



The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

May 25, 2016



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

Sunday Schedule

Forum: 9:30 am in the Library

Worship: 11:00 am-12:15 pm

Nursery: Available during service for infants through age 4

May 29, 2016

9:30 am Forum Topic

What would you like to do that you're afraid to do? How our secret fears rule us.

11:00 am Sermon Topic

Learning from Unsung Heroes, by Rev. Jennie Barrington, a family friendly service

June 5, 2016

9:30 am Forum Topic

To be announced.

11:00 am Sermon Topic

Walt Whitman, by Rev. Jennie Barrington

Minister's Meditation

The Rev. Jennie Barrington, Interim Minister

Sermon-Writing Workshop at UUC Saturday, June 11

Everyone has at least one great sermon within them. Would you like to explore what your great sermon(s) might be? Please join us for a Workshop on sermon-writing and preparation of a worship service, open to all members and friends, including the youth groups. This fun and educational workshop will take place on Saturday, June 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., in UUC's Social Hall and Sanctuary. It is free, and a light lunch will be provided. It will be led by Rev. Jennie and sponsored by the Worship Committee. This workshop will be helpful to people who might want to do a sermon and worship service themselves, and people who are interested in working with others on a collaborative worship service.

If you are interested in attending, please email Rev. Jennie at interim@uucolumbia.org or call the church at 803-799-0845 or talk with Rev. Jennie at the church. We will need to know in advance how many people will be attending, in order to have enough hand-outs.

Unigram Deadline

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 *Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.* Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to uucc@uucolumbia.org.



Candles of Community

Susan Robinson thanks everyone for their outpouring of support at the time of her mother's final illness and death in April. Mum was born in the same town as Ron Edge and lived a remarkable life. It will be of interest to many of you that one of the beneficiaries of her charitable trust is the Democratic Socialists of America. To read about her, go to:

http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/obituaries/margaret-bailey-robinson/article_51d4f098-f53a-5c2a-805f-f601aeff570d.html

Margaret Bailey Robinson

We extend our congratulations to Suzi Garland and Shelly Bon on their engagement.

News and Notes

Pledge Drive Update

We have received over \$209,000 in 2016/2017 pledges. Thank you for your support of the funding goals for our budget. There are many pledge cards that have not yet been returned. Please get your cards in as soon as possible. It is important that we know what funds will be available for our entire congregation, programs, and operating expenses.

You can email your pledge amount to uucc@uucolumbia.org. Pledge cards and envelopes are also available in the foyer and may be returned there, put in the collection plate, or mailed back. Thank you, Joe Long, Finance Chair

Treasurer's 2015/2016 Budget Update for 4/30/2016

Pledges needed: \$180,050

Actual Pledges received: \$169,355

Shortage: \$10,695

To all who pledged to support the UUCC for 2015/2016:

If you have not paid your pledge or are behind in your pledge, please consider how much your promise means to the livelihood and continued viability of the Congregation. Pledged funds represent 85% of the income of the UUCC. Failure to receive pledges can create a serious lack of funding for all the UUCC's wonderful activities, not to mention the salaries of our minister and staff.

So, if you have pledged to support the UUCC, please be sure your payments are up to date. With grateful appreciation, Linda Brennison, Board Treasurer.

Harvest Hope Food Donations

The UUCC Harvest Hope food basket is delivered each Monday to Harvest Hope where it is used in the distribution of groceries to the many hungry people who come to the food bank for help. They need items such as canned goods, pasta, flour, sugar, rice, cake mixes, and other non-perishable foods (no glass please).

Meals on Wheels for Pets

A beloved pet can be the only companion for many homebound seniors. The animal mission of our congregation asks you to give a thought to these animal companions. Donate any unopened pet food or supplies in the Social Hall by the front doors.



Register Now for our Fall Mountain Retreat, September 16-18

Lots of fun, games, workshops, bonding, campfires, spirituality, nature, beautiful views and much more. If you haven't experienced The Mountain you have missed something special. Register online at www.themountainrlc.org, by phone during office hours at 828-526-5838, or pick up a registration form from the Membership table. Adults-\$190. Youth 8-17-\$70. Kids 0-7-Free! (new deal!) 2 nights, 6 meals. Questions: Ginny Verne-803-786-7114 or Joan Watterson-803-787-7873.

Do You Have Pictures?

