

UUTC UPDATE

July 20, 2018



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

INSPIRATION FROM DISASTER

Michael Solomon

Sunday, July 22nd at **9:15am** and **11:00am**

When disaster strikes, it's a siren call for a community of helpers to rise. Faith-based organizations by their nature are pillars of support in a crisis. When people of various faiths come together, a sacred encounter takes place that is a source of hope and resiliency for those who are suddenly vulnerable. This spiritual unity is also an inspiration to serve our community in ways that we could not do ourselves.

Join us for coffee at 10:30am!

NURSERY CARE — BOTH SERVICES

Our nursery is open from 9:00am to noon for children ages 0-3. Take advantage of either service at your convenience—our childcare staff would love to welcome your child.



**BELIEVE
THERE IS
GOOD IN
THE WORLD**

COMING UP at UUTC

- Men's Group — Tues 7/24 @ 9:00am
- Finance Com — Tues 7/24 @ 10:00am
- Worship Team — Tues 7/24 @ 2:00pm
- Board Mtg — Tues 7/24 @ 5:00pm**
- SMART Recovery — Tues 7/24 @ 6pm
- Eclectics — Wed 7/25 @ 9:30am
- Choir — Wed 7/25 @ 4:00pm
- Sierra Club — Thurs 7/26 @ 6:30pm**

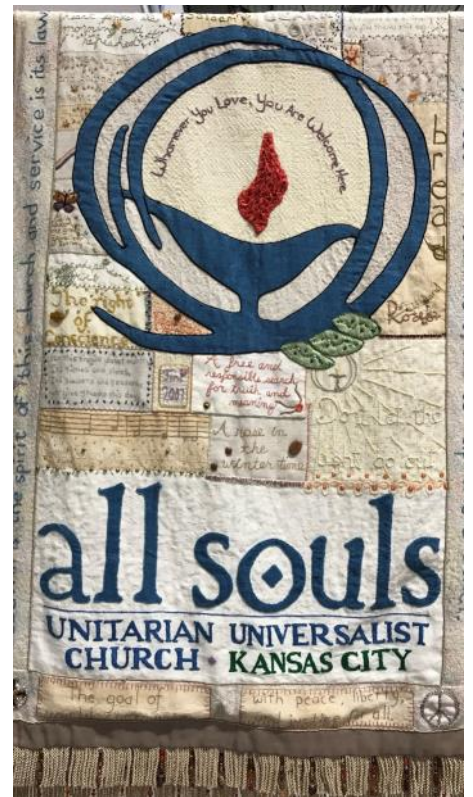
TUBE THE DAVIDSON!



Tube the Davidson with our neighboring UU's from Hendersonville, UUFH. This is an annual UUFH family ministry tubing / picnic lunch at Davidson River event on the morning of Sunday August 12th. You may RSVP to Heather Layton, creuutc@gmail.com or call 828-553-3810. Start times and additional details to be determined.

BANNERS OF UU GENERAL ASSEMBLY

To participate in the annual parade of banners, we will need one made to UUA specifications. Here's a sample—what do you see for UUTC? [See the rest!](#)



MEET JOHN & EDIE GABCIK — IN HIS OWN WORDS

From Wheaton, IL (Chicago suburb). Came to Brevard for a better climate, the mountains and the arts and crafts.

I was a docent at Carl Sandburg's home for five years. I have been a volunteer at the Transylvania Library for five years, including 2.5 years as manager of the used-book store. I was the liaison between my employer in Illinois and an inner-city church, handling the Christmas fund and other duties. I write biographies and do historical research for SABR (the Society for American Baseball Research).



Edie and I both have backgrounds as educators. We are eclectic in our interests, but tend to get over-involved in them (and this gets me, at least, into trouble sometimes). We have a very small family -- one son who lives in Vermont, and no grandchildren — so we tend to throw ourselves into our interests.

