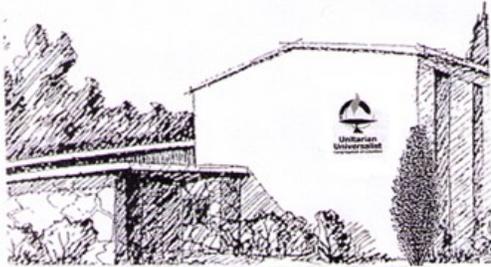




The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

January 11, 2017



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

Sunday Schedule

Forum: 9:30 am in the Library

Worship: 11:00 am-12:15 pm

Nursery: Available during service for infants through age 3

January 15, 2017

9:30 am Forum Topic

Why do liberals ignore the black on white crime epidemic?

11:00 am Sermon Topic

“What Prophetic Speeches are For” (Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday), by Rev. Jennie Barrington

January 22, 2017

9:30 am Forum Topic

Should the second Bill of Rights be adopted?

11:00 am Sermon Topic

“Some of Our Unitarian and Universalist Martyrs,” by Rev. Jennie Barrington

Unigram Deadline

The deadline for the next issue is **Sunday, January 22**, for publication on **Wednesday, January 25**. *Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.*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

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture is like a tree without roots." (Marcus Garvey)

Dear Members and Friends,

Warm and encouraging greetings to you in this New Year we all find ourselves in. People keep calling these political times “unprecedented.” Even so, there is great wisdom and insight in our past history to be gleaned, if we only look for it and uncover it. Looking at our past can show us how our predecessors survived, and even thrived, through times as difficult, or more difficult, than ours. And our history can help us clarify what is missing, and what is still strong, in our current circumstances. And looking toward our roots can strengthen our sense of who we are, and what our values and principles are, in the midst of confusing and uncertain times. Indeed, I would assert that a widespread lack of a higher, broader, and deeper perspective on the current state of our nation was the main thing that was missing in this election season. We can be greatly helped by reaching back to that higher, broader, and deeper perspective, grasping it, and applying what is useful to our present concerns and fears.

Continued on Page 2

I therefore commend to you our congregation's Partner Church committee. They have devotedly kept us connected to our denominational past, the historic Unitarians in Transylvania. In 1990, when the Berlin Wall fell, and Eastern Europe opened up, UU congregations in the United States were invited to "partner" with a Unitarian congregation in Romania. I am so proud to say that we were one of the first to sign up. These "partner church" relationships are mutually rewarding, enriching, and enjoyable. Our members have received so much enrichment and inspiration from coming to know the members and ministers of the Beszterce Unitarian Church, our partner church since October of 1990. Last night, the Partner Church committee presented a slide show of their trip to Transylvania last August. Narrated by Tony Ganong, with additional commentary by the "twelve pilgrims," the presentation was informative and entertaining. And the turn-out was impressive-- at least 40 people!

Our Partner Church committee provides us with opportunities to help our partner congregation, especially with their building's maintenance needs. The donations we sent to them last year contributed toward a car for their minister, and a handrail for their church's stairway. We are the main source of outside help for the Beszterce Unitarian church during these very difficult economic times in their area of Eastern Europe. And our Partner Church's main fundraiser is coming right up this month! So please join me and "Come to the Cabaret, Old Friend!" on Sunday, January 29th, at 7:00 p.m., in our sanctuary and social hall. Last year's Cabaret was a rich indulgence of lovely music, delicious food, raffle prizes, fun, and fellowship.

May this be a month when we learn from the wisdom in our past, including poets and prophets, especially the great Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a true prophet for his day and ours.

Rev. Jennie ("It's a privilege to be here.")

President's Column

Confession Time: Lis and I have been watching the Hallmark Channel. A lot. You know, it is the channel that features an endless loop of shows depicting beautiful young people exchanging romantic repartee, with true romance overcoming obstacles like running out of egg nog. We turned to this when even the decisions of what house to buy on the HGTV series proved to be too stressful.

It was probably the election that caused this, but the time of year is certainly a factor. The Holidays are over and there is still much more darkness than light in the day. The temptation is strong to retreat into oneself, to curl up with a good book, and tell the world to run itself.

