

UUTC UPDATE

FEBRUARY 16TH, 2018



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

STAY WOKE

By Rev. John L. Saxon

Sunday, February 18th at **9:15am** and **11:00am**

The phrase 'Stay Woke' has become a watch word of the Black Lives Matter movement. Being "woke" means "waking up" to the existence of and the need to challenge problematic norms and systemic injustices to which many of us are "blind." Drawing from his own experience and the story of the Buddha, Rev. Saxon will share his experience of "waking up" to the call to give life the shape of justice.

All are invited to stay after the 11:00 service to learn more about how they and UUTC can get involved with and support the UU Justice Ministry of NC. There will be a second "coffee time" with protein to prep attendees for the workshop.

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

Trayvon Martin = No conviction
Sandra Bland = No conviction
Kathryn Johnston = No conviction
Sean Bell = No conviction
Eric Garner = No conviction
Rekia Boyd = No conviction
Amadou Diallo = No conviction
Mike Brown = No conviction
Kimani Gray = No conviction
Kenneth Chamberlain = No conviction
Travares McGill = No conviction
Tamir Rice = No conviction
Aiyana Stanley-Jones = No conviction
Freddie Gray = No conviction

COMING UP at UUTC

Men's Group — Tues 2/20 @ 9:00am

Tech Tuesday — Tues 2/20 @ 2:00pm

SMART Recovery — Tues 2/20 @ 6:00pm

Eclectics — Wed 2/21 @ 9:30am

Parent Circle — Wed 2/21 @ 5:30pm

Tap Night — Wed 2/21 @ 6:00pm (Quixote's)

Sierra Club — Thurs 2/22 @ 6:30pm

Growing Younger — Fri 2/23 @ 11:00am

Facilities Work Day — Sat 2/24 @ 9:30am



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST JUSTICE MINISTRY OF NC — COMING TO UUTC

Fed up with recent political developments?
Want to see what other UUs in North Carolina
are doing? **Join us for Rev. John Saxon's**

presentation on February 18 from 12:30-1:30PM.

The Rev. John Saxon, our guest minister on February 18, will also be giving a workshop on the activities of the “reborn” Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry of North Carolina. The UUJM helps coordinate Moral Mondays, the Fair Court Days of Action, and “Justice on Jones Street,” an advocacy day at the North Carolina General Assembly on May 22. There will be a second coffee hour after the 11:00 service, followed by John’s presentation in the sanctuary from 12:30-1:30.

John says this past year has been a hard and dark one for many of us—a year of attempts to ban the immigration of Muslims, threats to deport hundreds of thousands of young “dreamers,” revelations of sexual harassment and abuse, horrific mass shootings and the failure to adopt common sense gun safety laws, racists marching through the streets with torches and Confederate flags, continued partisanship, and policies that undermine health care and benefit the wealthy at the expense of the middle class, the poor, the vulnerable, and the oppressed. But it’s also been a year in which people of good will have pushed back, resisting bigotry and wall-building and fear-mongering and political plundering, fighting to live as normally as we can in abnormal times, creating, loving and doing what we can to redeem the year and make a difference.

You can follow the UUJM of NC on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), or on the [web](#) .

SAVE APRIL 4 AND APRIL 18 TO HELP "GET AHEAD"

The **Social Action Team** is asking UUTC members to provide breakfast or lunch items to Sharing House for the Get Ahead program. Get Ahead meets on Wednesdays at the Brevard Wesleyan Church and various groups provide food for their morning snack.

Suggested foods are: Sandwiches/chips, bagels and cream cheeses, breakfast casseroles, cheese, crackers and fruit. They also need beverages like sweet tea and lemonade. UUTC is responsible for March 28, April 4 and April 18. We already have volunteers for March 28, so are seeking food donations for April 4 and April 18. Food should be delivered to the Brevard Wesleyan Church at 9:45am and can be dropped off upstairs (through the 2nd doorway in the back and up the stairs). There will be a sign up sheet at the front desk of UUTC. Please consider signing up for one or more categories of food. If you can provide food but can't deliver, Kathy Reiff can meet you at UUTC and take your contribution over to BWC. Thank you!