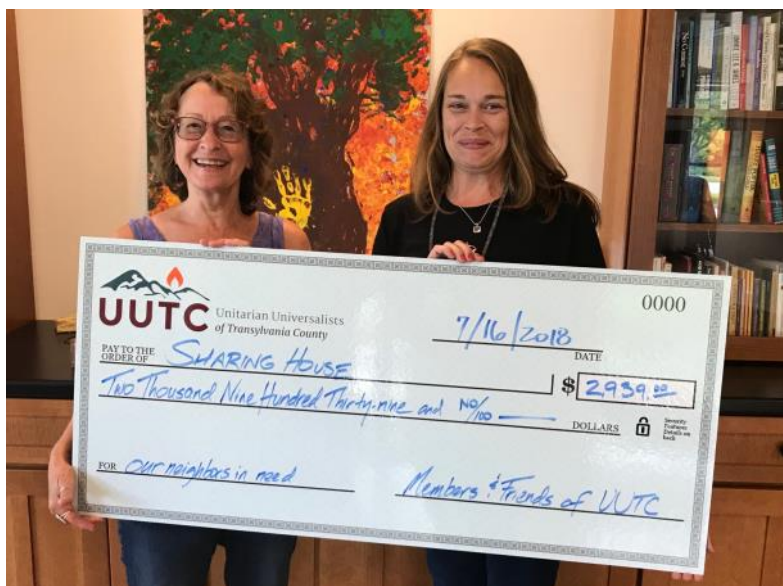
I love reading, books, sports, crafts. (Edie likes to sing and has joined the choir! (ed.))

Quite accidentally. I read the book *Fantasyland: How America Went Haywire* by Kurt Andersen which spoke of Unitarian Universalism positively. For many years, I've been a deist without a home; now I've found one. I drove to and from the Library for years without noticing this place. I finally have.

The open-mindedness, the friendliness, the lack of hypocrisy. I feel that this is a place where members can be who they are, and truly learn from one another. — *John*

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Megan Kimsey, volunteer coordinator at Sharing House, gladly “accepted” this big check on behalf of Sharing House. Your donations in June to benefit Sharing House totaled \$2,939.00. Thanks for making life a little easier for our neighbors in need throughout Transylvania County!



SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

UUTC is partnering with **El Centro*** and **Sharing House** to help provide school supplies for children in our community. If you would like to donate supplies, please place new articles in the box at UUTC's lobby by August 12th so that children can have the supplies prior to their first day of school. The following supplies are needed at various elementary grade levels:

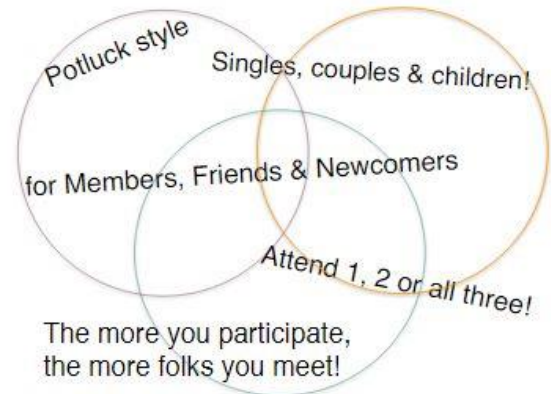
- ◆ Backpacks
- ◆ colored pencils in boxes
- ◆ crayons (16 or 24 count)
- ◆ Elmer's glue sticks
- ◆ erasers (pink)
- ◆ folders (two-pocket with no design)
- ◆ marbled composition books
- ◆ markers
- ◆ notebook paper (wide-ruled)
- ◆ pencil boxes
- ◆ pencil cases with zippers
- ◆ school glue (white, in bottles)
- ◆ scissors (for little hands)
- ◆ spiral notebooks
- ◆ three-ring binders
- ◆ tissues (boxes)
- ◆ towels for rest time (for napping on)
- ◆ wooden pencils (good quality, American made)

**El Centro Comunitario Hispano Americano seeks to enhance the well-being and integration of the Hispanic community through promoting education, enhancing multicultural understanding, fighting for social justice, developing Latino leadership, and encouraging civic participation. Some of their activities include an after-school tutoring program, conversational English practice for adults.*

CIRCLE DINNERS: FALL EDITION



August 17 * September 21 * October 19



The more you participate,
the more folks you meet!

