



wayfinding

You Are Not Enough. And Neither Am I

YouTube Livestream at 9:00am, In-Person Services at 9 & 11:00

Between a pandemic, climate change and the war in Ukraine, we have an opportunity to examine the impacts of “comfort.”

Speaker: RK Young

RK Young is a former art educator and long-time tree hugger. Lover of birds, bugs, bunnies and the human animal.

This month's theme:

Awakening



Photo by [Samuel Foster](#) on [Unsplash](#)

“

“Have you beauty, that leads the heart from things fashioned of wood and stone to the holy mountain? Tell me, have you these in your houses? Or have you only comfort, and the lust for comfort, that stealthy thing that enters the house a guest, and becomes a host, and then a master? Ay, and it becomes a tamer, and with hook and scourge makes puppets of your larger desires. Though its hands are silken, its heart is of iron. It lulls you to sleep only to stand by your bed and jeer at the dignity of the flesh. It makes mock of your sound senses, and lays them in thistledown like fragile vessels. Verily the lust for comfort murders the passion of the soul, and then walks grinning in the funeral.

But you, children of space, you restless in rest, you shall not be trapped nor tamed. Your house shall be not an anchor but a mast. ... And though of magnificence and splendour, your house shall not hold your secret nor shelter your longing. For that which is boundless in you abides in the mansion of the sky, whose door is the morning mist, and whose windows are the songs and the silences of night.” —Kahlil Gibran, The Prophet

February

Excerpts from the Minutes:

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



Minister's Report – Rev. Bob reported that the mid-March Pi-Day Pie Auction was mask-optional, with most attendees unmasked, and there have been no reports of COVID from the group since the event. He met with two new members of the ARE Team at Team Meeting Night on March 16th and is happy to have more eyes on this area of ministry. *(You are encouraged to read Rev. Bob's full report [HERE](#).)*

Treasurer's Report – Gail described continuing issues with our mortgage loan held by our bank of record. Since the loan was taken over from Entegra Bank, we have not received the correct reduction in principal that we should have based on our payments. She is continuing to work with our bank of record to correct the problems, but she suggested that we may want to investigate renegotiating the loan. She reported that the Endowment Brokerage Fund has dropped 6% in the last few months due to losses in the stock market.

Operations Report — RK advised Board members that UUTC's request for a zoning change to a unified campus, scheduled to be heard by the Brevard City Council in March, was moved to April 18th. She commended Eloise Shepard for her contributions in making the Pi Day Party/Auction such a fun event.

Old Business: Gail made a motion to amend the motion previously adopted on February 24, 2022, to now read "authorize the Treasurer to set up a checking account at First Citizens Bank for the Appalachian Preservation Project of Transylvania County (APPTC.org);" Alice seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

New Business: Cafeteria Health Insurance Plan - Gail brought the need for a cafeteria plan (Section 125 Health Insurance Plan) to the attention of the Board. Kay made a motion that the Board agrees to have a Section 125 Health Insurance Plan for UUTC and authorizes the Treasurer to complete all actions required to put this Section 125 plan in place; Bart seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Announce Requests for GA Delegates to Congregation - Kay suggested that an article be prepared for the April Wayfinding to advertise the upcoming hybrid General Assembly and to call for any members interested in becoming UUTC delegates to contact the Minister or the Board President.

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

For the Treasurer's Report, reflecting the month of February, and the Treasurer's additional Comments, please visit the [Board's Page](#) and select the reports you wish to view.

Private Letter Ruling Results

Gail Meyers

Wednesday was a wonderful day. Well, all days are wonderful, but this one especially so. Finally, after many months of work, formal requests being made, being questioned by the IRS and phone calls back and forth, I received a favorable ruling from the IRS on our Private Letter Ruling Request. For those of you that are unfamiliar with that project, it is a request to the IRS to treat taxable rental income as non-taxable income.



Normally our income from the Varsity rentals would be taxable. The Church's tax returns for the past 5 years would need to be prepared by a professional, costing thousands of dollars and future tax years would need to get the same treatment. After taxes, professional fees, penalties, and interest, we are talking maybe even tens of thousands of dollars.

What was required to avoid all of this mess, was for me to file a Private Letter Ruling Request. Wednesday, I received a favorable ruling. What this means is that no taxes, penalties, or interest are due, no previous tax returns need to be filed and no future tax returns need to be filed. All we have to do is to continue on our current plan and convert the Varsity property to our exempt purpose. So, raise your glass. It is a happy day!

