

UUTC UPDATE

MAY 26th, 2017



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

AND MILES TO GO BEFORE I SLEEP

by Rev. Ian White Maher

Sunday, May 28th at **9:15am** and **11:00am**

How does one say goodbye in a blurb?I just refuse.

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

Last Sunday's music inspired two Members to make contributions designated to the purchase of Teal Hymnals in honor of Ian. If you would like to do the same, a check to UUTC with "Hymnals Honoring Ian" in the memo line will help make it happen. Bookplates will be installed in these hymnals.

*There are some people in
life that make you laugh a
little louder, smile
a little bigger and live
just a little bit better.*

Thanks, Ian.

COMING UP at UUTC

Office Closed — Mon 5/29 all day (holiday)

Growing Younger — Mon 5/29 @ 11:00am

Men's Group — Tues 5/30 @ 9:00am

Softball — Tues 5/30 @ 6:30pm

Eclectics Jam — Wed 5/31 @ 9:30am

Softball — Thurs 6/1 @ 7:30pm

HE SURVIVED.



SANDWICH SUNDAY • JUNE 4 @ NOON

This is a reminder that our first Sandwich Sunday is NEXT WEEK, June 4th. **Members, Friends, Children, Visitors and Guests** of all ages are invited to gather around the UUTC picnic table after second service. This is an intergenerational event, so no childcare will be provided.



Please Bring:

A sandwich for yourself and your family members and a finger food to share: chips, sliced veggies, sliced or whole fruit, cookies, or bars; camp chairs or blanket.

Membership Team will provide: Lemonade and water, napkins, plastic cups and plates, spare breads and sandwich fillings.

Come prepared to picnic rain or shine! We will set up in the Social Hall if necessary. Look for Signs on our doors that morning if in doubt.

Questions: contact LaDonna Huffaker at huffaklr@gmail.com or call 828-577-1329.

TIME TO ORDER THE NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY!

On Saturday, May 20th, 14 new sets of Member and Friend photos were taken. Another member had an updated picture taken this week, and a couple others provided their own, in order to update images that stood out in the publication. Any way you cut it, we have a lot of new faces!



While new Members and Friends will be given copies of the Photo Directory, the rest of us will need to order one (at a cost of \$7) if we wish a hard copy printed and bound by the essential Mark Allison. To order a copy for yourself, [email the Admin](#) or sign up at the front counter by June 11th. You can also request a .pdf version of the Photo or Address Directory via email. Printed Address Directories are \$2 and can also be ordered with the sign up sheet or by emailing the Admin.

SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

Tuesday 5/30 6:30

Thursday 6/1 7:30 • Monday 6/5 6:30

Tuesday 6/6 6:30 • Thursday 6/8 7:30

Monday 6/12 6:30 • Tuesday 6/13 7:30

Playoffs start 6/19

Games are played at the recreation fields behind Pisgah Forest Elementary School. Come cheer on your sportsball warriors!



PROPHETIC EVANGELISM— LISTEN TO WHAT ALL THE FUSS IS ABOUT—by Ian White Maher

On Wonderful Wednesday, Rev. Ian spoke at length on a topic dear to his heart. This was a thought-provoking and exciting evening, with a talk that *may not be what you think it is*, based on the headline above. Listening more than once is a good idea.

To that end, Ian has loaded his talk to Dropbox, and you can listen to it by [CLICKING HERE](#). You can stream or download from the page that opens.

WHO LOVES YOU? YOUR CRITTERS DO!

Sunday, June 11th, Jean Rowe will be speaking on a topic that **requires visual aids**. Namely, it requires pictures of the critters in your life! Your pets, the songbirds from your yard—if it is a critter that is important to you, **please email a picture** to the Admin by June 1st!



CHALICE LIGHTERS

The Chalice Lighter program began in 1984 as a way for UUs to extend our faith by making a donation of \$10 or more for three “calls” per year.

