

# 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 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

### SOUPER SUNDAY — JAN 6

Men's Group — Tues @ 9:00am  
 AdCom — Tues @ 10:00am  
 Aging Wisely — Tues @ 3:00pm  
 SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00pm  
 Eclectics — Wed @ 9:30am  
 Choir — Wed @ 4:00pm  
 Team Mtg Night — Wed @ 5:00pm  
 Living Wage — Thurs @ 10:00am  
 Joy of Being — Thurs @ 11:00am  
 Rainbow Alliance — Thurs @ 5:00pm  
 Sacred Fire — Thurs @ 5:30pm  
 Finance — Fri @ 9:00am



## Sunday, January 6

### LOVE CHANGES EVERYTHING

Rev. Earle Rabb

If you are reading this, you are alive on this earth. You are here. The big question for each of us is: How, then, shall I live? Combining the guidance from an ancient Jewish wisdom teacher with our modern knowledge provides us the answer: Love Changes Everything! We will explore the practical ways to live out the truth of those three words.

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

“Throughout history, it has been the inaction of those who could have acted; the indifference of those who should have known better; the silence of the voice of justice when it mattered most; that has made it possible for evil to triumph.”

— *Haile Selassie*

## Muffins with the Minister

Our January “Muffins” date is **January 28th**. 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 Justice Giving



The Haven is Transylvania County's two-building shelter for homeless families and individuals of all ages. The Haven

works with other community agencies to prevent long-term homelessness and to promote sustainable outcomes for its residents. Your donation will support our fellow citizens as they work toward reaching self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

## SUNDAY, A WEEK FROM NOW

### “Epiphanies” — Rev. Ilene

January 6 was Epiphany Sunday— the day that those wise men of yore actually arrived at the stable in Bethlehem, having followed the omen of a star. We have many epiphanies throughout our lives, but what epiphanies might we encounter together as a congregation if we focus our intentions on self-discernment? As we delve deeper into January's worship theme of justice, we will reflect together on how the ways we worship can best reflect our core convictions as Unitarian Universalists— particularly, our commitment to dismantling racism. How might we de-colonize our worship life? What gifts of insight might we receive during this season of epiphanies, leading us toward a deeper and broader way of being together, guided by our anti-racist stance?

Remember that, at our 11am service, there will be special programming for our youngest worshippers!

## UU HISTORY: DAY CLASS STARTS JAN 28TH

New to Unitarian Universalism? Need a refresher on the history of our progressive faith tradition? Have questions about how we got to be the way we are? Rev. Ilene starts the second section of this course on the history of Unitarianism, Universalism, and the modern UU beginning late January.

If you have not already signed up, there is still time. Call or [email](#), or drop by and put your name on the sign-up list at the front desk. This will be a three-session course. The first session begins Monday, January 28th, at 1:00pm, and will meet in the sanctuary. It continues on the following two Mondays.



## NEW DIRECTOR OF CRE

Happy 2019! We have so much to be excited about at UUTC as this new year begins— our thriving welcoming congregation full of programs for all different kinds of folks, our incredible music program, our commitments to love and justice, and our diverse worship life, just to name a few!

I, along with our Children’s Religious Exploration Team, am thrilled to announce that we have hired a new Director of Children’s Religious Education, who will be joining our staff this month!

Danny is a graduate of Wake Forest Divinity School in Winston Salem, NC, where he earned his Master’s of Divinity degree with a concentration in the field of food, health, and ecology in 2017. Danny did his undergraduate work at UNC Asheville where he studied religion. He is a theologian, writer, and farmer, among many other things. Danny has worked with young people in many settings, and currently spends his days working as a recovery coordinator for adults with mental illness.

Danny is a writer with particular interest in issues of food and land justice, and has been awarded honors for his preaching and writing. He has an eclectic religious background which includes Catholicism, Episcopalianism, and Buddhism. A voracious reader, he’s already hard at work devouring books about Unitarian Universalist history and theology!

