

UUTC UPDATE

Inclusive. Intentional. *Involved.*

Office Hours

The office is open Mon-Fri from 9 to noon and by appointment. Time with the Minister can be scheduled on Tuesdays from 9:30am-2:00pm & Wednesday from 12-4:30pm.

Pastoral Care

Going through a rough spot? Have surgery coming up? Call (877) 510-5603 or email lhjh@uutc.org.

Nursery Care

Our Nursery is open Sunday mornings from 9:00am to noon for children ages 0-3. Take advantage of either service at your convenience—our childcare staff would love to welcome your child.

Coming Up at UUTC— maybe

High School CONS — Fri-Sun

CIE — Mon 12/10 @ 3:30pm

Men's Group — Tues 12/11 @ 9:00am

Aging Wisely — Tues 12/11 @ 3:00pm

SMART Recovery — Tues 12/11 @ 6pm

Eclectics — Wed 12/12 @ 9:30am

Choir — Wed 12/12 @ 4:00pm

Fellowship on Tap—Quixote's, 6:00pm

Living Wage Co. — Thurs 12/13 @ 10am

Loving Hearts — Thurs 12/13 @ 2:00pm

Rainbow Alliance — Thurs 12/13 @ 5pm

Sacred Fire — Thurs 12/13 @ 5:30pm



Sunday

Sunday, December 9th

WAITING ON THE WORLD TO CHANGE

Rev. Ilene Kaur Tompkins-Gillispie

So often these days, it feels as though many of us are living our lives with a song on repeat – – “waiting on the world to change,” being lyrics from the contemporary pop musician John Mayer. Advent is the season of waiting. At this time of year, Christians are eagerly awaiting the birth of the baby Jesus. Those who practice earth-based religions are keenly awaiting the winter solstice and the return of the sun. And so many of us are waiting for change – – change in our own lives, in the life of our nation, and in the life of the world. Join us for this service in which we will reflect together on all that awaits us, when we wait with hope and intention.

Join us for coffee at 10:30am!

“Are you ready?” Klaus asked finally.
 “No,” Sunny answered.
 “Me neither,” Violet said, “but if we wait until we're ready we'll be waiting for the rest of our lives. Let's go.”

— *Lemony Snicket, The Ersatz Elevator*

Muffins with the Minister

Our December “Muffins” date is **December 17th**. Come have coffee, talk with Rev. Ilene and others who join the fun! This is a laid back, easy way to learn something new about others in the congregation, including Rev. Ilene. Runs from 10:00am to noon.

Social Justice Giving



You are invited to help stock Dignity Pantries for 4 organizations: El Centro, Sharing House, Bread of Life, and SAFE. You'll recall we have taken on the task of delivering items which are NOT eligible for purchase through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – most notably, menstrual hygiene products, diapers, and condoms—items which our neighbors desperately need in order to fully feel their inherent worth and dignity. We also provide razors and deodorant and other similar items that help in getting and retaining employment. Remember to make out your check to UUTC with “Dignity” on the memo line. What better way to show our commitment to the first principle of “the inherent worth and dignity of every person” than to help others? Thank you for your generous contributions.



SUNDAY, A WEEK FROM NOW

"The Wheel of the Year"

John Falter is a graduate student at Western Carolina University in the field of Rhetoric. His academic background spans Classics, Religious Studies, and many other disciplines. A colleague and friend of Rev. Ilene's from her undergraduate years at the New College of Florida, John is a native Floridian now living in Asheville. His sermon will focus on paganism, witchcraft, and the nature-based religions, and the wisdom they impart to us as the seasons change leading up to the winter solstice. Rev. Ilene will co-officiate this special service as we reflect together on the impending return of the light that the solstice brings.

GETTING TO KNOW: DAVID & JULIE BERGER



David and Julie have lived in Sapphire for the past 13 years. While Julie had been a UU member in Orlando, FL in the 80s, most recently the two have been members at Unity in Mills River. Julie wanted a choir closer to

home, and fell in love with John Austin as so many do!

David paints in oils and does family portraits—the two of them own a gallery in Cashiers. Julie also paints, but enjoys jewelry makings, as well. Both enjoy an active lifestyle that includes hiking, swimming, golfing and in David's case, fly fishing.

Julie and David have three daughters, one grandson and two granddaughters.

