

# UUTC UPDATE

JULY 29th, 2016



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

## IT'S HUCKLEBERRY TIME! by Rev. Shelly Webb

Sunday, July 31st at 9:30 and 11:00am

Remember the feeling of stepping off of one's back porch, having no other agenda than to encounter whatever was there with all of one's senses? There is an art to living moments in life with no maps or expectations-- only a sense of awe and curiosity. Henry David Thoreau believed the world had so much to teach us if we went outside just to experience it, not to dominate, exploit or sell it. We will explore cultivating life opportunities that leave us in awe.

JOIN US FOR COFFEE BETWEEN SERVICES AT 10:30AM

## IT'S A NEW FISCAL YEAR!

Knew you'd be excited about that. Using Vanco for online pledging? Your pledge **will not automatically renew**, so visit Vanco today to renew your pledge!



## NEXT WEEK at UUTC

**Chair Yoga** — Mon 8/1 @ 11:00am

**Morning Meditation** — Tues 7/26 @ 7:00am

**Men's Group** — Tues 7/26 @ 9:00am

**Eclectics Jam** — Wed 7/27 @ 9:30am

**Being Group** — Wed 7/27 @ 1:00pm

**Wisdom of Faith** — **Wed 7/27 @ 6:00pm**

**Morning Meditation**—Thurs 7/28 @ 7:00am

**Drum Circle**—**Thurs 8/4 @ 7:00pm**

**Living the Tao** — Fri 8/5 @ 10:30am

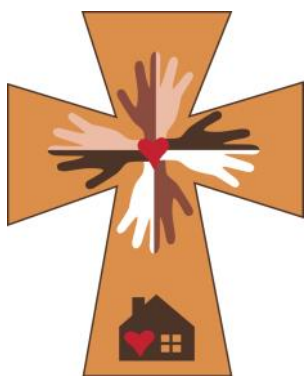
**Vitality Yoga** — Fri 8/5 @ 1:30pm

# SOCIAL ACTION TEAM NEWS

## SOCIAL ACTION FOR JULY— MINISTER’S DISCRETIONARY FUND



The Minister’s Discretionary Fund assists people who are facing an emergency or crisis but are not eligible for other community services. During the transition between ministers, our Pastoral Care fill-ins, Dick Tucker, Jean Rowe and Earle Rabb, may request these funds on behalf of an individual in distress. The President of the Board signs the checks until a minister is “in the house.” Once a minister is in place, only the minister knows to whom these funds are gifted. Checks are written to utilities or other agencies on behalf of the supplicant. **Welcome our new minister, Rev. Ian White Maher, with a healthy balance in this fund!**



July is a month with FIVE Sundays, so UUTC will be **collecting food for Sharing House this Sunday**. Baskets will be available in the lobby for your donations on July 31.

The non-food items most needed by Sharing House are diapers, (sizes 5 and 6), laundry detergent, tampons (super), toilet paper, and paper towels. These items cannot be purchased with food stamps.

## UUTC & NAACP TEAM UP TO GET OUT THE VOTE — GRANT WON!

The Fund for UU Social Responsibility offers grants of up to \$500 to assist Unitarian Universalist congregations with work towards:

- **Increasing the direct involvement of UUs in service, advocacy and/or community organizing to create justice in the larger community.**
- **LinkUnitarian Universalists with the larger community.**
- **Foster a generosity of spirit and action in all aspects of our UU communities.**

To that end, your Social Action Team worked with our local NAACP on a grant package aimed at “Getting Out The Vote” — with the intent that those individuals who have suffered voting rights setbacks could be assisted in regaining their rights. The grant succeeded, and you will hear more soon!

## TIME TO SIGN UP! PHOTO DIRECTORY SHOOT, SATURDAY, JULY 30TH

The excellent team of Mark Allison and Barbi Smith will be producing Great Works on Saturday, July 30th. Images from the photo shoot are used in our online database, accessible from the fantastic *Church Life* app on your smartphone or tablet. They also are used in our Photo Directory, given to new Members and Friends and available for purchase by others (hard copy) for \$7. If you are content with a digital version, the Administrator will be happy to email a copy to you upon request.