Danny has a passion for creative liturgy and worship— what a perfect fit for UUTC as we begin offering more all-ages worship experiences at our 11am services. In fact, he’s currently working on a book about liturgical play!

We are thrilled to welcome Danny to our staff, and eagerly await the many gifts he will bring to our beloved community. From January to June of 2019, Rev. Ilene and Danny will co-lead intergenerational worship services at 11am each week that Rev. Ilene is in the pulpit, as UUTC continues to explore how we can offer deeper and broader ministries to people of all ages. On weeks in which a guest speaker is preaching, Danny will coordinate our Religious Exploration classes for young children.

Many thanks to the parents and staff who have contributed time and energy to our search! We are confident that Danny will enrich our community in many ways, continuing Heather’s legacy of care for our youngest members and expanding ministry to people of all ages. What a gift it is that we as a congregation are able to hold a core of sanctity around our deepest commitments, while also keeping space for new changes and developments.

Here’s to exciting progress in this brand-new year!

Faithfully yours,

Rev. Ilene



Danny Szemple, M.Div.

## TEACHERS AGAINST CHILD DETENTION: HOW CAN WE HELP?



Teachers against Child Detention (TACD) was formed by a group of teachers led by Mandy Manning, the 2018 National Teacher of the Year, to speak out against the poor treatment of immigrant children being held in Tornillo, Texas. Tornillo was designed to hold 400 children for a few weeks in June, but is now projected to hold at least 3,800 children on a near-indefinite basis. The average length of stay there is reported to be double or triple the legal limit, which allows the government to detain immigrant children for no longer than 20 days at a time.

Record numbers of immigrant children are being held around the U.S. under conditions that are harmful to their development and well-being. Tornillo is unregulated by child welfare agencies, and the staff there is exempt from FBI fingerprint background checks. School is not required, and conditions are difficult. Experts agree that incarcerating children significantly hurts their ability to learn, even after they are freed.

Two local ESL (English as a Second Language) teachers – including UU's very own Katherine Galvagni -- are working with their students to select their favorite books, write letters to the children, purchase Spanish language copies of books, and bring the books to the Teach-In on President's Weekend in February, in Texas. They've started a Go Fund Me page to support the purchase of books, and help with their travel expenses. Check out the links below to see how you – a committed, caring UU member – can help.

[Teachers Against Child Detention](#) • [Go Fund Me: Books for Children of Tornillo Detention Facility](#)

## TEAM MEETING NIGHT — 5:00, PIZZA; 5:30, MEETINGS!

Want pizza or salad? [Email the office!](#) Working with others towards common goals is rewarding (and frequently fun, but don't tell 'em I said so!). If you've been considering being part of the festivities, come to Team Night and prowl around to see what suits you. We need people for Welcoming (formerly Membership), Adult Religious Exploration, Children's Religious Exploration... and we can always use more hands and feet on Facilities and Social Action. Minds and hearts don't hurt, either!

If you envision a collaborative project—one that involves more than one team—this is when you should make your vision known. Teams have just submitted their budgets for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year and are plotting strategy to share with the Council, which is working on strategic planning. See you Wednesday!

## NEW A.R.E. OFFERINGS IN JANUARY

**LOOKING FOR A FRESH START IN 2019? CLASS STARTS NEXT WEDNESDAY!**

**THE KEYS TO LOVING YOURSELF, CREATING BETTER RELATIONSHIPS  
& FINDING REAL HAPPINESS**

**Course lasts 9 weeks,  
beginning Monday, Jan 9<sup>th</sup>  
11am – 12:30pm.**

A life-changing course by Paul Ferrini. These Eight Spiritual Practices will help you to transform your experience. Watch, over the course of the class, as fear drops away and unconditional love shines through. As you awaken to who you are, so will the people around you. A fearful world cannot exist for a loving heart.

