

UUTC UPDATE

FEBRUARY 10th, 2017



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

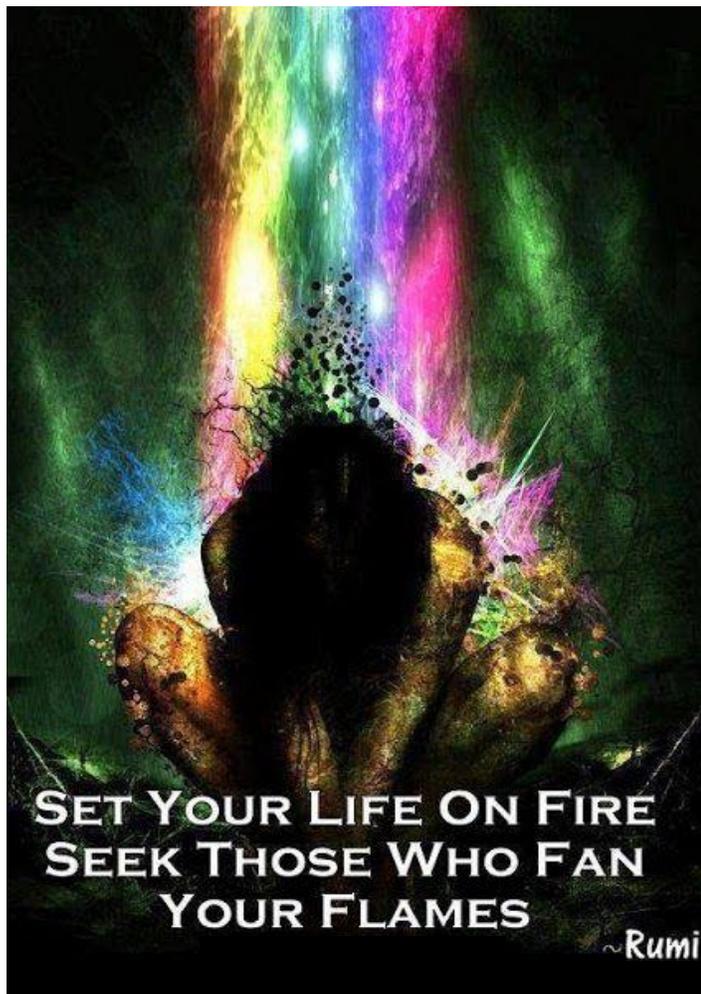
THE CHURCH HAS BECOME A PASSIONLESS INSTITUTION

by Rev. Ian White Maher

Sunday, February 12th at 9:30am and 11:00am

The mainstream church has lost its way. It is more concerned with budgets than with saving lives, more focused on control than on encountering the spirit. The passions of an engaged spiritual life are denounced or projected onto marginal people. But, in our forswearing of passion, we have lost the vital energy that keeps us alive.

Join us for coffee between services at 10:30am!



**SET YOUR LIFE ON FIRE
SEEK THOSE WHO FAN
YOUR FLAMES**

~Rumi

**FEB 26TH—CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING & FORUM
MARK YOUR CALENDARS
FOR AFTER THE 11:00 SERVICE**

NEXT WEEK at UUTC

- Growing Younger** — Mon 2/13 @ 11:00am
- Christians In Exile** — Mon 2/13 @ 3:30pm
- Men's Group** — Tues 2/14 @ 9:00am
- Book Group** — Tues 2/14 @ 3:00pm
- Eclectics Jam** — Wed 2/15 @ 9:30am
- Choir Rehearsal** — Wed 2/15 @ 4:00pm
- Fellowship on Tap** — Wed 2/15 @ 6:30pm
- Living the Tao** — Fri 2/17 @ 10:30am
- Office Closed** — Mon 2/20

FELLOWSHIP ON TAP: JOIN US AT QUIXOTE'S! • WEDNESDAY, FEB 15TH

Last month's diversion to Quixote's was such a moment of Grace that we are headed back this week! Staff rolled out the red carpet and set up a long run of tables that had to be added onto twice to make room for all those who made the party.

Come join the rowdy crew at 6:30pm!



