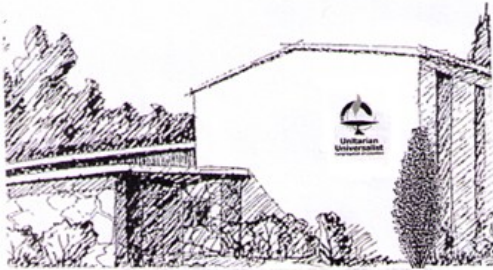




# The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

February 12, 2020



2701 Heyward Street, Columbia, SC 29205  
803-799-0845 • [www.uucolumbia.org](http://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 16, 2020

#### 9:30 am Forum Topic

What is the difference between 'love' and 'in love'?

#### 11:00 am Sermon Topic

"Washington On Your Side?"

by Rev. Stephen Robinson

### February 23, 2020

#### 9:30 am Forum Topic

What are the major issues of concern for the upcoming election?

#### 11:00 am Sermon Topic

"Buddhism's Three Refuges: The Buddha, The Dharma and The Sangha."

by Jessica Kross

## We Can Soar Together -- Our Budget is Our Balloon

Our UUCC pledge drive traditionally starts in March -- this year the kickoff is after the service on Sunday, March 8. Pick up your pledge card and join the congregation for food, fun, and festivities.

What is our goal for this year? \$235,000. This amount is based upon historical data on income and expenses, with some modifications for anticipated changes and new initiatives.

Where does our money come from? Almost all of our income is from member contributions. Having these in the form of yearly pledges makes budgeting and planning for the year much easier. We do have some rental and other income.

How does our money get spent? Most of our money is spent on fixed costs, such as salaries, insurance, services, and utilities. As is the case in most households, only a limited amount is available for discretionary expenses.

Who decides what's in the budget? You do. For a large group this process takes some coordination, so your representatives handle the initial stages. The Finance Committee reviews income and expenses for the previous year and solicits anticipated expenses from committees, staff, and the Board. Based upon this input, the committee prepares a draft budget, which is presented to the Board. After Board approval, the budget will be posted for review by members. It will then be formally presented to the membership for approval at the annual meeting. A budget meeting is held shortly before the annual meeting to allow those interested sufficient time to discuss the details.

When are these meetings? The budget meeting will be held on Friday, May 29, at 7 pm; the annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 31, after the service.

## Unigram Deadline

The deadline for the next issue is **Sunday, March 8**, for publication on **Wednesday, March 11**. *Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.* Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to [uucc@uucolumbia.org](mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org).

Continued...

Who is on the Finance Committee? Caroline Eastman is the current chair. Members include Joe Long, and Carolyn West. All committee members are approved by the Board, which is not the case for most committees. Our Treasurer, Jeannette Walton, and our President, Linda Brennon, are ex officio members. Our Bookkeeper, Ginny Verne, provides essential support to the committee.

How much should I pledge? This is your decision. UUA has guidelines in the form of The Suggested Fair-Share Contribution Guide; copies will be available at the kickoff meeting. We are asking that you consider increasing your pledge by 10% this year so that we can meet our goal for the year.

What is the pledge year? This is the same as UUA's fiscal year – July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. Contributions made during a fiscal year will be assumed to be for that fiscal year unless you specify otherwise.

How can I pay my pledge? Choose a method of payment convenient for you. This may be weekly or monthly contributions during the service. It may be a single lump sum, especially if you are making a qualified charitable contribution from a retirement account. *NOTE: The eligibility age is changing from 70 1/2 to 72 in 2020. You MUST check with your tax advisor on your eligibility.*

Can I designate how my pledge can be used? Pledges are for the general fund, which allows the most flexibility in budgeting and planning. In some cases designated gifts may be made in addition to your pledge. Recent examples include the Boston trip matching challenge fund and the new hearing assist aids. Fundraising and similar supplemental gifts should be coordinated with the Finance Committee and the Board.

Can I contribute items to UUA? If you have items you're ready to part with, we may be able to use them. Check with the appropriate committee to see if we can use a specific item. **DO NOT** bring items and simply drop them off. They may not fit into our plans and our space, however well intentioned. We may have another yard sale this year. If so, we'll let you know.

What is the theme for this year? Soar with Us! Hop on and explore. Let us know where you want to go. Spreadsheets, pledge cards, budgets, and checks can get impersonal and, quite frankly, dull. What's important is what we do with the money. What is your dream for UUA? Whatever it is, it almost certainly requires some money. Your pledge can help our dreams come true.



## Candles of Community

We extend our condolences to Glenn White in his loss of his mother, Jean Dawsey White, 93, on Sunday, February 9. A funeral service will be held on Monday, February 17, at College Place United Methodist Church, time to be announced.

