

UUTC UPDATE

AUGUST 11th, 2017

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

NOW WE BEGIN AGAIN

by Rev. Jean Rowe

Sunday, August 13th at **9:15am** and **11:00am**

For this congregation, the between-times are over. They are really over. We've had a 27 month period between settled ministers. We've had two interim ministers for a total of 19 months, and 8 months in the past three summers when we had no minister at all and it was "just us."

And now we begin again. The newly ordained and newly married Rev. Ilene Tompkins-Gillispie has arrived among us to begin what may be a long ministry. She's going to marry some of us and bless our babies, and bury some of us, and give us the gifts of her presence, her wisdom and her sermons. She's going to walk beside us, sing beside us, and dance with us. She's going to sit with us, grieve with us, and challenge us. Sometimes she may disappoint us. And sometimes we may disappoint her. And we know, from what we learned in the between-times, things will change around here.

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

COMING UP at UUTC

Everything is back on campus!

Heartfulness Meditation — Sun @ 4:30pm

Growing Younger — Mon 8/14 @ 11:00am

Men's Group — Tues 8/15 @9:00am

Eclectics — Wed 8/16 @9:30am

Choir Rehearsal — Wed 8/ 16@ 4:00pm

Fellowship On Tap —Wed 8/16@6:30



Purpose is the reason you
journey. Passion is the fire
that lights your way.



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I have begun my year-long odyssey as your president and feel honored that you put your trust in me. It is also a privilege to serve with a Board of capable, compassionate members who will help keep me from going too far astray.

I look forward to working with Rev. Ilene and helping ensure that her first year among us is a good one. It will be a pleasure to officially welcome her on Sunday, her first service with us as our settled minister.

Perhaps last year's greatest excitement and accomplishment was the purchase and renovation of next-door Varsity Street property. Those who saw the transformation from a hoarder's paradise to a renter's dream know what a huge feat was accomplished. By my count, no fewer than 54 UUTC members and friends participated in the work itself, and still others contributed financially and donated furnishings.

We cleaned out and hauled literally tons of junk to the dump; removed a jungle of trees and bushes; landscaped the grounds; cleaned, repaired, and painted houses; and furnished the residence being used for Oxford House. RK Young coordinated the work of contractors and had them available as needed. Kay Webb kept her Facilities Team, as well as many others, engaged and active.

A few days ago, Rev. Ilene moved into the yellow house and the last of the Oxford House residents moved in. ***Please remember, these occupants are paying renters. Though we are justifiably proud of the condition of the property by the time they moved in, it is no longer ours to wander over at will.***

Legally the tenants have the "right to quiet enjoyment." The tenants have the exclusive right to use the property, including a reasonable expectation of privacy and freedom from disturbances from the landlord. Fisher Reality is managing the property for us. The landlord, with notice, can enter the property to make repairs or to conduct showings toward the end of a tenancy. Otherwise, we need to stay away.

I am particularly concerned that we respect Rev. Ilene's privacy and not "run next door" with concerns or comments or questions, or even to seek a friendly exchange. Let her enjoy her home, her swing, her garden, just as she would be able to do if it were not in sight of the church.

In Covenant, Carol



CHARITABLE GIVING FOR JULY: AUGUSTINE LITERACY PROJECT (UPDATED)

New this year is the Brevard Augustine Literacy Project (BALP). While the BALP is an outreach ministry of Brevard Community Church, the curriculum is entirely secular, working to improve the reading, writing and spelling abilities of low-income children and teens struggling with literacy skills. The project trains and supports volunteer tutors who provide free, long-term, one-to-one instruction.

The program provides each tutor with **70 hours of training-- classroom and practicum--** based on the [Orton-Gillingham](#) approach, using research-based materials from a variety of sources, including the [Wilson Reading System®](#). The Orton-Gillingham approach is a multi-



sensory, structured, systematic and phonetic. It has been proven effective, not only with children (grades 1 through 12) who have language-related learning differences, but also with students who struggle to learn to read because of poverty (lack of exposure to print and rich vocabulary) or ESL issues. You can learn more at the BALP [website](#), or by emailing [Wendi Adair](#), Director.

