



The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

September 28, 2016



2701 Heyward Street, Columbia, SC 29205
803-799-0845 • www.uucolumbia.org

Sunday Schedule

Forum: 9:30 am in Classroom 8
Worship: 11:00 am-12:15 pm
Nursery: Available during service for infants through age 2

October 2, 2016

9:30 am Forum Topic

How can we create harmony between people?

11:00 am Sermon Topic

A Straw Man, a White Elephant, and a Perfect Storm, by Rev. Jennie Barrington

October 9, 2016

9:30 am Forum Topic

TBA

11:00 am Sermon Topic

World Parliament of Religions, by Jim Taylor

Unigram Deadline

The deadline for the next issue is **Sunday, October 9**, for publication on **Wednesday, October 12**. Items submitted after the deadline will not be published. Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to uucc@uucolumbia.org.

Minister's Meditation

The Rev. Jennie Barrington, Interim Minister

"I did not think I was going to die. Based on my experience, I was confident that I could make an emergency water landing that was survivable. That confidence was stronger than any fear."

[Captain Chesley ("Sully") B. Sullenberger, III., from Highest Duty, p. 237]:

Dear Members and Friends,

Have you seen the movie, *Sully*? It is a thing of beauty. And Captain Sullenberger's landing of that plane on the Hudson River eight years ago, which all 155 people survived, was a thing of beauty that continues to inspire me. In January, I will preach about "Sully's" amazing feat, and also his highly commendable values, ethics, and character. But what is perhaps most inspiring to me is that, to him, that amazing true story is not, ultimately, about him. To him, it is about all of the people who, when they heard that there was great need, assisted in helping others to get safely home. To Captain Sullenberger, that story is, above all else, about the work and care and collaboration of his co-pilot, the flight attendants, his whole crew, the ferry boat crews, and the emergency responders. Captain Sullenberger values human beings, their accomplishments, and their potential. He has an unusually high reverence for human life. He believes that, when a fellow human being is in distress, we must, not be a bystander, but do all we can to help. He is not one to use religious language. I would call him a Secular Humanist. His book does not mention miracles, God, or Jesus. And he says that he did not pray when the plane was going down. He focused on doing his duty to everyone on the plane.

Continued on Page 2

Yesterday, we launched our Capital Campaign for renovations to our building. It, too, was a thing of beauty. And we all had so much fun! Yesterday was the culmination of many months of information-gathering and research, discussions and prioritizing, brainstorming creative ideas and plain old-fashioned hard work. Your Capital Campaign team includes: Pat Mohr (Our Fearless Leader and Chair), Don Dodson, Dot Brown, Kevin Meredith, and Nancie Shillington-Perez, helped and supported by Joe Long (Chair of the Finance Committee), Phil Turner (our ubiquitous President), and Peck Drennan (our Architect). A special mention of gratitude and delight goes to Ruth Saunders, for the models she designed and created of what the completed renovations could look like. Please thank and congratulate all these people for a day and an event that was one of the highlights of my career. I will leave it to them to tell you the exact figure that our initial launch has raised. But “early returns” show that you are well on your way to realizing your goal. Yesterday exceeded my expectations, and I am so pleased and proud of all of you, and all that you have accomplished.

I know that some of you were afraid that, at this time, a Capital Campaign might not succeed. But for many months, I have believed that a Capital Campaign could and would be a happy success. —so long as all of UUCC’s members and friends, like all of the people who made “The Miracle on the Hudson” happen, responded to a great need, by stepping up and helping, generously, collaboratively, and companionably. Our Capital Campaign will continue over the course of the next three weeks. The train has left the station, and is moving along fast and well and inspiringly. Between now and the finish line, let us all do all we can to strengthen and support UUCC as a home for Unitarian Universalism in our region, and beyond-- for the pride of it, for the joy of it, for the fellowship of it, and, most importantly, for the good clean fun of it!

I look forward to seeing you on Sundays, and all through the week,

Affectionately,

Rev. Jennie (“It’s a truly great privilege to be here.”)

Direction

Reflection

Exploration

We will be coming together as a congregation on Friday evening to view a documentary honoring the courageous work of a Unitarian minister and his wife during one of the most horrific times in our human history. I am looking forward to seeing this again with many of you but more importantly, I am looking forward to what this Ken Burns documentary might inspire our congregation to do to show support of the refugees fleeing Syria, the world's latest efforts to decimate populations based on religious beliefs.