Please email our Administrator, Andrea, any pictures you have from either the May 21 picnic or the May 22 Worship Service, including the child dedication, Gertrude Edge's birthday celebration, and/or senior bridging ceremony. These pictures will appear in the June 8 Unigram.

Registration for Hogwarts Summer Camp

It's official! Hogwarts School of Magic registration is going on now. Do you have a young wizard whose magic needs a little brushing up? Or do you have a little wizard-want-to-be who needs to learn the craft? Then see Stephanie or email her (dre@uucolumbia.org) for information on registering. And as class space is limited, do it soon!

Art Exhibit

"Connections," an exhibit of art quilts by Janet Swigler in the Social Hall.



Sunday Greeters Needed

Don Dodson is now coordinating the greeter program and looking for volunteers who would like to join our merry little group. Greeters have options of dates when they volunteer and it is usually from 10:30- 11:00 a.m. when services start. Occasionally we need someone from 10:00- 11:00 a.m. For many visitors this is their first impression of UU and a personal “good morning” and “welcome” always helps in creating a welcoming atmosphere. Please contact Don at ddodson@sc.rr.com.

Chalice Pins For Sale Sundays

We have some nice UU chalice lapel pins that will be in a basket at the greeter table. We are asking for a \$5 donation for each pin with all proceeds going to CYRE.

Calling Artists for Art Group



If you are interested in working on your art with others for support, encouragement and feedback, the Art Group is for you. We meet weekly on **Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - noon** in the UUCS Social Hall. Bring your own supplies and prepare to enjoy the company of other artists at no cost. No instruction provided. Please contact Ruthie Saunders at rsaunders@sc.edu if you would like to participate or if you have questions.

Chair Yoga, Tuesdays

Chair yoga entails about 45 minutes of real yoga but it takes place mostly seated. It is ideal for people who want to improve flexibility but who do not like (or, for physical reasons, cannot do) the typical yoga class.

Chair Yoga meets in the UUCS Social Hall at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. **If you are new to the group** and have questions or would like to participate, please contact Ruthie Saunders rsaunders@sc.edu.



Writing Group

Please join us for the UUCS Writing Group on the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30–7:30 pm in Room 5. Feel free to bring something that you have written and would like to share with the group. Each month we will

discuss different writing styles, topics for writing, and share our stories, biographies, poems, songs and anything else we can imagine. If you have any questions, please contact Christina Seel at 803-776-7138 or chseel@bellsouth.net

Transitions Volunteers Needed Second Saturday of Each Month

UUCS has a recurring obligation to help serve the evening meal at Transitions Homeless Recovery Center, 2025 Main Street in Columbia, on the second Saturday of every month. Contact Bob Whitaker at bobwhit46@gmail.com.

Proselytizing our faith? No way, you say!

But do you have website design and/or maintenance expertise along with some time to volunteer (from a few hours to an on-going specific commitment)? UUCS needs your skill. Contact Andrea (uucc@uucolumbia.org) for information about how you can help publicize and promote our congregation!

September Set, Friday, May 27

Our monthly September Set for our UUCS Seniors will be held Friday, May 27. We will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall with conversation and getting to know each other better. Bring a dish to share and join in the fun. Long time and new members and friends are welcome. We hope to see you there. Contact Jean Capalbo at jacapalbo@gmail.com or Pat Mohr at patmohr@mindspring.com with any comments or questions.

Birthday Sunday, May 29

May-born members – we will be celebrating your birthdays on Sunday, May 29! Celebrate with us as we sing happy birthday to all our May birthday members. If you have a May birthday and would to share that information with the congregation, please email Stephanie at: dre@uucolumbia.org

National Gun Violence Awareness Day, June 2

Be sure to pick up your orange ribbon being passed out at church on **Sunday, May 29**. These are to wear wherever you are on **Thursday, June 2** to show support of National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Also wear any orange apparel that you may have - even a scarf - that day. Go to the website [National Gun Violence Awareness Day](#) to learn more about participation in this event.

Animal Ministry Movie Night, June 10

SAVE THE DATE!!! The Animal Ministry will be hosting the next movie in its series related to the merits of plant-based diets. "Cowspiracy" will be shown, at no charge, Friday, June 10 at 6:45 p.m. in the UUCC Social Hall. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. when pre-movie vegan snacks will be offered until show time. "Cowspiracy" is a must see, ground breaking environmental film that explores the true impact of animal agriculture.



