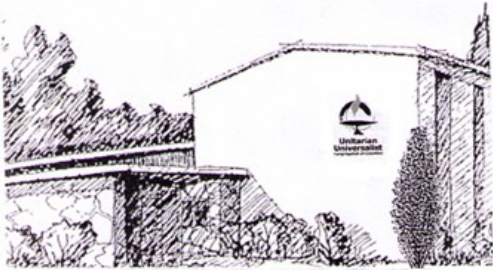




The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

October 9, 2019



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

October 13, 2019

9:30 am Forum Topic

When does life begin?

11:00 am Sermon Topic

“Words of Dignity and Worth”

by Rev. Stephen Robinson

October 20, 2019

9:30 am Forum Topic

What is death? Is it the end or another beginning?

11:00 am Sermon Topic

“From Harmful to Healing”

by Rev. Stephen Robinson

Message From Our Minister

“Tag...You’re It”

This past Sunday, we remembered the games of hide and seek and tag, and the terrifying phrase, “tag, you’re it!” We remember scrambling across a yard, counting the seconds until we could reach home base, avoiding the experience of becoming “it.” Isolation settles in as the other kids run off to hide, and “it” is standing all alone.

Martin Buber knew the danger of becoming an it. In 1923, this Austrian philosopher wrote his most famous work, an essay on existence entitled “Ich und Du” (I and Thou). Buber believed that the primary words of I-Thou and I-It signifies the nature of how we relate and understand. I-It describes the world of experience, which emerges between a person and the objects of the world surrounding them. I-It focuses on the connection of the person to objects. I-Thou describes a world of relationship. The person experiences another person, not as an object but as a presence. Buber writes, “If I face a human being as my Thou, and say the primary word I-Thou to him, he is not a thing among things.” To address another as Thou requires an ability to risk vulnerability, transcend yourself, and risk being seen and known, while doing the work of seeing and knowing the other.

Continued...

Unigram Deadline

The deadline for the next issue is **Sunday, November 10**, for publication on **Wednesday, November 13**. *Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.* Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to uucc@uucolumbia.org.

Objectifying fellow humans as “it” led to the rise of the horrendous persecution of Buber’s community in Austria during Nazism. Concentration camps stand as a memorial and a reminder of what happens when we willingly reject the I-Thou relationship and dehumanize our fellow humans. Fifty years ago, the Pride movement began in New York in revolt to I-It oppression of the LGBTQ community. And now, I’m afraid that I-It thinking has invaded our southern border, building walls, cages, and apparently moats with alligators and snakes.

As Unitarian Universalists, we are guided by seven principles. At the UUC, we have set aside the month of October to celebrate the first principle, the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We respond to the call of risking the vulnerability of engaging in I-Thou relationships. In Buber’s words, we “relate with the entirety of our being to another whole person.” We must create a safe space for the objectified to become whole, for the dehumanized to become human, for the disgraced to become dignified, and for the devalued to feel their sense of worth. In a world that can quickly say, “tag, you are an it,” the UUC will continue to be home base, a safe place that welcomes all.

Rev. Stephen Robinson



Candles of Community

We extend our condolences to **Janice Kline-Moore** in her loss of her husband, Blake Moore. A Memorial Service will be held at UUCU on Saturday, October 19, time to be announced. A reception will follow the service.

We extend our concern and support to **Sandy Chubon** and **Donald Cooper**, who, after brief hospital stays, are at their homes recuperating. Sandy would welcome visitors with prior notice.

Thank You

Robin Scherer and Dana Gilchrist would like to thank all the UUs who helped with Mom's (Diane Schrader's) service and reception on 9/15. Anna, Karen, Elizabeth and Richard for sharing their musical talent; Stephen for working with us and delivering the service; Andrea for coordinating and publishing the program; ushers; Caring/Kitchen committee and Bill for all their hard work in prepping the reception area and serving food and drink; Donald for sound; Carita for beautiful flower arrangements; Rod and Andrew for live music during our reception. It was a wonderful tribute to Mom's life and we felt the love and support of our UU community.

Palmetto Place Children & Youth Services

Thanks so much for your gift of \$899. We are very grateful for your support during our summer season, which can be the most pressing time of year for our children. Your contribution goes directly to providing our children with the mental health, financial wellness and residential support they need to gain sustainability. With well wishes and many thanks, Payani Baughman, Project Coordinator.

2019 Columbia Pride Parade

Thank you to all who helped plan, decorate, donated supplies, and who came out to support the parade. Your participation matters.



Our Time at The Mountain



A mighty band of 18 just returned from a wonderfully refreshing weekend at The Mountain. This year it was decided to have a relatively unstructured time so people could plan to fill their own hours. Our thanks to John Logue for leading our group on a very informative walk on top of the Mountain identifying many of the plants and how they have settled in that habitat.