By some estimates, over 12 million Syrians have had to flee their homes, half of them children. That's over 6 million children who have had to leave the safety of their homes, some without parents accompanying them. It is hard to fathom that many people whose lives are threatened daily, who have to leave their families to be safe. And I know it is an issue that pulls at the heartstrings and begs us to step up to a higher and greater calling. I believe that we as a congregation can make a difference in this struggle. The question is how? Will we join our Muslim neighbors in raising funds for refugees? Will we write our leaders asking them to increase the numbers of refugees from Syria we allow to come to our shores? Will we participate in demonstrations to show our solidarity with people seeking peace in the Middle East? Will we place signs on our lawn letting our neighbors know we support Syrian refugees whether they be Muslim, Christian, or other? Whatever action we take collectively will be an action I will embrace. And again, I can be proud of our UU heritage as well as proud of our positive actions today.

See you Friday!

Stephanie Palmer-Smith, DRE

Frequently Asked Questions about the Ministerial Search

Question: When Do We Vote For Our Favorite Minister?

Answer: *Congregants do not choose the minister directly.*

Rather, the congregation elects a search committee to act on its behalf and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees. This ministerial search committee, which consists of Linda Brennison, Rod Brown, David Crockett, Rebecca Drennan, Brian Dudick, Ann Johnson, and Buzzie Kelly, will identify and interview candidates who match the congregation's needs and make recommendations to the Board, which will decide whether to extend an offer to a given candidate or abort the process.

Congregants still play a crucial role. They provide the committee with a clear picture of the congregation's strengths, challenges, needs and preferences. That is essential if the search committee is to identify ministers who may be a "fit" for the congregation. Many good ministers will not be a good fit for UUCA. So please, be sure to participate in a focus group and/or fill out a survey.

Question: Which Ministers Are Being Considered?

Answer: *Unless the Board directs the search committee to end its participation in the UUA's candidate selection process, those will be the only candidates under consideration.*

The selection process will include newly-minted seminarians along with experienced ministers from all over the country considering a move to a different congregation. Any minister is potentially eligible to participate in the process by contacting the UUA and declaring interest, even if he or she is not currently serving a UUA member congregation.

A major advantage of participating in the UUA process for congregations is that it serves as a clearinghouse that brings interested congregations and ministers together on the same (virtual) platform, sharing the same information, on the same schedule. For candidates, the anonymity it affords them is especially important to those ministers who are currently serving congregations. Invariably, some of them will choose to return rather than leave.

Let me also be clear that this ministerial search committee is open to considering ministers outside the UUA's candidate selection process. As numerous congregants have noted, this congregation has successfully hired outside the process (as have others). Please be aware however, that congregations may **NOT** entertain outside candidates and participate in the UUA process simultaneously. In other words, they must choose one or the other. They cannot do both. If the Board wishes to opt out of the UUA process it can redirect the search committee or disband it.

Question: What Happens Now?

Answer: *The search committee is preparing the Congregational Record, preparing for the Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop, and preparing to interview candidates. (See the search committee's calendar in the foyer.)*

Immediately, the committee is collecting data from a variety of sources, including a survey, multiple focus groups, and archival records (e.g., past and current budgets). We are using that data to paint an accurate picture of who we are as a congregation. From that picture, we will create a report (a "Congregational Record") that serves as the primary information source for candidates. They will use the Congregational Record to decide their level of interest in us. **So, we need to hear from everyone** in order to provide candidates with an accurate representation of the UUCA.

Short term, UUA representatives will conduct a workshop with us during a November worship service, called *Beyond Categorical Thinking*. Its purpose is to prompt discussion of what we need in a minister. I suspect that most of us will be surprised at the diversity of opinions on what is important in a minister. In a congregation of our size, no single ministerial candidate is likely to match every single congregant's ideal. The key is to find the best possible match for who we are right now AND who we want to be moving forward. The search committee has very little doubt that this congregation will be quite attractive to high-quality ministers, both new and experienced.

Long(ish) term, the UUA selection process "goes live" in late November. The committee will begin contacting mutually interested candidates for phone interviews likely in January of 2017. In the spring of 2017, the committee will arrange to observe preferred candidates at neutral congregations throughout the Southeast. In the spring, if all goes well, the committee will recommend a candidate to the Board.

Share the Plate Nomination Form for 2017

Members and Friends age 18 and older are invited to nominate organizations to be our 2017 Share the Plate recipients. The UUCC donates half of our cash collections each month to an outside charity or social justice organization chosen by our members. Thanks to our congregation's generosity, we have donated over \$50,000 in Share the Plate contributions to community charities over the past five years. Voting will take place in November to choose the recipients from among the top two nominees in each category.

Categories: There are 10 categories of recipients, each of which will be selected for one month in 2017. Members and Friends can nominate organizations in one or more categories, provided it is a 501(c)(3) not-for profit organization. To confirm its status, check the organization's website to verify it is a 501(c)(3).