## Thank You

I want to thank the Caring Committee and everyone at UU who sent me card or good wishes when I was recuperating from a fall. Particularly, I'd like to thank Jean, Joan, Jane and Barbara and others who called me or visited me (I've probably left somebody out!) You'll never feel as humble as when someone who is not required to do so, washes your dishes, prepares your food, or empties your garbage! Thanks everyone! Marky Deese

### Chocolate Auction

Thank you to everyone involved in the Chocolate Auction who contributed their time, talent, and resources to make this year's auction as successful as possible. We express our deep appreciation for the overwhelming show of support of our youth in raising funds to explore their UU heritage in Boston this summer!! The remarkably generous amount of over \$1,200 that was raised on Sunday, July 9, will contribute to growing minds, loving hearts, and hands that are ready to serve! Sincerely, the 2020 Choco-Queen, Nancie Shillington-Pérez and the Boston-bound UCC youth

### CANstruction

CANstruction 2020 was a great success. Our congregation donated 437 pounds of food items and raised \$430.00, all for the Harvest Hope Food Bank. Our outstanding students constructed a castle, a fort, a Chinese dragon, a scene from the Twilight Zone ("To Serve Man"), and the Harvest Hope logo. First prize and bragging rights go to the 3rd - 5th grade class. Everyone was a winner because the congregation demonstrated how important it is to help our neighbors. A big CYRE "Thank You" to everyone who contributed cans, cash, time, and effort for this worthy cause!

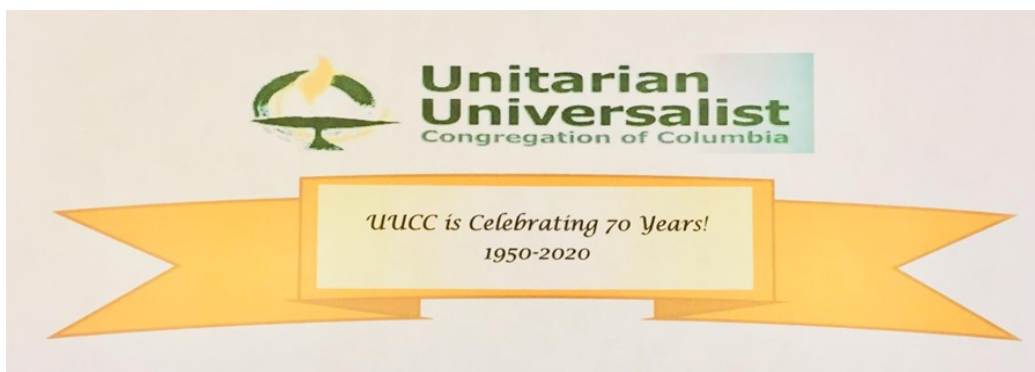
### Families Helping Families

We enjoy supporting Families Helping Families each holiday season, and it's always nice to hear from the recipients:

*Dear Friend, Thank you so much for being so heartfelt to our family this year. We are overcome by the thoughtfulness put into the gifts. Our two babies are so happy. It restores faith in humanity when you fall on hard times and receive an unashamed boost by fellow man. We will be sure to pay it forward whenever possible. From the bottom of our hearts...*

*Good Morning, God bless you in this beginning of the year that we are already beginning. I want to thank all the people who took the time to give my family their blessings. They made my family an unforgettable Christmas. Thank you very much to each of the sponsors for the gifts. God continue to use and bless you in everything...*

# 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](mailto: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!

Please go to our website ([uucolumbia.org](http://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.

## 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](mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org).

## Would You Like to Provide Your Own Sunday Sanctuary Flowers?



Our Worship Services have been enhanced by flowers for the last several months. We have been enjoying a very positive response to this opportunity to recognize a special occasion or remember a loved one with the donation of these flowers and hopefully have started a tradition. If you would like to provide your own floral arrangement rather than having them done for you, please make that note in the comment section when you sign up for the Sunday of your choice on the UUC Flower Calendar found at the Membership Table. If you do want your arrangement prepared please make a \$30 donation to the UUC Flower Fund at least two weeks in advance of your chosen date. This will cover the cost of the flowers. This can be placed in the offering plate by check designated for "Flower Fund" or sent to the administrator at the UUC office. It will still be necessary to sign up on the Sanctuary Flower Calendar and Linda McLeod ([kitchen@uucolumbia.org](mailto:kitchen@uucolumbia.org)) will contact you for details for the Order of Service. We hope you will all want to continue to share in this opportunity to enhance our sanctuary and at the same time recognize a special day. Thanks.

**See Pages 12–14 for  
Social Action Events**

## **UUCS Security Update**

In January security cameras were installed and inefficient and inadequate outside lighting was replaced with bright light but low energy motion sensitive lights. They now completely surround the building. Additionally, Dominion Energy has upgraded the two large street type lamps. One is between the Memorial Garden and the side entrance and the other is in the playground area. This will also lower our monthly bill for this lighting.

There are now motion lights for the Memorial Garden that will provide lighting but will not be intrusive for anyone wanting to visit the garden at night. Part of the upgrade was to rewire some suspect and possibly dangerous wiring from past projects, and replacing some faulty wiring.

Inside there are two cameras, one in the sanctuary and one in the social hall. Three cameras are strategically located on the exterior, including the main entrance. There was already a Ring camera on the side entrance. The cameras are motion sensitive and will record to a monitor inside the building, and to appropriate exterior devices. The videos will be stored for three months on a hard drive and then new pictures will replace the old automatically.