Sign-ups below. You are not required to host! Contact Elizabeth Thompson (828-384-0778) for more information.

Circle Dinners have been scheduled for August 19, September 21 & October 19. The mission of Circle Dinners is to create greater connections among Members, Friends and Newcomers. Circle Dinners are potluck with a single, couple or couple with children hosting in their home. If you do host, it's for one time and then you are a participant for the other nights. Folks are encouraged to participate in two or three dinners. Participants are assigned in a way that there are at least two people they've met from the previous dinner. The more you participate, the more folks you meet! Sign-ups and more information are at the counter. Contact Elizabeth Thompson (828-384-0778) for more information.

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ordinarily the monthly letter from the President of the Board of Trustees comes AFTER a Board meeting. Precedent has never been much of an impediment to impulsiveness on my part!

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 24 at 24 Varsity Street. This meeting will be the first for the 2018 – 2019 Board. *Visitors are always welcome and have privilege of the floor if requested.*



While the primary objectives for this meeting will be educational, we will conduct ordinary business as well: receive minutes from the last meeting, receive and review financial reports from last month and FY 2017 - 2018, make appointments to Board Committees, and consider a new policy submitted by the Facilities team, in consultation with the Property and Administration Committees. This proposed policy is intended to minimize UUTC's negative impact on the environment.

In the educational component, we will: 1. review the Board's covenant, 2. review the by-laws, intended to clarify the new Board's understanding of its role and responsibilities in UUTC's structure, 3. familiarize ourselves with UUTC's financial reports (Dave Roberts has agreed to provide guidance on the financial reports, primarily because these reports are from the time when he was Treasurer; Susan of course would do a bang-up good job if asked. We hope that Dave will help us determine which parts of these reports and their sequels will need our attention. Remember that most of UUTC's expenditures are not discretionary: while we need to be attentive to these non-discretionary expenditures, changing them will appropriately involve the congregation; discretionary spending and budget exceptions are another matter and will warrant the Board's scrutiny on a regular basis.), and 4. review our organizational structure. Note that all of these documents are available from our web site.

I hope that our next meeting, in August, will also have a large educational component. We will need to review our own operating guidelines and procedures and our calendar. We will also need to familiarize ourselves with UUTC's policy manual, for which the Board alone is responsible. This now eight-page document provides the structure in which many operating decisions are made and prevents the Board from spending its time reinventing the wheel when seemingly new situations are encountered.

In covenant. Peter B

INTERESTED IN SOCIAL JUSTICE?

SIGN UP FOR JUSTICE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

UUTC has been invited to join a NEW justice leadership training program organized by the [Sacred Fire Unitarian Universalist Ministry](#). **Now more than ever we need capable, deeply-rooted, and effective congregational social justice leadership.** Six areas – western NC, central NC, eastern NC, Texas, Virginia, and the District of Columbia – were chosen for the pilot program.



**SACRED
FIRE**
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST

We are seeking a group of 5-9 UUTC members who will bolster the ongoing work of our congregation, and help launch new initiatives for our justice mission. The group will meet at UUTC twice a month from September 2018 to May 2019 for guided sessions, and participate in two weekend workshops (a fall one in the Charlotte area, and a second one in winter/spring).

The program:

- 1) Supports the formation of social justice leadership;
- 2) Bolsters and strengthens existing justice ministries and/or sparks much-needed new ones;
- 3) Works with congregations to become engaged, active, and missional;
- 4) Facilitates the planting of new justice-seeking covenanted communities;
- 5) Heightens collaboration between and among congregations in Clusters, and creates support networks for statewide justice ministries;
- 6) Supports efforts to increase the effectiveness of justice initiatives;
- 7) Offers an optional certification or “Deaconing” process for congregational leaders.