WHEN IS THE NEXT TECH TUESDAY?

THIS COMING TUESDAY!

The first Tech Tuesday, “Connecting with Facebook,” met on January 30th. This ARE offering is designed to help people use technology to enrich their lives by connecting with their friends and family using current devices and software. While initially the class was imagined as a 3-session course, the difficulty of preparing a “standard lesson” for folks on multiple types of devices and at multiple levels of experience changed that plan—things will be fluid!

A sign up sheet is on the front counter—please use this to indicate interest so that RK can ask you a few questions before class to better tailor instruction to your needs. The next class is February 20th at 2:00pm and will cover Facebook use. You may also indicate what you would like to learn on the sign up sheet.



MARCH MORNING ON MEMBERSHIP— MARCH 24th @ 9:00am

Why become a Member? How? Beginning with this morning Rev. Ilene will guide you to the Why and How of opening yourself to UUTC membership. The Membership Team will start the morning off with beverages and treats and top it off with lunch from 12:30-1:30pm.

See the Sign up Sheet on the office counter or email admin@uutc.org.

New Members will sign, be welcomed before the congregation and celebrate with each other at the Welcoming Ceremony and Reception the morning and afternoon of Sunday, April 8th. Anyone that has taken another UUTC Prospective Member Class is invited to inquire about becoming a Member on this day.

If the class date of March 24th does not work for you, please ask about the next date in June.

JANUARY BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Carol Moore

Rev. Ilene shared the progress of several ministry teams and updated the Board on plans for her formal installation on April 13, 2018, at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepard. Some of her goals for congregational development in the 2018-19 church year include restarting Chalice Circles and developing a Hospitality/Social Events Team. Rev. Ilene will lead a course on Sikhism in the spring.



The **Treasurer's Reports** for November and December 2017 were accepted by acclamation. Dave shared that at the midpoint of the fiscal year, we had received 48.7% of our anticipated revenues and expended 49% of the approved budget.

The Board approved a recommendation that our **property signage** policy allow ARE and CRE to display visuals regarding their activities in designated areas. It also amended a **finance policy** to allow the Finance Committee to place undesignated contributions to UUTC in the amount of \$500 to \$5000 into *an existing fungible fund* that it deems best at the time.

Gary Kendrick reported that **Finance Committee** work on a preliminary budget proposal for 2018-2019 has begun. The Board endorsed the Committee's request that its membership and leadership remain in place for fiscal year 2018-2019.



Bart Renner (at right) has agreed to fulfill the unexpired **Nominations Committee** term which occurred when Carolyn Fredley stepped down.

The Board passed the **Memorial Garden** proposal to the Administration Committee to separate policy implications from procedural implementation. It instructed that introducing cremains into the Memorial Garden would be inadvisable, and further stated that policy should include:

- **That, when an engraved memorial leaf is requested, there will be no fee charged to do so for deceased UUTC Members.**
- **That, when an engraved memorial leaf is requested, there will be a fee required to do so for deceased UUTC Friends.**
- **That exceptions to this policy may be made in writing by the UUTC Minister.**

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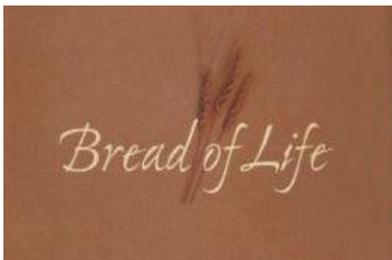
After the memorial policy and procedures are finalized, the Board would like to have a Memorial Garden brochure or pamphlet be created.

After reviewing the **Sponsored Project** list and costs associated with projects, the Board approved expenditures to fund LED lighting in the classrooms, nursery, offices, social hall and foyer, and for expenditure for book racks for the choir chairs. (*New racks, installed by Bob Bennett, at right.*) Work on the lighting will begin with our electrician's availability, likely beginning in March.



