

UUTC UPDATE

FEBRUARY 17th, 2017



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

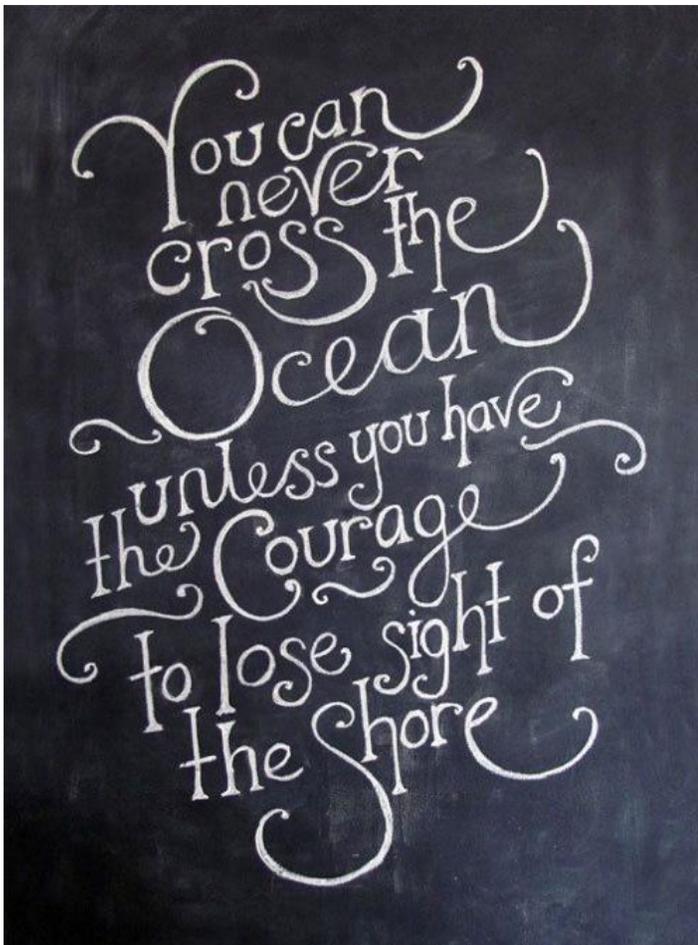
I CAN'T GO TO ALDERAAN I HAVE TOO MUCH WORK TO DO

by Rev. Ian White Maher

Sunday, February 19th at 9:30am and 11:00am

There are always excuses, so many excuses. It's not like entering the pilgrimage is easy. It is not easy. It means leaving behind so much of what you know, so much of what gives your life meaning and boundaries and comfort. And there are many people in the world who would rather live within the small confines of what they know than follow what God is calling them to do. And this is one of the great sources of suffering and frustration that we see in the world around us.

Join us for coffee between services at 10:30am!



NEXT WEEK at UUTC

Office Closed — Mon 2/20

Growing Younger — Mon 2/20 @ 11:00am

March with BC — Mon 2/20 @ 5:00pm

Men's Group — Tues 2/21 @ 9:00am

Book Group — Tues 2/21 @ 3:00pm

TAC* — Tues 2/21 @ 5:45pm

Board Meeting — Tues 2/21 @ 6:00pm

Eclectics Jam — Wed 2/22 @ 9:30am

Time to Talk — Wed 2/22 @ 6:00pm

Sierra Club — Thurs 2/23 @ 6:30pm

Living the Tao — Fri 2/24 @ 10:30am

***TAC** is the Transylvania Action Collaborative. This event is open to all. Runs to 8:00pm.

TIME TO TALK: THIS WEEK, LGBTQ (REV. IAN WHITE MAHER FACILITATING)

In response to concerns being expressed in our communities, Transylvania County's NAACP launched a series of public conversations, "Time to Talk," to take place weekly over an 8-week period.

The remaining sessions will address timely themes being raised publicly by the challenges facing various groups: **Gay & Straight Together—Why Such Fear?** (Wed, Feb 22, UUTC), **Religious Bigotry** (Thurs, Mar 2, St. Philip's), **Environmental Justice** (Thurs, Mar 9, Good Shepherd), **Economic Fairness** (Thurs, Mar 16, Bethel A Baptist), and the **Assault on Public Education** (Thurs, Mar 23, Brevard Elementary School). All sessions will be from 6-8:00pm. **Rev. Ian White Maher will facilitate this week's session on LGBTQ matters.**

Due to the large numbers of people who have been attending, there will be no potluck for this week (because of insufficient space); rather, please bring finger foods.

