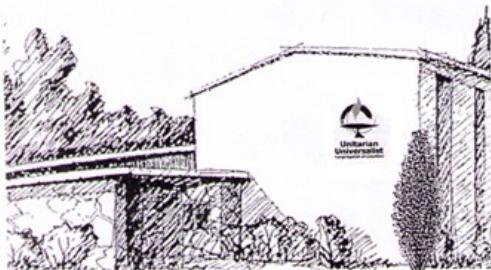




The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

February 14, 2018



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 2

February 18, 2018

9:30 am Forum Topic

TBA

11:00 am Sermon Topic

Corridor of Shame, by Bud Ferillo

February 25, 2018

9:30 am Forum Topic

TBA

11:00 am Sermon Topic

What Could Be, by Rev. Jeff Liebmann

March 4, 2018

9:30 am Forum Topic

TBA

11:00 am Sermon Topic

Me Too, by Rev. Jeff Liebmann

Unigram Deadline

The deadline for the next issue is **Sunday, Feb. 25**, for publication on **Wednesday, Feb. 28**. **Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.** Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to uucc@uucolumbia.org.

Pulpit Ponderings Rev. Jeff Liebmann

The time is now. After years of planning, we will begin our building renovations, making our religious home more attractive and useful.

The time is now. With our new governance structure adopted, we have begun discussing our visions of the future and updating our statement of mission.

The time is now. With no end to oppression in sight, we are prepared to Side with Love for immigrants, people of color, women, LGBTQIA individuals, and the poor.

The time is now. With confidence in government at an all-time low and church attendance continuing to plummet, we are ready to throw our doors open to the disillusioned, to people desperately in need of something worth protecting, to people open to finding solutions in the union of faith and reason, of belief and service.

Forces of greed, hate, and selfishness barrage our great American experiment every day. Somedays, it seems that no institution is capable of defending our dream of freedom, liberty, and equality. But our founders envisioned a society ruled by more than political institutions. Unitarian John Adams saw a nation of thinking citizens acting upon religious convictions. Adams wrote, “Religion and Morality alone can establish the Principles upon which Freedom can securely stand.” Adams believed that “unbridled by morality and religion, avarice, ambition, revenge and licentiousness would break the strongest cords of our Constitution, as a whale goes through a net.”

Continued on Page 2

Make no mistake, however. Adams did not support dogmatic Christianity. He railed against what he called the “National Bible Society” propagating its corruptions. Adams saw the value of the pure message contained in the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount, which he affirmed “contain my Religion.”

We need not identify as Jewish to affirm the basic moral tenets of laws of Moses. We need not identify as Christian to agree with the teachings of Jesus. We need not identify as Muslim to recognize that the most important strife in the world is the battle within our own souls. And we need not identify as Pagan to commit to the preservation of the interdependent web of all existence.

The time is now. Our ship of state needs a hand on the rudder – a steady grip fueled by Love for our neighbors. We can be that navigator for people in search of direction, of a community of believers dedicated to belief and action.

Rev. Jeff

Committee for Building Renovation

Dear UUCC Members and Friends,

When I last wrote to you about the building renovation project, the two bids received from contractors came in well over our budget. This was reportedly due to a shortage of sub-contractors in Columbia because so many have gone to Texas and Florida to do hurricane repairs. The Committee for Building Renovation (CBR) and the Board were seeking to negotiate with the two bidders to reduce the cost of the project by reducing the scope.

This process took much longer than anyone expected, but in January the CBR recommended the Board select and contract with Cutting Edge Design & Contracting – SC, Inc. The reduced scope of the project includes new restrooms, new lighting in the RE hallway, new lighting and ceilings in the administrative area, a new ceiling and updated walls in the Fellowship Hall, and a new ceiling in the Sanctuary for a cost of \$179,600.

For the last few weeks we have been negotiating a contract with Cutting Edge and the contract is now signed and construction is imminent. Already, the Building & Grounds Cmte has worked hard to clean out the janitor's closet where the new men's restroom will be. Special thanks to Carolyn West, John Logue, Patrick Saucier, Phil Turner, Lis Turner, Glenn White, Ann Cargill, and others for clearing the space. Construction could begin in a few days and is expected to take about three months. There are now three things that members and friends can do to help with the renovations.

