



# The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

July 13, 2016



2701 Heyward Street, Columbia, SC 29205  
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## Sunday Schedule

**Forum:** 9:30 am in the Library

**Worship:** 11:00 am-12:15 pm

**Nursery:** Available during service for infants through age 4

### July 17, 2016

**9:30 am Forum Topic**

What were the origins of religion?

**11:00 am Sermon Topic**

*Getting Fear Out of the Driver's Seat*, by Rev. Stephen Robinson

### July 24, 2016

**9:30 am Forum Topic**

"Just following orders": The Authoritative Personality

**11:00 am Sermon Topic**

*God's Plan: An Update*, Rev. Ron Prier

## Unigram Deadline

The deadline for the next issue is **Sunday, July 24**, for publication on **Wednesday, July 27**. *Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.* Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to [uucc@uucolumbia.org](mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org).

## Minister's Meditation

This column is a reprinting of Rev. Jennie's Minister's Meditation from mid-June

*"Hard Work for Our Friends in Orlando"*

Dear Members and Friends,

On Monday, the day after the massacre in Orlando, I was at a loss. Since it was my day off, I bounced around town trying to get chores and errands done. I can't say as it made me feel any better. But occupying my time with tasks helped to stave off becoming overcome by emotions. When I'd gotten a good ways down my to-do list, I decided to get my hair cut. It felt reassuring to walk in and see that my hairdresser, Kristen, was there and available to do my hair.

"Just a little shorter," I said to her, "I want it to look professional and correct for some ministers' meetings I have to go to." We chatted about her children, and how all children do better at school when they turn off their cell phones and the TV. We talked about social media, and I said, "I don't even know where I heard this, or whether it's true or not, but I read that people who are on Facebook all the time can end up feeling lonelier." "That *is* true," Kristen said. "I think it's because the interactions are superficial, instead of in-depth and face-to-face." "It is that (Kristen said) and also because people are reading about the things other people are doing, that seem so fancy and exciting. Then they feel disappointed in their own lives." "Well, we shouldn't compare ourselves to others," I said. Kristen smiled and said, "But we all do."

We then talked about how Facebook *can* be good for keeping up with how family and friends are, in ways that they don't necessarily have time to pick up the phone and tell you. "Yes, (Kristen said), that's how we found out about Orlando." "Thank you for saying that (I said). I'm really very shaken about it. I'm just trying to 'act normal.'"

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*(Paul Simon sings, "I'm alright, I'm alright-- I'm just weary to my bones...")*

"We have a friend there," Kristen said. "You have a friend in Orlando?" I asked. "Yes," Kristen said, "So that's how we found out that he was alright-- because he posted something on Facebook, on Sunday morning." "I'm so sorry that you had to go through that," I said.

*(Patty Sheehan, the Orlando City Commissioner, sings, "I don't know a soul who's not been battered; I don't have a friend who feels at ease. I don't know a dream that's not been shattered, or driven to its knees.")*

Then I asked Kristen about a hair product that she had mentioned to me the last time she did my hair. The gel I had been using wasn't working. My hair kept flopping down onto my forehead. So she recommended something different. And I told her about my hairdresser, back when I lived in Portland Maine, in the 1990s. I'd told him I wanted my hair to go back, away from my face. And he'd said, "Jennie, your hair doesn't go back, it falls forward. That's just what it's like. So you have to work with it the way that it naturally is." Each month when I saw him, he would talk to me about a man he loved, whom he shared his life with. He would refer to him by his first name, endearingly. Yet he never said that he was gay. And I never asked.

*(The Indigo Girls sing, "But it's alright, it's alright, for we've lived so well so long. Still when I think of the road we're travelling on, I wonder what's gone wrong. I can't help it, I wonder what's gone wrong.")*

Kristen went and got the hair product she'd recommended to me, which was a cream instead of a gel. She was sure it would work well for my hairstyle. "But it's for men (She said, as if in the interest of full disclosure) or for boys." "That's okay," I said. "That's fine with me." "It's called, 'Work Hard,'" she said. "Well, I'm always doing that." "I know you are," Kristen said.

