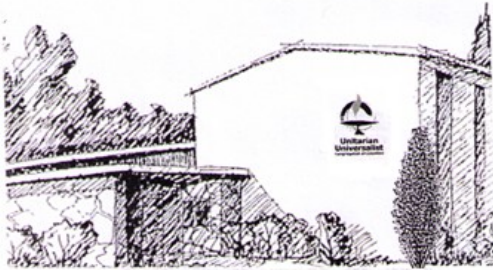




# The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

July 14, 2021



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

## **Sunday Schedule**

**Online Forum:** 9:30 am

**Online Worship:** 11:00 am-12:15 pm

### **July 18, 2021**

**9:30 am Forum Topic**

“This Week in the News...”

**11:00 am Sermon Topic**

“The Five Jagged Rocks”

Rev. Stephen Robinson

### **July 25, 2021**

**9:30 am Forum Topic**

“This Week in the News...”

**11:00 am Sermon Topic**

“Trees, Trust Falls, and Tomorrow”

Rev. Pippin Whitaker

The Forum will meet on Sunday July 18, at 9:30am, in the Library and via Zoom

## **Unigram Deadline**

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 *Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.* Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to [uucc@uucolumbia.org](mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org).

## **And Now For A Word From Your President**

Hi, Pat Mohr here. I haven't set foot in the church since March of 2019, but as of July 1, 2021, I'm your new president (for the fourth time---some people never learn!). This is my chance to welcome all of you back, and to articulate some thoughts and hopes for the coming year. Although it's unnatural for me, I'll try to be brief.

Coming back to church this July is almost like starting a new book: kinda scary, but really exciting! Masks & distance notwithstanding, we can begin again. We have just about the best staff we've had in the 35 years I've been here, so we're coming back to an organized and efficient office, polished floors, new lights, a ramp into the library, and so many other improvements---with continuing inspirational sermons, music, and CYRE as icing on the cake.

So let's get down to purpose: what do YOU want this congregation to accomplish this year? More social justice? More volunteering and giving to charities? More members? More adult activities? More programs for children and youth? Most importantly---what are you willing to do to make any of this happen? Please start thinking right now how you will serve.

Because I'm just the cat herder! You are the beating heart of this congregation. To enable your participation I promise to work hard to make board activities as transparent as possible. Remember, board meetings are open, so join us on the third Wednesday of any month. I will also be available for conversation and suggestions. You can call or text me on my cell: 803-463-3504 or email me: [patmohr60@gmail.com](mailto:patmohr60@gmail.com). I can't be your therapist (no license!), but I promise I will listen deeply and respectfully. I'm especially eager to hear your ideas for growth and improvement. What is your vision for us in this post-pandemic year and for the years after that?

# **UUCU In-Person Sunday Services**

Sunday services will be in-person and live-streamed for those who are not able to attend in person.

## **Sunday Services Streaming Instructions:**

1. Open the browser on your Internet-connected device (computer, laptop, smartphone).
2. Click on this link or paste it In the search bar, hit ENTER: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBm06yrniXK7OSh8zt-dQtw>
3. After 10:45, click on the video "Sunday Service 7-18-21"
4. Watch the service being streamed from the UUCU sanctuary

**Everyone 2 and over is required to wear facemasks at all times.**

**The Heyward and kitchen doors will be closed Sunday, please use the main or patio doors for entry.**

**No food indoors.**

**Water is allowed in a covered container.**

# Membership Matters

Hi Folks! I am delighted to be your new Membership Chair and I am looking forward to growing our membership – in all the ways there are to grow – as we come back together after our long, long, long time apart. While we discovered many new ways to stay connected during the past year and a half, it is so good to see you all in person again!

I thought I would include a little bit about myself in this first article – for our new members and friends, and for those of you who don't know me well. So, from the "About" page on my blog site here we go.

My pronouns are she, her, and hers. I positively delight in grandkids, writing, and blue skies. My pet peeves are someone being unkind, and assumptions (not that I don't make my own sometimes!) I am a social worker by trade, and I first knew this was the field for me when I connected the career tests we took in 7th grade with what I was actually doing in the world one day at the Mississippi Department of Health's District 9 office.

