



NEWSLETTER

A Year of Commitment

Facebook Livestream at 10:00am, Sunday

As individuals we make choices and promises and then live into them. If someone secretly monitored your life for a month, what would they conclude is your most sacred vow? We're also a part of community, which has the advantage of sustaining each other. In this context, has anyone ever asked you to hold them accountable to their commitments?



Image by WOW Tech, on Unsplash

*"Find people who share your values, and you'll conquer the world together."
— John Ratzenberger*



SPIRITUAL EXPLORERS

Spiritual Explorations meets again [on Thursday, March 11th, 1:30 to 3 p.m.](#) via Zoom. Meetings continue on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, [1:30 to 3:00](#). We are using the book by Barbara Holmes, [Race and the Cosmos - Second Edition](#). To join, please email Cantey Carpenter, canteycarpenter61@gmail.com

Photo by [Jametlene Reskp](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Carol Flake, Earle Rabb, Jean Rowe, and Cantey Carpenter

MONTHLY FAMILY GATHERINGS

Kevin Lausch, Director of CRE

Our family monthly gatherings are returning!

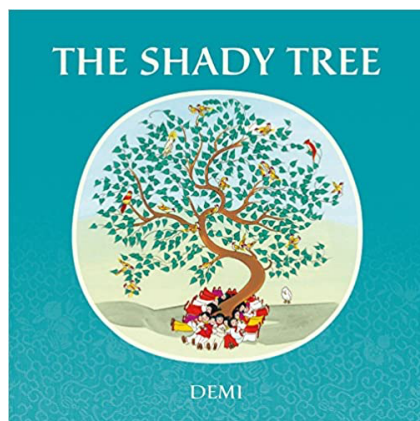
March 13 at 10am - Hike the Pink Beds Loop and have a picnic. This is a relatively flat hike, much of it on boardwalks through a mountain bog, and we will use Barnett Branch Trail to shorten the walk. Meet at the Pink Beds Picnic Area near the Cradle of the Forestry (off Hwy 276 in Pisgah National Forest).



Future family gatherings will be Saturday, April 24 and Saturday, May 22.

THE EASTER EGG HUNT IS BACK

March your calendars for the Walk/Bike/Drive-by Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Day, April 4. If you live in the City of Brevard you can take part and decorate your door or yard with your version of an Easter egg (2D/3D/any medium). Sign-ups will be later in March and a map will be produced so members can go by and see the decorations. Following this event will be a children's activity at the church. More info available soon!



WEEKLY BOOK READING

We post a book reading to the UUTC Facebook page every Sunday morning for our Chalice Children. The video of the book usually supports the worship service theme or subject matter. This week's book is *The Shady Tree*, a Chinese folktale about generosity and forgiveness.

Youth Book Club

Our Youth Book Club has begun and is open to any youth in the 6th grade and above. We started the Book Club with the graphic novel, *MARCH: BOOK ONE* about the life of civil rights leader John Lewis.

The book club meets once a month to eat snacks and have a fun talk about the books and how they

relate to UU principles. Don't worry, no book reports or tests for this club! [Contact Kevin](#) for more information.

Virtual Coffee Hour on Wonder



[THIS LINK](#) will take you to a “room” called UUTC Coffee Hour. **No password. No questions.** If you join a circle of 5 or more, you will be muted automatically by the program on entry, so just enable your microphone at the bottom of your screen to be heard! Wonder just made this change, which explains our experience last week. :)

Get yourself in here! 11:00am Sunday!

Wonder can be used on a smartphone, but you will wish you hadn't. Your best experience is going to be on a laptop or computer and **you will need to be using the Chrome browser. Firefox is supposed to work, but apparently creates an echo.**

Come give it a try!

New Member Orientation

Have you been visiting UUTC? Would you like to learn more about this congregation, during our COVID-safe online Zoom sessions? [Let Rev. Bob Renjilian know about your interest](#), so he can set up the sessions at the dates and times with the most compatibility with those who want to sign up. This is great for folks who are curious, and/or for those who want to later take the official step to become a voting member.



Rev. Bob's UU History Classes

This is one of Rev. Bob's specialties - helping to bring to life the history of our Unitarian Universalist religion. Learn about the King of Transylvania (and his mother, the Queen), movers and shakers from American history, and name dropping (we'll even throw in a NASA astronaut)! This is expected to be a two-session Zoom course (including phone dial-in if you don't have a device with Zoom and want to listen and talk). UUTC folks who [CONTACT REV. BOB NOW](#) will get “first dibs” on the signup, but it will be open to other UU

congregations in the region.

Fellowship on the Green — Tuesdays in March



As previously, the window for being with others is from 11:30am to 1:30pm. All the usual precautions must be taken — distanced, masked — even if you have received both vaccinations, we want to kill this COVID sucker dead and not allow it any new hosts!

This is a weekly event — be mindful of the weather and dress appropriately (like I really need to tell you that...). Unlike previously, there will be no “rain dates.” Activities are picking up, and the calendar is about to start getting a bit more crowded!