Upon recommendation from the Police Department 24 hours camera surveillance signs will be placed in appropriate locations on the property, and also on windows and doors to act as a deterrent. It is now up to us to be sure that we do our part by locking doors when we are one of the last ones leaving the building. The side doors in the Social Hall are a particular problem. That is being addressed as one of the next security measures.

## **UCC Men's Breakfast Group, Second Thursday of Each Month**



### **February 13 & March 12**

The UCC men's breakfast group meets at 9:00am on the second Thursday of each month at Lizard's Thicket on Beltline. If you are interested, please let Phil philturmer2009@gmail.com know so we can have space available.

## *Ladies Luncheon*

### **Don't Miss the UCC Ladies Lunch Bunch, Thursday, February 13**

If you forgot to sign up it's still not too late to join this fun lunch bunch. We will meet at Arabesque, 2930 Devine Street at 12 noon on Thursday, February 13 in our own private area. The menu offers a variety to choose from including vegan and vegetarian options. It is a perfect time to take a break and enjoy old friends and new. Contact Linda McLeod at [bonneylass44@gmail.com](mailto:bonneylass44@gmail.com). We'd love to see you there.

### **Participants in New UU Class, Sunday, February 16, 12:15pm**

Those registered for the New UU Class will gather in the library at 12:15pm. Nancie will meet anyone needing assistance to the library by the Welcome Table with the red tablecloth at 12:10. Please feel free to bring food and/or a beverage to class. We will provide finger food/water. Nancie Shillington-Pérez [membership@uucolumbia.org](mailto:membership@uucolumbia.org).

### **Volunteer for Green Team's Compost Program; Training February 16**

Ask a Green Team member just how easy it is to volunteer for our Compost Program. You can sign up here: [tinyurl.com/UUCC-Compost-Roster](http://tinyurl.com/UUCC-Compost-Roster) or at the Green Team table after Sunday services or contact Kevin McKinney at [kdmsooboy@gmail.com](mailto:kdmsooboy@gmail.com). Training will be provided after service on Sunday, February 16 in the social hall.

## **UCC Book Club, Sunday, February 16**

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 at 6:30pm. The Book Club is open to all members and friends of UCC. Contact Ruthie Saunders for more information: [rsaunders@sc.edu](mailto:rsaunders@sc.edu).

### **Art Reception, Sunday, February 16, 2:00-4:00pm**

Enjoy our new art exhibit in the social hall by Karen Murphy. Karen uses watercolors, india ink, and oils to celebrate nature. Please join us for her Art Reception Sunday.



### **Concert Featuring Vocalist Keely Rhodes, Saturday February 29, 7:00pm**

You are invited to a special evening of music at the UCC featuring mezzo-soprano Keely Rhodes and pianist and UCC Music Coordinator Anna Hamilton. Dr. Rhodes received the Bachelor's of Music from Oberlin Conservatory and Master's and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. She had the honor of serving as a Fulbright scholar to Italy in 2006-2007. She has performed as a soloist and collaborative artist for choral, chamber, and symphonic groups and as an opera singer in the United States, Europe, Central America and South America. As of 2019, Dr. Rhodes is the new Coordinator of Vocal Studies at UofSC Aiken.



The concert will feature opera selections, art songs, and spirituals by composers including Bizet, Poulenc, Rossini, Mahler, Obradors, Tchaikovsky, and Gershwin. Light refreshments will follow the concert. All are welcome to attend! The concert is free and open to the public, but donations will graciously be accepted to benefit the *Bill Moody Performance Fund* at the UCC. Please contact Anna Hamilton with questions at [music@uucolumbia.org](mailto:music@uucolumbia.org).



## **Is the Christian Heritage Group Right for You?**

Many of us who have come from another faith background to the Unitarian Universalist way of thinking about religion and worship have often found that transition to be difficult.

Changes in our ideas, our attitudes, and our thoughts often leave us confused. We wonder whether we are abandoning the valuable life lessons of an earlier faith. And if not, how might it all fit together with the UU principles? How can one let go of dogma which no longer nourishes the spirit while clinging to those teachings which form the basis of moral and ethical behavior? Questions such as these are faced by many when they first come to UUCC, especially by those coming from a Christian background.

While we each must answer these questions in our own way, we find that discussing such issues with others who are asking similar questions can help us in that process. If you identify with these statements, we would like to invite you to join others who are looking for the same types of answers. The UUCC Christian Heritage Group meets the third Tuesday of each month at 12 noon. We would welcome you. If you have questions, email Rebecca Drennan at [rebecca@creativetransformation.com](mailto:rebecca@creativetransformation.com)

## **September Set, Friday, February 28, Noon**

On the fourth Friday of every month 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!

Richard McLeod will present a special program this month called "*Corners of the Earth*." You will enjoy this show that is more than a travel log.

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 **Noon on Friday, February 28!** If you have questions, email or call Pat Mohr ([patmohr@mindspring.com](mailto:patmohr@mindspring.com); 803-463-3504) or Jean Capalbo ([jacapalbo@aol.com](mailto:jacapalbo@aol.com); 803-799-1001).