Category	Nominated Organizations	Website or Contact Person
Animal shelters/Animal services		
Children's services		
Food banks/Food support		
Environmental issues		
Health issues		
Homeless shelters		
International aid		
Legal aid		
LGBT issues		
Women's issues		
Minister's Discretionary Fund	Pre-selected	No vote necessary
UU Service Committee (human	Pre-selected	No vote necessary

Your Name: _____ Your Phone or Email: _____

Email this information to socialaction@uucolumbia.org or place it in the box labeled "Share the Plate Nominations" in the UUCC foyer. Additional nomination forms may be downloaded at [www.uucolumbia.org/SocialAction/Share the Plate](http://www.uucolumbia.org/SocialAction/Share%20the%20Plate).

NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 2, 2016.

Share the Plate Past Nominees

The following is a list of finalists from last year's Share the Plate. These are to assist you in making choices for 2017. You are still free to choose any other non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that you may want. This is simply a list of organizations and their categories that have been considered in the past. You will notice too that they already have website information so it will not be necessary to look them up. Please feel free to continue to offer any other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that you want to include in the Share the Plate nominations. If you have any questions about this process there will be a table set up in the Social Hall with Share the Plate committee members ready to help you. Nomination forms are available on the table in the foyer and will also be at the Q/A table in the Social Hall. This is a very important opportunity for all members and friends to participate in. Remember that you must be 18 or over and you must include your name on the nomination form for it to be considered. **Let your choice be known. Who do you want to be a recipient for Share the Plate for 2017?**

SHARE THE PLATE NOMINEE FINALISTS FROM 2016

ACLU- aclusouthcarolina.org (Legal Aid)

Columbia Family Shelter- columbiafamilyshelter.org (Homeless Shelters)

Columbia Oral Health Clinic- columbiaoralhealthclinic.org (Health Issues)

Congaree Riverkeeper- Congareeriverkeeper.org (Environmental Issues)

Doctors without Borders- doctorswithoutborders.org (International Aid)

Free Medical Clinic- freemedclinic.org (Health Issues)

Harriet Hancock Center- lgbtcentersc.org (LGBT Issue)

Harvest Hope Food Bank- harvesthope.org (Food Banks/Food Support)

Howlmore Animal Sanctuary- howlmore.org (Animal Shelters/Services)

Jewish Food Pantry- jewishcolumbia.org (Food Banks/Food Support)

Lambda Legal lambdalegal.org (LGBT Issues)

Meals on Wheels- mealsonwheelsamerica.org (Food Banks/Food Support)

Planned Parenthood - plannedparenthood.org (Women's Issues)

The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center themountainrlc.org (Environmental Issues)

Transitions- transitionssc.org (Homeless Shelters)

SC Progressive Network- scpronet.com (Legal Aid)

SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center- scjustice.org (Legal Aid)

SC Beekeepers Association scstatebeekeepers.org (Environmental Issues)

SC Respite Coalition- screspitcoalition.org (Health Issues)

SisterCare- sistercare.org (Women's Issues)

UUCC Partner Church- (Our Sister Church in Romania) (International Aid)

TED Talks on Racism

On October 9 (3:00-5:30 p.m.) People for Reconciliation (PFR) and the UUCC Adult Religious Education Committee are co-hosting an event called The Color of Privilege: Who Matters? This event, which will be held at the UUCC, will be moderated by Dr. Todd Shaw, Associate Professor & Interim Chair for the Department of Political Science at the University of South Carolina. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss the feelings and insights evoked by viewing two powerful video presentations illuminating the impact of institutional racism on society. Questions? Contact Barbara Beeler, PFR president, babsbeeler@gmail.com.



invite you to a discussion:

The Color of Privilege: Who Matters?

Sunday, October 9, 2016

3:00-5:30 PM

Location

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia
2701 Heyward Street, Columbia, SC 29205
(corner of Heyward & Woodrow Streets)

Moderator

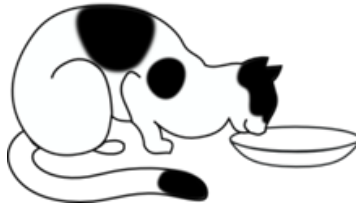
Todd Shaw, PhD, Associate Professor and Interim Chair
Department of Political Science, University of South Carolina

Please join us to view and discuss the feelings
and insights evoked by two powerful video
presentations illuminating the impact of
institutional racism in our society.

Free and open to the general public.

Light refreshments provided after the program.

Sponsored by
People for Reconciliation
and Co-sponsored by
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia,
Adult Religious Education Committee



SUNSET FELINES - YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HELP

In the past it has seemed that the Animal Ministry events have, for the most part, centered around dogs. While this in no way has been our intention, the activities (e.g., Blessing of the Animals, Bark to the Park) have been more dog friendly than cat friendly. We have now been given an opportunity to perform many acts of kindness for the cats in our community, in a wide variety of ways!