Julie came to UUTC to search out a music program she could be a part of—David, after 23 years of service as an usher, is a pro of that part of Sunday services. They volunteer in service of those suffering under the burden of substance abuse.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER - SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Members and Friends of UUTC participate along with other local church members each year in assisting Sacred Heart in their Community Christmas Dinner, which feeds all who come through the doors. Come be part of this 19th Annual Community Christmas Dinner by serving, donating, or enjoying a wonderful dinner with others in our wonderful and diverse community. The dinner is served 12pm-4pm on Christmas Day. There is no charge. All are welcome.



This year again our opportunity to be a part of this wonderful event is to donate a total of 25 gallons of tea (commercial ready-made, in plastic jugs or bottles), sweet or unsweet. We need several more gallons to do our share! Please use the signup sheet at the counter.

Donations of tea may be dropped off at Sacred Heart during office hours or Sunday morning. Contact Joan Lemire at tjbindire@yahoo.com or 231-9259 with amount of sweet or unsweet donated so we don't overwhelm their storage area. P.S.— Desserts are also always welcome!

There is also a need for volunteers to help during serving hours and with cleanup. Our volunteers from previous years were very much appreciated and enjoyed a great Christmas dinner in true community. If you are able to help in one of the time slots - usually 1 hour or so- with serving, seating, greeting, etc., you may sign up at the Gathering Table at Sacred Heart or contact Sandi Rogers directly at sandidougrogers@yahoo.com. For additional information, call Sandi Rogers at 883-2990.



UUTC RETREAT @ THE MOUNTAIN: AMENDED *Bruce Kirkman*

Its been a long time since UUTC has had a retreat at The Mountain (over 4 years) and finally we have an opportunity to do it again! Heather has taken our youth to CONs there regularly, so ask them how great it is if you have not been there.

We are scheduled for the weekend of **October 4-6, 2019. This is a change of date from last week's announcement.** Unfortunately, there are only 45 spaces available because The Mountain is so well scheduled with other UU congregations and other programs. If you want to have a great time with Rev. Ilene and your UUTC friends sign up early. We will have a program that will leave plenty of time to enjoy the wonders of the mountains and take a great hike.

Until a contract has been signed, registration with The Mountain is not possible, but please sign up at the desk with RK. You will be notified when the online registration is open!

UUTC's 4th Annual



Sunday, December 16th, 2018 2:30pm-5:00pm

Bring us your youngest elves to work alongside UUTC volunteer elves on secret gifts for family members of their choice..

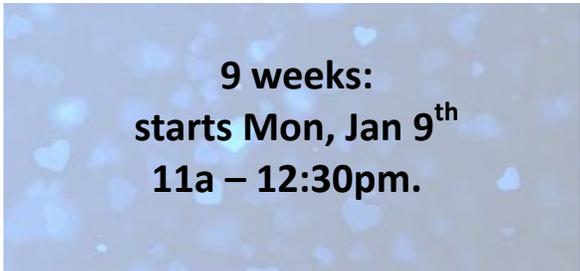
This event is geared towards children ages 3 years old and up, BUT, we will have the Nursery OPEN for children under 3 so we may offer a complete Parent's Day Out.

Please RSVP to this event no later than December 12th to Heather Layton, creuutc@gmail.com or call 553-3810. We are planning some really neat gift-creation stations and need to plan for materials and snack foods. Thanks!



LOOKING FOR A FRESH START IN 2019? CHECK OUT THIS COURSE!

THE KEYS TO LOVING YOURSELF, CREATING BETTER RELATIONSHIPS AND FINDING REAL HAPPINESS



**9 weeks:
starts Mon, Jan 9th
11a – 12:30pm.**

A life-changing course by Paul Ferrini. These Eight Spiritual Practices will help you to transform your experience. Watch, over the course of the class, as fear drops away and unconditional love shines through. As you awaken to who you are, so will the people around you. A fearful world cannot exist for a loving heart. Call [\(828\) 877-6121](tel:828-877-6121) to register today or sign up at the front counter. Free to members of UUTC • \$50 for non-members • Book \$15

THE BEST DIRECTORY IS ON YOUR SMARTPHONE

Contact Directories are really important for us all to stay connected. But did you know that the **ChurchLife** app is available to **Members AND Friends**? It is easy to use and is the most up-to-date resource for reaching other members of UUTC.

