

UUTC UPDATE

Inclusive. Intentional. *Involved.*

Office Hours

The office is open Mon-Fri from 9 to noon and by appointment.

Pastoral Care

Going through a rough spot? Have surgery coming up? Call (877) 510-5603 or email lhkh@uutc.org.

Nursery Care

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

Coming Up at UUTC

Somelofski Memorial — Sat @ 2:00

Annual Mtg — Sun @ 12:10

Teen Night — Sun @ 5:00

Men's Group — Tues @ 9:00

Finance Com — Tues @ 10:00

Staff Mtg — Tues @ 2:00

Dream Group — Tues @ 2:30

SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00

Eclectics — Wed @ 9:30

Sierra Club — Thurs @ 7:00

Softball — Thurs @ 7:30

Heartful Meditation — Sat @ 5:30

Social Justice Giving



Sunday

THE MYSTERY & POWER OF LANGUAGE

Rev. Ernie Mills

In her autobiography, Helen Keller shares, in a very profound way, her awakening to the power and mystery of language. We will use her story as a guide to explore this rich and complex cultural form.

Services at 9:15am and 11:00am. Join us for coffee at 10:30am!

“Everything has its wonders,
even darkness and silence,
and I learn, whatever state I
may be in, therein to be
content.”

— *Helen Keller*



“Forward Together” is the Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry of North Carolina — a progressive, faith-based, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization working to *“give life the shape of justice”* by

- coordinating and supporting the social justice work of individual UUs and UU congregations in North Carolina,
- building relationships with other groups who are working for social justice, and
- giving voice to our Unitarian Universalist values with respect to important social, economic, environmental, and political issues in North Carolina.

Forward Together is our only Social Justice Giving opportunity for statewide legislative action. It works to empower our vision through boots and presence on the ground.

Speaking of cooperative efforts, join other UUTC Social Justice warriors at a workshop in Hendersonville! See the back page for more details.



SUNDAY, A WEEK FROM NOW

Flower Communion

Rev. Jean Rowe

Rev. Jean Rowe will lead us in a Flower Communion, a Unitarian ritual since the 1930s. Please bring a flower (one for each person in your family) and we will create a huge bouquet. Each one will take away a different flower.



The original flower communion started at the Unitarian Church in Prague, Czechoslovakia between the two world wars, during the rise of the Nazis. It symbolized that despite how hard life became, each person had something beautiful to contribute and that it was offered of their own free will to the common good. Also, that despite the troubles around them, each person could find something beautiful to take with them from the common good.

ANNUAL MEETING — MAY 19

GO [HERE](#) to access the Agenda, Absentee Ballot, minutes from two previous meetings requiring approval, proposed 2019-2020 Budget and the Statement on Immigration Reform.

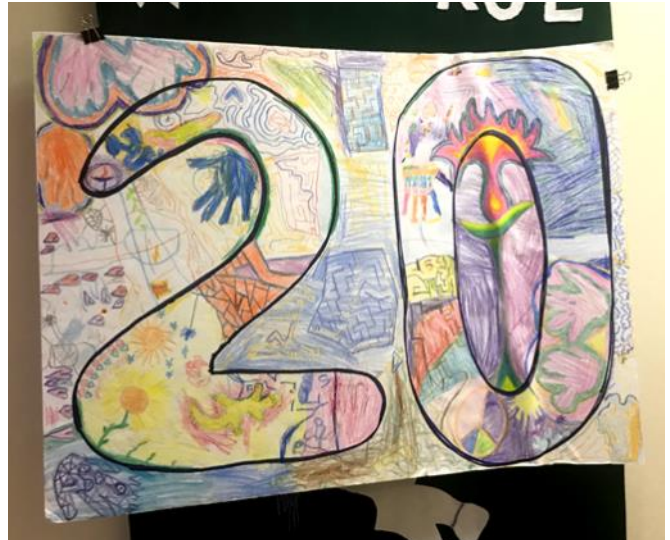
This meeting will take place immediately after the second service on Sunday, May 19th. Remember that only Members may vote, but all are welcome to attend. Help us continue to be “way over Quorum” — we need a minimum of 56 Members in attendance to conduct business.

The 5th Principle: “The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.” In the words of [Theodore Parker](#), *‘Democracy means not “I am as good as you are,” but “You are as good as I am.”’* My connection with the sacred is only as precious as my willingness to acknowledge the same connection in others.”

IT'S COMING!

UUTC turns 20 on June 6th! Plans are in the works for this milestone. **Sandwich Sunday**, normally the first Sunday of the month, **will be deferred to June 9th that month**, so that we can “christen” our Fellowship Green (weather permitting) on that weekend.

Mark your calendar and plan to be in town for this special weekend, just a few short weeks away!



“BUDDHIST WISDOM” ON JUNE 9TH

If you’ve been curious about Buddhism, a Second Sunday gathering on June 9th will be held at 5:00pm at Elk Haven Wellness Center in Brevard. The topic is ***Buddhist Wisdom for Non-Buddhists***. The program will be led by Amy Goldweber, Director of the Retreat Center at Heartwood Refuge in Hendersonville. The event is open to all. Donations to defray costs will be accepted at the door. The host for the Second Sundays series is Mary Marinucci, associate at the Center for Spiritual Wisdom.