THE GREEN "E"

Lots of you are giving to UUTC via our online option Vanco. Membership is working with our Treasurer to get an updated list of all names that give in this way and using that information to put green "e" stickers on name tags. If you want a green "e" on YOUR name tag, simply set up your pledge by clicking [HERE](#) and you will be taken to the secure donation site. You can also use this link to make a donation to Sponsored Projects, the Endowment Fund or the Building Fund. Thanks in advance!

TIME TO TALK: THIS WEEK, RACISM (REV. IAN WHITE MAHER FACILITATING)

On Thursday, Feb 2, in response to concerns being expressed in our communities, Transylvania County's NAACP launched a series of public conversations, "Time to Talk," to take place weekly over an 8-week period. Each session will include a potluck supper, provided by attendees who are able to bring a simple dish to share.

The remaining sessions will address timely themes being raised publicly by the challenges facing various groups: ***Racism in Our Midst*** (Thurs, Feb 16, St Philip's Episcopal Church), ***LGBT Matters*** (Wed, Feb 22, Unitarian Universalist Church), ***Religious Bigotry*** (Thurs, Mar 2, St. Philip's), ***Environmental Justice*** (Thurs, Mar 9, Good Shepherd), ***Economic Fairness*** (Thurs, Mar 16, Bethel A Baptist), and the ***Assault on Public Education*** (Thurs, Mar 23, place to be announced). All sessions will be from 6-8, except Feb 9, which will be from 5-7). **Rev. Ian White Maher will facilitate the sessions on Racism & LGBTQ.**

Questions can be addressed to NAACP Religious Affairs Chair Rev. Carter Heyward at 884-5041.

THE MAIN COURSE: UUTC CONNECTIONS CLASS • APRIL 1ST

The new name for our prospective member class is **The Main Course: UUTC Connections Class**. If you are thinking of becoming a Member or Friend of UUTC this spring, attend and share this day with Ian, staff and congregational leaders. Childcare is available by request. Other details, including lunch break details and your preparations for the class, will follow.

For those who choose membership, the spring Signing and Welcoming Ceremony is scheduled for **April 16th**. Sign up on the office counter or email membership@uutc.org.

“You, Me, and UUTC” grads who are interested in Signing and being part of the Welcoming Ceremony on April 16th should email membership@uutc.org.

Fall dates are October 7th and 15th for the class and welcoming ceremony.

UUTC WELCOME CARDS

If you have not read both sides of our new Welcome cards enclosed in the order of service, please do so. Members and Friends, as well as guests and visitors, may add a request or comment on the front of the card. On the back, you will find either meaningful quotes from our website focus group or the Sources of our Faith.

If you do not need your card, please return to the usher's station for reuse within or without the order of service. If you think of something later, there are extra cards on the Welcome Table in the foyer. Thank you!

The Membership Team membership@uutc.org

ORDER YOUR UUTC PHOTO DIRECTORY!



Ever have trouble remembering names? Keep a photo directory on hand to keep up with our growing membership! Orders for printed copies may be placed by emailing membership@uutc.org or on the sign up sheet on the office counter. Deadline for orders is February 12th.

Newest Members and Friends will receive a free copy. Cost for others is \$7 per copy, payable on delivery. Email the [Admin](#) for a free **PDF** of the photo directory.

PROTECTING THE GREATER GOOD — WARNING SIGNS

Life altering moments can take a toll on people. Stress can accumulate to the point that it begins to manifest as behaviors. What behaviors are atypical for our friends? Peeling out of the parking lot? Throwing something down? Arguing with others at church functions? Or maybe the reverse—someone who is normally gregarious but who becomes more withdrawn? Someone who always came to Tap Night has stopped coming?

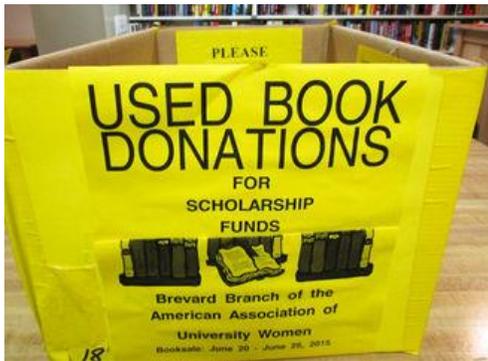
Your church administrator has enrolled in three webinars, sponsored by our insurance company, that are designed to help congregations develop strategies to improve their safety policies and procedures. A large part of prevention is being tuned in to the lives of our church family— violence is rarely *not* linked to the organization where it manifests.