Big Moves for Staff & Spring Cleaning

April is the start of big changes — Kevin Lausch is about to have a real office! And so is RK! And the nursery finally gets a window! Kevin will be taking over the Chalice House (#46 Varsity) next week — the Facilities Team is going to help in this process, and if you'd like to lend them a hand, then APRIL 9TH is the big work day! While they will move most of Kevin's necessities into the yellow house earlier, April 9th we need folks to help patch, paint, uninstall a changing table, reinstall a changing table, etc., etc. A couple windows need caulking with black silicone. We have so much that needs attention to get things spruced up for Easter Sunday. If you'd like to help but don't have these skills — maybe make coffee? Be a cheerleader? Prune whatever Kay Webb or Dick Bir tell you to prune? Join us!

Quiet Group Meditation

David Alff

Our Quiet Meditation Group meets on **Tuesdays, from 4 to 5 PM**. Meetings will continue weekly, same day, same time. Please arrive promptly, so we can lock the doors and get under way. All are welcome. Air exchange systems will be running and we are masked. Contact David Alff, david.alf@gmail.com. *Moves to the Chalice House soon!



What Is Faithify?

Faithify is a crowd-funding platform sponsored and monitored by the UUA. Crowd-funding, the most amazing examples of which are Kickstarter and Go Fund Me, is a way for ALL people, not just well-off people or foundations, to participate in building the world they want to see. People like you have ideas, you share those ideas with other people (the “crowd”), and the crowd gives money to help your ideas come to life. People who can spread the word through social media can have an outside impact on fundraising for their cause.

Our Grow Getters group used this platform as part of their fundraising efforts for the “Healing the Hellstrip” project. If you visit the Faithify platform at the link (in the title) above, you can see all kinds of different projects that have been funded — and some that aren’t yet successful or have failed. But if you have a big idea that needs funding—whether its support for a refugee family, supporting students impacted by family drug use, creating a poetry slam for youth, helping to retire medical debt—I’m sure you have lots of ideas!— Faithify may be a tool you can use to support your vision. Talk with other members of the Teams you are on—and Dream Big!



Photo by [Daniel Jericó](#) on [Unsplash](#)

A New Twist on the Annual Egg Hunt

Yes, there will be plastic eggs to find. But this year, we are hoping adults will bring in canned goods to support social action work by our youth--donating their cans to Sharing House. **Canned goods will be hidden on the grounds** so that children can hunt for these, too! Shelly Webb from the Sharing House gave us this list: "canned fruits (preferably in their own juices), low-sodium veggies, canned broths, ketchup, mayo, mustard, salad dressings, canned meats (tuna, chicken)." Please drop these goods by the **Chalice House (the Yellow House!)** and place them on the porch. Thank you for supporting our children's programming!

The Children's Center of Transylvania County

Alice Hardy

The Children's Center is a private, non-profit agency that was formed over 20 years ago by a group of local community members concerned about the needs of children who were victims of sexual abuse and/or neglect in Transylvania County. We support the Children's Center in April, this year.

Over the years, The Center has expanded its programs to include interagency case management services; community education; the "ready to read" program;



emergency assistance to families in crisis and the "kids are not trash" program.

Public programs sponsored by the Center include The Nurturing Program - a home-based early intervention program for new mothers and the "Baby Think It Over" program conducted in both local high schools for all ninth-grade students. This program has helped to reduce the number of teen pregnancies in Transylvania County.

Every day, the Center hosts visits between children in foster care who are in the process of being adopted. There they meet their potential new family under the supervision of a social worker. Other visits may include children whose parents are in the judicial system and, by court order, are only allowed limited and supervised visits with one another.

The Children's Center could not operate its programs if it were not for the many dedicated volunteers who contribute long hours of service, nor would the Center be as productive if it were not for the generosity of the many contributors and supporters to whom we are most grateful.

UU Nations: Why Was Russia Allowed to Veto the UN Resolution on Ukraine?

If Russia abstained—as Article 27 of the UN Charter requires—the resolution would have passed.

Meeting Pandemic-Era Trauma with Choices and Radical Hospitality

Important for people to ‘feel a sense of agency, empowerment, and choice.’

Read these and other stories at [UU World!](#)

Live Our Democratic Values: Be a GA Delegate

Ian & Vanessa Cowie

It's April, so the UUA General Assembly (GA) isn't far away. Scheduled for June 22-26, this annual conference of UU congregations and fellowships will be a hybrid gathering—online and in Portland, Oregon. Calls are going out for UUs all over the country, and even the world: calls for people to attend, to sing in the choir, to be delegates.