One of the reasons this non-profit was chosen for our support is that every dollar goes into the reading materials or training that support our county's children. While volunteers normally pay for their own training, having half of the costs (nearly \$600 per tutor) costs covered would make it easier for more volunteers to participate. BALP has a very small budget, and our contributions will have a much larger impact than with some other programs.

Brevard Augustine Literacy Project trained 11 new tutors in 2016, and hopes to train at least 12 more in September. They currently tutor 26 students, all of whom have been recommended by their classroom teachers. Tutoring is one-to-one only. Some tutors work with only one student, but others who chose two sometimes serve additional children if they have time in their schedules.

Remember, all Charitable Giving contributions will go into a separate fund prior to dispersal. (See [last week's newsletter](#) for more detail about this process.) **Therefore, checks should be written TO UUTC**, with the agency designation on the memo line. *This is an opportunity to give, not an obligation.*

DO YOU KNOW YOUR BOARD?

On July 1st, your new Board was officially “seated,” even though they didn’t meet until the 25th. Many of you heard President Carol Moore speak briefly from the pulpit as she welcomed Rev. Ilene this past Sunday, and her picture is on page two, but do you know your new President-Elect, Peter Mockridge? What about your “At Large” members?

At right are our newest Board Members, Peter Mockridge and Brigid Fox (pictured with Hannah & Ian). In the second row are Board Secretary Kay Webb and Member At Large Cantey Carpenter. The final row is our Treasurer, Dave Roberts, and At Large Member Wayne Smith. Dave and Wayne are both in their final year of service.

Short introductions to your Board Members are available on the UUTC website on the [Leaders & Staff](#) page. Service on a Team or Committee frequently leads to great friendships, and the Board is no exception. Members work well together because they’ve learned to love each other and to appreciate the view of “the other.” Better Leadership through friendship!



UUTC BUYS WIND (POWER)

Tired of fossil fuel-based energy’s environmental record? UUTC

has taken steps to divorce itself from the industry. As of Thursday, May 25th, Green-e Energy certified renewable energy certificates are being purchased to cover UUTC’s consumption of electricity. For this budget year, we were able to select a plan that will cover 75% of our consumption. Reaching 100% would cost us an additional \$500 for the 2017-2018 budget year, over our current costs with Duke Energy.

Anyone (who has not already done so) can join Arcadia and have 50% of their energy use offset by wind power at no additional cost. You can learn more and sign up [HERE](#). Your computer may ask you to “allow” it to follow the link. This [Grist article](#) explains how it all works. Your money pours wind into the grid. 😊



SPONSORED PROJECTS: MORE THAN JUST SPENDING MONEY

Prior to Team Meeting night, Teams received a copy of the current suggested Sponsored Projects list with direction to select the five projects *that would most help them to meet their Team's Function*. This Function statement is aligned to UUTC's Mission Statement, particularly the action portion: *To support individual spiritual journeys and To promote social, economic and environmental justice.*

One of the advantages of diverse discussions on topics like these are the view points we miss when those with whom we usually fraternize aren't a terribly diverse group. The Children's Religious Exploration (CRE) Team selected four projects but then added something not on the list. They selected new (sanitary) flooring for the nursery, recessed shelving for the nursery (which would allow them to remove shelves on the floor and make more room for children), LED lighting for all spaces used in Religious Exploration (Children or Adult), and the table closet (to be built off the social hall and into the office, making setup for RE and events safer and easier).

While these are all reasonable selections from the list, their addition was the kind of thing that makes you think to yourself, "**well, duh...**". They asked for step stools for all bathrooms so that our hordes of little people can reach the sinks to wash their hands.

