



# wayfinding

## Cultivating Relationship to the Holy

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

When we were young, we had the faith of a child. As we mature, so must our spirituality. That means some adjustments to our relationship to the holy...



Photo by Rod Long on Unsplash

**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 9:00am 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!

“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 :) ”

# September

## Excerpts from the Minutes:

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

**Minister's Report** – Rev. Bob highlighted his activities since the August Board

meeting: he co-officiated, with Rev. Jean Rowe, the wedding of members Linda Young and Richard Packer in a hybrid service. He continues pastoral care with individuals and LHHH, and attended an online meeting of the UU group “Allies for Racial Equity,” where discussions included the proposed adoption of an 8th Principle to the UU’s 7 Principles. *(And much more... Ed.)*

**Treasurer's Report** – In her comments, Gail reported that three months into the new fiscal year, 54% of the '21-'22 pledge commitment has been collected. She also made the suggestion that the UUTC safety deposit box be moved to a smaller box at the branch of First Citizen's closest to UUTC, saving \$100 a year.

**Operations Report** — RK introduced Doug Harris, a retired architect, whom she had invited to attend the Board meeting; Mr. Harris had done architectural drawings for UUTC during the original renovation of the UUTC building after its purchase, and had been asked to share a bit of his expertise. More on this item later in the newsletter.

**Property Committee Report** – Quim shared that the survey and geotechnical consultant work commissioned by the Board helped clarify for the committee the development potential and options for UUTC property. They recommend merging the separate property lots to become an institutional campus and removing both houses facing Varsity Street, and they support the concept of a covered pavilion.

**Old Business:** Bylaws Forum & Special Congregational Mtg/Vote Update – Kay reported that the September 19th Bylaws Forum was attended by 6 Board members and 14 additional members, some in person and some remotely. The Bylaws revision was approved by 94% of voters — 69 members participated.

**New Business:** Appoint Ministry/Minister Review Task Force – The Task Force includes the Board President and President-Elect, representing Governance, and additional members to represent Staff and Ministry, appointed by the Board. Alice volunteered to help with contacting individuals.

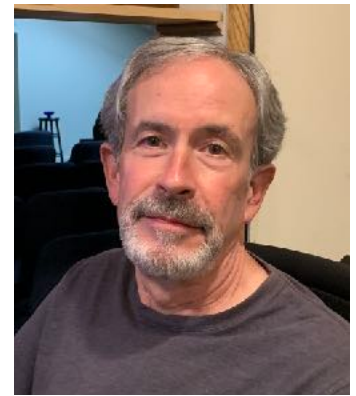
To read the full minutes, click [HERE](#).

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



## UUTC Admin-Related Staff

Our newest member of the staff is Doug Wilks, who found us because of the AV Tech ad we ran in the Transylvania Times. He and his wife Tia retired to a cabin in Balsam Grove before the pandemic. Doug ran his own business for a number of years — which just so happened to have a lot of computing involved. Enough for him to not be afraid of what was in store for him here at UUTC. He joins volunteer Kathryn Burleigh “in the booth,” and as such, has a rather erratic schedule. Unlike most of us, Doug spends most of his working hours on campus. You can reach him at [doug@uutc.org](mailto:doug@uutc.org).



Amy Lander has been with us for quite a while — she started as a caretaker in the nursery! She is now our Communications Coordinator, so any UU news you need to go to the Transylvania Times, onto Facebook, Instagram or Twitter or in the weekly UUpdate, she’s your contact! She also sends out the weekly “Member to Member” of joys and concerns. Amy is scheduled for about 8 hours a week. If you are trying to get the word out about any group activity, talk with Amy. You can reach her at [amy@uutc.org](mailto:amy@uutc.org).



Eloise Shepard came into her role thinking she’d be answering the phone, maybe printing orders of service... that was *then*. Like most of us, she is only “in” the office one day a week, and is only budgeted for about 12 hours a week. Eloise is the one who gets the call when you dial office number, but doesn’t always answer because she is either involved at home or at her other job at the TC Library. Her most recent achievement has been the creation of an online Children’s Library “Tiny Cat” catalog. You can reach her at [eloise@uutc.org](mailto:eloise@uutc.org).

