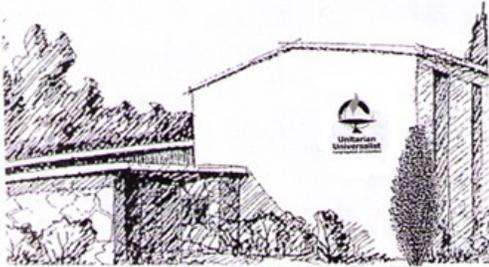




The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

August 11, 2021



2701 Heyward Street, Columbia, SC 29205
803-799-0845 • www.uucolumbia.org

Sunday Schedule

Online Forum: 9:30 am

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

August 15, 2021

9:30 am Forum Topic

“Postmodernism”

11:00 am Sermon Topic

“Face to Face About Race”

Pat Mohr & Richard McLeod

August 22, 2021

9:30 am Forum Topic

“This Week in the News...”

11:00 am Sermon Topic

“Redefining Community”

Rev. Stephen Robinson

*The Forum will meet on Sundays
in the Library and via Zoom*

Unigram Deadline

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 *Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.* Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to uucc@uucolumbia.org.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

One of the great rituals of our year at the UUCC revolves around the symbol of water and the time of returning from summer experiences, as we gather together and prepare for the year ahead of us. Wendell Berry, a Kentucky native, who describes himself as a farmer, poet, novelist, and activist, wrote a beautiful poem that compares the vast expanse of water to the vast expanse of love.

Like The Water by Wendell Berry

Like the water
of a deep stream,
love is always too much.
We did not make it.
Though we drink till we burst,
we cannot have it all,
or want it all.
In its abundance
it survives our thirst.

In the evening we come down to the shore
to drink our fill,
and sleep,
while it flows
through the regions of the dark.
It does not hold us,
except we keep returning to its rich waters
thirsty.

We enter,
willing to die,
into the commonwealth of its joy.

Continued...

The worship committee, in cooperation with the RE program, has planned a Water Communion for Sunday, August 29th. We will do our best to maintain safety as we create the experience of this ritual for those present in the sanctuary as well as those who watch the service on live stream. As we all prepare for this service, bring water that symbolizes something of your experience from the summer, and be willing to pour that water into a communal bowl.

Our ritual holds us together in love and symbolizes our connectedness to each other as well as our connectedness to the web of existence around us. Surrounded by news of the growing threat of COVID-19 variants as well as the devastating report about the future of our climate released this past week, we will approach the common bowl longing for hope and connection. I continue to believe that the UCC remains as one of the most hopeful things in our culture. May the ritual of Water Communion unite us together in our good work.

Rev. Stephen Robinson

UUCC In-Person Sunday Services

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

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.

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 UUCC sanctuary

If you live-stream Sunday services and would like a copy of the Order of Service emailed to you the Friday before, then please email Andrea Dudick at uucc@uucolumbia.org.



Candles of Community

We extend our condolences to **Darrell Shier** in his loss of his father, Ken Shier, 86, on Tuesday, August 3.

We extend our condolences to **Linda Fennell** and her family on the sudden death of her son Jonathan Lamar Doctor.

Membership Matters



Hi Folks! Would you like to know what membership is all about? Membership involves sharing your philosophy, listening to the perspectives of others, and building a supportive community together. Membership means making a commitment to this Congregation and agreeing to be in a relationship of giving and receiving. Membership offers a place to join in with others to do good works in the larger community. Membership results in lifelong learning, connections, and friendships.

Membership is open to those 18 years of age or older. If you'd like to know more about membership at UCC, talk with any member of the Membership Committee on any Sunday or email membership@uucolumbia.org. We're easy to find. Look for the red "Ask Me" ribbons on our nametags. 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.

Keitha Whitaker, Membership Chair

UCC Green Team

Green Committee: Green Sanctuary Meeting, Sunday, August 15

The Board of Trustees approved the recommendation of the Green Committee that we seek accreditation as a Green Sanctuary under the current guidelines: Green Sanctuary 2030: Mobilizing for Climate Justice. We are now in Stage 1 of the process and are preparing a congregational profile; this describes who we are and what we are doing in this area.

The hard work begins with Stage 2: Opportunity Assessment. There are three focal areas. How can we mitigate the climate-change crisis? How can we adapt and build resilience to the impacts of the crisis? How can we secure justice by collaborating with marginalized communities most impacted by but least responsible for the crisis? We need to document what we are currently doing and investigate opportunities for building upon this foundation. There are steps we can take as individuals and as a congregation. But this is a global problem and requires action at a variety of levels.