So, you may say ... why should I care? More importantly, why should I consider becoming a delegate to represent UUTC at this annual gathering?

We're glad you asked. We were delegates from UUTC last year, and Ian has been a delegate from another UU congregation as well.

First, UUs are passionate about democracy. Our core values include seven principles we covenant to “affirm and promote.” Number five is “The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.”

At General Assembly, we see our movement walking that talk. And as a delegate, you can embody UU values alongside hundreds of others who are just as passionate as you are. (Like-minded or not, they won't agree with you on everything, but on the whole they'll welcome you to debate and decide.) The Assembly's systems and processes designed to make sure all are fairly represented are frustratingly complex and clumsy, yet beautifully expressive of our values. We've never participated in anything else quite like the general sessions at GA.



In this time, when the foundations of democratic institutions are being challenged in many ways, being a delegate offers a chance to champion our solidly democratic Association.

Second, delegates share a glimpse of the UUA's future and get to affect it at the ground level. Whatever your justice interest, there is a good chance there will be a resolution or proposal at GA addressing it and rallying delegates around it. Here are just three examples of social justice from the 2021 GA:

- *LGBTQIA+ rights were honored with approval of a resolution to end discrimination against trans, nonbinary, and intersex communities.*
- *The indigenous people of the land each speaker represented were recognized.*
- *Systemic injustice, and in particular racial injustice, was challenged by approving a Statement of Conscience called "Undoing Systemic White Supremacy."*

Adopting resolutions and voting for statements of conscience are not empty words—they are foundational to wider movements among UUs and reaching out into larger communities.

Third, delegates can really get to know the “big picture” of Unitarian Universalism. In our movement, we have congregational polity—each congregation is autonomous. We set our priorities and choose our own ministers and staff. We don't answer to an institutional hierarchy the way most mainstream Christian denominations do, for example.

But, joining with a larger body of UUs through our Association extends our mission and magnifies our reach. The UUA's mission is to equip congregations for health and vitality, to support and train lay and professional leaders, and to advance Unitarian Universalist values in the world. General Assembly delegates participate in that sacred work.

What We Create

Bart Renner

Every year at my middle school the 8th grade class was expected to do a re-creation of the passion of Christ on Good Friday. This was a big event at a big church, but during the rehearsals and trainings before Good Friday my classmates and I acted like complete hooligans. To us, this was just another thing that happened around Easter, and it was a great chance to get out of class and do something different with our friends. On the big day, we put on our contemporary biblical costumes and watched as hundreds

of people came into the church to watch our performance. It finally sank in what an important event this was to so many people. I played Joseph of Arimathea, and it was my job to coordinate taking Jesus's body down off the cross and make sure he had a proper burial. My friend Matt did an amazing job playing the role of Jesus. He had long 1990's grunge hair that made him look like the long-haired Anglo-Saxon Jesus I'd grown up with. As we went through the stations of the cross, acting them out, I started to experience each station myself. I had done this every year of my life, but this was the first time I realized that some version of this horrible, barbaric event actually did happen to a human being.



We went through all the stations and then at the end it was my big moment as Joseph. I was shaking when I took my friend Jesus down off the cross and lead the procession out of the church. Tears were streaming down my face, and when I could work up the courage to look at the crowd, I saw that that pretty much everyone else was in the same boat as me, deeply participating in an important spiritual experience. Probably also struggling to understand it.

While potentially traumatizing for a 14-year-old, this Easter was an extremely important step in my spiritual journey and dealing with adult situations. This was the first Easter where I saw more than a bedtime story, I saw others having an intense human experience, and I put myself in their shoes. The joy that I felt on the morning where I imagined that my good friend Jesus had come back to life was immense. Looking back, I see that this important experience was possible because I started to take personal responsibility for my own spiritual experience. I began to grapple with my spirituality while trying to understand this messy, beautiful, terrible, confusing, awe inspiring, (etc.) human experience.

UUTC is experiencing the same issues that many community organizations and (especially) churches are struggling with across the county. Many of our members continue to be worried about coming back in person or are struggling to overcome the inertia necessary to get back into that routine we had before the pandemic. *Perhaps many of us feel stuck, thinking that our spiritual experience is something that should happen TO US, instead of something we create?* Our church is not just our minister, or our choir, or our Sunday service. Our church is only as healthy as you, our membership. When we ask how healthy our church is, we have to ask how many people are stepping up to actively participate in this organization? This does not necessarily mean you like everyone at the church or even agree with everything that is being preached, it means that you believe in the importance of the impact this church has in our community and the safe space it creates for so many who may not have a voice.