Questions can be addressed to NAACP Religious Affairs Chair Rev. Carter Heyward at 884-5041.

UUTC MEMBERS MARCH ON RALEIGH



Many others marched, but this trio took pictures!



Continued from page 2

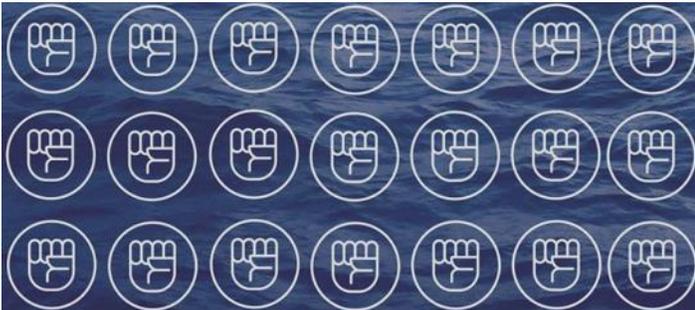
“I was marching for others that have not had access to the same benefits I have-food, shelter, education, healthcare and a voice.” Lynn Halsey

“I participated in the Moral Marches of February 2014 and 2016, concerned about the morality of laws and actions of exclusion and plundering happening in North

Carolina. Following the 2016 election and unable to attend any of the Women's Marches, missing Moral March 2017 was not an option for me as a citizen and a sister of NC, this country and this planet. Silence was and is not an option. Standing down was and is not an option.” — Susan Slocum

With thanks to Elizabeth Thompson for the photos

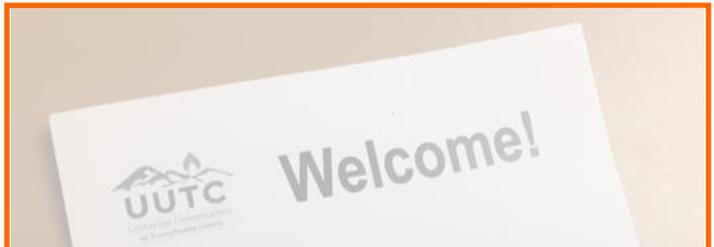
**MARCH WITH BREVARD COLLEGE
MONDAY 2/20 @ 5:00PM**



**TAKE A STAND FOR YOURSELF,
YOUR FAMILY, YOUR COMMUNITY
& YOUR PLANET.**

**JOIN US PRESIDENT'S DAY 2/20
5 PM @ THE BELL TOWER
FOR THE BC RESISTANCE MARCH
& A CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM**

**MARCH WITH RESISTANCE
OR FALL INTO CORRUPTION
#NODAPL #RESISTANCE**



UUTC WELCOME CARDS

If you have not read both sides of our new Welcome cards enclosed in the order of service, please do so. Members and Friends, as well as guests and visitors, may add a request or comment on the front of the card. On the back, you will find either meaningful quotes from our website focus group or the Sources of our Faith.

If you do not need your card, please return to the usher's station for reuse within or without the order of service. If you think of something later, there are extra cards on the Welcome Table in the foyer. Thank you!

The Membership Team membership@uutc.org

MINISTERIAL SEARCH TEAM UPDATE

We have recently moved into a new phase in our search for our next settled minister. After an extensive review of an amazing pool of ministerial candidates, we selected the most promising candidates. We contacted references for each one and conducted video conference interviews. Following those interviews we have selected a few “pre-candidates” for the position of minister of our beloved congregation. During February and March these pre-candidates will preach in “neutral pulpits” – churches where neither we nor they are known. From that group we will select one final candidate who will come to our church in late April to meet members and friends of our congregation and preach on two Sundays. We’ll ask you to vote to call that minister at a congregational meeting on May 7th.



As we got to know these ministers in depth, it seemed a good time to review the attributes you, the congregation, defined last summer through the survey and cottage meetings. We heard that you value strong preaching, warmth, caring and openness, acceptance of our theological differences, intellectual stimulation, enthusiasm, humor, excitement about religious exploration and social justice, and a cooperative, yet visionary leadership style. The ministers on our short list seem to fit the bill, we are happy to report.

