

UUTC UPDATE

NOVEMBER 4th, 2016



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

THE FETISH OF BE HERE NOW

by Rev. Ian White Maher

Sunday, November 6th at 9:30 and 11:00am

So many of us long for a mythical place spoken of in books by wise sages, a place beyond the frenzy of our own distractions called the present moment. We worship "the present moment" as if it is the cure for our busy lives. This worship is itself a fantasy that ferries us away from our real lives.

Join us for coffee between services at 10:30am

COMMUNITY PRAYER SERVICE

Brevard College, Dunham Auditorium,
Mon, Nov. 7th 5:30-6:45pm

A pre-election interfaith prayer service for those in our community who want to make room for post-election healing. Regardless of what the election results will be, our nation is going to be in an angry space. We gather this night to begin the conversation on how to help us return to sanity.

Rev. Sharad Creasman, Chaplain of Brevard College, will lead a conversation based on Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. passage "We must learn to live together as brothers and sisters, or perish together as fools." He will be joined by Rev. Rob Field, Rev. Alison Cheek, Rev. Carter Heyward, Rev. Robert Kilgore, Rev. Shelly Webb and others. Ms. Katie Smathers will provide music.

STOP ACTING SO SMALL, YOU ARE
THE UNIVERSE IN ECSTATIC MOTION. —RUMI

NEXT WEEK at UUTC

Growing Younger — Mon 11/7 @ 11:00am

Men's Group — Tues 11/8 @ 9:00am

Eclectics Jam — Wed 11/9 @ 9:30am

Cabinetry Install—Wed 11/9 All Day, Tentative

Being Group — Wed 11/9 @ 1:00pm

Choir Rehearsal—Wed 11/9 @ 4:00pm

Wonderful Wednesday— 11/9 @ 5:30pm

Rainbow Alliance— Thurs 11/10 @ 5:00pm

Living the Tao — Fri 11/11 @ 10:30am

Vitality Yoga — Fri 11/11 @ 1:30pm

Health Care Navigators— Sat 11/12 all day

SOUPER SUNDAY! (SOMETIMES KNOWN AS “SANDWICH” SUNDAY)

This week is SOUPer Sunday! Given the season, we'll provide some SOUP to get things moving! Connect with Members, friends and visitors after the 11:00 service. Bring bread, fruit, veggies, chips, dip or other finger foods to share. Donations appreciated to offset the cost. Meets in the UUTC Social Hall. Questions? Call Meighan Browning!



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY—NOVEMBER 9TH

“Oil & Water: The Challenge of Mixing Science and Politics”

On the day after the election, Brevard College Professor of Ecology and Environmental Studies Dr. Robert J. Cabin will discuss the challenges of using ‘science-based’ policies to solve our problems and resolve our political and philosophical differences.

Dr. Cabin has written numerous professional and general audience articles on the complex relationship between academic science and its practical application in the messy real world. He has also authored two books: *Intelligent Tinkering; Bridging the Gap Between Science and Practice*, and *Restoring Paradise: Rethinking and Rebuilding Nature in Hawaii*.

Dr. Cabin has been on the faculty at Brevard College since 2005 and coordinates the College’s Environmental Studies major. Before coming to Brevard College he taught at Kenyon College and the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. Previously, he worked in Hawaii as a Post-Doctoral Fellow in Restoration Ecology at the National Tropical Botanical Garden.

Reservations are a must for dinner! Fire code regulations require that we limit seating for dinner to 80. There is no charge for dinner, but donations are gratefully received to assist with covering the cost. Reservations for dinner may be made through the sign-up sheet at the front counter, or by calling the office at 877-6121 or by [emailing the Admin](#). No reservations are needed to attend the program.

Dinner served at 5:30PM, Program begins at 6:30PM. Childcare available!

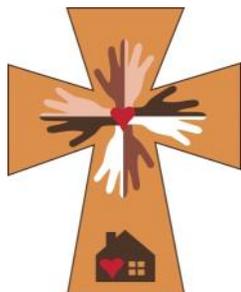




SOCIAL ACTION FOR NOVEMBER— UUSC

UUSC, the **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee**, is Social Action's agency for November and is our only monthly agency which supports people outside Transylvania County and NC. UUSC is a leading voice for human rights and social justice in the United States and in 21 countries around the world. UUSC focuses on [Environmental Justice](#), [Economic Justice](#), and [Rights At Risk](#). UUSC also responds to disasters, defending the rights of marginalized and oppressed populations who are often left out of recovery efforts.

