

# 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 [lhh@uutc.org](mailto:lhh@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

### SPRING FORWARD SAT PM!!

Mad Hot Ballroom — Sun @ 3:30  
 Spiritual Exp. — Mon @ 3:30  
 Men's Group — Tues @ 9:00  
 Aging Wisely — Tues @ 3:00  
 SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00  
 Eclectics — Wed @ 9:30am  
 Stewardship — Wed @ 11:00  
 Choir — Wed @ 4:00pm  
 Living Wage Co. — Thurs @ 10:00  
 Rainbow Alliance — Thurs @ 5:00  
 Sacred Fire — Thurs @ 5:30



Sunday

Sunday, March 3rd

### ACCEPTANCE & ENCOURAGEMENT

Rev. Ilene Kaur Tompkins-Gillispie

On this second Sunday of March, Rev. Ilene will reflect on the third and fourth principles of our UU faith-- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations, and the free and responsible search for truth and meaning. What does spiritual growth really mean for Unitarian Universalists, together and apart?

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

"I long, as does every human being, to be  
 at home wherever I find myself."

— *Maya Angelou*

PHOTO SHOOT — Sat 9-1:00

## Muffins with the Minister

Our February “Muffins” date is **Tuesday, March 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



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

*Conscience & Democratic Process — Rev. Ilene*

In the month of March, UUTC's sermons will focus on the topic of the 7 Principles of Unitarian Universalism. 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?



## CASSIE DREIER

1942—2019

Last Saturday we lost Cassie Dreier, who “escaped from the body in which she had been suffering for a year and a half,” as husband John said, at 2:35pm. He was there with her to the end holding her hand, singing to her and listening to beautiful classical music.

Cassie (and John) retired to Brevard in 2006, splitting time between Hilton Head and their friends here in Transylvania County. Due to her illness, we have been missing them for over a year.

Cassie was a creative individual and artist, having graduated with a BA in Fine Arts, and taught classes at the River Arts Academy once she moved here. She was kind and generous, and took special pride in her tutelage of a disabled Vietnam veteran who became a noted local artist with the skills she shared with him.

Our thoughts are with John during this time of loss.

## ACT NOW AGAINST ICE RAIDS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Over the past weeks here in NC and across the nation, the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has arrested hundreds of undocumented immigrants whose only "crime" has been to seek a better life for themselves and their families. This reverses a long-standing federal policy of enforcing federal immigration laws primarily against undocumented immigrants who have committed serious crimes in the United States. Here are some ways that you can act now against ICE raids in North Carolina.



Contact Governor Cooper by phone (919-814-2000) or email to demand that he speak out against these ICE raids which have terrorized the immigrant community and separated hundreds of people from their families. Check out the links below for more. *[From UU Justice Ministry of NC]*

[Learn more about the ICE raids and what you can do.](#)

[Read El Pueblo's tool kit for lobbying elected officials.](#)

[Donate to El Centro Hispano's bail fund for undocumented immigrants who have been arrested by ICE](#) (note: this is not our local El Centro).

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

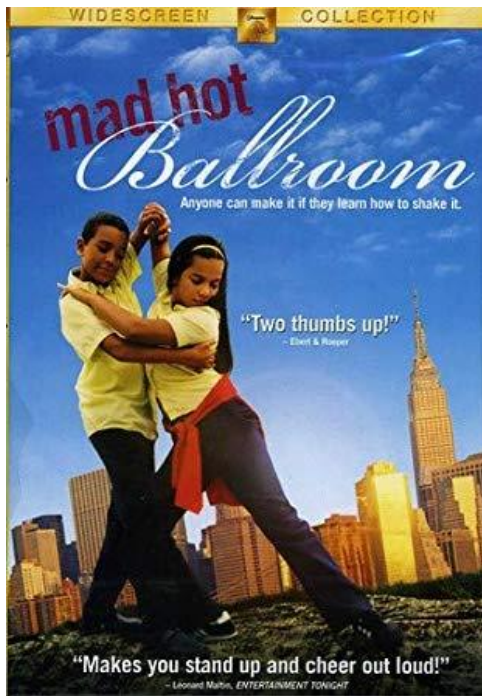


Please consider participating in community cleanup projects for **Brevard Cares** on Saturday, March 30th, beginning after an 8:00 AM snack at the Police Station, 114 W. Jordan Street. This is the eighth annual Community Cleanup. In the past, there have been projects to help clean up our parks, trails, cemeteries, and deserving agencies such as Stacy's House. 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 articulated needs of residents to protect them from headlights and provide a little more privacy, but need 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.



## MAD HOT BALLROOM —SUNDAY, 3:30!

**Mad Hot Ballroom** will be shown on Sunday, March 10th from 3:30 -5:15 pm. Follow these 4th and 5th graders as they journey into the world of competitive dance. Told from their candid and hilarious perspectives, they learn that dance is not just about a few steps—it's about life. **“Expect to grin the entire time you’re watching”** as typical urban kids merengue, tango, rumba and literally transform themselves into “ladies and gentlemen” as they prepare for the highly anticipated, final citywide competition.

