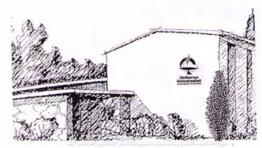


The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

December 11, 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 3

December 15, 2019

9:30 am Forum Topic

Is capitalism as we have it in America today a force for 'good' or 'evil'?

11:00 am Sermon Topic

A Winter Celebration Multigenerational Service by Mckenzie Scott & Scott Sargent

December 22, 2019

9:30 am Forum Topic

If you do not succeed in a criminal venture, should you be prosecuted for the attempt?

11:00 am Sermon Topic

"To Be Announced" by Rev. Stephen Robinson

December 24, 2019

6:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service by Rev. Stephen Robinson

Unigram Deadline

The deadline for the next issue is **Sunday**, **January 5**, for publication on **Wednesday**, **January 8**. *Items submitted after the deadline will not be published*. Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to uucc@uucolumbia.org.

Message From Our Minister

"A Year in the Life..."

Although it's difficult to believe, I have been in this role as the minister at the UUCC for a year now. Coming to this realization caused me to pause and reflect on the year in the life of the UUCC in 2019. I have so many meaningful experiences that come to mind. I think about the worship services that have fanned the flame of what our community represents in the larger culture here in South Carolina. I recount the conversations I've had that built connection and relationship, getting to know the great people here and feeling known by you. As I reflect, I can feel the energy and passion of the events that have taken place in the community, opportunities to make a difference in our world around us. I take a deep breath and reconnect to the grief of different experiences in the lives of our members, including the memorial services we have held in our space. My mind invites me back to the many tables we have gathered around this year for meals, meetings, and fellowship. I feel honored to serve in this role, and I know, with certainty, that I am a better person because I have been fortunate to take this journey with you all.

The holiday season can be so busy for us, planning activities and making preparations for family gatherings, important rituals, and travel plans. As we bring 2019 to an end in a few weeks, I hope that you find some time to take a deep breath and reflect on the experiences of your year. Revisit the times of joy and excitement as well as the times of sadness and loss. Celebrate accomplishments and take pride in what you have achieved personally or participated in achieving in community. Feel the regret of missed opportunities and the lessons that life can teach us. Remember the people and the experiences of feeling connected in relationship, through the ups and downs of life. Recall the names and faces of the ones who you love and who love you, and lean into that wholeness that comes from knowing and being known.

As we continue this journey together, may the UUCC chalice burn brightly and be a place of meaning, purpose, connection, and change for the members, friends, and community around us.

Rev. Stephen Robinson



Members & Friends

Please make sure that your relationship with the UUCC as a Member or Friend has been registered with the Membership Committee. The upcoming new directory will only list our current Members and Friends.

There are forms on which you can indicate your relationship with the UUCC available on the Welcome Table. Please write Nancie at MembershipChair@uucolumbia.org with any questions.

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 **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.

News and Notes

Membership at the UUCC

Have you been attending the UUCC 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.

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.

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.

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 UUCC 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 UUCC 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.

CANCELLED: September Set Egg Nog, December 15

It is with great disappointment that the Minghis are canceling hosting this event as they look forward to it with happy anticipation each year.

See Page 8 for **Social Action Events**

UUCC Men's Breakfast Group, Second Thursday of Each Month, December 12



The UUCC men's breakfast group meets **KFAST** at 9:00am on the second Thursday of each month at Lizard's Thicket on Beltline. If

you are interested, please let Phil <u>pturner@unt.edu</u> know so LUUnch BUUnch on Thursday, January 9 at Za's on we can have space available.



UUCC Holiday Party Saturday, December 14, 6pm

The Membership Committee invites you to our annual Holiday Party at Phil and Lis Turner's home (204 Running Fox Road, Columbia) on Saturday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share. Soft drinks will be provided, but BYOB if you like. Please consider bringing a January 12. Our students will be serving book for a child at the Family Shelter.

Final Story Circle, December 18

Fun & fellowship on Wednesday, December 18, 10:00-11:30 a.m., in the UUCC Library. Newcomers welcome. Ouestions? Call Barbara at 828-421-7685.



UUCC Winter Sing, Friday, December 20,

Please join us for the Third Annual Winter Sing at the UUCC from 6:30-8:30pm to celebrate the season in song! This informal sing-along event will include the music of Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, St. Lucia's Day, and the Winter Solstice. You are invited to sing-along and to enjoy performances by our UUCC musicians. All are welcome, and this is a family-friendly event! Please bring a plate of cookies or treats to share. Hot cider and hot chocolate will be provided. Please bring any other beverages that you would like. Questions: Anna Hamilton, music@uucolumbia.org.



