

UUTC UPDATE

Inclusive. Intentional. *Involved.*

Office Hours

The office is open Mon-Fri from 9:30 to 12:30 and by appointment.

Pastoral Care

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

Heartful Meditation — Sat @ 5:30
 Spiritual Explorations — Mon @ 3:30
 Welcoming Team — Mon @ 3:30
 Men's Group — Tues @ 9:00
 SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00
 Never Too Late — Wed @ 10:00
 Eclectics — Wed @ 10:30
 Dignity Sorting — Wed @ 2:00
 Choir Rehearsal — Wed @ 4:00
 Living Wage Coalition — Thurs @ 10:00
 Rainbow Alliance — Thurs @ 5:00

Plan Ahead for Social Action:

Haven Food Delivery — 9/13, 4-5:00
 BBQ @ Haven — 9/15, 3:00
 Rising from Homelessness — 9/16, 7:00



THIS WATER IS SACRED

Rev. Sally Beth Shore

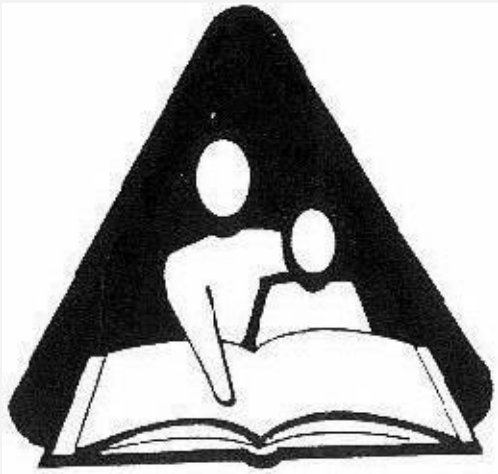
It's September and Labor Day is over, school has started, a new minister is here, and it's a new church year—another beginning for you together as a community of faith. Let's mark this beginning this way: this week, go collect a small container of water from your kitchen tap, your favorite nearby stream, the sky, or anywhere that feels meaningful to you. Bring it along on Sunday morning and join together in celebrating Water Communion. We'll mingle what we've brought, and in so doing, consider these waters as metaphor for our life together in this community and our hopes for the coming church year.

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

*“Life is precious. Life is sacred.
 And it ought so to be observed.”*

— Gordon B. Hinckley

Social Justice Giving: Augustine Literacy Project



The Augustine Project is committed to providing caring, professionally trained tutors for those whose families cannot afford to pay. The combination of nurture and knowledge that an Augustine tutor offers can mean the difference between prison and productivity for at-risk students.

We train and support volunteer tutors working to improve reading, writing, and spelling abilities of low-income kids who struggle with literacy skills.



Bottom Row: UUTC members Carol Moore, Bobby King and Heather Layton and (not shown) Pedro Sandin have all been trained as Augustine Tutors.



SUNDAY, A WEEK FROM NOW Silver Linings of the Climate Crisis

Speaker: Rev. Sally Beth Shore



From September 20th to 27th, activists and concerned citizens across the world will be participating in the Global Climate Strike, demanding committed action by the world's leaders to reduce worldwide greenhouse gas emissions. While the situation may be grave, the tools we need to combat global warming are at hand—and as we do so, collateral benefits will ensue, as well. We will ponder four enheartening silver linings of the Climate Crisis.

OFFICE HOURS AND OTHER CHANGES

To better reflect reality (and to accommodate other staff besides RK), our new office hours will be 9:30-12:30, effective immediately.

Our latest fire inspection spelled out a requirement that you may have noticed in other places around town. **Since our front doors are not "egress" doors, they must be unlocked and unlatched (the in-seam latches) during office hours.** A notice to this effect is now posted on the doors, along with the effective office hours. An egress door is one similar to our sanctuary exit doors—the bar allows you to ALWAYS get out. Our front doors do not have this safety feature, and so must be both unlocked and unlatched to provide the same exiting-the-building safety that egress doors do.

When it is time to secure the building, we appreciate the extra effort this will require. Thanks to all for your attentiveness!

SOUND — The work has begun in earnest! You will likely notice some additions over the choir. These new pieces of hardware are not yet operational—that will happen next week. Nearly \$6000 has been donated — thank you all!

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW DCRE

I'm very excited to become the new Director for Children's Religious Education (CRE). The CRE program is very important to me because it has been critical to my sons' own beginning of their lifelong spiritual journeys in a supporting and caring environment. Through the children's classes, Chalice Camps and special events, Jacob, age six, and Jackson, age 4, have experienced a warm and loving congregation that is interested in them and supports their development as they learn about peace, kindness, and the freedom to become their best possible selves.



Their journey somewhat reflects my own personal spiritual journey and the different roles I've held as I searched for my interest and passion. I was fortunate to spend several years as the director for youth ministries at a United Methodist Church in South Carolina. I enjoyed working with the teenagers and looking at the important questions of why we are here and how we can help each other.

I also spent several years as a camp administrator of two different camps, a YMCA Camp and a camp and Retreat Center for people with disabilities and special needs. I loved seeing the campers, regardless of their abilities, interact in the natural world and appreciate all the gifts of our beautiful environment.

