or hear certain voices during services, well, the technical problems are vast, and so we are relying on those who can effectively use the technology to produce music. Teri & Daniel Sandoval took responsibility for the 1st Sunday of the month (Hallelujah!), and Janice Canon and Elaine Shaver have taken the 3rd Sunday. All videos and sound tracks that are created go into a "bank" (file in the online Drive where we can all get to it) and if we have free use of the music (things on UUA's approved list), or it is covered under One License (a few things like "For the Beauty of the Earth"), then Rev. Bob will re-use as he likes. Matthew Cannizzio has been composing some instrumental things for us to use for meditation, beginning or benediction stuff... that has started coming in in the last couple of weeks. Our music is very much OUR product!



"Choir" is happening through the Acapella app, which requires either an iPhone or an iPad (they do not have an android version of the program). There is no other free/low cost program that is relatively simple to use that allows for multiple people to collaborate. The app allows up to 9 "tracks," and John Austin on piano is always track one. Sometimes, depending on video cropping, I lay a bunch of images over his music so it doesn't look weird.

So of the iPhone/iPad crowd of our choir, regular singers have been Sharon, Vanessa, Kay & myself. Ian Cowie has done a few, and Rev. Bob has done a few, and Emily Atkinson has done a few, but many others who have the appropriate tech just have too much to do, or aren't confident enough yet with the app to use it. I'm not judging, here — all of this takes ridiculous amounts of time—and courage. Sharon Gublo has been our biggest rock star for this -- she always makes time to help!

Janice & Elaine have been a HUGE blessing, because they work with Rev. Bob and have everything "in the can" by Wednesday of the week of broadcast. They have all their own equipment & software, which will record up to 24 tracks. They do their own reporting to One License. And, being retired, Janice has the TIME. This stuff takes a ton of time. A track at a time, and then final "mixing" for blend, etc. Thanks to everyone who pitches in on this! A service without music would be far less rich.

# Rev. Bob Finds His Way in Song

## Rev. Bob Renjilian

Thanks to COVID-19, most musical groups have been curtailed. Singing, which I love, is one of the worst spreader activities so most choruses are on hold (or just online) until after we have medicines and vaccines. I've been a Barbershop singer on and off since the 1990's, and have joined the Asheville "Land of the Sky" Barbershop Harmony Society chapter. The chorus leadership figured out a way we can sing together: we show up in our cars, park in a semi-circle aimed at the director, with each of us getting a microphone handed to us, and then tune in to hear each other on FM radio!

We are safe in our cars, with the outdoor air breezes keeping away whatever escaping breath might be dispersed from each other's vehicles. I think we are the first (or one of the trailblazers at least) to figure out this COVID-safe way of performing. We named it "Carbershop," as the idea of "Barbershop" sung in the car, rather than, well, anywhere else.

And this past weekend we won first place in the Carolinas' District online-festival!

If you'd like to like to hear our winning performance of "Java Jive", here is a YouTube link to get you to the right spot: 1:13:00 (about half way through the festival):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slBJ5ilGuuw&t=73m0s>

This was so much fun! I hope you enjoy listening.

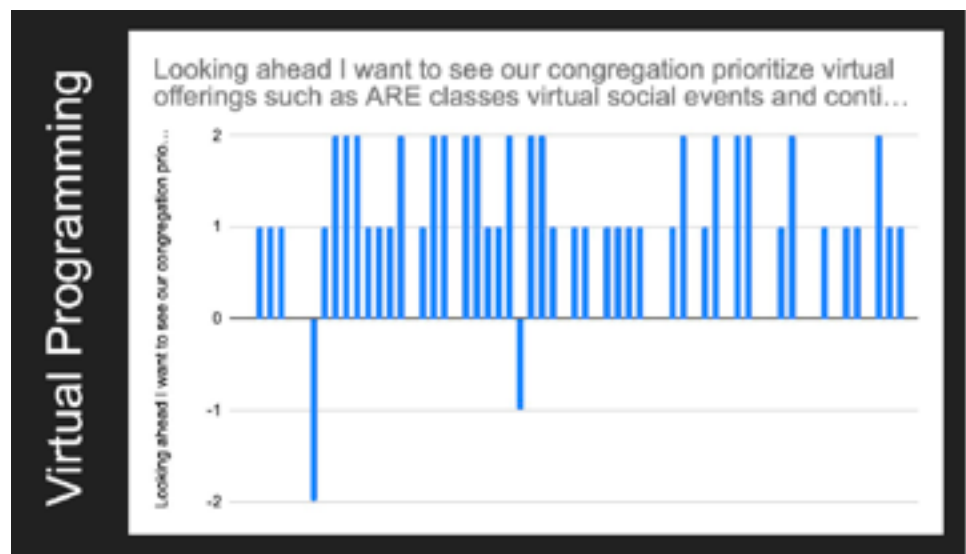
# Results of the Vision Survey – Programming

