

# 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 (828) 513-0513, 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  
 CRE Team — Sun @ 12:00  
 OWL Session — Sun @ 5:30  
 Safety Team — Mon @ 11:00  
 Membership — Mon @ 3:30  
 Men's Group — Tues @ 9:00  
 AdCom — Tues @ 10:00  
 Stewardship — Tues @ 10:15  
 Dream Group — Tues @ 2:30  
 SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00  
 Women's Creative Café — Wed @ 9:45  
 Eclectics — Wed @ 10:00  
 Choir Rehearsal — Wed @ 4:00  
 Social Action — Wed @ 5:30  
 One Life—Thurs @ 11:00  
 Final Acts of Love — Thurs @ 3:00  
 Finance — Fri @ 10:00  
**Vision 2020 — Sat @ 8:30**



## WITHOUT PRESENTS—

### ***SPIRITUAL GIFTS OF LOUISA MAY ALCOTT***

***Vanessa Cowie***

One of our forebears, Louisa May Alcott was a Unitarian Transcendentalist, part of a vibrant group of American intellectuals living in and around Concord, Massachusetts in the mid-1800s. Through her published works, she has shaped the spiritual and ethical values of American women up to the present day. Her semi-autobiographical novel *Little Women*, adapted for film most recently by director Greta Gerwig in a movie released in December 2019, continues to influence both literary and popular culture.

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

*“Every year the hatchings wake in the swaying branches, in the silver baskets, and love the world. Is it necessary to say any more? Have you heard them singing in the wind, above the final fields? Have you ever been so happy in your life?”*

*– Mary Oliver*

## Social Justice Giving: Bread of Life



Bread of Life, Inc. is a non-profit, community soup kitchen in Brevard, NC serving hot lunches to any in need in Transylvania County. We are staffed by 2 paid employees and an amazing network of over 400 volunteers. **We deliver prepared meals to the communities of Rosman and Balsam Grove weekly, as well.**

Make out your check to UUTC with "Bread of Life" on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity.

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### TOWN HALL MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH, 5:30-7:00 PM

Leaders from Transylvania Regional Hospital and Gibbins Advisors (independent Monitor overseeing the sale of Mission Health to HCA) are holding this meeting to talk with community members.

This meeting will take place at UUTC.

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## SUNDAY, A WEEK FROM NOW

Unitarian Universalist Theology: A Primer in Story & Song

*Rev. Sally Beth Shore*

Unitarian Universalism sometimes calls itself "a creedless faith" -- referring to the fact that we do not require a profession of belief. Does that mean we don't have a theology-- shared beliefs about God, Life, the Universe, and Everything? Today I invite you to consider 5 possible axioms of Unitarian Universalist theology, as illustrated by stories and music from our history.

## MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES

When you've been part of a community like UUTC for awhile, it's easy to feel so comfortable that something like a "membership status" seems pretty irrelevant. Until.

This May, we will have two very important meetings, with two very important votes. One is the regular congregational meeting, in which we will vote on a new slate of leaders, a budget, by-law revisions, etc. **The second is the vote to accept a new minister.** Unlike many other denominations, UU's get to choose. But only official Members can make that choice.

If you are currently a Friend or a Visitor who would like an official voice in this process, speak to the Membership Team or Rev. Shore to talk about changing your "status" at UUTC. **If you are coming to the UU 101 Class on Saturday, Feb. 15th, give serious consideration to the benefits of Membership!**



## NOTE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Hello!

I write this letter to you today filled with much gratitude.

First, for those of you who have already made additional contributions to our General Operating Fund - Thank You! We have closed the gap by 50% in this first week. For those of you who are still planning to contribute, thank you- every donation helps.



Second, I would like to give thanks for two wonderful people who have contributed greatly to our Board but for personal reasons, have had to step down. At our Board meeting this past Tuesday we accepted the resignations of Linda Young and Susan Slocum. Linda served for a year and a half as Member-At-Large and I am grateful for her contributions and dedication as I am not sure that she ever missed a meeting. Susan Slocum served as Treasurer for a year and a half as well. Susan's thoroughness and attention to every single detail is much appreciated. I am so grateful to have been able to serve UUTC with these two wonderful people.

