

# 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, email [lhhh@uutc.org](mailto:lhhh@uutc.org), or let us know [online](#).

## 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

- Heartfulness Meditation — Sat @ 5:30
- Spiritual Explorations — Mon @ 3:30
- Men’s Group — Tues @ 9:00
- SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00
- Eclectics — Wed @ 10:00
- Dignity Sorting — Wed @ 2:00
- Choir Rehearsal — Wed @ 4:00
- Living Wage Coalition — Thurs @ 10:00
- LHHH Luncheon — Thurs @ 12:00**
- Rainbow Alliance — Thurs @ 5:30



### BEYOND HUMAN RIGHTS —

*Expanding the Conversation*

**Rev. Sally Beth Shore**

In honor of Human Rights Day (December 10), we consider the history and importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But not everyone shares a belief in the value of protecting Human Rights; how can we make the conversation more productive? A "Human Benefits Analysis" could change how we see people-- as great possibilities, and thus worthy of protection and nurturance.

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

*“Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home – so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. ... Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerned citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.”*

*– Eleanor Roosevelt*

## Social Justice Giving: The Dignity Project



You are invited to help stock Dignity Pantries for 8 organizations: El Centro, Sharing House, Bread of Life, The Haven, Rise & Shine, The Children’s Center, Davidson River School and SAFE.

UUTC has taken on the task of stocking and delivering items which are NOT eligible for purchase through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Most notably, menstrual hygiene products, diapers, and condoms—items which are non-negotiable purchases for our neighbors. We also supply razors, deodorant and soap to assist those trying to capture or retain employment.

Make out your check to UUTC with “Dignity” on the memo line. What better way to show our commitment to the first principle of “the inherent worth and dignity of every person” than to help others? Thank you for your generosity.



## SUNDAY, A WEEK FROM NOW Holiday Survival Guide

*Rev. Sally Beth Shore*

3rd Week of Advent: Joy

It’s the Winter Holidays! Again! While there are aspects of this month (and more) that many of us love, it can also be a tough time spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Just admitting this is the case can be liberating; from there, perhaps we can find Joy, even if we’d rather sleep until spring. Offering us some Joy will be members of our “Never Too Late” puppet troupe, performing the 12 Days of Christmas. Children will remain in the sanctuary for this before going to their classes.

## REALM ROLLOUT COMING SOON

Staff this week all pitched in as we worked to verify the first stage of data migration from the old ACS data structure. For those who remember this far back, the old ACS was built on what looks like the old dBase programming language... the new one looks more like Java and is much easier for your Treasurer to use!

The second stage will be completed in this coming week, and then the final step will come—moving online giving over to the new dataset. Once this happens, those of you who already have ChurchLife logins will receive an “invitation” to join Realm. We recommend taking advantage of the opportunity to reset your password at this time (use the “Forgot my password” link to make this happen) since making a password change regularly is just good personal security practice.

Right now, ChurchLife still “works,” though in fact it is no longer as up to date, since we have made some updates, already, in Realm. ChurchLife will give up the ghost with the final data “push,” and you will need to download Realm Connect from your devices’ “store.” There is no charge for this program. More info coming soon!

## CRE UPDATE

Happy Holidays! We enjoyed a great intergenerational service on Nov 24th and collected a whole wagon full of food for Sharing House! Thank you to everyone who contributed to our neighbors in need!

See below for upcoming family events at UUTC.



### CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CHOIR - DECEMBER SUNDAYS BETWEEN SERVICES

Children are invited to join the kids choir to practice two songs for the Christmas Eve service. This is just a quick and fun practice to help the kids start to learn the songs Practices are in the large classroom at 10:20 on December Sundays.

### INTENTIONAL PARENTS CIRCLE - SUNDAY, DEC 8 AT 5PM

Please make plans to attend the next Parents Circle for a great meal (veggie chili) and discussion. The topic: How do you as a UU (or UU friend) go about Christmas? We'll look at it culturally, economically and theologically. Please [Sign Up!](#)

### SANTA'S WORKSHOP - DEC 15 AT 2:30PM-5:30PM

Drop your kids off for Santa's Workshop while you go shopping (or take a nap!). Activities include gift making, crafts, games and snacks. A nursery is provided. Sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4CA8AA2AA6FA7-santas>

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - DEC 24 AT 4:30PM

This will be an early service for families and children are invited to join in singing two songs with the children's holiday choire. Practices will be Sundays in December between the two services.

### REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR CRE

Please remember to register your child for CRE programs. Attached is a form to print, complete, and return to Kevin (if you have not done so already).