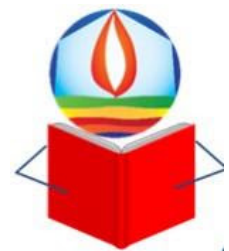


## Grand Opening of the New Children’s Library

**Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>!**

**Eloise Shepard, Membership Coordinator**

**Our new Children’s Religious Exploration (CRE) Library** has books for all ages of young people, from board books for the youngest to graphic novels for teen readers. Subject matters cover a wide variety of topics we feel will both be of interest and fill a need for UU families. There is a section of books about Parenting and Growing Up which parents and teens may find informative. We also have puzzles suitable for a range of ages.



In addition to browsing the shelves, our CRE library has a wonderful digital interface on **TinyCat** which can be accessed from [uutc.org](http://uutc.org). Click on a cover photo or search by title, author, or tag to locate a book. For further information about the book, click on the title. Our goal is to provide open-minded and open-hearted materials to fill the needs of our UUTC members and families which may not be widely available.

**Children under the age of 16 whose family or guardian has completed a Family Agreement** may sign out items from the Children's Religious Exploration (CRE) Library area. **Youth who are aged 16 or older, but not yet Members of UUTC, may complete a Personal Responsibility Agreement** to have the privilege of borrowing items from either the CRE or ARE libraries. Once a family has a borrowing agreement form on file, children may sign out items from the CRE Library using the notebook register in the CRE library area. Adults who are in our Realm system (and older teens with a Personal Responsibility Form on file) may sign out items using the register in the library area from which they have chosen an item. **Items are signed out for two weeks. If you wish to renew an item, please email your request to [eloise@uutc.org](mailto:eloise@uutc.org).**

**The new children's library is in addition to our Adult Religious Exploration (ARE) Library**, which contains an extensive collection of books on Comparative Religions, Spirituality, Social Justice, Christianity, Unitarian Universalism and many more areas to help you explore and expand. We also have DVDs, largely non-fiction, and digital courses on world religions, which may be signed out by our Realm members. Our newest addition is our Puzzle Collection featuring Birds, National Parks, Stamps and more. These are an enjoyable way to keep your hands and brains active!

## Communications Hiccups?

### Amy Lander, Communications Coordinator

Do you receive the **WayFinding** (first Friday of the month) and **UUTC UUpdate** every Friday? Is it making its way into your Junk or Promotional (gmail) or coming straight to your Inbox? You should be receiving this important piece of communication EVERY Friday and if you are not, WE WANT TO HELP!!! You don't want to miss it! Please email me at [amy@uutc.org](mailto:amy@uutc.org) for assistance.

## COVID Contact Tracing

Twice now I've called people on our worship service contact tracing sheets. The two Sundays, spread apart by a couple months during this Delta surge, each had someone attending who later got a positive breakthrough COVID diagnosis. The most recent was the early service on September 26. I am grateful to the congregants who let us know, so that I could reach out to the others present at those services.



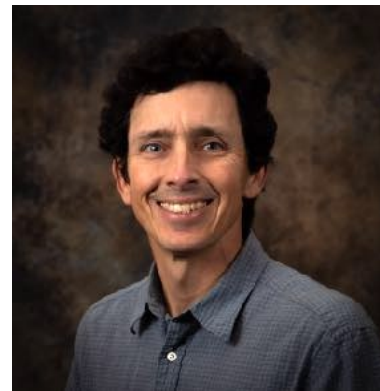
This is why we wear masks in church, don't sing hymns, don't shake hands, and otherwise take precautions. It is why it was worth the investment in the HVAC fresh-air-handling upgrade before we reopened.

Thanks to all for caring about our community health. Thanks to those who let us know when they got COVID, so that we can do contact tracing (and offer support). Thanks to those who generously gave to provide fresh air in the building. - Rev. Bob Renjilian

# Children's Religious Exploration

## Kevin Lausch, Director of CRE

The Children's Religious Exploration meets every Sunday morning during the **9:00 service only**. Two classes are offered, Chalice Children, aged 4 to 7, and Rainbow Kids, aged 8 to 11. The classes will be held outside on the Fellowship Green as long as weather permits, and once they return inside will follow the UUTC guidelines of masking indoors.