Cash or checks written to UUSC are most welcome. **Individual or family contributions of \$125 or more are eligible to be matched dollar for dollar** by the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock, in Manhasset, N.Y.-- **doubling the impact of your gift**. If you wish your donation to be devoted to the recent hurricane disaster in Haiti, write "Haiti Relief" on the memo line.



GIANT THANKS & PACK THE PANTRY TIME

HUGE thanks for **198 pounds** of food donated last Sunday!

UUTC attendees frequently say they'd like to be helpful in ways other than writing a check. Here's your chance. Twice a year, Sharing House sponsors a food drive to help fill their shelves for needy people. Will you consider giving an hour of your time between 9:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 12, to ask Food Lion shoppers if they'd be willing to purchase a few items for Sharing House? **Sign-up at the front counter!**

SUPPORTING OTHERS WITH SPACE

One of the ways in which UUTC makes a difference in our community is by providing space for other groups that work to realize our joint missions.

The newest of these groups is the Rainbow Alliance, which works to support the LGBTQ community. Other groups that meet here at UUTC are the Living Wage Coalition (monthly), SMART Recovery (weekly), the ACA Health Care Navigator Enrollment (annually) and the Sierra Club (nearly monthly). UUTC accepts contributions from these groups depending on the nature of their work, the space they use and the resources they need to make their meetings work, and only those groups addressing goals consistent with our mission are provided with meeting space in our building.



YOUTH CON REGISTRATION IS LIVE!

Youth CON registration is **LIVE** on The Mountain website! Contact [Heather](#) for more information!

Elementary CON Nov18-20 • Intermediate CON Dec 2-4 • High School CON Dec 9-11

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Youth CON fundraiser Bake Sale last Sunday. We earned just under \$350, which is enough to send 3 youth and two adult chaperones to The Mountain. Speaking of adult chaperones, we are in need of UUTC male supervisors to attend both the Elementary CON and the High School CON. If you would be interested in spending the weekend at The Mountain with some pretty awesome youth, please contact Heather. Our youth are unable to attend without supervisors from our congregation and each year we struggle to find male supervision. The time commitment is from Friday evening through Sunday early afternoon. It is **FUN** and you are helping to truly enrich the lives of UU youth.

Click [here](#) to get your Taking It Home for Moral Tales lesson for Session 6!



SYSTEM & CAMPUS UPDATES

CLASSROOM CABINETY— is scheduled for installation NEXT WEDNESDAY, the 9th. With luck, this will be complete in time for Wonderful Wednesday! (Paid for with Sponsored Projects funds.)

Technology Updates – New rechargeable batteries were purchased (at Mark Allison's recommendation) for our microphones and hearing assistance devices. We are also replacing a broken headset for these devices. Once the cabinetry is in, a new flat screen TV and DVD player will be installed in the cabinet void in the large classroom to better facilitate the Adult RE groups using the space, as well as Search and other Teams requiring the ability to teleconference. (\$325) The new TV and DVD (and associated cabling) was covered with Sponsored Projects funds. The older technologies that were part of our older, large TV and DVD/VCR decks were no longer cooperating with those wishing to use them... the updated equipment should make the process much less challenging.

Under consideration is a second over-the-ear microphone and transmitter to ensure that our Lay Ministers will be able to be heard clearly and without frustration by all without requiring our Minister to pass around his designated microphone. The microphone itself is \$218 and the bodypack transmitter is \$200.



A previous campus update, in use...

This Friday (today!), a **new network BizHub** will be installed. This printer/copier/scanner will allow us to start coding expenses to the Teams needing this service, as well as reduce our annual printing costs by about \$1000. The Cost Accounting that the coding will provide will make the job of budgeting easier by separating out the printing costs of Teams from those that just fall under Administration. This will give Teams a much more realistic idea of what their budgets need to be, so far as expensing costs associated with printing. The BizHub is being leased, with maintenance included in that lease—as is ink, which has been one of our big expenditures.

The other reason for installation of the BizHub is our new Document Retention policy, which will allow the office to archive documents that may need to be accessed sometime in the future, but are not important enough to keep immediately on hand. The BizHub can handle multi-page document scans, and since it is network accessible, will simplify the storage of these files on the network. This will allow us to slowly slim down the amount of real estate (storage space!) we have invested in old records.



GREEN SANCTUARY — A UUA INITIATIVE

from the UUA website:

Now in its sixth edition, the Green Sanctuary Program provides a path for congregational study, reflection, and action for today's environmental challenges - including climate change and environmental justice. Successful completion results in Green Sanctuary accreditation: a formal recognition of a congregation's service and dedication to the Earth.