Third, I am grateful for our Nominations Committee consisting of Cantey Carpenter, Jim Hardy and Wayne Smith. They worked very quickly to nominate Gail Meyers, retired CPA, to the Board to fill the position as Treasurer. They are also talking with someone to fill the Member-At-Large position.

Fourth, I am grateful for Gail Meyers stepping into the role of Treasurer. Gail has been contributing her expertise with numbers as a member of the Finance Committee. She and Susan have been working hand in hand to make sure this transition continues to run smoothly.

Fifth, What a wonderful concert last Sunday! Great music and fabulous attendance!!!! Thanks Bob and Mary Bennett for volunteering to assure this was a successful event.

Lastly, I am grateful for RK and Rev. Shore. All of the additional support they have generously offered this past week is truly appreciated.

As always, I am thankful for all that our members do to continue to help UUTC move forward,

Joyce

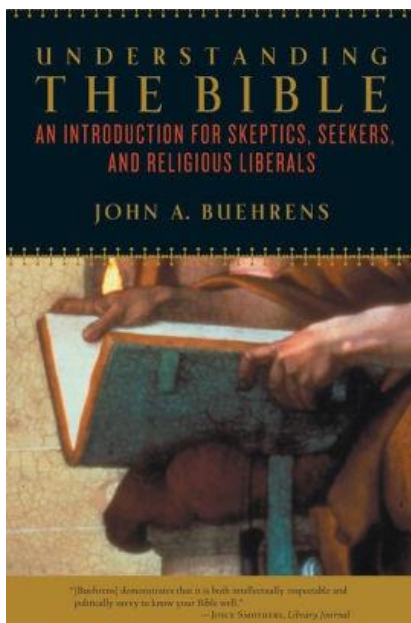
***“So long as we love we serve; so long as we are loved by others, I would almost say that we are indispensable; and no man is useless while he has a friend.” — Robert Louis Stevenson***

## WOMEN'S CREATIVE CAFE

*Women's Creative Café* has **another** session to offer on Thursdays, 1-3, February 27, March 5, & 12, facilitated by Jeanie Bernard and Cantey Carpenter. **Ready. Set. Recipe!** is about our love of cooking (and eating), collecting recipes, and telling the stories that get conjured up when we dig into those memories. This class will focus on finding recipes, writing our stories, and building toward a collection of your favorite recipes. A great stage for self-expression, crafting a collection of recipes! If this interests you, the sign up is at the front desk and is limited to 6 women.

## NEW IN YOUR UUTC LIBRARY

Three new books by Unitarian Universalist authors are now available in your UUTC Library. They are shelved alphabetically by author in the library's Unitarian Universalist section.

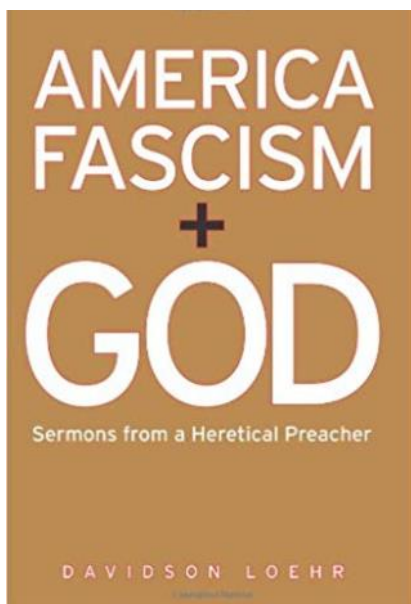


### **WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING: HIS RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL THOUGHT** by Anne Holt

This little book captures the profound wisdom of this early proponent of Unitarianism and his belief in the spiritual nature of humanity, and its kinship with the divine.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE** by John A. Buehrens

Written by a Unitarian Universalist minister, this book is an introduction to the Bible for skeptics, seekers, and religious liberals. He invites the reader to rediscover our culture's central religious and spiritual text and makes accessible some of the best contemporary historical, literary, political, and feminist readings of the Hebrew and Christian scriptures.