With the aging of the buildings that we so enjoy, the staff has identified that much work needs doing beyond their funding and time abilities. It has been suggested that "adoption" of some of the aging cabins by congregations could fill that need. Our group was very enthusiastic about this and identified Cabin 12 as one that we would like to adopt. It will take contributions of time and money from the UUCU if we decide to undertake this challenge. More about this later.

Dear Members and Friends of the UUCC

The Membership Committee is working on updating our records. We are making sure that we have congregants identified as they wish, either Member or Friend of the UUCC, according to our By-Laws (paraphrased below). Distinctions between the relationships within the UUCC are:

A **Member** demonstrates an active interest in the Congregation's programs and activities through the contribution of both time and financial resources. They sign the membership register, and either make a pledge and fulfill a contribution of at least the minimum amount, as determined by the Finance Committee and approved by the Board, or receive a waiver, which allows for contribution of less than the minimum amount. A **Member** is counted for purposes of a quorum, included in the formal membership statistics submitted to the UUA, may participate fully in the activities and committees of the Congregation, including being members of the Board or Chairs of Committees, and may vote at Meetings of the Congregation.

A **Friend** does not choose to sign the membership register, but demonstrates an active interest in the purpose and programs of the Congregation, makes an annual financial contribution of record (of any amount) and requests the designation of **Friend**. **Friends** shall not be counted for purposes of a quorum, nor included in the formal membership statistics submitted to the UUA. Unless restricted by provisions in the Bylaws, **Friends** may participate fully in the activities and committees of the Congregation, but may not be members of the Board nor Chairs of Committees, and may not vote at congregational meetings, although they are welcome to speak.

*Please note: a cash contribution of record intended as a "Contribution as a Friend" needs to be placed in an envelope with your name and "Friend" written in the space after the box "Other". If both "Share the Plate" and another box is checked, the amount will be split 50/50.

If you have not already filled out the following questionnaire (one per family), please look for the form on the Welcome Table with the red tablecloth and return it to Nancie Shillington-Pérez or another member of the Membership Committee by October 27. Thank you for your help.

After reading the paragraphs above, please place a check on the line that best identifies your relationship with the UUCC.

_____ I am a Member of the UUCC.

_____ I am a Friend of the UUCC.

_____ I would like to become a Member of the UUCC.

_____ I would like to become a Friend of the UUCC.

_____ Other: _____

Please print your name: _____

Email Address: _____

2020 Share the Plate Nominations

Members and Friends age 16 and older are invited to nominate organizations to be our 2020 Share the Plate recipients. The UUCU donates half of our cash collections each month to local outside charities or social justice organizations chosen by our members and friends. Thanks to our congregation's generosity, we have donated over \$95,000 in Share the Plate contributions to community charities over the past eight years. Don't miss your opportunity to choose your candidates for Share the Plate for next year. If you are satisfied with the recipients we now have they will be considered as nominees for 2020. **If you have other suggestions for new recipients in any of the eleven categories please nominate them and tell other members and friends about their organization.** They will then be considered in the final ballot process. Nomination forms are available in the UUCU foyer or on line at bit.ly/share-the-plate. Nominations must be submitted by Sunday, October 20, and voting will begin on November 3 to choose the recipients from among the top two nominees in each category. The eleven categories are:

Animal shelters/Animal services

Environmental issues

Homeless shelters

LGBT issues

Physical Health issues

Women's issues

Children's services

Food banks/Food support

Legal aid

Mental Health issues

Social Justice issues

News and Notes

Membership at the UUC

Have you been attending the UUC for a while and considering making the congregation a larger part of your life? If you are interested in joining or have questions about membership, please contact membership@uucolumbia.org. You may also speak to the Membership Committee volunteer at the Welcome Table with the red tablecloth after the service.

Are You Missing Someone?

Do you know someone who has stopped coming to services? Please consider getting in touch with them to see how they are doing. If you don't feel comfortable doing this, please let someone from the Membership Committee (red ribbons attached to their name badge) know. If you need their contact information, you can ask our Administrator, Andrea, at uucc@uucolumbia.org.

Audio Recordings of Sermons Available on Website!

We have finally started putting up audio recordings of our sermons on a regular basis. You can now go to our website (uucolumbia.org) and look on the right-hand side of the Home Page. Select the Service Archive link and scroll down to the sermon you'd like to hear. When on that page, simply select the play button, sit back and enjoy the sermon. We have some from July and all of August and September up now. Continuing from now on, you can expect that they will be up within two weeks of the sermon. We're aiming for much less time (a couple of days), but typically, three sets of hands must deal with these, so we don't want to over promise. Color us happy! Now when you miss a Sunday you don't have to miss a sermon.

Would You Like To Donate Flowers For A Sunday Worship Service?