Whether or not a person is gay should be no more cause for judgment than whether the hair product they use is marketed for women or men. For how many years have I been saying, "Being gay is not a choice; it's simply the way some people are born. Approximately the same number of people are born gay as the percentage of people who are born left-handed. Therefore being gay should not be a moral issue"? --for over twenty years. I will not stop teaching this, no matter how hard the work is, no matter how long the work takes. Unitarian Universalists affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of all human beings. And we believe that we are all connected to one another. And, as the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker wrote, "We must choose to, not curse, but bless the world."

*(John Donne sings, "And I dreamed I was dying. I dreamed that my soul rose, unexpectedly. And looking back down at me, smiled reassuringly.")*

During the Plague, John Donne saw people dying all around him and wrote:

"No man is an island, entire of itself;  
Every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.  
If a clod be washed away by the sea,  
Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were,  
as well as if a manor of thy friend's or of thine own were:  
any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind.  
And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls;  
It tolls for thee."

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During our brief time on this earth, it matters what we teach, it matters what we say, it matters what we do. My religion has taught me that there is so much we can do that is reconciling, compassionate, and justice-seeking. And because we can, we have a duty to try. Unitarian Universalist teachings save lives.

*(The "Ordinary Americans" sing, "And I dreamed I was flying. And high up above, my eyes could clearly see the Statue of Liberty sailing away to sea.")*

*(And Harvey Milk sings, "And I dreamed I was dying.")*

Harvey Milk wrote, in 1978:

"You have to give them hope. Hope for a better world, hope for a better tomorrow, hope for a better place to come to if the pressures at home are too great. Hope that all will be all right. Without hope, not only gays, but the blacks, the seniors, the handicapped, the us'es, the us'es will give up... And you and you and you, you have to give people hope."

*(The Presidents sing, "We come on the ship they call the Mayflower. We come on the ship that sailed the moon.")*

*(Walt Whitman sings, "We come in the age's most uncertain hour, and sing an American Tune. Oh, but it's alright-- It's alright, it's alright.")*

The Universalists taught that we *can* be forever blessed-- each and every one.

Unitarian Universalist teachings save people's lives. The Rev. Joel Miller told us so, when he preached to the UUA General Assembly, after the Columbine shooting. He had been the minister of the Unitarian Universalist congregation in Littleton, Colorado. He said:

"To my Unitarian Universalist people, I tell you... we cannot live in shame or wallow in despair. There is not time, there are lives at stake. You see, Unitarian Universalism saves lives. I realized this in the weeks following the shooting: I realized that lives were saved by Unitarian Universalist heroes — by our youth group advisors who have sustained our youth programs, and brought hope and meaning where there was none... All of our congregations that welcome gays and lesbians, that have youth programs, these programs save lives. Imagine if every town had a Unitarian Universalist congregation... billions of people would journey toward wholeness and dismantle racism. They would grow up with a healthy sexuality, both gay and straight...they would know the good news of compassionate wisdom. We do not have time to indulge ourselves in being a small, self-satisfied religion... there are lives at stake! ...please tell the people at home: 'this faith saves lives...it can change the world.' And if they ask you, 'really?' , tell them that I know... I have seen it already. By taking small step after small step, every day, and giving a few hours a week to advise a youth group, to understand and dismantle racism, by giving a few hours of pay to support this Association, you help us to start new congregations, and give hope in places where there was none. Go back, tell our people, that it matters that this Association is here, it matters that they are here. Tell them that with this faith, they can and they will save lives."

*(And a Cloud of Witnesses sing, "Still tomorrow's gonna be another working day, and I'm trying to get some rest-- That's all I'm trying to get some rest.")*

Yours in faith,

Rev. Jennie

"It's a privilege to be here."

