

UUTC UPDATE

AUGUST 18th, 2017



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

PRIMAL BEGINNING

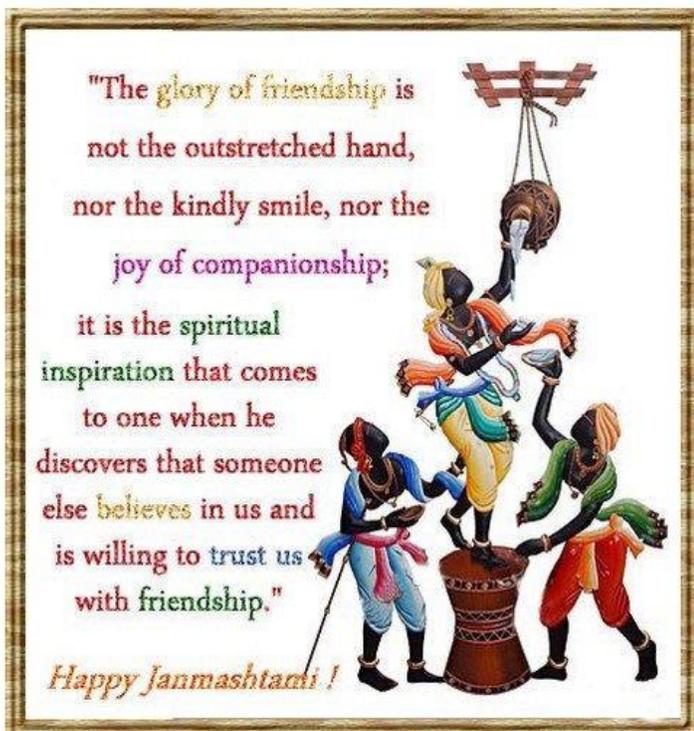
by Rev. Ilene Kaur Tompkins-Gillispie

Sunday, August 20th at 9:15am and 11:00am

Continuing with August's worship theme of "Beginnings," in this service Rev. Ilene will share more thoughts about the ripeness of our current situation-- standing on the precipice, edging toward so much that is new. In her second worship service with us as settled minister, Rev. Ilene will also explore Janmashtami, the Hindu holiday which celebrates the birth of the god Krishna, celebrated in this season of late summer.

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

MONDAY. ECLIPSE. TOTAL PENNSYLVANIA. (Don't forget your glasses!)



COMING UP at UUTC

Heartfulness Meditation — Sun @ 4:30pm

OFFICE CLOSED — Mon 8/21

Be part of the Eclipse—safely!

Men's Group — Tues 8/22 @ 9:30am

Board Meeting — Tues 8/22 @ 6:00

Eclectics — Wed 8/23 @ 9:30am

Choir Rehearsal — Wed 8/23 @ 4:00pm



HELP WANTED: MUST LOVE KIDS!

Katie is having a baby and two other nursery helpers are gone—we need a few new people to work with Luci and Trisha (and others) in providing nursery services! Besides Sundays, there are a couple of Wednesday evenings a month and some other miscellaneous dates. If you show up to provide childcare and no children show you are compensated for an hour for your trouble.

Candidates will need to go through our background check process and (likely) take the First Aid and Safe Congregation trainings this fall. All commitments of time will be compensated. UUTC pays a living wage rate for all positions. Contact RK or Trisha—employment packets are available upon request. Applicants need not be UUTC affiliated.

BRING YOUR BAGGAGE!

Next Sunday, the 27th, we will have a Blessing of our Baggage! All students and campers are invited to bring their backpacks, all office workers their briefcases or other containers of burdens, all retirees their Farmer's Market, Ingles, or other daily tote.

Sometimes during the week we can get wrapped up in the daily trials, tribulations or politics, and it's good to remember the love of your church family at such times. Blessings will be a visible reminder to carry with us that we have friends who wish us well and who love us.

It's a journey—but we're not alone.



WOMEN'S GROUP KICKOFF— SAVE THE DATE!

On September 7th at 11:30, a fall lunch to welcome Rev. Ilene and all other new UUTC women will take place at Sandy Kirkman's home at 141 Lake House Trail, Brevard. You can reach Sandy for more information at 828-507-4968.

Maps will be available closer to the date, but mark your calendar now to preserve the time!

The Women's Group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 12:30pm under normal circumstances. These lunches happen in the social hall and are open to all women of UUTC. They take summers off, with September being the kick-off month to get back "into the groove." Lunches at UUTC are bring your own, with a topic provided for discussion.



CHARITABLE GIVING FOR JULY: AUGUSTINE LITERACY PROJECT: STATISTICS*

15-20% of school-aged children have reading problems. Children do not outgrow poor reading: 74% of poor readers in 3rd grade are still poor readers in 9th grade. In 2015, 62% of North Carolina's 4th graders scored below proficient in reading. **Some states base their long-range prison construction budgets on the reading scores of 2nd graders.** The dropout rate for students with disabilities in NC is 43%. For every African-American male who graduated from college in 2005, 240 entered the penal system.

For 90% of poor readers, early, intensive intervention can increase reading ability to an age-appropriate, average skill level.



BALP provides each tutor with **70 hours of training-- classroom and practicum--** based on the [Orton-Gillingham](#) approach, using research-based materials from a variety of sources, including the [Wilson Reading System®](#). You can learn more at the BALP [website](#), or by emailing [Wendi Adair](#), Director.