Do you have a special occasion you want remembered or person honored with flowers at our Sunday Worship Service? Perhaps there is an upcoming birthday or anniversary or just someone you want to say a very special 'Thank You' to. Plans are now being made for you to do this by signing up for the Sunday of your choice on the UUC Flower Calendar located at the Membership Table. The cost of this floral arrangement will be a \$30 donation made at least two weeks in advance of the date you have chosen to the UUC Flower Fund. A group of our talented members will prepare an arrangement for our sanctuary for that Sunday. The flowers will be yours to dispose of as you wish after the service. Linda McLeod (kitchen@uucolumbia.org) will be the contact person once you have signed up to make a flower donation and will explain all the details upon contact. We hope you will all want to share in this opportunity to enhance our sanctuary and at the same time recognize a special day.

Do You Have Wine Glasses to Donate?

If you have a set of wine glasses that you no longer want, the UUC Kitchen would love to have them. Any size or style of clear glass with a stem is fine. Please bring them to the kitchen and leave them on the counter and include your name as the donor. Thank you!

**See Page 15 for
Social Action Events**

Volunteers Needed: CYRE Free Play Days

CYRE schedules a "Free Play Day" about once each month, usually on the first Sunday. These days are important for a few reasons, and it is difficult to say which reason is more important. First, it gives our hardworking volunteer teachers a well-deserved day off, so they can either attend the service or relax at home. Their commitment to the program requires them to miss nearly every single Sunday service! It also gives the children a chance to play board games, listen to a story, engage in arts and crafts, visit the playground, or just hang out. Finally, it allows adult members of the congregation to interact with the young people and demonstrate their UU values. None of these things will happen if we don't have at least four volunteers for each Free Play Day.

Please consider volunteering at least one day per school year for this vital need; we are currently well below this required level of participation and may have to cancel some days. If interested, please contact DRE Scott Sargent at dre@uucolumbia.org, or simply add your name to the sign-up sheet on the CYRE Registration and Information table in the Social Hall each Sunday, and on a table in the RE wing the rest of the week. On behalf of the UUCC children, thank you for your support!

UUCC Men's Breakfast Group, Second Thursday of Each Month

The UUCC men's breakfast group will meet at 9:00 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month (**next one is October 10**). This time we meet at the Lizard's Thicket on Beltline. If you are interested, please let Phil Turner pturner@unt.edu know so we can have space available.

Ladies Luncheon

Last Chance To Sign Up: UUCC Ladies LUUnch BUUnch, October 10

The UUCC Ladies LUUnch BUUnch will meet on Thursday, October 10 at noon at the Magnolia Buffet, 10052 Two Notch Road. Please email Linda McLeod at bonneylass44@gmail.com if you would like to join us!

Feeding the Hungry at Transitions Saturday, October 12

UUCC has a continuing commitment to help serve the evening meal at Transitions Homeless Recovery Center, 2025 Main Street in Columbia, on the second Saturday of every month. Please arrive by 5:15, as the service window is 5:30 to 6:00. Park in the Transitions lot. Sign in at the Security Office. Remember to bring a hat unless you prefer to wear one of the disposable hair nets they provide. We have stools for anyone who might find it uncomfortable to stand for 30 minutes. Please email Bob at bobwhit46@gmail.com if you are available.

Membership Committee Meeting Sunday, October 13

The Membership Committee will meet in Room 9 from 12:30-1:30pm to discuss ways to expand offerings for young families, professionals, and adults among other topics. All are welcome to attend this meeting. Contact membership@uucolumbia.org.

UUCC Book Club, Sunday, October 13, 6:30pm

Marlene Mackey will facilitate a discussion of *The Diary of a Bookseller*, by Shaun Bythell. We will 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

Tennis Anyone? Tuesday, October 15, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

The combined Young Adult Group, Young Professionals Group, and other more *seasoned/veteran* players will do short round-robin matches. Please bring rackets, if you have them, and plenty of water. Beginners are welcome. Location to be announced. Questions? Contact Nancie Shillington-Pérez at nancierrr@sbcglobal.net.



Visitor Orientation, Sunday, October 20, 12:20pm

Our next Visitor Orientation will be held on Sunday, October 20, at 12:20 p.m. in the UUCC library, the detached building on Heyward Street with the red door. It usually lasts about 50 minutes, and light refreshments will be served. If you are new to the UUCC, or have not 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 may have. For more information or to arrange childcare (with at least 48 hours' notice please) contact: Nancie Shillington-Pérez. email: membership@uucolumbia.org.



Music with Anahaat Planet at the UUCC Sunday, October 20, 1:30pm

Anahaat Planet will return to the UUCC this fall to perform in the October 20 service and lead a musical kirtan following the service at 1:30pm. All are invited to attend!

Anahaat Planet: Nicki Anahata Musick, (vocals, acoustic guitar, gong) L.G. (piano, synthesizers, percussion) and James Wallace (electric bass), will bring you a timeless vibrational legacy, a collection of inspiring songs, mantras and meditative soundscapes. Their instrumental compositions are original and varied with fusions of folk and electronic. Join us on an enchanting musical magic carpet ride toward a heart-centered world!