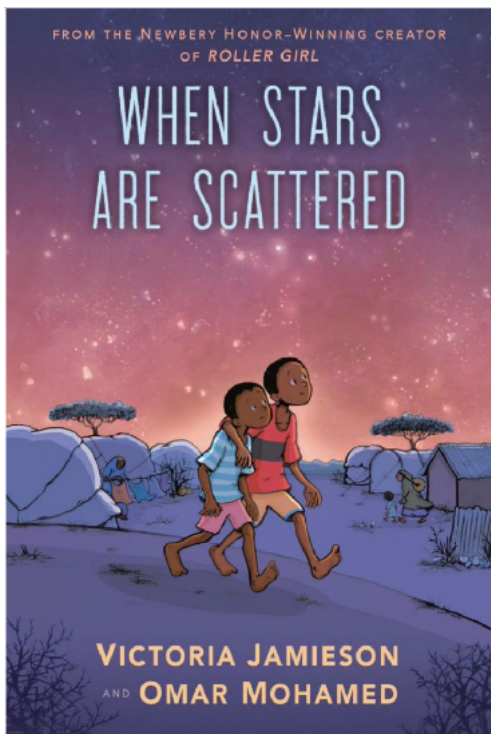


## MONTHLY INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

CRE will again offer monthly intergenerational activities that provide a chance for all ages to fellowship together, meet others in the church, and enjoy the outdoors.

**Sunday, October 24, at 3PM. Pumpkin Painting and S'mores at the Fellowship Green.** We will provide the pumpkins and s'mores around the campfire. Costumes are encouraged of course!

**Sunday, November 14, at 4PM - Family movie with snacks.** Come watch the award winning animated movie "Soul" (rated PG) and share some yummy snacks. This will be an outside movie using a projector and sound system. Please bring your camp chairs and blankets.



## TWEEN/TEEN BOOK CLUB

The UUTC Tween/Teen Book Club will continue this fall. The club started last winter and uses graphic novels (long form comic books) to teach UU values. Such books as John Lewis' "March" and "The Witchboy Trilogy" by Molly Knox Ostertag sparked discussions about civil rights, gender stereotypes and standing up for what you believe. The club meets monthly at UUTC for a discussion of a book and (of course) ice cream. We will be soliciting donations of graphic novels so the books can be gifted to the students involved.

**Next meeting: Saturday, October 16 at 3PM at the UUTC Fellowship Green.**

## OUR WHOLE LIVES

CRE will again offer the Our Whole Lives (OWL) sexuality and health program this winter and spring. The program is for 7th-9th graders and provides a comprehensive, scientifically based and LGBTQ+ positive sexuality education. The goal is to provide honest, accurate information that dismantles stereotypes and assumptions, builds self-acceptance and self-esteem, fosters healthy relationships, and improves sexual and life decision making. The program includes weekly meetings and retreats and covers a professionally developed, age-appropriate curriculum.

# Quiet Group Meditation Forming

## David Alff

A few of us are getting together on Monday, October 18, at 6 pm in the Social Hall to discuss starting a quiet group meditation that will meet regularly at UUTC. This group can be an opportunity to experience the benefits of sitting in a room with others to meditate, which can enhance the experience, and also an opportunity to learn about and try different types of meditation. Following are a few **options** we will be considering for the ongoing group meeting structure:



1. We can decide what kind of meditation we will do as a group and set a time and day.
2. We can gather, and everyone does his or her own style of meditation. Have a common beginning (bell, bowl, reading), a ritual to start us off. We can include a chance to chat about meditation experiences afterward.
3. A member of the group can lead the group in a visualization, chanting or a specific style of meditation. We could try one each week, with the goal of either continuing to explore or to find a style that works for the group.
4. We could use an online guided group meditation via a laptop or cellphone.
5. We could research other groups and meditators we know and then, perhaps once a month, invite someone versed in a style of meditation who would discuss and lead one session.

Please join us at 6 p.m. on the 18th and bring along your thoughts and ideas about how to structure this. We'll also need to come up with a meeting day and time that works with our UUTC calendar. Please email at [david.alf@gmail.com](mailto:david.alf@gmail.com) if you would be interested in joining us.

# Operations Update

## RK Young

Our new Community Programming has gotten off the ground with huge thanks to Jim Hardy. The Author series is going to be a delight! If you haven't yet tuned in to one of these hybrid events (yes, you can attend in person—the usual rules apply), do give it a try. Our AV crew is still perfecting their craft, but our guests at the front have been very engaging!



We continue to align our fundraising efforts with our Mission. Big thanks to Sarah Rogine and Phil Stewart for a highly successful mum sale — over 20 mums were delivered to members and friends of UUTC by Loving Hearts & Helping Hands! The mums looked fantastic, and

Sarah and Phil have added Midge to their squad **for a sale of poinsettias**, next! **Loving Hearts** could use help with delivery of the “gifted” poinsettias — preferably someone from Connestee who can get in the gate, and someone else familiar with College Walk— trucks are not required, just a nice flat trunk spot somewhere in your vehicle. Please reach out to [LHHH](#) if you can help with this. Your gifts of mums

were very, very much appreciated. Some of our mum sales were folks outside the congregation, and the sale raised over \$500 to help defray the costs of mulch, which has been an expensive commodity this year.



