



wayfinding

What to Do?

Facebook or YouTube Livestream at 9:00am, Sunday— Services at 9:00 & 11:00

I'm one of those folks who knows I overthink major decisions. Yet I can also just get inspired in an instant and follow my gut. This sermon looks at ways to be open and grounded at the same time.

Speaker: Rev. Bob Renjilian

Delta Got You Down?

There is no shame, here! If you need to watch the livestream instead of coming to a service, we love you regardless. The nine o'clock service is live-streamed weekly, and we think we have the last of the bugs worked out. Our Service Stream page on the website links you to YouTube (in the main window) and Facebook from the link below. The Facebook Link is most effective if you don't click before 9:00. "See" you soon!

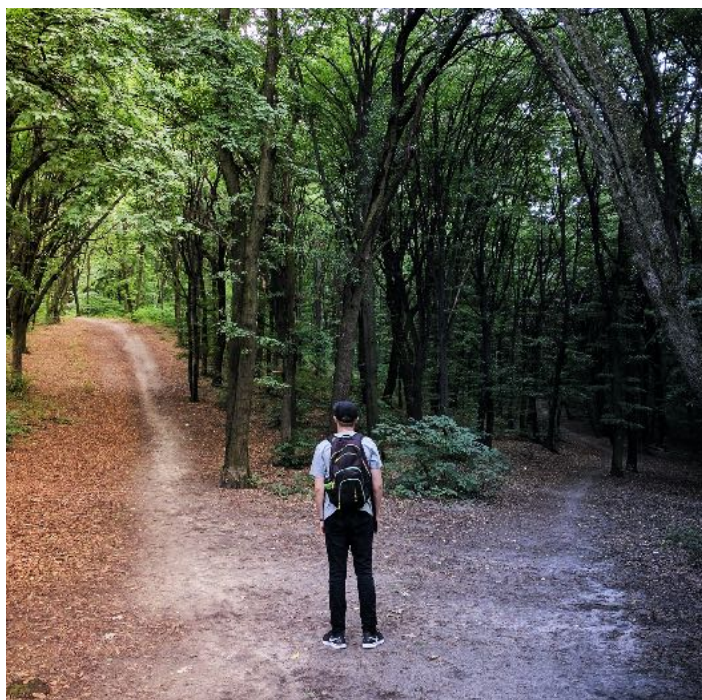


Photo by [Vladislav Babienko](#) on [Unsplash](#)

“We are visiting NC... from FL/NY and I just wanted to take a moment to thank you all for what you are doing. During my time here I've been thinking to myself “where on earth does someone go around here if they're...not like everyone else in their heart and soul?” I say it this way because I've had so many people stare at me with my bright purple hair and hippy clothes ever since I got here. Florida is a pretty conservative state but I never felt stares like the ones I feel in the town we are staying in (not your town). It would be nice if everyone could just not instantly judge each other. I imagine it has to be hard to be in the LGBTQ community in some areas around here. It is incredibly brave that you all openly have a welcoming building for them and anyone else who wants something...different :) ”

July

Excerpts from the Minutes:

Present: Glenn Cockerham, Betty Kendrick, Gail Meyers, Bart Renner, Kay Webb, Alice Wellborn and RK Young.

Minister's Report – Rev. Bob highlighted his activities since the June

Board meeting: he enjoyed some vacation time with family in July; reserved November 19-21 at the Mountain for a congregational retreat; interviewed and approved further vetting of a candidate for the AV Tech position; and handled some pastoral care issues by phone and email. Met with Bart Renner and Michael Solomon to prepare a re-boot of the Advisory Council (*And much more... Ed.*)

Treasurer's Report – The monthly report was shared with Board members, providing the financial status as of June 30, 2021. In her comments, Gail emphasized that the current Board must support the previous Board's commitment to supplementing this year's budget with fund-raising revenues beyond member pledges. She reported that the Pledge Team did a phenomenal job during the '21-'22 pledge campaign.

Administration Committee Report – The July report presented the committee's proposed revisions to the current (9/17/20) Bylaws for Board consideration. If approved by the Board, the committee recommends making the proposed document available to all Members as soon as possible, scheduling a virtual Q&A Forum for Members to discuss the proposal, and conducting the vote remotely rather than at an in-person meeting. The committee will continue to review the UUTC Organizational Structure, noting that a new version cannot be finalized until the Bylaws are approved by the Congregation.

Personnel Committee – Chair, Sharon Gublo, sent a report for Board members prior to the meeting. Liaison, Betty Kendrick, introduced the initial Hybrid Work Policy, prepared by the Personnel Committee, and responded to questions.