UUCC Choirs Invite You To Sing!

Do you like to sing? Please consider joining one of our UUCC choirs. All are welcome and no previous experience is required. Opportunities include the UUCC ADULT CHOIR which rehearses twice monthly before Sunday services (9:30-10:30am); ENCORE, the Men's Choir, which rehearses twice monthly before Sunday services; and PRISM, the Women's Choir, which rehearses weekly on Thursday evenings (6:30-7:30pm). UUCC youth will have opportunities this year to sing in RE and perform in inter-generational services! Each choir performs in service once

a month, and you can access information and rehearsal schedules on our UUCC website, columbia.dreamhosters.com, under Worship: Music at the UUCC or contact Music Coordinator Anna Hamilton, music@uucolumbia.org

September Set, October 25, 6:00pm Last Gathering Until January 2020!

On the fourth Friday of every month (Please Note: We do not meet in November or December), the UUCC has a potluck 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!

No need to sign up; all you have to do is bring a dish to share with others. Hope to see you at our next September Set dinner at **6pm on Friday, October 25!** If you have questions, email or call Pat Mohr (patmohr@mindspring.com; 803-463-3504) or Jean Capalbo (jacapalbo@aol.com; 803-799-1001).



Painting Proposal

The outside paint on the RE Wing windows is in very bad shape. Much of the paint has peeled off and bare wood is showing. The Building and Grounds committee is looking for volunteers to help us remedy this situation. We hope to get started on this project on **October 26** (November 16 rain delay date) and need your help. Each window will need to be scraped, sanded, cleaned, and painted. But here's the catch: most of these can only be reached on an extension ladder, with the others being so high that we'll need to use at least an 8' ladder.

We're looking for people who will feel comfortable working under those conditions and who have some experience painting trim. Think about adopting a window and feel the pride of ownership. We are the UUCC! Please contact Lis Turner (mslisturner@gmail.com (940) 395-6562) with questions or to volunteer.

Membership Committee Meeting, Sunday, October 27, 12:30pm

The Membership Committee will meet in Room 10. Questions? Contact membership@uucolumbia.org.



"Art for All" Exhibit & Reception: ART 5 WAYS

The "Art for All" group invites you to enjoy its third exhibit and a reception on **Monday, October 28 from 4-6pm in the UCC Social Hall!** Five members of the group, Linda Brennison, Beth Littlejohn, Jean Lomasto, Ruthie Saunders, and Cheryl Soehl have selected works to share in the **ART 5 WAYS** exhibit during October and November.

The group meets weekly on Thursdays at 10am in the UCC social hall to create, share ideas and view each other's work, providing support and encouragement while making art and having fun.

Members of the group have very different approaches to art and produce a rich diversity of works that reflect each person's unique views, experiences, and strengths.

The group provides solid support and a safe place to explore different art approaches and ways of doing art, which enables each person to grow as an artist. *Here are some of our artists at work:*



Please Donate Cookies and Snacks

Our cookie cupboard is running very low and it is your generous donations that keep it filled up. The **EMPTY** Cookie and Snack box will be at the kitchen window pass-through on Sunday waiting to be filled with cookies, crackers, pretzels, and nutritious snacks. Don't forget veggies, fruits, hummus, and cheese to keep us healthy. Remember too there are those of us who are vegan and gluten free. Our Sunday fare depends on you and we thank you for helping to make a nice variety each Sunday.

A Zsolt Surprise on Sunday Night September 29

On Sunday, September 29, during the Transylvanian Travels With Zsolt Pilgrim Program, Zsolt surprised the audience by making a live appearance...actually taped earlier Sunday from the Beszterce Service celebrating their Thanksgiving. The centerpiece for this harvest festival on their worship table was a harvest basket created by Maria, the congregation president (she was among the 15 Beszterce Pilgrims who accompanied us for three days.) According to Zsolt, central to their service was expressing love and heartfelt thanks that we are a part of their lives. They say they feel "we have their backs"... in a Romanian setting not especially historically friendly to Hungarian speaking Unitarians. We can bask in their good feelings and expressions of love!

UCC Partner Church Committee



"Go, Granny D!"

To Play In Columbia at UUCC

November 2

Currently touring nationwide, actress Barbara Bates Smith and musician Jeff Sebens will present "Go, Granny D!" on Saturday, November 2, at 7:30 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 2701 Heyward Street. Fundraiser tickets are \$15 at the door. A reception with wine and desserts will follow.

Touting "You're never too old to raise a little hell," the 90-year-old Doris "Granny D" Haddock in 2000 blazed a 3200-mile trail across America for campaign finance reform, precipitating the passage of the McCain-Feingold Act. She issued her final challenge in 2010 at age 100: "Democracy is a running game. You huddle and you go back in. You keep going."

