

# UUTC UPDATE

**Inclusive. Intentional. *Involved.***

## Office Hours

The office is open Mon-Fri from 9 to noon and by appointment. Time with the Minister can be scheduled on Mondays from 2-5:00pm, Tuesdays from 9:30am-2:00pm & Wednesday from 12-4:30pm.

## Pastoral Care

Going through a rough spot? Have surgery coming up? Call (877) 510-5603 or email [lhjh@uutc.org](mailto:lhjh@uutc.org).

## Nursery Care

Our Nursery is open Sunday mornings 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.

## Coming Up at UUTC


### New Member Welcoming Sunday!

#### OFFICE CLOSED THIS WEEK

Men's Group — Tues 11/20 @ 9:00am  
 Finance Com — Tues 11/20 @ 10:00am  
 Dream Group — Tues 11/20 @ 2:30pm  
 Aging Wisely — Tues 11/20 @ 3:00pm  
 SMART Recovery — Tues 11/20 @ 6pm  
 Eclectics — Wed 11/21 @ 9:30am

### Muffins with the Minister— Nov 26th

This coming week RK will be in the office M-W, but the front door will be locked so filing can be given full attention.



## Sunday

**Sunday, November 18th**

### THE TREE OF HEAVEN

**Rev. Ilene Kaur Tompkins-Gillispie**

The poet Khalil Gibran wrote of the gratitude we feel for the plants and animals that sustain us, saying "Your blood and my blood is naught but the sap that feeds the tree of heaven." In this service, we will reflect together on the debt of gratitude we owe to the world around us. In our busy lives, we often forget to take time to reflect on our gratitude-- and, yet, remembering all we have to be grateful for is one of the most powerful spiritual practices we can engage with. As Unitarian Universalists, we honor the connections in all of life, the interconnected web of all existence to which we each belong. As Thanksgiving approaches, we will reflect together on the many facets of gratitude in our lives.

*Join us for coffee at 10:30am!*

“Givers reject the notion that interdependence is weak. Givers are more likely to see interdependence as a source of strength, a way to harness the skills of multiple people for a greater good.” —*Adam Grant*

## Muffins with the Minister

Our next “Muffins” date is **November 26th**. Come have coffee, talk with Rev. Ilene and others who join the fun! This is a laid back, easy way to learn something new about others in the congregation, including Rev. Ilene. Runs from 10:00am to noon.

## Social Action Giving



UUSC (the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee) is a leading voice for human rights and social justice in the United States and in 21 countries around the world. UUSC focuses on Environmental Justice, Economic Justice, and Rights At Risk. UUSC also responds to disasters, defending the rights of marginalized and oppressed populations who are often left out of recovery efforts. Cash or checks made out to **UUTC** with UUSC on the memo line may be placed in specially-marked envelopes in the offering basket. Contributions of \$125 or more will be matched by the UU Congregation of Shelter Rock, in Manhasset, NY.

UUSC is the only organization that UUTC supports, currently, outside of North Carolina. This agency leverages its work with grassroots collaborations. Learn more [HERE](#).



## UUTC HELPS “PACK THE PANTRY”

### UUTC Social Action Team

A big thank you to all our UU volunteers who helped Sharing House collect canned food and paper products to “pack the pantry” on November 3. If you weren’t been able to participate, we’ll be Packing the Pantry again in early spring and will call for volunteers. It’s not hard, and the support from the community is heart-warming.

Several people confided they had turned to Sharing House for help, and they donated a can or two for others. One man stood out: he bicycled up to Food Lion, told us Sharing House had helped him, and disappeared inside. Ten minutes later he emerged with a basket full of items—all for Sharing House. He did keep a single can for himself. Sharing House representatives reported that a whopping 7,268 lbs. were collected, in addition to cash donations of \$7,939—more than



**Sharing House**  
TRANSYLVANIA CHRISTIAN MINISTRY, INC.

the three previous years.

A great success!

## YOUR GIFTS, REALIZED

Many thanks to all those who gave during this fiscal year to benefit the Varsity Fund. In October, your contributions totaled \$1725. On page 5, you will see a few pictures from the recent work done to the Olympia Brown Oxford House. Several interesting colors pre-date the new one!