Until we announce our final candidate we won’t be able to give you any information about candidates, but we’ll be happy to talk with you about any other aspect of the search process.

Your Ministerial Search Team,

Lauren Agrella-Sevilla, Joanna Bliss, Ben Browning, Betty Kendrick, Bruce Kirkman, Earle Rabb

PROTECTING THE GREATER GOOD — SECOND SAFETY SEMINAR — “ALICE”

Alert. **L**ockdown. **I**nform. **C**ounter. **E**vacuate. This is the sequence of steps recommended for dealing with an active killer situation. Key facts: most injuries and fatalities occur within the first 5 minutes—and police response usually takes closer to six. This means that the intended victims are, in fact, the first responders. “Counter” was one of the best ways for congregations on a budget to plan for dealing with an attack—essentially, we all empower our inner Kindergartners to create chaos—keep moving, holler, and throw things at the attacker! Each of these reduces the effectiveness of the attack. Just imagine the hail of hymnals....

SOCIAL ACTION AGENCY FOR FEBRUARY— BREAD OF LIFE



From its inception in 1997, Bread of Life has received broad support from Transylvania churches and individuals. Both volunteer help and financial support have been the key. Meals are served Monday through Friday and on Sunday night as well for those in need in our county. 180 free, well-balanced meals and emergency pantry boxes are provided each day. That translates to 900 meals a week, and over 45,000 each year. Bread of Life is the focus of our Social Action outreach for February at UUTC. At these difficult times for many in Transylvania County, we ask that you continue to generously support the Bread of Life.

OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE COLLABORATION

Tuesday, February 21st, the Transylvania Action Collaborative (TAC) will be meeting here at UUTC for the first time under this name. If you are on Facebook, you may request to join this group. Their Mission: To foster collaborative action and build a network for individual support to affect positive change for Transylvania County and beyond.

TAC'S Guiding Principles: We are a platform from which thematically-focused groups spring forth and report back to. We listen, we educate, we encourage and offer support and feedback to each other. We build a network to invite the constant and dynamic sharing of ideas, resources, knowledge, access, connections and wisdom to each other for the continued betterment of our community in collective and individual acts and actions. We will practice fearless outreach - individually and as a group - to those who do not know our group and to encourage them to join us if it is of their own choosing. We will advocate for and resist against social and political issues as we identify them. We will do this within our lawful place in our democracy.

We will conduct ourselves with respect to others and with dignity for ourselves. We will tell each other of small victories and celebrate large advances of the movement as they occur. We will also share failures and losses and help each other through these. We seek to make each other smile and share hopes and dreams, we remind each other to be kind, decent and sneaky where appropriate. We take care of each other and encourage each other to take care of ourselves. We will not let each other, this group, our community or this country down.

Many UUTCers are already part of this group. Join them Tuesday night at 5:45pm!

UUTC Board of Trustees Agenda • February 21, 2017 at 6:00pm

Welcome & Check-In	Gary
Opening Words	Cantey
Approval of January Minutes	Kay
Email Votes since January Meeting	Kay
Standing Updates	
Minister's Report	Ian
Treasurer's Report	Dave
Finance Committee	
Administration Committee	
Property Committee	
Board Calendar Review	Kay
Old Business	
February Congregational Meeting & Forum	Kay/Carol
Stewardship	Carol
Varsity Extension Update	Gary
Sponsored Projects Update	Gary
New Business	
Accounting Discussion	Gary
SUULE	Carol
Recommendations from Aesthetics	Kay
Endowment Policy	Gary
Worship Team Request re Worship Service Times	Gary
GMAC Request re Chamber of Commerce Brochure	Gary
UUA Southern Rep Meeting –April 24 @3pm	Gary
Candidate Week – April 29—May 7	Gary
Next Board Meeting: March 28th at 6pm	
Adjourn	

THE MAIN COURSE: UUTC CONNECTIONS CLASS • APRIL 1ST

The new name for our prospective member class is **The Main Course: UUTC Connections Class**. If you are thinking of becoming a Member or Friend of UUTC this spring, attend and share this day with Ian, staff and congregational leaders. Childcare is available by request. Other details, including lunch break details and your preparations for the class, will follow.