## RK Young

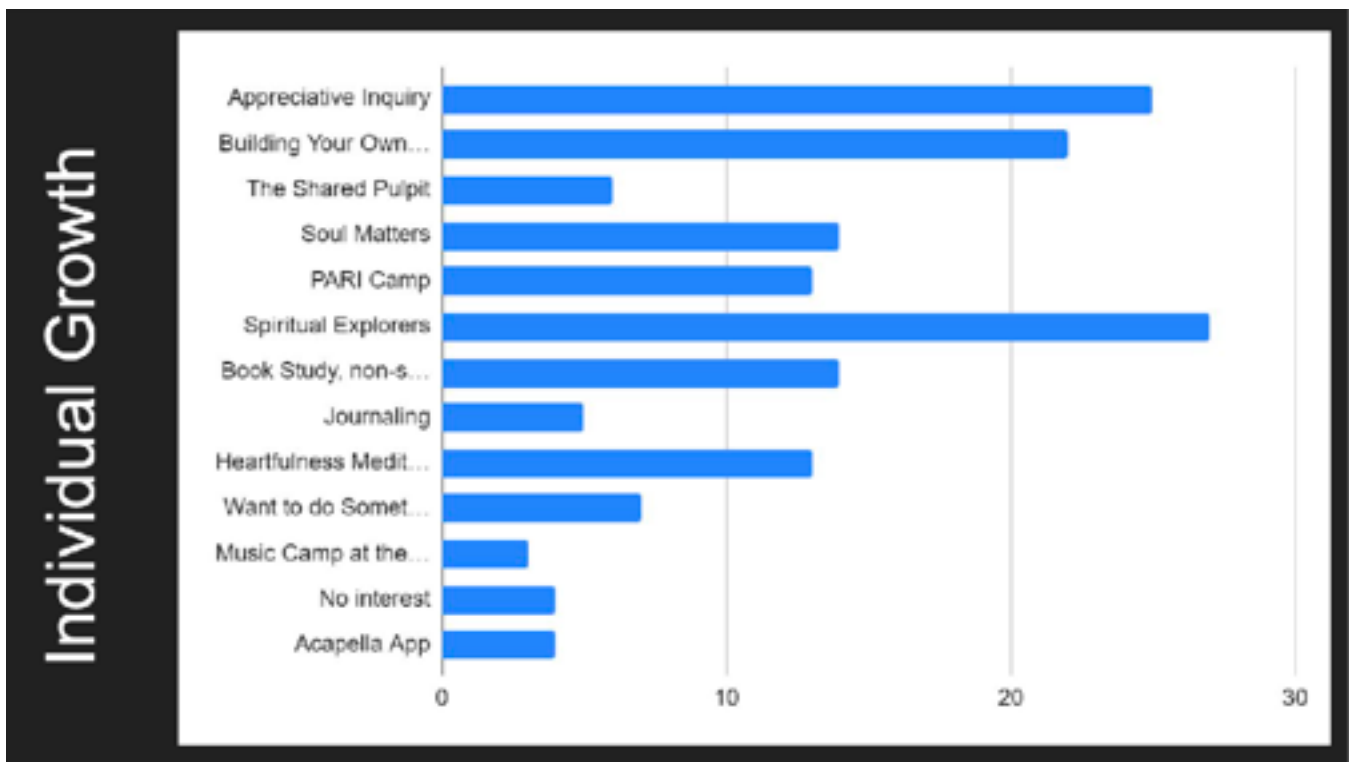
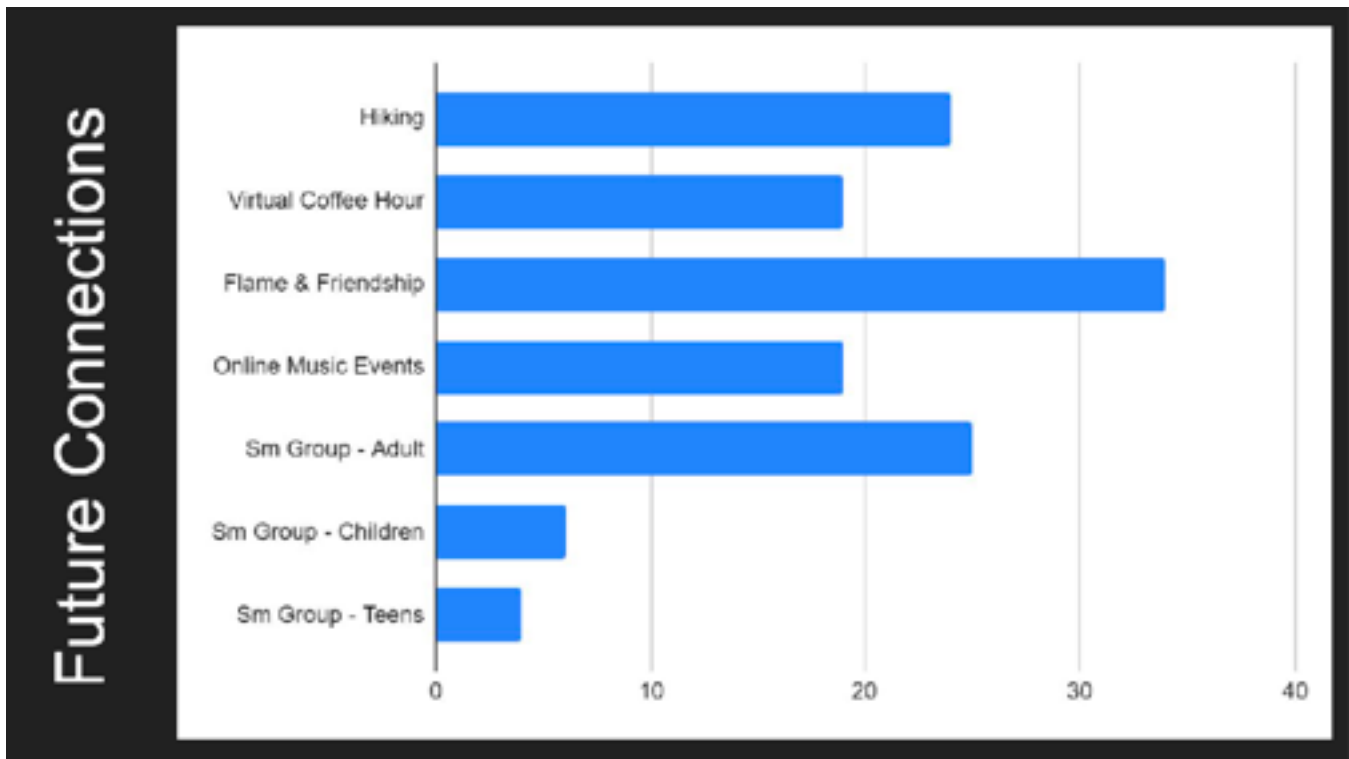
At the end, we had 69 responses to this survey. The results are tremendously useful, especially in the area of future programming, and what your interests are. So let's get started!

### MORE VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING!

While it's not everyone's favorite thing (lots more one than twos), it's clear that we need to get moving on this. Rev. Bob is already planning to bring Building Your Own Theology (What is your credo?) in early 2021. Keep an eye on your newsletter to sign up!



