



The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

December 14, 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 2

December 18, 2016

9:30 am Forum Topic

How do clothes/apparel influence our opinion of people?

11:00 am Sermon Topic

The State of the Universe, by Ron Edge

December 24, 2016

5:30 pm Christmas Eve Service

A Christmas Memory, by Rev. Jennie Barrington

December 25, 2016

FORUM WILL NOT MEET

11:00 am Sermon Topic

On Christmas Day in the Morning, by Rev. Jennie Barrington

December 25 Order of Service items due on by Noon on Tuesday, December 20.

Unigram Deadline

The deadline for the next issue is **Monday, December 26**, for publication on **Wednesday, December 28**. *Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.*

Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to uucc@uucolumbia.org.

Minister's Meditation

The Rev. Jennie Barrington, Interim Minister

"Democracy is not simply a license to indulge individual whims and proclivities. It is also holding oneself accountable to some reasonable degree for the conditions of peace and chaos that impact the lives of those who inhabit one's beloved extended community."
[Aberjhani (Historian, Columnist, Novelist, Poet, and Editor), from his, *Splendid Literarium: A Treasury of Stories, Aphorisms, Poems, and Essays*]

Dear Members and Friends,

I just had some brake work done on my car. What reassurance and relief I felt after the brakes were fixed! Yet when I drove over bumps in the road (of which there are many, here in South Carolina), I kept hearing an odd sound. It was like a clanking or rattling. And I know it wasn't there before. It made me feel concerned and anxious. I knew that, first chance I got, I would have to go back to the mechanics and tell them about the noise and ask them to look over the car again. Ouch! I would much rather have avoided the issue, delayed addressing it, or ignored it altogether. I would rather have had someone else look at the car, and not had to tell my mechanics that they had done something that now needed to be corrected. I did try driving around for a while, hoping the noise would just go away. It did not. So I tried to connect with my inner strong and brave person, and drove back to my mechanics. I even rehearsed what I would say. "Should I say, 'a clunking noise?' or 'a jingling noise?'" I wondered. Refreshingly, my mechanics were not at all defensive in response to what I had to say. The manager even seemed to have a knowing little smile on his face when I told him,

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as if he had encountered just this sort of thing before. I prepared to be in the waiting room for a good long time. But very soon after I had settled myself by the magazine rack, the manager came back. He had an even bigger smile on his face. "I think I figured out immediately what the problem was." And he held up a large "S" hook. They had attached an "S" hook, to ease strain on the hoses. And they had neglected to remove it. He apologized, and also double-checked all of the connections, and test drove the car for me. I shook his hand and thanked him warmly. "It took me a long time to learn how to talk to mechanics, especially when my car is making some sort of odd noise," I said. He understood, and I said, "We're all just trying to communicate with each other, and often that takes a few tries."

You are wonderful about understanding that we have differing beliefs; strengths, weakness, and flaws; don't get things right the first time; and can take a while to get to the point we want to make. I am very impressed to experience such tolerance and graciousness here. But what we all need to get better at is speaking up when someone is somehow out of line. This happens at times in committee meetings, Adult RE classes, cottage meetings or focus groups, and other gatherings or events. It used to happen during Candles of Community, when joys and concerns were spoken out loud. During that time in the worship service, people felt violated or abused. In short, some of the people who spoke were out of line, or not in right-relationship, or out of covenant with the others in the room. And so a process was developed such that Candles of Community are now submitted in advance, and read by only one person. But the fact that this congregation's covenantal relationship with one another was violated was not addressed.

Fortunately, the answer to this is right under our noses, and up on the wall in the sanctuary. UUCC has an Affirmation and a Covenant called, "The Way We Are with Each Other." It's time for us to bring it into the light again. I recommend that we put it up in all the rooms in our building, and have it at all our meetings, discussions, and other gatherings, and discuss it with each other, and practice using it to hold each other accountable when any of us is out of line. The full Affirmation, followed by the Covenant are:

"The Way We Are with Each Other"
The Affirmation of
The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of
Columbia, South Carolina
(Adopted on February 9, 2003; Renewed on October 2, 2005)

*We will make ours a positive, welcoming environment -- one that includes the diverse perspectives of our spiritual community and builds a sense of connectedness.