Help with Setting up Giving through Realm



Eloise Shepard

Do you need help setting up online giving for your pledge in Realm? Sometimes in-person instruction is easier. Eloise will be at Fellowship on the Green on **Tuesday, March 9th, from 11:30-1:30**. If you would like some discrete one-on-one help, email her by Monday afternoon to arrange to come during FOTG time. Please include your name, contact info, what type of device you are using (laptop, phone, or tablet—windows, android or apple/mac) and what your issue is.

Please plan to bring your **charged** device with you and we will work through setting you up, outside with masks. *Please note, if you have access to a laptop, it is easier to see the process than*

on a phone or tablet. Dark Skies says the weather will be lovely!

Gardening for the Future

Spring is around the corner; at least that is what the robins have whispered in my ear on these chilly, drizzly February mornings! Some people that are ready to meet the new season are the students at Davidson River School (DRS). In partnership with UUTC, led by the Social Action Team and aided by UUTC members and Cooperative Extension Director Bart Renner, the students are embarking on a journey toward a community garden in their school community. Healthy foods will be grown and used in meals as snacks for the students. Ideas like a healthy, yummy diet and composting are life-long, life-changing lessons for everyone involved, and we are all excited.

On the first visit to DRS, breakfast burritos were made and served to the students. During the second visit, students learned about composting and were gifted red wiggly worms, thanks to Bart. With the

students, we'll be making smoothies with microgreens in our next program at DRS. The list goes on!

Due to the gracious awarding of funds through the UUTC Endowment Fund, students will be learning how to start plants inside using grow lights and then transplant the seedlings outside to raised beds. We are also thankful for Bart's expertise in greenhouse construction. Most of a greenhouse frame has been started at DRS and Bart will teach the children how to figure out the roof for the greenhouse. Math in action!



The Social Action Team at Davidson River School

As with any project, expenses - both expected and unexpected - grow at a steady pace. The Social Action Team and the school want to be sure to use the grant monies wisely for items that are not available through the community. To that end, we are putting out an all-call for donations to help keep expenses down. Items that will be gratefully accepted are: gardening tools, gloves, a wheelbarrow, soil, fertilizer, gardening buckets and kneepads. If you have power tools you can loan and/or experience cutting rafters, please contact us if you can help move ahead the DRS greenhouse construction. We'll be scheduling this work on weekends, at volunteer convenience. If you have something you think we can use, please e-mail Sarah at s.rogine@gmail.com.

Thank you again to the Endowment Committee for the DRS award, and thank you to our church community for any in-kind donations!

Bakery Treats for Bread of Life

Social Action is working out the details of the monthly edible contributions to Bread of Life. Barbara Denton is handling BROWNIES FROM BRACKEN MOUNTAIN. Yes, Michael Collins is excited about that! Every other month, we will swap off between Blue Ridge Bakery and Bracken Mountain Bakery. Deliveries will be made at roughly the 15th of each month, depending on the day of the week.

If you'd like to help keep this effort going, you can [CLICK HERE](#) and make a contribution. We are NOT asking the bakeries to give us great discounts, as we want this to be good for them, too. Just because they've stayed afloat during the pandemic doesn't mean times are easy. Share this link with your friends — with 170 brownies, cupcakes or cookies a month to produce, we can use all the help we can get!



Artists in Pursuit of Meaning



March 9th, 6:30pm

The second session of *Artists in Pursuit of Meaning* uses a National Endowment for the Arts film about artist and architect Maya Lin. Many of you have probably experienced at least one of Maya Lin's great works: the Vietnam Memorial.

Maya Lin: A Clear, Strong Vision takes us on the journey from conception, to acceptance, to execution and beyond of this pivotal work. No work of memorial architecture created since has been untouched by the change wrought since the creation of this work. Suddenly, the names of the dead mattered.

Maya Lin experienced racial hatred during the selection process and the anger of many who failed to "see" her vision from the drawing at left. Come experience the film for yourself. [Email RK](#) to get the zoom link!

Coming Soon to a Parking Lot Near You...

Kevin Lausch and CRE will be managing a yard/parking lot sale at UUTC in the not too distant future. Why are we telling you now? So you can start thinking of what you can unburden yourself from!

Even consider contributions of things "not worth pricing." Many may have jars of screws leftover from earlier projects, or bits of rope — really anything — and this is your opportunity to contribute not just things you think would generate a nice donation, but things that probably wouldn't — but your life would be lighter for having passed them on. **If each member and friend were to contribute enough to raise \$15 of revenue, we can completely cover the costs of Chalice Camp. Kevin is planning on renting a large tent to get us through this year's event.**



Start checking your closets and tool sheds and attics and ridding yourself of things (as the modern jargon goes) that "don't bring you joy." Find some boxes or plastic tubs that you can start putting things into, and let the unburdening begin. Start today! Remember that anything left over will go to Habitat for Humanity or SAFE's Attic.

You will need to bring this stuff to the church at some point... but that date has not been set. :)