

# NEWSLETTER

### We All Love the Same

Facebook or YouTube Livestream at 9:00am, Sunday — Services at 9:00 & 11:00

June is PRIDE month for the LGBTQI community. Join us in a service of understanding and celebration.

Speaker: Rev. Bob Renjilian



Photo by Bruno Aguirre on Unsplash

"Love has no gender - compassion has no religion - character has no race."

- Abhijit Naskar, Either Civilized or Phobic: A Treatise on Homosexuality

### **NAMI** Family-to-Family



Family-to-Family is a free, 8 session educational program for family members and caregivers of adults with mental health conditions. The forced isolation of COVID has made mental health a front & center issue across the US. We are fortunate to have a NAMI chapter here in Brevard!

Family-to-Family is an evidence-based program that significantly improves the coping and problem-solving abilities of the people closest to a person with a mental health condition. The program is taught by NAMI-trained family members, and includes discussions, videos, and interactive exercises.

Classes meet on Mondays and Thursdays, July 5 through July 29th, from 5:30-8:00pm, at St. Philip's Episcopal, in Miller Fellowship Hall. State of NC pandemic mandates and recommendations for masks and distancing will be followed. YOU MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND: email namitransy@gmail.com or call Janice Kimball, 828-877-2806.

## **Children's Religious Exploration**

**Kevin Lausch, Director of CRE** 

### B.Y.O.B. at the R.I.N.G.

July 4th, not as much is happening in Brevard and Transylvania County as pre-pandemic times. Plan on coming to roast marshmallows and hang out at the fire ring at UUTC! The event starts at 5:30pm.



### **#PuzzlePanic!**

Coming July 24th, at 2:30pm, we have a very special puzzle activity. A puzzle that divides into 8 sections has been procured. To make this happen, we will need 8 teams of four people. Each section is about 120 pieces.

1 adult, 1 child/youth, 1 "interrupter" (may be child/youth), 1 judge (may be child/youth). Judges get assigned to a different team.

The interrupters are tasked with stopping assembly temporarily by supervising the completion of an assigned task. (All teams have to complete the same tasks, but not necessarily in the same order. Examples: eat a carrot, hop on one foot 5 times, drink a small glass of water, draw a turtle, blow up a balloon... each task completed by ONE of the team members, but all will be assigned some task or other at some point in the game—including the judge!

# Registration is \$20 per team and will open July 1st. Start rounding up your team now!

### Chalice Camp - Monday to Friday, Aug 9-13, 9 to Noon

Chalice Camp will "Return to Hogwarts" again with this fun, magical camp for kids aged 5 to 10. Camp activities will include a trip to Diagon Alley, making yummy treats, care of magical creatures,

and of course potion making! Youth aged 11+ can be a House Prefect (camp helper) and youth aged 13+ can lead a "house" of kids. Cost is \$70 for member kids, \$85 for non-member kids, \$40 for each sibling after the first, and scholarships are available. More information and registration will be available soon.

# Children's Religious Exploration Classes to return in September

As usual, during the summer there will be no Sunday morning CRE classes offered. CRE classes will begin again on Sept 12, the first Sunday after Labor Day. Currently we are planning to have CRE classes outside in the Fellowship



Director of CRE Kevin Lausch

Green while the weather is good and move indoors if bad weather. Two classes will again be offered at the 9am service time: Chalice Children (aged 4-7) in the large classroom and Rainbow Kids (aged 8-11) in the small classroom. In addition, the Youth Book Club (for tweens and teens) will run monthly beginning in September.

### **CHURCH WIDE YARD SALE**

The church wide yard sale is coming **August 21**! Please hold on to those things you want to donate and we will sell them to support UUTC. A tent will be set up on the Fellowship Green to receive your donations the week of Aug 16th to 20th. Volunteers are needed to help make this event (organizing and pricing before the sale, helping customers during the sale, cleaning up after, etc.). We can take household items, clothes, books, sports equipment, and much more. Please consider the salability of your donations!