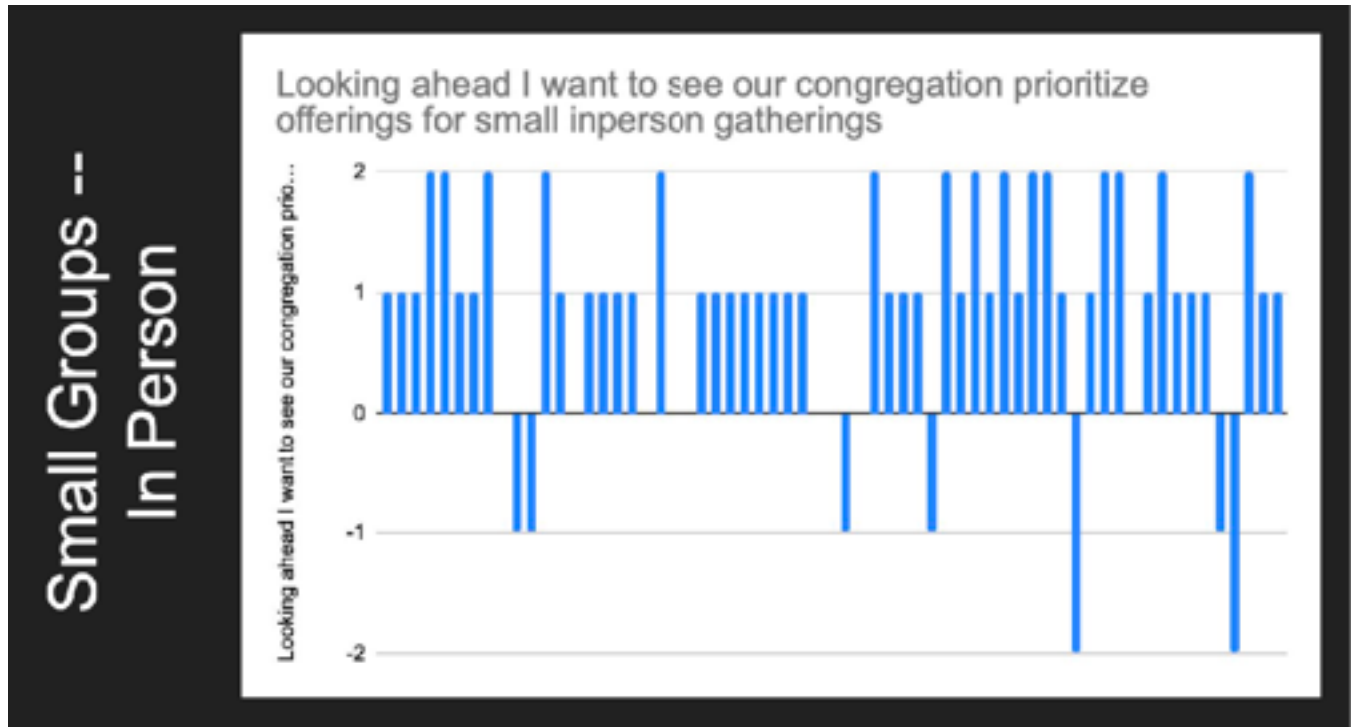
What kind of programming? And on what topic? Please note that no children actually \*took\* the survey. :)



There are some clear winners here, and we're working on it! For Virtual Coffee Hour, which would probably be once a month like Happy Hour, we will need volunteers to serve as "ushers" on Zoom. To make Coffee Hour work best, we need someone like \*cough\* Nancy Thompson who can break people into separate "rooms" so that smaller conversations can be had. And the "ushers" would be people

with permission to boot anybody who was misbehaving. Like me. Anybody willing to learn how to do that? Because it wouldn't be fair for Nancy to always have to do be the break us into rooms.