UUTC is entitled to send four delegates to the **UUA General Assembly** to be held in Kansas City, MO, from June 20-24, 2018. Early registration costs \$395 per person. The Board agreed to pay the registration fee for four delegates, as well as for the UUTC Administrator. The Board would like to be able to name its four delegates by the February Board meeting.

Dave Roberts, Kay Webb and RK Young met with representatives of the Fire Department to consider the possibility of partnering with the Fire Department to raze #52 Varsity. The representatives indicated that the house would be a likely **candidate for a training burn**. The anticipated cost of a burn is estimated to run around \$5000, about a third of the cost of demolition. Funding will be required before we can proceed with either the burn option or the demolition option—you may [contribute here](#).



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.

You may scan the image at left with your phone camera and make a donation today. *This is an opportunity to give, not an obligation.*

OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL) PANEL NIGHT

The Our Whole Lives class hosted an LGBTQ Guest Panel at UUTC on Sunday, February 4th. The purpose of the guest panel is to provide a personal connection to people who identify as LGBT or Q, and offer youth a variety of first hand experiences as well as nurture empathy for individuals who face prejudice and discrimination because they do not fit cultural norms for sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

All of our 13 youth participants ages 13-15 years old were in attendance. Our panel consisted of 7 people, two of whom live in Transylvania County, plus 2 who attend Brevard College. Two of our panelists drove in from Asheville and one panelist lives in Hendersonville. Three members of the Brevard College Pride Club attended to give support to their friends who were on the panel. So, we had a full house! Each panelist shared a personal story in relation to identifying on the LGBTQ spectrum. I was full of gratitude to all panelists for their honesty and bravery, sharing intimate life experience with strangers. They shared their experience of coming out to their parents and the challenges of living in small towns, several of which are in the southern USA. One panelist shared that she was fortunate to come from a large, urban high school in Orlando, where there was much more diversity. Vanessa, a transgender woman, enlightened the group on how different states have different laws in respect to transgender issues. Vanessa is originally from CA, which offers more pro-transgender policies than NC.

All of the panelists were super supportive of the young people, offering words of encouragement and advice through the middle school and high school years which has its own challenges regardless of one's sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. I can not speak for anyone else, but my heart was full of gratitude when I left this building that Sunday evening. I am very grateful for the Our Whole Lives curriculum and wish that this comprehensive approach to sexuality education could be accepted and accessed more readily in the USA. — *Heather Layton*

AAUW BOOK DRIVE — BREAK THE BOX!

The AAUW Book Drive raises funds for scholarships for women who attend our local colleges—Brevard College and Blue Ridge Community College. The local chapter has been conducting this drive for 48 years—a real history of support for education. Dig through those bookshelves and see what you can part with for the cause! If you have a large number of books and need them to be picked up, call Penny Davies at 828-966-9393.



WHAT HAPPENED IN KNOXVILLE?

“This is not a time for a casual faith.” Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Susan Slocum

The UUA Board and some staff met in Knoxville last month. Rev. Ilene and several others from UUTC planned to attend a Sunday worship service with area UUs and a luncheon. But flu struck and not everyone could go. UUTC President Carol Moore, her husband, Rev. Dick Tucker, and Susan Slocum attended.

What a “Courage to Love” Service!

Four congregations gathered at a convention center: Tennessee Valley UU Church, Foothills UU Fellowship, Westside UU Church and Oakridge UU Church. Rev. Jason Shelton and a combined choir led the music.

UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray (*pictured at right*) spoke powerfully of her experience, linked arm in arm with other clergy, offering love and peaceful dissent as they faced white supremacists in Charlottesville. Several people offered remembrances of two people killed, and six wounded, in a 2008 shooting at a TVUUC worship service.

Standing on the Side of Love, now **Side With Love** was created in response to that act of hatred. Our offering was shared between a local program and UUA’s Promise and Practice of our Faith for Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU.)



