

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 lhhh@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

UU History — Mon @ 1:00pm
 Spiritual Explorations — Mon @ 3:30
 Men's Group — Tues @ 10:00
 AdCom — Tues @ 10:00
 Aging Wisely — Tues @ 3:00
 SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00pm
 Eclectics — Wed @ 9:30am
 Keys to Loving — Wed @ 11:00am
 Choir Rehearsal — Wed @ 4:00pm
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Sunday, February 10th

GOD IS LOVE

Rev. Ilene Kaur Tompkins-Gillispie

As we continue to explore our monthly worship theme of “faith,” we will explore together the oft-used saying that God is love. What might it really mean to believe in God, then, if the word “God” is simply just another name for love? Are love and God always easy? In this worship service, we will reflect together on these questions, and more— how fitting as Valentine’s Day approaches! We will also enjoy sacred music from the Sikh tradition, seated in the Indic concept of “bhakti” or loving devotion, performed by Joey Dukes and Rev. Ilene.

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

“When one has once fully entered the realm of love, the world — no matter how imperfect — becomes rich and beautiful, it consists solely of opportunities for love.”

— *Søren Kierkegaard, Works of Love*

Living Wage Co. — Thurs @ 10:00

Rainbow Alliance — Thurs @ 5:00

Sacred Fire — Thurs @ 5:30

Muffins with the Minister

Our February “Muffins” date is **Tuesday, February 19th**. 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, and Rev. Ilene. Runs from 10 to noon.

Social Justice Giving

Bread of Life serves well-balanced meals to people in need every Monday through Friday and on Sunday night. In addition, it provides many emergency pantry boxes. Your donation will help Bread of Life in providing over 45,000 a year.

Upcoming Concerts

3/8: Jack Williams

3/31: Opal String Quartet: 1:30pm

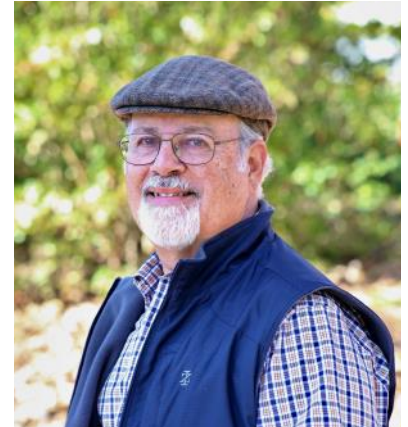
Mark your calendar!



SUNDAY, A WEEK FROM NOW

What is Faith? — Pedro Sandin

In this homily, I explore the meaning of faith, wondering if it is a form of knowing or rather something else. Spanish has two different verbs to convey the concept of knowing: saber and conocer. I take advantage of the distinction between these two verbs in my effort to answer the question "what is faith?"



FLOWERS FOR SUNDAYS



Creating the space that holds us on Sundays is the work of many people—as it should be! No single person could do it all, every week, all year. And sometimes people have to leave their roles because of illness or other disruptions.

Which brings us to flowers! We have a few weeks in March that can't be filled from our regulars. And we could use a few more “regulars!” If you could bring flowers (arranged yourself, picked up from the grocery store, or even a potted plant—there is no “wrong”) for March 3rd, 10th or 24th, please **call** (877-3070) or **email** Christine Schmidt. Thanks for contributing to the beauty of our space!



PHOTO DIRECTORIES!

Sign up at the front counter! Cost: \$10. New Members since the last printing — free! Coming soon!

THE DIGNITY PROJECT: ONE YEAR & GOING STRONG



We're celebrating our first, successful year of the Dignity Project! The project has grown, sustained thanks to the generous support of UU members. For those who are not familiar with the project, we made a commitment a year ago to buy items which are not eligible for purchase through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to give to our neighbors who need them. We work with organizations that can distribute the products to their clients, and have increased our reach from 3 to 6 organizations. We

currently help El Centro, Sharing House, Bread of Life, SAFE, Rise & Shine and The Haven. During the year we've learned some lessons, listened to those in need, and fine-tuned our process so that we're providing only what is needed for each organization. At the request of several recipients, we started providing razors, small soaps and deodorant – essentials in the hot climate and a boon to job seekers. What better way to show our commitment to the first principle of "the inherent worth and dignity of every person" than to help others maintain their own dignity?

Just to give you an idea of volume, this past year we've bought, sorted and delivered over 2,000 razors, 1,000 condoms, 1,000 toothbrushes, and 5200 diapers! El Centro Director Rodrigo Vargas appreciated our help to Latino families from Transylvania County which helps fill basic needs not covered by any other program. Pam Schou, Food Pantry Manager for Sharing House, painted a vivid picture when she told us, "I wish you could see the joy on our neighbors faces when they see we have deodorant or shampoo. We had an older couple come in that lost everything in Hurricane Florence. The gentleman is from Brevard so they moved here to start over. They needed everything. These are items you cannot use food stamps to purchase but are much needed items. We feel honored that you have chosen Sharing House as one of the recipients of your program. We can't thank you enough for caring about our neighbors and providing personal items for their use. I'm still amazed at the support from your congregation. They obviously have a heart for serving and I'm sure they do it with a smile. Please let them know how much we appreciate their support."



We're working hard to use our volunteer contacts to build relationships with

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Continued from page 3 these organizations, and it's paying off. A UUTC member was volunteering at the Haven this fall when a gentleman who had been living with his toddler in his car asked if there was room for him and his daughter. He was in a bad spot, without a job, or money, or even diapers for his daughter. They were placed in the family housing of the Haven, and someone from Social Action who was there to finalize the monthly Dignity Project order was able to include diapers in the order and provide a month's supply two days later. Emily Lowery of The Haven commented that when a client comes in with special needs, "it's sometimes a stretch for us to supply those needs. We appreciate the help from the Unitarian Universalist church. The Dignity Project is supplying folks with necessary items that can cause difficult decisions for those on very limited budgets."