That purple bike is now on campus — I rode it in on Monday, and —what a blast! The pedal assist kicks in only when you are actively pedaling, but it creates this lovely illusion that you are more fit than you are. The E-bike Raffle continues through HalloweenFest (click the image at left to enter!), and UUTC will have a booth to help in showing more people what a great bike this is. [Eloise](#) would love to know if you can do a shift at the booth!

Bart will be setting up the tent, Michael Solomon will line up banner creation. This is an outreach event and we will have plenty of UU literature and some copies of the WayFinding available for folks to peruse. If we get a volunteer or two, we might even have live music!

Our alarm system has been rehabbed and the monitoring of that system has been handed over to Danny Harville at Red Oak Integration. He is very responsive and will be a better fit for UUTC in terms of meeting our needs as they evolve. Funny how these electronic things want attention, now and then.

Treasurer Gail Meyers has completed the request to the IRS for a Private Letter Ruling. The act of filing protects us from paying taxes on the revenue from the two rentals on Varsity street from the date of purchase until January of 2022. A ruling in favor would protect us from future revenues. The kicker is that the Neighborhood Use Rule requires us to remove/destroy the two houses before January of 2032. There is no way around that part. So the Board approved a proposed timeline, the first step of which, as recommended by the Property Committee, is to apply for a zoning change of all 5 plots to become an “Institutional Campus” (IC). We can then combine the 5 plots into one unit, and this allows any future development on the property to ignore previous easements between each plot (this is the reason our tool shed is sitting where it is) and to orient any structures as we see fit, as opposed to facing Varsity Street. This approval process can take 4 to 6 months, which is why it's the first item on the proposed timeline.

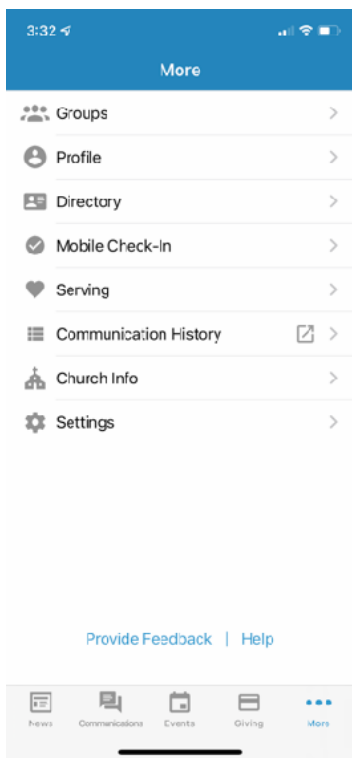
A soil analysis was part of the information procured on behalf of the Property Committee to get a better understanding about what is possible on these soils. An earlier idea about adding a second story to the existing building will not be possible (unless we want to spend boatloads of money) because the foundation—as it is— wouldn't support it. Also, while the sewer drains were re-routed, the stormwater drains were not. Which means that the drain directly beside the building would likely prohibit a traditional addition. These are the quandaries your Board is dealing with as it works towards our [Vision](#).

Before too long, you will have an opportunity to participate in a visioning of what you see for UUTC. Each of these steps of preparation cost us. Surveys, soil analysis — that's nearly 10K right there. But this work ensures that we can make good decisions about how to move forwards towards the future we desire.

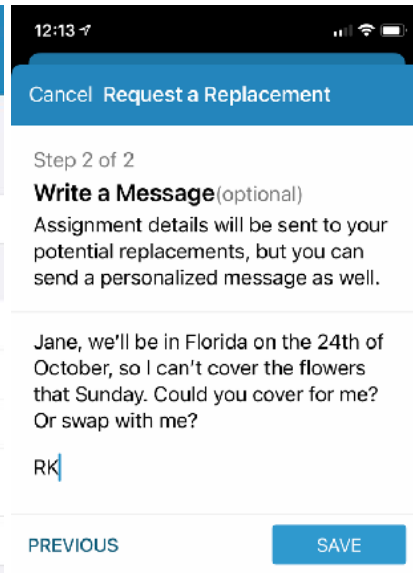
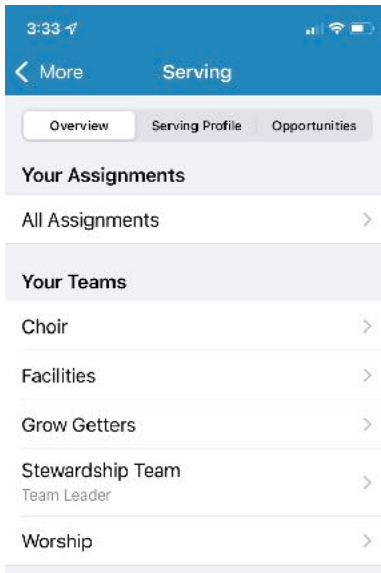
# Using Realm to Change Your Schedule