### **NOW HIRING — UUTC**

#### **RK Young**

In this week's Transylvania Times, the Job Fair supplement had two ads from UUTC — one for nursery help and one for AV Tech. The Times also had extensive coverage on the employment situation nationwide. There is, frankly, a real chance that we may not be able to fill all positions. Of our former staff, two graduated, one moved and one doesn't want to serve until her own children can be vaccinated (sounds logical to me!).

Our intermediate solution is that parents bring their children into the sanctuary, and if the kids get restless, parents can move into the social hall with the children where the service will be showing on the large TV, so that parents can still listen. The nursery carpet will be moved in to provide a softer play area, and very soon a new children's-height bookcase will appear under the name tag displays in the foyer to provide some quiet entertainment for young children.

Just a reminder of what your gifts and talents bring — Jim Hardy is crafting the new bookcase (from wood from his own property!) and anonymous donors provided the funds for the TV/DVD/internet media station in that space. It takes all of us to make it work!

### Virtual Coffee Hour— Replaced by the Real Thing

On Sunday, June 20th, we open the doors to whoever can find a seat! Remember that regardless of vaccination status, masks are required in the building. HOWEVER...



AFTER each service, there will be coffee, purchased in "boxes" of Joe" from Dunkin' Donuts. It won't be as glamorous as the stuff in the picture at left, but it will be there for you to share in the company of fun people. And you can take off your mask.

Coffee will be available in the drive that runs along the east side of the church. This spot should be shadier than almost anywhere else. It will be available after EACH service (both the 9:00 and the 11:00) so that everybody isn't forced to try to

cram into the space at one time.

This solution comes at least in part because we do not have volunteers for preparing coffee of our own. It takes a minimum of 8 volunteers for a month of coffee service, but carrying all that outside is also a real barrier to serving of coffee. A jar will be set on the tables so that you can contribute (each cup will cost us about \$2). If donations cover most of the cost, we can continue to offer coffee like this on nonprecipitating days.

### Amazon Smile — If You Use It, Exploit It!

If you have an Amazon Prime account, you have the option to have Amazon donate to the charity of your choice. This does not impact the prices you pay for anything on Amazon, it just forces them to share the wealth. How about having them make a contribution to UUTC? Painless giving!

When you login to Amazon, directly below their search box is where you will see who you are supporting through Amazon Smile. If nothing is listed, choose somebody! Maybe UUTC! But even if you don't choose UUTC, please take advantage of this feature to help another local non-profit. To learn more about how to sign up, follow **THIS LINK**.

### Fresh Talk About Air Quality

#### **RK Young**

Historically, carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere hovered around 280 parts per million (ppm). When the Industrial Age got underway, those levels re-normalized at around 315 ppm. Now, as you will have heard in climate change discussions, those levels are shooting up rapidly, and stand at 419 ppm world wide as of this writing. And while we have discussed those levels in the context of climate change, I'd like to draw the connection to immediate public health. Particularly ours, as the ability of our air exchange system to keep air "fresh" is linked to its mixing of outdoor and indoor air in relation to the

measure of carbon dioxide in our building. And the lowest it can possibly go is equal to the levels in the air outside our building.



Photo by Alistair MacRobert on Unsplash

The lowest recorded reading from UUTC, as measured by the instruments installed along with the air exchange system, was 429 ppm. (Only 10 ppm higher than outdoor air!) If current CO2 ppm were at the historic levels, we would have 320 ppm of "wiggle-room" before we reached the disease transmission threshold of 600 ppm. As it is, we have only 171 ppm of room before we bump up against the 600 ppm below which airborne disease can be easily controlled.

We WILL cross that threshold in the sanctuary. There is too great a volume of air in that space for the system to exchange and keep the carbon dioxide levels below 600 ppm with all of us pushing the stuff out of our lungs for an hour.

