

UUTC UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2017

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

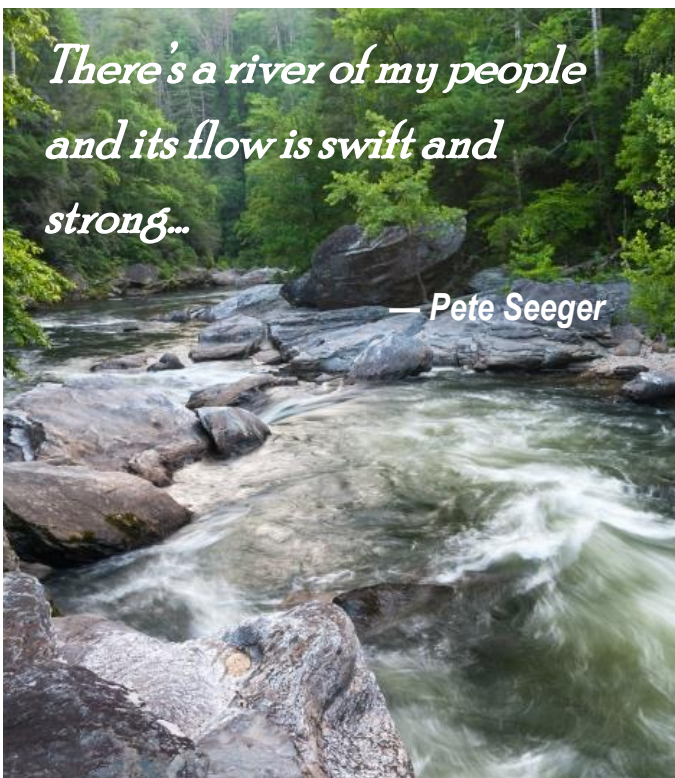
LIVING WATERS

by Rev. Ilene Tompkins-Gillispie

Sunday, September 17th at 9:15am and 11:00am

The Water Communion was first celebrated at a Unitarian Universalist worship service in the 1980s. Many UU congregations now hold a Water Communion once a year, often at the beginning of the new church year, honoring our differences as well as reminding us of all that connects us to one another and to our communities. It is a time to celebrate new beginnings, with the beginning of the church year, bringing back members and friends young and old from summer travels. Please bring with you to this special service a bit of water representing who you are or where you have been—perhaps water from a mountain stream, from summer travels, from your garden hose, or from a place that is sacred to you.

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



COMING UP at UUTC

Facilities PAINT day(s) — today & tomorrow

Heartfulness Meditation — Sun @ 4:30pm

Growing Younger — Mon 9/18 @ 11:00am

Men's Group — Tues 9/19 @ 9:00am

SMART Recovery — Tues 9/19 @ 6:00

Eclectics Jam — Wed 9/20 @ 9:30am

Wonderful Wednesday — 9/20 @ 5:30pm

Rainbow Alliance — 9/21 @ 5:00pm

Celebration of Life — Fri 9/22 @ 2:00pm



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY • SEPTEMBER 20TH THE GIFTS OF OUR FAITH • PROGRAM AT 6:30PM

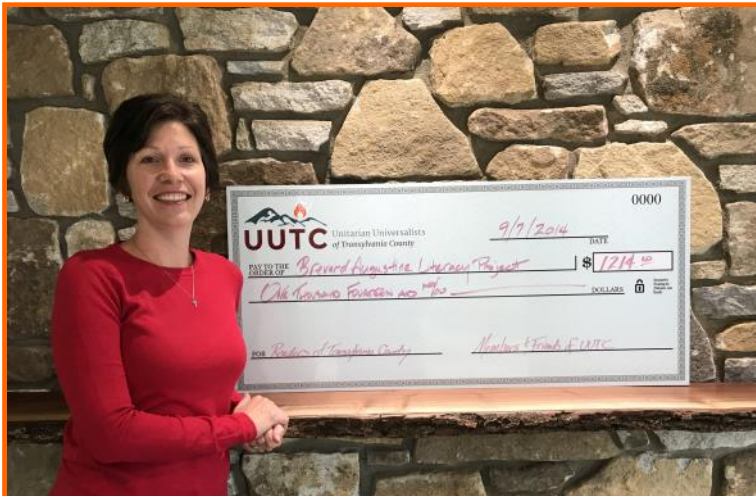
Ever wondered about the first U's, U's, and UU's, and what their lives looked like as transformational religious radicals many years and even centuries ago? Maybe you've wondered about whether Unitarian Universalism has sacred sites or beloved martyrs like so many other faith traditions.