## **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, [www.uucolumbia.org](http://www.uucolumbia.org) under Worship: Music at the UUCC or contact Music Coordinator Anna Hamilton, [music@uucolumbia.org](mailto:music@uucolumbia.org)

## **Dances of Universal Peace, March 6**

All UU's and friends are heartily welcomed to join in Dances of Universal Peace [DUP] on Friday March 6, from 7-9 pm in the Social Hall of the UU. DUP are free; we are happy to accept small donations to support the Dances. This month our themes resonate with increasing light, creative blossoming, and love. Sponsored by a universalist Sufi order, DUP are modern moving practices honoring the positive spiritual vibrations of the world's many faith traditions. Each dance has its own chant 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, we become more aware of the energy of the universe flowing through us. Together we channel the energy and send it out to the world as a beam of love and peace. We need several people present to accomplish this. If you are planning to attend our 3/6 dance, RSVP to Marguerite via phone [803-743-0731] or e-mail [[mff426@gmail.com](mailto:mff426@gmail.com)] by 5 pm on Wednesday 3/4. 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 3/5 e-blast. Usually we socialize after dancing. DUP are free.

### **UUCC Junior Choir, Invitation to Sing!**

All UUCC youth are invited to sing with the Junior Choir. Rehearsals will be weekly on Sundays from 10:20-10:45am in Room 8. The Junior Choir will perform once a month in services. All are welcome to come have fun singing with friends and being part of music at the UUCC. The Junior Choir will be directed by UUCC friend and music educator, Olivia Johnson. Please contact Music Coordinator, Anna Hamilton, with questions: [music@uucolumbia.org](mailto:music@uucolumbia.org)

### **Pledge Kickoff Celebration**

#### **Sunday, March 8**

Our annual Pledge Drive Kickoff Celebration takes place Sunday, March 8, immediately following the service. Enjoy food & mimosas!

### **MS & HS Students: Food Not Bombs Volunteering, Sunday, March 8**

Middle and High School students will meet outside the CYRE wing and ride together to Finlay Park to help the Food Not Bombs group with the weekly meal provided to people without shelter in Columbia from 12:45-2:30pm. Usually we grab lunch at Beezers afterwards (paid for by UU.) RSVP to [reassist@uucolumbia.org](mailto:reassist@uucolumbia.org) or to the GroupMe.

### **The Women's Book Group, Tuesday, March 10, 7:00pm**

The Women's Book Group will meet Tuesday, March 10, at 7:00pm in Room 10 to discuss *My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey*, by Jill Bolte Taylor. Anyone with questions may contact Sandy Chubon at 803-776-0784 or [sjchubon@sc.rr.com](mailto:sjchubon@sc.rr.com)

### **UUCC Finance Tutorial, Wed., March 11**

Would you like a better understanding of UUCC financial statements? On Wednesday, March 11 at 6:30pm our bookkeeper, Ginny Verne, will hold a tutorial for anyone who is interested in learning more about the recording and reporting of UUCC's financial activity. This session will be open to all members and friends. It is not necessary to register, but emailing [bookkeeper@uucolumbia.org](mailto:bookkeeper@uucolumbia.org) will help us to plan.

### **MS & HS to Visit UofSC's Arboretum Sunday, March 15, 12:30-3pm**

Middle and High School students will meet at Stafford's house from 12:30-1, which is very close to the Arboretum. Bring a lunch to eat either at church or at Stafford's. Please RSVP to [reassist@uucolumbia.org](mailto:reassist@uucolumbia.org) or to the GroupMe for the address.

*The pleasure of your company is requested  
at the  
New Member Joining Ceremony/Reception  
hosted by the  
Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Columbia  
Sunday, March 29, 2020  
eleven o'clock in the morning  
Childcare provided upon request. Please notify  
Nancie Shillington-Pérez at least 48 hours prior.*

### **Everyone Can Be Kitchen Helpers!**

Please take your own plates, cups, glasses, etc. to the table next to the kitchen door (there is a sign.) The Kitchen Committee will take care of it from there. This will be a big help for the volunteers who work in the kitchen and will clean up our social hall much faster. Remember too that we always welcome any of you who want to lend a hand either before or after our Sunday Social Hour. Just check with one of the Kitchen Committee Volunteers. Many hands make a job go faster. Thanks too for the treats that you continue to bring to share with others. Sweet or salty, nutritious, or crunchy they are always welcome. Linda McLeod at [bonneylass44@gmail.com](mailto:bonneylass44@gmail.com)



## **Matching Offer for The Mountain**

Several of the UUCC members who attended our congregation's annual retreat at The Mountain last fall did a walk-through of cabin #12. The moist and shady environment naturally results in conditions which require regular maintenance and repair in all the buildings and facilities. Cabin #12 is currently one which especially needs some TLC.

A generous individual has offered \$3000 for the repair and upgrading of this particular cabin as a match to gifts given by members of UUCC. Friends of UUCC and The Mountain has already sent over \$500 to help with the project. What a great start!! But any gift—however large or small—will help to move this project forward. Many of us who cherish the specialness of this beautiful place are hoping that by working together we can demonstrate our desire to see that it remains viable for future generations.