**Mad Hot Ballroom** will capture your heart and lift your spirits! This is the true story on which the film *Take the Lead*, with Antonio Banderas, was based. We hope you'll join us for an afternoon of fun and inspiration. A Love offering will be taken to support

speakers and other programming from ARE. **Rated PG for some thematic elements.**

*“We can't always choose the music life plays for us, but we can choose how we dance to it.”*

## TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION JANUARY, 2019

Brief again. Still catching up. Thank you to everyone for gifts and help!

January's income reflects historically lower pledge income, identifiable contributions, and cash. Expenses remained about the same. So, we have a deficit for the month.



- Income: \$12,914.42 Expenses: \$22,927.93 Higher income projection for February.
- Unrestricted Cash on Hand is: \$34,755.93
- Restricted Reserve Fund is: \$10,620.62
- Total Cash on hand is: \$45,376.55
- Endowment Fund lost \$10,469.87 since the last report for a current \$149,566.81.

Pledge letters for 2019-2020 are out. Old saying; “Give until it feels good.” Practice your best generosity to end this fiscal year and start the new. Requests for special arrangements to me or Rev. Ilene.

Susan Slocum, Treasurer

[treasurer@uutc.org](mailto:treasurer@uutc.org)



## UUTC FALL RETREAT @ THE MOUNTAIN: REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

**LODGING IS FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE** — and we are competing with two other groups for space. Be sure and lock down your registration today!

We are scheduled for the weekend of **October 4-6, 2019**. 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.

**UUTC cannot make these reservations on your behalf**, so make sure you go online to <https://themountainrlc.org/retreats/> and reserve space now!

## 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.



## GIVE BEES AND BUGS THE GIFT OF HOUSING • DATE CHANGE

Our Insect Hotel Workshop will be on **March 23rd**, 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 collect by UUTC Youth. Bring hand clippers to “tweak” your innards!

This workshop does feature some power tools — sometimes wire mesh is applied across the front to hold things like pinecones in place. This will be your choice, since you are doing the furnishing! Love offerings will be accepted on behalf of the Facilities Team for use in creating CRE space on the Varsity lot. Sign up at the front desk!

## THE SUMMER DAY

*Who made the world?  
Who made the swan, and the black bear?  
Who made the grasshopper?  
This grasshopper, I mean-  
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,  
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,  
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-  
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.  
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.  
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.  
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.  
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down  
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,  
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,  
which is what I have been doing all day.  
Tell me, what else should I have done?  
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?  
Tell me, what is it you plan to do  
with your one wild and precious life?*

—Mary Oliver

## GRAND RE-OPENING: UUTC LIBRARY

This Sunday, Adult Religious Exploration Team Members will be on hand to answer questions or to help you find a book for your interests in UUTC's newly re-organized Library!

All categories of books are listed alphabetically by author. Books may be checked out by using the ledger. There is no time limit on returning the book. We do ask you be considerate of others and return the book within a reasonable amount of time.

Please stop by before or after the services on March 10<sup>th</sup> to see what your UUTC Library has to offer!



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: PLEDGING

### What is a Pledge and what is a Pledge Unit?

A pledge is a promise to contribute a specific amount of money to UUTC over a specific period of time (typically our church year, which runs from 1 July to 30 June). Collectively, paid pledges constitute over 80% of the income received by the church, and are essential for funding staff salaries, facilities, religious education, and all the other programs and services UUTC provides to our church community and the greater community. An individual or family who makes a pledge is referred to as a pledge unit.

### Why and when are Pledges solicited?

UUTC operates under annual budgets, which are prepared by church leadership and presented and approved by the congregation at the annual meeting in May. To support building the budget, a pledge drive is held in March to ask the UUTC church community to make their

*Continued next page...*

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS, CONTINUED



pledges for the upcoming church year. The results of the pledge drive enable church leadership to project income for the upcoming church year and to set the budget accordingly.

### **Are church members expected to make pledges?**

Membership in UUTC comes with a commitment to provide financial support. If financial constraints preclude making a pledge, a financial hardship waiver can be obtained from Rev. Ilene. People who have chosen to be a Friend of UUTC are not obligated to pledge but are warmly encouraged to do so.

### **Do I need to be a member of the church to make a pledge?**

No; anyone who wants to financially support the church can make a pledge. Pledge forms are available at the front desk; or contact our treasurer at [treasurer@uutc.org](mailto:treasurer@uutc.org)

### **Can I set up automatic pledge payments?**

Yes. Please use the pledge form: just supply the requested information and our treasurer will enter it for you with complete confidentiality.

### **Can I make changes to my pledge?**

Yes. Contact the treasurer at [treasurer@uutc.org](mailto:treasurer@uutc.org) or call the UUTC office and leave a message for the Treasurer or speak with Administrator, RK Young.