However, this is definitely not the time to withdraw from the field. The next few months will be very important for the UUCS and for the nation. For the latter, a respectful insistence on adherence to the UU Principles, which happen to be congruent with the Constitution, is in order. Our Social Action and Adult RE Committees have planned excellent activities to help us learn and be inspired as well as reach out to the community. Some actions will be proposed that might take us out of our comfort zone, so please be prepared to listen, think, and decide.

The Committee for Building Renovation has started work and one of their most important tasks is to solicit input from the congregation on the decisions that will have to be made before construction begins. Please participate in the discussion and, if you have not participated in the Capital Campaign, which ends this month, consider giving any amount.

The Governance Task Force has also been hard at work and needs your input to assist them. This work is not glamorous but it is very important in providing an effective foundation on which we will operate.

Of course, we are all looking forward to the culmination of the work of the Ministerial Search Committee this spring. The hard work of this congregation has created an environment that should be attractive to the type of minister that we want and need.

This has been a difficult time for many in our congregation and I would like to offer a special thanks to the members of the Caring Committee and others who have reached out to those with physical and emotional pain. Let us continue to reach out to each other and beyond.

Phil Turner

P.S. A Pre-Christmas Miracle: I was standing in a long checkout line a few days before Christmas fuming over the shoppers who seem to take forever to locate the checkbook, argue about prices, and not deal with their whining children. The woman behind me had several unruly children and I was running several zingers through my head when I heard the youngest say that she “had to go potty!” I asked the Mom if she wanted to go ahead of me and she replied “Yes, and Merry Christmas!”

It was like I had taken a wonderful drug and the good feeling lasted through the crazy traffic on the way home. Such a substantial return on so small an investment.

Room for One More Resolution?

It has been my great honor to be your “Web Conduit” for the past 6 months. I have enjoyed the challenge of learning the new (to me) software and working closely with many of you to make sure the site is as good-looking, as current, and as personal to our Congregation as it can be. If you aren’t in the habit of checking our site regularly, I encourage you to make one more New Year’s resolution to do so.

The address is easy to remember: www.uucolumbia.org and, once you are there, the site is easy to navigate. A few things to focus on:

Notice the Gold area on the right of the page (Home Page). There you can learn what the next sermon topic will be. You can also click on *Upcoming Services* to learn what topics will be coming up or *Service Archive* to see past service topics and, often, the transcript from those services.

There are three picture/text boxes at the bottom of the page. You probably already know Who We Are, but the *News* and *Get Involved* boxes change frequently, so check them as you pull up the Home Page. Click on the *Learn More* link to get the full story.

Now scroll back up to the top of the Home Page to the small white words (Home, About, News, etc.). Check them all out when you have the time, but, on a regular basis, I encourage you to click on the *News* link and then *Events*. At the top of that page, you’ll find a listing of the next four sermon topics and also the next four forum topics. That is followed by upcoming events at our church. I work hard to keep that current and it is a great spot for quick information.

Last, but not least, from the Home Page, same top line of Home, About... look at the *Social Action* tab. Linda McLeod works tirelessly to keep that section up to date and inspirational. Pay special attention to *Social Action Activities* for information about our Social Justice agenda.

We have a very vibrant, involved congregation and I believe our website reflects that. I call upon all of you to help me in my quest for perfection on our site. If you see an error or other problem, let me know. Thank you for the trust you have placed in me.

Happy New Year,

Lis Turner

mslistturner@gmail.com

P.S. You’ll notice a column along the right hand side of every page except the Home Page containing *testimonials*. I invite you to submit your own reasons why this congregation is important to you. I’d like to keep the site fresh by rotating a selection of them. Please help!

News and Notes

January 15, 2017

“What Prophetic Speeches are For” (Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday) In this worship service we will look to the wisdom and insight of poets, philosophers, and prophets that can encourage and empower us in difficult political times, especially that of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was a real prophet for his time and ours. (Rev. Jennie preaching)

January 22, 2017

“Some of Our Unitarian and Universalist Martyrs” (Rev. Jennie preaching)

January 29, 2017

“Our Second Annual Standing Up Against Gun Violence Sunday” (Rev. Jennie preaching)

Capital Campaign Update

We now have over \$190,500 in pledges for our building renovations. The board has already started planning the financing, and we have a Committee on Building Renovations to supervise the projects. We're on our way toward new bathrooms, a well-lit RE wing with decent floors, new ceilings in the social hall/sanctuary, and a sanctuary you won't recognize!

