

UUTC UPDATE

NOVEMBER 25th, 2016

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

PARTICIPATION IS THE WAY TO CHANGE THE WORLD

by Michael Collins

Sunday, November 27th at 9:30 and 11:00am

“Community = Come Unity. We will be discussing our one human local family of which we all are a part, and how much we have to give thanks for.”

Join us for coffee between services at 10:30am

HOLIDAY CENTERPIECES

We'll be making Holiday Centerpieces again this year on Tuesday, December 6 at 10:30 in UUTC foyer. You make 3, keep 2 and donate one. We'll be distributing to our UUTC seniors. See sign up sheet in foyer for more details.



Change only takes place
through action, not through
meditation and prayer.

Dalai Lama XIV

quote fancy

NEXT WEEK at UUTC

Growing Younger — Mon 11/28 @ 11:00am

Christians In Exile — Mon 11/28 @ 3:30pm

Women's March on DC — Mon 11/28 @ 7:00pm

Ian out of office — Tue 11/29—Wed 11/30

Men's Group — Tues 11/29 @ 9:00am

Eclectics Jam — Wed 11/30 @ 9:30am

Women's Mtg — Thurs 12/1 @ 12:30pm

Drum Circle — Thurs 12/1 @ 7:00pm

Living the Tao — Fri 12/2 @ 10:30am

Vitality Yoga — Fri 12/2 @ 1:30pm



SOUPER SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH @ NOON

The first Sunday of the month is Sandwich or Souper Sunday, depending on the season. The purpose is the same: to break bread and connect members, friends and visitors after the second service with each other and the Membership Team. The Team lines up breads and the soups, regularly including vegan and vegetarian, working on gluten free soup and bread.

Please bring a side of salad, fruit, veggies, crackers, cheese or chips or a dessert to share, and help us invite visitors to stay that day.

Donations are appreciated to offset the cost of the soups. Questions? Call Meighan Browning at [678.923.7150](tel:678.923.7150).

NOT ABOUT TO BE THWARTED...

A bevy of beautiful women (and Bob) headed for Ecusta Brewing on Monday night...to find them closed! They didn't call and tell us, can you imagine? Anyway, this hardy crew headed on over to Brevard Brewing and evidently found something worth imbibing, as evidenced by the empty glasses. We're curious, Bob—how many guys high-fived you?





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.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER • SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Members and Friends of UUTC participate each year in assisting Sacred Heart in their Community Christmas Dinner, which feeds all who come through the doors. This year is the 18th Annual Community Christmas Dinner.

You can assist by donating food or money, or by volunteering. If you donate food, Sacred Heart will provide pans and lids for you to cook in, so that you can then take the food, ready-to-eat, to the church between 8:00am and 11:00am on Christmas Day. Pans can be picked up between 12/19 and 12/23.

The following represent food and volunteer needs as of 11/20:

FOOD :15 turkeys, 7 hams, 27 pans of dressing, 17 pans of mashed potatoes.

BEVERAGES: Sweet tea 20 gallons, unsweetened tea 20 gallons, 20 Desserts

VOLUNTEERS:

*Greeters— 2:00-3:00 **1**, 3:00-4:00 **2** *Kitchen— 1:45-4:00 **3**, 3:45-4:30 **2**

(These groups will begin cleaning up and packing leftovers for the Bread of Life)

*Beverages— 12:55-2:30 **2**, 2:25-4:00 **2** *Desserts— 2:25-4:00 **3**

(These individuals will begin clean up and packing leftovers for the Bread of Life)

*Serving line— 1:00-2:00 **6**, 2:00-3:00 **10**, 3:00-4:00 **10** *Clean up— 3:45-? **4**

Thanks for all your help—Call Joan Lemire (828-231-9259) if you can assist with any of the above!

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

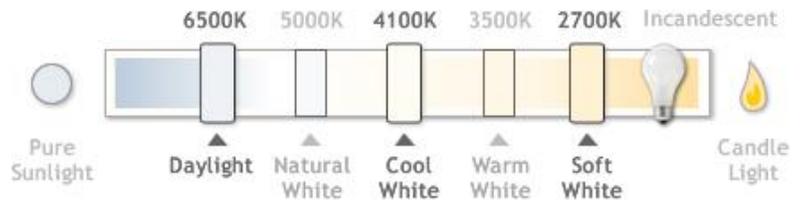
UUTC will be collecting items for Sharing House's Christmas Blessings. This event is in place of the "Adopt a Family" program, and needy families will have the opportunity to choose the items most desired for children from birth to age 18. Baskets will be in the lobby for your donations from November 27 - December 11.

Suggestions for donations can be found at <http://www.sharinghouse.org/news-events/>

Sharing House will also happily accept checks.

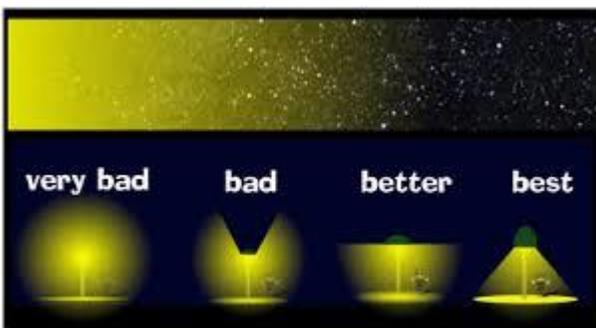
DARK SKY LIGHTING & UUTC

Recently, UUTC installed new soffit flood lights on the exterior of our building. These new bulbs are LED bulbs, reducing our energy consumption for outdoor lighting. But they are also very warm light, rated at 2400K. The "K" stands for Kelvin, and it is the measure of color temperature assigned to various bulbs. With 6500K rated as "daylight," why would UUTC choose a "candlelight" bulb of 2400K, equal in impact to an incandescent bulb?