## RK Young

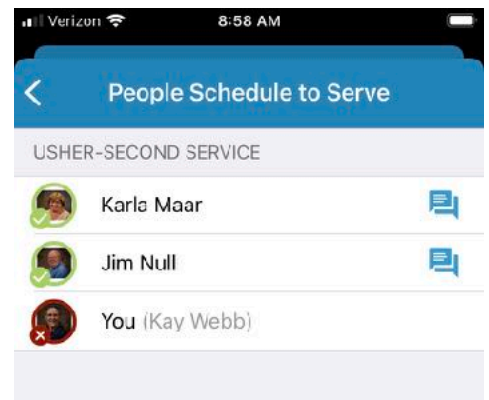
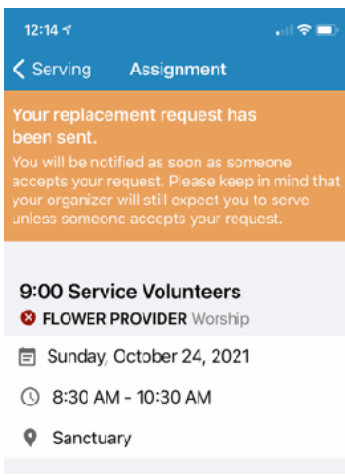
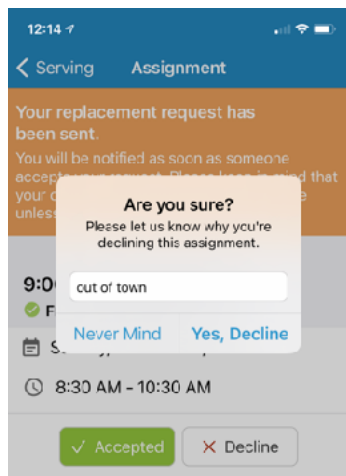
Recently, I had cause to have to switch a volunteer shift. Even more recently, Kay did. So here's what that looks like on Realm! These are screen shots from the smartphone app. First, I open Realm and hit



the "More" at the bottom of the screen. The second image is what shows up next. I then select Assignments, and (in this case) Flower Provider, because that's the commitment I can't keep on the original date planned. Then I get to select a replacement and beg for help. In this case, I reached out to Jane.



Once I hit "SAVE," the app sends a message to Jane. She doesn't have to be using the app—as long as she is in Realm, it will send her an email. In the next image it shows me declining my original commitment. The next image confirms that my request has gone through, and warns me not to take Jane's acceptance for granted! The final image, taken from a similar request from Kay, who needed to not usher on the planned day. She sent a request to Jim Null, who accepted rather quickly in HIS app, and Kay receives confirmation. Even if you don't like tech all that much, you have to admit this is pretty nifty. So, if you've been afraid to sign up to serve as an usher, or anything else, fear not! There's wiggle room!





# Not Quite Loaves & Fishes

**Rev. Bob Renjilian**

It has been harvest time in the family garden. I admit I have not had time to grow vegetables, and that I didn't plant anything in our back garden. I've been enjoying the flowering bushes and tiger lily that the previous owners had tended. Christy and I have weeded around those. But there was one miracle harvest this Fall. I'd dumped last year's Halloween pumpkin (decorated at the UUTC pumpkin event last October) in among the rose bushes when the season was over. It quietly rotted there, and it seems our white squirrels picked out some of the seeds and buried them around the garden. We had at least three vines this summer, each one flowering, and two were

successful at producing two pumpkins each. When the dry spell came at the start of August I was afraid they might wither, so I pulled out a soaker hose and gave them relief from the drought.

