UUTC UPDATE

In Celebration of Flowers & People

Rev. Sally Beth Shore - Facebook Livestream at 10:00am, Sunday

Today we observe Unitarian Universalist Flower Communion, developed by the Czech Unitarian Minister Rev. Norbert Capeck in 1923, as a celebration of beauty, human uniqueness, diversity, and community. The sermon will contemplate how current cultural battles over ideologies and identities are not endpoints in themselves but could give way to a truly united world.

Beginning Thursday, May 28, we invite all UUTC members, friends, and visitors, to come by our Sanctuary at 24 Varsity Street and leave a long-stemmed flower or flowers by our back door, where we will have vases set up to collect the flowers for use in the Sunday service and distribution in the community afterward.



Happy Hour Zooming—5:00PM

Join the weekly Check In! Click **HERE** to attend the meeting. Last week was a blast, with dozens of folks attending—just seeing everyone's faces was a real blessing. Share the highlights (or concerns) of your week, BYOW... Bring Your Own Whatever!

Other Teams are also Zooming — Social Action meets at noon on Wednesdays, and the Choir test drove a happy hour this past Wednesday at 4:30pm. LHHH is meeting once a month via zoom with Rev. Shore. Links are shared through Realm email (which arrives in your inbox) and also in Realm Events for each team. Remember you can download the Realm Connect app to keep those events easy to access. Login to your account and find them in the app or in the browser of your choosing!

Celebrating Our Amazing Seniors

Kevin Lausch

UUTC is very proud of its graduating high school seniors. Read on to learn about these dynamic young people!



IAN FOX

Ian Fox, son of Brigid Fox, recently returned from Thailand where he took part in a Rotary Exchange program. Ian was sponsored by the Asheville and Brevard Rotary Clubs and lived in Thailand for 6 months with his Buddhist host family in Bangbon, near Bangkok. While in Thailand he attended a Thai high school to study the language and traveled to experience the area. He says that he found Thailand to be "beautiful and amazing," but unfortunately his program was cut short by the coronavirus.

While attending Brevard High School, Ian focused on engineering classes (like AutoCad) and was part of the art guild, quiz bowl and played cello through the youth strings program at the Brevard Music Center. Before going to Thailand, Ian worked at UUTC as an AV tech, and also worked at Ingles and Camp Rockbrook Camp. Ian also attended the Outdoor Academy during his sophomore year.

lan will attend Blue Ridge Community College for his basic courses and is interested in engineering and the machining program.

Photo: lan attending a Thai vegetarian festival and banging a gong in the temple.

MAE PETERSON

Mae Peterson has been very active at UUTC and could be seen running the AV system every other Sunday at church. She attended Brevard High School and is a Transylvania County Scholar and an AP Scholar with distinction. When she wasn't studying, she was on the varsity soccer team, was the vice president of the humanitarian club, the public relations officer of the BHS Art Guild, and Student Body Publicity Director. She attended the Outdoor Academy during the fall of her sophomore year and participated in the Viz program (the high school version of Vision Transylvania) during her junior year. Mae also volunteered at El Centro for all four years of high school.



Mae will attend North Carolina State in the fall to attend the College of Design. She plans to attend State for five years for her bachelor of arts in architecture. She has been accepted to the University Scholars Program and will be living in the Honors and Scholars Village.



SOFIA PANDOLFO

Over the past two years Sofia has been a regular at church working in the nursery and over the last year as a teaching assistant for the children's religious education classes. She also worked numerous different jobs including working at Kiwi Gelato. Sofia is musically talented and has pursued her interest in singing. Over the past several years she sang in the Brevard High School Choir, was in a musical each year, sang in the Transylvania County Choral Society, and took voice lessons.

Sofia will attend the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and major in vocal performance. She plans to pursue a master's degree in vocal pedagogy, focusing on singing technique, performance and teaching.

Let's celebrate these amazing students and wish them well in their new endeavors!

Note from Rev. Shore

Hello UUTC! Sunday, I'm back in our armchair pulpit—This Sunday's service is a special service for several reasons—first off, there will certainly be an announcement about your settled minister call (and no, I don't have any information—counting will be on Saturday.) It is also the time of year when flowers abound, so we will celebrate—albeit remotely, a Unitarian Universalist "Flower Communion." If it is a possibility for you to bring flowers by UUTC Friday or Saturday, there are buckets in the

vestibule where you can add yours. This celebration is near and dear to my heart, developed in the early 20th century by the Czech minister Norbert Capek to celebrate human diversity. In my sermon I'll speak about "unity in diversity" -- a surprisingly ancient concept aimed to promote balance between appreciating difference and finding common cause.