Aging eyeballs is the first reason for lower temperature lighting. As with oncoming headlights, contrast between a very bright light and the darkness around it is very difficult for older eyes to adjust to quickly. Because of this physiology, it is much safer for security lighting to be of a lower temperature—the warmer light allows us to still see into the "shadow" areas that are not lit.

Dark Sky lighting is given this name because of the impact of our brightly lit cities on our skies. For residents of Transylvania County, our forests protect us some by concentrating the lighting impact into a few dense areas. However, every bit of this lighting has an impact on PARI and the wildlife around us. Some of the worst offenders are sold as "security lighting," which may be street lights, that allow light to travel up into the sky where the light serves no purpose. Shortly, we will be having maintenance done to our parking lot lights that will replace the existing bulbs with LEDs of a color temperature of 3000K. Our old poles are not bad in this regard—the outside of the fixture is a box that shields the stray light and ensures that all the light is going where it is needed—down!



CELEBRATING OUR STORY

UUTC, while a fairly young congregation, has been involved in a number of community issues over the years. The office has begun collecting images for use in the December 11th service.

If you have images to share, whether they are digital or not, please bring them by the front desk so that we can scan them in as part of our history as a congregation.

Thanks in advance!

UUTC'S BIRD FEEDERS

Our winterberry hollies (cultivars of the native variety) were feeding robins this week. (I promise, they were there!)



SAM PACETTI RETURNS TO LIVE@UUTC • DEC 3RD

After you've been downtown for the Twilight Tour on Saturday, December 3rd, come back to UUTC and warm up with some hot chocolate or coffee and the soothing sounds of Sam Pacetti's lovely baritone!

After his last performance, Sam was mobbed in the kitchen for copies of his CDs. Sam is a finger-style guitarist, spoken of with reverence by Don Burger. He is coming to WNC just for us, and then will return to St. Augustine where he currently resides.

Plan to join us at 7:00pm for a wonderful concert! \$15 donation.

UPDATED • CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & FORUM

The Board has been approached about the sale of property adjoining our parking lot. **Members** must vote to authorize the Board of Trustees to exercise special powers on its (the Congregation's) behalf with an Enabling Resolution (Bylaws, page 2) to accomplish such a task.

“We, the Congregation of UUTC, authorize the Board of Trustees to act on our behalf to arrange for the purchase of property adjoining our existing property, to be accomplished no later than June 17th of 2017 and at a cost no greater than \$350,000.”

The statement above was accepted by the Board as a price that UUTC can meet without financial hardship with our current cash reserves. Should the Congregation wish to raise or lower that price at the Meeting, a motion can be proposed from the floor.

The proposed acquisition is comprised of three parcels that are part of a trust. The current tax assessment of the three parcels, totaled, is \$317,330.

This is the only vote required by the Congregation, and the only item on the Agenda.

While all may attend this meeting, a Quorum of Members must be present for a vote to be taken, and only Members can vote. **For a vote to be taken at this meeting, 49 Members must be present.**

After the Congregational Meeting is adjourned, the Forum will begin. This Forum is to discuss how UUTC can best serve as an Ally to LGBT and other vulnerable members of the community in which we live. Next week's newsletter will provide some suggestions from the LGBT community who are Members and Friends of this congregation.

Please plan to attend this Special Congregational Meeting, to be followed by a Forum, on Sunday, December 11th, 2016, after the second service.



WOMEN'S GROUP • THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

The monthly meeting for UUTC Women, friends and guests will take place on Thursday, December 1 in the Social Hall at 12:30pm. Bring your bag lunch and, if you like, a treat to share. After a social time, the discussion will center about our most memorable holiday experiences.

For questions contact JoAnn Crawford at 877-5344.

BEING AN ALLY, SECOND EDITION

Discussion has continued about how UUTC can best serve as an Ally to the most vulnerable members of our community, both adults and children.

On November 16th, Rev. Robin Tanner, a UU Minister serving in New Jersey, wrote:

“For those with the privilege to escape, we are exactly the ones we have been waiting for, ones made for a time such as this, gifted with all that we need to hold on.

I am not moving to Canada. I am not building a blanket fort. I am not blaming disenfranchised voters for this election. I am not mandating the “proper peaceful” response.

Instead, for maybe the second time in my life, I am truly holding on.” (submitted by Elizabeth Thompson)

To see the rest of her post, [click HERE](#).

More voices from our Congregation:

“I want to be visible and vocal for younger LGBTQ people. Not feeling safe or supported enough in WV, I didn't come out until I moved to Cambridge, MA, where I found a liberal seminary with many straight allies and several out queer folks.” — Peg Hall

“I am very fond of my LGBT friends. However, I do not think we should have a rainbow flag hanging on a pole @UU. This makes me very sad, but, this is the South and there are those in this county who despise gays and sad to say people of color and other groups. We are NOT natives, only outsiders. Their feeling is if we don't like the way things are done here, we should have stayed up north.

I am afraid our UU could be burned to the ground or something similar.” — Isabel Lynch

“Our family was not created by accident. It took the incredibly hard work of a multitude of people I will never know, creating laws that opened the doors we are now walking through. In accepting and electing a man who wears his racism, sexism, and cultural xenophobia proudly, families like ours now know that the fundamental right we've so recently acquired are still viewed as optional, or secondary to a large swath of the nation.” —Andrew Arbaugh, son of Bill Arbaugh

In order to keep our Forum on December 11th as brief as possible, we would like to publish statements (fairly brief) from all who would be willing to contribute to the discussion ahead of time in the newsletter. Please [email the Administrator](#) to submit your thoughts.



"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.