

# UUTC UPDATE

JULY 7TH, 2017



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

## COMMUNITY, COMMUNION & CELEBRATION

by Carol Flake, Will Sims & Rev. Jean Rowe

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

This Sunday we will have homilies from Carol Flake and Will Sims, followed by a Flower Communion. Bring flowers to share!

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

Pastoral Care for the remainder of July will be provided by Rev. Earle Rabb. Please use the phone number on the last page of this newsletter to contact him.

“There is almost a sensual longing for communion with others who have a large vision. The immense fulfillment of the friendship between those engaged in furthering the evolution of consciousness has a quality impossible to describe.”

— Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

## COMING UP at UUTC

**Heartfulness Meditation — Sun @ 4:30pm**

**Growing Younger — Mon 7/10 @ 11:00am**

**Men's Group — Tues 7/11 @ 9:00am**

**Eclectics Jam — Wed 7/12 @ 9:30am**

**Wonderful Wednesday — Wed 7/12**

**Dinner @ 5:30pm, Program @ 6:30**

**Drum Circle — Thurs 7/13 @ 7:00pm**

**Dinner @ Quixotes — Wed 7/19 @ 6:30pm**

**SUUSI — July 16-22**

**Hogwarts Camp — July 31-Aug 4**

**SUULE — August 6-11**

**Pre-School Chalice Camp — Aug 8-10**

## WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY • JULY 12TH

### The Strange Marriage of Birth Control and Politics in America



Although women even from ancient cultures were interested in regulating their fertility, the public discussion of birth control began with the public lives of women in the 1840s. There are a lot of odd twists to the story. Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to run for President in 1872, believed in birth control and free love. Some of the early twentieth century feminists advocated birth control for purposes of guaranteeing race purity. Throughout most of American history, doctors were against birth control, because of its potential impact on the virtue of young women. This lecture will take the long view, the social historian's view, with the hope of stimulating discussion about why a topic so central to adult women's lives remains so controversial.

Margaret Lynn Brown is an Associate Professor of American history at Brevard College, where she teaches a course in U.S. Women's history. The program will begin at 6:30pm.

Make your reservations for 5:30pm dinner at the front desk—childcare is provided! While there is no charge for the meal, your donations to help cover the cost are greatly appreciated.

## THE HAVEN NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Haven, Transylvania County's shelter for the homeless, is in great need for volunteers. This is an easy opportunity where you can enjoy a conversation with a resident or catch up on your reading. If you are interested in volunteering, you will receive an orientation so you can understand what is expected.

Here is a list of the shifts available in July. (Some of them are as soon as next week!)

Overnight Shifts: July 9th, 16th, 23rd, 24th & 30th.

Afternoon-evening shifts: 4pm - 8 pm : July 19th, 24th, 26th, & 31st

Sunday Afternoon (after church shift) 12-4: July 23rd

Please call the shelter if you are available at 828.877.2040.



## CHARITABLE GIVING FOR JULY: MINISTER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### A Change in Execution

Starting this month, all Charitable Giving contributions will go into a separate fund prior to dispersal. **Therefore, checks should be written TO UUTC**, with the agency designation on the memo line.

This will allow your checks to clear almost immediately, making balancing your checkbook less of an issue. It also guarantees that you can deduct your contribution to the designated cause. UUTC will then write one check to the agency, or in this case, fund, and we will not have dozens of checks sitting around waiting for an agency to collect.

### Minister's Discretionary Fund

In the past year, our minister has given funds to help purchase medications, pay for



overnight housing, assist with utility bills and a few other needs. Sometimes these gifts support those at UUTC, and sometimes they support others in the community. Your gifts this month will refill this reservoir for Rev. Ilene to use in ministering to the needs of our personal and connected community.

*This is an opportunity to give, not an obligation.*

## SHARING HOUSE GETS A BIG CHECK



Your June gifts to Sharing House totaled \$2042.00, and Susan Matthews, Director of Sharing House's "Getting Ahead" program, was excited to accept the funds on the agency's behalf.

Thanks for your gifts!



**Join in the conversation!**

**Living Across the  
Boundaries**

**Project Empathy at the  
Transylvania County Library**

**July 11, 2017**

**6:30 – 8:30 pm**

**Wake Forest®  
Baptist Medical Center**

*Light refreshments prior*

**Rev. Dr. Gary Gunderson  
Speaker & Dialogue Facilitator**

## MY FIRST GA BUT NOT MY LAST

by Susan Slocum

The powerful experience of attending my first UUA General Assembly (GA) left me speechless. I have struggled to even begin to put all that happened into words. A very wise woman suggested I write about what I feel, so here goes.....



*Banners of other UU congregations on display at General Assembly.*

My first thoughts of attending this GA grew from a personal need to be part of something bigger this year in this faith and in this country, the exciting culture and challenges of New Orleans, and three female candidates running for President of UUA. Then came the resignation of President Peter Morales and the revelation of UUA hiring practices submerged in the water of white supremacy. How would we rise and return to our principles and real Love in real life?

**I feel great gratitude** toward my UUTC growing edge mentors—to RK Young, for challenging me and making it possible for me post each day on our Facebook page, to Virginia MacDonald, for her company and sharing her extensive GA experience and connections, and to Elizabeth Thompson, who first helped me realize our part in not only a faith but a movement called UU.

