



# The Unigram

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, SC

June 28, 2017



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

## Sunday Schedule

**Forum:** 9:30 am in the Library

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

**Nursery:** Available during service for infants through age 2

### July 2, 2017

#### 9:30 am Forum Topic

UUA controversy: Hiring for diversity vs merit-what's important?

#### 11:00 am Sermon Topic

"Living in the Layers," by Rev. Julianne Lepp

### July 9, 2017

#### 9:30 am Forum Topic

Are drone, robots, terminator wars coming and when?

#### 11:00 am Sermon Topic

"DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), by Tammy Bersherse, Esq., SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center, and Erick Velasquez, Founding member of DACA

## Unigram Deadline

The deadline for the next issue is **Sunday, July 9**, for publication on **Wednesday, July 12**. **Items submitted after the deadline will not be published.** Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to [uucc@uucolumbia.org](mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org).

## Minister's Meditation

### The Rev. Jennie Barrington, Interim Minister

*"All good knights, pilgrims, sons in search of fortune, seekers after truth, and plain ordinary fools, turn towards the city they have left and take farewell according to their nature. This is a full moment in all journeying, the time when girths are tightened in preparation for the miles that lie ahead." (H.V. Morton; In Search Of England)*

Dear Members and Friends,

Our final Sunday together was the best farewell Sunday I have ever had with any congregation I have served. I would never have enough words to thank you for your kindness, generosity, and heartening words! I loved our worship service, especially the deeply moving music given by the Adult Choir, and by Janet Swigler, Richard McLeod, and Elizabeth Harris. I love the hand-made journal, and the stunning stole made by Janet Swigler. And I love the book of essays by Mary Oliver (in truth, I love her essays more than her poetry), and the two children's books, one about a cat, and one about racism in the South, and how it affects children. And I love the ceramic chalice that the youth gave me, made by Betsy Kaemmerlen, in Southwestern colors—my favorite! I loved the reception with ice cream and popcorn. And I love my new canvas bag that says, "Keep Calm and Carry On." It meant the world to me to take time that evening to read all your cards and what you all wrote on the beautiful enormous card. And your gift from donations that you so stealthily collected is generous beyond compare. I did not expect that. Your generosity makes a real difference in the world, and it has made a lasting difference to me. I thank Regina, Janet, Lis, and Joan, and Richard, Phil, and Emilio, and everyone who helped make the day so special. I thank all members and friends of UUCC for making our farewell milestone into a memory of mutual affection and thanks.

Continued on Page 2

I will continue to think of you all frequently, with love and care, and I will always be with your congregation in spirit. I would really like to come back and see the renovations to the building when they are complete! I will continue to read the newsletter and receive news of your joys, sorrows, milestones, and remembrances. But, after August 1<sup>st</sup>, I will step back and not be contacting you. That is the practice of UU ministers, so that you will have full opportunity to engage in your new relationship with your newly settled minister, the Rev. Jeff Liebmann. I feel confident that you and he will have a long, happy, and fruitful collaboration as, together, you continue to make UUCC thrive and grow.

And so I say again, Thank you! Thank you for everything I have learned from you (perhaps especially about social justice advocacy)-- Thank you for your kindness and generosity-- Thank you for the times you forgave me for my weaknesses and flaws-- And, most of all, thank you for all the times we talked and laughed companionably together-- You will always have a place in my heart as a genuinely endearing bunch of folks.

Affectionately,

Rev. Jennie

“It’s a privilege to be here.”

# **"An Ode of Farewell to Rev. Jennie"**

**by Gloria Talcove-Woodward**

**(written on June 25, 2017, in approximately three minutes)**

After Neal left,  
And left us bereft,  
And slightly adrift,  
You manned the helm  
of our Floundering Ship.

You inspired us in ways  
to our amazed delight  
that led us through what we had expected  
to be a long dark night.

You made everything good  
and our course you corrected.  
It was a true Unitarian miracle  
that you were selected.  
So forever grateful to you we will be,  
As we cherish forever  
Your sweet memory.

## **REVEREND JEFF LEIBMANN CALLED AS OUR NEW SETTLED MINISTER**

Following a very active Candidating Week, on Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, UUCC members voted overwhelmingly to call Rev. Jeff Liebmann as our settled minister. Special thanks to the search committee for their herculean efforts this past year and to the many other members who worked so hard to organize the wide variety of events that culminated in this exciting event. Rev. Jeff will be arriving in August to begin the “Liebmann Era”!