## Directions Reflections Expectations

“ Live your beliefs and you can turn the world around. ”

Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862) American Author

Ahhh, I want to believe! I truly, truly do yet I have believed in peace and have acted on that belief since I was able to organize sit-ins. Yet we are still terrorized daily here in this country by the powers who have bastardized the interpretation of our 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment for **profit**. Our children are being slaughtered and anyone else who doesn't fit within the narrow guidelines of what some conservatives think everyone should be have targets on them. Well, like you, I am fed up with the violence, the hate-speech that incites it, and the whole lot of them. I just want to live in a world where children are safe within our protective boundaries. But I do not live in that world of make-believe. I do not live in a country whose people will do anything to keep their children safe. And my belief that I can make a difference is dented and tarnished. Yet I nourish a glimmer, a nugget of belief that I can make a difference. Each and every time I model a peaceful approach to conflict resolution; each and every letter I write to a representative; each and every time I attend a demonstration. And the nugget grows when I see and hear children out protesting, writing letters, and working towards changing the world. Their belief that their actions can make a difference, their pure idealism makes me remember why I do what I do. And I believe yet again.

I am reminded of a little girl, a young UU by the way, whose letter to a foreign leader helped to bring peace between two super powers. Samantha Smith was her name. She believed. And she wrote a letter. And that letter led to her becoming an ambassador of peace and a trip to Russia. Are we raising those young children? Are we doing everything we can to bring about peace? Let's face it: someone has to do it and that someone could be you.

Peace, Brothers and Sisters. Peace!  
Stephanie Palmer-Smith

# Thank You

## Planned Parenthood

Dear UUC: This week, with your help, we provided an uninsured student with affordable birth control. We provided a woman with a family history of cervical cancer with a Pap test. And we gave a single father the tools he needs to talk to his young daughter about the importance of safe sex. You may not know their names, but your support makes moments like this possible. We are so grateful for your congregation's donation of \$1,145.69. Thank you for the significant investment that you have made and your confidence in our work. We appreciate knowing that you all are in our corner! Sincerely, Jenny Black, President and CEO: "UU's are the best!"

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## UUC Partner Church

An enthusiastic, belated, but now illustrated, Thank You for your record setting generosity to our Unitarian Partner Church in Beszterce, and to its dedicated minister. Feast your eyes on Zsolt and his "dream vehicle", albeit 10 years old, geared to tote items for his Beszterce congregation and his annual bicycle expedition with students, this year to Poland (yes really!) The funds raised at our festive Cabaret in January, and through The Share the Plate contributions in February are spreading great joy across The Pond. The 12 UUC "pilgrims", going to Transylvania in August will ceremoniously hand over to the "Lay Leader" of the Beszterce church your monetary gift. And what great joy for us to see it put to use.... An Historic Event for sure! What a way to celebrate a quarter century of partnership. Thank You UUC! The UUC Partner Church Committee



# News and Notes

**July 17, 2016**

*Getting Fear Out of the Driver's Seat*, by Rev. Stephen Robinson

The focus of the service is choosing love and how it empowers instead of being guided by fear.

**Rev. Stephen Robinson Bio:** I am an ACPE Supervisor and Chaplaincy Manager at Palmetto Health. I am married to Michelle Robinson, who is a chaplain at Self Regional and pastor at Clayton Memorial UU Church. I have two daughters, Mary Rose (14) and Sarah (8). We live in Irmo, with our two dogs Sadie and Brinkley.

**July 24, 2016**

*God's Plan: An Update*, by Rev. Ron Prier

Why are current religions out of date? There is a plan, but it is not about us...and that should be reassuring

**July 31, 2016**

*Knowing and Being Known*, by Rev. Rod Brown

In our journeys towards self-knowledge and understanding others, there is another kind of mindfulness, another level of relationship to take into account. Join me as I share some thoughts about the spiritual dimensions of knowing and being known in community

## **Treasurer's 2015/2016 Budget Update for 5/31/2016**

Pledges needed: \$198,055

Actual Pledges received: \$190,053

Shortage: \$8,002

To all who pledged to support the UUC for 2015/2016:

If you have not paid your pledge or are behind in your pledge, please consider how much your promise means to the livelihood and continued viability of the Congregation. Pledged funds represent 85% of the income of the UUC. Failure to receive pledges can create a serious lack of funding for all the UUC's wonderful activities, not to mention the salaries of our minister and staff.

