

UUTC UPDATE JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH

Because You Loved Me

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

As my “transitional ministry” draws to a close this Sunday, I want to take these last moments in worship to reflect on our time together and speak of the learnings I’ve had during my short time serving as your pastor. I’m quite sure I would have not have offered anything very worthwhile had I not experienced the acceptance, appreciation, and love you offered me. Which leads me to ask: What kind of world will be possible when we can all feel those things?



“You don’t measure love in time. You measure love in transformation. Sometimes the longest connections yield very little growth, while the briefest of encounters change everything. The heart doesn’t wear a watch — it’s timeless. It doesn’t care how long you know someone. What it cares about is resonance. Resonance that opens it, resonance that enlivens it, resonance that calls it home. And when it finds it, the transformation begins.” — Jeff Brown

NEW UUTC PHONE NUMBER

Eloise Shepard

Phone service through the Internet? You bet! **You** don't need the internet or a computer to call us, but our new phone service will bring us into the 21st Century, as well as save money. Best of all, it will enable UUTC Staff to stay connected to the office while we are working remotely.



Our new phone number to reach the office is 828-435-2781.

Please put this number into your phone contacts for "UUTC Office" or write it into your phone book. (The old phone number is gone.) Your call will be answered initially by a regular "Greeting," and then will transfer to ring on the office phone and to me remotely. There will be regular times when I will be monitoring the phone and answering in person. At other times I will check periodically for messages and will get back to you or pass along your message to the appropriate person. Times are subject to tweaking, but initially the phone will be directly monitored Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 12 noon till 3 pm. If your call is not answered, you will get a call back.

Please note that phone messages are converted to email text so I can check messages easily at other times and direct messages to the correct person. So please be sure to leave your name (first and last) **clearly** with your message. However, you *don't* have to leave your phone number unless you prefer to get a call back on a different number. The new system is a little bit different, but so are these remote-work times. The goal is to make sure we can all keep in touch in a timely fashion, so when you need to call the office, try it out. Feedback welcome! eloise@uutc.org.

Meet Our Newest Member!

Rev. Shore got to dust off The Book this week to sign up Ian Fox! Ian is continuing his work with us in AV, as it sometimes takes two people, in addition to the Minister, to make Sundays happen. He will be starting college this fall at Blue Ridge Community College, but has already begun his "studies" in videography here at UUTC.

Look him up in Realm and give him a welcome!



Social Action Team News

Despite the viral competition, the Social Action Team has been keeping itself busy. From almost the beginning of the stay-at-home order, it has been meeting on Zoom weekly for at least an hour. The Team has used this time to conduct business, to further educate ourselves through discussions about assigned readings or videos, and to keep up with each other. If you are interested in joining the Team, email RK or Eloise and they will make the magic happen in Realm.

Besides meeting on Zoom, we have also (as most of you are very well aware...) been organizing and donating to the Bread of Life, where the Team and other UUTC members and friends have been contributing fruit and vegetable salads for 150 people every Thursday for the last month-and-a-half. The Team has also provided weekend food for Haven residents on UUTC's assigned weekend and continued to organize and support UUTC's charitable giving. Thanks to the help of Joanna Bliss, the Dignity Project has continued donating personal hygiene products to our partners, albeit in very creative ways.

We are very pleased to announce that we will have a new Chair of the Team beginning on July 1st—Kathy Reiff has agreed to step up to this role and will be replacing Lisa McHenry and Sharon Moya. You will be hearing more from Kathy in the future.

It has taken some thinking and creativity, but we are determined to continue to serve the community despite present circumstances, and we thank you all for your continued support.

Housekeeping: Emergency Contacts

UUTC's front office has been bugging many of you for a very long time, and most of you are "compliant." At least in this regard. But stuff changes, and in this fraught time, please consider who we would need to contact if you needed assistance. This could be, for the sake of pets or whatever, even a next door neighbor. Or a friend. But think on this, and please [email Eloise](#) (or call with the fancy new number!) and let her know ... who you would need us to get in touch with. Attorneys are fine, too. Being prepared doesn't mean we'll actually have to use that information.

UU Summer Camp: Virtually SUUSI!