We have been approached by Frankie Johnson, director of Sunset Felines, who has expressed several areas of critical need, and we know that you all can help! Sunset Felines is a group of volunteers who banded together in 2001 to address the problem of homeless/feral cats living in our community. They are not a shelter, but are dedicated to improving the lives of these animals by controlling the population through a method called "T.N.R" (Trap, Neuter, Return). The colonies where these cats live require feeding twice daily, which Sunset Felines' volunteers provide.

Back at Frankie's house, although she does not run a shelter, are about 40 cats who, for whatever reason (age, illness, potential adoptability, etc.) also must also be cared for daily. You can well imagine the number of tasks and expenses associated with such an operation!

So in a nutshell, she ***needs volunteers desperately***. I also suggest that you go onto the Sunset Felines' Facebook page. There you can see a detailed "lay of the land."

Another critical need, which follows from taking care of all these creatures, is for food and other supplies. ***You can contact Frankie or me for a list.***

***The Contact Information for
Sunset Felines is:
Mrs. Frankie Johnson
thesunsetfelines@hotmail.com
1130 Evergreen Avenue
West Columbia, SC
[\(803\) 794-5686](tel:(803)794-5686)***

***My contact information is:
Anita Grossman
Chair, Animal Ministry
anitaj48@aol.com
[\(803\) 960-2206](tel:(803)960-2206)***

News and Notes

October 2, 2016

A Straw Man, a White Elephant, and a Perfect Storm, by Rev. Jennie Barrington.

A Straw Man, a White Elephant, and a Perfect Storm, are three phrases whose meaning is larger and more complex than the literal meaning of their individual parts. And inevitably, we are faced with circumstances in life that are like that-- they need an immediate decision, but also give us the opportunity to examine our values and act so as to convey those values to the larger community. This is the anniversary of the historic floods. And we have launched our Capital Campaign for renovations to our building. A Straw Man, a White Elephant, and a Perfect Storm are three idioms that can help us come up with answers to the question, "Given the best of all possible worlds, what outcome do you most wish for?"

October 9, 2016

World Parliament of Religions, by Jim Taylor.

Jim Taylor will discuss the history of the World Parliament of Religions, in which UU's have been involved from the onset. "Parliament of World Religions" The Parliament of World Religions first took place in 1893. Unitarian minister, Jenkin Lloyd Jones, served as the founding committee's Executive Secretary. Jim Taylor will present the history of this movement and how it relates to Unitarian Universalism.

Jim Taylor and his wife Chris Poschmann have lived in Bluffton, SC since 2000. He has had a long involvement with Native American Spirituality, Hinduism, has practiced Transcendental Meditation for forty years, and is committed to the Interfaith Movement. He and his wife attended the Parliament of the World's Religions in 2015. Jim has a website for his Interfaith Ministry: <http://interfaithadvocate.org>

He is active with Unity of Hilton Head where he served on a ministerial search, on the board as vice president for two years as well as on the financial team and by-laws team. Jim is also a prayer chaplain. He is in training to become a Licensed Unity Teacher. Jim has presented numerous messages to Unity Churches in South Carolina and Georgia.

Jim is a USAF veteran. He is a graduate of Utah State University, where he studied philosophy and creative writing. During his last two years at Utah State University he served as associate editor and then editor in chief of USU's literary magazine The Crucible. He has served on five boards in the arts, education, industry and church.

First Sunday of Capital Campaign was a HUGE Success!

Thank you, UUC Congregation. Last Sunday you pledged \$66,700 to renovate our religious home!! We now have enough to begin work on our first project: the bathrooms. And we have a real chance to reach our total goal of \$175,000, so we can renovate the RE wing and the social hall/sanctuary too. You'll be hearing more details about these projects over the next three Sundays.

We will need you to dig deep and give as much as you possibly can to reach this goal. But there is another goal for this campaign: to build community. We value every single contribution, whether it's \$10 or \$10,000 because it will show that you believe in us. WE ARE THE UUC!

Search Committee Focus Groups

The Search Committee invites you to attend one of these scheduled focus groups, **Wednesday, September 28 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8 or Sunday, October 2 at 12:15 p.m. in Room 8.** The



October 2 group has been scheduled especially to accommodate the needs of RE parents and teachers, and child care will be provided. If you need childcare during this time you must email Stephanie by Friday, September 30. We must know the exact number of children in order to provide a safe level of care. If you are unable to attend a focus group you can pick up a survey at the Membership table to fill out.

Harvest Hope in Critical Need of Canned Food Donations

The Social Action Committee put out a special call to help Harvest Hope fill their empty shelves and you responded. We thank you. This is the first time in 3 years that Harvest Hope has been down to bare shelves and in such desperate need of food. Harvest Hope is still in need and we know we can count on our Members and Friends to help others when asked.