So, if you have pledged to support the UUC, please be sure your payments are up to date. With grateful appreciation, Linda Brennison, Board Treasurer.

## **New Meeting Room for the Forum**

The Forum will meet in Classroom 8 for the summer months.

## **UUC Family Painting Festival**

Thanks to everyone who assisted with the Family Painting Festival this week.

We particularly thank Nancie Shillington

-Perez, Sandra Shillington-Lopez, Patrick

Saucier, Phil Turner, Lis Turner, John Logue, and Gadson.

Also, Regina Moody for providing painting enhancement.

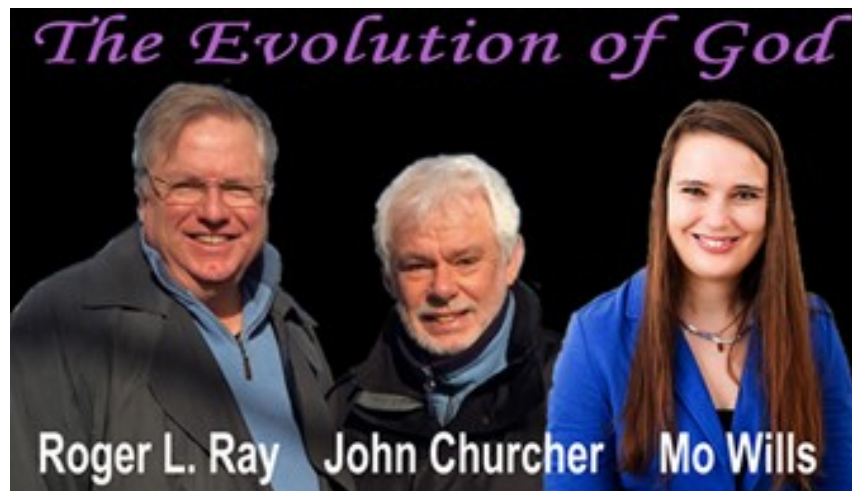
In the coming week, we will be adding finishing touches to the trim and doors on the walls between the minister's office and the first RE Classroom. If you enjoy that sort of painting, please let me know.

I am happy to announce we have reached the first plateau for this project. Victory is ours!

Our next stage is some general maintenance on the CYRE Wing and we will resume painting in October. If you have volunteered and not yet been called, NEVER FEAR, I have your name and contact information when the painting phase resumes. Thank you all who signed up and helped make this Congregation one where I CAN BE THE BEST THAT I CAN BE!

We still need contributions for paint, brushes and to pay people outside the Congregation that helped. Your small check can be placed in the container on the table in the Social Hall or given to Carolyn West. If paying by check, make payable to UUC and put "Building & Grounds" on the memo line.





So you've pulled away from a traditional belief in God as an all-knowing friend in the sky. What are the alternatives? And if you go to church, what do you do there? We've pulled together three exciting speakers who discuss beliefs from traditional to atheist and all points in between. They will discuss agnostic, post-theist, humanist, and panentheist views.

On August 12, 13, and 14 the UUCC will hold a conference addressing religion in the modern world. "What Do We Mean When We Say 'GOD'?" will be led by Rev. Dr. Roger Ray, pastor of the Community Christian Church in Springfield, MO; and two British ministers: Rev. John Churcher, former chair of the Progressive Christian Network in Great Britain; and Rev. Mo Wills, an English pastor educated at Cambridge. The cost for the three day event is \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door. Checks can be made out to the UUCC with "Conference" written on the memo line. Please refer to our Facebook Events page for additional information. Participation is limited to 200 so please register as soon as possible to secure your place.



## Harvest Hope

Have you been wondering about what's happening with the Harvest Hope food basket that you have been donating to? We have collected 149 pounds of food for the hungry in the last several weeks. In these summer months while school is out there is even more need for assistance as there is no help for those families that were getting meals for their children at school on reduced (or free) prices for breakfast and lunch. These children are now going with very little for a day's meal. Please bring what you can to help increase the amount that we are delivering to Harvest Hope. They are in need of even more food than they were in the past. Also just a note to save the date to join the Social Action Committee to volunteer at Harvest Hope on Saturday, October 15 from 9:00 to 12:00. There will be more information about this later.