### **AMERICAN FASCISM AND GOD** by Davidson Loehr

This book by a Unitarian Universalist minister offers plain talk on what is happening on politics and religion in America. He reviews religion's special mission in American history and heralds the return of religion to its rightful place in the moral high ground of our national politics.

To check out a book simply find the book on the shelf, then enter your name, the book title, and the check-out date in the ledger located on the counter of the Library. When finished with the book, place it in the BOOK RETURN box, also located on the counter.



## WELCOMING CONGREGATION RENEWAL

Thanks to the hard work of the Welcoming Congregation Renewal team leading up to and during 2019, UUTC's application for renewal as a Welcoming Congregation has been approved!

Welcoming Congregation is a program of the UUA, begun 25 years ago "to make sure lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people are full members of our faith communities. Being welcoming means striving for radical inclusion, and creating spaces that honor every part of our identities, backgrounds, and experiences."

UUTC was certified as a Welcoming Congregation Program in 2009, but many folks in our current congregation were not here then to be part of that effort. When the Renewal Program was announced, Jane Hilliard, Susan Bir, Sue Null, David Warriner and Alex Burroughs stepped up to the plate to include all in our congregation in our commitment to this work, and to help all learn about the current needs and concerns of LGBTQ+ people. They were joined later in the year by Elizabeth Thompson and Joanna Bliss. Many thanks to this group for their efforts on our behalf!



## ADVANCING UUTC'S VISION

*Workshop with the Membership & Social Action Teams, led by Rev. Shore*

**For UUTC Members, Friends & Visitors • Saturday, February 8th, 9:00am to Noon**

UUTC has moved into the next phase of Vision 2025, developing goals and planning initiatives that will advance the Vision shared with you this past Fall. Using the Appreciative Inquiry (AI) tools for positive change, the upcoming workshop – like the "Taste of AI" session held in November – will be highly interactive with "roll-up-your-sleeves" activities. Everyone who attends will discuss ideas, priorities, and initiatives for the Membership and Social Action Teams to carry forward as they develop their plans and activities for 2020 and beyond.

You did not have to attend the AI workshop or

even the Vision 2025 Launch to participate in what will be a creative, forward-looking, and fun time together! **Coffee and breakfast-snacks will be served. For which we need a head count. So....**



**SIGN UP AT THE FRONT COUNTER!**

## FINAL ACTS OF LOVE — THURSDAYS, 3:00-4:30PM

### from Adult Religious Exploration

Susan Zelle, attendee at Thursdays opening session with Jackson Rainer as speaker on Life after Loss, was overwhelmed by the value of the 90 minutes she invested and suggests that everybody come to all of these!

Dr. Morris Jenkins (pictured at right) will speak on February 6th on hospice care and end of life decisions on medical care. Jim Null will speak on February 13th on end of life financial choices. Rev. shore and a panel will speak on February 20th on grief and memorial services. The program for the final session on February 27th is not yet confirmed, but in the works.

Sign up at the front counter so supplementary materials will be sufficient!!



## PICTURE TIME! SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

We do a lot of things well at UUTC, but one of the things I really enjoy is the work of Barbi Smith and Mark Allison, who bring out the best in all of us. Some samples of their work are here for you to see!

You do not have to be a Member or Friend to come get your picture taken— **you DO have to tell us you want to be scheduled!** Because some people have children, and some people bring pets, and some people take about 30 seconds and others need a more usual amount of time, we need to be able to work out who will come “get shot” at what time. **So sign up at the front counter!**

Who should sign up? Any Member or Friend or Visitor or staff person who does not have their own individual picture. People with new pets. People with new kids... and people with older kids!

This photo shoot will happen at the same time as **UU 101**, and we encourage all who are signed up for that to come ready to be immortalized on (digital) film. Just remember that authenticity is a virtue! You can wear sweat pants—no one will ever know! There is no cost for these photos; after all images are processed, we will send you a link to where you can download the file for free.