One day, all things come to an end. Before my time is up, I hope to see the Grand Canyon, and win the noble prize for literature. And before you leave this site, here are my hopes for you:

- \* Encounter how precious ALL children are and understand why we must make the world a safe and nurturing place for them;
- \* Grow your appreciation for how beautiful nature is and why we must protect it;
- \* Remember how important relationships are and why we must maintain or mend those without dropping bombs or harming or shooting anyone, ever.

Please look me up on Sunday mornings after the service so we can become better acquainted. You may also email me any time at [membership@uucolumbia.org](mailto:membership@uucolumbia.org).

Keitha Whitaker, Membership Chair



## UUCC Green Team

### **Green Team, Sunday, July 18, 1pm**

### **Should UUCC Become an Accredited Green Sanctuary?**

Our Green Sanctuary committee will address this question at our next meeting on Sunday, June 18, at 1pm in Classroom 8. We would appreciate your input before this meeting. Of course, you are welcome to join us. The scope of this program is wider than a single committee so we would present a proposal to the board if we think accreditation should be investigated further.

UUA has a program to accredit congregations as Green Sanctuaries. The current version is Green Sanctuary 2030: Mobilizing for Climate Justice. The program has changed since its inception to reflect the recognition of the existential threat of climate change. Global warming impacts the entire web of existence but some human populations are at greater risk than others; climate justice requires that we recognize and act on this.

What's involved? The details are on the UUA website: [Green Sanctuary 2030: Mobilizing for Climate Justice | Green Sanctuary | UUA.org](#). We are UUs, so there would obviously be discussions, committees, task forces, reports, and plans. The first step would be a decision to embark on this journey. The second step would be to develop plans for mitigation to reduce the causes of global warming, for adaptation and resilience, and for justice. The hardest part would be to implement the plans.

Approximately 30% of UU congregations are fully accredited Green Sanctuaries. These include the following South Carolina congregations, listed with dates of accreditation: The UU Fellowship of Clemson [2008], Unitarian Church in Charleston [2009], UU Church of Spartanburg [2013], Aiken UU Church [2018], and Greenville UU Fellowship [2019]. Should we join them?

Question? Contact Caroline Eastman, Chair, at [green@uucolumbia.org](mailto:green@uucolumbia.org)

# News and Notes

## Need Publicity For UUCC Events?

If you are hosting a UUCC committee event that you would like advertised through our social networks, please email Laura Hartwig at [publicity@uucolumbia.org](mailto:publicity@uucolumbia.org) with the details. Be sure to follow us so you don't miss out! [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [YouTube](#) [Twitter](#)

## UUCC Book Club, Sunday, July 18, 6:30pm

Phil Turner will facilitate a discussion via Zoom of *Across Islands and Oceans*, by James Baldwin. The UUCC Book Club is open to all members and friends of UUCC. We welcome new and returning participants. Please contact Phil Turner if you have questions or would like more information: [philtturner2009@gmail.com](mailto:philtturner2009@gmail.com)

## Virtual Buddhist Meditation, Mondays

The Buddhist Insight Meditation Community of Columbia, a UUCC rental, which had met in the Library, now meets on Zoom, Mondays 7:00-8:15pm. All are welcome. Please contact Jessica Kross, [jkross943@gmail.com](mailto:jkross943@gmail.com) for access information.

## Virtual Story Circle, Wednesdays 10am

Story Circle will continue on Wednesdays from 10:00-11:00 a.m. All welcome. Questions? Call Barbara Bates Smith at [828-421-7685](tel:828-421-7685).