## Call for Coffeehouse Volunteers

The UU Coffeehouse is a long standing tradition of our congregation. It may be the single thing that the UUCC is best known for in the greater Columbia area. And, it is certainly one of the premier “listening” venues in the Midlands. To keep this excellent program going, which attracts hundreds of people to the UUCC every season, ***volunteers are needed***. If you want to attend fantastic concerts for free, enjoy excellent coffeehouse treats, and keep company with some very cool cats, we can use your help one Saturday a month this fall. To volunteer visit our web page: [uucoffeehouse.org](http://uucoffeehouse.org).

## Meals on Wheels for Pets

A beloved pet can be the only companion for many home-bound seniors. The animal mission of our congregation asks you to give a thought to these animal companions. Donate any unopened pet food or supplies in the Social Hall by the front doors.

## Save Toiletries from Summer Travels, for Homeless Shelters

The Social Action Committee urges you to use your discretion and bring back unopened toiletries from the hotels and motels you'll be staying in during your summer vacation or other travel. Place them in the food collection baskets at

the entrance to the Social Hall. They will be donated to homeless shelters as needed or saved for the Inclement Weather Center (winter shelter) when it opens on November 1. For more information, contact Tom Clements, 803-240-7268 or [tomclements329@cs.com](mailto:tomclements329@cs.com).

## Sunday Greeters Needed

While Don Dodson is recuperating, Dot Brown will coordinate the greeter program and is looking for volunteers who would like to join our merry little group. Greeters have options of dates when they volunteer and it is usually from 10:30- 11:00 a.m. when services start. Occasionally we need someone from 10:00-11:00 a.m. For many visitors this is their first impression of UU and a personal “good morning” and “welcome” always helps in creating a welcoming atmosphere. Please contact Dot Brown at [dbrown114@aol.com](mailto:dbrown114@aol.com).

## Calling Artists for Art Group



If you are interested in working on your art with others for support, encouragement and feedback, the Art Group is for you. We meet weekly on **Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - noon** in the UUCC Social Hall. Bring your own supplies and prepare to enjoy the company of other artists at no cost. No instruction provided. Please contact Ruthie Saunders at [rsaunders@sc.edu](mailto:rsaunders@sc.edu) if you would like to participate or if you have questions.



## **The Mountain, September 16-18**

Can you envision sitting in a rocking chair on an open deck overlooking a beautiful valley below peppered with fertile farms yielding cabbages and pumpkins? How about engaging in a lively discussion with friends, old and new, about how beautiful our new RE Painting project looks. Or sitting around a campfire in the late evening singing while enjoying s'mores.

Well, it's not just a fairy tale. This can be you and your family and friends. Just two months away our annual weekend at The Mountain is September 16-18. The all-inclusive prices include dinner Friday through lunch on Sunday. Adults-\$190; Youth 8 through 17-\$70; Children 0 through 7-Free. We really want you there so financial help is readily available. Someone will be at the Membership table after the service to help with registering.

## **Chair Yoga, Tuesdays**

Chair yoga entails about 45 minutes of real yoga but it takes place mostly seated. It is ideal for people who want to improve flexibility but who do not like (or, for physical reasons, cannot do) the typical yoga class. Chair Yoga meets in the UUCS Social Hall at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. Please contact Ruthie Saunders [rsaunders@sc.edu](mailto:rsaunders@sc.edu).



## **Seeking another Chair Yoga Instructor...**

We have had such a great response to our Chair Yoga class that we need an additional Chair Yoga Instructor so we can meet twice per week! If you have yoga instruction background and are interested in a one-day training session in adapted yoga to become a Chair Yoga instructor, please contact Ruthie Saunders, [rsaunders@sc.edu](mailto:rsaunders@sc.edu), who can also provide you with some more links and information about training opportunities.