On the plus side, it will be the best it has ever been in there—so we should count our blessings! And we will be wearing masks, which is the other best practice for preventing transmission of an airborne disease. As an immunized individual, I feel secure in our building when I need to be there, and I will feel secure on Sunday, as well, despite the less than perfect air quality. However, I am not caring for a cancer patient, and I do not have small children at home who I could bring disease home to. Kay and I are still careful with our grandchildren, who of course cannot be immunized, yet.

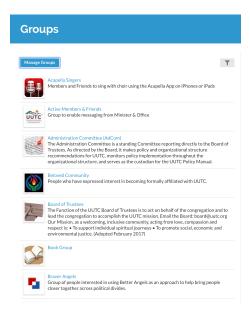
All this to say— we want you to be comfortable joining us on Sunday. And we also understand if you are not. And that is why we will continue to livestream services at 9:00 each Sunday, so that you can still connect with UUTC, and with others enjoying the livestream, and keep in touch. If you are watching online, consider saying hello to others in the chat—if you'd like to set up a Facebook account but want to be secure, send me an email and I'll walk you through the process. Remember that UUTC has a Facebook page, and also a Member Group on Facebook, which is private. Some fun stuff gets shared in there, and if you are not able to be here on campus, let's get you set up to be in touch in other ways.

### **Helping UUTC Prevent Trauma**

#### **RK Young**

A personal goal of mine has been to find the tools that will allow UUTC to empower each member in their own spiritual journey. The flip side of that has to do with protecting the institution itself. The selection of Realm as our database not only for contribution records, but for individual connection support, is both a challenge as we learn how to use the software and a gift to the institution.

What does that mean? Well, one of the problems that many congregations have is "outside" email lists. In the Administrators group to which I belong, a recent nightmare was a person (not a member of the congregation) who no longer wished to receive emails from the discussion group to which they had belonged. The Administrator could delete the individual's email from the database, but individuals from the discussion group would continue to "Reply All" from older emails sent from the group. This caused



the person who wished "out" to become irate, claim elder abuse, and more. Since the trauma continued (sporadically) over MONTHS, even apologies from the minister were of no help.

When you use Realm to communicate with your groups, the email is encrypted, protecting the contact information of all members. But even more importantly, when administration receives word that someone wishes to drop out, the designation of "inactive" makes sure that person receives no more emails, no matter which groups they have belonged to.

Obviously, this does not apply to outside email groups. It is for this reason that we have worked to get entered into the database the basic contact information of anyone participating in a UUTC group. It doesn't matter if they aren't members or friends, it provides

protection to UUTC to use the Realm communication tools.

As we expand programming, I want to ask all group leaders to PLEASE work with Eloise or myself to learn how to use Realm and take advantage of these protections. Any group that meets on the UUTC grounds or uses other digital UUTC resources needs to realize the possible impacts and take advantage of the tools we have to protect our institution. Yes, there's a learning curve. I have confidence you can learn what you need to!

### **Board of Trustees Agenda**

For June 24, 2021 @ 5:30PM

Welcome & Check-in

**Opening Words:** Susan Zelle

**Board Minutes:** The May 27, 2021, meeting minutes were approved via email vote on 06/03/21 and sent to the Administrator for filing and publishing.

Email Votes Since Last Meeting: Approval of May 2021 minutes

**Standing Updates:** 

Minister's Report Rev. Bob Renjilian

Treasurer's Report Gail Meyers
Operations Report RK Young

Administration Committee Kay Webb (liaison)
Finance Committee Gail Meyers (liaison)
Personnel Committee Betty Kendrick (liaison)
Property Committee Quim Moya (liaison)
Advisory Council Susan Zelle (liaison)

#### **Old Business:**

#### **New Business:**

Authorize '2021 - '2022 Bank Signatories

Conflict of Interest Policy and Annual Statements - Kay

Stewardship Efforts - RK Young

Board Calendar: July - Signatures for Bank Accts and Annual Conflict of Interest Statements

Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: 07/22/21 at 5:30pm

#### **Adjourn**

### Serving As Part of Your UUTC Journey

#### **RK Young**

Rev. Paula Gable, our first Interim Minister, spoke of "throwing down tracks in front of a moving train." That analogy still works for our current path. During the pandemic there were so many new tracks thrown down that we need additional switching stations to make it all work.