I hope to continue the long tradition of the CRE program that provides a supporting and caring place for children to express themselves. It is through the work of our wonderful teachers, parent / guardians, and other UUTC volunteers that we can raise the new generation that will continue our long tradition of social justice, environmental awareness, and spiritual inquiry. This can happen only if lots of caring adults step forward and volunteer their time and talents. Please join with me as we support our children's program and make it a fun, loving and energized part of our amazing spiritual community.

TIME AWAY

I am taking a vacation for a couple of weeks and will not have access to phone or email. I will be checking email once I return and will get back with you promptly! Also - This month the Board meeting will be held off-site as we will be having our Board Retreat at that time. If you have any matter that needs to be brought to the Board's attention please submit to me in writing and I will see to it that it is addressed. If it is a matter you would like to bring in person, our next board meeting will be held at the church on October 22 at 5:30 pm.



All my best, Joyce Henneberry president@uutc.org

A NOTE FROM OUR MINISTER

Dear UUTC Members and Friends—

Thank you for all of the gestures of welcome large and small, that you have sent my way—thanks to these, I already feel like I belong. However, I still have a steep learning curve, which is to be expected in a new position, but also because there so much going on at UUTC! I'm pressed for time, but quickly, I want to highlight:



- This Sunday, we mark our beginning of the church year (not officially, was July 1) by celebrating Water Communion—bring your water and your hopes for this year together. (I got to hear the choir rehearsing water music on Wednesday and I can tell you it's going to knock your socks off!)

- I know you know this, but the staff and regular volunteers here are absolutely phenomenal. I won't try to mention everyone by name, lest I leave someone out, but thank you all for welcoming and for your indulgence as I get up to speed. I've also been very impressed at all the people coming and going this week painting, spackling, and other building tasks—it is so inspiring to see the love and care given to this community. Your Treasurer, Susan Slocum gets a special commendation for all of her work doing the odious job of helping get my paperwork in order so I can be paid.

- Finally, UUTC staff expanded this week with the addition of Kevin Lausch as new Director of Children's Religious Exploration. YAY! I am so enthusiastic to get to work with him as he develops programming for UUTC's children and young families, which begins on September 22. Children ages 4 or up are welcome and invited to participate in services on Sept 15 and 22.

I am enjoying learning about the various offerings and ministries here, and feel really blessed to get to be a part of such a vibrant congregation. Please be patient with me as I learn your names and get to know you. Thank you for entrusting me with your ministry.

Rev. Shore (Sally Beth)



TIME AS FATE

Rev. Ernie Mills

What we call “time” the ancient Greeks understood as “fate.” The two words were interchangeable. Moirai, goddesses of fate, assigned destinies to every person born into this world. Not only your share in the time allotted to you but your “lot” in life were both predetermined.



Almost fire weather!

Greek Tragedy is full of examples of the workings of fate. One of the best known examples is Oedipus. Oedipus learns from the Oracle of Apollo of his fate - to murder his father and marry his mother. He tries, but fails, to avoid this tragic destiny.

Another example of the workings of fate is found in the Greek Tragedy, Oresteia. In this tragedy Clytemnestra murders her husband. Instead of taking responsibility for her crime she blames the family curse. It was her “lot” in life.

Then along comes the philosopher, Plato and out goes fate. What did Plato do? You’ll find out at our annual retreat at The Mountain. — *Ernie*

Spiritual Practices

“A spiritual practice or spiritual discipline is the regular or full-time performance of actions and activities undertaken for the purpose of inducing spiritual experiences and cultivating spiritual development. A common metaphor used in the spiritual traditions of the world's great religions is that of walking a path.^[1] Therefore, a spiritual practice moves a person along a path towards a goal.” —Wikipedia

Some of you may choose to explore this session with RK, of the use of spiritual practice in building awareness and connection. RK will “borrow” much of the content of this session from her experiences at Pro Days in Spokane and SUULE. In preparation, consider what habits of your life encourage you towards respect, cooperation and connection.

.... Intrigued? What to hear more? Then you’d better get registered for the Fall Retreat at The Mountain! Thirty-six others are registered, and space is running short. We are scheduled for the weekend of **October 4-6, 2019**. **UUTC cannot make these reservations on your behalf, so make sure you go online to <https://www.themountainrlc.org/upcoming-events> and reserve space now! [Yes, this link has been updated!]**

The Mountain has just debuted a new website, so even if you don’t intend to register, it is definitely worth a fresh look!

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE HAVEN — WE NEED CHEFS!