Things have changed slightly, but it is still VERY easy to get involved. Right now, the UU in Spartanburg is up for a call to improve their ADA access. Learn more at the UUA website devoted to the Chalice Lighter program by clicking [HERE](#).





TAKE US OUT TO THE (TOURISTS) BALLGAME!

Join the UUTC Youth Group and CRE families for an Asheville Tourist game on Sunday, June 4th. We have been given a special group rate, and **special shaded seats** (it's a 2:05pm game).

Adult tickets are just \$7. Youth 12 and under, Seniors and Military personnel are \$5. Please contact Heather Layton, creuutc@gmail.com or 553-3810 to reserve your space.

We will meet at UUTC at 1pm to carpool to McCormick Field. Come for Sandwich Sunday and then just join the road trip! The more the merrier. Play Ball!



OXFORD HOUSE — A MISSION-BASED CHOICE

After two sparsely-attended Forums held by the Board on Budget and the Oxford House Proposal, the Board voted on Tuesday evening to move forward with creating an Oxford House group home for women with #74 Varsity Street. The Board solicited input from many who had experience either with working with residents of group homes or who lived nearby group homes. They also spoke extensively with the Director of [WNC Oxford Houses](#), Misty Wilkins. The lease has been signed, and WNC Oxford House is pursuing the charter for #74 Varsity. The process should be complete in about three weeks.

Management of the Oxford House will fall to Fisher Realty, who is providing these services for the other Oxford House in town, which is on French Broad street, and Misty Wilkins. Placing the home into missional practice will also relieve UUTC of the property tax burden for that property. The home, once outfitted, will accommodate up to six women who are in rehabilitation. The homes are democratically self-governed, and women who relapse into drug abuse is removed immediately.

The advantages to group homes are many, and this location, in particular, is excellent. The library and the many services it offers is close. For women who have cars, there is a generous parking space. For those who do not, being in town makes walking or biking to employment a viable option. The home is very well insulated, has a new washer and dryer, and has new LED bulbs in nearly all fixtures—giving residents a good chance at low utility bills.

For more information on Oxford House, click the logo above.

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH IAN

Just in case you're not quite ready to let go, or have already learned to value his vision, there IS a way to stay connected to Ian as he travels to India and elsewhere.



Ian produces blogs and meditations that are as intriguing and uplifting as you might imagine, and you can guarantee that you are reminded to read them by subscribing. He will be doing a lot of traveling and writing over the next year. Stay connected by signing up [HERE](#).

HOW DID WE GET SUCH A GREAT SLATE? — NOMINATIONS

The Nominations Committee is the only committee elected by the Congregation, and it has been very effective, presenting slates to the congregation full of effective leadership.

We would like to thank Isabel Lynch, in particular, for her tireless recruitment work over these 3 years. Isabel has been the voice on the end of the line unafraid to ask Members to serve in the past important positions.

Isabel Lynch, Carolyn Fredley and Virginia MacDonald served this year. Isabel leaves service this year, and Peg Hall comes aboard. Thank you, Isabel!



CHARITABLE GIVING AGENCY FOR MAY: RISE & SHINE

You matter. • We believe in you. • Dream big.

Our May social action community outreach is Rise and Shine/Neighbors in Ministry. Rise & Shine is dedicated to enriching children, empowering parents and encouraging community. Since 1996, when Rise and Shine was launched as a year round after school/summer program, the organization has been helping economically disadvantaged and racial minority children learn about the fundamental importance of education, about their community and culture, and about themselves.

Every contribution of support will be accepted with gratitude. Envelopes will be in the collection basket each Sunday in May for you to use. Please make your check out to "Rise and Shine."

