

UUTC UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2ND, 2018



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

THE ONENESS OF EVERYTHING

By Rev. Ilene Kaur Tompkins-Gillispie

Sunday, February 4th at **9:15am** and **11:00am**

Almost ten years ago, a lifelong UU had a chance encounter with another faith that changed her life. Sikhism is a radically inclusive monotheistic faith from North India and shares many theological and justice orientations with Unitarian Universalism. Come hear Rev. Ilene share about her journey as a UU Sikh, which reshaped her faith and called her to ministry. Special music will be provided by Teri and Daniel Sandoval.

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

SAVE THE DATE!!

Our next Membership Class will be Saturday, March 24th from 9:00am to 12:30pm, followed by lunch from 12:30 to 1:30pm. Look for the sign-up sheet at the front counter!

So love is the recognition of oneness in a world of duality. This is the birth of God into the world of form. Love makes the world less worldly, less dense, more transparent to the divine dimension, the light of consciousness itself.

Eckhart Tolle

COMING UP at UUTC

Family Potluck — Fri 2/2 @ 5:30pm

Souper Sunday — Sun 2/4 @ noon

Men's Group — Tues 2/6 @ 9:00am

SMART Recovery — Tues 2/6 @ 6:00pm

Eclectics — Wed 2/7 @ 9:30am

Loving Hearts Luncheon — Tues 2/7, 12:30

Choir Rehearsal — Wed 2/7 @ 4:00pm

Team Mtg Night — Wed 2/7 @ 5:00pm

Growing Younger — Fri 2/9 @ 11:00am



LHHH LUNCHEON

Everyone is invited to Loving Hearts and Helping Hands Valentine Luncheon, **Wednesday, February 7, at 12:30.**

Please be our honored guest and enjoy being served a delicious hot lunch complete with dessert and entertainment. We are excited to announce that our own John Austin will be with us to play his special brand of music to soothe our souls and to add a bit of magic to our afternoon together.

Please RSVP by calling UUTC at **877-6121** or emailing admin@uutc.org, or by signing up at the front counter.

TEAM MEETING NIGHT • WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH, 5:00PM

Team Leaders, let the office know by Tuesday how many members of your Team will be present and needing pizza/salad! Childcare will be ready at 5:00pm—Amy & Luci will be on duty.

Worship will meet in the sanctuary's right wing, and Facilities will meet in the left wing/choir area. Social Action will meet in the Social Hall as soon as dinner is out of the way. ARE will meet in the foyer, CRE in the small classroom, and Membership in the large classroom.

See you Wednesday!

SOUPER SUNDAY! THIS SUNDAY!

This week is SOUPer Sunday! Don't miss this opportunity to revel in the culinary skills of the many wonderful folks who help us warm up after the second service. Delish! Added benefit: spending time with terrific people. Bring bread, fruit, veggies, chips, dip or other finger foods to share. Donations appreciated to offset the cost.

Souper Sunday meets in the Social Hall and is a true highlight of the month for many. Come enjoy!



UNREST • FEBRUARY 13TH, 2:00PM



“Unrest” is the personal story of Jennifer Rhea, a young Harvard PhD graduate student, who became ill with CFS (Chronic Fatigue Syndrome). It’s an educational documentary, but is also the journey of all who have this profoundly life changing illness.

From Linda Lander: “I want to show “Unrest” because I have had CFS for 10 years and am aware that most of the public know little or nothing about it. I hope educating others will help anyone who suffers from this illness feel less excluded or totally ignored. The “Unrest” Team supports me and will help me in any way I need. This is part of a world wide effort to educate as many people as possible and has been featured in many magazines as well as on PBS.”

To learn more or to view the trailer, go [HERE](#). If you are interested in an evening showing, **please indicate your interest on the sign-up sheet at the front counter.**

AAUW BOOK DRIVE—BREAK THE BOX!

The AAUW Book Drive raises funds for scholarships for women who attend our local colleges—Brevard College and Blue Ridge Community College. The local chapter has been conducting this drive for 48 years—a real history of support for education.

Dig through those bookshelves and see what you can part with for the cause! If you have a large number of books and need them to be picked up, call Penny Davies at 828-966-9393.



COMING SOON: WHAT HAPPENED IN KNOXVILLE

Carol Moore, Dick Tucker & Susan Slocum trekked to Tennessee after the Women’s March in Asheville. What was it like? Stay tuned...!

(Pictured: UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray with our own Susan Slocum)





UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST JUSTICE MINISTRY OF NC — COMING TO UUTC

Fed up with recent political developments?
Want to see what other UUs in North Carolina
are doing? **Join us for Rev. John Saxon's**

presentation on February 18 from 12:30-1:30PM.

The Rev. John Saxon, our guest minister on February 18, will also be giving a workshop on the activities of the “reborn” Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry of North Carolina. The UUJM helps coordinate Moral Mondays, the Fair Court Days of Action, and “Justice on Jones Street,” an advocacy day at the North Carolina General Assembly on May 22. There will be a second coffee hour after the 11:00 service, followed by John’s presentation in the sanctuary from 12:30-1:30.