"This show totally rocks!" said Quaker Pastor Philip Raines of Winston-Salem, NC. Blog reviewer Michelle Grasty wrote, "This show will make you laugh and think and beg for more."

Barbara Bates Smith, noted for her Off-Broadway adaptation and performance of "Ivy Rowe" from Lee Smith's novel "Fair and Tender Ladies," has toured for thirty years with one woman shows. More information is on her website: www.barbarabatesmith.com

For details on "Go, Granny D!" see the website: www.barbarabatesmith.com/go-granny-d



Dances of Universal Peace, November 1

UU's, family, and friends are all heartily welcomed to join in Dances of Universal Peace [DUP] on Friday November 1, from 7-9 pm in the Social Hall. Sponsored by a universalist Sufi order, DUP are modern moving practices honoring the positive spiritual energy of the world's many faith traditions. Each dance is has its own singing and motions that are taught and led. Respectful eye contact, hand-holding, and occasional hugs are part of the dances. As we move through several iterations of each dance, each of us deepens our individual resonance with vibrations of the universe. This month our themes are beginnings and endings, Light, and thanks. Usually we socialize after dancing. DUP are free, and we are happy to accept small donations to support the Dances. If you are planning to attend, RSVP by noon on 11/1 to Marguerite at <mff426@gmail.com>, or 803-743-0731. Yes you're welcome even without replying! More about North American DUP is at <http://www.dancesofuniversalpeacena.org>



Saturday, November 9, 10am-2pm

If you have arts or crafts or any items to sell in at our Holiday Bazaar, or would like to help out on that day, please let Jean Capalbo know. Each vendor will be responsible for their sales and the commission to UUCU will be at least 20%, or more if you wish. If you would like to reserve a table or just want to join in the fun, contact Jean at jacapalbo@gmail.com or (928)202-0286.

The Women's Book Group

Tuesday, November 12, 7:00pm

The Women's Book Group will meet Tuesday, November 12, at 7:00pm in Room 10 to discuss *America: The Farewell Tour*, by Chris Hedges. Anyone with questions may contact Sandy Chubon at 803-776-0784 or sjchubon@sc.rr.com



Chili Cook-off, Sunday, November 17

It's almost time for the Chili Cook-off! This annual event is scheduled for November 17, and we need plenty of volunteers to assist. The more hands we have helping, the lighter the burden for everyone. If you are interested, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the CYRE Registration and Information table in the Social Hall each Sunday, or on the table in the RE wing the rest of the week, or contact DRE Scott Sargent at dre@uucolumbia.org. This is a Boston fundraiser.

Boston Chaperones Needed!

We are still looking for one male and one female chaperone to attend the Boston Heritage Trip in June 2020. There are already two other chaperones going and there will be 6-8 teens attending. There will be a significant amount of walking and sleeping in hostels. Please message McKenzie Scott at reassist@uucolumbia.org if you are interested.

Knit or Not Group, Mondays, 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 10 of the CYRE wing.

**The Buddhist Insight Meditation
Community of Columbia Meets Mondays**

Join us on Monday evenings in the UUCC Library.
Meditation instruction at 6:30, silent sitting at 7:00 and
Dharma talk at 7:30. Free and all are welcome.

Art for All Group, Thursdays

If you are interested in working on your art with others for support, encouragement and feedback, then this 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 Linda Brennison at linbrenni@gmail.com 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 Candace at shewhowonders2000@yahoo.com for more information.

Blessing of the Animals, Sunday, November 3

The Animal Ministry will proudly sponsor the 9th annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, November 3 at 3:00 P.M. on the Heyward side of the church (by the playground).

Reverend Stephen has graciously agreed to preside, and the event will include the blessing of the animals (of course!) and a short discussion about the importance of animals in our lives. In addition, we are excited that we will be entertained by the music of our own Reverend Rod Brown throughout the service.

As in years past, this event is open to *everyone*, in the congregation. Even if you do not have a furry (feathered, etc.) friend in your lives at present to bring, Reverend Stephen plans to honor our pets that have passed on in a special way. You are more than welcome to bring a representation of your pet (a photo or toy) who is unable to attend, for a "blessing in abstentia."

Please keep in mind that we are open to the public, so if you have a friend or neighbor who is an animal fan, encourage him/her to come.

Along with the spiritual benefits of having your animal blessed, we plan to include toys for the animals to take home, treats for the animals, and vegan refreshments for the human attendees. These are all complimentary! I would like to emphasize that there is no cost for this event.

There are a few ground rules which are extremely important to mention. All animals must remain on leashes (or in crates) during this event for your pet's safety and the welfare of the group. Aggressive behavior such as growling at, or lunging at others is unacceptable, and if it is persistent, the offending parties may be asked to take a walk around the building until civility is established.