UUC Congregation: We Need Your Help!

As you may know, the 2016-2017 operations budget is insufficient for the needs anticipated for the coming year. Your FRAT (Fund-RAising Team) has already staged a UU Coffeehouse concert and a garage sale to raise funds. Our next event is the **Holiday Bazaar on November 19**.

If you can help, please contact Jean Capalbo at jacapalbo@gmail.com.

Choir Schedule Change

We will not rehearse or sing on Sunday, October 9. We will rehearse and sing on **Sunday, October 23, at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary** and every two weeks after. Bill Moody, Director

Chalice Lighters Needed

Help shine a light on the diversity of UUism. Become a Chalice Lighter! Write: dre@uucolumbia.org today to reserve your date. Or sign up in the book found on the information table in the Social Hall.

Defying the Nazis- The Sharps' War!

Join us **Friday, September 30** for a viewing and discussion of this Ken Burns documentary about the amazing sacrifices these Unitarians made to help the persecuted people of Europe escape the Nazis death camps. The viewing begins at 6:30 pm at Phil and Lis Turner's home at 204 Running Fox Road, Cola. Carpooling from the UU leaves at 6:00! Please contact Stephanie at dre@uucolumbia.org to reserve your space.

Social Action Committee, October 2

The Social Action Committee will meet in classroom 5 on Sunday, October 2 at 12:30 p.m. We do have important matters to discuss so please make every effort to be there.

Share the Plate Deadline: October 2

This coming Sunday, October 2, is your last chance to submit your nominations for Share the Plate. We donate half of our cash collections each Sunday to an outside charity or social justice organization chosen by our members and

friends. This process begins by nominating your choice for any category that you would like to see as the recipient of the Share the Plate for a month during 2017. It must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. You must be 18 years old to complete a nomination and your name must be on the nomination form.

The nomination forms are on the table in the foyer, in the Unigram, and on the Share the Plate table after the service. This year they are also available on the Social Action webpage under the Share the Plate drop down.

Be sure that you get your nomination in on time. The Share the Plate committee will begin vetting and counting the nominations in October and have the top two of each category ready for voting by November 6. Don't miss out on this chance to choose who you would like to see as a Share the Plate recipient.

Holiday Pageant

Good King Wenceslas

Good and noble people of the UUC, we beseech thee to come forward on the 2nd day of October in the year of our Lord, 2016 to express your desire to portray royalty or commoners in this year's holiday pageant, Good King Wenceslas. We shall commence at 12:30 p.m. in our sanctuary. We are in need of 7 adults, 5 youth ages 6-14, and various villagers. Should ye not be able to attend this first meeting, but would like to participate, be sure to contact Nancie Shillington-Perez at nancierr@sbcglobal.net prior to this first meeting.

Oct. 2	12:30-1:30	All Participants
Oct. 9	12:30-1:15	Principle Roles
Oct. 16	12:30-1:30	Principle Roles
Oct. 30	12:30-1:30	Principle and Secondary Roles
Nov. 13	9:15-10:15am	Building Scenery, Lighting & Mics, Costumes & Make Up (In Back Rooms)
Nov. 20	12:45-2:45	Principle and Secondary Roles and Villagers
Dec. 4	12:45-2:45	All Involved; Actors, Vocalists, Crew, Make Up, Costumes, Scenery DRESS REHEARSAL
Dec. 11	8:30-10:00am	Run Through - Curtain Call
Dec. 11	11:00am	Performance for Service

Adult RE Short Course: American Grace begins October 2

This fall, a short course at UUC will be devoted to the sociology of American religion. The course is based on the book by Robert D. Putnam and David E. Campbell American Grace (2010, revised 2012). See reviews at www.americangrace.org. Putnam is a distinguished political scientist at Harvard University, while Campbell is an associate professor at Notre Dame.

American Grace is based on extensive surveys of religion and public life in America. Studies of congregations complement interview findings. The book assesses both the sociology of American religion and its directions of change. The course should assist those who are active in UU groups to understand and work with the dynamics of congregations. For instance, we will consider such issues as why members join congregations, why they stay, and why they leave.

There will be a charge of \$5.00 for the course, to cover the price of the copied materials and an outline of the text. The course will meet for an hour and a half on Sundays, starting at 1:00 p.m. after services. It will meet in six sessions, with the first class on October 2 and continuing on 10/16, 10/30, 11/6, 12/4, 12/18. The instructor will be Don Cooper; Patrick Saucier has volunteered to serve as a second instructor. Don's e-mail is dnldcooper@gmail.com, with a mobile phone (803) 466-5087. Prospective participants should contact him before the end of September, preferably by e-mail.