Needless to say, the step stools have been ordered. Justice for kids!
Thank you, CRE Team! (**funds were not taken from S.P. for this small item.*)



TIME TO SIGN UP FOR THE MAIN COURSE

The 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 fall, or if you're an old Friend thinking of changing your status, attend and share this day with Rev. Ilene, staff and congregational leaders. Even folks who've been here awhile will learn things!

The class meets on Saturday, October 7th. Childcare is available by request. Other details, including lunch break details and your preparations for the class, will follow.

A Welcoming Ceremony for those who choose to become Members will be held Sunday, October 15th, and on the 28th, we will have a photo shoot where Barbi Smith and Mark Allison will make you look 5 years younger and authentically charming! (Photo Shoot open to all Members and Friends who need an updated image.) Sign up for the class at the front counter!

SANDWICH SUNDAY ON A FINE DAY IN AUGUST



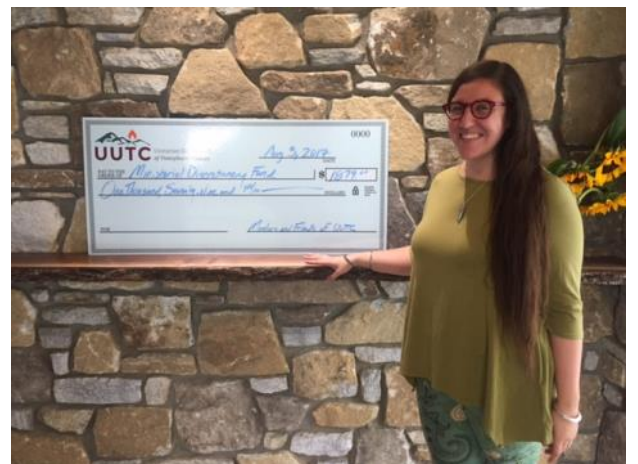
Gee, it almost looks like the Fall Picnic! Last week's Sandwich Sunday had a lovely turnout of people of all ages. The weather was great and the company sublime!

Sandwich Sunday (or Souper Sunday, in the colder months) happens the first Sunday of every month. Make your plans for September 3rd!



BIG CHECK TIME

Big thanks to all those who contributed to get Rev. Ilene started off with some funds with which to support our community! Your gifts totaled \$1879.00 and were gratefully received. A need has already crossed the threshold and it would not have been able to be met without your contributions. Thank you!



A SUNDAY TO REMEMBER

We welcomed Rev. Ilene to her pulpit this Sunday and our children welcomed her by papering her door with love! Beautiful flowers adorned the building and the choir was in full force.



All in all, it was a great day to be alive in Transylvania County.
Welcome to UUTC, Rev. Ilene!

PRE-SCHOOL CHALICE CAMP!

This week's shenanigans were assisted by Ted Heimerdinger, Emily Sheffield, Nancy Potter, Susan Slocum, Kevin Lausch, Rev. Ilene, Virginia MacDonald. Parents brought snacks, and Leah and Willow assisted, as well. Campers made bubbles, practiced teamwork, made fluffy clouds and rainbows to help remember their Rainbow Promises, had a field trip to the library, recycled watermelon rinds as painting tools (to paint rainbows, of course!), sang and played!



Healthy snacks are part of the routine!

BIG BUBBLES, PILES OF BUBBLES



Below: "This Little Light of Mine, I'm Gonna Let It Shine!"





Inclusive. Intentional. INVOLVED.

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

To support individual spiritual journeys and To promote social, economic and environmental justice.

KEEP UP WITH US ON FACEBOOK!

Like us on Facebook and keep up with events during the week—get early notification on sermons! Great posts from our Children's Religious Exploration program and more. Click the logo to be taken to the page!



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



SOUTHERN REGION

KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!

VIEW our "insider" [church calendar](#). For previous issues of the UUTC Update, click [HERE](#).

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

CONTACT US

Need Pastoral Care? Call Rev. Ilene at (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 the corner of Varsity Street and South Broad Street in Brevard. Our email address is admin@uutc.org.