Besides Virtual Programming, the largest area of consensus was "In-Person Small Groups." Your



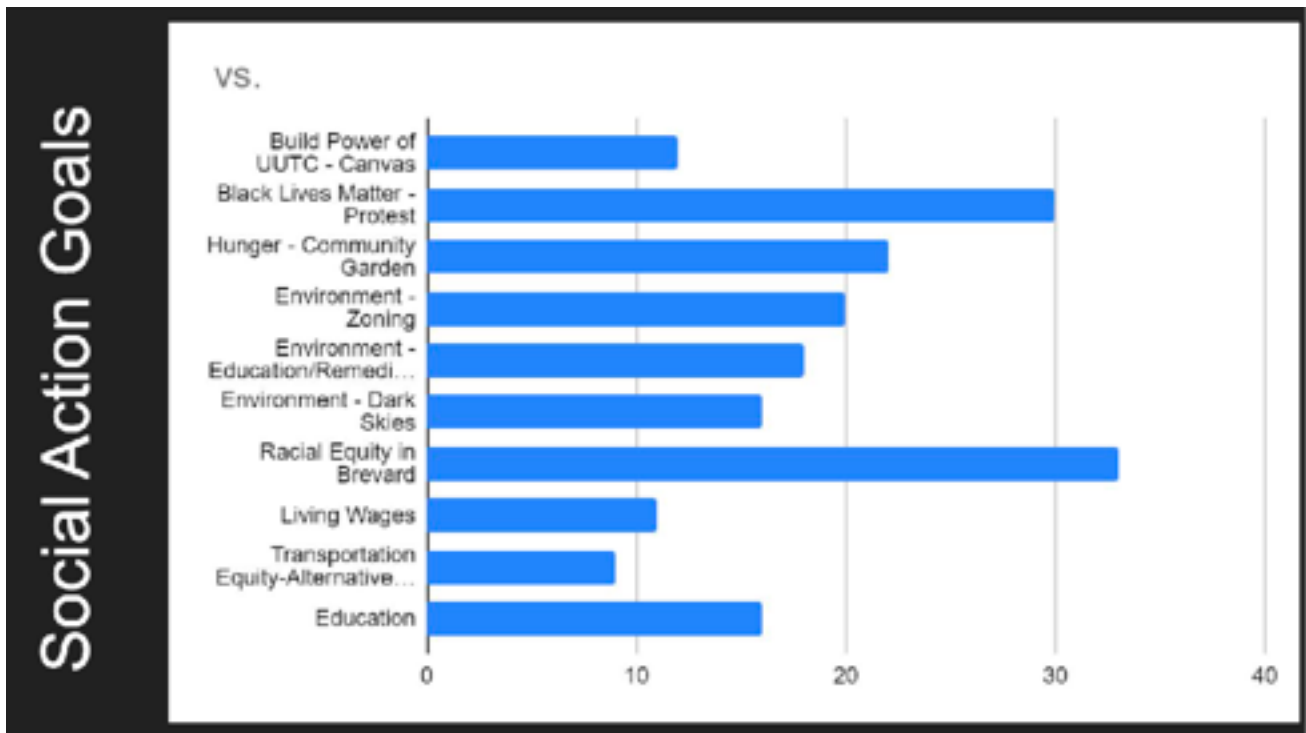
Board is currently assessing their options, and President Susan Zelle will have a letter in December addressing this topic.

The last one for this issue of the newsletter is your Social Action Goals. These did not necessarily mirror our current charitable organizations, but were selected to reflect our Mission Statement and recent activities in Transylvania County that our members have been active in promoting or addressing.

The Social Action Team has only just received these results, and will begin considering what that means for Social Action programming and initiatives. If you have strong interests in any of these areas, consider reaching out to the Team and letting them know a) what you are already doing, b) what you would consider doing, and c) where you think you could be the most help. Also let them know if you'd like to be part of the Team!

While we can't do things in a normal manner right now, we do make an impact. Recently, when our sign's "rainbow colors" were scraped away to permit trying a different solution, a child in our community shared her dismay with her mom — afraid that we had been targeted by someone and that we had had to "give in" to baser elements of our community. Her mom was hugely relieved to hear that the sign was still being worked on— and NO, that rainbow was not coming down.

What we do matters. Thanks for being part of the effort!



## Fellowship on the Green

Fellowship on the Green happens on Tuesdays of each week 11:30 to 1:30pm. Consider bringing a lap blanket to keep warm as the temperatures drop.

**IN THE EVENT OF RAIN**, the following Thursdays will be automatic. If no one is at the tables at 11:30... don't worry — someone always shows up!



Joanna Bliss, Vicki Held, Susan Zelle, Marilyn Miller, Karla Maar, Heather Williams, Sue Null, Lisa McHenry +!