John says this past year has been a hard and dark one for many of us—a year of attempts to ban the immigration of Muslims, threats to deport hundreds of thousands of young “dreamers,” revelations of sexual harassment and abuse, horrific mass shootings and the failure to adopt common sense gun safety laws, racists marching through the streets with torches and Confederate flags, continued partisanship, and policies that undermine health care and benefit the wealthy at the expense of the middle class, the poor, the vulnerable, and the oppressed. But it’s also been a year in which people of good will have pushed back, resisting bigotry and wall-building and fear-mongering and political plundering, fighting to live as normally as we can in abnormal times, creating, loving and doing what we can to redeem the year and make a difference.

You can follow the UUJM of NC on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), or on the [web](#) .

WHEN “DO AS I SAY” DOESN’T WORK

With a new UUA President and the general tumult nationally, there has never been a time more open to change as now. This year’s UU General Assembly questions, “Who and how are we called to be at this time, individually and collectively?,” “How are we called to act and to live?,” and “How does our Unitarian Universalist legacy strengthen us in living out our mission? In what ways does our legacy present challenges and impediments to answering our call?” are revealing in the self-evaluation many of us are doing of ourselves and the institutions of which we are a part.

If you’d like to explore these questions, [contact RK](#) to see about being a Delegate for this year’s General Assembly in Kansas City, MO.



WHAT IS AN INSTALLATION SERVICE?

A service of installation is held to celebrate the commitment that a congregation and a minister make to one another as their formal ministry together begins. It is a special worship service held during the first year of a minister's tenure in a congregation, honoring the promises and commitments that the Minister makes to the congregation and vice versa. All Unitarian Universalist congregations, and many churches of other denominations, engage in this practice with settled Ministers. This service is traditionally held at a time other than Sunday morning so that other clergy are able to be present and participate in the service.

Some long-time members will remember that Rev. Ernie Mills was installed at UUTC through a celebration at the library. Since UUTC's own sanctuary is too small to accommodate the number of visiting clergy, members, friends, and family members who were present for the service of installation. Rev. Ilene has partnered with her local colleague



Rev. Mary Shore to hold the service at Good Shepard Lutheran to celebrate the connection UUTC has to other faith groups in our community. Clergy from many of the local churches will attend and have special roles in the service.

There will be a guest preacher (Rev. Dr. Kate Walker from Mount Vernon Unitarian Church in Alexandria, VA), special opportunities for the choir and others to perform music, and a gathering of UU ministers from Western North Carolina and beyond. The service of installation is a valuable chance to reflect on the hopes and dreams of our shared ministry, and to celebrate a well-fitted match between UUTC and Rev. Ilene. It is a rite of passage for the congregation as well as for the Minister.

The installation of Rev. Ilene Tompkins-Gillispie as minister at UUTC will be held on April 13, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. Reception will follow at UUTC.



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.



You may scan the image at left with your phone camera and make a donation today. *This is an opportunity to give, not an obligation.*

WHEN IS THE NEXT TECH TUESDAY?

The first Tech Tuesday, “Connecting with Facebook,” met on January 30th. This ARE offering is designed to help people use technology to enrich their lives by connecting with their friends and family using current devices and software. While initially the class was imagined as a 3-session course, the difficulty of preparing a “standard lesson” for folks on multiple types of devices and at multiple levels of experience changed that plan—things will be fluid!

A sign up sheet is on the front counter—please use this to indicate interest so that RK can ask you a few questions before class to better tailor instruction to your needs. The next class is February 20th at 2:00pm, and will also cover Facebook use. You may also indicate what you would like to learn on the sign up sheet.



ANNUAL CERTIFICATION — DEFINING MEMBERSHIP

RK Young

UUTC's annual certification was due to the UUA on February 1st. As in previous years, I downloaded instructions and went about collecting the data.

There were a few changes to these instructions this year. Much more complete in their descriptions, it was clear that we would not be able to just plug in Member numbers and ignore those who we designate as Friends, for instance. The UUA is encouraging member congregations to start assessing who is really committed to UUTC.

“How many Non-member Friends do you estimate are currently involved in or contribute to your congregation but are not members? *Do include:* non-members who financially contribute; parents of students enrolled in religious education; former members who have moved away but still retain a connection such as continuing to receive your newsletter....”

Well. How do we define “involved?” The financial contribution qualifier is the easy piece—our invaluable Treasurer could key up that data for me with no trouble, keying on “Friends” and an amount greater than zero for the 2017 calendar year in the contribution field. We then took our list of Committees and Teams and referenced that document against our Directory, looking for those who serve in some capacity but aren't full-blown Members. Evaluation of the created list at this point made it clear that my Committees & Teams document needed some additions—like a list of all the people serving as ushers. Like any good evaluative process, this certification thing has caused me to reassess the validity of some of our current documentation and data instruments.

Finally, there's that whole newsletter thing. Had we not moved to Constant Contact a couple years ago, this would have been an impossible question to answer. But (again referencing the Directory), now I could take the list and look for people who “haven't been seen,” did not have a 2017 recorded contribution, and either had not opened their newsletters in the last 12 months or had unsubscribed themselves from the list altogether.

When all was said and done, besides our 172 Members, we needed to add 38 Friends who met the UUA criteria, as well, to the total count, bringing the number to 210 for accurate data entry. To me, this is definitely a better reflection of who is “committed” to UUTC.

This process also encouraged a re-assessment of our rolls, and you may wish to receive a new contact Directory, which is now a page shorter, thanks to feedback from a handful or so who have chosen to move to “inactive” status. Email the office if you would like the new edition.



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!



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.