For those who choose membership, the spring Signing and Welcoming Ceremony is scheduled for **April 16th**. Sign up on the office counter or email membership@uutc.org.

“You, Me, and UUTC” grads who are interested in Signing and being part of the Welcoming Ceremony on April 16th should email membership@uutc.org.

Fall dates are October 7th and 15th for the class and welcoming ceremony.

UPDATE ON VARSITY EXTENSION PROJECT FUNDING

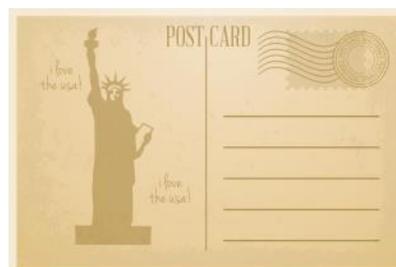
We are moving at the *speed of contributions*! Our property acquisition was not exactly in the Operating Budget. Therefore, no operating budget funds are being used for the work that is happening. Only designated contributions are going towards meeting this un-planned for need. While it seems a moment of grace that we are even ABLE to provide housing for Ian, it is a challenge for UUTC to make things happen. Even small donations to the project are most welcome. Thanks!

POSTCARD PARTY! COMING MARCH 7TH TO UUTC!

Taking action can be as simple as writing a postcard and sending it to a state or federal legislator. Political action, on any scale, helps us feel stronger, more hopeful, and more energized. So let's get together with family, friends and neighbors on March 7th to write postcards on whatever issues you want to support or to voice your concern. Doors will be open at UUTC between 4:30-6:30pm, so come on by to share your thoughts with your elected officials!

We still need postcards and postage (or donations) to make this party a success. A basket is available at the front desk to accept your contributions to the cause. We will also need a few people to greet other partygoers at the door—if you can help in any way, please contact:

[Jeanie Bernard](#) 884-9179 and [Pam Drellow](#) (716)969-2564



COMPASSIONATE COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP

The Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Greenville, SC will be hosting a two-day workshop featuring Rev. Carlton Smith, who is a Congregational Life Consultant for the Southern Region of the UUA, on March 17-18, 2017. This is an excellent opportunity to learn and practice non-violent communication.

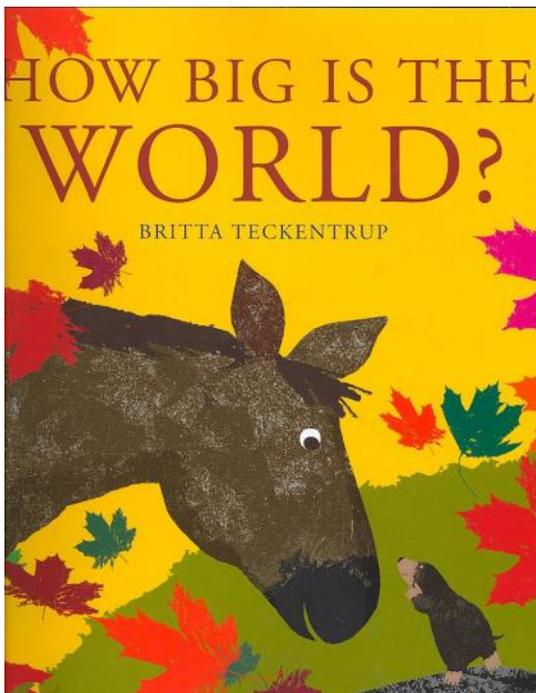


The cost of the workshop is \$35 for those who register online by March 10; \$40 for late registration or those who wish to pay at the door. Your registration fee covers all materials, Friday night supper and Saturday snacks and lunch. The workshop is limited to 50 participants, and registration closes on March 10th. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Refunds are available if you cancel by March 10, or if the event is cancelled for any reason.

Complimentary childcare and limited home hospitality are available *by request*, and we welcome campers or RVs to park on campus overnight (no hookups, but access to facilities). After you register, please contact dre@greenvilleuu.org if you prefer vegetarian, vegan, or gluten free food. Our Saturday caterer is happy to accommodate. *If we do not hear from you, we assume you are an omnivore.* To learn more, watch this brief introduction on YouTube: [Nonviolent Communication with Marshall Rosenberg - a Brief Introduction](#)

TIME FOR ALL AGES PREVIEW



Our Time for All Ages this month for the theme PILGRIMAGE is *How Big Is the World?* by Britta Teckentrup, copyright 2007.