**Does all the money I give to the church count against my pledge commitment?** No; only pledge payments count against a pledge commitment. **Donations to other church projects or programs are not applied to your pledge commitment.** Include a note with your cash payments or use your check's memo line to mark the payments you desire to apply to your pledge.

**What happens to unpaid pledge commitments at the end of the church year?** Each church year ends on 30 June. In early to mid-June, the church sends out a pledge status to each pledge unit, conducts follow ups with people who have not fully paid their pledge, and adjusts pledges per the feedback received. If someone states that some/all of the amount owed will not be paid, their pledge is adjusted accordingly and if no feedback is received, future payments are applied to the unpaid pledge commitment until it is fully paid off.

**Who do I contact if I have questions regarding my pledge?** You may contact the church's treasurer at [treasurer@uutc.org](mailto:treasurer@uutc.org). Contact Rev. Ilene if you need a waiver or special arrangements. Contact Administrator RK Young if you would want to check balances, adjust payment amounts, download tax receipts, and much more through Access ACS, UUTC's in-house database.



## 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 creator 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.

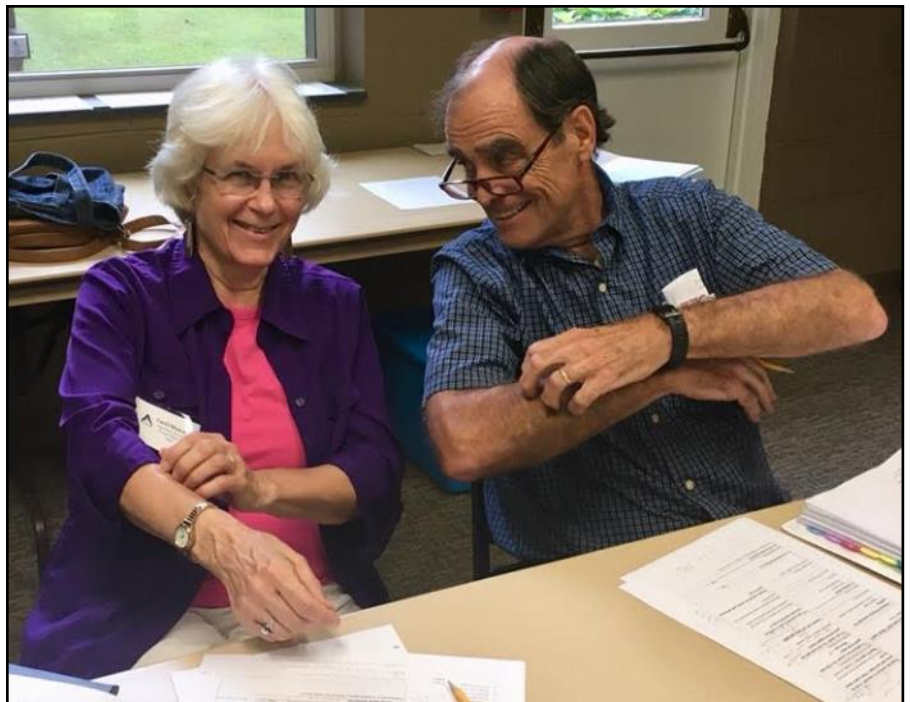
UUTC members **Bobby King**, **Heather Layton**, **Carol Moore**, and **Pedro Sandin** are now all serving as Augustine-trained tutors at Brevard Elementary School. Bobby, Pedro, and Carol have formed a team with Dolores Brown to compete in the spelling bee as *The Carpenter Bees* and raise money and 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](#).

**Come on out — this will be fun! Support literacy in Transylvania County!**



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



## 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](http://www.safetransylvania.org)

*Domestic violence is...*

“ 17.9% of women have experienced a situation where an intimate partner tried to keep them from seeing family and friends. ”

*-National Coalition Against Domestic Violence*

## SELECTION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE GIVING RECIPIENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Social Action Team is busy looking at choices for our monthly Social Justice Giving for the coming fiscal year (July-June, 2019-2020). Our congregation votes on which organizations to designate as recipients for our monthly giving. Social Action does “Due Diligence” by researching the organizations, many of whom we’ve given to before. These are the factors that we look at when considering a program:

- **HOW MANY PEOPLE DOES IT SERVE?**
- **DOES IT FILL UNMET NEEDS OR SERVE NEW POPULATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY?**
- **IS IT PARTNERING WITH OTHERS?**
- **IS IT A WELL RUN ORGANIZATION WITH A REACH BEYOND BREVARD?**
- **DO WE HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ORGANIZATION? ARE WE TRYING TO BUILD ONE?**
- **WHAT ARE THEIR FINANCES AND HOW DO THEY GENERATE MONEY?**
- **DO THEY REALLY NEED US?**

If you have a non-profit you’d like to suggest, email the details to Lisa McHenry (LISMCH7@GMAIL.COM) and Susan Zelle (SWZELLE@YAHOO.COM) along with the answers to these questions.

**We will be looking at candidates soon, so your deadline is FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH.**

You will be able to vote by paper ballot inserts in our Order of Service during the month of April.

**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).