The camera heats up at 9:00am. Let’s get you a photo you love! —RK



## THE YELLOW BOX RETURNS

The American Association of University Women begins collecting your books this month, the 51st year of their annual book sale. The sale takes place at Brevard College (in the Boshamer Gym). UUTC has always been very generous with their book contributions. (We are clearly a community of book lovers!). You will find their 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 Gypsy Richardson at 420-273-0692 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.

## CIRCLE DINNERS — SIGN UP FOR MARCH 14TH

The first Circle Dinner happens Saturday, February 8th. It's too late to join that evening's event, but NOW IS THE TIME to sign up for March! Circle Dinners are one of the best ways to get to know other UUTCers in a setting where there is plenty of time for conversation and only a handful of people to get to know at one time. Find the information sheet and sign up sheet on the front counter and join the fun!

## INTRODUCING UUTC — AKA UU 101

Considering formal affiliation? Want an update on "who" UUTC is? Just curious? Time to dig a little deeper! This winter there are two sessions of our membership class— ideally, you would attend both, but if you cannot, then at least make it to one of them!

The first session is Saturday, February 15th, with breakfast being served at 8:30 and class proper starting at 9:30am. Try to come to the breakfast—this is a great time to get to know some people, including Rev. Shore. The program runs until 11:00, after which you can have your picture taken (one stop shop!).

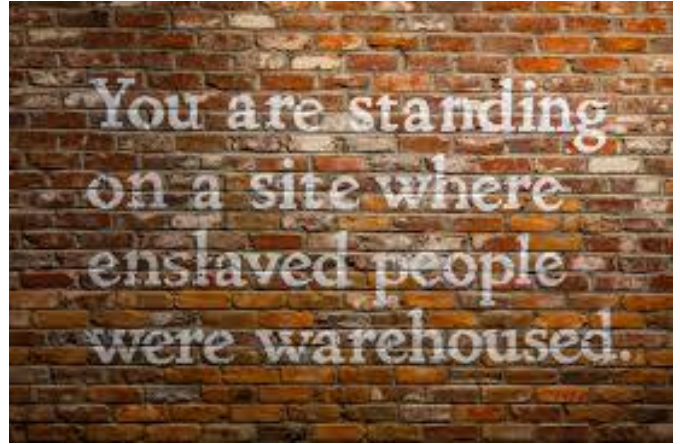
The second session is Sunday, February 23rd, beginning at 12:15pm after the second service and running until 1:30pm. The first session will meet in the social hall to allow for photography in the sanctuary; the second session will likely be in the sanctuary.

This Sunday is the last day to sign up—join the 14 others who will be attending!



## JOIN A PILGRIMAGE TO MONTGOMERY, AL — FEBRUARY 7TH DEADLINE TO REGISTER

Join a Brevard group heading to Alabama to see the **Equal Justice initiative (EJI) Legacy Museum** and the **National Memorial for Peace and Justice (also known as the National Lynching Memorial)**. Near a heavily used slave auction and a dock and rail station where tens of thousands of black people were trafficked during the 19th century, the museum dramatizes the enslavement of African Americans, the evolution of racial terror lynchings, and legalized racial segregation in America. Modeled on memorials in other countries designed to highlight histories of genocide, apartheid, and horrific human rights abuses, the memorial contains over 800 steel monuments, one for each county in the United States where a racial terror lynching took place. The names of the lynching victims are engraved on the columns.



This pilgrimage aims to bring us a more personal and deeper understanding of how our nation's treatment of different races influences us today, and how we as individuals and as residents of Transylvania County may create a more just community.

**Pilgrimage itinerary:** trip dates are Thursday, October 22- Saturday, October 24. Details and costs will be available once we know the approximate number of pilgrims.

**To learn more about this pilgrimage and express interest,** email the Rev. Bill Livingston, [rector\\_bill@bellsouth.net](mailto:rector_bill@bellsouth.net) by **February 7**.

## 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](#).

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).