

# 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 [lhhh@uutc.org](mailto:lhhh@uutc.org).

## Nursery Care

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

## Coming Up at UUTC

Council — Mon @ 11:00  
Spiritual Explorations — Mon @ 3:30  
Men's Group — Tues @ 9:00  
Worship — Tues @ 1:30  
Aging Wisely — Tues @ 3:00  
Board Mtg — Tues @ 5:00  
SMART Recovery — Tues @ 6:00pm  
Eclectics — Wed @ 9:30am  
Stewardship — Wed @ 11:00am  
Sacred Fire — Wed @ 6:00  
Sierra Club — Thurs @ 6:30  
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Sunday, February 17th

### FAITH & FALLIBILITY

Rev. Ilene Kaur Tompkins-Gillipsie

In our last service focusing on the monthly theme of “faith,” we will reflect together on the dilemma faced by Unitarian Universalism, a faith grounded not in doctrine but in covenant—a faith without easy answers or convenient doctrinal commands. In what or in whom do we put our faith? How ought we live faithfully, if our faith is grounded not in an infallible dogma or deity but in our own human and fallible relationships?

*Services at 9:15am and 11:00am. Join us for coffee at 10:30am!*

“We cannot live only for ourselves.  
A thousand fibers connect us with  
our fellow ~~men~~ humans.”

— Herman Melville

## Muffins with the Minister

Our February "Muffins" date is **Tuesday, March 19th**. 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, and Rev. Ilene. Runs from 10 to noon.

## Social Justice Giving

Bread of Life serves well-balanced meals to people in need every Monday through Friday and on Sunday night. In addition, it provides many emergency pantry boxes. Your donation will help Bread of Life in providing over 45,000 a year.

## Upcoming Concerts—

*Registration Now Open*

**3/8: Jack Williams: 7:00pm**

**3/31: Opal String Quartet: 1:30pm**

**4/5: Sam Pacetti: 7:00pm**

Get registered ahead of time.

Preferential seating to early registrants.



## SUNDAY, A WEEK FROM NOW

### *Justice & Dignity — Rev. Ilene*

In the month of March, UUTC's sermons will focus on the topic of the 7 Principles of Unitarian Universalism. On this first Sunday of March, Rev. Ilene will reflect on the first and second principles of our UU faith-- The inherent worth and dignity of every person, and the use of justice, equity and compassion in human relations. How are we called to treat others, and ourselves, when we view our lives through the lens of innate dignity? How might we be moved to live, as guided by compassion and justice?



## PHOTO DIRECTORIES!

Sign up at the front counter!  
Cost: \$10. New Members since the last printing: free! Coming soon!



## PHOTO SHOOT

Sign up to have your photo taken or updated ... our next glamor session is **March 16th**! Once you sign, the office will begin scheduling. Mark Allison and Barbi Smith do a smashing job.

These photos are used in ChurchLife and in the Photo Directory—and, occasionally, here in the newsletter. And to be frank, our "church photos" are leagues above the images produced by some of the professional service groups that provide photos for other congregations. And you can thank Mark and Barbi for this — just don't miss your opportunity to get signed up!

## PLANNING FOR MEMORIAL SERVICES — MEMBERS & FRIENDS

UUTC is formalizing processes around Memorial Services that better suit our size and volunteer infrastructure. A new brochure, available at the front counter, walks you through part of the process. Rev. Ilene has also mentioned that “planning your own memorial service” is likely to be an offering at the UUTC Fall Retreat at The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center. Planning ahead ensures that you have a service that reflects your own desires and reduces stress on your survivors, because they don’t have to guess what you might have wanted done.

Standard procedure for memorial services now includes a fee that allows us to have Hector and Teresa set up tables and chairs ahead of time and to take all of that down and clean up afterwards. Our care team, Loving Hearts and Helping Hands, is comprised of fewer than 10 people who are working to meet the needs of 190 Members and 60 Friends — the work of memorial services, in terms of setup and cleanup, doesn’t require their unique skills and heart. We encourage the use of caterers, since our kitchen is not licensed for commercial use.\* Families, of course, can choose to prepare receptions on their own—but the setup and cleanup will be done by our paid facilities contractors.

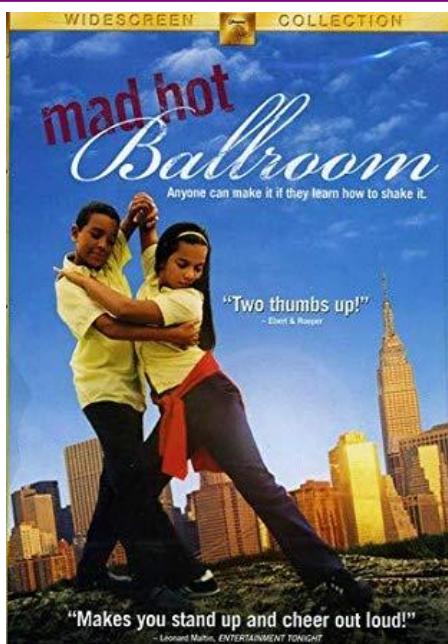
Currently, UUTC has no paid music staff. While John Austin and Carlene Ragan have been generous contributors of their skills, we cannot count on their continued availability at all and any times. Consequently, the fee for memorial services also includes a small stipend which Carlene or John (or both) could choose to accept as compensation, or it can be used to hire an outside musician as necessary. Should John or Carlene refuse compensation, the money goes to the music program for its needs. These two elements, music and facilities contracts, make up the \$400 fee paid by Members and Friends for memorial services.