SIERRA CLUB: THURSDAY, MAY 23RD, 7:00PM

The Pisgah Group of the Sierra Club will host Transylvania Natural Resources Council (TNRC) Chairman Lee McMinn as its featured speaker at its May meeting. The meeting will be held at the UUTC Church at corner of South Broad and Varsity Street in Brevard at 7:15 pm on Thursday, May 23. The public is invited to attend.

Mr. McMinn, who has been chair of the Transylvania Natural Resources Council for five years, will speak about the work of the TNRC to promote and protect our county’s natural heritage. During McMinn’s tenure, the TNRC has dealt with such diverse issues as hemlock restoration, protection of wildlife and fisheries, maintenance of clean water, management of steep slope development, and enduring partnerships with our state and national forests. Under his leadership, the TNRC has paid particular attention to the remarkable volunteer efforts of the Transylvania French Broad Stewards, the Friends of Dupont, the Pisgah Conservancy, Mountain True and other local organizations which have promoted the welfare of our environment. We are delighted that he will join us to discuss from his broad perspective the work of the TNRC and other citizen organizations to conserve the natural heritage of Transylvania County.



TEN YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

UUTC has been a Welcoming Congregation for ten years! We have been asked by UUA to begin a renewal process to maintain our status as a Welcoming Congregation. You will soon be seeing and hearing more about each of the five steps that every UU congregation must take to complete the process.

One of the steps, or "Pillars," asks us to recognize and celebrate the Welcoming Days of Observance. **Friday, May 17th** is one of those days. Today is the **International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia**. Its purpose is to raise awareness of violence, discrimination, and repression of LGBT communities worldwide.

There is a list of the Welcoming Days of Observance on the main bulletin board. We will be selecting six of them to acknowledge in the form of a prayer, a chalice lighting, a song, a work of art, etc. each year.



MUSICKE ANTIQUA, IN CONCERT BENEFITTING BREAD OF LIFE

Sunday, May 26th at 3:00pm, come enjoy a truly delightful [concert with Musicke Antiqua](#). Yes, there are costumes. Yes, there are some strange-looking instruments. You will find the tunes, however, quite familiar, though you will experience them in a different way because of the unique sounds of these instruments. UUTC is an excellent space for this experience.

A love offering will be taken, and proceeds will benefit the Bread of Life, who can use support for summer.



PROGRESS ON THE FELLOWSHIP GREEN

The Fellowship Green is more than picnic tables. It is shade, it is habitat, it is storage. UUTC has many different needs that require solutions, and this project works to solve, or at least move towards solving, a number of these needs.

Storage has been an ongoing challenge. We started by adding the cabinetry in the large classroom and the foyer. Then we got rid of the large media cart that used to be used to get a screen into various spots, and went with wall-mounted screens—freeing up an entire closet for chairs. Then we added the barn-door covered table closet, which removed a gigantic cart out of the maintenance room. But will still lack a janitor's sink, which must be installed in that space. Hence: a storage shed.

Facilities has “purged” the maintenance room twice in the last 5 years, and another big one is in the works. What can be stored in a non-temperature controlled space will be moved into the new shed, so that some shelving can be removed from the maintenance room to create space for the aforementioned janitor's sink. A janitor's sink is more like a shower stall, allowing a mop bucket to hop the curb and be filled and emptied and cleaned. There will be no wait for hot water with the water heater adjacent. The new shed will be painted the colors of the Olympia Brown Oxford House, helping to establish a unified feel to our campus.



Shade sails in blue and cream will be hung over the picnic area in the Fellowship Green. While they will provide a little rain protection, the primary goal is to provide shade. The four sails will be mounted to 6”x6”x16’ posts in a spiral, just for fun.

This area will become something of an outdoor classroom, while also serving as a fellowship space.

Deliveries in the next five days include 4 more picnic tables, boulders to frame the wildflower meadow and lumber for the shade sails. Our original two picnic tables, which date back to our interim ministry time with Rev. Ian White Maher, were power washed this week by Bob Bennett and Howie Friedman in preparation for painting by our kiddos and their families on Sunday evening. They will be quite colorful when completed!

Continued on next page...



Stages of a shed — arrival, base set, completion of framing and installation of interior shelving.

FELLOWSHIP GREEN, continued...

Shortly, the real fun will begin with the installation of some plants to continue to increase the habitat we are providing both for wildlife and those among us who find the life outdoors spiritually rewarding. During their pruning exercises, Linda Darnell and Kay Webb discovered this Gray Catbird nest in the viburnum shrubs. Other species observed in the last couple of weeks are fish, frogs, bluebirds, song sparrows, a water snake, white-breasted nuthatch, cardinals, wrens, towhees— and a kingfisher! Jumping Branch is responsible for a lot of this life—it is up to us to continue to make this rich, clean habitat.

Finally, this past week saw the birth of a bunch of monarch caterpillars— the story of their journey to the nursery of Joyce Pearsall is [our latest blog post](#).



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.