In closing I will say that after having had *eight* of these Blessing of the Animals, each one takes on a character of its own and is, in some ways, better than the previous one!

If you have any questions, please email Anita Grossman at anitaj48@aol.com.



Upcoming Adult Religious Education Events

The Adult Religious Education Committee has been hard at work and has a diverse offering of classes and discussion groups. For further information or to register, contact Angie Rabon, ARE Chair, at 803-212-8558. The classes and discussion groups are free and all are welcome. Curious? Come and see.

- The **Christian Heritage Group** meets monthly in the Library on the fourth Tuesday at noon for a discussion and brown bag lunch. They are trying to decide on a new name. Post-Christians? Sunday School Dropouts? Holy Heretics?
- Tuesday, October 15, is the final meeting from 7-8:30 pm in the Library, Angie Rabon is hosting a video and conversation on **Religion and Violence**.
- On November 6, 13, and 20, Wednesday mornings from 10-11:30 am in the Library, Barbara Bates Smith will lead a small group experience called **Story Circles**. Fun & Fellowship sharing our stories in an easy-to-follow format, using the Native American tradition of "passing the stick." Story prompts offered by seasoned leader Barbara Smith. (i.e. "What's a typical day like for you?" "Favorite pets?") We plan to meet in the Library on the first three Wednesday mornings in November at 10:00 am and will limit our time to 90 minutes. Any questions? Call Barbara at (828) 421-7685.
- In January a course on the **Enneagram** will be taught by Rebecca Drennan.
- In later Spring, Joe Long will be leading a **Build You Own Theology** class.
- Pat Mohr is exploring a **Common Read** for the congregation in 2020.
- Also in the Spring, Nina Gray will be teaching a class on **Hope**.

Social Action

Shelter Donations Needed!

Please begin bringing in your donations now. The Social Action Committee is again soliciting donations of current magazines and unused personal-sized toiletries for the Inclement Weather Center, the winter shelter for the homeless. The shelter, managed by Transitions, is open from November 1 to April 1 when the temperature falls below 40F. 100 to 150 or more clients use the shelter on a nightly basis. *For donations of new or gently used shoes and clothing, such as coats, hats and gloves, advance arrangement is preferred.* Place donations in the basket on the left after entering the social hall. For more information about donations or volunteering, contact Tom Clements at tomclements329@cs.com or 803-240-7268.



Mon, Oct. 14, 6pm: **Fair Maps SC meeting (2nd Monday)**

1340 Elmwood Ave. This will be the first of regular monthly meetings to organize around the Richland County **Fair Maps** petition drive. Details about the citizens campaign to end gerrymandering at the coalition's [web site](#). Follow the coalition on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



Harvest Hope Volunteer Day: Sat, Oct 26th

9am - Noon at their warehouse at 1117 Bluff Industrial Blvd., Columbia. Please wear closed toe shoes and wear your yellow t-shirts. Anyone 16 or over is welcome to sign up and 11 and over are welcomed with an adult. Email SocialAction@uucolumbia.org to sign up.



Guest at Your Table

WOMEN LEADERS, STRONG COMMUNITIES

Sun, Nov 10: **Guest at Your Table Potluck Fundraiser for UUSC**

Guest at Your Table is the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's annual program to raise support for and awareness about critical human rights issues. This year – focusing on the theme Women Leaders, Strong Communities– we are highlighting the following women leaders from UUSC partner organizations. The potluck will begin right after the service. Learn more about UUSC at www.uusc.org. Contact SocialAction@uucolumbia.org with any questions or to sign up to help.



A climate activist from Kiribati, **Pelenise** is responding boldly to climate change in the Pacific.



Marta is working to support victims of violence and eradicate violence against women in Honduras.



Wai Wai is helping prevent violence and bridge ethnic and religious divides in Burma.



In Mexico and the U.S., **Monica** is using the arts to bolster resiliency and leadership among migrants.

Please check our website for new events posted almost daily:

bit.ly/social-action



Denominational Connections–October 9, 2019

From the Southern Region:

As Susan Frederick-Gray mentioned during her president's report at General Assembly in June, **LeaderLab** is a tremendous resource for congregational leaders. Check it out at: <https://www.uua.org/leadership>.

You can go there for extensive training by taking one of the full length leadership courses from the Unitarian Universalist Leadership Institute that are designed to help leaders with the basics of leadership and to help them understand the unique complexities of leading in the context of our UU congregations. Enrollment for these online courses is typically in the fall, winter and summer. Registration for the fall courses is open now; **classes begin September 6**. For a complete list of the courses offered, both elective and on demand, go to: <https://www.uuoinstitute.org/course-list/>. Courses are \$30 each. If you need assistance with registration for any of the courses, please talk with Keitha Whitaker at denomconn@uucolumbia.org.