The brochure includes the names of recommended funeral homes, florists and caterers — these are all people known to LHHH and UUTC as being thoughtful, skilled providers of these services.

UUTC is available for services for people outside of our congregation. Procedures for all elements are listed in the brochure. If you’d like a digital copy of the brochure, email the front desk at [uutcdesk@uutc.org](mailto:uutcdesk@uutc.org).

\*See more on this topic on page 6.



## MAD HOT BALLROOM KICKS OFF FILM FEST

ARE announces the 2019 UUTC Inspirational Documentary Film Festival!

Our first film will be ***Mad Hot Ballroom*** on Sunday, March 10th from 3:30-5:30 pm. ***Mad Hot Ballroom*** is a beautiful film about elementary students in NYC who learn ballroom dancing and compete in a city wide dance competition. This film will capture your heart and lift your spirits! This is the true story on which the film *Take the Lead*, with Antonio Banderas, was based. We hope you'll join us for an afternoon of fun and inspiration. A Love offering will be taken to support speakers and other programming from ARE.

## BEYOND THE BUDGET — STRATEGIC PLANNING

This is an article about needs and desires in the context of current growth and congregational trends. In the table below, you will see a list of projects requested by one group or another (or by your Administrator) to meet identified needs. Some of these can't be accomplished at this time (like the headset microphone) because of limitations outside of funds, and others are missing identification as a "compelling" need, as defined by Teams.

Removed from the "voting" on this list were any older votes that did not reach the level of "compelling need" (receiving the votes of at least 3 Teams). But we also have some new items that were not identified earlier. And we have one item that is slated for acquisition via donation in kind— fireproof file cabinets.

Banners for Sanctuary	-\$2,000.00			
<b>Janitorial Mop Sink</b>	<b>-\$2,300.00</b>			
second headset mic [under assessment--system difficulties]	-\$600.00			
Glass Magnetic whiteboard for small classroom, 7'x4' (15 yr warranty)	-\$700.00	XXX		ARE, CRE, Facilities
<b>55" TV, mount &amp; Apple TV for social hall (HDMI splitter, electrician)</b>	<b>-\$1,200.00</b>	XXX		ARE, CRE, Welcoming
Choral Responses booklet (35)	-\$275.00			
<b>Picnic Tables for Varsity Fellowship area</b>	<b>-\$475.00</b>			
<b>Sound System repair/upgrades</b>	<b>-?????</b>			
LED lighting -- additional row in East wing	-\$425.00			
LED lighting -- kitchen, office, halls	-\$1,980.00	XX		SA, Facilities
Complete sanctuary paint job (including all drywall repair)	-\$4,750.00			
"Egress" doors -- all exits				
security cameras				
<b>Social Hall insulating blinds (reduce electric consumption, ARE)</b>	<b>-\$2,200.00</b>	XXXX		ARE, SA, Facilities, Welcoming
Insulated skylight blinds for choir wing (reduce electric consumption)	-\$2,800.00			

*Continued on page 6*

## SUPPORTING KIDS SO THEY WILL THRIVE

Are you interested in making some kid's **spring** REALLY special? We're trying to help kids **in our local** Hispanic community play spring soccer through the **Transylvania Youth Soccer Association**. Soccer helps kids gain confidence and learn the value of teamwork. Plus, it's great fun! We've got registration fees covered, but **need** assistance with shoes and uniforms. \$75 will cover those costs for one lucky kid.

### ¿HABLA USTED ESPANOL?

Our community occasionally needs translators and interpreters, and YOU could help out. If you speak another language, please let us know. We are especially looking for Spanish speakers to help our local Hispanic community. Your assistance could help parents communicate with teachers or other needs. For either of these initiatives, contact Bobby King from Social Action: (678-592-4068)



### UUTC FALL RETREAT @ THE MOUNTAIN: REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

It's 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!

We are scheduled for the weekend of **October 4-6, 2019**. Unfortunately, there are only about 40 spaces available because The Mountain is so well scheduled with other UU congregations and other programs. We will be sharing the Retreat Center with a congregation from Columbia. 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.

**UUTC cannot make these reservations on your behalf, so make sure you go online to <https://themountainrlc.org/retreats/> and reserve space now!**

## THE YELLOW BOX IS BACK!

The American Association of University Women begin collecting your books this month, the 50th year of their annual book sale. UUTC has always been very generous with their book contributions! You will find our familiar yellow box under the coat rack and contributions can be placed here and will be picked up every Sunday morning.