*We will practice direct communication in all facets of UUCC life, using the power of our words to work toward solutions rather than additional problems. We will refrain from spreading hearsay.

*We will nurture each other's spiritual and personal growth by entering into conversations and interactions with compassion, deep listening, and respect for differences of opinion without judgment.

*We will value and express appreciation for each contribution, whether it is time, money or effort.

*We will acknowledge conflicts, address them openly and honestly, and resolve them as close to their source as possible, using mediation if necessary.

*We will practice forgiving each other and ourselves.

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Congregational Covenant:
*Love is the doctrine of this congregation
The quest for truth is its sacrament
And service is its prayer.
To dwell together in peace,
To seek knowledge in freedom,
To serve others in community,
Thus do we covenant with one another.*

When it comes to the first part of the Affirmation, you've got it down beautifully. You are a congregation that is welcoming, tolerant, and maintains your connections to each other really well. But we need to stretch ourselves more to renew and practice the part that says: "We will acknowledge conflicts, address them openly and honestly, and resolve them as close to their source as possible, using mediation if necessary." There have been times when the facilitator, committee chair, or other lay leaders have tried saying to someone, "We need to move on; you need to stop talking now," due to time constraints or other constraints. But the problem has continued, and the lay leaders have not felt that they had any type of back-up. Our Affirmation is our back-up. It is an agreement, a promise, of "The Way We Are with Each Other." We all need to discuss it, and practice using it, with the goal of ways we will be in right-relationship with each other that are mutually understood, accepted, and honored, throughout the whole congregation. That means that there will be times we need to be more assertive in addressing words that are out of line. And it means that there will be times when we'll need to refrain from continuing to talk in that setting, and bring our thoughts or concerns to a different, more appropriate setting, instead. Since we are now in the aftermath of the national elections, our affirmation of how we will be with each other is even more important. Not all UUCCs feel the same way about the results of the elections, nor the prognosis for certain social programs. And there are real constraints prohibiting a church from speaking against a political party or candidate. Keeping within boundaries and constraints when we gather is not solely up to a facilitator or lay leader or the minister who is serving you. My job and my role are to help you figure out ways to manage people's expressions of their feelings and beliefs-- ways that are healthy, respectful, and in the best interest of the good purposes for which we have gathered, and the good purposes of the whole congregation.

Once we have spent some time discussing and practicing UUCC's Affirmation, you may even find that you want to change it. You may want it to have some different wording than it did when it was adopted in February of 2003, and renewed in October of 2005. It is the covenant of your congregation, so you can agree to adapt it, or expand it, if you'd like to. We won't know how well it will work for you, the current members and friends of UUCC, until you try. And I am recommending that, together, we give this a try. But I do know what we'll feel when we begin asserting limits and boundaries that are more clear and effective, and when we honor those limits and boundaries, and the people who are bravely asserting them: relief, and renewed assurance that our congregation is a safe and supportive place for us to continue our work to make our "beloved extended communities" more fair and compassionate places.

I look forward to seeing you again soon,
Rev. Jennie ("It's a privilege to be here.")

'Twas a UU Night Before . . .

by Keitha Whitaker, 11/21/2008
with apologies to Clement Moore

'Twas the middle of December and all around town
People were shopping and planning and writing things down.

Whether Christmas or Kwanza, St. Lucia, or Hanukkah
Folks were celebrating and singing and shouting, "Hurrah!"

While just up the road, at UUCC,
People were pondering and thinking, and waiting to see . . .

What do we celebrate that truly defines,
With no prophetic creed or prophet divine,
A religion, a faith, a way of life so sublime
With a really long name that is difficult to rhyme?

Principles and purposes are in reality okay
But what do they say at the end of the day?

Each person is important, we all see as true;
So it only makes sense to be kind in all we do.

Accepting one another and being free to learn together;
We search for truth responsibly, and find meaning when we gather.

Our democratic process that gives one and all a voice,
Helps build a fair and peaceful world where justice is our choice.