First, please be flexible and patient. It will be necessary to make room for the contractor and adjust our activities to avoid conflicts with the construction. Some meetings or events scheduled for some rooms may have to be moved to other locations; this will be coordinated by the CBR representatives and Reverend Jeff. Please work with us on this; all efforts will be made to minimize disruptions, but some are inevitable.

Second, if you pledged to the Capital Campaign it is your contributions that are paying for these improvements. Please consider paying off your pledge early. Approximately \$150,000 of the \$179,600 needed has already been paid and is in the bank. The Board is prepared to finance the remainder, but if the money comes in soon we can avoid this added expense.

Third, if you have not pledged to the Capital Campaign please consider doing so. The cost of our current contract has been limited to the amount of our original construction estimate, about \$179,000. But with more cash, we would be able to consider adding back individual work items that previously had to be cut.

Like you, I look forward to completing these improvements to our church home.

Thank you,

Richard Culler, President

Direction Reflection Exploration

People have a tendency to want to extoll their good history and ignore anything that doesn't paint their past in a positive light. Any why not? After all, being positive is usually met with more acceptance than negativity. Yet we are at a time in our Unitarian Universalist's growth when we really need to take a good look at ourselves, own our not-always-glorious history and grow from it. Unfortunately, this is obvious when we look back on freedom and rights for people of color.

We can be proud of our many well-known UU historical figures who spoke out against slavery and those who even lost lives to stand up for civil rights. But can we grow and be the best we can be without taking a look at the many ways our UU forefathers overlooked the talents and wisdom of our fellow UUs of a different hue?

With that question in mind, I would like to introduce you to the Rev. Ethelred Brown. Born in Jamaica in 1875 he experienced a spiritual crisis after losing a job and used this time to pursue a life-long dream and become a minister. He graduated from Meadville Theological school in 1912 becoming the first black Unitarian minister. He returned to Jamaica to serve as a Unitarian missionary. He served in this capacity for 8 years. He chose to emigrate to Harlem and established the Harlem Unitarian Church. It isn't surprising he chose Harlem nor is it surprising to learn he settled there and established a church there. But what is surprising and disturbing is to learn how little support he received from the American Unitarian Association. Quotes exist in which two of our past AUA leaders argued that it was an "impertinence" to spread Unitarianism among people of color because they were, after all "shiftless rascals." Hmm, doesn't sound too progressively justice centered, does it? It was due to these beliefs that the Harlem Unitarian Church struggled to stay in existence during Ethelred's life and failed after his death. He worked hard to bring this justice-loving, equalizing faith to the people in Harlem and we DID NOT support his efforts.

By recognizing our past failures we can see that we have risen beyond them as an organization. Imagine how horrified we would be today to learn that someone in a high-ranking position within our UUA had uttered such disgusting words as were recorded in the 1930's. But we still have some deep, gut-wrenching work to do. Work that must be done to fully live our principles. By recognizing how far we have come my hope is that we are inspired to keep working towards reaching our new dreams.

Even... a free liberal church must pay the price. There is the price of tolerating all the different types of persons all the varying types of minds which are attracted by the word liberal. It must pay the price of a small following while it slowly, painfully builds up itself without compromise, without the shadow of a turning either to the right or the left. We here know it is a hard price to pay, for we all have a liking for the crowd.... And at our best we thank God that we are willing to pay the price, if this is the price which loyalty to Truth demands—believing that the day will come when real success will crown our efforts, and that in those days we shall realize that the success attained at last has fully paid us for the price we paid in heart-breaking toil and in faith disturbing patience.

Rev. Ethelred Brown, "The Price We Pay"¹

In Love and Peace,
Stephanie Palmer-Smith, DRE

Denominational Connections – December 2018

Bring on the Love!

Thank you to all who raised up our fifth principle by participating in the Congregational Study Action Issue (CSAI) vote (available on January 21st and 28th). Fifteen people voted, about 8% of our membership. This is good information to know when the next important election (and they are all important) comes around. A few decide for the many. Not because they are right but because the many don't bring their voices to the table.