If you wish to join in supporting this wonderful UU retreat center, you may donate with a check payable to UUCC. Or you may make a check payable to The Mountain RLC and mailed to P.O. Box 1299 Highlands, NC 28741. Either way, please note 'Cabin #12 Matching' on the memo line.

If you have questions about this opportunity or other questions about The Mountain, contact Joan Watterson 803-787-7873 or Ginny Verne 803-606-6260. If you wish to contact the director of The Mountain: [ted.wisniewski@themountainrlc.org](mailto:ted.wisniewski@themountainrlc.org) or 828-526-5838 ext. 245.

## **Tom Neilson UUCC Fundraising Concert Friday, April 3**

Mark your calendar! We are bringing back Tom Neilson for a fundraising concert at UUCC on April 3! More details later. Pat Mohr, [patmohr@mindspring.com](mailto:patmohr@mindspring.com)

## **March Enneagram Classes Signup**

The Enneagram classes may be repeated on Thursdays in March. If there is sufficient interest, classes will meet in the Library on from 4:30 pm and ending promptly at 6:00 pm. If you wish to attend these classes or would like more information, please email Rebecca Drennan at [rebecca@creativetransformation.com](mailto:rebecca@creativetransformation.com).

## **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, Tuesdays**

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 Tuesdays 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](mailto:linbrenni@gmail.com) if you have questions.

## **Story Circles, Wednesdays**

Fun & fellowship continue meeting each Wednesday from 10:00-11:30 a.m., in the UUCC Library. Newcomers welcome. Questions? Call Barbara Bates Smith at 828-421-7685.

## **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](mailto:shewhowonders2000@yahoo.com) for information.

## 2019 Share the Plate Collections Totals

Thanks to the generous giving of UUCC members and friends we have had an excellent year for collections for Share the Plate. UUCC donates half of our cash collections each month to local outside charities or social justice organizations chosen by you. In 2019 we collected \$11,566 for our Share the Plate recipients. Over the last nine years Share the Plate has given a total of \$101,680 to our recipients. This also means our General Fund has benefited from this offering as stipulated by the policy. Share the Plate is definitely a win-win program and the Social Action Committee continues to thank the generosity of our community for recognizing the importance of "Sharing the Plate".

	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Total 2019
<b>Share The Plate Contributions</b>													
<b>Designated Charity</b>	Minister's Discretionary Fund	Justice 360	Congaree River Keeper	MIRCI	Planned Parenthood	Meals on Wheels	Appleseed Legal Justice Center	Palmetto Place Childrens Shelter	Harriet Hancock LGBT Center	Cottonbranch Farm Animal Sanctuary	Free Medical Clinic	Homeless No More	
	\$ 942.50	\$ 955.84	\$ 1,077.75	\$ 1,074.75	\$ 1,506.34	\$ 1,015.75	\$ 880.00	\$ 899.00	\$ 847.63	\$ 721.75	\$ 636.50	\$ 1,008.25	\$ 11,566.10
<b>Totals</b>													
<b>Cumulative</b>													
<i>Compiled by Linda Brennon, Share The Plate Committee</i>													
										2011- 2018 2019	Total Prior Donations Current Year	\$ 90,114.33 \$ 11,566.10	
										2011-2019	Total	\$ 101,680.43	

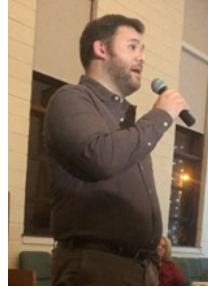
## Cabaret 2020 Photo Gallery



Sharon Matchett



Glenn Farr



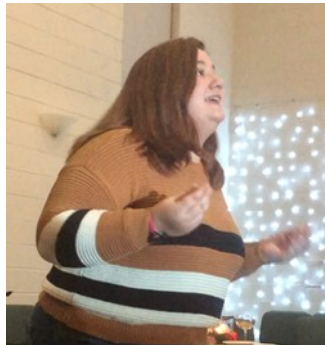
Joseph Eisenreich



Janice Kline-Moore



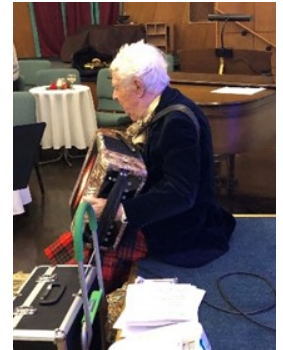
Sara Williams



Maggie O'Toole



Anna Hamilton



Ron Edge



Joseph Eisenreich, Sharon Matchett, Elizabeth Harris, Glenn Farr, JP Flood,  
Janice Kline-Moore, Maggie O'Toole, Richard McLeod

# Social Action

## Social Action Committee Meeting, Sunday, February 23

12:30pm in the sanctuary. All welcome. Please join us! Any questions, please contact [socialaction@uucolumbia.org](mailto:socialaction@uucolumbia.org).