Ladies LUUnch BUUnch, January 9

Start off the New Year by joining the UUCC Ladies Devine at 12:00 noon for a fun time together. We will have a large private room and will order from their varied menu that includes both vegan and vegetarian options. This is a fun time to visit with old friends and a perfect opportunity to get to know others better. We always have a good time so don't miss out. Sign up at the Membership table or email Linda McLeod at bonneylass44@gmail.com. Hope to see you there.

CYRE Pancake Breakfast, January 12

You are cordially invited to attend the CYRE Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on delicious pancakes, fruit, and juices in the Social Hall from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m., so bring your appetite!

The Women's Book Group Tuesday, January 14, 7:00pm

The Women's Book Group will meet Tuesday, January 14, at 7:00pm in Room 10 to discuss Innocent, by Scott Turow. Anyone with questions may contact Sandy Chubon at 803-776-0784 or sichubon@sc.rr.com

Save the date:



Sunday, January 26, 7:00 p.m. Our 6th annual gala evening to benefit our Partner Church in Transylvania.

CYRE Pre-K Program Needs One Additional Teacher

The Pre-Kindergarten program needs one additional teacher. Each week, teachers read a classic book written by Dr. Seuss and lead a discussion of the UU principles it reinforces. With an adequate number of volunteers, teachers can rotate out of the classroom more often to attend Services. If you can assist with this fun and rewarding activity, please contact Scott Sargent, DRE at dre@uucolumbia.org.

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 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 intergenerational services! Each choir performs in service once a month, and you can access information and rehearsal schedules on our UUCC web-

site, <u>columbia.dreamhosters.com</u>, under Worship: Music at the UUCC or contact Music Coordinator Anna Hamilton, music@uucolumbia.org

Dances of Universal Peace, February 7

Because of the New Year's holiday, there will not be a Dances of Universal Peace [DUP] in January. Please save the date for our next DUP: Friday, February 7 from 7-9 pm in the Social Hall. Our theme will be the creative energies at work in winter months, which work toward spring flowering. DUP are moving spiritual practices honoring many faith traditions. Each dance has its own chant and motions that are taught and led. Respectful eye contact, handholding, and occasional hugs are part of the dances. As we move through several iterations of each dance, we become more aware of the energy of the universe flowing through us. Usually we socialize after dancing. DUP are free; we are happy to accept small donations to support the Dances. The February DUP is part of the SC Interfaith Harmony Month celebration, organized by Interfaith Partners of SC, at www.interfaithpartnersofsc.org

We need several people present to hold our dances. If you are planning to attend the February 7 dance, RSVP to Marguerite via phone [803-743-0731] or e-mail [mff426@gmail.com] by 5 pm on Wednesday February 5. If enough people are coming, we will have the dance; if not, it will be canceled. The status of Friday's DUP will be announced in the February 6 e-blast.

UUCC Book Club, Sunday, February 16, 6:30pm (No January Book Club)



Angie Dodd Rabon will facilitate a discussion of There Will Be No Miracles Here: A Memoir (2018), by Casey Gerald. 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: <u>rsaunders@sc.edu</u>. We hope to see you there!

Thanksgiving Meat Receipts Due

Thanks to all of you who provided meat for our wonderful Thanksgiving feast to go along with the delicious potluck we all enjoyed. If you have receipts for meat please send them to Linda McLeod at bonneylass44@gmail.com as soon as possible. Thanks.

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 information.

Social Action

Feeding the Hungry at Transitions, Saturday, December 14

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 5:15pm, 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 uubobwhit@gmail.com if you are available.

Shelter Donations Needed!

Please bring in your donations now. The Social Action Committee is again soliciting donations of:

<u>Current magazines and unused personal-sized toiletries</u>

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 tomclements 329@cs.com or 803-240-7268.

Single Use Plastic Bags

Richland County is seeking input on a proposed ordinance that would affect the types of bags retailers provide to the public to carry out purchases to decrease plastic litter in area waterways and reduce hidden costs passed on to consumers. Take the survey here: http://bit.ly/uucc-plastic



The Sunday, January 12 live on-line event will bring UUs together who are bringing our passion to the polls through issue-based advocacy, voter registration, outreach, and organizing around the 2020 elections to #VoteLove and #DefeatHate. On the call we'll hear from the National UUtheVote Team, from UUs already organizing in their communities and states, and from partner

organizations who are working with UUs. We'll introduce you to organizing tools and spiritual grounding resources the UUA Organizing Strategy Team has put together to support your efforts and let you know about key moments coming up in 2020. When UUs show up with our values, our bodies, and our resources at the ready, we can have big impacts in bending the arc of the universe toward justice. Let's UUtheVote! We'll gather on-line on Sunday, January 12, 2020 at 4 p.m. ET. Register at: https://secure.everyaction.com/RBj7sMuqSUaLQu3gsNzy1w2