Before the course starts, participants should obtain a copy of the paperback revision of the book (2012). Sources such as Amazon and addall.com can supply it at about half the list price.

Writing Group, Tuesday, October 11

Please join us for the UUC Writing Group on the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30–7:30 pm in Room 5. Feel free to bring something that you have written and would like to share with the group. Each month we will discuss different writing styles, topics for writing, and share our stories, biographies, poems, songs and anything else we can imagine. If you have any questions, please

contact Christina Seel at 803-776-7138 or chseel@bellsouth.net

Women's Book Group, October 11



The Women's Book Group will meet Tuesday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8 to discuss *The Invention of Murder* by Judith Flanders. Anyone with questions may contact Sandy Chubon, 776-0784 or sjchubon@sc.rr.com

Harvest Hope Volunteer Opportunity, October 15

Join members and friends on October 15 for a group service opportunity at Harvest Hope Food Bank. We will be packing food boxes for distribution to seniors in our community. It is required that all volunteers wear closed-toe shoes. Please follow the link on Sign Up Genius at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a45aeaa2da2fc1-harvest> or contact Cheryl Soehl at csoehl@soehl.com to register for this event. We will gather at 8:50 a.m. and work until about Noon.



Food Not Bombs Service Day

Our Pre-K through 5th graders will unite on **Sunday, October 16** to make sandwiches for the Food Not Bombs project which feeds an average of 150 homeless each Sunday. To make this day a success, we need: 1 teacher from each grade level, 2 adult volunteers to help the students assemble the sandwiches, 6 loaves of bread, 4 jars of Sunflower butter, 4 jars of jelly, and 200 Ziplock bags. The sandwiches will be given to one of our regular Food Not Bombs volunteers to take to Finley Park. Please contact Stephanie at dre@uucolumbia.org if you would like to contribute to this project.



Do you have a child in grades K through 1st grade? Do you hope they formulate healthy attitudes about their bodies and their sexuality? Then don't wait! Sign them up for their very first **Our Whole Lives** class. **Please register by Sunday, October 9.** The classes will meet for eight weeks in the fall. Dates and times will be planned with input from parents. A brochure and registration forms are available online at: <http://www.uucolumbia.dreamhosters.com/learning/our-whole-lives/> and at the CYRE table in the Social Hall after services. Feel free to share this information with your friends and family members who might be interested in these classes for their children. Classes will meet with a minimum of 8 students. Maximum enrollment is 12.

The initial parent/guardian orientation is planned for **Saturday, October 15**, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Parent/guardian attendance is required for enrollment of a child. The parent/guardian & child orientation will take place after lunch on the same date from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Attendance is mandatory for enrollment. We will provide lunch. You may bring a bag lunch for your family if you prefer. Please contact Stephanie Palmer-Smith, dre@uucolumbia.org, or Keitha Whitaker, re-chair@uucolumbia.org, for more information.

Vegan Potluck

Come To Our Vegan Potluck and Hear a Special Speaker!

The Animal Ministry is proud to announce another one of its vegan events on **Sunday, October 16, at 6:00 p.m. in the UUC Social Hall!** This particular dinner is special because we are having as our guest Trisha Mandes, MPH, who will speak on "Dietary disease prevention and reversal: an introduction to the evidence." Trisha has spent her career as a nutritionist and researcher, and is a former staff member at USC.

We are asking that for this event you bring a **vegan** dish to share with the group. ("**Vegan**," simply means no animal products of any kind, including meat, fish or dairy). If you prefer not to cook, we are gladly accepting

modest donations to offset the cost of the event. Please let Anita Grossman (anitaj48@aol.com) know what you will bring to aid the organizers in planning a well-rounded potluck. (Also contact me with any other questions).

As at prior potlucks, we will be collaborating with Columbia Veg for this event. Also joining us, for the first time, will be the SC Progressive Network, so we should have a terrific group.



Halloween Spook-tacular, Saturday, October 29

All ages welcome to a spook-tacular evening Saturday, October 29 on our UUC grounds. Add your jack-o-lantern to the Great Pumpkin patch, dress your Halloween best and join our community under the stars for games, music, trick-or-treating and a whole lot of holiday fun. For more info or to sign up to help contact Gail Dawson 336-575-6425 or gailzebub@msn.com

UUC Book Club, Sunday, October 30

The next UUC Book Club meeting is Sunday, October 30 at 6:30 pm. Phil Turner will facilitate a discussion on *Strangers Drowning: Grappling with Impossible Idealism, Drastic Choices, and the Overpowering Urge to Help* by Melissa MacFarquhar. We will meet at a member's home. The UUC Book Club is open to all members and friends of UUC. Please contact Ruthie Saunders if you have questions or would like more information: rsaunders@sc.edu



The Blessing of the Animals

The Animal Ministry will be sponsoring our annual Blessing of the Animals before you know it...**November 6, 3:00-4:00 p.m., outdoors, on the Heyward side of the church.** Reverend Jennie will officiate. All well behaved animals and their people invited (don't forget leashes and/or crates when appropriate for your welfare and the safety of your pets!!). Questions? Anita Grossman (anitaj48@aol.com)

Chair Yoga, Tuesdays & Thursdays



Chair Yoga is now twice a week. Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

Both classes meet in the UCC Social Hall.