New Business: Stewardship Event - E-bike raffle – This is a fund-raising event sponsored by the Stewardship Team; if successful, it may become an annual event. RK reported on a quote from local shop for an available E-bike, which was well out of range (\$4600) for the raffle. She presented three options that were in a more achievable price range (under \$2000). After a discussion of the options, Bart made a motion to approve the purchase of an Aventon PACE 350 Step-Through Ebike (\$1400) for the raffle; Gail seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

To read the full minutes, click [HERE](#).

For the Treasurer's Report, reflecting the month of June, click [HERE](#).



Church Wide Yard Sale Schedule

- **Sunday, Aug 15** - item drop off before and after each service—**IN THE TENT**
- **Monday to Friday**, Aug 16 to 20, **10am to noon**: item drop off
- Tuesday, Aug 17: Dave Roberts to review items to go into auction
- Friday, Aug 16: Bart sets up 10 x 10 canopy for cash and credit card tables
- Saturday, Aug 21 at 7am: volunteers arrive
- Saturday, Aug 21 at 8am to noon: sale
- Saturday, Aug 21 at 1pm: Habitat for Humanity picks up items

We've heard from many who are greatly looking forward to this opportunity to unburden themselves without filling the landfill. At the same time, we don't want you to wear yourselves out this week getting prepared — we hope to make this an annual event to promote the spiritual practice of giving, the letting go of “attachments” we have to things that no longer serve us, and to keep such items out of the landfill with a new use in another home. That said, we will be ready to receive on Sunday, Aug 15th! Bring those trunk-fulls, truck-fulls, and basket-fulls and enjoy the space you reclaim!

Children's Religious Exploration

Kevin Lausch, Director of CRE

Chalice Camp - Monday to Friday, Aug 9—13, 9 to Noon

Chalice Camp will "Return to Hogwarts" again with this fun, magical camp for kids aged 5 to 10. Camp activities will include a trip to Diagon Alley, making yummy treats, care of magical creatures, and of course potion making!

Regular campus activities like Fellowship on the Green are cancelled during this week of camp.

Children's Religious Exploration Classes to return in September

During the summer there will be no Sunday morning CRE classes offered. CRE classes will begin again on Sept 12, the first Sunday after Labor Day. Currently we are planning to have CRE classes outside on the Fellowship Green while the weather is good and move indoors if bad weather. Two classes will again be offered at the 9am service time: Chalice Children (aged 4-7) in the large classroom and Rainbow Kids (aged 8-11) in the small classroom. In addition, the Youth Book Club (for tweens and teens) will run monthly beginning in September.

NOW HIRING — UUTC

RK Young

We are still looking for nursery workers! We are requiring that these individuals show proof of Covid vaccination, and we will be adding a TB test to those requirements (UUTC will reimburse this expense). This position will start at a minimum of \$14 an hour. We have registered the position at Brevard College

for the student body, but if you know of someone who'd be interested in a gross of \$56 every (or any!) Sunday morning, give them my number!

Our intermediate solution is that parents bring their children into the sanctuary, and if the kids get restless, parents can move into the social hall with the children where the service will be showing on the large TV, so that parents can still listen. The nursery carpet has been moved in to provide a softer play area, and a stash of children and parent books is now available in the bookcase under the name tag displays in the foyer to provide some quiet entertainment for young children.

DAVIDSON RIVER WRAP UP



Barbara Grimm, Davidson River School

February of 2021, we have been working with the members of the UUTC to create a sustainable, productive garden. While the students were small in number due to the constraints from COVID, they were certainly great in enthusiasm. With the help of the UUTC members, we have created a dedicated space with 12 raised bed gardens. In those beds, we have everything from lettuce and kale to blueberries and tomatoes. As the garden is thriving, we have shared the produce with friends, neighbors, teachers and students. These students also learned many ideas about the importance of healthy eating and farm to table food. Additionally, we have built the frame of our greenhouse and hope to finish the sides and roofing before school starts. All of these projects would be difficult to accomplish without the sweat equity and financial contribution of the members of UUTC and, for that, we are very grateful. We look forward to continuing this partnership as we return to school in August.

Ed. Note: if you would like to help with this project, please contact Kathy Reiff.

New Programming at UUTC

Did you know that the **French Conversation Group** meets Thursdays at 3:00 in the Chalice Circle? And that the NAACP Education Committee is snagging First Tuesdays in our social hall for their meetings? Heartfulness Meditation is a guided meditation group. It is meeting online for those who might be interested— if you are one of those people, please contact [Nancy Thompson](mailto:Nancy.Thompson) (352-445-9822).