The money made at the sale is distributed to deserving women in the form of scholarships to Brevard College and Blue Ridge Community College. If you have too many books to carry, call Penny Davies at 828-966-9393 and she will arrange to have them picked up from your home. The American Association of University Women thank you for your books and your generosity.

*Beyond the Budget, Continued from page 4*

The mechanism for supporting these outside-the-budget items has been accumulation of donations in the **Sponsored Project Fund**. This is a capital fund, not an operating fund. Pledges are never allocated to the Sponsored Project Fund. No new donations to this fund have come in this fiscal year—though plenty of other outside-the-budget donations have been made to the Endowment fund, where we have made fantastic progress. The Board authorizes projects when funds are available.

We have a new level of urgency, however, for some items in this list (in bold). The first supports the need for additional fellowship & classroom space—picnic tables. The cost listed above is for four assembled and delivered picnic tables. These tables will provide outdoor seating for Sandwich Sundays and a place for Danny to meet with our kiddos during CRE time—whether it is on Sundays or during the summer. The second is a TV with all the necessary “fixins” to use for memorial service overflow, Adult Religious and Children’s Religious Exploration needs. This includes wiring for the setup, a wall mount, the actual TV, cabling for ethernet and HDMI from our sanctuary video camera and other accessories to meet needs of ARE/CRE — a DVD player and AppleTV.

The third is the janitorial mop sink. Currently (and this is one reason we aren’t licensed as a commercial kitchen), mopping the floor means either emptying a mop bucket into the kitchen sink (ponder that a moment) or pouring soiled water which contains cleaning fluids into our parking lot storm drains which drain into Jumping Branch. There’s a reason this building feature is part of standard commercial kitchen code—to protect human health and our water supply.

Already on your radar should be our sound system, which needs at least some tweaking. Of the four companies contacted two weeks ago to diagnose and remedy, one emailed and called and is likely to be here on Monday to do an assessment. When that assessment has a number attached to it, the Board will be notified.

The final project to call your attention to is thermal privacy blinds for the social hall. Roberta Carver, of the Aesthetics Team (sub-team of Facilities) got new bids for this project which reflect a higher R value (4.5) and a lower price. With the social hall being pressed into greater service, the ability to control heat and light in that space would be a benefit to many... including all whose pledges pay our power bills!



These projects really need your support if you can contribute to the cause. Make your check out to UUTC and put “Sponsored Projects” on the memo line. And thank you!

## PLANNING FOR IMPERMANENCE

The Facilities Team, charged with strategic planning in meeting some immediate and long-term needs, has been working with a footprint of the property to conceptualize solutions.



The first need was to address a “church use” for the footprint of the former house on the property. Having a defined congregational use means that we will not pay property taxes on the land. This identified need was defined as a Fellowship Space—hence, picnic tables we already own were moved to that part of our property, with the intention that more will be added so that the Welcoming Team doesn’t have to drag our folding tables out for Sandwich Sundays, and the Facilities Team will not have to wash the legs of the tables and chairs every good-weather month.

In this drawing, you can see their proposed plan for the space. Tables are to be surrounded by wildflower meadow, with some stones for structure, and some type of shade (probably shade cloths) set up to create a joyful, playful space.

The second need addressed in their plan is to provide better privacy for the women of the Oxford House. You may have seen them hanging privacy blinds from the porch— they would love to be more protected from the eye-level glare of headlights. The new plan includes moving existing stone edge pieces to create a raised bed at the front of the house, with attractive native plantings to provide better screening. These transported stones will come from beds alongside the house—removal of these stones and repurposing them will also simplify grounds maintenance for Hector.

The final piece they hope to address before summer is the construction of raised beds for CRE use in the summer. Future plans include natural play structures for our children to be located behind the Chalice (yellow) house.

The Facilities Team's plan is designed to meet current needs in an impermanent (no poured concrete, etc.) manner so that the spaces created can be sacrificed without demolition costs. While creation of these spaces will move forward at a pace permitted by funds and energy, their vision is exciting!

**BOARD AGENDA FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 5:00PM**

Welcome

Check In

Opening Words: Brigid Fox

Board Packet Review:

Approval of Minutes • Receipt of Email Votes into the Record • Minister's Report • Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports: Administration, Finance, Property • Council Report

Old Business

Discussion of the 2019-2020 Budget

Endowment Fund

New Business

Adjourn

**COLON CANCER AWARENESS & REMEMBRANCE EVENT—SAT MARCH 23**

Come to the Transylvania County Library from 11:00-2:00pm to learn how to recognize the signs & symptoms, reduce your risk of colon cancer and learn how and when to get screened! A 12-foot inflatable colon lets you tour a colon to observe healthy and diseased state. The event is sponsored by the Library, Transylvania Public Health, Blue Ridge Health, the American Cancer Society and Carolina Mountain Gastroenterology. Encourage folks to come to this event for better health.

**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](mailto:admin@uutc.org).