

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

PHOTO SHOOT — Sat 9-1:00

Men's Group — Tues @ 9:00
 Muffins — Tues @ 10:00
 Finance — Tues @ 10:00
 Dream Group — Tues @ 2:30
 Aging Wisely — Tues @ 3:00
 SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00
 Eclectics — Wed @ 9:30am
 Stewardship — Wed @ 11:00
 Choir — Wed @ 4:00pm
 Council — Wed @ 4:00pm
 Fellowship on Tap — Wed @ 6:00

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CONSCIENCE & THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

Rev. Ilene Kaur Tompkins-Gillispie

On this third Sunday of March, Rev. Ilene will reflect on the fifth and sixth principles of our UU faith-- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large, and the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all. How are we called to live as Unitarian Universalists, striving constantly toward community and democracy?

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

“What difference does it make to the dead, the orphans and the homeless, whether the mad destruction is wrought under the name of totalitarianism or in the holy name of liberty or democracy?”

— *Mahatma Gandhi*

Joy of Being — Thurs @ 11:00

LHHH — Thurs @ 3:00

Muffins with the Minister

Our **APRIL** “Muffins” date is **Tuesday, April 16th**. 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



Operating under the mission of leading our community in eliminating domestic violence and sexual assault through prevention, advocacy, education and healing. Our vision is that all victims of domestic violence and sexual assault be provided safety, treated with dignity and respect and given the opportunity to create long lasting changes that will result in a life free from violence and abuse.

Upcoming Concerts—

Registration Now Open

3/31: [Opal String Quartet: 1:30pm](#)

4/5: [Sam Pacetti: 7:00pm](#)

Get registered ahead of time.

Preferential seating to early registrants!



SUNDAY, A WEEK FROM NOW

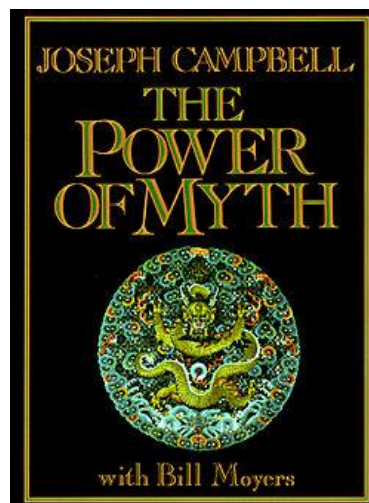
Money & Real Life — Rev. Dr. Roger Jones

How we handle money can be a source of insight about our spiritual approach to life as we go through the stages of life. With stories about family life and overlooked inheritances, Roger Jones invites us to think about our personal relationships, our sense of self, our money, and those funny places where they overlap.



Rev. Dr. Roger Jones is senior minister of the UU Society of Sacramento, which he began serving as family minister in 2008. Earlier he served congregations in Sunnyvale, California, and in Minnesota and Indiana. Rev. Ilene preached for his congregation in January and he's happy to meet the UUs of Transylvania County!

NEW IN THE UUTC LIBRARY



Recently added to the UUTC Library is *The Power of Myth* by Joseph Campbell. Campbell was the world's foremost authority on mythology, a preeminent scholar, writer and teacher whose work has had a profound influence on millions.

In *The Power of Myth*, Campbell and distinguished journalist Bill Moyers offer a brilliant combination of wit and wisdom in conversations that range from modern marriage to virgin births, from savior figures to heroic figures such as Luke Skywalker from *Star Wars*. You will find the book in the Mythology section of our UUTC Library.

BREVARD CARES COMMUNITY CLEANUP— SAT MAR 30, 8:00 AM—NOON



Please consider participating in community cleanup projects for **Brevard Cares** on Saturday, March 30th, beginning after an 8:00 AM snack at the Police Station, 114 W. Jordan Street. This is the eighth annual Community Cleanup. Help represent UUTC as we join in with other local churches, youth groups and civic organizations in this worthy effort.

Frequently people say that they would like to participate in local social action beyond writing a monthly check to deserving agencies. Here's your chance: The City of Brevard Police Department organizes this outdoor property cleanup for the elderly and those who need assistance. *With enough people volunteering from UUTC, we would like to focus on projects helping our neighbors, some of whom live in the Varsity Oxford House.* Our Facilities Team has a plan to address the expressed needs of residents to protect them from headlights and provide a little more privacy, but the Team needs more hands.

Please bring sunscreen, gloves, rakes, shovels, tree trimmers, wheelbarrows and yourself! Dress appropriately for being outside. Families are welcome.

Mark the date on your calendar and sign up on the list on the counter. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy or Phil Davis at 877-4555.

AMERICANS & THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS: WHY IS IT SO DARNED HARD?

In 1776, Thomas Jefferson famously asserted that Americans were entitled to three sacred rights: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Since then, we have feverishly chased the good life, not always with success. On **Monday, April 22, at 7 o'clock**, historian and former university president, Dr. David Shi, will draw insights from history, psychology, economics, and neuroscience to explore the enticing yet elusive goal of happiness, past and present.