The cost of this job was \$5675, which included an awful lot of scraping. You’ll see a dangerous-looking device on page 5 that was used to travel every board to get a clean surface for primer. Now all that remains is the window, which should be replaced before Christmas. Thank you for your generosity!



## THAT COLD AIR YOU MIGHT FEEL...

In order to maintain comfort in our various spaces at UUTC, we switched the fan to a “circulate” option some months ago. This helps maintain the classrooms, especially, when doors are shut.

Circulated air, however, isn’t always actively being heated or cooled. So in the winter months, you might feel a breeze that is somewhat cool—because it is only being circulated, and not heated, at that particular time. Please do not be concerned, or adjust the thermostat—it’s just the system doing exactly what we told it to do. Thanks for your consideration!

## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER - SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Members and Friends of UUTC participate along with other local church members each year in assisting Sacred Heart in their Community Christmas Dinner, which feeds all who come through the doors. Come be part of this 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Christmas Dinner by serving, donating, or enjoying a wonderful dinner with other in our wonderful and diverse community. The dinner is served 12pm-4pm on Christmas Day. There is no charge. All are welcome.



***This year again our opportunity to be a part of this wonderful event is to donate a total of 25 gallons of tea (commercial ready-made, in plastic jugs or bottles), sweet or unsweet.*** (We have done a great job of this in past years!) Donations of tea may be dropped off at Sacred Heart during office hours or Sunday morning. Contact Joan Lemire at [tjbindire@yahoo.com](mailto:tjbindire@yahoo.com) or 231-9259 with amount of sweet or unsweet donated so we don’t overwhelm their storage area (UUs can be really generous!). P.S. Desserts are also always welcome.

There is also a need for volunteers to help during serving hours and with cleanup. Our volunteers from previous years were very much appreciated and enjoyed a great Christmas dinner in true community. If you are able to help in one of the time slots - usually 1 hour or so- with serving, seating, greeting, etc., you may sign up at the Gathering Table at Sacred Heart or contact Sandi Rogers directly at [sandidougrogers@yahoo.com](mailto:sandidougrogers@yahoo.com). For additional information, call Sandi Rogers at 883-2990.

## MISSING THEIR FRIENDS

Carolyn and Ted Fredley, recently moved to Kentucky, would love to hear from you. Their new phone and address are: 859-282-1085, Magnolia Springs Retirement Center, Apt. #236, 7665 Ewing Blvd., Florence, KY 41042. Cards are especially welcome. Thank you for your compassion!

## OPERATION KEEP WARM EXTENDED

### UUTC Social Action Team

Thank you very much to everyone who has already donated to Operation Keep Warm. We are extending the donation time through this Sunday, November 18th, as it looks like it might be a very long winter. Last Saturday, there was a Code Purple\*, when temperatures drop below freezing, so the items that have been donated have already been put to good use; however, there is still a tremendous need in the community. All donations go to the Sharing House and Bread of Life. The following are items that would be greatly appreciated:

Blue tarps • Emergency Thermal Blankets • Gel-filled hand warmers • Batteries (especially size D) • Flashlights • Warm clothing (a considerable amount has already been donated—thanks!)

\*A temporary Code Purple shelter is organized by the Haven and a community church (this year it's the Brevard Community Church) so that the homeless can sleep and eat in the church on these below-freezing nights.

*At right, Jackie Curtis, Crisis Assistance at Sharing House, Michael Collins, Director of Bread of Life, and UUTC Member Lisa McHenry, of the Social Action Team.*



## THE BEST DIRECTORY IS ON YOUR SMARTPHONE

Contact Directories are really important for us all to stay connected. But did you know that the **ChurchLife** app is available to **Members AND Friends**? It is easy to use and is the most up-to-date resource for reaching other members of UUTC.

You can download and install the app from either Google Play or the Apple App Store. **Before you can use it, however, you will need a password from our ACS database.**

**To get that password, go to our Member page on the website:** <http://uutc.org/member/>, scroll down to the red "ACS" logo and click on it. It will direct you to the ACS login/get a password page. On that page, **look below the login** box for "Need a Login? Click Here," and enter your email there. This will connect you to ACS and they will email you with a way to select a password to use with the **ChurchLife** app.

**Sometimes this email ends up in your spam folder.** If you have any trouble getting your password, come in to see RK and we'll get you set up properly. Be sure to bring all your OTHER passwords with you (email, Apple Id, etc), so we can complete the installation process.