Join the Green Committee at our next meeting on Sunday, August 15, to discuss the next steps in our accreditation as a Green Sanctuary. We will meet 15 minutes after service in person in the sanctuary and virtually on Zoom. We will discuss our next steps, including computation of our carbon footprint. Your input and ideas are welcome even if you can not attend the meeting. Send them to me at green@uucolumbia.org.

Caroline Eastman, Green Committee Chair

Adult Religious Education

Adult RE Classes: Kything: An Ancient Practice of Celtic Christianity Thursday Nights in September, 7-8pm

Are you looking for more ways to deepen your spiritual life? Ancient Scots combined their Pagan roots with Western Christianity to give us alternative ways to connect with the Divine, with others, and with nature.

Come join us as we meet via Zoom the five Thursday nights in September at 7pm for one-hour sessions. To register call, text, or email Rebecca Drennan at 415-377-1791 or rebecca@creativetransformation.com.

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 with the details. Be sure to follow us so you don't miss out! [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [YouTube](#) [Twitter](#)

Youth Event for MS and HS Saturday, August 14, 4-6pm

Calling all Middle and High schoolers! Come hang out for games together with your peers. If we do not have at least 4 youth rsvp, then this event will be cancelled. Please RSVP by noon on August 13 to Mckenzie at reassist@uucolumbia.org or 803-414-2885

UUCC Book Club, Sunday, August 15, 6:30pm

Joe Long will facilitate a discussion via Zoom of *The Coming Good Society: Why New Realities Demand New Rights*, by William F. Schulz and Sushma Raman. 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

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 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

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

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 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 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-

New Chairperson Needed for Share the Plate Committee

We are **urgently** seeking someone interested in managing the Share the Plate program! Linda McLeod did a great job for 6 years, but has definitively resigned. Can you help? Or do you know someone willing to run this 'well-oiled machine?' Contact Kevin McKinney or Connie Quirk at socialaction@uucolumbia.org.

August Share the Plate Recipient: Palmetto Place Children and Youth Services

Half of our cash collection in August goes to Palmetto Place Children and Youth Services, which provides a safe and nurturing environment for abused and neglected children and unaccompanied teens, offering them a broad range of services concentrating on personal healing and development. The shelter is open 24 hours each day of the year and provides medical and mental health care, crisis adjustment/transitional counseling, after-school tutoring, and recreational and social activities in addition to food, clothing, and shelter. Their representative will be Courtney Tidwell August 29.

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, and clicking on the 'donate' bar at the top of the page, or entering "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 UUC Flower Fund or, if you prefer, you may bring your own arrangement. Contact Linda McLeod (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.



UUC Accepts Contributions Electronically

Please note that your online contributions are not posted to the UUC account until the second business day after you make them. You may give by either going to our website, uucolumbia.org, and clicking on the 'donate' bar at the top of the page, or entering "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 or 803-799-0845 Thank you for your generosity.

Recordings of Sermons on Website

Please 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 see. When on that page, simply select the play button, sit back and enjoy the sermon.

UUC Music on YouTube!

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

Social Action

Social Action Meeting, Sunday, August 22

Pending developments with Covid, the Social Action Committee will meet in person 15 minutes after the end of the UUCS service in the Sanctuary observing indoor Covid protocols. We will stream the event as well. Questions? Contact Kevin McKinney or Connie Quirk at socialaction@uucolumbia.org.

Pride Parade, Friday, October 22

UUCS 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

Denominational Connections

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://uaa.wufoo.com/forms/southern-region-20212022-toolbox-webinars/>

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 & Cheryl Soehl/ <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 <i>philip.turner@unt.edu</i>	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>	<i>TBA</i>
Membership <i>Membership@uucolumbia.org</i>	Keitha Whitaker/ <i>Jonathan White</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>Emilio Perez</i>

Meetings & Rentals

Art For All Group	Cancelled	7:00 pm	
Board Meeting	Wednesday, August 18	6:30 pm	Online Meeting
Chair Yoga	On Hiatus		
Children & Youth RE Committee	Tuesday, August 17	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	Sunday, August 15	12:15 pm	Sanctuary & Zoom
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, August 22	1:00 pm	Online Meeting
Technology Committee	TBA	6:00 pm	
UU Animal Ministry	TBA	5:00 pm	
UU Book Club	Sunday, August 15	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	
Rentals			
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

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