## **Transitions Volunteers Needed Second Saturday of Each Month**

UUCS has a recurring obligation to help serve the evening meal at Transitions Homeless Recovery Center, 2025 Main Street in Columbia, on the second Saturday of every month. Contact Bob Whitaker at [bobwhit46@gmail.com](mailto:bobwhit46@gmail.com) to volunteer.

## **Visitor Orientation, Sunday, July 17**

Our next Visitor orientation class will be held on Sunday, July 17 in the UUCS library. We will begin about 15 minutes after service and usually end in about 45 minutes. Light refreshments will be served. If you are new to the UUCS, or have come for a while and have questions then this session is for you. This class is designed to help familiarize you with the principles of Unitarian Universalism and answer any questions you might have. For more information contact: Patty Drews at [membership@uucolumbia.org](mailto:membership@uucolumbia.org) or 803-931-6799

## **September Set, Friday, July 22**

Our monthly September Set for our UUCS Seniors will be held Friday, July 22. We will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall with conversation and getting to know each other better. Bring a dish to share and join in the fun. Long time and new members and friends are welcome. We hope to see you there. Contact Jean Capalbo at [jacapalbo@gmail.com](mailto:jacapalbo@gmail.com) or Pat Mohr at [patmohr@mindspring.com](mailto:patmohr@mindspring.com)

## **UUCS Book Club, Sunday, July 24**

The next UUCS Book Club meeting is Sunday, July 24 at 6:30 pm. Marlene Mackey will facilitate a discussion on *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* by Daniel James Brown. We will meet at a member's home. The UUCS Book Club is open to all members and friends of UUCS. Please contact Ruthie Saunders if you have questions or would like more information: [rsaunders@sc.edu](mailto:rsaunders@sc.edu)

## Hiroshima Vigil, Saturday, August 6

August 6, 2016, marks the 71st anniversary of the detonation of the first atomic bomb over Hiroshima, Japan, followed three days later by an atomic bomb dropped over Nagasaki, Japan. These first and, to date only, unleashing of atomic weapons caused the death of over 200,000 human beings. We of the Community of Quakers invite you, as sisters and brothers of the faith communities of the Midlands, to join us in a Hiroshima Vigil on Saturday, August 6, at 7:00 p.m., at our Columbia Friends Meeting House at 120 Pisgah Church Road.

## Writing Group Cancellation, August 9

The UCC Writing Group will not meet on August 9. The group will resume their regular schedule on September 13.

## Women's Book Group, Tuesday, August 9

The Women's Book Group will meet Tuesday, August 9 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8 to discuss *A Thousand Acres* by Jane Smiley. Anyone with questions may contact Sandy Chubon, 776-0784 or [orsjchubon@sc.rr.com](mailto:orsjchubon@sc.rr.com)



## UCC Congregation: We Need Your Help!

As you may know, the 2016-2017 operations budget is insufficient for the needs anticipated for the coming year. To supplement our pledges, your FRAT (Fund-RAising Team) has met twice now and generated many ideas for raising money, with an emphasis on activities that will attract the public at large as well as build our UCC community. So far we have the following events planned for this summer/fall:

**August 14:** Back-to-School Ice Cream Social - 3-5 PM

**August 20:** Bluegrass Music Concert - Ken Chapelle

**September 10:** Garage Sale

**October 15:** Crafts Workshop - Mask-Making

**November 5 or 12:** Holiday Bazaar

We will need help from each of you to make these successful. If you have experience with any of the activities and/or can assist us in running them, please contact one of these three FRAT members: Sej Harman ([sejharman@att.net](mailto:sejharman@att.net); cell: 730-7208) Patrick Saucier ([pjsauci@malibox.sc.edu](mailto:pjsauci@malibox.sc.edu); cell: 727-2499); or Pat Mohr ([patmohr@mindspring.com](mailto:patmohr@mindspring.com);

cell: 463-3504).

If you have other ideas for raising money for this year's budget, talk to any of these people or to other members of the Team, which include Carita Barr, Jean Capalbo, Don & Carol Dodson, Mike Kelly, Cheryl Soehl, or Reenie Stahl.

