



UU UPDATE

APRIL 17, 2015

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

WHY I AM A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

by Rev. Ernest L. Mills, Jr. — Sunday, April 5

Sunday Sermon

From time to time people ask what it was that drew me to Unitarian Universalism and why I chose to leave the denomination in which I was raised and ordained to become a fully fellowshiped minister in the UU church. The answer is fairly simple. I can put it in one word: freedom. I will share what it has meant to me to have found a community which honors, respects and cherishes individual freedom.

Please join us for worship on Sunday at 9:30 or 11:00 a.m., and for coffee and fellowship at 10:30.

State of the CALENDAR

With the implementation of our new website, there are some pieces which are fabulous and finished, and some which require UUTC Staff to get up-to-date. One of these pieces is the **UUTC Calendar**. Until the transition is complete, you can access the Calendar from the [Latest News](#) page of the website—you will find the link in the first paragraph of the page.

Sunday Children's Programs

Nursery care will be provided during both services. During the 11:00 service, Emily Atkinson and Heather Layton will conduct **Creating Home** in the classroom for children ages 4 to 8.

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Who Do You Turn To?



We are about to be without a seated Minister. What impact does this have on how UUTC will run in the immediate future? Here's some basic information to help you know what to expect.

The Gap Pastoral Team goes into action on May 1. In **MAY**, our Pastoral Minister will be **Rev. Earle Rabb**; in **JUNE**, it will be **Rev. Jean Rowe**, and in **JULY**, it will be **Rev. Dick Tucker**. While these

very fine individuals will be available to support more advanced ministry needs than might be handled by Loving Hearts, Helping Hands alone, they will keep only abbreviated office hours—specifically **Tuesday mornings from 10-12:00**. If you have something you wish to discuss, **an “on call” cell phone is being set up** to be passed to the members of the Gap Pastoral Ministry.

A frequently asked question has been, **“What authority do Teams have?”** Teams are free to operate as they see fit as long as they a) do not require an increase in funding and b) operate in accordance with the Team descriptions within the Organizational Structure and the Policy Manual. Current versions of these documents will be on the website by the end of April.

If a Team requires additional funding to do its job, the Team must make its request to the Finance Committee and Board. Finance will determine whether the funding can come from another line item, and make its recommendation to the Board.

Any Team or individual may request time at any Board meeting. Contact the Board President to put yourself on the agenda for the next meeting. Board authority is typically limited to policy and approval of funding.

If a request is made that a Team feels is “above its pay grade,” the Team should approach the Committee most closely aligned with the need (Property, Administration or Finance) for guidance. If no policy is found to support the action that the Team and Committee believe is appropriate, they may draft a policy proposal and submit it to the Board for approval.

During the gap period, when issues ordinarily handled by Ministry can't be handled in that manner, Teams will go to the Board.

Please remember that UUTC is a young congregation. We may not have guidance for every circumstance within the current Bylaws or Policy Manual, and we are entering a time for which our policies were not designed. These are living documents that grow with the congregation.

Who Do You Turn To will be continued . . . next week's newsletter will include an updated list of the leaders of our various Committees and Teams.

Thinking About Membership?

In just a couple of weeks, Ernie will no longer be around to conference with individuals who are considering becoming Members or Friends of UUTC. **If you would like to become a member during his tenure**, schedule time to talk with Rev. Ernie Mills today!

Flower Communion Sunday, May 3rd

On Sunday, May 3rd, Jean Rowe and the youth will lead us in a **traditional UU service** celebrating **unity** and **diversity** with a **UU Flower Communion**. Bring a flower or flowering branch—we will create giant bouquets, and each person takes a different flower home!



Written Gifts

A few folks have said that they have authored a piece of writing meant as a departure gift for Ernie. Their hope was to have them published in the Order of Service for the April 26 service.

You can understand that space and the expense of printing such a collection is not possible. However, if you have, or are creating, such a gift, please **print it** on an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper (do not fold) and leave it at the office for Alice Hardy, **OR** you can **send it as a word attachment** to Alice Hardy at hardy542@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name with your piece.

Please have your poem or prose turned in by April 20. **All writings will be collected in book form and given to Ernie on April 26.**

Music with Ernie!



As we all know, one of the very special things about our pastor at UUTC is his music. As

Ernie now prepares to move into retirement, there will be a special time to **enjoy and celebrate his music** as he performs for us one more time.

This is an invitation to join Ernie and the Eclectics on **Wednesday, April 22**, for a **light supper** and an evening of playing and singing the music that Ernie performs in his inimitable style.

Please sign up on the appropriate clipboard (or call the church at 828-877-6121 to be signed up) for supper at 5:30 and the musical program at 6:30.