But other than raising as much money as possible, the essence of a successful capital campaign is engagement by the entire congregation. At this point, we still have pledges from only about 58% of the congregation; our goal is 100%. No gift is too small because it shows you care! Just fill out a pledge card (behind the sanctuary seats), or mail a check to the UUCC with "Capital Campaign" in the memo line, or send an email stating your pledge to our Administrator at uucc@uucolumbia.org.

The Campaign will officially end on January 31, so whether you do it now or later, please don't forget us! We've made so many improvements to our "fixer-upper" over the past thirty years. Help us make it into a place we're proud to show people.

CANstruction Donations

Please leave your cans for Harvest Hope in the red tub in the Social Hall. The cans will be distributed to classrooms for use in their January 29 CANstruction projects. To encourage fun competition between the classrooms we need all the cans we can get. Not only will your canned goods

provide much needed food sources for those in need, it will provide an avenue of learning and fun for our students. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Operation Bed-Roll

Our CYRE Youth Group (middle and high schoolers) will be collaborating with the Midlands Collaboration on **Operation Bed-Roll**. [Operation Bedroll](#) Morgan Gauthreaux-Hanes, our Religious Education Assistant, attended the meeting this past Sunday and will be following up with more details about the event. In the meantime, **Please Donate Plastic Bags** to our CYRE. Place them in the green collection tub in the Social Hall. We are also in need of G size crochet hooks and folks who crochet! Your instruction will be invaluable and a life-time gift to our children and youth.

Facilitator Needed for Spiritual Practices Course

Adult RE would like to sponsor a course on Spiritual Practices. The course would be interactive and inclusive of all forms of spirituality. If you are interested in facilitating this course, please contact Pat Mohr at patmohr@mindspring.com.

UUCC Christian Heritage Group

An interest has been expressed in forming a very casual group of persons of Christian background to talk about our heritage. We hope to address issues such as "what I value most from my Christian experiences," "why I chose to become UU," "are there practices, teachings, etc., which I believe might benefit the UUCC," "how can I best live out my Christian ethos in the UU environment," and many, many more. We will start by meeting for lunch and conversation at **11:30 on Tuesday morning, January 23**, at the J Peter's restaurant at 2005 South Beltline Blvd, just east of Richland Mall. We would love for you to join us. If you have questions, contact Jenny Beale at 803-776-2625 or Jeczbl14@aol.com. or Ginny Verne at 803-786-7114 or jtverne33@att.net.

Library Painting Update

Many hands do indeed lighten a work load! A big thanks to Gail Dawson, Bonnie Stronach, Lis Turner, Amy Jones, and Adam Zircklebach for their help. The entire project should be completed by the end of the week. I apologize to anyone who has been displaced as a result of this work.

Adult RE Movie Club: Friday, January 13 *Fix It: Healthcare at the Tipping Point*

The Adult Religious Education Committee would like to invite everyone to watch the movie: *Fix It: Healthcare at the Tipping Point*. This film was two years in the making, with more than forty voices advocating for reform, including: activists, health policy experts, economists, physicians, nurses, patients, business and labor leaders. This 48-minute documentary takes an in-depth look into how our dysfunctional health care system is damaging our economy, suffocating our businesses, discouraging physicians and negatively impacting the nation's health, while remaining un-affordable for a third of our citizens.

The idea is to have you watch the movie at home and then have a discussion and Q&A session at church. It'll be like a book club, but we call it "movie club".