If you are interested in a NON-guided meditation, a new group is forming and determining a “best time” now. If you are interested in this group, please contact eloise@uutc.org and she will add you to the list to



discuss meeting times. They are currently looking at 4 or 7pm, but are open to other possibilities. This will be a weekly meditation.

Circle Dinners did not “make” for August, and we will make adjustments after the current wave of Covid settles down. We hope to make this happen beginning in September! If you have high hopes to attend circle dinners, please contact [Quim Moya](#).

The **Book Group** is reading [The Sisters of Sinai](#), (*How Two Lady Adventurers Discovered the Hidden Gospels*) by Janet Soskice this month. Discussions occur once on month, on the final Sunday of the month, at 3:30pm to 5:00pm. The meeting will be outside if the weather is good and inside if it is not! If you’d like to join this group, please contact Eloise. This month’s discussion will be lead by Gypsy Richardson. Contact Krista Moore if you have any questions!

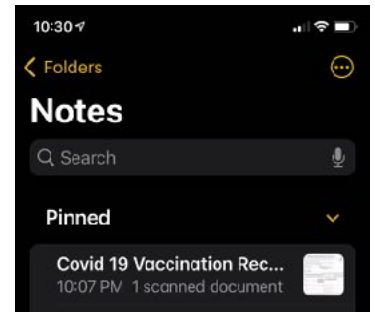
Getting Proof of Vaccination on Your Phone

RK Young

Hat Tip to the Wall Street Journal for this quick fix!

On Android Phones: Open Google Drive, tap ADD, then tap SCAN. Take a photo of the document, and Google Drive will automatically crop the area and save it as a PDF file. For easy access, tap the three dots in the upper left corner of the image to add it to Starred documents.

On iPhones: Create a new Note. Tap the camera icon and select Scan Documents. Save. Now open that note, tap the Pin icon to pin it to the top of your notes. Tap the screen under the image and type in “Covid19 Vaccine Card” so it’s easy to find in your notes. All done!



Helping Bread of Life — Social Action

UUTC has several volunteers who help each Thursday by preparing a specific element of a fruit salad and delivering that to the Bread of Life by 9:30am. Kay Webb, for instance, chops up pineapple and drops it off. Sharon Moya, who coordinates this effort AND prepares food, is looking for a full 10 people who can be substitute choppers when someone needs a day off.

Step up today and contact [Sharon](#) by email (click her name) or call her at 970-319-9472. The year is still dark for those who are homeless and need what Bread of Life provides. **Be the Light** — this is not a hard job and a little normal routine is good for the soul!

It is easy to fall into a sense of helplessness under the burden of pandemic. But we are not, and every little bit helps. Thanks for giving her a call today!

Our Committees & Teams

In our organizational structure, **Committees** report to the Board of Trustees, and **Teams** do the work of the congregation and report to the Minister.

Our Committees are:

Administration
Finance
Personnel
Property

Our Teams are:

ARE (Adult Religious Exploration)
CRE (Children's Religious Exploration)
Facilities
Membership
Social Action
Stewardship
Worship

Embedded in our Teams are various Serving Roles, such as Ushering, Program Leader, Building Maintenance, Music organizer, Greeting, Flower Provider and more.

If you are able-bodied, we really need your help in filling our Sunday volunteer roles.

We would prefer to have enough people volunteering that everyone serves a single Sunday of the month. Call Eloise to help!

If you have not yet installed the Realm Connect app on your smartphone, please do! Eloise can walk you through using the app to connect with other members, sign up for events, and manage your involvement (like dates you are unavailable) in your selected groups and serving roles.

The Newsfeed of the Connect app will give you access to summaries of Team activities and the roles available for service.

Best of all, the app connects you to other members. Try it out today!



I joined the Membership Committee fresh out of my own Membership Class. I wasn't certain what the Membership Committee actually did, but I was looking for a place to serve and get to know the congregation better. Turns out, this was an excellent opportunity to do exactly that.

One of the functions of the Membership Team is greeting all who come to services on Sunday. As such, we are often the first person people meet and the first impression of how welcoming we are here at UUTC. This is a great time to meet newcomers as well as saying good morning to all the folks we've come to love at UU.

Membership provides name tags for visitors and lots of smiles. The information we get on Welcome cards gives us an opportunity to make further contact and get people excited about being connected to our great group. We also set up new member classes. These classes provide general information about UU and UUTC so folks can get a sense of their "fit."

We love to eat and socialize. Membership organizes First Sunday events. In the fall and winter, we have a communal "Souper Sunday" event. Folks bring delicious soups to share; we gather in the Social Hall for some yummy food and fellowship and try out a lot of different soups!