This month we emphasize the power of love to welcome, to overcome, to persevere, to heal, to move us forward – especially when society's forces are pulling us back. This month we focus on all we do to *Side with Love*. It's what we do as Unitarian Universalists. And, it's important to understand that with this comes responsibility. We cannot *Side with Love* and not show up for love as well. Here at UUCC we have a fine history of showing up for love with our yellow t-shirts, our banners, our hats, our feet, our commitment to people who are disenfranchised in our wider community. As your Denominational Connections Chair, I'm asking you to begin to do this more effectively and more frequently within our own walls, within our own denomination.

Our denomination has not escaped the forces at large in our society. We are working diligently to make amends, to set right what has been ignored or set aside in the name of expediency and pragmatism. It will require all our hearts, all our love to get this done, to rearrange our own house. It will require all of us working together – because *we are better together*.

The vote on the CSAIs this year, albeit at the last minute, is our opportunity to have a voice in beginning to address the stumbling blocks to inclusion, to reparation, to true and unconditional love for all of those in our society, including members and friends within our congregations, impacted not only by current events but also by our own UU history. A CSAI is not just a statement, not just an issue to be studied and actively addressed. It has the potential to become a Statement of Conscience (SOC) and to direct UU-wide campaigns and lobbying efforts that have the power to make real change happen in our society and in our denomination. The CSAI process allows UUA members to determine Unitarian Universalism's highest priority as a faith movement. All of us are required, not just in the streets, but inside our congregations as well, to have an effective voice in the world.

It's hard work. It isn't as "glamorous" as a march or a petition or getting arrested. It's hard work because it's in-house work. We'll disagree; we'll be frustrated; we'll want to leave; we'll want to fire our Denominational Connections Chair; we'll go to uncomfortable places within our congregations and within ourselves. But we'll *Side with Love* as we do it and we'll stay and we'll come out stronger for it. Join me as we help determine not just what side our congregation is on but what side our denomination, our faith tradition is on. Let's carry this forward together and work for real and lasting change in Unitarian Universalism and in our society. *Because we are better together. Bring it on!*

Remember to check out UUCC's Denominational Connections for updates and, please visit us on Facebook. If you have questions or suggestions or ***if you feel called to join this committee***, please contact me at denomconn@uucolumbia.org. Keitha Whitaker, Denominational Connections Chair.





Candles of Community

Dear UUCC Family,

It is my sad duty to inform you of the passing of Gloria Talcove-Woodward yesterday. As many of you know, Gloria was suffering from a very aggressive illness that did not respond to treatment. She went into the hospital last Friday and declined rapidly. When I was with her on Monday, she was still the smiling optimist many of you knew and loved. However, the rapid failing of her body presented the family with incredibly difficult realities in these few short days.

Per Gloria's wishes, I had kept the Caring Committee informed but did not send out any general announcements. I spoke with her son yesterday after her death and planned to send out a notice later today with details on any funeral or memorial service. But since some posts have appeared on Facebook, this notice became necessary.

When I learn of the family's plans, I will keep you informed. Gloria was a shining light in our religious community. Our brightness is dimmer for her passing.

In faith and love,

Rev. Jeff

News and Notes

February 18

“Corridor of Shame”

Bud Ferillo

Bud Ferillo is the producer/director of the award-winning documentary “Corridor of Shame: The Neglect of South Carolina’s Rural Schools”

February 25

“What Could Be”

Rev. Jeff Liebmann

Unitarian Universalists often dream of the Beloved Community. But, we must never become so focused that our vision fails to detect other, more hostile directions in society. We can no longer dismiss today's news cycle as an aberration. We must consider whether dangerous trends in our nation threaten to devolve with tragic consequences, and what our faith communities can do to prevent further decline.

After the service, all are welcome to join a discussion of the Poor People's Campaign, A National Call for Moral Revival. We will discuss coming activities in South Carolina and ways to participate in events being scheduled in May and June by the Rev. William Barber and the Repairers of the Breach.

March 4

“Me Too”

Rev. Jeff Liebmann

The increasingly shocking revelation of case after case of discrimination against women, harassment, and sexual assault by prominent men calls us to ask ourselves if our churches are doing enough to dismantle male privilege in our society. Today, we will listen to the voices of women, and to one confession.