The link for watching the movie is: <http://fixithealthcare.com/>

The discussion session will take place in the UUCC Social Hall on Friday, January 13, at 6:30 p.m. Emilio Perez, MD will be the facilitator of the discussion. No dinner/food provided, but you may bring your own. Everyone with an interest in healthcare policy is invited. Bring a list of questions or tell us about your personal experiences as a patient, employee, business owner or healthcare provider. **RSVP to Emilio Perez if you plan to attend: eperezjorge@sbcglobal.net**

Adult Choir Schedule

We will rehearse and sing on **Sunday, January 15, at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary** and every two weeks after. Bill Moody, Director

Visitor Orientation, Sunday, January 22

Our next Visitor orientation class will be held on Sunday, January 22 in the UUCC library. We will begin about 15

minutes after service and usually end in about 45 minutes. Light refreshments are served. If you are new to the UUCC, or have come for a while and have questions 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 email: membership@uucolumbia.org or 803-931-6799

UUCC Book Club, January 22

The next book club discussion is 6:30 pm on Sunday January 22 (we skip December). Carolyn West will facilitate a discussion on "H is for Hawk" by Helen Macdonald. We will meet at a member's home. The UUCC Book Club is open to all members and friends of UUCC. Please contact Ruthie Saunders if you have questions or would like more information: rsaunders@sc.edu

Circus Protest Times

The circus lions, tigers, horses, camels, and dogs need you to stand up for them by simply holding a protest sign. Join Sophia Storlazzi in her goal to raise awareness of the abuse that the animals in the circus are forced to endure. Don't miss your chance to get involved, as college may take Sophia far from Columbia next year. It's family-friendly and easy! Protests materials will be provided but homemade signs are welcomed. **Location: Colonial Life Arena. Protest Schedule: Thursday, Jan 26 ~ 5:45-7pm; Friday, Jan 27 ~ 5:45-7pm; Saturday, Jan 28 ~ 9:45-11am, 1:45-3pm, 5:45-7pm; Sunday, Jan 29 ~ 12:15-1:30pm, 4:15-5:30pm.** Also visit the **Protest Event Page: 2017 Ringling Circus Protests: Columbia, SC.**

September Set, Friday, January 27

Our monthly September Set for our UUCC Seniors will be held Friday, January 27. 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 or Pat Mohr at patmohr@mindspring.com.

OWL Classes for Grades 4 – 6

Registration continues for OWL grades 4 – 6. The mandatory parent orientation is on **Saturday, January 28**. Classes will begin in February. Forms are available in the Social Hall at the CYRE table. Please see Stephanie Palmer-Smith or Keitha Whitaker for more information.

Upcoming Concerts at UCC

January 28: Ultrafaux

February 18: Harpeth Rising

You can reserve tickets by leaving a message at (803) 200-2824. Tickets are \$17 at the door, but \$15 if purchased or reserved prior to the concert. Bring some extra money for the wonderful home-baked treats and hot coffee from our volunteer staff. You can even bring your own beverages! Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Shows start at 8:00 p.m.

CYRE Committee Meeting, Sunday, January 29

Parents, grandparents, guardians, and anyone interested in the direction of our Children and Youth Religious Education (CYRE) program is encouraged to attend our CYRE committee meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 29.

Chocolate Auction Sunday, February 12



Sweets for your sweet? Our popular Chocolate Auction fundraiser will fall just two days before Valentine's Day this year and we hope to make it a sweet occasion for all! Part bake sale, part silent auction, part cake walk, all proceeds will go to help fund the HSYG Boston trip. Join us immediately after service on Sunday, February 12 in the Social Hall for this delicious event and find a special treat for all of your special someones.

Goodies Needed for Chocolate Auction, February 12

Whether you make basic brownies or a gourmet gateau no item is too small for our bake sale or too large for the silent auction. All items will need to be in the fellowship kitchen either Saturday morning, February 11 between 10:00 & Noon, or Sunday, February 12 as early as possible so we can prepare for the sale and auction. (Please package indi-

vidual portions for bake sale items.) So tie on your apron and bake with a loving spoonful! For questions or further info contact Gail Dawson: gailzebug@msn.com

Upgrade Your Light Bulbs for Energy Savings in 2017

Switch and Save: Replacing old incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient CFLs and LEDs is one of the easiest ways to start reducing energy use at home. Now SCE&G residential electric customers have an easier, more affordable way to replace old incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient CFL or LED light bulbs. Customers can order ENERGY STAR-qualified bulbs for convenient home delivery – at prices up to 60 percent lower than those typically available through retail. Energy-efficient CFL and LED bulbs are available through SCE&G's Online EnergyWise Savings Store in a variety of shapes and sizes, and are typically ready to ship within one or two business days. *Not sure what to choose? The site features great information to help you.* To learn more, visit sceg.com/bulbs or call 1-877-510-7234.