In order to ensure that congregations of all sizes and means can participate in the program, it is heavily subsidized by the generosity of donors, foundations, and our UU institutions. Our commitment as a congregation is to hold two worship offerings during the year to help support the program. Those who are chosen ***commit to meet faithfully and engage in what promises to be a year of growth.*** If interested, contact the Social Action/Justice Team Leader Susan Zelle by July 24 (swzelle@yahoo.com or 828-458-0275).

HEY. I SIGNED UP FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP.

WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS PAPERWORK?

Some of you may have recently gotten an email from the office, signed by Susan Bir, asking for either a birth date or for emergency contact information. If you haven't, don't be surprised if you do, soon!

As UUTC matures as a congregation (we're just a teenager, after all), we are bumping up against needs that it would help to be better prepared for—like knowing who to call in case of an emergency. We have a red binder in the office just for this kind of information so that when necessary, any LHHH Team member can grab that binder and find out who they need to call. Having birth dates for everyone in your home will help our strategic planners better prepare for programming and staffing.

That's just a little of the personal paperwork. But coming up on Team Meeting Night, it's time to review those documents that define Team roles at UUTC—their chosen functions, or purpose, in meeting UUTC's Mission. Changes in staff and those job descriptions may have had an impact on the responsibilities of Teams. Perhaps the load is a little lighter, or maybe it's not—but these documents need annual review to preserve their integrity. It's also a great way for new Team Members to be introduced to the full role of their new Teams.

Our Committees also have plenty of paperwork. To keep our staffing requirements small, UUTC needs to better meet the structural needs of all of our groups to communicate with each other and to provide for institutional memory as members of Teams & Committees change. The ChurchLife App is one of the ways we are meeting this need. Dropbox is another. ChurchLife's Groups function is being populated so that you will see listed the members of any group you are a part of and be able to contact them through the same screen.

With Dropbox, one member of your Team or Committee can work with the office to preserve the document history of your work. The Board's many documents, for instance, can be selectively shared with others and then archived by year and/or Secretarial term. Your Administrator is working to archive older documents and then share folders containing the Working documents with Team and Committee record keepers. This helps to transfer information across bodies with enforced rotations of leadership.

Dropbox can help many of us—if, for instance, you are contemplating the purchase of a new computer because your old one has been acting up, setting up a Dropbox account and moving your files into Dropbox preserves all of your important stuff. You can then freely delete those files from the old computer...then sign into Dropbox on your new computer and get it all back. Gee—this may be a topic for our next Tech Tuesday!



THE “YOU” IN UUTC SOCIAL ACTION

SHARING HOUSE 5TH SUNDAY

July is a month with FIVE Sundays, so UUTC will be collecting food for Sharing House at the end of the month. Baskets will be available in the lobby for your donations July 22 and 29. Please take with you a list of most needed items from the basket on the counter.

The non-food items most needed by Sharing House are diapers, (sizes 5 and 6), laundry detergent, tampons (super), toilet paper, and paper towels. These items cannot be purchased with food stamps.

FIX IT: HEALTHCARE AT THE TIPPING POINT September 20th, 2018 — 6:30-8:00pm at UUTC

FIX IT: Healthcare at the Tipping Point will be shown, comments given by Marsha Fretwell MD, and a discussion facilitated by Kyra Moore and Dr. Fretwell. The documentary reaches across the political and ideological divide and makes the case for business leaders to support major healthcare reform. The system, as is, is inefficient, has limited accessibility and is cost prohibitive to business and families. Is Medicare for all as a single payer system the solution? This event is sponsored by Healthcare for All, Physicians for a National Health Program and the Transylvania Branch of the NAACP.

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.*



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.