*“Laughter is wine for the soul - laughter soft, or loud and deep, tinged through with seriousness - the hilarious declaration made by man that life is worth living.” — Sean O'Casey*

## THANK YOU FROM THE SOCIAL ACTION TEAM!

A big shout out and thank you to all the individuals that contributed to Operation Keep Warm. We received so many items that three trips were needed to deliver everything to the Sharing House and Bread of Life, so there will be many people who suffer less during the cold this winter due to your generosity. You have proven yet once again that this is a caring and loving community of which we are proud to be a part.

## ANGELS UNIDENTIFIED



Thank you very much for your overwhelming response to the giving tree last Sunday. We are waiting for the names of several other children to be added to the tree, so if you missed the opportunity to sponsor an angel last Sunday, there is still one more chance!

Two angels which were adopted last Sunday had no record placed in the register book related to which child was adopted and by whom. If you took a name home but didn't sign out in the register, please complete that this Sunday so that we know who is responsible for which angel. Also, if you select an angel that is added this second Sunday, be sure to fill in the details in the register.

All donations of cash or actual gifts should be received at UUTC by the early morning of December 13<sup>th</sup> at the latest so that gifts can be purchased or distributed before students leave for the break.

## ADULT ANGELS ARE ABOUT TO ARRIVE

On December 13<sup>th</sup>, a new set of angels will appear on the giving tree. These angels will be for adult residents of the Haven, but the system we use will be the same. The biggest difference is that requested gifts will be smaller, and the personal note that goes with the card will be more important than the gift itself. The gifts and cards should be returned to UUTC and placed in the box near the giving tree prior to December 24<sup>th</sup> so that they can be taken to the Haven and placed under the tree there for Christmas day.

It's important for all people to feel that someone cares what happens to them, and these small gifts and personal notes let the Haven residents know that there are people in this world who are thinking about them and care what happens in their lives.

Thanks in advance for being one of those individuals.

## NOTE FROM REV. SHORE

My Dear Friends,

Last week we lit a candle for Faith, and we contemplated what this word Faith means to us as Unitarian Universalists. I've come to see Faith as one's ability to create meaning in life—if not to be the captain of my ship, at least to interpret its voyages. It is not always easy, and it's a practice to recognize one's responsibility to do this. As Viktor Frankl said, "Faith is trust in ultimate meaning. We who lived in concentration camps can remember the men who walked through the huts comforting others, giving away their last piece of bread. Ultimately, man [sic] should not ask what the meaning of his life is, but rather he must recognize that it is he who is asked."



As the holiday season cranks on around us, we have the power to choose the meanings that we take from it all. Whether we believe in the immaculate conception of Jesus as a historical fact or an inspiring myth or a ridiculous story, this is our choice, or, as Frankl would say, our "freedom." Each meaning we generate has its consequences in our emotional life, and, consequently, in what we do.



So, in these holidays, in this Season of Advent, we are asked to choose. Can we take in the lights, celebrations, family, the opportunities to give and be given to? Do we act as critics or cynics? If we are suffering because of absence or illness or concern, how will we find strength or be inspired, and what meaning can we find even in that?

I hope that in this season you find and create Faith, Hope, Joy and Love. I hope that your association with this rich community furthers that. I hope you can attend services and enjoy the gifts of one another here as well as those outside this community who love you. I hope you find some way to give, and to share your light in these dark days.

Love, Sally Beth

**TREASURER'S REPORT: OCTOBER 2019**

**Income:** \$13,515.11   **Expenses:** \$27,625.61   **Net:** (\$14,110.50)  
 Unrestricted Cash on Hand: \$49,746.40  
 Restricted Reserve Fund: \$12,582.27  
**Total Available Cash on Hand:** \$62,328.67

**Endowment Fund balance:** \$167,654.11  
**Charitable Giving** to Sharing House: \$2147.00



Are you up to date on your pledge or other giving? Contact me if you have any questions. End of the year statements will go out in January for the calendar year.

Gratitude and good wishes to all,  
 Susan Slocum [treasurer@uutc.org](mailto:treasurer@uutc.org)

**TIS THE SEASON: RMD'S AND AMAZON SMILE**

For those of us over 70.5, Required Minimum Distributions are a way to fulfill pledges, identifiable contributions and additional gifts tax free. Check with your retirement fund manager. Separate checks are best for different funds or different charitable agencies. Ask Treasurer Susan or Administrator RK Young about that.

For holiday shopping and year round, Amazon Prime members may generate donations to UUTC through Amazon Smile. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County as your selected charity—your purchase prices will not increase, but a fraction of each purchase will benefit UUTC from then on out, and it does add up!

**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).