From the Transylvania Times: A prolific writer and speaker, Shi has shared his knowledge of such topics as American history, sustainability and leadership with thousands of people in the corporate, higher education, nonprofit and religious sectors.

Shi, an Atlanta native and a 1973 magna cum laude Furman graduate who was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa before earning a Ph.D. in history from the University of Virginia (1976), championed the university's emphasis on engaged learning, energy conservation and environmental stewardship. Under his direction, Furman became a national leader in promoting sustainability.

Admission: Love Offering

WE BUILD CHURCH

Elizabeth Williams

When I was asked to write a little something about fiscal responsibility, I confess I felt a little twinge of guilt. I felt a little awkward, because fiscal contributions are not a thing I have always done so well. Giving money was once a thing I was going to do... later. Sure, I'd give sporadic donations, but giving in an intentional, regular, significant way seemed important, but presently impractical. Later, I was sure, would be a better time. Later: once there weren't so many debts to pay, once I was out of school, once the kids were out of school, once we were "financially secure", once we retired, or maybe, once we died? There is always a reason for later. But thinking our financial investment can wait until we are somehow "ready" is mistaken. It's like thinking we can retire to a home we never got around to building. Church is not a thing we attend, church is not a thing we visit. Church is a thing that we build. Of course, UUTC is a collective effort. Reflecting on our upcoming 20 year anniversary, I am grateful for all who have worked to construct this spiritual home we have each inherited. But, though the church as a whole is built communally, the creation of church is also deeply personal. We each have our own experience of church: our own spiritual journeys, our own relationships, our own connection to something bigger. And we must each undertake for ourselves the lifelong process of building our church.

There are several ways we build our own, personal church. One is through deepening our spiritual and personal journeys. One unique and precious quality of Unitarian Universalist philosophy is its invitation to have our own intimate and open relationship with life's Big Mysteries, all the while urging us in the direction of our most deeply held values. As we each engage in the free and responsible search for truth and meaning, and strive to live each day consistent with our hopes and ideals for who we are and the ways we want to live in the world.

We also build our personal experience of church in our relationships. An awkward hello at coffee hour slowly blossoms into friendship as it is watered with common interests and values and fertilized with shared experiences. We celebrate and grieve with one another. We walk each other home. And in this process we build our community. The human spirit is such that we define ourselves in relationship to each other. We were made to belong. It is how we build meaning in our lives; it is how we make sense of the world. Tending these relationships is a form of building church.

Finally, we build church in our investments. Our investments take many forms. When we bring our children each week and make space for their thoughts and questions, we are building church. When we partake in any action to bring about social justice and the realization of UU principles in society through donating, volunteering, speaking up, or voting, we are building church. When we give our time in simple ways: when we make coffee for coffee hour or soup for lunch, when we bring flowers for the sanctuary or help with any of the myriad small, uncelebrated tasks that a community like ours requires, we are building church. And when we give money with intention and generosity to further our spiritual home, we are building church. And the truth is this: we live in a physical and societal reality in which finances create the bounds in which we can operate. Thus, while not the most glamorous part of church, it is vitally necessary. Without these structural beams to steady us, the house crumbles.

Humans are prone to let our worries of what we think we should be doing paralyze us from doing anything at all. Giving is not all or nothing. It is perfectly okay that our relative contributions shift over time as our life circumstances require. So start with where you are today, and build upward. Ask yourself, openly and honestly: What more could I be doing to build my church? What is the next step in my own construction? Start now, and build well. Because, there is a reason we build. The structures we build give us shelter from the storm. It gives us a place to gather, to rest, to grow, and to dream. We build church.

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. UUTC has always been very generous with their book contributions! 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. *Education is one of the proven ways out of poverty— please encourage women in their desires to lift themselves and their families up with your bookshelf gifts!* 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.

WHY GIVE BEES AND BUGS THE GIFT OF HOUSING?

Our Insect Hotel Workshop will be on **March 23rd starting at 10:00am** when Facilities will be doing a grounds clean up. You will select a structure, and then furnish the housing with pinecones, hollow stems, bamboo, sticks, grasses, leaves and other items collected by UUTC Youth and others. Bring hand clippers to “tweak” your innards! But why would you bother to do this? Why is this even “a thing?”

Some people use insect hotels to improve pollination in their gardens. The diverse housing opportunities offered in one of these structures provides for the different types of pollinators or other beneficial insects that benefit vegetable gardens or help set seed for flowering plants.



The real reason, however, is the precipitous decline of insect populations worldwide. [National Geographic](#), [The Guardian](#), [Fortune](#), [Vox](#), [Phys](#) and dozens of other sources started reporting these losses after a study was released in early February. Insects are, of course, essential to pollination, but they also serve as food for other species. Their loss is contributing to declines in other species, such as songbirds.

Join us—Bradley Wall and RK Young have built many to choose from!