Due to the small budget of BALP, our contributions will have a much larger impact than with some other programs. Remember, all Charitable Giving contributions will go into a separate fund prior to dispersal. (See [last week's newsletter](#) for more detail about this process.) **Therefore, checks should be written TO UUTC**, with the agency designation on the memo line. *This is an opportunity to give, not an obligation.*

**statistics provided by BALP.*

FELLOWSHIP ON TAP O'BLUES



WEB ANALYTICS— HOW WE'RE BEING VIEWED

In 2016, we grew our website audience by 71%. It will be difficult to keep that up! In fact, growth from August of 2016 to August of 2017 is at 13%. Roughly 10% of this activity comes from people listening to sermons and another 12% comes from visits to our Public Events Calendar. In the last year, 69% of our traffic came from desktop computers, 10% came from tablets, and 21% came from cell phones.



On [Twitter](#), where we are not very active, we have, nevertheless, grown to 144 followers who are primarily other UU congregations and ministers, with a few of our own members, as well. Your Admin is the sole “tweeter,” currently.

On [Facebook](#), we have 205 followers, but it is clear that the Facebook page generates interest in our Sunday Services and in our events. Rev. Ilene, Heather Layton and your Admin all have publishing permissions to our Facebook page. Recently, we began including photos on the sermon description pages of our website, and when these are shared on Facebook, that image appears—these images have definitely improved the traffic for these sermon announcements.

If you like taking pictures, consider sharing some with UUTC for this use. When sermons are published, your Admin tries to select images that feel related to the month’s Theme. Coming up Themes are Growth, Transformation, Freedom and Light. Send your images to admin@uutc.org!



UUTC BUYS WIND (POWER)

Tired of fossil fuel-based energy’s environmental record? UUTC has taken steps to divorce itself from the industry. As of Thursday, May 25th, Green-e Energy certified renewable energy certificates are being purchased to cover UUTC’s consumption of electricity. 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 at no additional cost. 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. ☺



STAGES OF A NEW VESTIBULE



First, it was the electrician, wrangling the conduit snakes to simplify and improve our lighting. Then it was the contractor, installing a tongue & groove ceiling and a handsome live edge black walnut shelf to hold flowers (or whatever). Thursday, the flooring crew arrived to replace the tile with safer “foot scrubber” carpet tile. Progress!



TIME TO SIGN UP FOR THE MAIN COURSE

The 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 fall, or if you're an old Friend thinking of changing your status, attend and share this day with Rev. Ilene, staff and congregational leaders. Even folks who've been here awhile will learn things!

The class meets on Saturday, October 7th. Childcare is available by request. Other details, including lunch break details and your preparations for the class, will follow.

A Welcoming Ceremony for those who choose to become Members will be held Sunday, October 15th, and on the 28th, we will have a photo shoot where Barbi Smith and Mark Allison will make you look 5 years younger and authentically charming! (Photo Shoot open to all Members and Friends who need an updated image.) Sign up for the class at the front counter!

MEET ALEX & HOWIE!

Howie grew up in the Bronx and attended Hunter College where he enjoyed a stimulating academic life and great camaraderie with his fraternity brothers. After his move to Florida, he attended FIU. With his teaching certification he worked in a Migrant Program that gave youth a “learn and earn” opportunity to move out of the fields. Now, Howie loves boating with his Catalina 22 on Lake Keeowee and fixing lots of things for the UUTC Facilities Team!



Alex is also a half-back from NY and FL. She grew up in the Catskill Mountains until the family moved back to the city. She graduated from The City College of NY, later working in the ESOL and Gifted programs in the Miami-Dade Public Schools. She also had an airbrush business (when not teaching) where she could paint her love affair with the beauty and wind of South Florida with scenes of boats, clouds, palms, tropical birds and flowers. Alex is working on her second book of poetry, and she serves on the UUTC Adult Religious Exploration (ARE) Team. Alex and Howie have been Friends for many years, but took the plunge to full Membership this spring.

Alex & Howie met at a UU church in 1981 at a FUSE (Floridians United for Safe Energy) benefit and were involved with many Florida UU activities. They are very happy to be members of this welcoming UUTC community.

COMMUNITY BUILD—BES GETS SOME UUTC HELP

Glenn Cockerham and Heather Layton (who was one of the primary organizers of this event) participated in a Community Build of new playground space for BES. You can read more and watch video from [WLOS here](#). Ask Heather for more information!



UUTC Board of Trustees Agenda
August 22, 2017 at 6:00 pm, UUTC Social Hall

July Member Count 168; Friend Count 88

Welcome	Carol
Opening	Cantey
Approval of July Minutes	Kay
Executive Committee Report	Kay
Standing Updates	
Minister's Report	Rev. Ilene
Treasurer's Report	Dave
Administration	
Finance	
Property	
Old Business	
Scholarship Program – Conclude Discussion and Decide	
Gift Acceptance Policy/Procedure	Kay
Naming Varsity Street Properties	Carol
Appoint New Committee Personnel	Carol
Board Calendar Review	Kay
Annual Meeting Tentative Date: May 20, 2018	
New Business	
SUULE Report	Brigid & Peter
Memorial Gifts	
Adjourn	

Next Board Meeting: September 26 at 6:00 p.m.



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? Call Rev. Ilene at (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.