At UUTC, we have some pretty good structures in place to support one another. As we grow, however, it will be harder to keep up with everyone. How can you help? Participate! Get to know each other. As we hear each other's stories, and check in on each other's lives, we can help each other maintain our balance and avoid breaking points. And if you see someone struggling—tell somebody.

THE OVERHAUL BEGINS

Our first two contractors were on site on Thursday, removing the last of the vegetative threats (TREEZ) and the last of the rotten flooring in Ian's future bathroom (Yellow Dog Construction). Framing is now complete, and the HVAC folks are up next!





AAUW BOOK DRIVE—BREAK THE BOX!

The AAUW Book Drive raises **scholarship funds for women** who attend our local colleges—**Brevard College and Blue Ridge Community College**. The local chapter has been conducting this drive for 47 years—a real history of support for education.

Dig through those bookshelves and see what you can part with for the cause!

SOCIAL ACTION AGENCY FOR FEBRUARY— BREAD OF LIFE



From its inception in 1997, Bread of Life has received broad support from Transylvania churches and individuals. Both volunteer help and financial support have been the key. Meals are served Monday through Friday and on Sunday night as well for those in need in our county. 180 free, well-balanced meals and emergency pantry boxes are provided each day. That

translates to 900 meals a week, and over 45,000 each year. Bread of Life is the focus of our Social Action outreach for February at UUTC. At these difficult times for many in Transylvania County, we ask that you continue to generously support the Bread of Life.

POSTCARD PARTY! COMING SOON @ UUTC!

Taking action can be as simple as writing a postcard and sending it to a state or federal legislator. Political action, on any scale, helps us feel stronger, more hopeful, and more energized. Lets get together with family, friends and neighbors at UUTC to write postcards on whatever issues you want to support or to voice your concern. A few of us are planning a gathering soon and we only need three things: 1) unused postcards, 2) postcard stamps or a donation to buy stamps, 3) and YOU!!!

Of course, some of us think that postcards featuring Brevard or Western North Carolina themes might really get the attention of our folks in DC who are there to represent us. Details will be coming soon. For now, drop off postcards and/or donations in the basket at UUTC.

Jeanie Bernard and Pam Drellow



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING • FEBRUARY 26, 2017

Agenda:

Resolution to approve 12/11/16 Congregational Meeting Draft Minutes

Resolution to approve Proposed UUTC Mission Statement

Resolution to approve Proposed Bylaw Revisions

Mission Statement (10/28/16) Proposed by Mission/Vision Task Force:

Our Mission, as a welcoming, inclusive community acting from love, compassion and respect, is:

to support individual spiritual journeys

to promote social, economic and environmental justice.

Proposed Revisions to the current (5/22/16) Bylaws:

1. Page 5, Article VI. Board Member Duties, Section D. Duties of the UUTC Treasurer include: Number 6. - Supervise the *Database Administrator*

Proposed revision: replace "Database Administrator" with "Bookkeeper"

Rational: there is no longer a position with the title "Database Administrator"; the Treasurer supervises UUTC's bookkeeper.

2. Page 7, Article VIII. Congregational Meetings, Section B. Quorum for Meetings, Number 3. – Decisions will be made by simple majority of the votes cast (in person and by absentee ballot), EXCEPT for matters referred to in Article IV, Section A, Numbers 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10, which decisions shall require no less than two-thirds of the votes cast (in person and by absentee ballot) in order to pass. Article IV, Section A, Number 7 [approve a ministerial candidate to serve as minister] requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote in order to pass.

Proposed revision: replace "3/4" in the last sentence with "90%"

Rational: the "3/4" is in conflict with Article IX. Section C. Number 3, which requires a 90% approval vote for calling/approving a new Minister. We adopted the 90% number at our May 2016 Congregational Meeting.

3. Page 7, Article IX. Minister, Section D. Resignation, Number 2. - Procedures to be followed by the Board and Congregation shall be included in the UUTC *Policy Manual*.

Proposed revision: replace "Policy Manual" with "Board Operating Guidelines".

Rational: procedures are lodged in Operating Guidelines not in the Policy Manual.