And the interdependent web, of which we are all a part,
Makes caring for the Earth the center of our hearts.

When you read and contemplate our seven principles above,
We bid you, find a welcome and something here to love.

Whoever you are, be of good cheer.
Whomever you love, you belong here.

Open hearts and open minds invite you, freely come.
Experience the warm embrace of a liberal religious home.



May the peace and joy of this Holiday season be with you throughout the New Year!



Candles of Community

Our thoughts are with Candy Johnson who is undergoing radiation therapy.

We are very sorry and sad to let you know that David Roof's father, Walter Hampton "W.H." Roof died on Friday night. His name was Walter, but he was affectionately known as "W.H." or "Dub." He was 80 years old.

Our caring and sympathetic thoughts and prayers go out to David and his family in this difficult time of loss. Visitation is Wednesday night, December 14th, from 6-7:30 PM at Thompson's Funeral Home, 4720 Augusta

Rd, Lexington, SC. Funeral services and interment are on Thursday, December 15th, at 11 AM at St David's Lutheran, 132 St David's Church Road, West Columbia, SC.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to St David's Lutheran Church building fund, 132 St. David's Church Rd, West Columbia SC 29170.

Thank You

The Free Medical Clinic

Thank you for your recent donation of \$883.51. Support like yours is invaluable to the Free Medical Clinic in accomplishing our mission to provide quality healthcare to those in our community without insurance or financial means. The patients, Board and staff thank you again for your support. Freddie Strange, Jr. Executive Director, and Caryl Little, Development Director

Social Action: Families Helping Families

We are happy and proud to report that UUCC responded generously to the Families Helping Families call for help by filling the requests made by four families. Each item on each families' lists was purchased, beautifully wrapped, and delivered to the Families Helping Families location. We delivered four bikes, one trike, a doll house, several electronic games, books and puzzles, toys of all kinds, dolls, balls, and many articles of clothing including shoes. We also filled requests for many badly needed household items. Each family also received a \$60 gift card for groceries so they will have a Merry Christmas dinner.

This has been a wonderful experience in sharing by our members and friends and one that we enjoy each year. A special thanks to the committee that worked diligently to bring this all together - Bonnie Stronach, Jeanette Walton, Grant Seuser, Linda McLeod and special assistance from Bill Dolley in delivering the gifts to the Families Helping Families location.

Our Version of a Miracle

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for heeding my call and sending in cookies for the Tree of Life ceremony. I believe we have experienced our version of the Loaves and the Fishes miracle. Our table was splendid with tiers of sweet treats. We had a larger turnout than expected and ran out of the sandwiches that were provided by the Tree of Life folks. But did we run low? Not for a second! The piles of cookies seemed to grow before my eyes. When the reception was over, it took a small army to bag up the remaining cookies. We have put them in the freezer, and the congregation will be enjoying them for many weeks to come.

The generous spirit of our community is evident wherever I turn and I am so proud to know you and be a part of this congregation. Lis Turner

2017 SHARE THE PLATE TALLY

Below are the final choices of the Share the Plate Recipients for 2017. Thanks to all of you who participated in this process. This is such an important method of sharing with a charity or social justice organization in our community as each year we have averaged between \$11,000 and \$12,000 to these groups. The Social Action Committee appreciates all of those who took the time to be a part of it.

Category	Nominated Organizations	Individual VOTES *	"WINNER"
Animal shelters/ Services	Howlmore Animal Sanctuary	46	X
	Pawmetto Lifeline	24	
Children's services	Family Connection of South Carolina	19	
	Palmetto Place Children's Shelter	48	X
Food Banks/ Food Support	Harvest Hope Food Bank	42	X
	Meals on Wheels	28	
Environmental Issues	Congaree Riverkeeper	47	X
	SC Beekeepers	22	
Health Issues	Free Medical Clinic	61	X
	SC Respite Coalition	11	
Homeless Shelters	Columbia Family Shelter	44	X
	Transitions	28	
International Aid	Doctors Without Borders	40	X
	Partner Church	30	
Legal Aid	SC Progressive Network	30	
	SC Appleseed Legal Justice	39	X
LGBT Issues	Harriet Hancock Center	54	X
	Lambda Legal Aid	17	
Women's Issues	Planned Parenthood	47	X
	Sister Care	26	
Minister's Discretionary Fund	PRE-SELECTED		X
UU Service Committee (Human rights programs)	PRE-SELECTED		X
Ballots Collected - 73	11-6-16 (40) 11-13-16 (18) 11-20-16 (--) 11-27-16 (8)		