## Gay Pride Event, September 3

Come one! Come All! Be sure you don't miss out on the FAMOUSLY HOT SOUTH CAROLINA 2016 GAY PRIDE EVENT on Saturday, September 3. We are already working on our beautiful rainbow float and looking for a great turnout. We have seats for fifteen on the float who cannot walk the parade route and more room for little ones to sit on it. We want to make a good showing this year of both young and old. Let's see you young people get involved in cheering this on. It was a wonderful day last year and we look forward to an even better one this year. We will be carrying our big banner and want to make a good representation of UCC at this event. If you would like to help with the float or the event in any way please contact the committee chairs Jeanette Walton ([jeanette.walton@bcbssc.com](mailto:jeanette.walton@bcbssc.com)) or Grant Seuser ([gseuser@gmail.com](mailto:gseuser@gmail.com)).



# Religious Education

## An Interfaith Art Contest!

Do you have some artistic talent you would like to lend to a good cause? Promoting peace is a way artists across the world are using their creations. Spread the peace! Peace in the Park, an Interfaith Partnership of South Carolina event, is proud to offer children and youth throughout Columbia an opportunity to participate in their “Peace in the Park” art contest. Please follow the link below for details.

[Peace in the Park Art Contest](#)

## Hogwarts 2016

We are so pleased that our camp was attended by 38 youngsters with the help of 10+ adults. It was amazing!!! It was awesome! It was enchanting. Those of us who were involved are excited about what we can do with it next year and are making plans to extend it to two weeks. I am pleased that magic lives and that we are a safe and creative place for kids to nurture their beliefs. If you have not experienced the transformative energy of this event, please take a moment to view the event here. [Hogwarts School of Magic](#)



## Children Youth Religious Education Calendar

**Sunday July 17-CYRE:** Prepping for a Beatrix Potter Multi-Generational Service

**Sunday July 24 CYRE:** Micro-Organisms with John Logue This is truly happening on this Sunday! We seldom think in terms of our interdependence upon these key organisms yet they are everywhere! Student will have an opportunity to meet some of earth’s smallest living organisms.

## Storage Space Needed!

Do you have any space for storing books? We have several boxes of books and vinyl stored in the CYRE wing. These were items left over from our book sale. We are willing to donate them but would like to keep them for the next general fund bazaar coming up soon. We can, if necessary, transport the books. Please contact Stephanie: [dre@uucolumbia.org](mailto:dre@uucolumbia.org), or 207-400-9428 for more details.

**UUCC Board of Trustees**  
**Summary of April 20, 2016 Meeting**

The Board of Trustees met April 20, 2016 from 6:31 to 7:58 PM.

**Treasurer's Report**

The total revenue shortfall for this fiscal year has increased to \$12,666. Expenses are still slightly under budget. We need to continue emphasis on this year's pledges as well as next year's canvass.

**Committee Reports**

**Building & Grounds** We have an estimate to treat the mold in the RE wing for \$3525. There was no action by the committee this month.

**Denominational Connections Committee** Richard Culler has an announcement to be shared to inform delegates to GA that the UUCC will pay part of their registration fee.

**Finance Committee** is working on the canvass while preparing the budget for next year. The Committee will present the budget to the Board May 11.

**Leadership Development Committee** presented their recommendation for members of the Ministerial Search Committee: Linda Brennison, Rod Brown, David Crockett, Rebecca Drennan, Brian Dudick, Ann Johnson, and Buzzie Kelly. The Board accepted this slate to be voted on by the members at the Annual Meeting on May 22.

**Worship Committee** is planning a 2-3 day conference on Progressive Religion in August with Roger Ray as the keynote speaker. They have requested a loan of \$1,000 for seed money to cover early expenses before registration income arrives. Richard McLeod will come to next month's Board meeting to provide more information about the conference.