4. Page 8, Article IX. Minister, Section E. Termination, Number 2. The Board shall act on the petition by calling a Congregational Meeting as prescribed in Article VIII, Section A, 2. Quorum and decision requirements are prescribed in Article VIII, Section B, 1-3 and *Section C, 1-3*. The Minister shall be invited to speak at this meeting.

Proposed revision: replace "Section C, 1-3" in the 2nd sentence with "Section C, 1-2". Rational: there are only 2 parts to Article VIII. Section C; there is no number 3.

This meeting will be followed by a Forum on UUTC's commitment to the LGBTQ community.

THE NUMBERS: WHAT WE CAN DO, WHAT WE MUST WAIT ON

Our first contractor, Jake Zimmerman, submitted a bid for \$1025 to remove 3 trees and do substantial pruning to others. A black walnut's roots had been damaged in our work, and, since it was already leaning towards the yellow house, was deemed a necessary removal. That tree was over half the bid.



Next up is Yellow Dog Construction. They have done the necessary framing and will return after rough-in of electrical and plumbing work to dress up the spaces with some fresh sheet rock. They have also moved the attic access to the front bedroom. This bid came in at \$2750. Left undone will be the



Sexy and accessible new attic access

replacement of the entry doors, which would cost \$1311. New, pre-hung doors are desirable for security and energy efficiency. Jeremy, of Basting Services, will handle our electric work... the Board chose to let him update all the wiring that had not been addressed by the previous owner—this bid was \$1700 (a partial job of the absolutely necessary work would have rung up at \$1350).

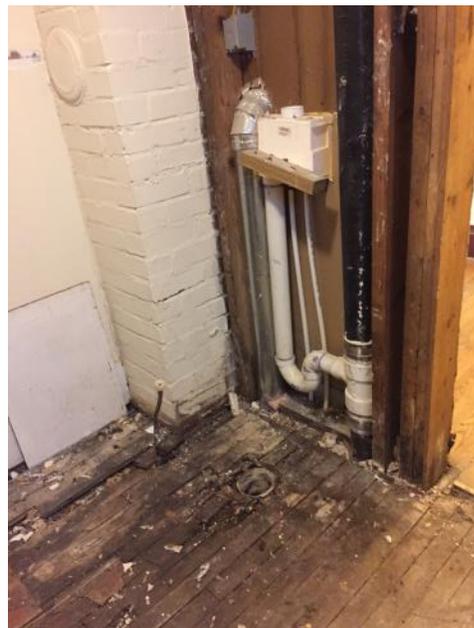
Roess Mechanical won the HVAC job, which be only a partial job—removal of the return air trunk under the bathroom space, and re-establishment of the system vent after the rest is done. [At right, you can see why this is necessary...the trunk line prohibits setting drain line pitch for the new fixtures.] This bid was \$2060—the complete job,



which would have replaced the return air ductwork throughout, was \$4400. The other ducts have suffered from a lack of air filters for years and are sized improperly, but are functional. The HVAC system is 17 years old— a gas heat + air conditioning system—but is running well. To replace the system itself would cost an additional \$4200.

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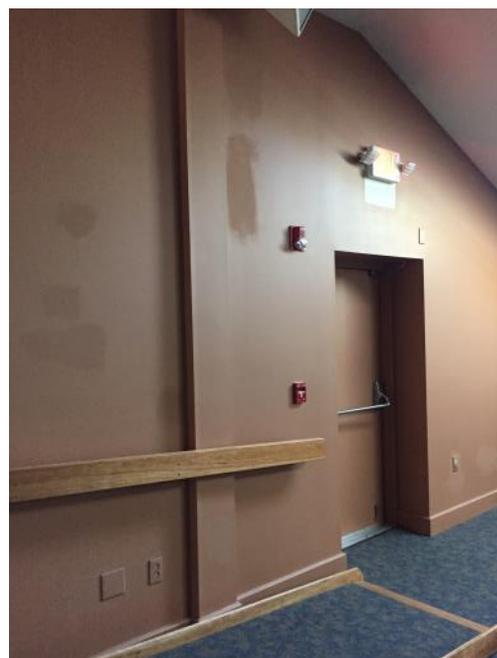
Plumbing is the big essential, with every fixture needing to be replaced and moved to create a more user-friendly space. The “low boy” hot water heater is being replaced with a standard, more svelte model that wears a smaller shoe size. The clawfoot tub will give way to a shower stall—putting a modern tub/shower unit would have required moving a cast iron vent stack and the wall containing it, vastly increasing our investment in framing and plumbing work. A modest 24” vanity will take the place of the 18” “rode-hard-and-put-up-wet” model that was in the structure. The washer and dryer are also being moved to provide better venting of the dryer and a better workspace. The plumbing will cost \$4000 + fixtures, taking our total investment for work that must be done now to approximately \$13,000.