After the service, lunch will be available for \$5 in the Fellowship Hall. Then, at 1:00, join us for a Sexual Assault/ Human Trafficking Teach-In featuring local experts and discussion about future directions we can pursue to eradicate misogyny and systemic sexism. For those who cannot attend, the event will be livestreamed on the UUCC Facebook page.

**See Page 10 for the
Social Action
Calendar**

UUCC Financial Statements

The end-of-calendar year statements were mailed on January 26. One is for all of calendar year 2017, and may be needed for you to prepare your tax returns. The other is for the first half of the Congregation's 2017 – 18 fiscal year. A few people will receive one but not the other. If you did not receive your statement(s) or have any questions, please contact our administrator, Andrea Dudick, at uucc@uucolumbia.org or 803-799-0845. Joe Long, Finance Chair.

Bill Moody Performance Fund

Bill Moody, who has been our choir director for over 30 years, started the choir with a wave of his baton. In recognition of Bill's musical efforts, a fund is being established that will pay an honorarium to music students from USC and other local colleges who perform for us. If you would like to make a contribution, please make checks out to UUCC with "Bill Moody Performance Fund" in the memo line; cash may be placed in an envelope labeled in the same way for the collection plate.

January Share The Plate Collection Report

The January Share The Plate collection for the Minister's Discretionary fund totaled \$661.00. Thanks to everyone who gave to this important cause.

CANstruction Results

A big "WAY TO GO" to our Pre-k through grade 2 class! Their "Zoo of History" sculpture raised over \$96.00! The entire CYRE program needs to be congratulated for raising over \$270.00 for the Harvest Hope Food Bank. And 331 lbs. of canned goods were delivered. Thank you all for your support. Special thanks to Ceren Farr and Adam Zirkelbach for taking the cans to Harvest Hope.

Don't Let the Flu Bug Breed at UUCC

Please do your part to protect us from the flu epidemic that is advancing in our community. We have placed hand sanitizers at the front door and on the serving table for Social Hour. Please use them! Also please be reminded of the many guidelines we have posted in the kitchen to help us keep it clean and sanitary.



The countertops are to be wiped down after use. This means if you use it, you wipe it down! There are Clorox Wipes by the sink and 401 Spray under the sink. Use a clean dishcloth or sponge. Food is not to be left in the refrigerator more than 7 days and must be in sealed containers (found in the lower cupboard just to the right of the door from the Social Hall.) Spills on the floor should not be wiped up with our dish towels. There is a container of rags in the storeroom for that purpose. Do not leave dirty dishes in the sink at any time. This is an invitation for bugs.

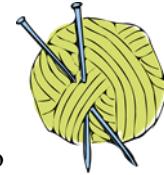
Remember, this kitchen belongs to all of us (not the bugs) and we all should be helping to keep it clean and free of unwanted germs. The Kitchen Committee thanks you for your help.

Donations for Pets

The UU Animal Ministry has a new donation bin for pet food, pet care and pet toys. We wish to thank everyone for their generous donations which support Senior Resources. When Senior Resources noticed that some recipients of Meals On Wheels were saving a portion of their meals to share with a beloved pet, they began accepting donations of pet food. Small bags and cans of pet food are preferred because these can be more easily delivered by Meals on Wheels volunteers at the same time meals for the elderly are delivered. Pet care items and toys are also welcomed. Opened bags are not accepted. Please look for the new aqua blue donation bin in the Social Hall. We would love to fill it up!

Knit or Not Group, Mondays

Now Meeting at 2:00 p.m.



Do you knit or have other needle-craft you would like to share? If so, you are invited to join us for our weekly Knit or Not meetings on Mondays at 2:00 p.m. in classroom 8 of the CYRE wing. Or if you are interested in learning to knit or crochet, we have folks who can help with the basics.

Chair Yoga, Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

Now Through March 28!



Chair Yoga runs Wednesdays through March 28. We will not meet in April, but will meet every Wednesday in May. 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. This class is fun and benefits mental and physical well-being. No special clothing or equipment is needed. If you have questions, contact Ruthie Saunders rsaunders@sc.edu or 776-6608 with 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 Social Hall. Bring your own supplies and prepare to enjoy the company of other artists at no cost. No instruction provided. Contact Ruthie Saunders at rsaunders@sc.edu if you have questions.