**Call Barbi Smith to get on the schedule—help everyone put names to faces. You folks with kids—THEY GET BIGGER. Update that family portrait! Reach Barbi at 828-384-9092.**

## BUILDING UPDATES

Pictured below you see a hutch—picked up by Paula for office storage—repurposed as our consumable supply cabinet of paper towels, toilet paper and hand soap. It is located in the women's restroom. The minister's office has been re-configured to provide adequate desk space but a greater amount of usable floor space to better accommodate small meetings. Donations from Paula of this



cabinet, a file cabinet, office bookcases and office chair have helped greatly to improve the working conditions for our next interim and also for our bookkeeper.

SAFE has benefitted from donations of old bookcases and less ergonomic office equipment and seating.

## BUILDING UPDATES, CONTINUED



Our first big expenditure (as in, over \$1000) in bringing the building up functionality for our current needs is the updating of our alarm system.

On page 7 of our policy manual is this: **Safety and Insurance.** *UUTC's building and property shall be in full compliance with all safety codes and requirements, be properly insured and securely protected.*

Maintaining any property up to code means keeping up with changes in code. Even if a property is “grandfathered in,” the spirit of that law would require that we make changes to the property to ensure the safety of our Members and Friends and the building itself. Hence upgrades to our alarm system, and soon, repairs to our sidewalk. The sidewalk repairs will provide for handicapped-accessible egress from *both* of our sanctuary “rear exits” as well as repairing the cracks that have developed at the front entrance. Both of these projects were made possible by contributions to the Sponsored Projects recommended by the Board.

Our AV/Tech room, which also provides “housing” for the bookkeeper and our Director of CRE, Heather Layton, is becoming more functional. First, we used Ernie's old desk to provide appropriate working space for the bookkeeper, Sue Gervais. Then we moved in the bookcase/drop desk to provide dedicated space for Heather, because meetings needed to happen in the smaller classroom. And finally, we removed the old gray lateral file cabinet out in favor of a locking 4-drawer unit—necessary for the security of our financial records. This file cabinet had been purchased by Paula during her time here—she knew we needed it. Removal of the gray lateral file gave everyone in the space more room to work. Office materials that had been stored in the lateral file have been moved to... the office! More developments to come!





# Mission & Vision

The Mission/Vision Task Force was chartered after the March “Values Workshop” as part of the UUTC Congregation-wide strategic planning effort.

There is nothing “wrong” with the current Mission Statement (on display in the social hall), but we as a congregation have changed and grown since it was adopted 10 years ago. ***It is appropriate and necessary to renew our Mission and Vision as we grow as a Congregation.*** Our current transition to a new settled minister also indicates a need for a robust strategic planning effort.

Remember that a Mission Statement answers only the following questions:

***1) Why are we here? 2) What is our reason for being?***

After 3 months of hard work, the Mission/Vision Task Force finalized a new Mission statement for UUTC. **Our Mission, as a welcoming, inclusive community is:**

**To act from love, compassion and respect**

**To support individual spiritual journey**

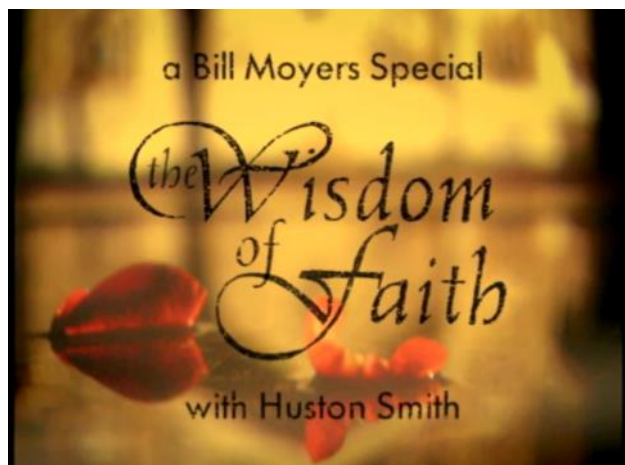
**To promote social, economic and environmental justice in the world.**

This Mission has been endorsed by The Governance and Ministry Advisory Council (GMAC) and our Board of Directors. However, it needs to be endorsed and supported by all our Members and Friends. To this end, we are asking for your reaction. You can speak with members of the Task Force after this service in the lobby. You can also e-mail any of us at any time. If you are a Comporium email user, you will have to email members individually; others may use [mission@uutc.org](mailto:mission@uutc.org) to reach all members.