SR Monthly Webinar Series

The Southern Region staff team offers a series of webinars for congregational leaders and members. There is no cost to attend but pre-registration is required. Save the dates for these upcoming webinars:

November 5 (6:30 to 8:00 Eastern Time), *Staff Supervision and Ethical Employment* - Churches are employers, and employees must be supervised. This webinar is for board members, personnel committees, ministers and anyone who supervises staff. Learn about effective, values-based practices for supporting your staff, including job descriptions, team-building, performance feedback, and staffing with marginalized identities. Register here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScdQDkGCX8fhyn_r5Yv13AE99s3FrmzA7xP4PQ0jqXh5AMRMg/viewform

Chalice Lighter Call for Georgia Mountains UU Church - Dear Chalice Lighters and Friends, The Fall 2019 Chalice Lighter call for our Mid-South geographical area has been awarded to Georgia Mountains Unitarian Universalist Church in Dahlonega, Georgia. Chalice Lighter funding will help the congregation build a new church home on their recently purchased five-acre property. How to contribute:

Online donations may be made here: <http://gmuuc.org/connection/donate/> (look for the "Donate" button; you do not need to have a PayPal account to use this method). For those already using PayPal you may use PayPal.me/GMUUC or "Send Money" to Gmuuc@live.com.

Donations by check, payable to "Georgia Mountains UU Church" with a memo "Chalice Lighters," may be mailed to Georgia Mountains UU Church, Attn: Chalice Lighter, PO Box 630, Dahlonega, GA 30533.

This Chalice Lighter call will **close on November 30, 2019**.

Congregational Stewardship That Engages All - November 9th, Knoxville, TN - Congregational leaders tend to describe their challenges and circumstances in terms of deficiencies - not enough volunteers, young people and families, diversity, money. Perhaps our approaches to stewardship inhibit us from seeing opportunities and resources that are all around us. This workshop will explore the Who, How, and Why of creating better stewardship programs, informed by our Unitarian Universalist Principles and values, our religious purpose, and our congregational visions. Register here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfYOCgoct5TjoKPQihhl8Km7zjdRREvlutkIeSnXIZy5vAwwQ/viewform>. Cost is \$45.00 per person. If you would like to attend and would like help with the registration fee, please contact Keitha Whitaker, Chair, UUC Denominational Connections at denomconn@uucolumbia.org.

Continued...

Denominational Connections—Continued

There's a LOT more! View the entire Southern Region September Newsletter here: <https://mailchi.mp/uua/southern-region-september-2019-newsletter?e=4d351a7f1e>

Meanwhile, please check out our [Denominational Connections](http://www.uucolumbia.dreamhosters.com/connection/denominational-connection/) pages (<http://www.uucolumbia.dreamhosters.com/connection/denominational-connection/>) for updates and connect with our wider UU world. Find the latest news on immigration justice and the UUA and information about *Get Out the Vote Project Grants* here: <http://www.uucolumbia.dreamhosters.com/connection/denominational-connection/uua-connections/>. Please, visit us often on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/uucolumbia/). (<https://www.facebook.com/uucolumbia/>)

This committee needs more members! *Time commitment is minimal*. Please talk with Keitha Whitaker or Anne Mellen about joining us! If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at denomconn@uucolumbia.org. Keitha Whitaker, Chair, Denominational Connections.

Our UU Footprint

A Carbon Footprint is a measure of the impact our activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of greenhouse gases we produce. It is measured in units of carbon dioxide. So, a bell pepper grown in the backyard and eaten in the kitchen leaves a smaller footprint – causes less waste – than one that is trucked in “fresh” from California and purchased at the local grocer. At UUCC we take seriously our impact on the environment.

Today I would like us to consider our “UU” Footprint. That is, a measure of the impact our congregational activities have on the number of younger UUs who grow up in and remain in our congregation or who join other Unitarian Universalists congregations when they leave home. And, in this case, we WANT to leave our UU footprints in the minds of our youth and, indeed, in our community.

There is a fairly well-known poem about footprints in the sand. I'm sure you've all heard it and seen the framed remembrances in offices, homes, hospitals, and many other places where an individual, group or company wants to highlight the comfort that faith can provide in times of need or crisis. In the poem, we are told that in the crises of our lives, those times when we feel most alone, that some force or presence holds us up and brings us through. For many people this is important and comforting knowledge and it is, therefore, worthy of respect and recognition whether we share such beliefs or not.

As we look around us each Sunday morning and see the children and youth here and celebrate with them their next great adventure I'd like for all of us, children, youth, and adults to think about what we do here to make our faith worthy of footprints – our principles, those guideposts that can provide comfort and encouragement, whether the need is for inspiration to take the right path, support in making a difficult decision, affirmation when facing insurmountable odds, or comfort when the spirit is thirsty for faith in oneself and in humanity.

I want to challenge us to think of all the ways we can make this a nurturing sanctuary for the growth and well-being of the entire congregation – all ages, all stages, from newbies and mid-lifers to sages and mages.