Save Your Plastic Bags for Operation Bed Roll

Please bring plastic bags to the UCC for the youth to create "plarn" for Operation Bed Roll: Conserve, Create, and Care. This project will help create 100 bedrolls for members of our community who need our support the most. The collaboration between EdVenture, Sonoco Recycling, and Columbia Art Center is designed to keep non-recyclable materials out of our landfills and recycling carts by engaging our City's citizens in a community-wide maker project to help some of our neediest residents have a warmer place to sleep. Please drop bags off in the green tub in the Social Hall.



Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War

Movie follows Potluck

You won't want to miss the film *Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War*, being shown **Sunday, January 15 at 2:00 p.m.** following a church potluck. Bring your favorite dish and enjoy a good time together prior to the showing of this film intended to stimulate a timely discussion about our current refugee situation. You may have seen the film before but it is such an important topic that needs our attention it is worth seeing a second time.

We have invited the community to join us for the 2:00 showing hoping to stimulate their interest in this very serious subject. Let's be sure to have a good UCC turnout to support this program.



Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War is an account of a daring rescue mission. It tells the story of a Unitarian minister and his wife, who helped to save hundreds of imperiled political dissidents and Jewish refugees fleeing the Nazi occupation across Europe.

Sunday, January 15, 2017 - 2 pm
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia
2701 Heyward St. Columbia, SC 29205

For childcare reservations or more information: 803-799- 0845.

This fourth Community Conversation is sponsored by the Social Action
Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

CABARET

Showstoppers from Stage & Screen
by first class performers

Sunday, January 29, 2017

UU Church, 2701 Heyward Street, Columbia



Delectable hors d'oeuvres & desserts!
A memorable, magical evening
YOUR TABLE IS WAITING
Raffle items & more!

Doors open 6:45pm
Curtain 7:30pm

Suggested donation \$20pp

Sponsored by the UUCC Partner Church Committee. Contact Susan 446-0675 or Jean 799-1001

UUCU Islamophobia Workshop, Sunday, February 5

Mark your calendar now for February 5, beginning with a potluck after our service so bring your favorite dish and join us. The potluck will be followed at 2:00 p.m. by a great opportunity for an education about Islamophobia. The workshop will be open to the community and will be teaching us about discrimination in many forms. It will be a worthwhile afternoon of learning for all of us. Don't miss this excellent opportunity to learn and exchange ideas. Now more than ever we need to be aware of this subject that threatens our nation. Grant Seuser, a very knowledgeable person on this subject, will be chairing this event.

ISLAMOPHOBIA

Want to stop racism, discrimination, and Islamophobia? Come to this two hour workshop to:

- Define Islamophobia
- Identify anti-Muslim forces
- Provide real-life scenarios
- Identify how we can help
- Develop action steps
- Identify how Islamophobia operates in the U.S.



Sunday, February 5, 2017, 2pm

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia
2701 Heyward Street,
Columbia, South Carolina 29205

For more info, call 803-799-0845

Presented by The Center for New Community (CNC), a national research and advocacy organization that monitors organized racist movements and equips organizations to defeat these forces, and the UUCU Social Action Committee. For more information about CNC visit www.newcomm.org

Adult RE Short Course: *God Is Not One*, Beginning February 12

This spring, a short course at UUCC will be devoted to the eight most broadly practiced world religions (Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Judaism, Confucianism, Yoruba religion, Daoism, Hinduism, and Atheism). It will be based on the book God is Not One by Stephen Prothero (2010). This book is the successor to Prothero's best-seller Religious Literacy, which emphasizes the importance of a broad acquaintance with the world's religions in a modern America in which there are more Moslems than Episcopalians. The book provides a valuable background for UUCC's greeters, Membership activists who help integrate new friends and members to the congregation, and in general for members of the committees and board of UUCC. The book is inexpensively available from such sources as Amazon and addall.com. The short course will meet from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Sundays in the Library. It will meet in six sessions, first on February 12, and continuing on alternate Sundays, with accommodations for other congregational activities as necessary. The instructor will be Don Cooper. Don's e-mail is dndcooper@gmail.com, with mobile phone (803) 466-5087. If you are interested in participating in this short course, please contact him before the end of January, preferably by e-mail.