For many of us, especially those who were not raised as Unitarian Universalists, this faith tradition seems as though it is a relatively new one, minted recently in America. However, Unitarian Universalism's history is, in fact, long—spanning multiple centuries and continents. Rev. Ilene, in this Wonderful Wednesday presentation, will reflect on the history of Unitarianism, Universalism, and Unitarian Universalism, and on the myriad gifts these histories bestow on modern UU practitioners. Whatever your questions and wonderings, bring them to this Wonderful Wednesday with our new settled minister! **Sign up or call in TODAY to reserve your space for dinner at 5:30.**

Celebration of Life

Join Jill Roberts on September 22nd at 2:00pm in a Celebration of the Life of our dear friend and long-time Member, Robert (Bob) Thompson.

At right, Bob poses with the bookcases he had just finished anchoring to the wall in the minister's office.



BIG THANKS FOR A BIG CHECK

Wendi Adair, of the Brevard Augustine Literacy Project, ecstatically received the gift of your donations in the amount of \$1214.00. She is also extremely happy to have Pedro Sandin join their tutoring team to better serve the youth of Transylvania County. Thanks to all!!



HARRY & UU: NEW YEAR, NEW CURRICULUM FOR CRE

"It's not our job to toughen up children to face a cruel and heartless world. It's our job to raise children who will make the world a little less cruel and heartless." - L.R. Knost

"Every great wizard (or activist) in history has started out as nothing more than we are now: students. If they can do it, why not us?" - Harry Potter, leader of Dumbledore's Army or D.A.

CRE needs your passion for fighting for what is just and fair. Love remains the most powerful tool available to fight evil. It is a major driving force behind all social change. *"We are only as strong as we are united, as weak as we are divided."* -Albus Dumbledore. Let us stand united at UUTC. Our class will be forming a chapter of D.A. as we work to fight seven Horcruxes, selected from this list: **Disaster, Hatred, Illiteracy, Hunger, Poverty, Child Slavery, Sickness, Animal Cruelty and Environmental Destruction.** Register your child for CRE [HERE!](#)

We are excited to continue our Hogwarts summer adventures into our RE year. "Harry and UU" is a **social action curriculum** based on J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter books and is geared for ages 7-11. The themes reflected in Harry Potter stories strongly support the 7 UU Principles. The characters work toward the goal of a peaceful world community with justice for all. They employ the right of conscience and show a deep respect for the interdependent web of life.

We will be seeking to join forces with other teams within the congregation throughout our RE year as we battle these Horcruxes in our community and world. Be on the look-out!

***"We do not need magic to change the world. We carry all the power we need inside ourselves already; We have the power to imagine better."* - J.K. Rowling**

THE HAUNTING CHURCH • REV. JEAN ROWE

Due to the "interesting" weather this week, the originally-scheduled meeting for The Haunting Church was postponed until September 25th. To keep the group on track, it will be condensed to four sessions: **the 25th, Oct. 9th and 23rd, and then Nov. 13th.**

This will mean that your **regularly-scheduled programming for Christians in Exile** will kick back into gear on November 27th. The time for these meetings is 3:30 to 5:00pm. Please [email Jean Rowe](#) if you want to be put on our mailing list for reminders and so we'll know how many to expect!

PUT YOUR HEART WHERE YOUR YARD IS

WE ARE:

ALL CONNECTED

STRONGER TOGETHER

LOVE'S HANDS IN THE WORLD

CALLED TO CREATE JUSTICE

RESPONSIBLE FOR ONE
ANOTHER AND THE EARTH

 UUA.ORG/IMAGES

Option 1: "We Are"

IN THIS HOME, WE BELIEVE:

LOVE IS LOVE

BLACK LIVES MATTER

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

NO HUMAN BEING IS ILLEGAL

ALL GENDERS ARE WHOLE, HOLY, & GOOD

WOMEN HAVE AGENCY OVER THEIR BODIES

 UUA.ORG/IMAGES

Option 2: "We Believe"

WE LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS

IMMIGRANT LGBTQ

OF COLOR WITH DISABILITIES

OF ALL AND ANY FAITHS

 UUA.ORG/IMAGES

Option 3: "We Love"

Following the week of Charlottesville, vandalism of signs was reported in the Maple Street area here in Brevard. On Facebook, this was met with indignation and a desire to post MORE signs!



The images to the left are UUA developed signage, available for printing as yard signs. Four-color process signs are not inexpensive, so the most economical way to acquire these will not be locally (we checked), but through the UUA-partnered printshop in Maryland.

We must order 50 of these to make the price affordable, but if we do, signs are only \$10 each. If we have more than 50 orders, we will increase our order to meet demand.