Realm, again, is helping Serving Team Leaders to reduce the agonies of scheduling and finding volunteers for the many tasks that need doing each week. What is a Serving Team? It's Realm's name for all the Teams that do the work of the church. Teams like Facilities, Worship, Membership, Social Action, CRE and ARE. They provide service and structure to programs and activities.

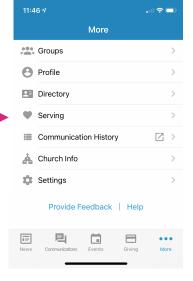
I will use Worship as an example. In Realm, the activities of ushering, providing flowers, assisting the minister are all "serving roles" for which we regularly schedule volunteers. Under the new system, any

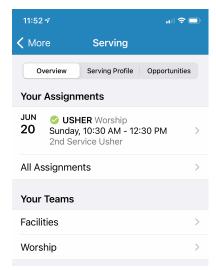
assigned Leader of the Worship Team (leaders are not necessarily Team "chairs"), can see the Sunday Service Schedule and assign volunteers to that schedule. A Worship Team Leader cannot see the Membership Team's schedule of Greeters. So to prevent dual booking, members serving as Greeters (or other Membership Team roles) cannot also serve as Ushers (or other Worship Team Roles).

Sound confusing, yet?

At the administrative level, it can be. But at the TEAM level, it should be a lot less onerous. Once someone has committed to volunteer to a particular role, the Team Leader who is scheduling volunteers just logs into Realm, checks to see who is available when over the next month, and assigns volunteers to specific dates.

Here's where UUTC members and friends can help. At right is a screenshot from an iPhone with the "More" menu of Realm. See the heart with "Serving?" That's where we start. Tap the small arrow beside "Serving" and we'll get started.





#### The first tab is the Overview Tab.

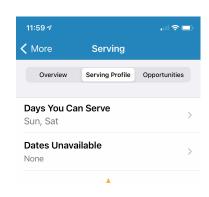
In this example, our volunteer has already signed up for Serving Roles on the Facilities Team and the Worship Team. In addition, they have been assigned as an usher for Sunday's 2nd service.

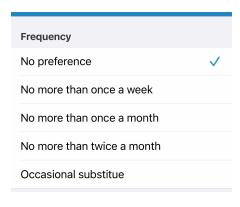
If someone has downloaded the Realm Connect app, as is the case here, volunteer assignments will appear on this screen. A similar layout is available at <u>onrealm.org</u> when you use an internet browser to access Realm. If you are not using Realm at all, then you would receive an email with your assignment. BUT — you get a lot more control over your assignments if you login to Realm and state your preference.

#### The second tab is your Serving Profile.

Here is where you can specify which days you can serve, and which days you are not available. The first arrow gives you days of the week. The second is where you can enter dates that you already have other life commitments.

Below that will appear the Team Serving Roles for which you have volunteered. For each of those roles, you can select other qualifiers.





As an example, all roles will have the modifiers at left. But Ushers have a family rule, because UUTC does not permit family members to count cash together. So, for instance, in my ushering role, I have said that I cannot serve with Kay Webb, because we're family.

So how do you sign up for a Serving Role? In this same menu there is a third tab, **Opportunities.** 

Let's pretend you've heard that Adult Religious Exploration

needs some group leaders. You would then Browse by Team, select ARE, and find that Role. Or maybe you love getting to know people, and so you you'd like to be a Greeter, but you don't know what Team that Role belongs to. In that case, you would browse by Role to find "Greeter."

Under Featured, if you have entered your skills and interests, you may have certain Roles showing that match some of your skills.

I hope you will sign into Realm if you haven't already, and start filling out your profile with skills, interests—and finding places you can serve. Service is part of the journey. Thanks!