Fun-Draiser Dinner February 17

There are only two seats left for the dinner given by Jean Capalbo and Ginny Verne. The February 17 meal will be Italian vegetarian with a shrimp starter option. You can reserve your seat with \$40 payable to UUCC with "February 17 Fundraiser" on the memo line. For more information, contact Jean 803-799-1001 or Ginny 803-786-7114.



NAMI Walks, Saturday, April 1

Save the Date of Saturday, April 1, for the annual NAMI campaign. NAMI is the National Alliance for Mental Illness and UUCC traditionally shows great support for this cause. Put it on your calendar and plan to walk in this annual event in downtown Columbia and be thinking of ways

you can help to be a part of this. The Social Action Committee is looking forward to your usual great participation as we encourage assistance to those in the mental health field.

Children & Adult Chalice Lighters Needed



Please celebrate a special event by becoming a Chalice Lighter. Having a birthday? An anniversary? New to UUCC? We would like to celebrate with you! Write: dre@uucolumbia.org today to reserve your date or sign up on the clipboard found on the information table in the Social Hall.

Transitions Volunteers Needed Second Saturday of Each Month

UUCC 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.

UUCC Governance and Structure Ad Hoc Committee

In June 2016 the UUCC Board established an ad hoc committee, UUCC Governance and Structure, to review, analyze, and recommend revisions to our UUCC governance structure, ensuring a clearer picture of who we are as an organization. We have been meeting regularly since June and sending monthly reports to the Board as well as to the other committee chairs in our congregation.

The UUCC Governance and Structure Ad Hoc Committee would like to know what questions, concerns or suggestions our members might have about how UUCC operates. Do you have ideas about governance that you would like to share? Has your experience in other congregations or faith communities given you some insight into governance that you feel might benefit UUCC? Do you have concerns or questions and are not sure where or how to share those concerns or ask those questions? We want to hear from you, our members. Please direct your comments, questions, concerns, or suggestions to our Chair, Keitha Whitaker, at uukeitha@gmail.com.

Join Us For Lunch After Coffee Hour!

The Membership Committee has noticed that people have been arranging last minute group lunches after the service. Head over to the restaurant-of-the-day after coffee hour on Sundays when there are no other UUCC events scheduled for after coffee hour. Here is the current schedule (Please Note: The Fourth Sunday is no longer Sato Japanese Restaurant):

First Sunday: *Arabesque Lebanese Cuisine*, 2930 Devine St.

Second Sunday: *Dano's Pizza*, 3008 Rosewood Dr.

Third Sunday: *Casa Linda Mexican Restaurant*, 2009 N. Beltline Blvd.

Fourth Sunday: *Miyo's Chinese Restaurant*, 3250-B Forest Dr.

Note: These restaurants are subject to change. We welcome feedback. Of course, these lunches will be "separate checks".

Chair Yoga, Tuesdays & Thursdays

Chair Yoga is now twice a week on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. Both classes meet in the UUCC 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, Thursdays



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 UUCC So-

cial 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.

AmazonSmile: Free Money for UUCC

Thanks to everyone who has been using AmazonSmile for the past year or so! How does AmazonSmile work to help our budget? Simply go to [http://smile.amazon.com/ch/57-](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/57-0509045)

[0509045](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/57-0509045), and bookmark that address and use it every time you order something from Amazon. Our Congregation will receive 0.5% of the purchase price of whatever you buy. We have been getting on average about \$25 each quarter, but many members and friends may not be aware that UUCC is eligible for this lagniappe!! Please note that this shopping experience is identical to the "regular" Amazon Site. You have the same selections, pay the same prices, and there is no charge to you or to UUCC. Please contact Bob Whitaker at treasurer@uucolumbia.org if you have any questions, or sign in to <http://org.amazon.com> and click on the Help tab to see their FAQ topics.