UUTC ADULT SPELLERS TAKE ON THE BEE

The Augustine Literacy Project-Brevard is sponsoring the first-ever Augustine-Literacy Project Adult Spelling Bee as a fund raiser for that organization on March 30. UUTC's **Heather Layton** is one creators of the event and is working hard to make it a success.

We all know that learning to read in the early years is not only a predictor of later academic success, but also critical in becoming a productive member of society. The mission of the Augustine Literacy Project-Brevard is to improve the reading, writing and spelling abilities of low-income children and teens who struggle with literacy skills. JoAnn Crawford, a professional educator who taught teachers to use the Orton-Gillingham method, brought awareness of this critical need by asking Wendi Adair to speak at a UUTC Women's Group meeting, open to all, held in 2017.



Carol Moore and Bobby King, learning to teach reading skills at an Augustine Literacy Project training.

UUTC members Bobby King, Heather Layton, Carol Moore, and Pedro Sandin are now all serving as Augustine-trained tutors at Brevard Elementary School. Bobby, Pedro, and Carol have formed a team with Dolores Brown to compete in the spelling bee as **The Carpenter Bees** and raise money and recruit tutors for the Augustine Literacy Project. UUTC's Emily Atkinson, who teaches art at BMS, will compete in The Bee as part of **Spells Like Teen Spirit**.

The Bee will be held March 30 at the DFR room, 36 E. Main St. in downtown Brevard. At 5:00 pm, there will be a silent auction with appetizers and beverages. **The Bee** Contest will follow at 6:00. Admission is \$10. Please come out and support the Carpenter Bees, and more importantly, consider making a donation to the Augustine Literacy Project. To support **The Carpenter Bees**, simply [CLICK HERE](#). To support **Spells Like Teen Spirit**, [CLICK HERE](#). **Spells Like Teen Spirit** needs a boost!

HOW TO CHECK OUT A BOOK FROM THE UUTC LIBRARY

Checking out a book from the UUTC Library is as easy as A B C.

- A. From the 500 plus books in our library, select the one you wish to read.
- B. In the Ledger Book enter the book title, your name, and the date.
- C. There is no required return date. When you return the book, place it in the BOOK RETURN BOX

SO FUN! SO EASY! 😊

MARCH SELECTION FOR SOCIAL ACTION GIVING: SAFE

SAFE, Inc. of Transylvania County opened its doors more than 30 years ago to provide a safe space for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Today we operate under the mission of leading our community in eliminating domestic violence and sexual assault through prevention, advocacy, education and healing. Our vision is that all victims of domestic violence and sexual assault be provided safety, treated with dignity and respect and given the opportunity to create long lasting changes that will result in a life free from violence and abuse.



We offer counseling, shelter, and support services to victims of domestic and sexual violence free of charge. We also facilitate a batterer's intervention program for men and women who use violence in their relationships. We have a 24/7 hotline and will support victims of sexual violence at the hospital any time. SAFE staff are in the schools and afterschool programs, working with students on healthy relationships, safe dating and conflict resolution. Child advocates facilitate a support group for youth who have witnessed violence and provide parenting classes. Our two resale stores, SAFE Attic and Attic Interiors, provide revenue, job training, clothing and household needs to victims in our community.

Currently SAFE works with more than 300 adults and children each year in intervention support. Some come into the office once, some stay in our shelter for over a year. It depends on what they need, it depends on their situation and it depends on how ready they are to make a change. We work with many more people in our public outreach efforts, spreading awareness and education to help people understand how to end domestic violence and sexual assault in their homes and in our community.

If you or someone you know needs help, please feel free to call us at 828-885-7233. Our office is at 515 N. Broad Street.

515 N Broad Street, PO Box 2013, Brevard, NC 28712
 24-hour hotline, 828.885.7233 • www.safetransylvania.org

FELLOWSHIP ON TAP: WEDNESDAY, 6:00PM, KTCHN!



Dinner with friends! Sign up at the front desk on Sunday to reserve your space at a long table at KTCHN! Can't make it in on Sunday? Call or email the office to be added. We must make sure we have enough seats at the table... which will be assigned based on your sign up.

Good food, great companionship. Spend time talking with someone you haven't gotten to know, yet!



A NATIONAL CRISIS FROM A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

A two part series presented by the Transylvania County Library, In concert with the CARE Coalition

America's opioid crisis has captured headlines and changed the common stereotypes around drug addiction. *On average, 130 people die of an opioid overdose in this country each day. That number is expected to rise this year.*

What is this crisis all about, and what is happening in Transylvania County to address this complex and troubling issue? This series is designed to help answer those questions. A Q & A session with a panel of local experts who are on the front lines will be part of each session.

March 18, 2019 at 7:00pm – The NOVA documentary, ADDICTION, will be shown. This powerful 2018 film examines the opioid crisis from a number of perspectives, presenting crucial information about addiction and its impact on individuals, families, and society.

April 1, 2019 at 7:00pm – The documentary, HEROIN(E), will be shown. This gritty 2017 documentary won an Emmy and shows how three women are successfully responding to the opioid crisis in Huntington West Virginia.



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.