**February 29, 7am-7pm: SC Presidential Primary**

### How 135 Iowans ended up caucusing in a Florida congregation

What happens when the opportunity to host a group of Iowans wanting to participate in their state's caucus from 1,500 miles away presents itself? That's exactly what the **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County, Florida**, faced when a local Iowan inquired about renting space for one of two dozen out-of-state satellite Democratic Caucus locations. At first, the congregation's board worried about the ramifications of renting space to a political party.

Like any good UU congregation, UUFCC members talked about it, sent it to committee, had the board of directors debate it, and eventually a majority agreed that the request from the Iowa Democratic Party met all the [requirements for renting space to an outside group](#). The caucus group paid the congregation's standard rental rate and they were held accountable for their own set up and clean up afterward. For UUFCC minister, Rev. Dr. Dan Lambert, it was about much more than simply encouraging the democratic process by providing a way for Iowans in Florida to participate in their home state's caucus for the first time in history.

"What everyone anticipated would be a small group of maybe two dozen local Democrats, turned into a large, energetic group of 135 registered Iowa voters on vacation in Florida assembled in our sanctuary on Caucus Day," noted Lambert. "It's impossible to measure the impact of having [UUFCC's name and location reported on by more than a dozen different media outlets](#) covering the event."

This news from UUtheVote.org. *UU the Vote is a non-partisan faith initiative, in partnership with broader justice movements, to engage our neighbors, educate our communities, mobilize voters, and rally around key ballot initiatives. Join with your UU community to create a future defined by love, justice, and faith. #VoteLove*

### Green Team, March 1

The current climate situation is deeply concerning to us all, but sometimes we aren't sure what to do. A number of people, including members of our own Green Team, have been meeting with an interfaith organization called GreenFaith, and thinking about how we can respond. Here is a first step: Please join us for an opportunity to learn more about what you and your congregation can do to respond to this crisis. People of faith have the moral call and the resources of faith to do so. Future generations are depending upon us! Join us Sunday, March 1, at 5:00 p.m. for a potluck dinner at Forest Lake Presbyterian Church (6500 Trenholm Road) to learn more about GreenFaith and 50th Earth Day Event in Columbia. Bring a dish to share and mark if it is vegetarian or vegan or gluten free. For questions, details, and to RSVP, please contact Rev. Amy Brooks at [amy@greenfaith.org](mailto:amy@greenfaith.org).

### Hiroshima Remembrance Event Planning

Interfaith Activity Invitation: Our friends at the Quaker meeting house are in the beginning phase of planning their annual Hiroshima Remembrance Event. The UUCC and other faith groups are encouraged to partner with them to organize this multimedia event which is held in August and open to the public. This event embodies our values of working for a more peaceful world free of nuclear threats. If you would like more info or are interested in participating please reach out to Bethany (of UUCC) 803-873-7455.

### Earth Day @ 50 Event, Wednesday, April 22

at the State House, April 22, initiated by the GreenFaith Columbia Circle which Nina Grey, Kevin McKinney, and Tom Howell from the Green team all participate in. Many Environmental, Faith, and other groups are participating in the planning! Exact times for beginning and ending of the event still TBD. More details forthcoming soon!

**See Page 13 for More Events...**

# Social Action...continued



## Walk A Mile, Thursday, April 23

Each year, the Midlands community comes together to show support for survivors of sexual assault. The 11th annual Walk A Mile In Their Shoes event will take place on Thursday, April 23, from 5–7:30 p.m. at the grounds of the South Carolina State House. Pre-walk entertainment and on-site registration begin at 5 and the walk starts at 6:30 p.m. Every ticket sold and every dollar raised makes an immediate impact on survivors and their families by providing counseling, group therapy, legal advocacy, a 24/7 hotline, and so much more at no cost to them. Join our UCC team or support our efforts here: <https://www.classy.org/team/281320>

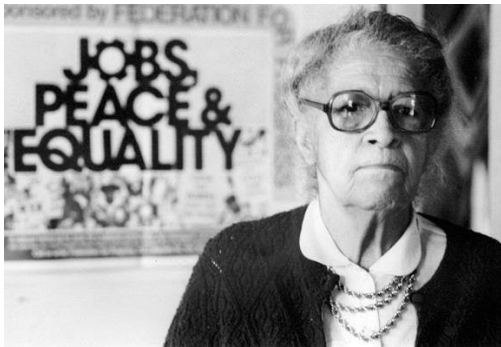


**nami**

National Alliance on Mental Illness

## NAMI Walks, Saturday, May 2

(National Alliance on Mental Illness) The walk will be at Riverfront Park this year. Check-in: 9:00am Start time: 10:00am. Info coming soon about how to join or team or support us and this great cause!



## Modjeska Simkins School now accepting applications for Spring Session

Up your activist game by learning a people's history of South Carolina and the skills to be an effective grassroots organizer, whatever your background and interests. The session runs from March 15-July 3, with classes meeting on alternate Mondays, 4-6pm at GROW, the Network's HQ, at [1340 Elmwood Ave.](#) The school, started in 2015, is a project of the [SC Progressive Network](#). For more about the school, class schedule, and application details, see the [web site](#). The school's [Facebook page](#) is open to all. Questions? <https://www.facebook.com/modschool/> Call 803-808-3384.