After this very trying past year and a half, we are looking forward to more get togethers as safety protocols allow. Getting back to our "new normal" will be a blessing.

We are currently looking for new members. If you want to help people find a home in our liberal religious community, this is the place for you!

Peace, Victoria Kerr

Stewardship Is Missional... and Fun!

RK Young

Stewardship literally means to take care of things we value. Taking care of our families is stewardship. Planting native plants for the birds and insects is stewardship. Voting to protect the rights of all is stewardship. It is not simply fundraising, though that is usually what people think of in the context of a church or other organization.

Part of taking care of ourselves is to actively examine what brings value to our lives and what does not. That can be activities or things or people! Our yard sale, of course, is focused on the “things.” I had a conversation with Jean Rowe yesterday and she mentioned a Weber grill that she and Lackey hadn’t used since they moved here — it brings no value to them, and could bring a lot of value to someone else! When thinking of what you will contribute to the yard sale, do think carefully about what occupies space in your life — are those things a burden, of value, or merely no longer useful? Maybe you purchased a new version of something, and you can let the old one go? Ridding ourselves of things that just occupy space makes room for new potential that may have nothing to do with room for new stuff.



Our next big project (starts Sept 1st) is a Raffle of an electric bicycle, or E-Bike. Some folks who purchase tickets for this will do so because bikes are fun! But there is more to this than that. All over the country, the two things that burden the less well-off are the cost of housing and the cost of transportation. We are still too young a church to have an endowment large enough to start a housing project. But we CAN make an impact on transportation. In cities all over the world, E Bikes have become part of the transportation solution. They are a fraction of the cost of an automobile, use less energy to produce and to use and contribute to fitness, as well. But for a people of the 7th Principle, we can value bicycles for their planet-protecting qualities. Every mile we steal away from a car and travel with a bicycle instead is a win for climate change. Electric bikes emit 23 times less carbon per year than cars, significantly reducing energy consumption and CO2 emissions.

Pedal-Assist E bikes are capable of between 20 and 28mph. If you want to run to the coffee shop or meet friends at Oskar Blues, this is a great mode of transportation. If you don’t have reliable transportation to get to your job, this is a fantastic car replacement. The bike selected by the Board for the Raffle is the Aventon Pace 350, pictured here... except that it will also have fenders and a rack at the back.

Raffle Tickets will be priced at \$10, to make this bike accessible to all who want a shot at it. We will make this an annual event to try to inject as many car-replacing bicycles as possible into Transylvania County. If you want to help — buy a ticket! If you don’t want the bike, give it to someone who could really use it. Winners must either pick up the bike from UUTC or pay to have it shipped to them. Oh. And if you’re already a rider, and want to help assemble this puppy, please give me a call. There’s a large box in our living room that needs dealing with. :D (*Want to help come up with more great projects? [Email RK](#) to become part of the Stewardship Team!*)

Who & What Is UU?

Scheduled for August 29th, this time after each service is dedicated to questions! Rev. Bob, other friendly souls and a member of the Membership Team will be present to answer your questions about Unitarian Universalism in general and in UUTC in particular. Or just have a friendly conversation!

Find out if UUTC is the community you are looking for!



Preparing for Determination

RK Young

You may have noticed dots of paint on the pavement, and also holes dug into the Varsity property where the Fellowship Green is. All of these expenses are to give the Property Committee and the Board information about the property potential. Where are the easements, what will the geology support so far as a structure goes, etc.

Due in October is a Letter of Determination for the IRS which will be written by Treasurer Gail Meyers. Under her experienced leadership, we are knocking out a slew of necessary evils (such as the 501(c)3 application) to secure our fiscal non-profit standing on all fronts. Our purchase of the Varsity tract in 2017 was the beginning of securing UUTC's future in our current location, but we still need to follow IRS rules to protect ourselves from any future penalties.

These are not insignificant costs. We are paying for the survey with Capital Funds because property development is a Capital project. So this does not come out of our Operating Budget. The geo-analysis of the Varsity Tract will be paid out of the Varsity Fund (which is monies received as rent). The holes were drilled to a depth of 20 feet to see if construction of a two-story structure could be accomplished. This is NOT to say that a two story structure is in the works. It is simply information about what the property can sustain. Easements held by the City of Brevard limit the footprint of what we might add to our existing structure—though one of the big hurdles was handled several years ago when we worked with the City to re-route stormwater drains to the back side of our parking lot— making an addition to our existing building a possibility, where it wasn't, prior to that work.

