

UUTC UPDATE JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH

In Praise of Men

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

It's the annual Father's Day holiday, a day that gets a lot less air time than the sacrosanct Mother's Day. Why honor men, even fathers, some progressive thinkers would say, aren't they responsible for "the patriarchy?" That might be, but this doesn't mean that we don't need to love and uphold them. In fact, doing so is a much more reliable strategy for raising the sons we want than the latest fad of blaming men for the world's ills, which has arguably created an ugly backlash. Let's hit pause at that for a moment, and sing praises for the men we love.



“When a man cannot choose, he ceases to be a man.”

—ANTHONY BURGESS, *A CLOCKWORK ORANGE*

June Is Pride Month

Hello Friends, and Happy 21st Birthday, UUTC!

How fitting to offer “Operation Cupcake” to celebrate—this community is about feeding each other and our wider community. I so love that Susan Zelle and the new Stewardship Team came up with this way to support Bread of Life- a community that originated with UUTC!



Friends, you’ve no doubt heard that the COVID numbers in North Carolina are going up. Given that it’s day 4564 of the pandemic (or something like that), and the fact most of us haven’t had cases in our immediate proximity, it’s not surprising that a certain laxity of precautions has set in. I’m reminding myself to be vigilant and remember to wash my hands frequently, wear the mask when doing inside away from home or in close proximity to others, and do everything out of doors and at a distance as much as possible. UUTC’s building remains closed except to staff and by appointment. The Fellowship Green is available for small gatherings and we will be providing hand sanitizer and bleach solution. Should you wish to schedule your group there, please connect with eloise@uutc.org.

To keep from lengthening the newsletter too much, please check my [blog](#), which I hope helps you in responding to our country’s racial inequities and injustices.

Planning for Farewell

Joyce Henneberry

A couple of weeks ago we told you that we were hoping to have an outdoor service at the library in July so that we could have one last in-person service with Rev. Shore. Well, we have found out that is not possible. Even though as a church we are exempt from the limits of how many of us could get together, we do have to follow the guidelines set for the library, which will at that time be a maximum of 25 people meeting together. So - PLAN B! (I am seeing a theme to all of our plans for this past year!)



On June 28th, Rev. Shore will be giving her last virtual service via FaceBook Live, as she has been doing each week. After it is over, she will go out to the Fellowship Green and anyone who would like to come and see her is welcome! Of course, we will be physically distancing and everyone must wear a mask. And we must stick to a schedule to be fair to all.

We will be dividing the congregation into 4 groups and assigning each group a 30 minute time slot between 11:00am - 1:00pm. This will keep the number of people down for both parking and physical distancing. Most will be asked to park across the street in the city lot and walk over and say good-bye. If you are unable to make that walk, we will be saving the UUTC lot between The Green and the

church for you to park, and Rev. Shore will come to your car to speak to you. There will be people to help direct with parking, etc.

We wish we could have a big party and celebrate all that Rev. Shore has done for us this past year, but, once again, we are not in normal times and we just can not figure out a way to do that.

More detailed information will be coming to you in the next week - Stay Tuned!!!!



Facilities Annual Report

A Team Leader Completes Her Term

Kay Webb

The Facilities Team provides a welcoming building and grounds environment where members and visitors may experience beauty, serenity, and worship or quiet contemplation in surroundings created with respect for the integrity of our earth and its local ecosystems.

This is the function statement developed by members of the Facilities Team to support the mission of UUTC.

As June 30 approaches and the administrative year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all of the members of the Facilities Team. It has been a pleasure to work with a team whose members are always positive, responsive, and fun! Thank you for showing up, thinking creatively, sharing ideas, persisting, and doing the work necessary to keep the team focussed on its mission and UUTC moving forward.

I have served as Team Leader since the Building Team and the Grounds Team merged to become the Facilities Team in 2017. Adhering to the UUTC organizational structure, I will step down as leader when my three-year term ends on June 30th and will step away from team membership for at least one year. That doesn't mean that I won't show up for grounds workdays when volunteers are requested...Gardeners gotta garden!!

Finally, following are highlights of the work accomplished by members of the Facilities Team, with assistance from the Administrator, volunteers, and various contractors during the 2019-2020 administrative year.

Varsity Houses

The Chalice House (yellow house) had structural landscaping added (river birch, oakleaf hydrangeas) to provide screening from neighbors.

The Olympia Brown House (blue house) had all the bedrooms and living rooms painted, new easy-clean vinyl strip flooring laid in areas formerly covered in carpet, garbage disposal installed, screen door openers replaced and a large landscaping bed established in the front bed for screening from headlights and streetlights.

Building @ 24 Varsity

Routine maintenance included HVAC, Fire Extinguishers, Alarm system and Fire Marshall inspections and servicing. Failing emergency lights were replaced. Carpets were cleaned, as were all tables, windows and chairs. Both the minister's office and the nursery received fresh paint: the nursery also got spruced up with new wall decor. Our table storage closet got a smaller, lighter door (Thanks, Jim Hardy!), sanctuary lighting was repaired, and, at long last, the plumbing pipes extending into the sanctuary choir area were removed and sheetrock was repaired. The glass covered bulletin board was removed, the wall repaired, and our new name tag displays have been installed.