Should you wish to sponsor new doors for Ian’s domicile, or contribute to the complete replacement of ductwork, you can donate by check or through our [website](#). Include “**building fund**” on the memo line of your check, or select that fund when you make your contribution online. Thanks!

PAINTING OF SANCTUARY

This week will be another bustling week of activity for our properties. On Monday, Brian Pipkins and his team will begin painting the pulpit-side sanctuary wall. Aesthetics has chosen to take it all the way back to Navajo White (as is going up in other spaces as we get to them) to help us prepare for a new vision for the sanctuary space. The job will require two coats of primer (the stinkiest part) and possibly two coats of the top coat. If you have activities planned for in the sanctuary in this coming week, check with the Admin 24 hours ahead of time for a progress report!



PLANNING FOR HEALTHY, EFFICIENT CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Two recent decisions by the Board will affect UUTC leadership going forward.

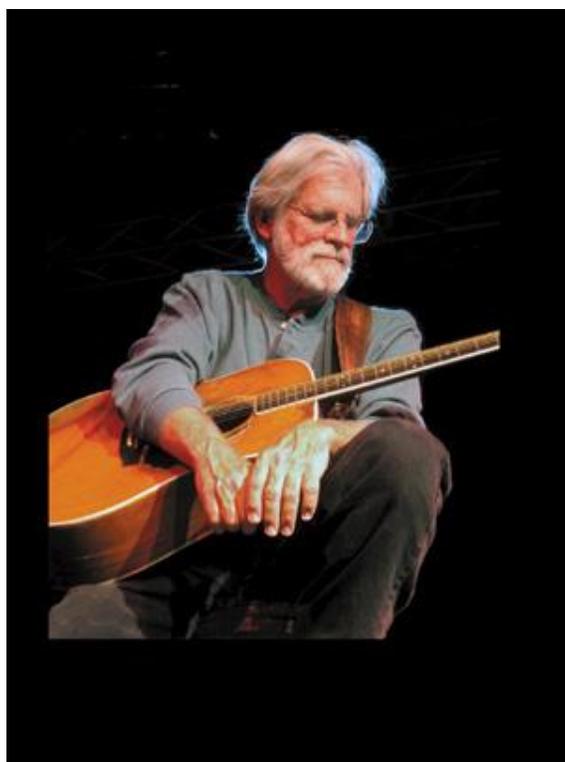
First, approved Board Meeting Minutes will no longer be emailed to UUTC leadership. Leaders can find the Board minutes posted on UUTC's website on the [Board's Page](#); notification of posting to the website will appear in the newsletter. Copies of minutes will be provided when requested. Minutes are posted after their approval following the next month's meeting.

Second, the Board revised the Terms of Team Service in the Ministry Teams section of the UUTC Organizational Structure. The revised section now reads:

Terms of Team Service:

"Team Leaders may serve in that role no longer than 3 years without a break in service of at least 2 years. When a Leader steps down from a leadership role, (s)he will be ineligible to serve as a member of that Team for one year."

This revision is designed to prevent burnout of leaders and to allow for new ideas to rise within Teams, keeping the work of ministry responsive to all. Forcing a one-year vacation can let leaders re-discover their loved ones, the outdoors and other pleasurable activities, allowing them to even change directions and investigate other Teams(!).



MARK YOUR CALENDAR— MEMORIAL CONCERT FOR JIM AVERY

Sunday, May 7th, Jack Williams will be here to perform at UUTC. Carol Flake and Jim Avery have followed Jack for over 20 years. Carol says that the spirit of Jack's music is the best celebration of Jim's life that she could imagine.

The doors will open at 5:30pm. Jack will perform two sets, with some gathering time in between the sets. The event is open to all. To hear some of Jack's music, visit his website [Jukebox](#).



"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.