## UUCC Men's Breakfast Group 2nd Thursday, 9am

The UUCC men's breakfast group will meet at a local restaurant at 9:00 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month. If you are interested, please contact Phil Turner for more information: [philtturner2009@gmail.com](mailto:philtturner2009@gmail.com)



## UUCC Ladies LUUnch BUUnch

The UUCC Ladies LUUnch BUUnch will resume gathering on the second **Tuesday** of each month at **12:00 noon** beginning **September 14**. We meet at various restaurants which offer menus to include vegan and vegetarian selections. We always have a good time so don't miss out. Contact Linda McLeod at [kitchen@uucolumbia.org](mailto:kitchen@uucolumbia.org) to sign up for this fun time of getting together. Hope to see you there!

## UUCC Fall Retreat at The Mountain

**NEW LOWER PRICES FOR MOUNTAIN RETREAT!**  
Our retreat September 17-19 is now much more affordable. There has been a very unfortunate mistake in the previously advertised fees for our weekend retreat at The Mountain. In order to make amends for their mistake, The Mountain is willing to extend the **EARLY BIRD Discount** to August 20th. Please make note of the current prices. All prices include a two night stay and six meals, Friday dinner through Sunday lunch.

Adult, double occupancy, through August 20-\$190: After 8/20/21-\$210

Adult, single occupancy, through August 20-\$290: After 8/20/21-\$310

Youth ages 12-17-\$55/night: Children ages 4-11-\$40/night: Toddler ages 0-3-free

To register go on their website-

[www.themountainrlc.org](http://www.themountainrlc.org) or call the office during office hours 828-526-5838.

We are planning some fun activities and there is plenty to do on your own or with small groups. Come join us. Questions contact Joan Watterson- [joan.l.watterson@icloud.com](mailto:joan.l.watterson@icloud.com) or 803-381-7208.

## **New Chairperson Needed for Share the Plate Committee**

The Share the Plate Committee (a subcommittee of Social Action) is seeking a new chair. Training needs to begin soon as the process for nominating next year's Share the Plate recipients begins in September and the nominations will begin in October. A complete instruction manual and samples are available to anyone interested and help will be available. Share the Plate not only serves the charities of our local community but also provides income to UUCC. If you are interested in this position, please contact Linda McLeod at [kitchen@uucolumbia.org](mailto:kitchen@uucolumbia.org)

## **July Share the Plate Recipient: SCWREN**

Half of our cash collection in July goes to SCWREN, the South Carolina Women's Rights Empowerment Network, whose mission is to build a movement to advance the health, economic well-being, and rights of South Carolina's women, girls, and their families. We advocate, educate, engage communities, and build coalitions. SCWREN strives to create a diverse and inclusive movement that amplifies voices and advances justice for all. Their representative will be Ann Warner on July 11 and Courtney Thomas on July 25.

If sending a check please write "Share the Plate" in the memo line or you can give by either going to our website, [uucolumbia.org](http://uucolumbia.org), and clicking on the 'donate' bar at the top of the page, or entering "[abundant.co/uucc/give](http://abundant.co/uucc/give)" in your browser. Please be sure to select "Share the Plate."

## **Sunday Flowers for the Sanctuary**

Would you like flowers in the sanctuary to recognize an upcoming birthday, anniversary, or a special memory. This can be done by making a \$30 donation to the UUCC Flower Fund or, if you prefer, you may bring your own arrangement. Contact Linda McLeod ([kitchen@uucolumbia.org](mailto:kitchen@uucolumbia.org)) for details on how to share in this opportunity to enhance our sanctuary and at the same time recognize a special day.



## **UUCC Accepts Contributions Electronically**

Please note that your online contributions are not posted to the UUCC account until the second business day after you make them. You may give by either going to our website, [uucolumbia.org](http://uucolumbia.org), and clicking on the 'donate' bar at the top of the page, or entering "[abundant.co/uucc/give](http://abundant.co/uucc/give)" in your browser.

If you should have any questions or need help, please contact our Administrator, Andrea Dudick, at [uucc@uucolumbia.org](mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org) or 803-799-0845 Thank you for your generosity.

## **Recordings of Sermons 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 see. When on that page, simply select the play button, sit back and enjoy the sermon.

