

# 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

Santa's Workshop — Sun @ 2:30

Men's Group — Tues @ 9:00

FinCom — Tues @ 10:00

Dream Group — Tues @ 2:30

SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00

Eclectics — Wed @ 10:00

Choir Rehearsal — Wed @ 4:00

Fellowship on Tap — Wed @ 6:00 KTCHN



## HOLIDAY SURVIVAL GUIDE

*Third Week of Advent —Joy*

**Rev. Sally Beth Shore**

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.

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

*"As we struggle with shopping lists and invitations, compounded by December's bad weather, it is good to be reminded that there are people in our lives who are worth this aggravation, and people to whom we are worth the same."*

*- Donald E. Westlake*

## 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 Ring Solstice Bells

*Rev. Sally Beth Shore*

Now is the turning of the year, after today the daylight hours grow longer, and the darkness recedes. In celebrating the returning of the light, we connect with our human history. That human history includes cultivating an awareness of the Cosmos, a path to liberation and inspiration.

## DATA BITS FROM THE BACK OFFICE

We are in the final stage of the conversion to REALM—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. Use the "Forgot my password" to reset your password.



To prepare your smartphones, download the **Realm Connect** app (pictured at left). Once you have activated your profile, you will be able to click on **Directory** at any time to look up other Members and Friends.

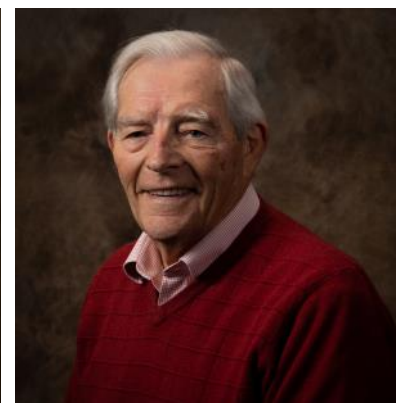
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Lost to us this week were Don Eckelmann and Terry Davies. Please mark your calendars for the Memorial Service for Terry Davies on December 27th, at 2:00pm.

*Don Eckelmann*



*Terry Davies*



## CRE UPDATE

Hello Folks, see the below info on upcoming family events at UUTC. Just to let you know, **we collected 180 pounds of food for Sharing House in November.** Way To Go!



## 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, *but we ask that they attend at least 2 rehearsals.* Practices are in the large classroom at 10:20 on December Sundays. We will also have a rehearsal during Santa's Workshop.

## 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 choir. Practices will be Sundays in December between the two services. ***There will be no nursery staff on Christmas Eve—please plan on bringing all children into the service!***

## INTENTIONAL PARENTS CIRCLE—SUNDAY, JAN 12, 5:00PM

We are looking for a Food Creator and Discussion Leader for the next Parents Circle. Sign up [HERE!](#)

**GOOD  
TIMES  
WERE  
HAD.**

See more  
pictures on  
page 6!



## UUTC SOCIAL ACTION IN DECEMBER

### AN OPERATION KEEP WARM THANK YOU

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.

### DAVIDSON RIVER OVERFLOWS...

You are amazing! All 17 youth represented by angels on the tree were "adopted" and cared for and then some. **You generosity was a joy to witness!** All proceeds, including the overage, were delivered straight to Beth at Davidson River School on Tuesday so she could get the shopping done. Gifts were deposited into the Ministerial Discretionary Fund so that we could turn that check around extra quickly.

### ADULT ANGELS ARRIVING!

On December 13<sup>th</sup>, a new set of angels are appearing on the Giving Tree. These angels will be for adult residents of the Haven, but the system we use will be almost the same. The gifts and cards for angels should be returned to UUTC and placed in the basket near the Giving Tree by 5:00 PM on December 23<sup>rd</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 care what happens to them and about their lives.



## UUTC CIRCLE DINNERS, 2020

As previously announced, the UU Circle Dinners will take place the second Saturdays of February, March and April, 2020. The first dinner will be Saturday February 8th. During the month of January, after the holidays, detailed information will be provided for all people interested in either hosting or attending the dinners. Thank you for your interest and your patience!

Quim Moya

## NOTE FROM REV. SHORE

Hail, UUTC people!

On Thursday some 50 others and I had our hearts and stomachs gladdened by the Loving Hearts, Helping Hands team's annual holiday luncheon—no small task, they accomplished it with grace, beauty and deliciousness, making it look easy! We were also serenaded by "Oh Christmas Trio" who got us singing at the end. A perfect demonstration of creating and finding joy, even amid this darkest time of the year. Take hope, already, the afternoon is stretching a minute or so later every day.



This week is the third week of our Advent, this season of waiting focusing on Faith, Hope, Joy, and Love. This week, where can you find Joy?

We know this can also be the season of "Blue Christmas." If that's the case for you, please don't go it alone. Blue or not, come to Sunday Service (which will be especially JOYFUL this Sunday with puppets and who knows what else...), Solstice Evening Service, and Christmas Eve. This Sunday afternoon from 2:30-5:30 our halls will be filled with children for Santa's Workshop—more volunteers are appreciated! Join the Eclectics this Wednesday for music in the sanctuary or the UUs at College Walk on Wednesday at 2:00 in the Chapel for Holiday Vespers. And remember that the LHHH team and I are here for you—a phone call or email away, ready to do what we can to walk with you on your journey.

As you go through this week, consider this reading from our hymnal, #653, **Reflections on the Resurgence of Joy** by DJ Somers:

*How short the daylight hours have now become.  
How grey the skies, how barren seem the trees.  
A damp and chilling wind has gripped my mind  
and made me gloomy, too.  
But there is that in me which reaches up  
toward the light and laughter, bells, and carolers,  
And knows that my religious myth and dream  
of reborn joy and goodness must be true.  
Because it speaks the truths of older myths;  
That light returns to balance darkness,  
life surges in the evergreen – and us,  
As babes are hope, and saviors of the world,  
as miracles abound in common things.  
**Rejoice! And join in the gladness of the season.***

See you soon! Sally Beth

## A GLORIOUS LOVING HEARTS LUNCHEON!

Live music. Delicious food. Warm and friendly conversation. Gifts of the season... OXO



**TOO MUCH FUN FOR ONE PAGE!****SOLSTICE SERVICE—DECEMBER 22nd, 5:30PM**

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 22, at 5:30 PM. Virginia Watkins will narrate and Teri Sandoval will lead the music. This ritual, lasting about an hour, is composed of stories and music. Those in attendance are led 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.



## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER — HOW YOU CAN HELP

### TEA DONATIONS FOR COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER - SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Members and Friends of UUTC participate along with other local churches in assisting Sacred Heart with their Annual Community Christmas Dinner, feeding all who come through the doors. Come be part of this by volunteering, donating, and/or enjoying a wonderful dinner with others celebrating with our diverse community. The dinner is served 12pm-4pm on Christmas Day. There is no charge. All are welcome.

Our part in this wonderful event is to provide a total of **40 gallons of tea** (commercial ready-made, in plastic jugs or bottles), sweet or unsweet. *Donations of tea may be dropped off at Sacred Heart during office hours or Sunday mornings from now through the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December.*

Pickup at UUTC may be arranged by contacting Joan Lemire at 828-231-9259 (text or call). A signup sheet with amount of sweet or unsweet tea to be donated is on the counter of the UUTC foyer.

There is also a need for volunteers to help during serving hours. Currently the need is for Greeters, Beverage Servers and Cleanup Crew. 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, you may sign up at the Gathering Table in the foyer at Sacred Heart or contact Sandi Rogers directly at [sandidougrogers@yahoo.com](mailto:sandidougrogers@yahoo.com).



## 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).