The Haven is one of UUTC's selected charitable organizations, is a benefactor of the Dignity Project, and is where a UUTC member can be found volunteering at almost any time of the day or night. This multiple-service homeless shelter is the only home its residents know for weeks, months, and even more than a year in some cases. It is comprised of two buildings, one for single residents and one for families. While the family house is a complete home with bedrooms for up to four families and a full kitchen, the residence for single individuals houses both males and females on separate sides of a single room containing 10 bunk beds. It has a kitchen with washer, dryer, microwave, sink, and two refrigerators but no stove on which to prepare meals. Needless to say, home-cooked meals



are high on the list of items the single residents miss the most while living in a facility without a complete kitchen. Area churches, on a rotating basis, help to fill in part of this gap by providing food for an entire weekend for the average 15-20 residents in the singles building, and UUTC is one of those churches. Because there are 52 weekends in the year but not anywhere near that number of contributing churches, UUTC committed to providing food for four weekends during 2019. The weekend of September 13-15 is our third round of the year, with our final round falling on the weekend of December 13th.

In its effort to continue with the goal of forming personal relationships with UUTC's community partners, the Social Action Team will provide a special meal on Sunday afternoon, September 15th, by preparing a barbecue cookout with all the trimmings and sharing it with both the family and single residents of the Haven. The Bread of Life has generously donated its dining space to allow the approximately 40 people involved to be able to socialize and eat together.

Even though that Sunday meal is covered, there is still a need for food donations for Friday and Saturday dinners and Saturday and Sunday breakfasts on that weekend. We have reduced the size of some of the donations to servings for 10 people because cooking for 20 people can be a very daunting task for some. This has resulted, of course, in needing more volunteers to bring food.

If you don't cook, there are bread, fruit, and dessert options available on the sign up sheet (located on the front counter at UUTC).

Food donations should be delivered **directly to the Haven** on Friday, Sept 13th between 4:00 and 5:00 PM. If it's a dinner you're delivering, the closer to 4:00, the better as people arrive home hungry! Please help give the residents of the Haven something to look forward to by signing up on the list in the foyer.

Thank you for helping to make someone happy! — **Your Social Action Team**

RISING FROM HOMELESSNESS: MONDAY, SEPT 16, 7:00PM @UUTC



“Never let your circumstances dictate what your future holds,” says Brevard citizen Eric Edwards, an advocate for the homeless. Just four years ago Edwards was homeless, on the brink of despair, and ready to end his life. A phone call to a crisis hotline brought a stranger named Mark to his apartment. Mark drove him to a detox center.

On Monday, September 16, the Social Action Team will sponsor an opportunity for the public to hear Eric tell his incredible story of transformation. He has journeyed from despair to abundant participation in our community.

Despondent over his young son’s death due to leukemia in 2012, Edwards life had spiraled down for several years. He eventually lost his job and turned to drugs and alcohol. After his detox he entered a rehabilitation center called Turning Point. From Turning Point Edwards came to The Haven, the homeless shelter in Brevard. From the shelter he moved into local public housing, and later into the 63rd home constructed by Habitat for Humanity in Transylvania County.

Edwards is now a steering committee member of Champions for Change, a program of the NC Coalition to End Homelessness. He is also a member of Civitan, a coach for the Special Olympics, a member of the Brevard Housing Authority Board of Directors, a participant in the Sharing House Getting Ahead Program, and a corporate compliance officer at the Transylvania Association for Disabled Citizens.

Edwards has become an advocate for the homeless because doors were opened for him. He looks for ways to “pay it forward” and has twice been to Washington, DC, to promote programs for the homeless with government officials at the national level.

BREVARD CROP HUNGER WALK

UUTC continues to participate in the CWS (Church World Services) CROP Walk raising funds to assist communities in 70 countries worldwide to address the causes of hunger and deal with disaster relief. The annual Brevard area CROP Hunger Walk will be Sunday, October 13th at 2pm at Brevard Middle School. The 3.1 mile walk is an interfaith outing to raise funds to end hunger locally and world-wide. Last year we raised \$13,561 with \$3390 (25%) given to **our local Sharing House**. Walking is a symbolic way of joining with those who must walk to access basic needs of water, food, shelter, and medical care. If interested in participating in the Brevard Crop Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 13th at Brevard Middle School, please go [to this website](#) to Register for the Walk and/or Donate for this wonderful cause.



**821 MILLION
people around
the world are
HUNGRY**



SPIRITUAL EXPLORATIONS FALL REBOOT

Earle Rabb

Spiritual Explorations, lead by Carol Flake and Earle Rabb, begins the Fall Session on Monday, September 9 from 3:30 to 5:00 in the Social Hall (for the first meeting). On the 23rd and beyond, the group will meet in the sanctuary. Spiritual Explorations meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month. This fall we will be discussing Richard Rohr's landmark book, *The Universal Christ*. It is thought provoking, practical, and full of deep hope and vision.

To get the most out of the discussions, each participant will need a copy of *The Universal Christ*, which can be obtained through Highland Books or Amazon. For our first meeting, we will be considering the Introduction and Chapters One and Two. Come join us!



DESPERATELY SEEKING A GRILLMASTER

The Social Action Team has a plan, a grill, and the food for its barbecue cookout at the Haven on our Haven food weekend, but it's lacking a maestro of grilling. If you are available on Sunday, September 15th from approximately 3:00-5:00 PM and would be willing to serve as our Grillmaster Extraordinaire, please contact us at socialjustice@uutc.org. You will be rewarded with accolades and a free meal! Thanks.

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.