Call [\(828\) 877-6121](tel:828-877-6121) to register today or sign up at the front counter. Free to members/friends of UUTC • \$50 for non-members • Book \$15

### A UUTC “COMMON READ”

In support of the 10th Anniversary of UUTC’s becoming a Welcoming Congregation and the necessary steps for renewal of that designation, the Adult Religious Exploration (ARE) Team approved a Common Read for UUTC of Casey Gerald’s [\*There Will Be No Miracles Here\*](#).

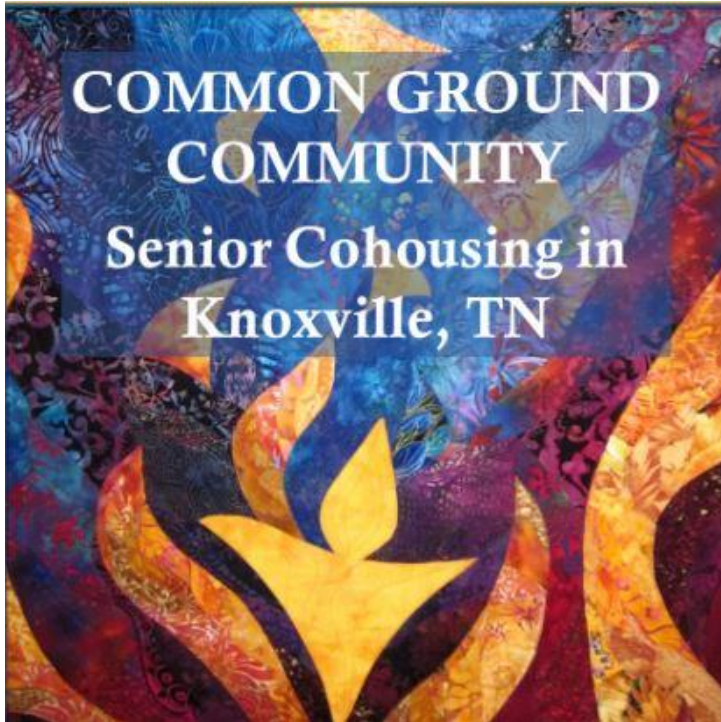


[Link to review.] His memoir was named a Best Book of 2018 by NPR and the New York Times.

There will be two “touchpoints” of this common read— the first will be Thursday, January 31st at 4:00pm, at which point those participating should be close to the middle of the book. **Be prepared to share a few lines from the text within the first half of the book that resonated with you, or drew a visceral response. Bring something you can use for notes, should you choose to take them. Select more than one thing to share, in the event that another person covers the same territory—or you can stick with your primary selection. You are not required to share, if you do not wish to do so. The amount of discussion will depend on the number of people participating—the first session will last 90 minutes.**

A sign up sheet is at the front counter—Highland Books will be notified of the number of people who have signed up so that they can have books on hand. Call to be added! If you would like to purchase an extra book so others may read, contact the Admin. Meetings facilitated by RK Young.

## AN INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY IN KNOXVILLE FOR UUS AND FRIENDS



Interested in living in an intentional community for the “Third Act” of your life? **Common Ground** is an envisioned UU senior cohousing community which promises the benefits of having your own home with the support and camaraderie of a close-knit community. There will be 30-45 people with a roomy Common House. Neighbors commit to being part of a community for everyone’s mutual benefit—sound familiar? Common Ground will be located on 22 acres in northeast Knoxville, 15 minutes from downtown and Knoxville’s shopping, restaurants, recreational centers, and medical facilities. Residents will share common facilities which reduces expenses. The

community is using a proven senior cohousing model, that of Elderspirit (Abingdon, VA) and inspired by Quimper Village (Washington), Silver Sage (Colorado), PDX Commons (Oregon) and Germantown Commons (Tennessee).

There is literature on the bulletin board, and you can check them out [online](#). (This link gives you access to several sites.) You can also email [uucommunityknox@gmail.com](mailto:uucommunityknox@gmail.com) or call the founder, Dr. Susan Fuhr at (865) 256-9770.

## 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).