## Fri-Sun, March 27-29: Alternatives to Violence Project

Become a peace maker – Help reduce violence! Enjoy a hands-on, fun, activity-based experience (no note-taking!) in an intensive weekend workshop. You'll connect deeply with others, laugh, share, and listen while learning ways to transform conflict in your community, your classroom, your family, at work, in prisons or in the world. Treat yourself to this workshop for personal growth, or make it a first step toward becoming a volunteer facilitator. Registration fee is \$30; Saturday lunch and snacks for whole workshop are included. Partial or full scholarships are available. Columbia Friends Meeting House [120 Pisgah Church Road Columbia, 29203](#). Friday, March 27 at 6:00 PM to Sunday, March 29 at 5:00 PM [Register on Eventbrite](#) or contact us! More info on AVP at [AVPUSA.org](#) <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/avp-alternatives-to-violence-project-basic-community-workshop-columbia-sc-327-329-2020-tickets-77022439189?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

**See Page 14 for More Events...**



# Social Action...continued

## Other Events:

**Feb. 19, 10am-2pm: Collective Day of Action for Bodily Autonomy**, SC State House. Join a coalition of South Carolinians in defense of bodily autonomy. Legislators have continued to introduce bills that would endanger the health and rights of all people. Speak up to defend reproductive freedom. Attendees MUST register [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/collective-day-of-action-for-bodily-autonomy-tickets-90987282411). <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/collective-day-of-action-for-bodily-autonomy-tickets-90987282411>

**Feb. 19, 10am-4pm: Book signing and voter registration drive** for Columbia artist Chuck Brown's latest issue of *On the Stump*, Scratch N Spin, 513 12th St., West Columbia. The book is a graphic novel of future elections being decided in highly publicized hand-to-hand combat in arenas called stumps. The comic and music store is hosting the launch and voter registration drive on the 150th anniversary of ratification of the 15th Amendment to the US Constitution that intended to guarantee the right to vote.

**Southeastern Immigration Studies Association Conference THUR Feb 20th 4pm to SATURDAY Feb 22nd 2PM** The inaugural conference for the Southeastern Immigration Studies Association will be held at College of Charleston and the Citadel Feb. 20-22nd, 2020. Please submit proposals and register at [www.southeasternimmigration.com](http://www.southeasternimmigration.com)

**Feb. 22, noon-4pm: Get Out and Rock the Vote 2020**, SC State House. Featuring live music by: The Haves, Isabelle's Gift, The Disquiet, and Brandy and the Butcher. Sponsoring organizations: Pasos, Palmetto Luna, Fuerza Jirasol, SC Progressive Network. <https://www.facebook.com/events/2537192896602924/>

**South Carolina United With Immigrants (SCUWI) Annual Retreat FRIDAY Feb 28th 10AM-2PM** Sisters of Charity Foundation [2711 Middleburg Dr. #115 Columbia, SC 29204](https://www.facebook.com/events/s/scuwi-ammual-retreat-22820/1431477140366445/) Join South Carolina United with Immigrants, a coalition of organizations and individuals that support immigrants, in planning for goals and initiatives for the coming year. <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/scuwi-ammual-retreat-22820/1431477140366445/>

**Sat, March 28: NOW of Columbia 2nd Annual Conference** 10am-2pm at UUC. \$10 (NON-MEMBERS) \$5 (MEMBERS) FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT, ANNETTE BETHEL (PRESIDENT). NOW focuses on legislation related to women's issues and has really been working on the ERA. It's supports Planned Parenthood and WREN initiatives. directly at [fitfaves@gmail.com](mailto:fitfaves@gmail.com) or chapter email, [columbianowchapter@gmail.com](mailto:columbianowchapter@gmail.com)

**Sat, May 23: Be Kind Be Great 3rd Annual Walk Against Homelessness** 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM EDT. Finlay Park, [930 Laurel Street, Columbia, SC 29201](https://www.facebook.com/events/s/be-kind-be-great-3rd-annual-walk-against-homelessness-tickets-86945990799). Solving homelessness is an ongoing challenge in the Midlands of South Carolina. According to the 2016 Homelessness Point-In-Time Report, "over 384 families including 759 children less than 18 years of age are living on the streets, in cars, in homeless shelters, or in subsidized transitional housing in the Midlands". While the number of homeless is increasing rapidly, scarcity of resources are decreasing daily, causing shelters to struggle tremendously to offer basic service. I am writing you on behalf of Be Kind Be Great, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our goal is to help provide a warm meal, occasional shelter and clothing throughout the entire year for our homeless community. [Register here. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/be-kind-be-great-3rd-annual-walk-against-homelessness-tickets-86945990799](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/be-kind-be-great-3rd-annual-walk-against-homelessness-tickets-86945990799)

**Please check our website for new events posted almost daily:**  
[bit.ly/social-action](https://bit.ly/social-action)



## Denominational Connections—February 12, 2020



**Rooted, Inspired, & Ready!**

Register Now and Save! - Registration is now open at [uua.org/ga/registration](https://uua.org/ga/registration). Full-time registration is \$400 for adults, \$250 for high school youth and retired and candidate ministers, and \$150 for off-site registrants. Early bird registration is now through March 15, 2020. Rates increase on March 16. Prefer smaller payments over a longer period? We've designed a payment plan just for you. When you register, simply click "payment plan" when prompted and, for as little as \$50 down, you can

spread out the balance of your registration over several months. Payment plans must be paid in full on or before **February 29, 2020**.