If you are relatively new to Unitarian Universalism, or, if you just enjoy learning about history, I have an offer for you: **beginning next week, on Tuesday evening,** I hope you'll join me for a Zoom viewing of the first 2 discs of "Long Strange Trip," an engaging DVD series telling the



history of Unitarian Universalism. My plan is to show about 30 minutes on each of four nights, followed by some time for discussion; so I'm scheduling it for the next 2 Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 7:00—8:00 pm. You can attend on or all sessions, but you will need to register using the zoom link—I'll send that out on Monday; please remember you don't have to be a UUTC member or friend to be part of this, and you can invite friends as well!

Finally, in celebration of the last month I get to serve as your minister, I'm developing an "Appreciative June" game for us to play together—a set of missions and meditations....More to come on June 1.

Spring has now unwrapped the flowers--- go get some!

Warmly, Rev. Shore

Call to Action: The Bread of Life

Social Action Team

The Bread of Life has continued to serve 125-150 individuals lunch 5 days a week with sometimes as few as two or three people to help out. They have been doing this since the stay-at-home order was given and volunteers were asked not to come in for their own protection. The Social Action Team decided to help out by purchasing ingredients, preparing the salads at home, and delivering the completed salads to the Bread of Life. Unfortunately, the Bread of Life Board of



Directors stopped accepting food donations after just one delivery, but they are once again asking for our help as the one delivery gave their team a much needed reprieve for that day.

We have committed to helping with salads again until volunteers are invited back in, hopefully after the first week in July. Since our Social Action Team is quite small, we could really use the support of

others in our congregation. We have streamlined the way we will do the salads so that people can focus on just one ingredient, but this created a long list for sign up.

All ingredients should be cut into small, bite-sized pieces using all COVID-19 food-handling precautions and delivered to the Bread of Life in disposable containers (e.g, Ziplock bags) by 10:00M on the sign-up date (Thursdays). There is no need to enter the building as a cart will be placed outside for our deliveries.

To help out, there are several ways to contact us:

- Use the Sign-Up Genius on the UUTC Facebook page for members.
- Use the link https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E44A8AA2CABFD0-bread1, which should connect you to the sign-up page.
- Email the Team at <u>socialjustice@uutc.org</u>, and they will sign you up.
- Call Sharon Moya at (970) 319-9472.

If you can prepare ingredients but not deliver them, please call Sharon Moya at (970) 319-9472 after signing up to arrange for a pick up and delivery or to sign up and arrange for pick up and delivery.

Any help you can give will go a long way in helping to serve those less fortunate than ourselves and would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to all.

Making Stewardship Fun

Susan Zelle

It has been a challenging spring, and as we head into summer, your new, full time Stewardship team is looking for ways we can help generate funds for UUTC's operating budget AND provide TLC and support to our members. For the time being, we're in a virtual world, and we're looking at holding a Virtual Auction. We'd love for you to share your talents, abilities, objects, or time with others in our community – and the church would receive a source of income.



What do you to need to have done? Is the garden a bit too much for you this year with all the rain? What services might you provide to help others? Are you full of energy but can't go to the gym? How about offering to wax someone's car? (hint: modern waxes don't require a great deal of elbow grease; our president elect says that she can do it even with her lame shoulder). Are you a frustrated choir member? Consider offering your talents to serenade others at an outdoor event. If you've taken one of Jeanie Bernard and Cantey Carpenter's Creativity classes, how about volunteering your talents to create birthday cards? Look for a survey in an upcoming communication!

Final Creation Days for the Chalice Project!

RK Young

You can still pick up clay for a chalice, but you need to do so tomorrow (Saturday)! Execute your vision over the weekend, and drop the product at UUTC's vestibule on Tuesday. The outer doors will be open from 10:00 to 6:00. Click CHALICE PROJECT, above, to sign up!







Rev. Shore with some exemplary work!

We've had a wonderful variety of work turned in, and I am really looking forward to the lighting ceremony on June 21st (thanks, Sally Beth!). We have had people from out of town sign up to have chalices made for them, **and now UU World has found out about the project, too**. So we will be making a chalice in honor the UU World magazine staff to be lit with all of our others. Speaking of others — 69 people have signed up to create chalices, and 7 others have asked to have a chalice made on their behalf. We might be forced to have the fire department on standby!

Also, if you have a child who really enjoyed this, do not be bashful about asking for second piece. We have plenty of clay. But you must sign up again so that I can have the clay properly packaged to protect the health of all.

One last thing — while the chalices will be unglazed for the

solstice ceremony, once you have collected your chalice, you would have the option of taking it to either Brevard Clay or Mud Dabbers to be glazed. And at Brevard Clay, you could even use multiple colors!