News and Notes

December 18, 2016

"The State of the Universe," by our beloved member Ron Edge. The Adult Choir will also sing.

Saturday, December 24 at 5:30 pm

"A Christmas Memory" Please join us for our Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols, concluding with singing, "Silent Night" by candlelight. Children and families welcome.

December 25, 2016

"On Christmas Day in the Morning" (Rev. Jennie preaching)

UUCC offices will be closed on:

Friday, December 23

Monday, December 26

Monday, January 2

Order of Service and Unigram Deadlines

Due to the Holidays, following are the revised due dates for publications:

	Due	Publication
Publication	Date	Date
Order of Service	12/19	12/25
Unigram	12/26	12/28
Order of Service	1/2	1/8

Harvest Hope Donations

With the holidays upon us there is even more need for your canned food donations to Harvest Hope. Please don't forget to pick up extra at the grocery store the next time you are there. Remember those Buy One Get One Free bargains. That extra one can be a gift to Harvest Hope to be sure no one goes hungry. Bring your donations to add to the basket just inside the Social Hall. To make a much needed monetary donation go to Harvest Hope Food Bank jpeebles@harvesthope.org via auth.ccsend.com and read the possibilities of how your money can go even farther to help Harvest Hope to provide more food for the many hungry people they feed.

Toiletry and Magazine Donations Solicited for Winter Shelter

Now that the Inclement Weather Center - the winter shelter for the homeless - is open for the season, the Social Action Committee is again collecting magazines and personal-sized toiletries. Please place your donations in the designated donation box at the entrance to the Social Hall. For more information about donating or about how to volunteer at the shelter on evenings when the temperature falls below 40 degrees F, contact Tom Clements, tomelements329@cs.com, cell 803-240-7268.

Capital Campaign Update

We now have over \$189,000 in pledges for our building renovations. The board has already started planning the financing, and we have a Committee on Building Renovations to supervise the projects. We're on our way toward new bathrooms, a well-lit RE wing with decent floors, new ceilings in the social hall/sanctuary, and a sanctuary you won't recognize!

But other than raising as much money as possible, the essence of a successful capital campaign is engagement by the entire congregation. At this point, we still have pledges from only about 58% of the congregation; our goal is 100%. No gift is too small because it shows you care! Just fill out a pledge card (behind the sanctuary seats), or mail a check to the UUCC with "Capital Campaign" in the memo line, or send an email stating your pledge to our Administrator at uucc@uucolumbia.org.

The Campaign will officially end on January 31, so whether you do it now or later, please don't forget us! We've made so many improvements to our "fixer-upper" over the past thirty years. Help us make it into a place we're proud to show people.

Your Capital Campaign Team: Pat Mohr, Dot Brown, Don Dodson, Kevin Meredith, and Nancie Shillington-Perez

Adult RE Class on Christianity and Unitarian Universalism

Our ARE committee would like to have a class on Christianity and Unitarian Universalism. Please let Jenny Beale, jeczbl14@aol.com, know if you would be interested in co-leading or participating in the class.

Adult Choir Schedule

We will rehearse and sing on **Sunday, December 18, at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary** and every two weeks after. Bill Moody, Director

September Set – Annual Egg Nog Party Sunday, December 18

Mark your calendar for our Annual Egg Nog Gathering: Sunday, December 18, 3:30-5:30 p.m. at Lee and Julian Minghi's home.

Christmas Eve Service, Saturday, December 24 at 5:30 p.m. "A Christmas Memory"

Please join us for our Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols, concluding with singing, "Silent Night" by candlelight. Children and families welcome.