Whether or not you observe Easter, it is impossible not to observe the new life springing up around you. Maybe you can see yourself in that budding tree, that dandelion, or that buzzing bee? This Easter UUTC is taking significant steps to bring new life back into the church. We are making masks optional, starting coffee hour again, and welcoming the choir more often. Share your spring energy with your friends and encourage them to join us here. We need all the bees, trees, flowers, etc, we can find to make this church community work!

Funding the Vision: Grow Getters

RK Young

Grow Getters has developed a big vision for this campus. Your response to both the Pi Day Pie Auction and the Faithify campaigns has been tremendous, meaning that they have some decent funds to start acquiring plants and soil amendments to ensure the success of those plants.



So how well did they do? The Faithify “Healing the Hellstrip” campaign drew \$1400 in contributions ... with a stated goal of \$900. We won’t receive quite that because of credit card fees. But what a psychological boost for this group that has been putting in multiple hours each week to purge the campus of invasive species!

Then there was the Pie Auction. What fun this was! There was a “Pie Origin Story” competition (winners: Krista Moore and, er, myself), and those attending got to discuss those with the pie bakers. There were Pi riddles on the wall (thanks, Eloise!), and then there were the BIDDING WARS. Holy moley! Pies fetched from \$30 to **\$110**... we raised \$1001 just on the bids. But THEN... well, folks who were paying in cash upped the ante, tossing in extra. And others mailed in checks. And by the time it was all said and done, the balance sheet revealed a fabulous \$1,236!

The most fun, however, were the high spirits. Maybe that was the wine, but I think folks were just glad to enjoy each other, masks off, to munch on cheese and brownies and poke fun at each other with the bidding. The top pies, in terms of bids, were Lisa McHenry with a **Mango** no-bake pie and Jim Null with a “pizza quiche” that he clearly stated was an experiment. A good time, had by all!

Coming on May 21st will be a Nothing But Natives plant sale. Our primary partner for this is Colonial Acres Nursery, just outside Rosman. Randy Hoover, former Friend of UUTC, will be handling the sales. They will gift 10% of their sales to UUTC’s Grow Getters, providing what we hope will be a good final push towards the SECOND project, led by Carol Roberson and Richard Mills, creating a bog garden in the embrace of the stones at the entrance to our main building.

May 21st is also the BIG DAY for the Healing the Hellstrip project. Grow Getters will have previously removed all of the **invasive liriopse** on the Broad street side of our parking lot. We hope you’ll turn out to help plant, or to buy a plant, and demonstrate to our local growers/retailers that WE WANT NATIVES! We will be rehabbing at least 200 square feet of “hellstrip” with native plants, all of them guaranteed to delight our indigenous insects. We want to DEMONSTRATE that beautiful spaces can be built with native species, and that they deserve to occupy every hellstrip in town, in addition to the yards of all who recognize the urgency of making homes for insects wherever we can.

Finally, Grow Getters is presenting this month’s Climate Series, using a video from Doug Tallamy and Ohio State University’s “Tending Nature” series as the kick off for discussion. This will be 6:30pm, Tuesday, with discussion after the video. Come see what’s cooking and how you can be involved!

Easter Sunday — MASKS OPTIONAL!

We are going mask-optional starting Easter Sunday! Up until that time we ask that you continue to wear masks of your choice at our Sunday Services. We can celebrate spring, Easter, the return of hope, coffee hour, children's egg hunt, canned goods collection, and **Rev. Bob will offer an optional between-service Communion Service** (adapted from the old red UU hymn book). And we can do it *deciding each for ourselves* whether we're wearing a mask on our face!

Listen, Listen, Listen to My Heart's Song

Rev. Bob Renjilian

We are emerging and awakening as COVID restrictions are lifted (See Easter Sunday!). To prepare for this moment I've been listening to quite a few in the congregation. It will be important that we all listen to each other, because from what I can tell we're excited, fearful, joyful, worried, cautious, and impatient. A New York Times article suggests that "Ultra Liberals" want mandates to continue (or they did when surveyed a month ago... but things may have shifted since then). Or that the 65 year olds are getting impatient for mask mandates to be lifted, while parents of young children are more likely to ask for masks for just a little longer. I don't see those groupings within our Unitarian Universalist congregation, but I have certainly heard the same types of pleas of various perspectives.