That was it for my gardening: dump pumpkin, let nature take over, pull competing weeds occasionally, add water when desperately needed. No soil testing or adding nutrients, not tending to sprouts before planting, not even an effort to put seeds in the ground. Result: Four pumpkins from one, and a bigger Halloween display at our home's front entry. I feel like a minor miracle worker. "Look at the pumpkins I grew" I've said with pride.

There is a saying that a Scottish gardener on an estate heard the village minister exclaim: "Ah, this garden is proof of God's glory." The hard-working gardener reportedly muttered out of earshot: "you should have seen its condition when God had it all to himself."

Life is like that. Most times it takes hard work, calluses, sunburn, special knowledge and diligence to get something out of the earth. Sometimes all that hard human work gets attributed elsewhere. Other times it seems grace and good fortune have led to bounty, with very little human effort.



How is it as you look at your gardens (literal or figurative)? Have you put in tremendous effort only to have others say "aren't we lucky to live in such a great climate!" Have you claimed success in something you didn't achieve yourself?

I am grateful for the white squirrels, the climate, and the non-GMO pumpkin with real seeds. I am grateful to have time spent weeding alongside Christy. I'm happy to have participated in the pumpkin decorating event last year alongside UUTC folks of all ages (and hope to do so again this year). And I'll work on the inflated ego.



# October 2021 at UUTC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>SUNDAY OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup> OPENING DAY OF OUR CHILDREN'S LIBRARY!</b>	<b>Sign UP to sign OUT!</b> For info more go to UUTC.org and look for library link	<b>Sharing House is this month's Social Justice Giving</b>	Read your <b>Wayfinding</b> newsletter for event details! Also check your UUpdates!	<b>Current UUTC Library Hours:</b> Mondays 10-1 Tuesdays 10-12 Thursdays 10-12 Fridays 3-5	<b>Wayfinding Newsletter</b>	<b>8:45 Meet for Community/ Road Clean-up</b>
9:00 am streamed 9 & 11 in-person service  <b>5:30-7:30 BYOB at the RING</b>	<b>5:00 pm Moral Mondays @ Courthouse, Rain or Shine</b>	<b>9 am Men's Group Zoom 10-12 Grow Getters 11:30-1:30 Fellow- ship on the Green 3:45 NAACP Education Meeting</b>		<b>3 pm French Conversation Grp</b>	<b>Check email for UUPDATE</b>	
9:00 am streamed 9 & 11 in-person service	<b>5:00 pm Moral Mondays @ Courthouse, Rain or Shine</b>	<b>9 am Men's Group Zoom 10-12 Grow Getters 11:30-1:30 Fellowship on the Green</b>		<b>3 pm French Conversation Grp 5:30 Rainbow Alliance</b>	<b>Check email for UUPDATE</b>	<b>3 – 5 pm Youth Graphic Novel Club</b>
9:00 am streamed 9 & 11 in-person service	<b>5:00 pm Moral Mondays @ Courthouse, Rain or Shine 6 pm Meditation Group Planning mtg</b>	<b>9 am Men's Group Zoom 10-12 Grow Getters 11:30-1:30 Fellowship on the Green 7 pm Author Series (Nicola Karesh)</b>		<b>3 pm French Conversation Grp</b>	<b>Check email for UUPDATE</b>	
9:00 am streamed 9 & 11 in-person service 12:30 Soul Matters Discussion** 3 pm Pumpkin Painting & S'Mores— Event is for all ages!! (Please RSVP!)	<b>5:00 pm Moral Mondays @ Courthouse, Rain or Shine</b>	<b>9 am Men's Group Zoom 10-12 Grow Getters 11:30-1:30 Fellowship on the Green 7 pm Climate Series</b>		<b>3 pm French Conversation Grp 5:30 pm Board of Trustees mtg</b>	<b>Check email for UUPDATE</b>	<b>10-4 UUTC Booth at Halloween Fest downtown</b>
9:00 am streamed 9 & 11 in-person service 3:30 Book Club discussion	<b>**To receive the monthly reading packet for Soul Matters, email <a href="mailto:RevBob@uutc.org">RevBob@uutc.org</a>. Discussion is 10/24!</b>	<b>Speak Up and Speak About UUTC— help "people" our booth at Halloween Fest !!!</b>		<b>Current Hours UUTC Library for Adults:</b> Mondays 10-1 Tuesdays 10-1 Thursdays 10-12 Fridays 3-5		<b>This month's Youth Graphic Novel Club book is When the Stars Are Scattered</b>