Toiletry and Magazine Donations Solicited for Winter Shelter

Now that the Inclement Weather Center - the winter shelter for the homeless - is open for the season, the Social Action Committee is again collecting magazines and personal-sized toiletries. Please place your donations in the designated donation box at the entrance to the Social Hall. For more information about donating or about how to volunteer at the shelter on evenings when the temperature falls below 40 degrees F, contact Tom Clements, tomclements329@cs.com, cell 803-240-7268.

Religious Education

CANstruction Donations

Please leave your cans for Harvest Hope in the red tub in the Social Hall. The cans will be distributed to classrooms for use in their January 29 CANstruction projects. To encourage fun competition between the classrooms we need all the cans we can get. Not only will your canned goods provide much needed food sources for those in need, it will provide an avenue of learning and fun for our students. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



OWL Classes for grades 4 – 6

Registration continues for OWL grades 4 – 6. Classes will begin in February. Forms are available in the Social Hall at the CYRE table. Please see Stephanie Palmer-Smith or Keitha Whitaker for more information.

Save the Date: The 2017 Charlotte Con, February 3-5

This is available for 9 – 12 graders and is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the connection our high schoolers have to our UU faith. For more information, contact Morgan at: reasist@uucolumbia.org.

Middle and High School Lock-In, February 25-26



All middle and high school youth are invited to a Lock-In on beginning at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, February 25 through the start of Service at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday the 26th. We will be “plarning” for Operation Bed Roll, playing Board/card games, making our own pizzas, watching movies, and spending FUUN time together. Please contact Stephanie Palmer-Smith dre@uucolumbia.org to fill out paperwork. Morgan Hanes will be sending out an e-mail with more details once your youth is signed up.

CYRE Calendar

- Sunday Jan. 15 – CYRE Regular classes Due to CANstruction, no social action class will be held this Sunday
Junior Choir Practice 10:20 a.m.
- Sunday Jan. 22 – CYRE
- Saturday Jan. 28- Mandatory OWL parent meeting.
- Sunday Jan. 29 – CANstruction
Junior Choir Practice
CYRE Committee Meeting All Parents and Caregivers invited!
- Sunday Feb. 5— Children’s Chapel grades Pre-K through 5th grade; first OWL class for grades 4 - 6
- Saturday Feb. 11-Chocolate Baking Party!
- Sunday Feb. 12-CYRE, Chocolate Auction and Junior Choir Practice

UUA Southern Region Chalice Lighters Call

Dear Chalice Lighters and Friends of the Southern Region,

We're pleased to announce the first region-wide Chalice Lighters call! This call will support extending the **Pledge to End Racism** program from **First UU Church of Richmond** to all interested congregations in the Southern Region. This program is designed using a leadership development model so participants gain skills and develop competence in not only talking about racism, but in facilitating discussions about race, and then working together to organize **Living the Pledge workshops** for people throughout their community. Instead of just talking about racism, this program develops knowledgeable, passionate leaders who can do something to address it. The *Pledge* strengthens local antiracism efforts, brings congregations together with other faith communities with like commitments, and creates teams of people involved on the local level in making change in their own communities.

With generous donations from Southern Region Chalice Lighters and friends, the *Pledge to End Racism* organizers will be available to provide, at minimal cost, curriculum and consultation to fifty (50) or more congregations in organizing the *Pledge to End Racism* programs for their communities. This will include all the materials to develop *Living the Pledge to End Racism* workshops, select and train small group facilitators, and promote the program in your congregation and to your larger community - all with the goal of building a community-wide movement to end racism.

By spreading the *Pledge to End Racism* program throughout the South, Unitarian Universalist congregations can have a recognizable impact on the rise in racial tensions and division and can play an essential part in building stronger communities imbued with justice, equity, and compassion.