## **UUCC Music on YouTube!**

You are invited to visit the UUCC Music Coordinator's YouTube page to view and listen to music from recent services and performances from our talented UUCC Musicians.: [UUCC Music](#)

# Social Action

## **Virtual Social Action Committee Meeting, Sunday, July 25, 1:00pm**

If you would like login info, please contact [socialaction@uucolumbia.org](mailto:socialaction@uucolumbia.org). Hope to see you all then!

## **Pride Parade, Friday, October 22**

UUCC expects to celebrate in the Pride Parade in person once again in 2021! The event is looking like a 'go.' We submitted our registration application and have a float. Save the date, because we hope to see you at Laurel & Main at 6 PM on October 22nd!

## **Feeding the Hungry at Transitions**

Transitions continues to need volunteers to serve meals and other opportunities. Because of social distancing, they request that you sign up for a shift rather than show up. Contact Transitions at 803-708-4861 or click [HERE](#) to find out more about volunteering and support opportunities.

## **Harvest Hope Food Bank Volunteers Needed**

As always, please make sure to take your own safety into consideration first before volunteering. [You can sign up for all volunteer shifts here.](#)

**Please see the weekly Thursday eblasts for more Social Action events.**

**Check our website for new events posted almost daily:**

[bit.ly/social-action](http://bit.ly/social-action)

# Denominational Connections

## UUA General Assembly 2021

More than 4,200 UU's attended the 2021 Online General Assembly June 23 – 27, including UUCC's 4 authorized delegates and others. For a summary of the actions taken at GA, please check out the link below:

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/general-assembly-2021-summary>

## UUA Board of Trustees Open House

All UU's are invited by UUA Co-Moderators Charles Du Mond and Meg Riley to check in with the UUA Board of Trustees at its Summer Zoom Open House. Bring questions and chat about GA 2021, the UUA Board's plans for the coming year, what you are looking forward to in the coming church year, what it means to serve Unitarian Universalism as a volunteer at the national level, and the UU issues that matter most to you.

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at 7 PM Eastern,

Sign up to attend online at:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYrfumrrzMtE9fTWEg4P2YGIDRNuPOnKO4b>

## Toolbox Webinar Series

Toolbox webinars are compact and efficient one-time training sessions that support congregations and congregational leadership. These webinars are conducted live, monthly on the second Tuesday (with occasional fourth Tuesday sessions), each lasting 90 minutes. Learn more and register here:

<https://uua.wufoo.com/forms/southern-region-20212022-toolbox-webinars/>

August 10, 2021 – Covenant

August 24, 2021 – Lifespan Faith Development and Membership Development Framing

September 14, 2021 – RE Volunteer Recruitment and Retention

September 28, 2021 – Youth Advisor Training

October 12, 2021 – Congregational Stewardship Practices

November 9, 2021 – Dismantling White Supremacy Culture Within the Congregation

November 23, 2021 – Dismantling White Supremacy Culture with your Covenant

Bob Whitaker, Chair, Denominational Affairs Committee, 803-391-5639

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS & BOARD LIAISONS 2020/2021

Committee/Chair Email	Chair/Board Liaison
Adult Religious Education <i>AdultREChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Angie Dodd Rabon/ <i>TBA</i>
Animal Ministry <i>anitaj48@aol.com</i>	Anita Grossman/ <i>Subcommittee</i>
Building and Grounds <i>BandGChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Linda McLeod/ <i>TBA</i>
Caring and Hospitality <i>CaringChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Jane Lawther/ <i>Tiffany Rushton</i>
CYRE <i>REChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Karen Brown/ <i>Jonathan White</i>
Denominational Connections <i>denomconn@uucolumbia.org</i>	Bob Whitaker/ <i>Deb Matherly</i>
Endowment	Joe Long/ <i>TBA</i>
Finance <i>FinanceChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Linda Brennon/ <i>TBA</i>
Green Sanctuary <i>kdmsooboy@gmail.com</i>	Caroline Eastman/ <i>Deb Matherly</i>
Kitchen Committee <i>bonneylass44@gmail.com</i>	Connie Quirk & Linda McLeod/ <i>Subcommittee</i>
Leadership Development <i>leaderdev@uucolumbia.org</i>	TBA
Membership <i>Membership@uucolumbia.org</i>	Keitha Whitaker/ <i>TBA</i>
The Mountain <i>Joan.l.watterson@icloud.com</i>	Joan Watterson/ <i>Subcommittee</i>
Personnel <i>PersonnelChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	JP Flood
Social Action <i>SocialActionChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Kevin McKinney & Connie Quirk/ <i>TBA</i>
Technology Services <i>tsc@uucolumbia.org</i>	David Roof/ <i>TBA</i>
Worship <i>WorshipChair@uucolumbia.org</i>	Richard McLeod/ <i>TBA</i>