Gaia's Rising CUUPS, Thursdays

Join the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. in the Library unless otherwise noted. Contact Lewis Richardson at 729-4319 or l_c_r_1@live.com for more information.

Women's Book Club, Tuesday, Feb. 13

The Women's Book Club will meet Tuesday, February 13, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8 to discuss *Midnight's Children*, by Salman Rushdie. Anyone with questions may contact Sandy Chubon at 776-0784 or sjchubon@sc.rr.com

Jewelry Sales for Boston Trip, Sunday, February 18

Thank you to everyone who purchased jewelry last Sunday. We raised \$450 for the Boston trip. Our goal is \$1,000. This Sunday we will have two tables full of new jewelry bargains, so come early since we only have one of each. This jewelry is from my mother, and was collected from our travels. The crystal is Swarovski and the pearls came from Spain. Be sure to come by and try your luck at the super-duper grab bag specials. All proceeds go to the Boston trip for the kids. Thanks again for helping the kids, Don Dodson.

UUCC Book Club, February 18, 6:30 p.m.

Phil Turner will facilitate a discussion on "God. A Human History" by Reza Aslan. We meet at a member's home. The UUCC Book Club is open to all members and friends of UUCC. We welcome new and returning participants! Please contact Ruthie Saunders if you have questions or would like more information: rsaunders@sc.edu

Christian Heritage Group, February 20

Were you raised in a Christian home and now find yourself with questions of how that relates to being UU? Or are you an onlooker wondering what it means to be Christian? If so, our group might interest you. We explore questions of how that culture has affected us---and continues to affect us. We discuss which teachings we carry with us today and which ones we have left behind. Anyone is welcome to join us. We meet the third Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in Room 10. We often bring a light lunch so that we may continue our discussions into the early afternoon. Our discussion this month will focus on possible methods of outreach to Sunday visitors who--like many of us--are searching for moral and ethical guidance outside the dogma of traditional Christian churches.

September Set, Friday, February 23

On the fourth Friday of every month the UUCC has a pot-luck for seniors (self-defined: no ID required:-) that we call September Set. This is a great opportunity to simply talk and eat with old friends---and make new ones! Sometimes we will have a program after the meal, but usually we just catch up with what's happening in each other's lives.

No need to sign up; all you have to do is bring a dish to share with others. Because of concerns about nighttime driving, between October and March we will be doing lunch potlucks at noon (but do come at 11:30 to socialize and have an appetizer). Hope to see you at our next September Set lunch at **noon on Friday, February 23!** If you have questions, email or call Pat Mohr (patmohr@mindspring.com; [803-463-3504](tel:803-463-3504)) or Jean Capalbo (jacapalbo@aol.com; [803-799-1001](tel:803-799-1001)).

Multigenerational Games Night, Tuesday, February 27, 6-8 p.m.

Bring your dinner and join a game table. Bring your favorite games, too. We will meet in the classrooms as there will be a meeting going on in the social hall. Call or text Bethany at 803-873-7455 if you have questions.



New Art Exhibit, Nostalgia Part 1

by Jennifer Kelly Hoskins

Art Reception, February 28, 5:30-8:00pm

Jennifer Kelly Hoskins is a visual artist and arts educator currently based here in Columbia. Hoskins' paintings and drawings have been shown in both the United States and internationally. She currently teaches design and drawing courses in Chapin. Her exhibit runs through March 15.



Mark Your Calendar:

Fellowship Lunch Schedules

Just to be sure you won't miss out on any of the upcoming fellowship lunches we thought you would like the schedule for the next several months. We will be alternating between Potlucks and a \$5 Soup and Sandwich lunches. These will usually be followed by a Teach-in given by Rev. Jeff. The meal will begin at between 12:20-12:30. We have already found these lunches to be a great time of fellowship so be sure to mark your calendar and don't miss out.

March 4 - Soup and Sandwiches \$5 per person or \$15 per family - sponsored by Membership Committee

April 8 - Potluck - sponsored by Kitchen Committee (Rev. Zsolt of the Partner Church will be visiting and this will be a great time to get to know him)

May 6 - Combined effort of Membership and Kitchen Committee - Special Surprise Gathering TBA

June 3 - Sandwiches provided by UUCC - Annual Business Meeting to follow (This will be a brief lunch so the meeting can begin)

We will not have Fellowship Lunches during July and August but will issue the new schedule for the rest of the year in late August.