Come to either session or come to both. Chair yoga entails about 45 minutes of real yoga but it takes place mostly seated. The yoga instructors are Molly Jones and Ruthie Saunders. Please contact Ruthie rsaunders@sc.edu if you have questions.

Art for All Group, Tuesdays

If you are interested in working on your art with others for support, encouragement and feedback, then the Art for All Group is for you. We meet weekly on **Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - noon** in the UCC 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 if you have questions.



Transitions Volunteers Needed Second Saturday of Each Month

UCC 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 to volunteer.

Save Toiletries from 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 travels. 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.

Religious Education

Junior Choir Performances through December 2016

October 16 Children's Choir
November 13 Children's Choir
December 11 Children's Choir

CYRE Classes are 11:15 am to 12:15 pm

We request that parents remain in the social hall or the nursery hallway until CYRE is dismissed at 12:15 p.m. If you need to pick up your child earlier any particular week, please let the teachers know upon drop off.

Registration for Fall CYRE Classes Continues

Please fill in a registration form for children ages 3-18 and hand it to your child(ren)'s teacher or to our DRE Stephanie Palmer-Smith. The nursery is available for children ages 0-2 whenever CYRE is scheduled throughout the year and from ages 0-3 whenever there are no CYRE classes scheduled.

Children's Chapel, Sunday, October 2

Children Pre-K through 5th grade will be dismissed after the Story for All Ages to attend the first of four Children's Chapel services this academic year in Room 8. The goal of these chapels is for our children to learn and enjoy the process and elements of worship through sharing joys and concerns, meditative readings, music, exploration of the seven UU principles, and cultural habits of people in other countries that promote the well-being of both humans and the environment. October's homily will be based on Wabi-Sabi, the Japanese tradition of celebrating the "imperfect or the aged". Children are welcome to send in any examples of worn fabrics or wood, aged works on paper, aged utensils, damaged artisan pottery, or anything else that may demonstrate the appreciation for the simple beauty of things.



Our Whole Lives Registration Extended through October 9

UUCC is proud to offer the Our Whole Lives sexuality education program for Grades K - 1. It is an 8 session curriculum designed to help children gain the knowledge, life principles, and skills they need to express their sexuality in life-enhancing ways. **A mandatory parent orientation will take place Saturday, October 15, from 9:30-11:30 p.m. This will be followed by a lunch and childcare will be provided.**

The Parent/child orientation will begin at 12:30 and run until 2:30 pm.

Registration fee: \$25.00 per youth for members, \$40.00 per youth for non-members and friends. Please see DRE Stephanie Palmer-Smith for more information.

CYRE Calendar

Sunday, Oct. 2 Children's Chapel for PreK, K-2, & 3rd - 5th
Sunday, Oct. 9 Regular CYRE

Saturday, Oct. 15 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Parent Orientation and Parent/child class for K – 1 OWL!

Sunday Oct. 16 Social Action for Pre-K – 5th grade Making sandwiches for the homeless. Junior Choir performs

We express our appreciation to:

Our wonderful Nursery Workers who lovingly provide care to our youngest ones every Sunday.

Our faithful Youth Advisors – Darrell Shier and Fran O'Toole

Our Amazing Teachers who guide our children and youth on their UU principles and values journeys each week.

And those who give generously to support our CYRE program!

UUC Board of Trustees

Summary of August 17, 2016 Meeting

The Board of Trustees met August 17, 2016 from 6:30 to 8:50 PM.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Whitaker reported that July was a good month financially. Pledge payments were \$2,600 over our monthly expectation. Plate collections were higher than expected. We had anticipated collecting \$1,000 from un-met pledges for the 2015-16 budget year; we actually received \$1,230. Bob noted that there were five Sundays in July.

Committee Reports

David Roof is chair of the **Technology Services Committee**. The **Personnel Committee** is accepting applications for the custodial position. **Building and Grounds** has hired a contractor to work on our grounds. The **Finance Committee** plans to launch a Capital Campaign on September 25. The **CYRE** lost money on Hogwarts Camp this summer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Brokerage Account The Board opened a brokerage account so we can receive gifts of stocks.