Seeds of Hope Starts Sunday, June 12

Summer is almost here and that means it's time for the fresh produce of Seeds of Hope. Once again Social Action will be sponsoring the fresh market stand in front of the church each Sunday *beginning* June 12 (hours – 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) Bauer Westernen has again volunteered to manage the scheduling of this event which will assist farmer Louis Reid. UUCC has participated in this program for several years. Many of the Columbia community churches take part in this project to help low-income farmers. Be watching for Bauer's request asking for volunteers to sign-up for this opportunity to participate. More news to follow.

Matthew Ganong: A Cozy Concert: UUCC Spring Fling Event, Thursday, June 12

An intimate "salon" featuring Matthew playing Chopin, etc. Thursday, June 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Minghi's. Cheese and wine; cheese cake and coffee. Lee is accepting both donations of \$20, and reservations. Space is very limited! Contacts: 798-0904 or alminghi@aol.com



Solar Power Demonstration, June 12

Phil and Lis Turner have recently installed solar panels and they are holding an open house on Sunday, June 12 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. A representative from ReNu Energy Solutions will conduct a tour of the installation and present information on the location of homes where solar makes sense, costs, tax credits, and the SCE&G incentive program.

Any orders for solar panels from ReNu Energy will result in a \$500 contribution to the UUCC. If you are thinking about a solar panel installation or are just curious to see one in action, this is a good opportunity. Please let Phil or Lis know that you are coming so we can make sure we have space (pturner@unt.edu).

Women's Book Group, Tuesday, June 14

The Women's Book Group will meet Tuesday, June 14 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8 to discuss *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. Anyone with questions may contact Sandy Chubon, 776-0784 or sjchubon@sc.rr.com.

UUCC Book Club, Sunday, June 26



The next UUCC Book Club meeting is on Sunday, June 26 at 6:30 pm. Joe Long will facilitate a discussion on *What to Think About Machines That Think*, edited by John Brockman. We will meet at a member's home. The UUCC Book Club is open to all members and friends of UUCC. Please contact Ruthie Saunders if you have questions or would like more information: rsaunders@sc.edu

Religious Education

Harry Potter Movie Marathon, June 3 & 4

Join us for the Harry Potter Movie Marathon Friday, June 3, 5:30-9:30 p.m. and Saturday, June 4, noon-10:00 p.m. \$1.50 for the sandwich bar. Free popcorn. Drinks available to benefit the Boston Heritage Trip.



Generous Gift from our K-2nd Grade Class

To help our youth develop a sense of responsibility to others they regularly contributed to an offering jar in their classroom. On the day of their last class they decided to donate the monies to the Congaree River Keepers Association. Our hats off to these youngsters!

An Interfaith Art Contest!

Peace in the Park, an Interfaith Partnership of South Carolina event, is proud to offer children and youth throughout Columbia an opportunity to participate in their “Peace in the Park” art contest. Please follow the link below for details.

[Peace in the Park Art Contest](#)

Children Youth Religious Education Calendar

Sunday May 29th Family Service: Childcare will be provided for children 4 and under.

Sunday June 5th First Day of Summer CYRE “Life on the Farm” by Ginny Verne

Sunday June 12th CYRE “Weed or Wonder?” with John Logue

UUCC Board of Trustees

Summary of March 16, 2016 Meeting

The Board of Trustees met March 16, 2016 from 6:32 PM to 10:36 PM.

Treasurer's Report

Attendance at services is lower than it was in 2015. We continue to run a deficit in pledge income.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds Carolyn West and Peck Drennan met with us. The plan is to remodel the restrooms first followed by the RE wing. In the RE wing, the proposal calls for replacement of the vinyl flooring, the worn ceiling tile, repair or replacement of doors, new hardware, and fresh paint where needed. Windows will not be replaced in that wing.

The proposed work in the Social Hall and the Sanctuary should be done together. The plan is to remove the existing wall between the Social Hall and the Sanctuary, rearranging the seating plan with rows of seats facing the east wall of the sanctuary. The floor of the sanctuary stage will be removed, allowing for additional seating. New double-glazed windows with operable shades will be installed. Both rooms will have a new suspended ceiling and new paint. The floor will be patched and refinished. Some kind of acoustical barrier will be placed between the social hall and the sanctuary.

Peck reminded us of the things this proposal does NOT include. We are not changing the windows in the RE wing. We are not planning a new sound system. We will not upgrade the electrical system in the social hall and we are not doing anything in the kitchen.