So when we're coming into April with each our own viewpoints, I'm asking that we honor one another by listening with an open heart.

Yes, our weekday mask rules at UUTC are changing quickly, first being lifted for small group meetings (but not Sundays) and then by Easter we'll be completely mask optional on Sundays. This is long overdue for some, and still seems a bit April Foolish or troubling for others. Be gentle with one another as you realize we don't all think alike.

My guess is I've been one of the more cautious ones here when at UUTC, especially for the sake of those in our worship community who are immune-compromised or who are in the same household with folks who needed extra protection. I even wore my mask at the mask-optional Pi-Day event at UUTC in March, taking it off only when tasting the cheese from the snack tray. But I've kept up with the research, and the most up-to-date science says we get good protection just relying on our own mask, *not needing others to do so*. "My mask protects me" - My heart had a weight lifted when that sank in.

Unitarian Universalists find ways in which our disagreements help enrich us. It's built into our Principles. May our love and respect for everyone, of all opinions on such subjects, allow us to be gentle listeners as we move forward together. I invite you to reach out to me if you are feeling unsettled by the idea that mask mandates will be phasing out.



April 2022 at UUTC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>The Children's Center is this month's Social Justice Giving</p>	<p>See Wayfinding newsletter for event details! Also check your UUpdates!</p>				<p>1 Wayfinding Newsletter Meals DUE for The Haven today</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3 9:00 am streamed 9 & 11 in-person service 4-6 pm OWL 5:30 pm BYOB at the RING</p>	<p>4 4:00 pm Moral Mondays @ Courthouse, Rain or Shine 10 am Caregivers Support Group 2 pm Grief Support Group</p>	<p>5 9 am Men's Grp Zoom 10-12 Grow Getters 11:30-1:30 Fellowship on the Green 4-5 Quiet Meditation 4 pm NAACP (mtg at #46 Varsity)</p>	<p>6 1:30-3 Women of UUTC 4 pm Social Action Team 4 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>7 3 pm French Conversation Grp</p>	<p>8 Check email for UUPDATE</p>	<p>9 ANNUAL BUILDING AND GROUNDS WORKDAY!</p>
<p>10 9:00 am streamed 9 & 11 in-person service 2 pm On Being (attendance limited)</p>	<p>11 5:00 pm Moral Mondays @ Courthouse, Rain or Shine</p>	<p>12 9 am Men's Grp Zoom 10-12 Grow Getters 11:30-1:30 Fellowship on the Green 4-5 Quiet Meditation 7 pm Climate Series Tending Nature, Doug Tallamy, OSU</p>	<p>13 6:30 pm Poetry & Meditation Class (closed) 4 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>14 3 pm French Conversation Grp 5:30 pm Rainbow Alliance</p>	<p>15 Check email for UUPDATE OWL Retreat at The Mountain</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 EASTER SUNDAY CHOIR SINGS 9:00 am streamed 9 & 11 in-person service</p>	<p>18 5:00 pm Moral Mondays @ Courthouse, Rain or Shine 10 am Caregivers Support Group 2 pm Grief Support Group</p>	<p>19 9 am Men's Grp Zoom 9 AM Special Work Day - Grow Getters 11:30-1:30 Fellowship on the Green 4-5 Quiet Meditation 7 pm Author Series with Dan Carter</p>	<p>20 1:30-3 Women of UUTC 4 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:30 Team Meeting Night</p>	<p>21 2 pm LHHH 3 pm French Conversation Grp</p>	<p>22 Check email for UUPDATE 4-7 pm Conserving Carolina Earth Day Event</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 9:00 am streamed 9 & 11 in-person service CHOIR SINGS 10:15-10:45 Talk About Pronouns—He, She, They, etc. 11 am OWL Closing Ceremony 12:30 Soul Matters Discussion** 3:30 Book Club</p>	<p>25 5:00 pm Moral Mondays @ Courthouse, Rain or Shine</p>	<p>26 9 am Men's Grp Zoom 10-12 Grow Getters 11:30-1:30 Fellowship on the Green 4-5 Quiet Meditation</p>	<p>27 6:30 pm Poetry & Meditation Class (closed)</p>	<p>28 3 pm French Conversation Grp 5:30 pm Board Meeting</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>**To receive the monthly reading packet for Soul Matters, email RevBob@uutc.org. Discussion is 4/24.</p>		<p>Current UUTC Office Hours RK Tues 10-2 Rev Bob and other staff by appointment.</p>				