You can download and install the app from either Google Play or the Apple App Store. **Before you can use it, however, you will need a password from our ACS database.**

To get that password, go to our Member page on the website: <http://uutc.org/member/>, scroll down to the red "ACS" logo and click on it. It will direct you to the ACS login/get a password page. On that page, **look below the login box for "Need a Login? Click Here," and enter your email there. This will connect you to ACS and they will email you with a way to select a password to use with the **ChurchLife** app.**

Sometimes this email ends up in your spam folder. If you have any trouble getting your password, come in to see RK and we'll get you set up properly. Be sure to bring all your OTHER passwords with you (email, Apple Id, etc), so we can complete the installation process.



BEYOND LOVE

Emma Bolden

If the saints are to be believed, if this body is a dress
we slip into, out of, if each day and night is the mantle
we tie around our shoulders, fabric thin as the time it takes
teeth to flatten the end of a thread and lead it through

an eyed needle, then what am I to make of the gorgeous
terror every star makes out of its own distance? Sometimes
I can see the body as a blaze, bright-gloried, flamed
and holy as a pin-prick the size of a soul. And if the soul

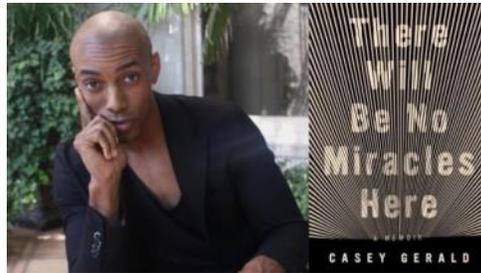
is a blaze to be believed, then belief blazes a highway
to some beyond, a beauty that begins with every ordinary
sweetness, every one small but still indefinable love.
Every morning, when I wash the wrongs I've made right

out of my hair, I want to believe in each drop of water
as a promise of and from the all that we're meant to contain.

*Monthly poems selected
by Pedro Sandin.*

A UUTC "COMMON READ"

In support of the 10th Anniversary of UUTC's becoming a Welcoming Congregation and the necessary steps for renewal of that designation, the Adult Religious Exploration (ARE) Team approved a Common Read for UUTC of Casey Gerald's [There Will Be No Miracles Here](#). [Link to review.] His memoir was named a Best Book of 2018 by NPR and the New York Times.



There will be two "touchpoints" of this common read—the first will be Thursday, January 31st at 4:00pm, at which point those participating should be close to the middle of the book.

A sign up sheet is at the front counter—Highland Books will be notified of the number of people who have signed up so that they can have books on hand. Call to be added!

Meetings facilitated by RK Young.

HELP WANTED!

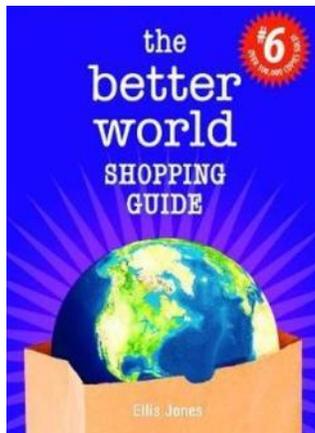
Your Administrator would benefit from some assistance with a couple of items. If you can help, please call!

Photographers — 3 or 4, using smartphones at any and all UUTC events, would be lovely. Your newsletter would be so much better! Extra credit given for stealth.

Sanctuary Space Mgr — 1 or 2 people who can learn Where We Hide Stuff and When It Needs to Come Out and How the Heck to Arrange Chairs. Weekly task.

If either role sounds like Just What You've Been Looking For, call 877-6121 today!

THE “YOU” IN UUTC SOCIAL ACTION



THE BETTER SHOPPING GUIDE IS HERE!! PICK UP ONE OF THE FEW REMAINING SOON!

Our Better World Shopping Guides have arrived. Only a few people have not yet picked up their copies — come grab the last ones before we run out! Checks, cash **and credit cards** are accepted. These are great for stocking stuffers for your environmentally and progressive-minded friends and family. **Cost—only \$10.** Amazon’s price is \$12—take advantage of this great resource!

SACRED FIRE GROUP WORKING ON GOAL

Your Sacred Fire group of justice-minded people, which includes Ian Fox, Lynn Halsey, Bobby King, Virginia MacDonald, Sharon Moya, Susan Sklar, Charles Wicker and Susan Zelle, has been involved in training, and is currently doing assessment of what deep social justice need of this community can be served by full-congregation involvement by UUTC.

Sacred Fire is collecting data and studying associated issues closely to see a) where UUTC can have a real impact and b) what steps need to be taken to be effective. Watch this space!



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 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 mailing address is UUTC, PO Box 918, Brevard, NC 28712. Our church is located at the corner of Varsity Street and South Broad Street in Brevard. Our email address is admin@uutc.org.