Donate today with this link:

Chalice Lighters Pledge to End Racism Donation Form

(https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/hf_xDmMfUCEngR5K-h0Ogg)

Visa, MasterCard, American Express, JCB, Discover, and Diners Club accepted

Or make a check payable to *First UU of Richmond - Chalice Lighters*

Mail to:

First Unitarian Universalist Church

1000 Blanton Ave.

Richmond, VA 23221

This Chalice Lighter call will end on March 6, 2017.

UUCC Board of Trustees

Summary of October 19, 2016 Meeting

The Board of Trustees met October 19, 2016 from 6:32 to 8:34 PM.

Welcome to New Board Member

Since our last meeting the Leadership Development Committee recommended to the Board that they select Emilio Perez-Jorge as a member at large. Board members voted electronically to accept this recommendation. Tonight they welcomed Emilio to the Board.

Ministerial Search Committee

Linda Brennon and David Crockett came to this meeting to discuss the salary and benefits to be offered to a prospective settled minister. The Negotiating Committee (Linda, David, and Bob Whitaker) met with two UU consultants; they generally followed the UUA guidelines. The salary to be offered will be a little higher than average for our geographic area; that should make us more attractive to candidates. We will offer UU retirement, health insurance, group disability and life insurance, dental insurance, a professional expense allowance, and one-time moving expenses. The Board approved the Negotiating Committee's salary/benefits recommendations.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Whitaker reported that we are still \$6,000 behind on pledge collections. We collected \$3,800 from fundraising; we had donations for memorials and tributes. We have a positive variance of \$4,100 at the end of the first quarter of our fiscal year.

Committee Reports

Technology Services Committee Donald Griggs reported that Lis Turner has been doing wonderful work posting information to the new web page.

Finance Committee The Capital Campaign is progressing nicely. We have 50 pledges totaling \$119,000+ and we have collected \$47,500 to date. New members Quillin and Judy Davis have made an offer to match any amount pledged or donated before November 30, up to a maximum of \$30,000.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

UUCC Coffee House

Tim VanDenBerg met with Steve Fisher and Steve accepted the terms Tim offered. Steve is not interested in forming a tax exempt entity. Apparently some upcoming shows have been cancelled. Some of the more successful shows will be presented later in the season and then the Coffee House will cease to exist.

NEW BUSINESS

Holiday Bonuses

The Board agreed to provide year-end bonuses to our staff in compliance with our Personnel Policy. Rev. Jennie requested that she not receive a bonus.

Ad hoc Committee for Building Renovation

The Board approved the formation of an Ad hoc Committee for Building Renovation. This group will work with the Finance Committee to make recommendations to the Board for financing and timing of the project; work with the Architect in planning; solicit and review input from the congregation on design options and desired use of facilities; recommend contractors; coordinate to minimize disruptions to UUCC activities during construction; keep the congregation apprised of construction plans and progress; participate in ongoing inspections of work; participate in final inspection and approve final payment to general contractor. Members of this group are Richard Culler, Carolyn West, Pat Mohr, Richard McLeod, and Quillin Davis.

Minutes summarized by Sandy Chubon, Secretary

Meetings & Rentals

Art For All Group	Thursdays	10:00 am	Social Hall
Board Meeting	Wednesday, January 18	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Chair Yoga	Tuesdays Thursdays	11:00 am 1:00 pm	Social Hall Social Hall
Children & Youth RE Committee	Sunday, January 29	1:00 pm	Classroom # 5
Choir	Sunday, January 15	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	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
Visitor Orientation	Sunday, January 22	12:15 pm	Library
Science & Religion	2 nd Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
September Set	Friday, January 27	6:00 pm	Social Hall
Social Action Committee	Wednesday, February 1	7:00 pm	Classroom
Technology Committee	Wednesday, February 1	6:00 pm	Workroom 1
UU Animal Ministry	Wednesday, January 19	5:00 pm	Classroom # 5
UU Book Club	Sunday, January 22	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	TBA	
Women's Book Club	Tuesday, February 14	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Writing Group	Tuesday, February 14	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.

UUC 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, Emilio Perez-Jorge	
Past Co-Presidents, Marc & Patty Drews, ex officio	<i>pastpresident@uucolumbia.org</i>
Finance Chair, Joe Long, ex officio	<i>financechair@uucolumbia.org</i>

UUC 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

UUC 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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