And What a Luncheon!

Dial down the numbers to about 45 sharing lunch with Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray. Carol, Dick and I shared a table with Living Legacy Project Board member, Rev. Gordon Gibson, and his wife, Judith (*couple pictured at left*); with UUA Director of Stewardship and Development, Mary Katherine Morn; and with Interim Board Co-Moderator, Elandria Williams.

Find out how Rev. Gibson happened to be in Selma, AL, in 1995 by clicking [here](#). With Living Legacy Pilgrimage, he and Judith have been organizing and leading pilgrimages to other civil rights sites since 2004.

Mary Katherine and Susan explained UUA Faithful Sustainers, Living Legacy, and the Promise and Practice of our Faith programs. Congregational contributions, which for the

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Continued from page 7 Southern Region are a percentage of our annual expenses, provide the primary support for UUA's general operating fund. As you plan your pledge to UUTC for 2018-2019, please review material about other programs.

Elandria accepted the challenge of tri-moderating the 2017 General Assembly, which gave many hope that our Association will survive, right itself, and thrive after a tumultuous period. She co-moderates the UUA this year, while a search continues for a Moderator to be elected at GA in Kansas City. She often visits Brevard, so we hope for another connection here. — *Susan Slocum*

LENTEN SERVICE AT UUTC • MARCH 1ST

Lenten Services have been an ongoing initiative of the congregations that form Koinonia for a number of years. Most of the services (open to all) happen at noon and last for 30 minutes. "Koinonia" is a Greek word which means "community" or "fellowship." The local organization gives member congregations an opportunity to participate in shared ministry.

This year, as in years past, UUTC has been called on to take part in this tradition. Because our kitchen is not permitted for the preparing of food, we cannot serve a lunch here, but we can provide coffee service and a few things that have been prepared off campus. Rev. Ilene agreed to conduct a Lenten service, as long as it could be in the afternoon (she has VISION on her calendar as well for that day).

Here is the schedule of all services:

- Thursday, Feb. 15 at noon, Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Brevard Jewish Community • Offering to benefit Bread of Life
- Thursday, Feb. 22 at noon, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd • Offering to benefit S.A.F.E.
- **Thursday, March 1 at 2:00 pm, UUTC & St. Timothy UMC • Offering to benefit Backpack Buddies**
- Thursday, March 8 at noon, Brevard Davidson River Presbyterian Church • Offering to benefit El Centro
- Thursday, March 15 at noon, St. Philip's Episcopal Church • Offering to benefit Rise & Shine
- Thursday, March 22 at noon, First United Methodist Church • Offering to benefit Sharing House
- Friday, March 29 at noon, Bethel "A" Baptist Church • Offering to benefit Rise & Shine



LIVING
with
INTENTION
PARENT CIRCLE

PARENT CIRCLE • WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

Parents meet monthly for inspiration, reflection and sharing. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month 5:30 to 7:30 pm— **childcare is provided.** [Email Rabbit](#) for more information.

FELLOWSHIP ON TAP • WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 21ST, 6:00PM

This month Fellowship on Tap returns to Quixote's! PLEASE use the sign up sheet at the front counter or email the office— in their new location, it is more difficult to accommodate un-planned for bodies.

“Tap Night,” as it is affectionately known, is more about getting to know each other, but each location offers good eats and beer on tap. Join the fun!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR — SHORT COURSE ON SIKHISM

Are you interested in learning more about world religions and continuing the development of your own religious literacy? Would you welcome the opportunity to participate in a 4-session adult Religious Education course this spring? Do you want to know why your minister has such long hair? Then we have the opportunity for you! **Beginning on March 5**, Rev. Ilene will lead a 4-session course on the Sikh religion, which originated 500 years ago in North India. Sikhism is the world's fifth-largest religion and is practiced by over 30 million people worldwide. **A second “evening edition” is available in April.**

Please sign up for the course and commit to attending all sessions if possible. **Class will meet in the sanctuary, from 1:00-2:30 beginning March 5th, for four Mondays.** The course will repeat later in the year for those who prefer an evening meeting time. Hope to see you there!