UUCC Holiday Potluck Dinner, December 25

All UUCC members and friends attending our Christmas morning service are warmly invited to participate in a UUCC Family Christmas dinner at 12:45 p.m. in the Social Hall. Please bring a side dish, your favorite Christmas story or tradition to share and let's enjoy the Holiday.

Upcoming Concerts at UUCC

January 7: Jack Williams with Winterline (Susan Douglass Taylor, Cary Taylor, and Danny Harlow) annual New Year's Show

January 28: Ultrafaux

February 18: Harpeth Rising

You can reserve tickets by leaving a message at (803) 200-2824. Tickets are \$17 at the door, but \$15 if purchased or reserved prior to the concert. Bring some extra money for the wonderful home-baked treats and hot coffee from our

volunteer staff. You can even bring your own beverages! Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Shows start at 8:00 p.m.

Transylvanian Pilgrims Tell All, Sunday, January 8

Join the 13 UUCC pilgrims on Sunday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall as we share our "Travels with Zsolt" of August 2016. Learn of the natural wonders, Unitarian historic sights, and more. You'll leave with your heads full, dessert in your tummies, and possibly the wish to experience this journey for yourselves in the future.

Adult RE Movie Club: Friday, January 13 *Fix It: Healthcare at the Tipping Point*

The Adult Religious Education Committee would like to invite everyone to watch the movie: *Fix It: Healthcare at the Tipping Point*. This film was two years in the making, with more than forty voices advocating for reform, including: activists, health policy experts, economists, physicians, nurses, patients, business and labor leaders. This 48-minute documentary takes an in-depth look into how our dysfunctional health care system is damaging our economy, suffocating our businesses, discouraging physicians and negatively impacting the nation's health, while remaining un-affordable for a third of our citizens.

The idea is to have you watch the movie at home and then have a discussion and Q&A session at church. It'll be like a book club, but we call it "movie club".

The link for watching the movie is: <http://fixithehealthcare.com/>

The discussion session will take place in the UUCC Social Hall on Friday, January 13, at 6:30 p.m. Emilio Perez, MD will be the facilitator of the discussion. No dinner/food provided, but you may bring your own. Everyone with an interest in healthcare policy is invited. Bring a list of questions or tell us about your personal experiences as a patient, employee, business owner or healthcare provider. **RSVP to Emilio Perez if you plan to attend: eperezjorge@sbcglobal.net**

Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War

Be sure to join us on **Sunday, January 15**, for a potluck and movie. The Social Action Committee will be sponsoring a second showing of *Defying the Nazis: Sharps' War*, a film by Ken Burns and Artemis Joukowsky, about Unitarians Universalists involved in helping refugees during World War II and how it relates to the refugee situation that we face now. The movie will begin at 2:00 p.m. after the potluck. We will be inviting the community.

Plan on joining us for this important viewing and the discussion that will follow. This is a very important event that you will not want to miss.

UUCC Book Club, January 22

The next book club discussion is 6:30 pm on Sunday January 22 (we skip December). Carolyn West will facilitate a discussion on "H is for Hawk" by Helen Macdonald. 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

Cabaret 3, Sunday, January 29

Mark your calendars for Cabaret 3, on Sunday, January 29 in the UUCC Social Hall...Showstoppers of stage and screen.

UUCC Governance and Structure Ad Hoc Committee

In June 2016 the UUCC Board established an ad hoc committee, UUCC Governance and Structure, to review, analyze, and recommend revisions to our UUCC governance structure, ensuring a clearer picture of who we are as an organization. We have been meeting regularly since June and sending monthly reports to the Board as well as to the other committee chairs in our congregation.

The UUCC Governance and Structure Ad Hoc Committee would like to know what questions, concerns or suggestions our members might have about how UUCC operates. Do you have ideas about governance that you would like to share? Has your experience in other congregations or faith communities given you some insight into governance that you feel might benefit UUCC? Do you have concerns or questions and are not sure where or how

to share those concerns or ask those questions? We want to hear from you, our members. Please direct your comments, questions, concerns, or suggestions to our Chair, Keitha Whitaker, at uukeitha@gmail.com.