# Meetings & Rentals

Art For All Group	Cancelled	7:00 pm	
Board Meeting	Wednesday, July 21	6:30 pm	Online Meeting
Chair Yoga	On Hiatus		
Children & Youth RE Committee	Tuesday, August 10	7:00 pm	Online Meeting
Choir - UUCC (adult)	TBA	9:30 am	
Choir – Prism (women)	Cancelled	6:30 pm	
Choir - Encore (men)	Cancelled	9:30 am	
Christian Heritage	TBA	Noon	
CUUP's, Gaia's Rising	Cancelled	7:30 pm	
Funeral Consumers Alliance	Cancelled	5:30 pm	
Forum	Sundays	9:30 am	Library & Zoom
Green Team	TBA	11:00 pm	
Knit or Not	Cancelled	2:00 pm	
Membership Committee	TBA	2:00 pm	Online Meeting
Visitor Orientation	TBA	11:45 pm	Online Meeting
Science & Religion	Cancelled	7:00 pm	
September Set	Cancelled	Noon	
Social Action Committee	Sunday, July 25	1:00 pm	Online Meeting
Technology Committee	TBA	6:00 pm	
UU Animal Ministry	TBA	5:00 pm	
UU Book Club	Sunday, July 18	6:30 pm	Online Meeting
UU Humanist	TBA	7:00 pm	
UU Partner Church Committee	TBA	12:30 pm	
Women's Book Club	TBA	7:00 pm	
<b>Rentals</b>			
La Leche League	Cancelled	6-8pm	
Tai Chi 803-772-9557 columbia.sc@taoist.org	Cancelled	6:30 pm	
Buddhist Insight Meditation	Mondays	7:00 pm	Online Meeting
Men's AA I	Cancelled	6:30 pm	
Women's AA I	Cancelled	6:30 pm	
Men's AA II	Cancelled	5:00 pm	

# 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, Pat Mohr	<i>president@uucolumbia.org</i>
President Elect, Deb Matherly	<i>president-elect@uucolumbia.org</i>
Treasurer, Ginny Verne	<i>treasurer@uucolumbia.org</i>
Secretary, Beth Ann Rocheleau	<i>secretary@uucolumbia.org</i>
Members at Large: Jean Capalbo, Caroline Eastman, Emilio Perez-Jorge, Tiffany Rushton, Jonathan White	
Past President, Rev. Rod Brown, ex officio	<i>pastpresident@uucolumbia.org</i>
Finance Chair, Linda Brennon, ex officio	<i>financechair@uucolumbia.org</i>

## UUC Staff

Minister	Rev. Stephen Robinson, <i>revstephen@uucolumbia.org</i>
Administrator	Andrea Dudick, <i>uucc@uucolumbia.org</i>
Director of Religious Exploration	Scott Sargent, <i>dre@uucolumbia.org</i>
Bookkeeper	Michele Currie, <i>bookkeeper@uucolumbia.org</i>
Music Director	Anna Hamilton, <i>music@uucolumbia.org</i>
Sexton	Bill Dolley, <i>uucc@uucolumbia.org</i>
RE Youth Ministries Assistant	Mckenzie Scott, <i>reassist@uucolumbia.org</i>

**Address:** 2701 Heyward St, Columbia, SC 29205

**Phone** — Office (803) 799-0845

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

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

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Website: [www.uucolumbia.org](http://www.uucolumbia.org)