Improvements to the building include the presentation station in the social hall and sound bars for both TVs to better facilitate "overflow" from the sanctuary during memorial services. The Chalice painting in the foyer was created by member David Berger and lights were added to make sure that was well lit. Permanent hooks were installed in the hallway for the CRE activity bags. Florescent fixtures in the kitchen, bathrooms and hallway were updated to LED. The old sound system was disassembled and replaced — usable computer components were remade (thank you, Mark Allison!) into a speedy new computer for the minister's office. The Administrator's computer also received a minor makeover to correct connection errors.

Grounds

On our Grounds, two trees damaged by fire (from the training exercise performed with the third of the Varsity properties) were removed, ground into mulch and spread. The larger trunk pieces are being converted into children's natural play space elements. (see photos at right.) A new red maple has been planted to create new shade for the Fellowship Green. A Peace Pole, created by a member of the Brevard Community and donated to UUTC, was installed in our meadow.

Along the creek, live stakes of elderberry and silky dogwood were planted and are now taking hold. Other native species— Fothergilla and Diervilla shrubs and a Winter King Hawthorne, have been planted beside the memorial garden and along the drive adjoining our neighbor's property. Most recently, the Aesthetics arm of the Facilities Team met with the Board President to finalize plans for new Broad Street signage—we look forward to reinstalling our older sign on the Fellowship Green.



Play space fixtures going together (top, middle) and the space designated for Meditation Garden.

Visioning

The Fire Marshall's report called attention to our non-compliant front doors—reporting this data to the Board generated the action & funding to replace those doors. Other parts of the vision we have for our work (with the congregation's support) include installation of insulated shades in all exterior windows, installation of a janitor's sink in the maintenance room, continued development of our Meadow and Children's natural play area, and the development of a Meditation Garden in the grassy space beside the lower parking lot. This area is being set up to permit small groups to meet in the shade.

Privacy Protection and Your Pledge

RK Young

Once upon a time, in this trusting, wonderful congregation, you were able to give your financial information to the Treasurer and he or she would set up your automatic giving for you. If your credit card expiration date changed, he or she would update that record. Life being what it is world wide, software companies all over the globe are shutting “back doors” to data. This now impacts UUTC.

While the Admin and the Treasurer can verify that your giving has been recorded properly and generate reports for you, we are no longer able to enter or modify your actual financial account data. This is actually a good practice, because it protects you from bad actors. Not every employee everywhere is ethical, which is why the software companies are making these changes.

If you have participated in any of the online giving links (“Give Now,” “Operation Cupcake,” text giving, etc.), then you have already had practice in these next steps. AND, if you prefer to write checks, you can of course continue to mail those in. But for those of us who like to set it and forget it, we need to use the Realm online giving menus and get it done before July 1st. Let's start with a shortcut to the

Give button on the UUTC website.

When you click the pink text above, you will get this menu. To open the submenu that you see here, click on the little triangle to the right of where it says “Operating Gift.” From there, select “Pledge.”

Reach Rev. Shore: revshore@uutc.org
Reach RK: 828-435-2899, admin@uutc.org

Treasurer Gail Meyers: treasurer@uutc.org
Data Goddess Eloise: eloise@uutc.org

Now select a date when you wish your gift to be deposited in the UUTC account. This image shows the 5th of July highlighted (ever so slightly— I realize these menus were designed for younger eyes!) as the day of the month on which your pledge would hit the bank. **Using the 1st or the 15th is preferred**, if it doesn't make a big difference to you... doing so results in easier accounting for deposits.

Next, you would **select "Give Multiple Times"** to set up a **once week**, **every two weeks**, **once a**

month, or an **every three months** schedule of periodic giving.

Finally, enter the amount of your gift (where the illustration shows \$50). Then click CONTINUE.

The next step is where you enter your financial account information for the account from which you want your gift drawn. This may differ from the account which you may use for charitable giving. So if you need to "add another account," that is an option.

IF, like myself, you may have forgotten what you wrote on that pledge form so long ago, reach out to your Treasurer, Gail Meyers. She can easily pull up this information from the pledge drive forms or from within Realm. Her contact email is on page 5.

Finally, if you have trouble logging into Realm, contact me or Eloise. We can reissue an invitation so that you can get properly logged into Realm and join the party going on in there. ;) Thanks for your generous support!

Fourth Friday Happy Hour on June 26th

Join a final Happy Hour with Rev. Shore [HERE](#). Help RK fill the screen with your faces so Sally Beth has something wonderful to remember as she leaves us! You don't have to stay— this is a drop in — but just be there to let her know you appreciate her commitment to us this year.

Happy Hours moves to 4th Fridays, starting next week.