Meetings & Rentals

Art For All Group	Every Thursday	10:00 am	Social Hall
Board Meeting	3rd Wednesday of month	6:30 pm	Classroom # 8
Chair Yoga	On Hiatus		
Children & Youth RE Committee	October 13	12:30 pm	Classroom # 10
Choir - UUCC (adult)	TBA	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Choir – Prism (women)	Thursdays	6:30 pm	Classroom # 9
Choir - Encore (men)	TBA		
Christian Heritage	4th Tuesdays	Noon	Library
CUUP's, Gaia's Rising	Every Thursday	7:30 pm	Library
Funeral Consumers Alliance	3rd Tuesdays	5:30 pm	Classroom # 8
Forum	Every Sunday	9:30 am	Library
Green Team	Sunday, October 13	12:30 pm	Classroom # 8
Knit or Not	Every Monday	2:00 pm	Classroom # 10
Membership Committee	Sunday, October 27	12:30 pm	Classroom # 9
Visitor Orientation	Sunday, October 20	12:20 pm	Library
Science & Religion	2 nd Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
September Set	Friday, October 25	6:00 pm	Social Hall
Social Action Committee	Sunday, October 27	12:30 pm	Sanctuary
Technology Committee	Wednesday, November 6	6:00 pm	Workroom 1
UU Animal Ministry	Thursday, October 10	5:00 pm	Classroom # 10
UU Book Club	Sunday, October 13	6:30 pm	Social Hall
UU Humanist	4 th Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
UU Partner Church Committee	TBA Lee Minghi, 798-0904; Carita Barr, 782-0053	12:30 pm	Classroom # 10
Women's Book Club	Tuesday, November 12	7:00 pm	Classroom # 10

Rentals

La Leche League	3rd Tuesdays	6-8pm	Classroom # 10
Tai Chi 803-772-9557 columbia.sc@taoist.org	Every Thursday	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Buddhist Insight Meditation	Every Monday	7:00 pm	Library
Men's AA I	Every Tuesday	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Women's AA I	Every Wednesday	6:30 pm	Library
Men's AA II	Every Sunday	5:00 pm	Library

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & BOARD LIAISONS 2019/2020

Committee/Chair Email	Chair/Board Liaison
Adult Religious Education <i>AdultREChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Angie Dodd Rabon/ <i>Pat Mohr</i>
Building and Grounds <i>BandGChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Shannon Edwards/ <i>John Logue</i>
Caring and Hospitality <i>CaringChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Keitha Whitaker/ <i>Bob Gillespie</i>
CYRE <i>REChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Beck Sullivan/ <i>Terrence Sullivan</i>
Denominational Connections <i>denomconn@uucolumbia.org</i>	Keitha Whitaker/ <i>Jessica Kross</i>
Endowment <i>philip.turner@unt.edu</i>	Phil Turner/ <i>John Logue</i>
Finance <i>FinanceChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Caroline Eastman/ <i>Jeannette Walton</i>
Green Sanctuary <i>kdmsoboy@gmail.com</i>	Kevin McKinney/ <i>Deb Matherly</i>
Leadership Development <i>eperezjorge@sbcglobal.net</i>	Emilio Perez-Jorge/ <i>Jessica Kross</i>
Membership <i>MembershipChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Nancie Shillington-Perez/ <i>Pat Mohr</i>
Personnel <i>PersonnelChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Marc Drews/ <i>Tim VanDenBerg</i>
Social Action <i>SocialActionChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Laura Hartwig/ <i>Jeannette Walton</i>
Technology <i>tsc@uucolumbia.org</i>	Donald Griggs/ <i>Caroline Eastman</i>
Worship <i>WorshipChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Marc Drews/ <i>Richard McLeod</i>
Board Liaison to Staff <i>President@uucolumbia.org</i>	<i>Linda Brennison</i>

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

President, Linda Brennison	<i>president@uucolumbia.org</i>
President-Elect, Richard McLeod	<i>president-elect@uucolumbia.org</i>
Treasurer, Jeanette Walton	<i>treasurer@uucolumbia.org</i>
Secretary, Bob Gillespie	<i>secretary@uucolumbia.org</i>
Members at Large: Jessica Kross, John Logue, Deb Matherly, Pat Mohr, Terrence Sullivan	
Past President, Tim VanDenBerg, ex officio	<i>pastpresident@uucolumbia.org</i>
Finance Chair, Caroline Eastman, ex officio	<i>financechair@uucolumbia.org</i>

UUC Staff

Minister	Rev. Stephen Robinson, <i>revstephen@uucolumbia.org</i>
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Music Coordinator	Anna Hamilton, <i>music@uucolumbia.org</i>
Sexton	Bill Dolley, <i>uucc@uucolumbia.org</i>
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Office Hours — Mon.– Fri. 6:00 am – 12:00 pm

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

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