## The Lesson

I keep on dying again.

Veins collapse, opening like the  
Small fist of sleeping  
Children.

Memory of old tombs,  
Rotting flesh and worms do  
Not convince me against  
The challenge.

The years  
And cold defeat live deep in  
Lines along my face.

They dull my eyes, yet  
I keep on dying,  
Because I love to live.

—Maya Angelou

## LAST CALL FOR SINGERS FOR WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

This year our Winter Solstice Celebration will be *A Winter Solstice Singing Ritual* created by Julie Forest Middleton and Stasa Morgan-Appel. It will be held on Friday, December 21st at 5:30 PM. Joanna Bliss will be the Organizer, Charles Wicker the Narrator and Teri Sandoval the Music Leader.

This ritual, lasting about an hour, is composed of stories and music. Those in attendance are lead on an inner journey that explores the nature and benefits of the dark. The ritual helps to renew us and leads us back to resume our outward journey through the darkest time of the year.

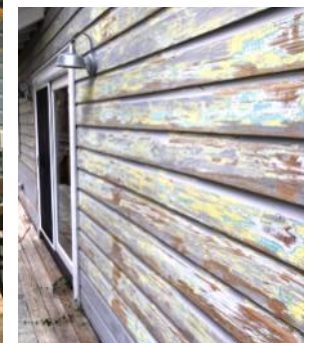
The songs are mostly rounds and chants and should be accessible to anyone who can carry a tune. Those for whom their spiritual path is an Earth Based religion and don't usually sing in the choir are especially encouraged to participate.

Rehearsals will be on Sunday, December 2nd @ 1:15 (participants are encouraged to have lunch together at Quixote's after the second service) and Thursday evenings December 6, and 13th from 7 to 8:30. The dress rehearsal will be Thursday evening December 20th time TBA. If you are interested in participating but don't drive at night please let us know when you respond and we will arrange a ride for you.

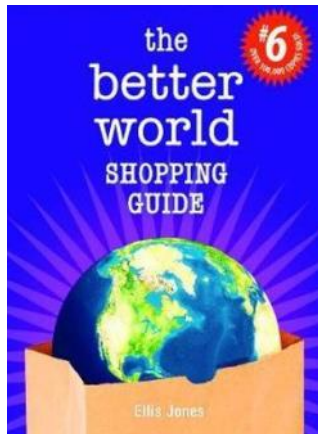
If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please email [solstice@uutc.org](mailto:solstice@uutc.org)

## VARSITY OXFORD HOUSE GETS NEW OUTERWEAR

Brian Pipkins and his crew cut through four layers of flaking paint to get a good, fresh coat of primer and paint onto the Olympia Brown Oxford House. Residents love the color, and provided muffins for last week's coffee hour in celebration & thanks!



# THE “YOU” IN UUTC SOCIAL ACTION



## THE BETTER SHOPPING GUIDE IS HERE!!

Our Better World Shopping Guides have arrived. You can pick them up between services on Sunday, December 2. Checks, cash and credit cards are accepted. For those who have not yet ordered, we've started a new Sign Up sheet. Great for stocking stuffers for your environmentally and progressive-minded friends and family. *The sign up sheet is on the front counter. Cost—only \$10. Amazon's price is \$12—take advantage of this great resource!*

# #GIVING TUESDAY

## GIVING TUESDAY — NOVEMBER 27

Celebrated on the Tuesday following the Thanksgiving holiday (after the post-Thanksgiving shopping frenzy on “Black Friday” and “Cyber Monday”), Giving Tuesday kicks off the charitable season when many people focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving to organizations that are working to make the world a better place. The UU Justice Ministry of NC could use our support.

*With your help, we hope that UUJMN's Giving Tuesday campaign will raise at least \$1,000 from 30 friends and supporters. **All new or increased donations of \$25 or more will be matched dollar by dollar by a generous but anonymous donor up to \$1,000.** Let's get UU's new NC Justice Ministry off to a good start—North Carolina needs all the justice help it can get! Click [HERE](#) to be taken to their page.*

## 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 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

Our mailing address is UUTC, PO Box 918, Brevard, NC 28712. Our church is located at the corner of Varsity Street and South Broad Street in Brevard. Our email address is [admin@uutc.org](mailto:admin@uutc.org).