Sign up sheets for the three styles are on the front counter. No payment is required up front. **We'd love to pull the trigger on this order, but we need more orders. Check with your friends!**

GMAC? WHO? WHAT?

In alphabetical order, your Governance/Ministry Advisory Council (GMAC) members are Dave Hunter, Becky Langerman, Leslie Keir, Jim Null, Christine Schmidt and Susan Slocum. UUTC's Minister and Board President are ex-officio members of the Council.

Created in 2015 following the adoption of our Organizational Structure, GMAC serves as a bridging advisory group between UUTC Governance (The Board and its Committees) and Ministry (The Minister and her Teams).

Of the Council's 6 defined functions, #1 is to provide a listening ear to the congregation and for communication of information for both the Board and the Minister. All members of the Council may be reached at gmac@uutc.org. Ask one of us about functions #2 through #6!



MEMBERSHIP

TIME TO SIGN UP FOR THE MAIN COURSE • OCTOBER 7TH

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!



MEMORIAL GARDEN

Our Memorial Garden, located behind the sanctuary, is an excellent spot to sit a bit and ponder. Its purpose was to create a sacred spot to remember our former Members who have passed. On the wall, a steel tree form with many branches is mounted, with individual leaves commemorating these lives.



On Thursday, Dan Carter returned to this tree with the engraved leaves for Fred Erb and Bob Thompson. The engraving is done by a trophy shop. Dan then cuts the plate down to the form of the leaves on the tree and uses an epoxy to affix the leaves permanently.



The Memorial Garden has been in use for 13 years. These two leaf forms were the final available leaves, so we will have to ponder our next steps.



CHARITABLE GIVING FOR SEPT: PISGAH LEGAL SERVICES

Pisgah Legal Services is a community-based non-profit law firm providing free civil legal help to our communities' most vulnerable: the working poor, the elderly, the disabled, and victims of abuse. In 2016, Pisgah Legal prevented homelessness and stabilized housing for 2,967 people in WNC. **They are the only free legal resource in Western North Carolina.**

Thursday, September 28, Pisgah Legal Services, together with Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity, Homeward Bound and Mountain Housing Opportunities are hosting an evening with Matthew Desmond, the keynote speaker for **Pisgah Legal's 7th Annual Poverty Forum**. Desmond is a professor of sociology at Princeton University. His book, ***Evicted***, won the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction, among many other awards. You can purchase tickets to this event at the Kimmel Arena, UNCA [HERE](#).

In addition to their other work, Pisgah Legal Services actively assists with immigration issues, as they are able.

This is an opportunity to give, not an obligation.



OXFORD HOUSE OPEN HOUSE • THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 11:00 -2:00PM

MEET JILL BEACH!

Originally from Ohio, where she obtained a B.S. in Education from Kent State University, Jill moved to Atlanta, GA in 1970 and began her teaching career. While teaching, Jill completed an MS Degree in Science Education at Georgia State. In 2001, she started teaching at the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology, in Conyers, GA. For the next 12 years, Jill taught Research to 9th grade students and was the Research



Coordinator. Jill retired in 2012, but returned to education a year later as the Program Director for Memorial Middle School's STEM Academy for Environmental Studies. Jill retired for the last time in 2015, moving to Brevard to fulfill her dream of building a log home in the mountains.

Honors received while in the field of education include: Who's Who Among American Teachers (1993 and 2003), Teacher of the Year for RMSST 2010-2011, and Superintendent's Honor List ten times while working in Rockdale County. In 2003, Jill traveled to Antarctica as part of a scientific research team to study global warming by measuring nitrogen releases from glaciers. She has enjoyed extensive travel to Ireland, France, Switzerland, Germany, Costa Rica, several South American nations, and 48 of the 50 US states.

Jill currently volunteers for SAFE and will be attending training classes in Chicago to work with Transylvania churches in forming a coalition to combat domestic violence. She is on the board for The Haven, as well as her neighborhood POA (Big Hill). She also volunteers at PARI and is a member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). To top it all off, Jill is a member of our Facilities Team!

In her spare time, Jill enjoys walking with her dog Molli, attending various cultural events, and drawing with pastels. She is an avid reader and hiker and is looking to improving her knitting skills.

Jill was invited to attend UUTC by Betty and Gary Kendrick "at a point in my life where I needed a spiritual connection." She started attending Christians in Exile in addition to Sunday services. Jill states that she had become increasingly disheartened by mainstream Christian churches and the rise of the Religious Right. UUTC stood out for its practice of inclusiveness and social activism, goals that Jill believes all churches should embrace.



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.