We have an obvious problem with the air quality in the RE wing. Peck requested a cost analysis for treating the mold in the RE wing versus treating the whole building. He got the report today: \$3,800 for the RE wing and \$12,000 to treat the whole building.

The Board moved to demonstrate its commitment to the UUCC facilities upgrade by charging the Finance Committee and the Building and Grounds Committee to jointly develop a Capital Campaign plan to support the UUCC facilities upgrade described in Mr. Drennan's report and to present that plan to the Board at its July 20 meeting. The motion passed.

Denominational Connections Committee We are entitled to five delegates at General Assembly in June. Interest was expressed in paying some of the cost of registration for our members who are planning to attend and are willing to serve as delegates.

Finance Committee Cottage meetings are underway as a means to get pledges signed and to get feedback from members about their hopes for the UUCC.

Leadership Development Committee presented their plans for soliciting nominations for the Ministerial Search Committee. The Trustees agreed to have seven people on the search committee.

Summary prepared by Sandy Chubon, Secretary

Meetings & Rentals

Board of Trustees Meeting	Wednesday, June 15	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Bon Voyage	Every Wednesday	7:00 pm	Member's Home
Children & Youth RE Committee	Sunday, TBA	12:30 pm	Classroom # 8
Choir	Sunday, August 28	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Committee Night (starts with dinner)	Wednesday, June 1	6:00 pm	Dinner in the Social Hall
CUUP's, Gaia's Rising	Every Thursday	7:30 pm	Library
Forum	Every Sunday	9:30 am	Library
Green Committee	TBA	6:30 pm	Classroom # 8
Knit or Not	Every Monday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Membership Committee	Sunday, June 5	12:15 pm	Classroom #8
Visitor Orientation	TBA	12:15 pm	Library
Science & Religion	2 nd Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
September Set	Friday, May 27	6:00 pm	Social Hall
Social Action Committee	Wednesday, June 5	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Technology Committee	Wednesday, June 1	6:00 pm	Workroom 1
UU Animal Ministry	Wednesday, June 8	6:00 pm	Classroom # 5
UU Book Club	Sunday, June 26	6:30 pm	Member's Home
UU Humanist	4 th Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
UU Partner Church Committee	Contact: Lee Minghi, 798-0904; Carita Barr, 782-0053; or Susan Robinson, 446-0675	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Women's Book Club	2 nd Tuesday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Writing Group	2 nd Tuesday	6:30 pm	Classroom # 5
Rentals			
La Leche League	3rd Tuesdays	6-8pm	Classroom # 5
Sitting with Sadness	Every Monday Starting August 8	7-8:15 pm	Social Hall
Tai Chi 803-772-9557 columbia.sc@taoist.org	Every Thursday	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Meditation	Every Monday	7:00 pm	Library
Men's AA	Every Tuesday	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Agnostic AA	Every Sunday	5:00 pm	Library
Women's AA	Every Wednesday	6:30 pm	Library

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

Co-Presidents, Marc & Patty Drews	<i>president@uucolumbia.org</i>
President-Elect, Phil Turner	<i>president-elect@uucolumbia.org</i>
Treasurer, Linda Brennonson	<i>treasurer@uucolumbia.org</i>
Secretary, Sandy Chubon	<i>secretary@uucolumbia.org</i>
Members at Large, Donald Griggs, Janet Swigler, Richard Culler, Tim VanDenBerg	
Past President, Regina Moody, ex officio	<i>pastpresident@uucolumbia.org</i>
Finance Chair, Joe Long, ex officio	<i>financechair@uucolumbia.org</i>

UUC Staff

Interim Minister	Rev. Jennie Barrington, <i>interim@uucolumbia.org</i>
Administrator	Andrea Dudick, <i>uucc@uucolumbia.org</i>
Director Religious Education	Stephanie Palmer-Smith, <i>dre@uucolumbia.org</i>
Bookkeeper	Ginny Verne, <i>bookkeeper@uucolumbia.org</i>
Custodian	Jeff Kruse, <i>uucc@uucolumbia.org</i>
Religious Education Assistant	Morgan Hanes, <i>reassist@uucolumbia.org</i>

Address: 2701 Heyward St, Columbia, SC 29205

Phone — Office (803) 799-0845

Special Events Line — (803) 200-2824

Office Hours — Mon.– Fri. 9:15 am – 1:45 pm

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

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Website: www.uucolumbia.org