**New WorshipWeb App** - A new WorshipWeb app is available for Apple and Android! This app allows you to access the entire *WorshipWeb* collection (<https://www.uua.org/worship>) with an internet connection, or mark "Favorites" to remain accessible on the app when you're offline. You can also share selections with friends and family.

**Conversations for Liberation** - UUA leaders want Unitarian Universalism to be a faith movement where people of all identities and abilities thrive. The "Conversations for Liberation" framework and discussion guide are new resources to help Unitarian Universalist faith communities engage with the question: How will we move our faith forward toward greater justice? Learn how your congregation can participate and download the discussion guide here: <https://www.uua.org/conversations>.

**We're delighted to share that Rev. Nathan Hollister has joined your Southern Region staff team.** Rev. Nathan brings much experience and new expertise to our team. Please join us in welcoming him!

Rev. Nathan Hollister is a third generation Unitarian Universalist whose grandparents founded four of our congregations. He has been a community organizer for over 20 years and has been active nationally in our faith since he was a teenager. He serves as adjunct faculty at Meadville Lombard, from which he graduated in 2013. "Nato" also leads the ministry of Sacred Fire Unitarian Universalist, which plants and grows covenanted communities, and which trains and equips our congregations to be more effective and impactful in their work for racial and social justice. He lives in central North Carolina, and spends his extra time fomenting rebellious communities, playing in punk and metal bands, and competing in the Highland Games.

**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:

**Fall Chalice Lighter Call Wrap-up** -- The Chalice Lighter call for Georgia Mountains UU Church raised nearly \$8,900 for the congregation's new building project. GMUUC leaders share their gratitude:

*We, the Board of Trustees and Rev. Charlotte Arsenault, wish to extend our sincere gratitude to you for supporting Georgia Mountains Unitarian Universalist Church through the Southern Region's Chalice Lighters Grant program. This honor has been a significant source of pride and reassurance to our congregation as we can truly see how connected we are to congregations throughout the south. With your help, we have received an incredible \$8,883.21 from our UU friends across the region to assist us in moving forward with our goal of creating a space large enough to both house and inspire our continued dreaming.*

Thank you to all who contributed toward this Chalice Lighter call!

**There's a LOT more!** View the entire Southern Region November Newsletter here: <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/2?ui=2&ik=c822b0d363&view=lg&permmsgid=msg-f:1649669768990331929>

**Denominational Connections** pages: (<http://www.uucolumbia.dreamhosters.com/connection/denominational-connection/>) for updates and connect with our wider UU world. (<https://www.facebook.com/uucolumbia/>)

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at [denomconn@uucolumbia.org](mailto:denomconn@uucolumbia.org).  
Keitha Whitaker, Chair, Denominational Connections.

# Meetings & Rentals

Art For All Group	Every Tuesday	10:00 am	Social Hall
Board Meeting	Wednesday, February 26	6:30 pm	Classroom # 8
Chair Yoga	On Hiatus		
Children & Youth RE Committee	TBA	12:30 pm	Classroom # 8
Choir - UUCC (adult)	TBA	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Choir – Prism (women)	Thursdays	6:30 pm	Classroom # 9
Choir - Encore (men)	Sunday, February 16	9:30 am	Classroom # 9
Christian Heritage	Tuesday, February 25	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	TBA	12:20 pm	Library
Science & Religion	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
September Set	Friday, February 28	Noon	Social Hall
Social Action Committee	Sunday, February 23	12:30 pm	Library
Technology Committee	Wednesday, March 4	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	4 <sup>th</sup> 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, March 10	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>kdmsooboy@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 Services <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>	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.

### UUC Board of Trustees

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

### UUC Staff

Minister	Rev. Stephen Robinson, <i><a href="mailto:revstephen@uucolumbia.org">revstephen@uucolumbia.org</a></i>
Administrator	Andrea Dudick, <i><a href="mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org">uucc@uucolumbia.org</a></i>
Director of Religious Exploration	Scott Sargent, <i><a href="mailto:dre@uucolumbia.org">dre@uucolumbia.org</a></i>
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Music Coordinator	Anna Hamilton, <i><a href="mailto:music@uucolumbia.org">music@uucolumbia.org</a></i>
Sexton	Bill Dolley, <i><a href="mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org">uucc@uucolumbia.org</a></i>
RE Youth Ministries Assistant	Mckenzie Scott, <i><a href="mailto:reassist@uucolumbia.org">reassist@uucolumbia.org</a></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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