"Little Mole has an enormous question: *How big is the world?* ...He knows there's only one way to find out: leave the molehill and see for himself. And so Little Mole circles the globe, from the frozen north to the vast desert, the tall cities to the huge mountains, the great jungles to the thick forests. Everywhere he goes he meets fascinating animals." (*from Amazon.com*). Sounds like quite a pilgrimage!

I wonder what Little Mole learns on his pilgrimage, I wonder???

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING • FEBRUARY 26, 2017

Agenda:

Resolution to approve 12/11/16 Congregational Meeting Draft Minutes

Resolution to approve Proposed UUTC Mission Statement

Resolution to approve Proposed Bylaw Revisions

Mission Statement (10/28/16) Proposed by Mission/Vision Task Force:

Our Mission, as a welcoming, inclusive community acting from love, compassion and respect, is:

to support individual spiritual journeys

to promote social, economic and environmental justice.

Proposed Revisions to the current (5/22/16) Bylaws:

1. Page 5, Article VI. Board Member Duties, Section D. Duties of the UUTC Treasurer include: Number 6. - Supervise the *Database Administrator*

Proposed revision: replace “Database Administrator” with “Bookkeeper”

Rationale: there is no longer a position with the title “Database Administrator”; the Treasurer supervises UUTC’s bookkeeper.

2. Page 7, Article VIII. Congregational Meetings, Section B. Quorum for Meetings, Number 3. – Decisions will be made by simple majority of the votes cast (in person and by absentee ballot), EXCEPT for matters referred to in Article IV, Section A, Numbers 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10, which decisions shall require no less than two-thirds of the votes cast (in person and by absentee ballot) in order to pass. Article IV, Section A, Number 7 [approve a ministerial candidate to serve as minister] requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote in order to pass.

Proposed revision: replace “3/4” in the last sentence with “90%”

Rationale: the “3/4” is in conflict with Article IX. Section C. Number 3, which requires a 90% approval vote for calling/approving a new Minister. We adopted the 90% number at our May 2016 Congregational Meeting.

3. Page 7, Article IX. Minister, Section D. Resignation, Number 2. - Procedures to be followed by the Board and Congregation shall be included in the UUTC *Policy Manual*.

Proposed revision: replace “Policy Manual” with “Board Operating Guidelines”.

Rationale: procedures are lodged in Operating Guidelines not in the Policy Manual.

4. Page 8, Article IX. Minister, Section E. Termination, Number 2. The Board shall act on the petition by calling a Congregational Meeting as prescribed in Article VIII, Section A, 2. Quorum and decision requirements are prescribed in Article VIII, Section B, 1-3 and *Section C, 1-3*. The Minister shall be invited to speak at this meeting.

Proposed revision: replace “Section C, 1-3” in the 2nd sentence with “Section C, 1-2”. Rationale: there are only 2 parts to Article VIII. Section C; there is no number 3.

This meeting will be followed by a Forum on UUTC’s commitment to the LGBTQ Community.



"We are the certain and the seeking, the lifers and the newcomers, the beloved and the brokenhearted, the insiders and the rejected, all of whom have found a home in the extraordinary, yet intimate, communities of Unitarian Universalism."

Melissa Harris-Perry, MSNBC Host

Our mission is to create a community that encourages free spiritual discovery and growth, celebrates personal and religious diversity, and promotes active, responsible involvement in the larger community.

Inclusive. Intentional. INVOLVED.



Read the latest UUA Southern Region Newsletter [HERE!](#)



SOUTHERN REGION

KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!

VIEW our [church calendar](#). This is the calendar which has ALL events.

For previous issues of the UU Update, click [HERE](#).

SEND news for this newsletter by 10:00am on Wednesdays.

CONTACT US

Our Minister is Rev. Ian White Maher. Reach him at ian@uutc.org or by calling (877) 510-5603.

Church office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until noon and by appointment. The church telephone number is 828-877-6121. Our mailing address is UUTC, PO Box 918, Brevard, NC 28712. Our website is www.uutc.org. Our church is located at 24 Varsity Street, at the corner of South Broad Street in Brevard. Our email address is admin@uutc.org.