NOMINATIONS AT WORK — FILLING A SLATE

Imagine that you had to find people who were not only willing to lead but also had the skills necessary to fill particular positions. Who is good with people? Who is super organized? Who has time? Do I even know that about anybody?

And, there is the approach that asks a different type of question—who, as a member of this community, seems ready to grow into a new role? Who seeks to provide a different type of service or stewardship of this community with heart and mind? In this case, **you** may be the best one to answer the question. If you feel you are ready, then do not hesitate to call one of our Nominations Committee members and let them know of your interest—or [email the whole crew](#).

This year, the Nominations Committee is seeking Members to fill the Board positions of President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and one At-Large position. They must also identify two new Members for the Nominations Committee of 2018-2019. Not everyone is eligible.

One of the responsibilities of Membership is to participate in the election of people to serve in these two ways: the Board of Trustees and the Nominations Committee. Likewise, to serve on either of these bodies, requires that the individual be a Member of UUTC.

In addition, those who serve in these roles may have to give up another role at UUTC. Our Organizational Structure defines Dual Membership this way: a Board member may not serve concurrently as a Council member or as a Committee Chair or Chair-Elect. The Board President may not serve as a Team Leader. Nominees for Board positions who hold one of these positions agree to resign the other responsibility, if elected to the nominated position.

What is not needed is experts. Good people will always rise, in different ways, to the occasion. Each person's style of leadership may differ, but if we cannot tolerate diversity in our own leadership, then we have no business recommending to the rest of the world how it should be run.

You may soon receive a call from the Nominations Committee. If you do, they must see something in you as essential to UUTC at this time. One hundred and seventy-two Members... if they call you, please consider the request. ***You may be the change you wish to see.***



Peg Hall, Chair, 828-553-7541



Bart Renner, 317-608-7342



Virginia MacDonald, 828-862-6505

WHO YA GONNA CALL?

Rev. Ilene is gone for another week. If you need Pastoral Care, give Loving Hearts and Helping Hands a call. They will work with the Team and with our retired minister Member/Friends to help meet the need of your situation. Email lhhh@uutc.org or call Susan Bir at 884-9387, David Parker at 885-2093, or Ann Rabb at 553-4117.

TREE? WHAT TREE?

If you haven't already heard, a large white pine clipped the church last Sunday on its "date" with gravity. You can read most of the story [here](#), with lots of pictures. *(Photo at right taken by Kevin Smith)*



What wasn't discussed in the blog is the fact that so far as insurance law is concerned, the incident was an "act of God" and the neighbor is not at fault. Given that our insurance deductible is \$5000, this cleanup of tree parts and restoration of gutter is an "out of pocket" expense. Jake Zimmerman and his crew handled the tree for \$850; the gutters are awaiting "our turn" with the local contractors, and will be somewhere between \$1200-\$1500. We have rather large gutters. Just another reason why your contributions are important—emergencies!

FACILITIES WORK DAY *(Please notice strategic placement under tree article)*

Saturday, February 24th, is our next Facilities Work Day. What we tackle will be determined, in part, by the weather. There are plenty of inside and outside jobs to be addressed. Outside we have damage from winter with several broken branches on trees and shrubs, in addition to regular growth "maintenance." We also have some new mulch which can be spread over cardboard in the areas where we are trying to suppress invasive plants.

Inside, there is a changing station to be installed, veneer to be re-attached at the front of the pulpit platform, a quarterly check of the fire extinguishers, installation of a shelf in the table closet, assessment of maintenance room items...and there is *always* painting to do. This month, in addition to completing painting of the foyer, touch ups are needed in various places where installation of new features (such as a table closet) have meant that other wall hardware was removed.

Tasks completed will depend on the number of hands available to do the work—Facilities welcomes any and all assistance from Members, Friends or visitors!



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!



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.