## **Members of the Mission/Vision Task Force**

Mallory Carter • Susan Bir • Terry Davies • Bill Edmonds  
Joan Lemire • Virginia MacDonald • David Warinner

## BILL MOYERS SERIES “WISDOM OF FAITH” CONTINUES THIS WEEK



UUTC Adult Religious Exploration is offering a 5-session viewing and discussion of “Bill Moyers: The Wisdom of Faith with Huston Smith.” This series is **similar in format** to the video series “Bill Moyers and Joseph Campbell: The Power of Myth” presented last year at UUTC.

**In this program, Moyers discusses the world’s great faith traditions with Huston Smith**, viewed as the world’s foremost scholar on that subject. Smith is

also the author of “The World’s Religions”, an introductory study that has sold over 2 million copies worldwide. **The remaining sessions are on August 3, August 10, August 31 and September 7 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.**

## DRUM CIRCLE—THURSDAY @ 7:00PM

Led by Doug Bennett, come join Joyce Pearsall and others for an hour of healthy drumming! If you do not have a drum of your own, plenty are available to use. Don’t miss out on the fun! Free of charge.



## COMING SOON: GAME NIGHT!

Friday, August 19th, 5:30pm, Game Night returns! An online sign-up will be available soon. Mark your calendars now—childcare provided!



## COMING SOON: TAP NIGHT!



Our next Fellowship On Tap will be on **MONDAY, August 27th**, at 5:30. We will return to Ecusta Brewing— you can order in from Wine Down, if you’d like something delectable to go with your lovely brew (or if you didn’t have time to eat before arriving!). Parking is available off Jordan Street beside the salon and Brevard Insurance.

## CHALICE CAMP!

Heather still needs adult volunteers...she only has 3, and they are part time. Currently we have **24 children** on the list and **no co-instructor, just Heather, so all help is needed and welcome.** Even if folks want to come in and just prepare snacks between 10am-11am, that would be very helpful.



Find the good. It's all around you.  
Find it, showcase it and you'll start  
believing in it.

— Jesse Owens —

The small classroom will be the Olympic Village that week, so it will be filled up with some pretty cool creations. All are welcome to take a look at what's inside. Here is a quote about the Olympic Village:

An article in the Los Angeles Times after the 1932 games reveals the concern some had about the Village:

*"Never," was the general opinion. "You can't pen men of all nations together; men from countries, perhaps, who believe they have age-old hatreds; young men whose races, beliefs and ideals conflict." But Los Angeles did it. They were not penned, these men from all over the world; they were offered a beautiful home that became more than home to them.*

*Besides the practical advantages in cost and transportation of having all the athletes housed together near the venues, the Olympic Village is seen as encouraging the Olympic Spirit, allowing athletes from around the world to spend time together away from the competition. At the closing ceremonies in Sochi 2014, IOC president Thomas Bach said to the athletes:*

*By living together under one roof in the Olympic Village you send a powerful message from Sochi to the world: that of a society of peace, tolerance and respect. I appeal to everybody implicated in confrontation, oppression, and violence to act on this Olympic message of dialogue and peace."*

August 9th-11th is preschool (ages 3-5) and the following week is full-on regular Chalice Camp.

[Email Heather now!](#)

## TAKING CARE OF OUR SPIRITUAL HOME

### TIME FOR A CAMPUS CLEAN-UP! (AND —ARE THESE THINGS YOURS?)

In the short term, we have accumulated a number of jackets, hats and other things in our closet and in our Lost & Found. **Please take a look and see if you are missing anything!** These items will be donated to SAFE if we cannot locate owners soon, as they have been here for more than a couple of months, already.