Next Week at UUTC

Mindfulness Group – Mon 4/20 @ 7:00 pm

Men's Group – Tue 4/21 @ 9:00 am

New Jim Crow – Tue 4/21 @ 10:30 am

SMART Recovery – Tue 4/21 @ 6:00 pm

Eclectics Jam – Wed 4/22 @ 9:00 am

Dinner & the Eclectics – Wed 4/22 @ 5:00 pm

Sierra Club – Thur 4/23 @ 7:00 pm

Nursery Care on April 26th

NURSERY CARE for the April 26th service will be available **AT UUTC**. Families who wish to make use of this service on that morning are advised to **drop their children off with Kia at 10:00am** at the church, and then go on to the Rogow Room at the Library for the service beginning at 10:30am. The reception following the service will be back “on campus.”



Lunch with Ernie!

Ernie's last Sunday with UUTC will be on **April 26**. To enable our whole church family to be together, there will be **one service at 10:30 a.m.**, to be held in the Rogow Room of the Transylvania County Public Library.

Following the service we will walk over to UUTC for a **light lunch** catered by UUTC volunteers. We will have two serving lines, with small tables and seating clusters in the Sanctuary and foyer.

Please sign up on the appropriate clipboard (or call the church at 828-877-6121 to be signed up) to be included in this farewell lunch and celebration.

SAVE THE DATES!

May 5th at 7:00pm UUTC Congregational Forum

Progress report on the We Are Family Campaign

Q & A on the proposed 2015-2016 Budget

May 31st at 12:15pm UUTC Annual Meeting

Vote on the Budget

Election of Officers, Nominating Committee members



Children's Religious Exploration News

Special Message for Ernie — Stop in the Library from 10:30-noon on Sunday, **April 19**, to create a heart origami with a special message inside for Ernie. Hannah Fox will be showing folks how to create these special hearts. We will present our collection to Ernie on the April 26.

Youth Practice on Sunday — All youth who are singing with Ernie on April 26 are meeting with him to practice after the 11:00 service **this Sunday**. Refreshments will be provided, so plan to stay and sing with Ernie.

Youth Volunteers Needed for Flower Communion — We need youth volunteers for both the 9:30 and 11:00 services for a Flower Communion service on **May 3**. Jean Rowe will be leading this special, traditional service and youth involvement is very much encouraged. Contact Heather to volunteer, creutc@gmail.com

Teacher Assistant Needed — We need a Teacher Assistant for the Creating Home Sunday classes on **May 3** and **May 17**. Please let Heather Layton know if you can help out either day. They have fun!

Growing Through CRE

"I chose UUTC not only for myself but also for my children. It is a place that introduces religions, beliefs, and wisdom from the world to our youngest and most impressionable congregants. **Nurture and respect** are at the root of the lessons for our children, opening their hearts and minds to ideas that may not otherwise have a voice in their young lives. I feel this community truly values and respects the youth and fully supports their efforts in finding an individual and unique path."



—Brigid Fox

VOLUNTEER OPENINGS: Take a Turn / Take Care of UUTC

TEAM OPENINGS: Please contact Rev. Ernie Mills or the contact person listed below.

Adult Religious Exploration	Two team members	Dave Hunter at dwhunter53@aol.com
Equal Exchange	Team leader with Excel skills	June Litchfield at 877-5058
Personnel	Team leader & member	Ernie Mills at ernestm@comporium.net or 828-877-6121
Social Action	Team leader	Janet Benway at 828-884-8830
Stewardship	Multiple openings	Dave Roberts at 828-553-4461 or dave@robertslink.net

COMMITTEE OPENINGS: Please contact Board President Peg Hall at 828-553-7541 or peghall1@gmail.com.

Administration Committee	Two members
Finance Committee	Three members
Property Committee	One member

ELECTIVE OFFICE OPENINGS: Members, please contact Isabel Lynch, at 828-877-4170 or isabelplynch@gmail.com.

Board Member-at-Large

Nominating Committee Member

Serving the UUTC community rewards you with the SATISFACTION that comes from supporting a congregation that you love; the growth of your leadership skills; and the camaraderie that exists among team and committee members. Try it—you'll like it!

Susan Slocum, Secretary of the Board



SOCIAL ACTION TEAM NEWS

Social Action for April—The Children's Center



This month the Social Action Team is sponsoring The Children's Center of Transylvania County, a non-residential house that offers many programs created to educate and aid the families of abused and neglected children.

In operation for over 25 years, The Children's Center was created and continues to be run primarily by volunteers who advocate for children in crisis. Money is used to support a number of programs within the county including, ***Baby Think It Over*** (aimed at preventing teenage pregnancy),

The Nurturing Program (providing trained volunteers to guide parents in constructive and loving approaches to discipline), **emergency funds** for parents with ill children, **counseling** for families in crisis, and a safe and welcoming **place** for children in foster care to visit with their parents under the guidance of professionals.