Why are we doing all of this now? We really have no choice. That Letter of Determination is due three months before the 5 year anniversary of the tract purchase. Data must be discussed and decisions must be made. Our current financial burdens play into this, as well. Before the purchase of the Varsity tract, our mortgage was down to less than \$50,000. The tract cost us \$330,000. So selling a piece of the tract is even in play to reduce that burden. Lots of information to weigh, and it is a heavy burden for Property and the Board. Keep them in your thoughts!

Remote Work & UUTC—Finding a Balance

RK Young

UUTC has two full-time employees: Rev. Bob & myself. Everyone else is part time based on personal preference and financial necessity. However, we have a significant number of employees. Even without nursery care, we are carrying seven other essential employees that work both on and off site... with the exception of Sue Gervais (lives in Florida, 100% remote work) and Doug Wilks, our new AV specialist who must be on site 95% of the time to do the work. This doesn't count essential volunteer Kathryn Burleigh, who steadfastly refuses to allow us to hire and compensate her for the many hours she is contributing.

I share office space with AV. When they need to come in and prepare elements for Sunday, or merely work out a bug, it is difficult for me to be productive in the same space. This is not their fault— it is an inability of mine to work constructively with any other language in my headspace. I can't even listen to music with lyrics if I am working. So when AV needs to be in the space, I work from home. Tuesdays are my specific day to be in the office, and otherwise we work around each other. Because the work they do is mission critical... and has to happen on campus, with all of that equipment.

Eloise Shepard, juggles work at the library and care for family in addition to her UUTC work. How this manifests is for her to be in the building on Mondays and Tuesdays (guaranteed on Monday), and then just answer the phone from 10 to 2 on other days. When the phone rings at UUTC, it is redirected to Eloise's cell phone. I have asked her not to answer after those hours to respect her time with family. This does not mean you shouldn't call and leave a message outside those hours — sometimes we have to do things when we remember them!

Starting after Chalice Camp, Trisha Powers will be a more regular presence on campus. She has filled many roles for us in the past, and continues to be an asset to UUTC. She is especially helpful in backing up Kevin Lausch in supporting children's programming. Some work she does will still be handled remotely. But she also is more likely to be in the office at the beginning of the week (other than Sundays) to accommodate her other employment.



This close together? NOPE.

Kevin is typically on campus on Wednesdays and Thursdays at his tiny desk to help UUTC be “open” for another day of the week. Rev. Bob is in the office late Friday afternoons in addition to other meeting attendance. All this means is that UUTC staff are doing what they can, when they can, and that means we don't have a consistent “office presence” at this time. It's something we are working on, to give UUTC members and friends access to staff, while still protecting staff in the small spaces we have.

Thank you for your patience during this pandemic time!



Where to Find Us?

Rev. Bob Renjilian

I spent a lot of time in campus libraries from the time I entered college through a more recent sabbatical when I was serving as Minister in Residence at my theological school. Sometimes books catch my attention, as if I'm "in the zone" and aware of what they might offer. One such book was titled "Our Unitarian Gospel" by Minot J. Savage. The title at first seemed mixed up - how was it there was a book about Unitarians using the word "gospel"?!

It turns out this was a book of sermons about the basis of our religion, written in the 1800's, to help people realize there was a more open, positive and accepting path (Unitarianism). Wow, what if that book had been in every library, and spread something of our purpose, outlook, and existence to studious populations?

Back in the 1800's people might go to the library and read sermon collections. Long sermons. These days we surf the internet to find ideas. To reach younger generations it would mean finding graphic novels with our values (that's exactly what Kevin did for the youth in their reading group).

How people find us is important to me. I believe we have a worthwhile message, one that draws a wide circle (I hope ever wider) for the inclusion of those who may feel unable to fit in other religious groups. Word of mouth has been one of the most successful ways. Publicity helps too (sometimes even negative reviews, if they come close enough to saying who we are).

With this in mind, I wonder if you might keep your cell phone on during services. Yes, they can be silenced - but not off. Tweet what you are getting out of the service (whether in-person or online), or share later in the week something you learned on Sunday that helped your life path. Post something on Snapchat. I know I'm leaving out many excellent examples, but I hope you get the picture.

We are worth finding. Spread the good news of our existence.

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“Treasures are hidden away in quiet places. They speak in soft tones and often become silenced as we approach. They don't beg to be found, but embrace us if we do happen to find them. They are the product of completely ordinary circumstances unfolding in wonderfully extraordinary ways. They are found hidden in the nooks and crannies of our existence; all around us if we quit allowing our attention to be captivated by that which is noisy and listen for that which is quiet and still.”

CRAIG D. LOUNSBROUGH