Jennifer Kerr from SAFE's Stacey's House, told us, "the impact that this project has had on the residents of Stacey's House has been tremendous. We are able to provide things (that most people take for granted) to the women who have had to leave their homes with nothing, sometimes in the middle of the night. Your group has given us the ability to offer them diapers for the children, and personal hygiene items for the ladies. Thank you for all you do."

You – our loving, caring UUTC members – have made a difference. Thank you from all of us on the Social Action Team.

ELISE DRUMMOND 1923-2019



January 29th, we lost a Charter Member. She has not been active at UUTC for a few years due to illness, but she was a lively part of us for many years.

Elise found Unitarian Universalism at UUCA — the UU Congregation of Atlanta. This congregation's hiking trips would bring them to WNC, and after visiting a friend in Sherwood Forest many times, it seemed natural to her to move to Brevard after she retired from work with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. At the time, only the Hendersonville and Asheville congregations were established, but she did start going to the potlucks that were the start of this congregation at the French Broad Community Center and in the home of Lois Conley. When the time came, Elise served on the Building Committee that found our structural home here. She also served on the Caring Committee, helped usher, and worked with our children.

You can read more about Elise in the "Our Founders" notebook, compiled by former member Carol MacAllister. Carol interviewed Elise (and the other available Founders) and wrote terrific summaries of these early leaders of UUTC. Want to know more about our Charter members Margaret Baucus, Joanna Bliss, Lois Conley, Donna Johnston, Leslie Keir, Sally & Chris MacMillan and Phyllis Nesbitt? You can find *Our Founders* on the top shelf of the black bookcase in the office. It is a fascinating read.

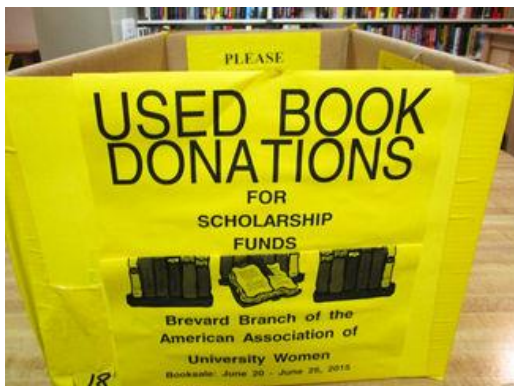


UUTC FALL RETREAT @ THE MOUNTAIN: REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Its been a long time since UUTC has had a retreat at The Mountain (over 4 years) and finally we have an opportunity to do it again!

We are scheduled for the weekend of **October 4-6, 2019**. Unfortunately, there are only about 40 spaces available because The Mountain is so well scheduled with other UU congregations and other programs. We will be sharing the Retreat Center with a congregation from Columbia. If you want to have a great time with Rev. Ilene and your UUTC friends sign up early. We will have a program that will leave plenty of time to enjoy the wonders of the mountains and take a great hike.

The sign-up sheet that was placed on the front counter was pretty full—so make sure you go online to <https://themountainrlc.org/retreats/> and reserve space now! **UUTC cannot make these reservations on your behalf.**



THE YELLOW BOX IS BACK!

The American Association of University Women begin collecting your books this month, the 50th year of their annual book sale. The sale takes place at Brevard College (in the Boshamer Gym) from June 15-20. UUTC has always been very generous with their book contributions. (We are a community of readers). You will find our familiar yellow box under the coat rack and contributions can be placed here and will be picked up every Sunday morning.

The money made at the sale is distributed to deserving women in the form of scholarships to Brevard College and Blue Ridge Community College. If you have too many books to carry, call Penny Davies at 828-966-9393 and she will arrange to have them picked up from your home. The American Association of University Women thank you for your books and your generosity.

YOUR HEART/HANDS NEEDED—REALLY

Our pastoral care Team is facing increased demands as our congregation grows. This means that the Team, a mere 10 members strong, needs extra help from time to time.

Chefs Needed! Please [email](#) or call David Parker (828-885-2093). Loving Hearts provides meal a week, when requested. **With, sometimes, multiple households needing this support, our Loving Hearts crew needs Extra Helping Hands to call on when the needs are deep and wide. Please call today!**

Thank you in advance for supporting each other in times of need.



GETTING CONNECTED

Contact Directories are really important for us all to stay connected. But did you know that the **ChurchLife** app is available to **Members AND Friends**? It is easy to use and is the most up-to-date resource for reaching other members of UUTC.

You can download and install the app from either Google Play or the Apple App Store. **Before you can use it, however, you will need a password from our ACS database.**



To get that password, go to our Member page on the website: <http://uutc.org/member/>, scroll down to the red "ACS" logo and click on it. It will direct you to the ACS login/get a password page. On that page, **look below the login** box for "Need a Login? Click Here," and enter your email there. This will connect you to ACS and they will email you with a way to select a password to use with the **ChurchLife** app.

Sometimes this email ends up in your spam folder. If you have any trouble getting your password, come in to see RK and we'll get you set up properly. Be sure to bring all your OTHER passwords with you (email, Apple Id, etc), so we can complete the installation process.

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A SMARTPHONE: Drop by the office and request a printed copy of the contact directory, available to Members and Friends. While it has no images, it will give you current information for all the lovely people in our UUTC family.

Finally, be sure to sign up for a copy of the Photo Directory. This calendar-style publication has a list of our group emails, and photos of nearly all our Members and Friends. It really helps when you get home, had a great conversation, but can't remember his/her name! Cost is \$10.

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.