Congregations begin by examining their current environmental impact, then move towards developing sustainable practices grounded in Unitarian Universalism. There are four focus areas:

[Environmental Justice](#) acknowledges that marginalized communities are often hit first and hardest by environmental crisis. In partnering with these communities we are able to address human and environmental needs at the same time. Environmental Justice emphasizes a shift from [providing charity to working in solidarity](#) with the communities most affected by climate change.

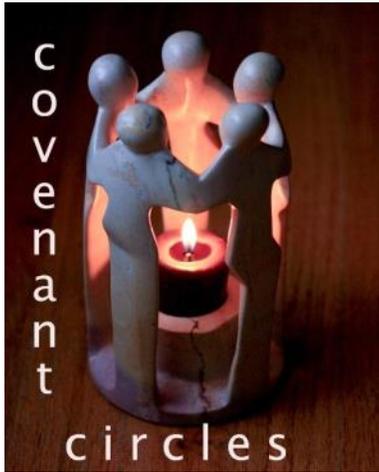
[Worship and Celebration](#) is the heart of Unitarian Universalism. As we work together towards a cleaner, more just and sustainable world, worship enables us to stay connected to each other and to celebrate the work we have accomplished.

[Religious Education](#) shapes more than just minds. It shapes attitudes and practices.

[Sustainable Living](#) requires us to treat the world more gently by using fewer resources and being mindful of the choices we make.

An example of an Environmental Justice project would be “Congregation works with area interfaith group to pull together diverse stakeholders to amicably develop a plan to preserve an endangered local fish. (UUA)” Given the warming of our area and the loss of hemlocks, this could be more real than we imagine—our trout may be in danger. Religious Education offers a number of opportunities to grow as a congregation and in partnership with our community. In the Sustainable Living focus, UUTC is already doing a number of the things encouraged by the program—we are already leaning this direction. What would be a project you would like to see completed?

Follow the included links to learn more about these 4 areas of implementation. The UU Fellowship of Hendersonville is already a Green Sanctuary. This is an opportunity for us to Walk the Talk, with a structure that encourages our spiritual involvement in the practices that we chose to pursue. If you like the idea, email GREEN@UUTC.ORG and tell us what's on your mind!



UUTC COVENANT CIRCLES ARE COMING!

Small Group Ministry Covenant Circles will be forming soon, with the first meetings scheduled for November. Covenant Circles will meet twice a month at UUTC from November through May for approximately two hours each meeting.

There are many ways to grow spiritually. Covenant Circles provide a uniquely effective way of doing so. The Circles are small, 6 to 10 members, so everyone gets a chance to speak. Topics are known ahead

of time so members have a chance to reflect, meditate, read and write before we meet. We share our own experiences, thoughts, insights. Since there is no cross-talk, advice-giving or fixing, we are free to listen deeply and compassionately, not needing to think of a reply or comment on what is being said. In Covenant Circles this is known as “deep listening,” truly hearing one another. Through this, we build community.

The Covenant Circle sessions will follow the themes presented by our interim minister, Rev. Ian Maher, in his sermons. Beginning with November the monthly themes are: Surrender, Stillness, Grace, Pilgrimage, Threshold, Commitment, Celebration.

Our first Covenant Circle will be meeting on Wednesday, November 9th. Meeting time will be either 10 am to 12 pm or 1:30 pm to 3:30pm, depending on the preference of the majority of those registering.

If you are interested in being part of this UUTC Small Group Ministry, or for more information, please contact Joan Lemire at 828-231-9259 or Karla Maar at 828-384-0078. Covenant Circles require more of a commitment to the other individuals of the group; when you call, Joan or Karla will explain more.

COULD YOU BE A HAVEN VOLUNTEER?

Several members of UUTC volunteer at The Haven, our local homeless shelter. More are needed because some volunteers take off for Florida in the cooler weather. Sue Null will be there **Thursday evening, Nov. 17, from 8 pm to 8 am**; come join her for a short visit to see what The Haven is all about. [Email Sue](#) to get directions or ask other questions!

BICYCLE NEEDED - St. Philip's Church's Prison Ministry Team is seeking a donation of a used bicycle for an inmate who is being released soon. He is a tall man, and a local bike shop said a "large frame" - i.e. 19 inches - would be the right fit. If you have a bicycle in good condition that you no longer need, please contact Jim Hardy - 862-6969, or Dick Tucker - 862-6447. Thanks!



"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

Our Minister is Rev. Ian White Maher. Reach him at ian@uutc.org or by calling (877) 510-5603.

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. Our church is located at 24 Varsity Street, at the corner of South Broad Street in Brevard. Our email address is admin@uutc.org.