**I feel inspired.** Whether or not you have read some of the Facebook posts, I urge you to read some or all of the 2017 GA UUWorld dispatches at [www.uuworld.org/ga](http://www.uuworld.org/ga) for excellent, deeper reporting and wonderful photos. If nothing else, read about the Ware Lecture by Bryan Stevenson, founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery AL, acclaimed author and public interest lawyer, who has dedicated his career to helping the poor, the incarcerated and the condemned by being broken, changing lives, getting proximate, changing the narrative, staying hopeful and being willing to do uncomfortable things. How I wish you could have heard him! Equally inspiring was Linda Sarsour, recipient of UUService Committee's Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Leadership Award. She is described as every Islamophobe's worst nightmare, a Palestinian-Muslim-American activist, born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. Among other things, she was one of the national co-chairs of the Women's March on Washington.

**I feel hopeful.** The three Interim Co-Presidents were greeted with deserved adoration and standing ovations every time they appeared. These three people of color temporarily froze hiring, set new hiring goals and directed the Board to appoint an impressive Commission on Institutional Change.

Other faith communities are watching us come up for air and out of the water.

**I feel enlightened.** I am beginning to understand Black Lives Matter. White lives have always been what has mattered in this country. Black Lives of UU received the UUA President's Award for Volunteer Service and the UUA Board renewed our financial commitment for BLUU. Racial justice work had begun in the 60's, but we broke our promises and turned away. The Black UU Caucus left the 1969 GA. Dr. Baba Sanyika finally returned to this GA, danced at a jazz filled banner parade and shared his story. The word most heard at this GA was "intersectionality." All justice work must intersect with race and class.



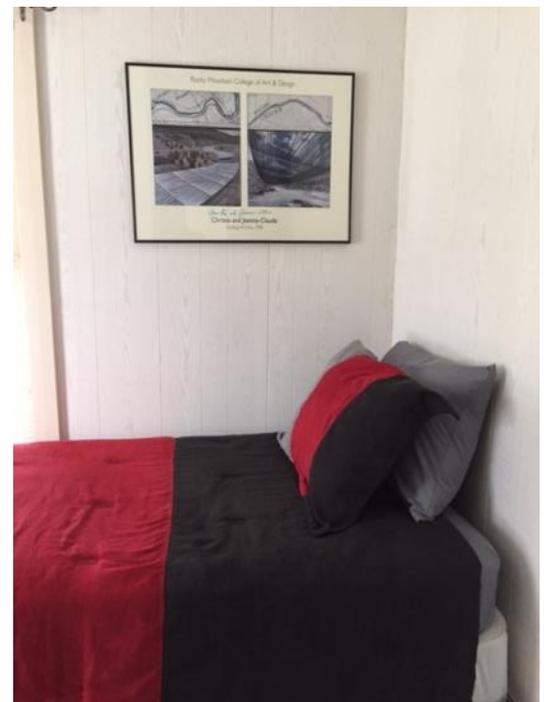
**I feel invested.** I had prepared to vote for and did for one of three female candidates for UUA President. My second choice vote went to the woman elected, Susan Frederick-Gray. Her performance at the final candidate's forum nearly won first choice from me. She will lead us well. After all sorts of procedures, I voted for a Statement of Conscience on Escalating Inequality, to table changing the word *person* to *being* in the First Principle; to change the words *men and women* to *people* in the Second Source; to call upon the leaders of UUA's Standing on the Side of Love campaign to create a new imagining that better includes and reflects the needs and contributions of disabled people; and to call for the Board to appoint a study commission to discuss adding an 8<sup>th</sup> Principle in which congregations covenant to affirm and promote a journey toward a diverse, multi-cultural Beloved Community by actions that dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.



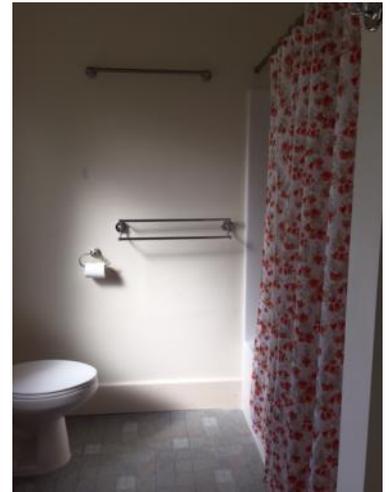
**I feel I made a difference.** My service project was to be involved in assembling Days for Girls colorful, sustainable feminine hygiene kits for girls in the US and other countries, who would otherwise be made to stay home from school or work. Four teams put together 400 kits in three hours.

**I feel the spirit** and community of GA worship services still with me. We and thousands of others showed up to see Rev. Ilene walk to receive Preliminary Fellowship; to hear sermons from the heart; to sing "Comfort Me" together, after learning of the assault and robbery of two UUA staff. **Walk with me.**

## A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE VARSITY OXFORD HOUSE



Each woman has her own chest of drawers, bedside lamp and twin bed.



As this goes to press, Gravelly Plumbing is installing a new (non-leaky) dishwasher. Thanks to ALL the donors and workers who have made this possible!



## THANKS! JUNE 3RD FOOD DRIVE FOR SHARING HOUSE

Showing up to help Sharing House encourage Packing of the Pantry were Leila Graham, Marilyn Miller, Nancy Davis, Phil Davis, Bob Bennett, Mary Bennett, Susan Zelle, Leslie Keir, Gypsy Richardson and Doug Denton. Huge thanks for helping encourage the support of all our neighbors!



## 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

Need Pastoral Care? While we await our settled minister, call (877) 510-5603 to reach the minister on call.

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 the corner of Varsity Street and South Broad Street in Brevard. Our email address is [admin@uutc.org](mailto:admin@uutc.org).