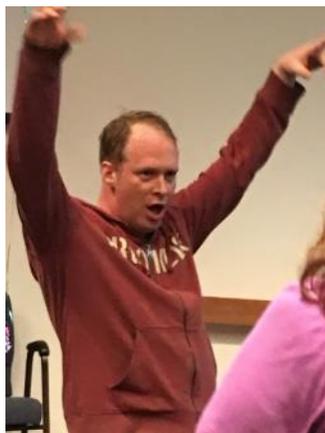


A SUNDAY TO REMEMBER • MAY 21ST, 2017



“Each of these parents here today has chosen this family, this place, this congregation as their spiritual home, and the place they believe will nurture and support the spiritual life of their child. . . These young people will need the support of this community, the support of not just family, but of friends, as well, to give them the vision, the empathy, the caring to help them become the type of person this world needs.”

Nineteen children were dedicated Sunday, with special music by the choir and a ceremony designed by Heather Layton and Rev. Ian White Maher.



Then came the party.

It started with a monarch butterfly release (Ian's first!), proceeded to enthusiastic singing and dancing to Michael Jackson's "Man In the Mirror," and progressed on to the building of enormous bubbles with our kids. In the rain.



[Thanks to Betty Kendrick and Bob Bennett for their excellent pictures of these events.]



WIND POWER WILL POWER 75% OF UUTC NEEDS

Your Board was really busy Tuesday!

As of Thursday, Green-e Energy certified renewable energy certificates are being purchased to cover UUTC's consumption of electricity. Arcadia Power, which has partnered with the League of Conservation Voters, among others, is now partnering with UUTC. For this budget year, we were able to select a plan that will cover 75% of our consumption. Reaching 100% would cost us an additional \$500 for the 2017-2018 budget year, over our current costs with Duke Energy.

Anyone (who has not already done so) can join Arcadia and have 50% of their energy use offset by wind power for free. You can learn more and sign up [HERE](#). Your computer may ask you to "allow" it to follow the link. This [Grist article](#) explains how it all works. Your money pours wind into the grid. 😊

CHARITABLE GIVING

A summary of the results of a Congregational survey regarding agencies to receive charitable giving from UUTC was distributed to Board members prior to the Tuesday night meeting. Given the results, the Board approved the following as UUTC's Charitable Giving agencies for fiscal year '17-'18: 1) Sharing House, 2) The Haven, 3) Bread of Life, 4) Pisgah Legal, 5) The Children's Center, 6) SAFE, 7) Backpack Buddies, 8) Muddy Sneakers, 9) Augustine Literacy Project, 10) Minister's Discretionary Fund, and 11) UUSC. The numbers assigned above are not indicative of anything in particular, other than making sure the correct number of agencies was met.

The Augustine Literacy Project was chosen, in addition to the votes it got in the last week, because of its involvement with many of the same children served by Rise & Shine. They provide one-on-one tutoring to children, on the campus of the child's school, upon recommendation by the child's public school teachers. Augustine Literacy has added twelve new volunteers in the last year— each volunteer, after being trained, will tutor 2 to 3 children. They concentrate on reading and writing skills, with documented results. One of the volunteers with this program is Judy Baghose, who was the Guided Reading Coordinator for Rise & Shine a few years ago.

Our Congregation supports more organizations than just these— through space use, we support the Sierra Club, SMART Recovery, the Living Wage Coalition and the Rainbow Alliance. We also support AAUW through enormous book donations, and we provide food to The Haven and to Sharing House, regularly. Members and Friends of UUTC volunteer in many organizations—walking the talk.



Inclusive. Intentional. INVOLVED.

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

To support individual spiritual journeys and To promote social, economic and environmental justice.

KEEP UP WITH US ON FACEBOOK!

Like us on Facebook and keep up with events during the week—get early notification on sermons! Great posts from our Children's Religious Exploration program and more. Click the logo to be taken to the page!



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



SOUTHERN REGION

KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!

VIEW our "insider" [church calendar](#). For previous issues of the UUTC 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 ianuutc@gmail.com 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 the corner of Varsity Street and South Broad Street in Brevard. Our email address is admin@uutc.org.