Join Us For Lunch After Coffee Hour!

The Membership Committee has noticed that people have been arranging last minute group lunches after the service. Head over to the restaurant-of-the-day after coffee hour on Sundays when there are no other UUCC events scheduled for after coffee hour. Here is the current schedule (Please Note: The Fourth Sunday is no longer Sato Japanese Restaurant):

First Sunday: *Arabesque Lebanese Cuisine*, 2930 Devine St.

Second Sunday: *Dano's Pizza*, 3008 Rosewood Dr.

Third Sunday: *Casa Linda Mexican Restaurant*, 2009 N. Beltline Blvd.

Fourth Sunday: *Miyo's Chinese Restaurant*, 3250-B Forest Dr.

Note: These restaurants are subject to change. We welcome feedback. Of course, these lunches will be "separate checks".

Fair Trade Coffee Crusade

We will again join the crusade for fair trade coffee this holiday season. Like many UU congregations throughout the US we will promote fair trade by encouraging our members to order their coffee through The Fair Trade Coffee Company. On Sunday please look for youth circulating brochures about the coffee and see one of them to place your order. In addition to supporting fair trade coffee practices this project raises funds for the Boston Heritage Trip 2018. For more information, please see Sara Williams.



Chair Yoga, Tuesdays & Thursdays

DECEMBER 22, 27 & 29 CLASSES

CANCELLED. Chair Yoga is now twice a week on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. Both classes meet in the UUCS Social Hall. Come to either session or come to both. Chair yoga entails about 45 minutes of real yoga but it takes place mostly seated. The yoga instructors are Molly Jones and Ruthie Saunders. Please contact Ruthie rsaunders@sc.edu if you have questions.



Art for All Group, Thursdays



If you are interested in working on your art with others for support, encouragement and feedback, then the Art for All 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 have questions.

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 to volunteer.

Save Toiletries from Travels for Homeless Shelters

The Social Action Committee urges you to use your discretion and bring back unopened toiletries from the hotels and motels you'll be staying in during your travels. Place them in the food collection baskets at the entrance to the Social Hall. They will be donated to homeless shelters or for the Inclement Weather Center (winter shelter). For more information, contact Tom Clements, 803-240-7268 or tomclements329@cs.com.

AmazonSmile: Free Money for UUCS

Thanks to everyone who has been using AmazonSmile for the past year or so! How does AmazonSmile work to help our budget? Simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/57-0509045>, and bookmark that address and use it every time you order something from Amazon. Our Congregation will receive 0.5% of the purchase price of whatever you buy. We have been getting on average about \$25 each quarter, but many members and friends may not be aware that UUCS is eligible for this lagniappe!! Please note that this shopping experience is identical to the "regular" Amazon Site. You have the same selections, pay the same prices, and there is no charge to you or to UUCS. Please contact Bob Whitaker at treasurer@uucolumbia.org if you have any questions, or sign in to <http://org.amazon.com> and click on the Help tab to see their FAQ topics.

Children & Adult Chalice Lighters Needed

Please celebrate a special event by becoming a Chalice Lighter. Having a birthday? An anniversary? New to UUCS? We would like to celebrate with you! Write: dre@uucolumbia.org today to reserve your date or sign up on the clipboard found on the information table in the Social Hall.



Religious Education

OWL for Grades 4 - 6

Classes for grades 4 – 6 OWL program will begin soon.

Please see Keitha Whitaker or Stephanie Palmer-Smith to get your child registered for this most important class.

CYRE Calendar

Sunday December 18 - CYRE

Sunday December 25 – No CYRE

Sunday January 1 – No CYRE

Sunday January 8 – CYRE and CYRE committee meeting



A Heartfelt THANK YOU from your DRE

What do you get when an entire congregation comes together to promote open-minded religious exploration? You get young adults who are open-minded thinkers; young adults who step up to be leaders; you acquire a sense of satisfaction knowing you helped support the formation of that open mind. We have had a plethora of events and classes and I thank all of you for your ongoing love and support. Our children and youth are worth it!

