

UUTC UPDATE

Honoring Our Warriors

Julie Berger — Facebook Livestream at 10:00am, Sunday

Revisiting all of the things that I learned serving in the army almost 45 years ago, how would those rules apply today given my spiritual values? Also, honoring front-line and civilian soldiers that are serving and risking their own lives during this pandemic.



"True patriotism isn't cheap. It's about taking on a fair share of the burden of keeping America going." — Robert Reich

"I can imagine no more rewarding a career. And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: 'I served in the United States Navy.'" — John F. Kennedy

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.

Salad Rock Stars

Sharon Moya

May I present you with the Bread of Life **Salad Rock Stars**: Jill Beach, Peggy Bogardus, Carol Cartwright, Barbara and Bill Denton, Sharon Gublo, Krista Kaufman, Bobby King, Lane Maier, Dave and Eileen Marshall, Lisa McHenry, Krista Moore, Quim and Sharon Moya, Sue and Jim Null, Kathy Reiff, Nina Rimes, Sarah Rogine, Ginny Rush, Barbi Smith, Kay Webb, and Alice Wellborn.



Collectively, these individuals provided 1,510 portions of salads (veggie and fruit) to individuals taking out meals on five Thursdays at the Bread of Life. They not only purchased and prepared the ingredients for the salads, but also delivered them by the 10:00AM deadline to the Bread of Life. Many of the individuals listed above provided multiple ingredients over multiple Thursdays (you know who you are) so should be considered **Super Rock Stars**.

When the Stay-at-Home order was issued, the Bread of Life closed down dining room services but continued to prepare healthy, home-cooked take-out meals for their on-average daily 150 clientele

getting lunches there Monday-Friday. At the same time, to protect their large volunteer group (many of whom were in the “at-risk” age category), they pared down their “workforce” to a couple of individuals who helped “Chef Michael” by preparing the fresh fruit and veggie salads and getting the meals ready for pickup that multiple volunteers had previously been doing. To offer a bit of relief to these overworked individuals, the Social Action Team elected to take on the task of making fruit and veggie salads one day a week (Thursdays) for a few but soon realized that their small group couldn’t do this alone. It was at this point that the Team reached out to others in the UUTC community and found such admirable volunteers. The Team could not have done this without the others and are very grateful for their contributions. Thank you to all these Rock Stars for stepping up to serve the community during these strange times. Not only were you helping to relieve some very overworked individuals at the Bread of Life and feeding our neighbors in need, but you were also demonstrating that UUTC has a strong presence in the community. Well done!

UUTC ROCKS OPERATION CUPCAKE

Your Stewardship Team

Thank you to the many UU community members who donated to Operation Cupcake! The UUTC Stewardship Team’s first effort to help two local institutions -- Blue Ridge Bakery and Bread of Life – and to raise money for UUTC was a resounding success. Over 50 people helped us celebrate by donating, including a few nonmembers who were also inspired. The Blue Ridge Bakery got in the spirit and charged us far less than the going rate as a way of giving back to the community. Katina and John Hansen, owners of the bakery, said they were always glad to help because “Michael Collins does so much for our community and has kept Bread of Life going despite the coronavirus.”



Star Baker Katina was up before the crack of dawn to finish 156 cupcakes for delivery so that Michael could include a Blue Ridge cupcake in each individual meal. Michael appreciated the help from UUTC and Blue Ridge, saying “it’s such a sweet day at Bread of Life because 156 smiles are about to help, and there’s a lot of sugar and love in that.” Katina hit the nail on the head: Bread of Life helps people get on their feet during tough times, adding “we need to have fun even in tough times and who doesn’t love a cupcake?”



We hope that YOU had fun helping us celebrate. A big thank you to John and Katina. If you haven’t tried their cupcakes, treat yourself to a hummingbird or red velvet cupcake, or try a luscious carrot cupcake!

Looking for some magic this summer?

Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County Presents

“A Return to”

Hogwarts School of Magic and Fun

“Harry Potter and the 7 Principles”

August 3-7th, 2020,

9:00am-12:00pm @ UUTC

This magical week will include: ★ A visit to Diagon Alley ★ Working together as a team with one of our four houses - Phoenixfire, Windhorse, Waverider & Stonedragon) ★ Making magic supplies, like your own wand ★ Exciting classes: Magical Creatures, Transfiguration, Defense Against the Dark Arts & Potions! ★ And More!

- THIS IS AN OUTDOOR CAMP IN THE FELLOWSHIP GREEN -

For more info, to register as a camper or Junior Counselor (ages 12 and up) or to volunteer, contact Kevin Lausch, kevin@uutc.org or call 864-395-1208 Online registration available soon.

Cost of Camp: \$70 for UUTC members, \$75 for non-members. \$40 for each additional sibling. Scholarships available. This camp is geared towards rising 5-12 year olds.

Photos of the Week



Work on the new sign moved forward in earnest this week, with footings excavated, rebar laid, concrete poured and columns built with a channel for electricity. Stone work begins today (Friday).



Small groups are beginning to meet on campus, taking advantage of seating with distancing. Here, the French Conversation Group (meets Thursdays at 3:00) is positioning themselves in the shade cast by our sails. Want to reserve the space? Contact Eloise! Below, Bob & Mary Bennett, assisted by Hector, unwrap 8 new chairs for the Meditation space, creating another small group space.



A Final Thank You



It was so lovely to be able to see some of your faces (even behind masks!) in the parking lot for my send-off, thank you for that as well as the many paper and virtual well wishes and gifts sent my way. It has been overwhelming. As a church, you gifted me with the lovely blue, handwoven shawl, and know that I will wear it with pride and fond memories of UUTC. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart.

I preached in part this past Sunday about the gift of affirmation I've experienced here -- we've had a mutually appreciative ministry, and one big meaning I make from so many of your messages is that it really, really works. I tried to summarize about this in this week's Afterward but I've also expanded some more about this in my final UUTC [blogpost here](#).

I have left behind a small token of my vast appreciation for my time with the Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County, a **Sweet Bay Magnolia tree** for the beautiful outdoor meeting and meditation space that facilities has been outfitting. I was going to "present" it during the Sunday service, but lo and behold, I looked at the window on Friday to see that Kay Webb and Kathryn Burleigh had already planted it! No time for any moss to grow at UUTC! It has been watered with water from the UUTC water communion that was celebrated last September.

In future years, I'm sure I'll be hearing about the wonderful congregation and the growth you create with Rev. Bob Renjilian. So glad to have been here for the transition.

All my best,

Rev. Sally Beth Shore



At right: Rev. Shore, delivering her final sermon at UUTC.