Minutes summarized by

Sandy Chubon, Secretary

# Meetings & Rentals

|  |   |           |                           |
|--|---|-----------|---------------------------|
| Board Meeting                                  | Wednesday, July 20  | 6:30 pm   | Social Hall               |
| Bon Voyage                                     | Every Wednesday   | 7:00 pm   | Member's Home             |
| Children & Youth RE Committee                  | Sunday, TBA   | 12:30 pm  | Classroom # 8             |
| Choir  | Sunday, August 28?  | 9:30 am   | Sanctuary                 |
| Committee Night (starts with dinner)           | 1st Wednesday of each month   | 6:00 pm   | Dinner in the Social Hall |
| CUUP's, Gaia's Rising                          | Every Thursday  | 7:30 pm   | Library                   |
| Forum  | Every Sunday  | 9:30 am   | Library                   |
| Green Committee                                | TBA   | 6:30 pm   | Classroom # 8             |
| Knit or Not                                    | Every Monday  | 7:00 pm   | Classroom # 8             |
|  |   |           |                           |
| Membership Committee                           | 1st Wednesday of month  | 7:00 pm   | Classroom #8              |
| Visitor Orientation                            | Sunday, July 17   | 12:15 pm  | Library                   |
| Science & Religion                             | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday  | 7:00 pm   | Classroom # 8             |
| September Set                                  | Friday, July 22   | 6:00 pm   | Social Hall               |
| Social Action Committee                        | Sunday, August 7  | 12:30 pm  | Classroom # 8             |
| Technology Committee                           | Wednesday, August 3   | 6:00 pm   | Workroom 1                |
| UU Animal Ministry                             | Wednesday, August 10  | 6:00 pm   | Classroom # 5             |
| UU Book Club                                   | 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday  | 6:30 pm   | Member's Home             |
| UU Humanist                                    | 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday  | 7:00 pm   | Classroom # 8             |
| UU Partner Church Committee                    | Contact: Lee Minghi, 798-0904; Carita Barr, 782-0053; or Susan Robinson, 446-0675 | 7:00 pm   | Classroom # 8             |
| Women's Book Club                              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday   | 7:00 pm   | Classroom # 8             |
| Writing Group                                  | Tuesday, September 13   | 6:30 pm   | Classroom # 5             |
| <b>Rentals</b>                                 |   |           |                           |
| La Leche League                                | 3rd Tuesdays  | 6-8pm     | Classroom # 5             |
| Sitting with Sadness                           | Every Monday Starting August 8  | 7-8:15 pm | Social Hall               |
| Tai Chi 803-772-9557<br>columbia.sc@taoist.org | Every Thursday  | 6:30 pm   | Social Hall               |
| Meditation                                     | Every Monday  | 7:00 pm   | Library                   |
| Men's AA                                       | Every Tuesday   | 6:30 pm   | Social Hall               |
| Agnostic AA                                    | Every Sunday  | 5:00 pm   | Library                   |
| Women's AA                                     | Every Wednesday   | 6:30 pm   | Library                   |

## The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism

Grateful for the religious pluralism that enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. We covenant to affirm and promote:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person
2. Justice, equity, and compassion in human relationships
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and society at large
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
7. Respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part

If these principles reflect your understanding of the world and appeal to your sense of spiritual fulfillment, we invite you to consider membership in the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia. If you would like to discuss membership or if you would simply like more information, please speak to any member of the Membership Committee or of the Board of Trustees.

### UUCB Board of Trustees

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### UUCB Staff

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Interim Minister              | Rev. Jennie Barrington, <i><a href="mailto:interim@uucolumbia.org">interim@uucolumbia.org</a></i> |
| Administrator                 | Andrea Dudick, <i><a href="mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org">uucc@uucolumbia.org</a></i>                |
| Director Religious Education  | Stephanie Palmer-Smith, <i><a href="mailto:dre@uucolumbia.org">dre@uucolumbia.org</a></i>         |
| Bookkeeper                    | Ginny Verne, <i><a href="mailto:bookkeeper@uucolumbia.org">bookkeeper@uucolumbia.org</a></i>      |
| Custodian                     | Jeff Kruse, <i><a href="mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org">uucc@uucolumbia.org</a></i>                   |
| Religious Education Assistant | Morgan Hanes, <i><a href="mailto:reassist@uucolumbia.org">reassist@uucolumbia.org</a></i>         |

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**UUCB Forum:** <http://uufc.19.forumer.com>

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