Vegan Potluck Dinner, Saturday, March 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Please be sure to mark your calendars for another in the series of vegan potlucks sponsored by the Animal Ministry!! Our next Vegan Potluck Dinner Buffet will be held on Saturday, March 24, at 6:00 p.m. Everyone in the congregation is encouraged to come! (*There is no charge for attending this event*). We encourage all attendees to try their hand at a vegan dish to share at the potluck, but *this is not a requirement*. "Vegan" dishes are simply those that are plant based and do not contain animal products. If you need any assistance in selecting a recipe or would just like to talk to a member of the Animal Ministry about the event, don't hesitate to contact me (anitaj48@aol.com; [803-960-2206](tel:803-960-2206)). We plan to open this event up to the community at large so bring along a friend or neighbor!

A second feature of the evening will be a wonderful presentation by a speaker representing the Ethical Choices Program. Ethical Choices has as its mission to strive toward a healthy, sustainable, compassionate world. Her topic will be "The Ethics of Eating," which should tie in with our Ethical Eating principles. Her presentation may offer information to those striving to follow a plant based diet already, as well as possibly inspire others to adopt this life style.

Thank You from Senior Resources, Inc.

I wanted to thank your church for supporting our Pet Pals (Meals on Wheels) program. Ms. Linda dropped by our office today with your donation of pet food and toys. Without your continuous support and donations, our program would not be the success it is. I am sure our pet friends will appreciate what you have done for them! Again, thank you and have a great day! Thanks, Mekia A. Burgess, Wellness and Volunteer Coordinator

The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center:

Visit The Mountain for Cheap! Friday, March 30-Sunday, April 1

Easter Work Weekend is a way to spend Easter with family and friends. This is also an opportunity to meet new friends through working side by side with other Mountain-lovers. You may choose what work project to join on Saturday and enjoy a traditional Easter feast on Sunday. Labor is appreciated with a 100% lodging discount! So join some of our members who have already committed to participate. This is not an April Fool's joke! Visit The Mountain's website at www.themountainrlc.org.

The Mountain Retreat: October 2018

Those who attended The Mountain annual retreat last year had a great time. This year we hope to have a record-breaking group and even more fun. We were able to reserve a prime spot for our 2018 weekend, so mark your calendars for October 5-7, 2018. Reminders will be coming in the future.

Social Action

“Whose Streets?” Movie: Friday, February 23

Simple Justice, in partnership with the UUCC’s Social Action Committee, will host a screening of the film “Whose Streets?” on Friday, February 23 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The screening will take place in the UUCC’s Social Hall, with a brief talkback to follow. *Film synopsis:* Told by the activists and leaders who live and breathe this movement for justice, an unflinching look at the Ferguson uprising. When unarmed teenager Michael Brown is killed by police and left lying in the street for hours, it marks a breaking point for the residents of St. Louis, Missouri. Grief, long-standing racial tensions and renewed anger bring residents together to hold vigil and protest this latest tragedy. Empowered parents, artists, and teachers from around the country come together as freedom fighters. As the National Guard descends on Ferguson with military grade weaponry, these young community members become the torchbearers of a new resistance.

Social Action Committee Meeting: Sun, February 25: In classroom 8. All welcome. Let's get together to do great things! Any questions, please contact socialaction@uucolumbia.org.

Mon & Tues, April 9-10: WREN (Women’s Rights & Empowerment Network) Summit Our focus this year is the economic empowerment of women, which appropriately falls on Equal Pay Day.

NAMI Walks, Saturday, April 7

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will be having its annual 5K walk on Saturday, April 7 at Finlay Park. Check in time is 9:00 a.m. and walk begins at 10:00 a.m. When you walk with NAMI, you join the movement to raise awareness of mental illness and raise funds for our mission to help individuals and families right here in our region. Please save the date and plan to wear your yellow t-shirts. Last year we raised over \$500 for the cause and we are hoping to do even better this year. Support our team by signing up to walk with us or making your donation here: <http://bit.ly/UU-NAMI>

Poor People's Campaign | A National Call for Moral Revival

The UUCC plans to be a part of the moral revival planned by Rev. William Barber and the Poor People's Campaign (poorpeoplescampaign.org). We encourage you to read up on this movement and prepare to participate with us. We expect events to start around Mother's Day 2018, but we will send out more information as we get it. Any questions can be directed to SocialAction@uucolumbia.org.