Approval of Goals for 2016-17 During our all-day retreat on August 6, the Board developed goals for this fiscal year. They were refined slightly since that meeting and are listed below.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Representative to Ministerial Search Negotiating Team The Board selected Bob Whitaker to serve with Linda Brennison and David Crockett from the Search Committee on this Team. They will develop a draft ministry agreement that reflects the relationship the congregation hopes to have with the minister it calls. After the Board approves that draft, the Team will negotiate it with the ministerial candidate.

Appraisal of Interim Ministry It is time for another appraisal of the interim ministry to be sent to Boston (September 30 deadline). Rev. Jennie will prepare a draft of her appraisal by September 6 and share it with the Board. Board members will each complete a form and send it to Sandy Chubon who will compile the responses and return them to members before the September meeting. We will discuss the report at our September meeting.

Sponsored Events Budget Procedure A procedure has been developed for use this fiscal year to encourage better financial planning and control for sponsored events.

If expenditures for a UUC sponsored event are predicted to exceed \$1,000, the sponsoring entity should: (1) designate a person responsible for administering the planning of the event and (2) submit a budget to the Administrator that includes estimated expenditures and income. The Administrator will forward this information to the Board President who will follow up with questions, if necessary.

UUC FY17 Major Board Goals

- Complete successful ministerial search process

- Enhance membership growth and retention

- Enhance printed and digital communications

- Strengthen the financial foundation

- Improve building and grounds

 - Conduct a successful building renovation Capital Campaign

 - Complete at least Phase I of the building renovation

 - Continue improvements outside of areas impacted by Capital Campaign

- Enhance the interaction of the whole congregation with RE

- Analyze and propose revisions, if necessary, of the UUC governance

Minutes summarized by Sandy Chubon

Meetings & Rentals

Art For All Group	Thursdays	10:00 am	Social Hall
Board Meeting	Wednesday, October 19	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Chair Yoga	Tuesdays	11:00 am	Social Hall
	Thursdays	1:00 pm	Social Hall
Children & Youth RE Committee	Sunday, November 20	12:30 pm	Classroom # 5
Choir	Sunday, October 9	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Committee Night	1st Wednesday of 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	Classroom # 8
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
Visitor Orientation	Sunday, TBA	12:15 pm	Library
Science & Religion	2 nd Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
September Set	Friday, October 28	6:00 pm	Social Hall
Social Action Committee	Sunday, October 2	12:30 pm	Classroom # 5
Technology Committee	Wednesday, October 5	6:00 pm	Workroom 1
UU Animal Ministry	Wednesday, October 12	6:00 pm	Classroom # 5
UU Book Club	4 th Sunday	6:30 pm	Member's Home
UU Humanist	4 th Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
UU Partner Church Committee	Lee Minghi, 798-0904; Carita Barr, 782-0053; or Susan Robinson, 446-0675	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Women's Book Club	2 nd Tuesday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Writing Group	Tuesday, October 11	6:30 pm	Classroom # 5
Rentals			
La Leche League	3rd Tuesdays	6-8pm	Classroom # 5
Sitting with Sadness	Every Monday	7-8:15 pm	Social Hall
Tai Chi 803-772-9557 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.

UUCC Board of Trustees

Presidents, Phil Turner	<i>president@uucolumbia.org</i>
President-Elect, Richard Culler	<i>president-elect@uucolumbia.org</i>
Treasurer, Bob Whitaker	<i>treasurer@uucolumbia.org</i>
Secretary, Sandy Chubon	<i>secretary@uucolumbia.org</i>
Members at Large, Donald Griggs, Tim VanDenBerg, Cheryl Soehl, Joan Watterson	
Past Co-Presidents, Marc & Patty Drews, ex officio	<i>pastpresident@uucolumbia.org</i>
Finance Chair, Joe Long, ex officio	<i>financechair@uucolumbia.org</i>

UUCC Staff

Interim Minister	Rev. Jennie Barrington, <i>interim@uucolumbia.org</i>
Administrator	Andrea Dudick, <i>uucc@uucolumbia.org</i>
Director Religious Education	Stephanie Palmer-Smith, <i>dre@uucolumbia.org</i>
Bookkeeper	Ginny Verne, <i>bookkeeper@uucolumbia.org</i>
Custodian	Bill Dolley, <i>uucc@uucolumbia.org</i>
Religious Education Assistant	Morgan Hanes, <i>reassist@uucolumbia.org</i>

Address: 2701 Heyward St, Columbia, SC 29205

Phone — Office (803) 799-0845

Special Events Line — (803) 200-2824

Office Hours — Mon.– Fri. 9:15 am – 1:45 pm

UUCC Forum: <http://uufc.19.forumer.com>

Help us update our mailing list. To delete or change your address, Email: uucc@uucolumbia.org

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