Taken from the website

Virtual SUUSI will happen from July 18-25, the same week we planned for in-person SUUSI. Have you ever wanted SUUSI to be longer? This year everyone is Early Arrival! We will officially start SUUSI on Saturday, July 18. (Or earlier – there will be a preview/dress rehearsal event on Friday evening to help everyone figure out the tech.)



We're still building our scaled-down schedule. You can expect worship, [concert hour](#), age group programming, workshops, sports and games activities, small group discussions, nature experiences, [cabaret](#), and even a dance option. We'll have virtual versions of our sacred SUUSI traditions, including ingathering, the Transitions worship service, Teen Way Off Broadway, and closing circle.

Teens should know that we're planning to have teen touch groups, as well as other key teen programs like coffeehouse, [TWOB](#), and bridging.

Middlers can expect special Coming of Age activities for 13-year-olds, plus a [Middler](#) dance and some virtual activities we call Options.

There will be no charge to attend Virtual SUUSI 2020 – not even for workshops. Your staff are all donating their time. Nonetheless, SUUSI will have expenses this year, and there will be opportunities for you to donate to cover those costs. We are hopeful that the generosity of our community will more than cover these expenses, and the Board will be able to dedicate funds to other causes. We are keenly aware of the impact that COVID-19 has had on our SUUSI community and the greater [WCU](#) and Sylva communities to which we are so closely tied. Beyond our traditional SUUSIship and Endowment fundraising efforts, we feel there are opportunities to assist those communities while the crisis continues.

Never tried SUUSI before? Here's your introduction! You can register [HERE](#).

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.”

The screenshot shows a web form titled "How much would you like to give?". The form includes the following fields and options:

- Amount:** \$ 50.00
- Fund:** Operating Gift (with a dropdown arrow to the right)
- Gift date:** Today
- Total:** \$50.00
- Buttons:** A large grey button labeled "GIVE ONCE" is positioned below the amount field.
- Fund Selection Menu:** A dropdown menu is open, showing the following options:
 - Operating Gift
 - Pledge
 - Capital Projects
 - Charitable Giving-General
 - Dignity Project donations
 - Minister's Discretionary

How much would you like to give?

Amount: \$ 50.00 Fund Pledge

+ ANOTHER FUND

GIVE ONCE GIVE MULTIPLE TIMES

Gift date: Today

July 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

CANCEL CONTINUE

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!

Moving On---

Since we are on a July-June fiscal calendar, turnover always happens at this time of year. We say good-bye to outgoing members of the UUTC Board and other committees, and welcome in new faces. It's also time for me to go.

Please know it has been a great, great joy for me to serve these last 10 months as your minister. I will miss UUTC in many ways, as I have grown to love this congregation and Brevard, as well as so many of you who I've had the privilege to interact with personally.



Your 2019-20 Church year was unexpected on many counts. Each of us as individuals has had a different array of challenges, and I hope, joys. Amidst the surprises that unfolded this year, I observed you as a community, collaborating to carry the light forward, doing what needed to be done—finding a short term minister in a pinch (me), restarting your CRE program and hiring a director, mounting a new search process, and then, amidst candidating, having COVID hit, yet managing to adapt to online services and “Zoom” meetings. Through all of this, you have worked to serve the disenfranchised of this area, learn new things, continued to sing songs, and to take care of one another.

I am sure you will make a welcoming place in your heart for Rev. Bob Renjilian when he arrives in August. In the meantime, I know you will continue to take care of one another. As usual, your Worship Team, under Alice Hardy, has stepped up to handle the Sunday worship services together with your extraordinary staff. Loving Hands and Healing Hearts, will have a special telephone number for you to contact them with, and in turn a small group of retired ministers-members at UUTC—Rev. Jean Rowe, Rev. Dick Tucker, and Rev. Carter Heyward will be standing by.

It was my hope to serve as an “Appreciative Minister” at UUTC; what I did not know was just how easy that would be to do here. I have learned much during our journey together, and will be forever grateful for my time spent with you. Should you be able to stop by on Sunday for a fond farewell (as well as have the opportunity to see a few UU’s in person!), I would love to see you; should that not be advisable or desirable, no worries, I completely understand.

In 2019 I helped my father publish his memoir, which opens with this apt line: “I am a part of all that I have met.” And now you are a part of me. Thank you.

Rev. Sally Beth Shore