Inclement Weather Center Donations

The Social Action Committee is soliciting donations of current magazines and unused personal-sized toiletries for the Inclement Weather Center, the winter shelter for the homeless, which is managed by Transitions. The shelter is open during winter months when the temperature falls below 40F. **Please no clothing or shoes without advance arrangement.** Place donations on the left after entering social hall, in the marked receptacle. For more information about donations or volunteering, contact Tom Clements at tomclements329@cs.com or 803-240-7268.

Religious Exploration

Crafting Night, Tonight

Please join us tonight 6:00pm for crafting night in the social hall. We will work on CYRE projects and paint, yarn, roving, felt, etc. is provided. Feel free to bring your own materials!



CUUBS Night

Our elementary students are invited to a game and pizza night this Friday, February 16 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Join us for an evening of friendly competition and pizza.

CYRE Calendar

Friday Feb. 16 – CUUBS Pizza and Game Night!

Sunday Feb. 18 – CYRE classes for all EXCEPT Juniors
and Seniors as they will be attending service

Sunday Feb. 18 – Junior Choir at 10:15am

Sunday Feb. 18 – Beltane Committee Meeting 12:30

Sunday Feb. 25 – CYRE Social Action Day

Partner Church News

"A Little Night Music" is a happy memory for the 47 attendees who braved a nasty night to be treated to piano selections from classics to Broadway, engagingly performed by Anna Hamilton and Richard McLeod. (Sadly, Matthew Ganong was bedridden with the flu.) Richard stepped into the breach with some clever comic musical antics, after which all adjourned to a delicious reception. Many thanks to all who attended this event, and to those, present or not, who bought raffle tickets for prizes which included restaurant vouchers, theatre tickets, a massage, etc. Total gross receipts for the fundraiser \$1,200. A special thank you to our generous caterers for the reception and to Stephanie and Ceren who organized this after-performance event.



Rev. Zsolt Solymosi Visit the First Week of April

Mark your calendars for the first week of April when Rev. Zsolt Solymosi, minister of our Partner Church in Beszterce, Romania, will be with us. (His visit is made possible by last year's CABARET fundraiser.) Save the dates: Friday, April 6: Goulash Gala, fun-filled festive evening for our UUCC; Sunday, April 8: Zsolt will conduct the Sunday service. Additional details about his visit will follow.

Meetings & Rentals

Art For All Group	Thursdays	10:00 am	Social Hall
Board Meeting	3rd Wednesday of month	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Chair Yoga	Wednesdays through March 28	11:00 am	Social Hall
Children & Youth RE Committee	TBA	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Choir (adult)	TBA	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Choir (women)	Thursdays	6:30 pm	Classroom # 9
Choir (men)	TBA		
Christian Heritage	3rd Tuesdays	11:00 am	Classroom # 10
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	2:00 pm	Classroom # 8
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Membership Committee	Sunday, February 25	12:30 pm	Classroom # 9
Visitor Orientation	Sunday, March 11	12:20 pm	Library
Science & Religion	2 nd Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
September Set	Friday, February 23	NOON	Social Hall
Social Action Committee	Sunday, February 25	12:30 pm	Social Hall
Technology Committee	Wednesday, March 7	6:00 pm	Workroom 1
UU Animal Ministry	Thursday, February, 22	5:00 pm	Classroom # 10
UU Book Club	Sunday, February 18	4:30 pm	Social Hall
UU Humanist	4 th Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
UU Partner Church Committee	Lee Minghi, 798-0904; Carita Barr, 782-0053	TBA	
Women's Book Club	Tuesday, March 13	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Writing Group	Suspended	6:30 pm	
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Rentals			
La Leche League	3rd Tuesdays	6-8pm	Classroom # 8
Tai Chi 803-772-9557 columbia.sc@taoist.org	Every Thursday	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Insight Meditation	Every Monday	7:00 pm	Library
Men's AA	Every Tuesday	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Women's AA I	Every Wednesday	6:30 pm	Library
Women's AA II	Every Sunday	5:00 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.

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