Mark your calendars for **Saturday, August 27th**. We need to clean/paint the walls of the Social Hall and Kitchen and a few other tasks, such as cleaning our folding chairs. **Lunch will be provided to fuel your efforts!**

Plan on making it a family affair—those the most young at heart can man the hose as we scrub down the chairs...it will likely be a hot day, so let's make it "refreshing!" Childcare will be provided for our youngest, probably at the park.



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW: JASON DECRISTOFARO LIVE @ UUTC!

Coming August 26th— come enjoy this incredible jazz player/composer, accompanied by Cameron Austin on bass. Read more on [our website!](#)

### FREE DEMO—FUNCTIONAL FITNESS: AGELESS GRACE



**Wednesday, August 3rd from 2:00-3:00pm**, Certified Ageless Grace Educator/Trainer Carol Gerson will lead an interactive Ageless Grace Demonstration in the social hall. Based on the science of neuroplasticity, this fitness program stimulates all 5 areas of the brain, re-opening neural pathways and creating new ones.

Practiced to up-beat age-appropriate music addressing primary aging skills Balance, Breathing, Coordination, Joint Mobility, Agility, Spinal Flexibility, Muscle Strength, Humor, Self-Confidence and more. The perfect way to engage our organs and systems in our bodies. (All movements in this seated class can be modified to accommodate your comfort level.)



## YOUR WORSHIP TEAM WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU

The UUTC Worship Team is always interested in getting feedback from congregants about anything and everything related to our Sunday services. Our mission is to make UUTC services as meaningful and enjoyable as possible.



While we have always been open to input, until now there was no specific way in which comments could be sent directly to our attention. Our feedback, therefore, often came in the form of on the fly verbal observations and suggestions on Sunday, informal conversations at other church functions, or inputs to the minister, administrator, etc.

**Here is a NEW address to which you can send your thoughts with confidence that our whole team will see them— [worship@uutc.org](mailto:worship@uutc.org).** We will always acknowledge receipt of your emails so that you know we have read them.

Obviously we won't implement every suggestion, but there will no doubt be some issues about which we receive a substantial amount of commentary and those issues will go to the top of our team discussion list. It is our hope that some of your ideas will be instrumental in making our services the best they can be by optimally meeting the needs of the congregation.

Thanks in advance for letting us know what's on your mind.

Alice Hardy, Joanna Bliss, John Dreier, Gypsy Richardson

## FIRST SUNDAY SANDWICH SUNDAY — AUGUST 7TH

### BRING AN EXTRA SANDWICH AND INVITE A VISITOR TO STAY!



The Membership Team offers a monthly opportunity to break bread, connect more with friends and to welcome newcomers. Join us on August 7th, after our 11:00am service that morning.

Please bring a **sandwich** for yourself, a finger food **munchie** to share (such as fruit, pretzels, raw veggies, popcorn, cheese cubes) and a folding **chair** or blanket for seating, and a ball, Frisbee or other simple toy if activity is desired.

The Membership Team will set up tables in the park (weather permitting) and provide lemonade (and some extra sandwich makings for those who forget or were not informed). Come prepared to picnic rain or shine! We will remain indoors if necessary.



*"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

*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.*

**Inclusive. Intentional. INVOLVED.**



Read the latest UUA Southern Region Newsletter [HERE!](#)



**SOUTHERN REGION**

### **KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!**

VIEW our [church calendar](#). This is the calendar which has ALL events.

For previous issues of the UU Update, click [HERE](#).

SEND news for this newsletter by 10:00am on Wednesdays.

### **CONTACT US**

For Pastoral Care, call **828-553-9410**.

Church office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until noon and by appointment. The church telephone number is **828-877-6121**. Our mailing address is UUTC, PO Box 918, Brevard, NC 28712. Our website is [www.uutc.org](http://www.uutc.org). Our church is located at 24 Varsity Street, at the corner of South Broad Street in Brevard. Our email address is [admin@uutc.org](mailto:admin@uutc.org).