UUCC Board of Trustees

Summary of October 19, 2016 Meeting

The Board of Trustees met October 19, 2016 from 6:32 to 8:34 PM.

Welcome to New Board Member

Since our last meeting the Leadership Development Committee recommended to the Board that they select Emilio Perez-Jorge as a member at large. Board members voted electronically to accept this recommendation. Tonight they welcomed Emilio to the Board.

Ministerial Search Committee

Linda Brennison and David Crockett came to this meeting to discuss the salary and benefits to be offered to a prospective settled minister. The Negotiating Committee (Linda, David, and Bob Whitaker) met with two UU consultants; they generally followed the UUA guidelines. The salary to be offered will be a little higher than average for our geographic area; that should make us more attractive to candidates. We will offer UU retirement, health insurance, group disability and life insurance, dental insurance, a professional expense allowance, and one-time moving expenses. The Board approved the Negotiating Committee's salary/benefits recommendations.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Whitaker reported that we are still \$6,000 behind on pledge collections. We collected \$3,800 from fundraising; we had donations for memorials and tributes. We have a positive variance of \$4,100 at the end of the first quarter of our fiscal year.

Committee Reports

Technology Services Committee Donald Griggs reported that Lis Turner has been doing wonderful work posting information to the new web page.

Finance Committee The Capital Campaign is progressing nicely. We have 50 pledges totaling \$119,000+ and we have collected \$47,500 to date. New members Quillin and Judy Davis have made an offer to match any amount pledged or donated before November 30, up to a maximum of \$30,000.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

UUCC Coffee House

Tim VanDenBerg met with Steve Fisher and Steve accepted the terms Tim offered. Steve is not interested in forming a tax exempt entity. Apparently some upcoming shows have been cancelled. Some of the more successful shows will be presented later in the season and then the Coffee House will cease to exist.

NEW BUSINESS

Holiday Bonuses

The Board agreed to provide year-end bonuses to our staff in compliance with our Personnel Policy. Rev. Jennie requested that she not receive a bonus.

Ad hoc Committee for Building Renovation

The Board approved the formation of an Ad hoc Committee for Building Renovation. This group will work with the Finance Committee to make recommendations to the Board for financing and timing of the project; work with the Architect in planning; solicit and review input from the congregation on design options and desired use of facilities; recommend contractors; coordinate to minimize disruptions to UUCC activities during construction; keep the congregation apprised of construction plans and progress; participate in ongoing inspections of work; participate in final inspection and approve final payment to general contractor. Members of this group are Richard Culler, Carolyn West, Pat Mohr, Richard McLeod, and Quillin Davis.

Minutes summarized by Sandy Chubon, Secretary

Meetings & Rentals

Art For All Group	Thursdays	10:00 am	Social Hall
Board Meeting	Wednesday, December 21	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Chair Yoga	Tuesdays	11:00 am	Social Hall
	Thursdays	1:00 pm	Social Hall
Children & Youth RE Committee	Sunday, January 8	12:30 pm	Classroom # 5
Choir	Sunday, December 18	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Committee Night	1st Wednesday of month	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	1st Wednesday of month	7:00 pm	Classroom
Visitor Orientation	Sunday, TBA	12:15 pm	Library
Science & Religion	2 nd Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
September Set	Friday, January 27	6:00 pm	Social Hall
Social Action Committee	Wednesday, January 4	7:00 pm	Classroom
Technology Committee	Wednesday, January 4	6:00 pm	Workroom 1
UU Animal Ministry	Wednesday, December 14	5:00 pm	Classroom # 5
UU Book Club	Sunday, January 22	6:30 pm	Member's Home
UU Humanist	4 th Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
UU Partner Church Committee	Lee Minghi, 798-0904; Carita Barr, 782-0053; or Susan Robinson, 446-0675	TBA	
Women's Book Club	Tuesday, TBA	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Writing Group	Tuesday, January 10	6:30 pm	Classroom # 5
Rentals			
La Leche League	3rd Tuesdays	6-8pm	Classroom # 5
Sitting with Sadness	Every Monday	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.

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

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

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