Revolutionary Love Toward a More Perfect Union Conference April 24–26, 2020 | Washington DC All Souls Church, Unitarian | 1500 Harvard St. NW, Washington, DC 20009

Register before December 31st for the Revolutionary Love conference (http://revolutionaryloveconference.com/) focusing on electoral engagement, climate, racial, social justice and more. Hosted at All Souls Church, Unitarian in Washington, DC in April 24th - 26th, 2020. Receive a \$100+ discount just for UU's with promotional code: UUVOTE20. If you are interested in carpooling for this event, please contact SocialAction@uucolumbia.org.

Please check our website for new events posted almost daily:

bit.ly/social-action

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	TBA	12:30 pm	Classroom # 10
Choir - UUCC (adult)	TBA	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Choir - Prism (women) Choir - Encore (men)	Thursdays Sunday, December 22	6:30 pm 10:00 am	Classroom # 9 Classroom # 9
Christian Heritage	TBA	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	TBA	12:30 pm	Classroom # 8
Knit or Not	Every Monday	2:00 pm	Classroom # 10
Membership Committee	TBA	12:30 pm	Classroom # 9
Visitor Orientation	Sunday, January 12	12:20 pm	Library
Science & Religion	2 nd Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
September Set	Friday, January 24	Noon	Social Hall
Social Action Committee	Sunday, December 29	12:30 pm	Sanctuary
Technology Committee	Wednesday, January 1	6:00 pm	Workroom 1
UU Animal Ministry	TBA	5:00 pm	Classroom # 10
UU Book Club	Sunday, February 16	6:30 pm	Member's Home
UU Humanist	4th 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, January 14	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 Adul- tREChair@uucolumbia.org	Angie Dodd Rabon/Pat Mohr
Building and Grounds BandGChair@uucolumbia.org	Shannon Edwards/John Logue
Caring and Hospitality CaringChair@uucolumbia.org	Keitha Whitaker/Bob Gillespie
CYRE REChair@uucolumbia.org	Beck Sullivan/Terrence Sullivan
Denominational Connections denomconn@uucolumbia.org	Keitha Whitaker/Jessica Kross
Endowment philip.turner@unt.edu	Phil Turner/John Logue
Finance FinanceChair@uucolumbia.org	Caroline Eastman/Jeannette Walton
Green Sanctuary kdmsooboy@gmail.com	Kevin McKinney/Deb Matherly
Leadership Development eperezjorge@sbcglobal.net	Emilio Perez-Jorge/Jessica Kross
Membership MembershipChair@uucolumbia.org	Nancie Shillington-Perez/Pat Mohr
Personnel PersonnelChair@uucolumbia.org	Marc Drews/Tim VanDenBerg
Social Action SocialActionChair@uucolumbia.org	Laura Hartwig/Jeannette Walton
Technology Services tsc@uucolumbia.org	Donald Griggs/Caroline Eastman
Worship WorshipChair@uucolumbia.org	Marc Drews/Richard McLeod
Board Liaison to Staff President@uucolumbia.org	Linda Brennison

The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism

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

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

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

UUCC Board of Trustees

President, Linda Brennison president@uucolumbia.org
Treasurer, Jeanette Walton treasurer@uucolumbia.org
Secretary, Bob Gillespie secretary@uucolumbia.org

Members at Large: Jessica Kross, John Logue, Deb Matherly, Pat Mohr, Terrence Sullivan
Past President, Tim VanDenBerg, ex officio

pastpresident@uucolumbia.org
Finance Chair, Caroline Eastman, ex officio

financechair@uucolumbia.org

UUCC Staff

Minister Rev. Stephen Robinson, revstephen@uucolumbia.org

Administrator Andrea Dudick, uucc@uucolumbia.org
Director of Religious Exploration Scott Sargent, dre@uucolumbia.org

Bookkeeper Ginny Verne, bookkeeper@uucolumbia.org
Music Coordinator Anna Hamilton, music@uucolumbia.org
Sexton Bill Dolley, uucc@uucolumbia.org
RE Youth Ministries Assistant Mckenzie Scott, reassist@uucolumbia.org

Address: 2701 Heyward St, Columbia, SC 29205

Phone — Office (803) 799-0845

Office Hours — Mon.– Fri. 6:00 am – 12:00 pm

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

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

Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/

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Website: www.uucolumbia.org