For further information on the Center and volunteer and contribution opportunities, please contact **Alice Hardy**, one of its founding members, at 862-6969.

Human Trafficking Presentation

A personal and compelling multi-media presentation called ***The 30 Million*** will be shown at Blue Ridge Community College in Hendersonville. The purpose of the presentation is to raise awareness of human trafficking and to offer ideas about how to help prevent children from a life of entrapment. It will be held on **Tuesday, April 28**, from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the Technology Education and Development Center, Cortland Room. The cost is \$5.00.



[A History of Involvement](#)

Have you checked out the "DO" page on the new UUTC website? New members, especially, may be interested in some of the history of how UUTC members and friends have impacted our local community for the good. Quotes from Janet Benway, Joanna Bliss and Jane Hilliard are featured. Insights from these individuals help to explain why they find participation in Social Action so meaningful.

Pat Donohue in Concert at UUTC TONIGHT! Friday April 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Versatile guitarist's guitarist, Pat Donohue is a Grammy-winning fingerpicker. For more than fifteen years he was the lead guitar player for the *Guy's All Star Shoe Band* on the NPR favorite *Prairie Home Companion*. **He enjoys entertaining fans** with intricate fingerpicking, easy wit, and nimble interpretations of old blues, swing, R&B and original tunes.



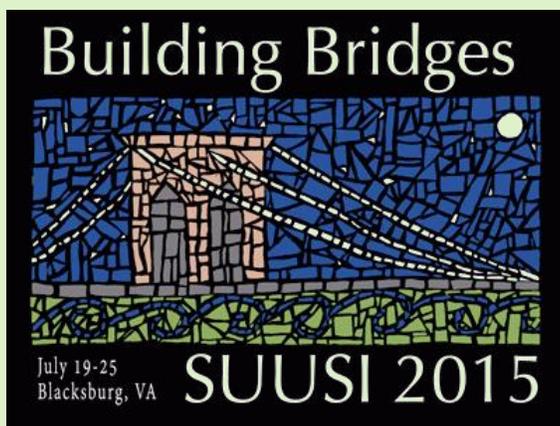
“Donohue is a clever songwriter who uses **intelligent, creative rhymes** and wastes few words. His instrumentals display his characteristic of clarity and ingenuity, combining the essential qualities of the originals with his own recognizable fresh sound. He brilliantly mixes register changes, picking variations and tricks, and bass line melodies. Even the simplest musical conventions take on a richness under his fingers.”—*Acoustic Guitar Magazine*

This is a great opportunity to hear a National Guitar Master in the sanctuary here at UUTC. You will meet Pat and have an opportunity to purchase one of his great CD's. If you stay to the end, he will teach you to play ***Ain't Misbehavin'***.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Show at 7:00 p.m.

Donation: \$15.00 Adults, \$10.00 Students (includes NC Sales Tax)

Tonight's the Night! The event is open seating... come early to claim your preferred seat!



Building Bridges

Looking for something different to do this summer? Consider joining Heather Layton, Lynn Halsey, Elizabeth Thompson and Sue & Jim Null along with more than 1,200 UUs from all over the Southeast and beyond for **SUUSI** (Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute). **It's a family camp, conference, spiritual retreat, and nature adventure** mixed with wonderful age-specific programming as well as a

vibrant nightlife.

Intrigued? Curious? Questions? Contact Elizabeth Thompson at etville@gmail.com or Lynn Halsey at lghalsey@comporium.net for more information. Or you may go to www.suusi.org for general information. The first registration deadline (\$50 discount) is May 15th.



"We are the certain and the seeking, the lifers and the newcomers, the beloved and the brokenhearted, the insiders and the rejected, all of whom have found a home in the extraordinary, yet intimate, communities of Unitarian Universalism."

Melissa Harris-Perry, MSNBC Host

UUTC Mission Statement

Our mission is to create a community that encourages free spiritual discovery and growth, celebrates personal and religious diversity, and promotes active, responsible involvement in the larger community.

Join Us!

Discover what it means to have a personal faith which is anchored by diversity and acceptance. Join in Sunday services with the Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County. Contact information is below.

KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!

VIEW our [church calendar](#).

ACCESS [previous issues](#) of UUpdate.

SEND news for this newsletter by close of business on Wednesdays. Please include date(s), a description, and the contact person's name and telephone or email address. Send to news@uutc.org.

SCHEDULE events on the UUTC calendar by sending an email to calendar@uutc.org with the date, start and end times, space to be used, and contact person.

CONTACT US

Our minister is the Rev. Ernest L. Mills, Jr.

Church office hours are Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until noon. The church telephone number is 828-877-6121.

Our mailing address is UUTC, PO Box 918, Brevard, NC 28712.

Our email address is uutcadmin@comporium.net.

Our church is located at 24 Varsity Street, at the corner of South Broad Street in Brevard.