## The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

### **MUSIC COORDINATOR**

#### Position Description

The UUCC music program coordinator plays a crucial role in the sustainability and revitalization of this congregation. The music coordinator must be a visionary who creatively uses music for leading and retaining existing members, engaging visitors, and for community outreach and engagement.

The music coordinator is a leader who can communicate their vision in a way that inspires others to reach their full musical potential. The part-time music coordinator will plan the music program, in consultation with the minister and the worship committee, and work with them to define the vision for the music program, which includes providing opportunities for all to participate meaningfully and joyfully.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Work with all genre of music, including contemporary music and traditional hymns, in a setting where musical diversity is celebrated.
- Incorporate music, video clips and other creative elements designed to increase congregational engagement and visitor/guest participation.
- Schedule adult choir performances every other week after consulting with the adult choir director.
- Develop musical talent like youth choir, men's chorus, women's groups, beginner's choir, instrumental solos and groups, outside musicians
- Recruit and schedule special music, soloists, ensembles and guest musicians.
- Arrange for a piano accompanist and song leader for Sunday services
- Select and provide for special music (e.g., solo and group performers, prelude, and postlude)
- Submit details for Order of Service by Wednesday of previous week, following as closely as possible the speaker's topic of the week.
- Administer the music budget

Collaborate with Worship Committee to seek constructive feedback from the congregation by conducting a member survey twice each year about the efficacy of music program; summarize results; and compile recommendations that are shared with the UUCC Board of Trustees.

#### **Abilities and Experience:**

- Experience with producing and directing special events, programs or musicals.
- Creativity and patience in scheduling adult and junior choirs, and other special musical groups.
- Proven team player with a positive attitude, including relational skills and an enthusiastic presence and the ability to work well in a collaborative environment
- Strong organizational and communication skills, with the ability to engage and motivate others.
- Musical knowledge of a wide range of musical styles necessary and demonstrable ability to adapt to different musical styles (traditional and contemporary).
- Skilled in choral, vocal, and instrumental direction with proficiency in at least one musical instrument that can accompany congregational singing, preferably keyboard/piano or guitar.
- Demonstrated excellence as a musical leader, having grown a music program.
- Adequate vocal skills to lead other musicians, preferably as soloist
- Experience with technical aspects of contemporary services: for example, soundboards, PowerPoint software, theater lights, video editing, etc. is desirable.

An appreciation of liberal religious traditions; UU membership preferred

**Compensation:** \$20/hour for up to 36 hours a month/12 months' employment, paid monthly.  
Flexible work schedule.

**Estimated Start Date:** August 1, 2017

# News and Notes

July 2<sup>nd</sup> [Living in the Layers] Rev. Julianne Lepp of the UU Congregation in Eau Claire Wisconsin will be our speaker.

July 9<sup>th</sup> [DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals)] The Immigration System: Its Complexities and Inequities. Tammy Beshers, Esq., Director of Immigration Policy, SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center and Erick Velasquez, Founding member of DACA Unigram SC

July 16<sup>th</sup> [TBA] Rev. Stephen Robinson will be our speaker

July 23<sup>rd</sup> [White Supremacy] David Crockett, Judy Turnipseed, Laura Hartwig. As UU's we thought we had the racism thing covered, but it turns out there is more work to be done. Learn more about what we've been missing. The Social Action Committee and ARE will collaborate in presenting this service as per a UUA suggestion.

## **Pledge Cards Needed by Friday, June 30 for our 2017-18 Fiscal Year**

We need 2017-18 Pledges from all members by **Friday, June 30**. You may email or call in your 2017-18 pledge in confidence to our Administrator at [uucc@uucolumbia.org](mailto:uucc@uucolumbia.org) or 803-799-0845.

## **One Unigram in July**

Only one Unigram will be published during the month of July. This Unigram will be published on Wednesday, July 12. **The deadline for ALL submissions is Sunday, July 9.** The subsequent Unigram will be published on August 9.

## **Harvest Hope Reminder**

Don't forget those Buy One Get One Free bargains when you are doing your grocery shopping. Harvest Hope can use all the canned fruits and vegetables you can bring to the big basket in the Social Hall. They also need other non-perishable food products such as pastas, peanut butter

(plastic jars please) child and adult diapers, canned juices, and be sure to save your plastic grocery bags for them.

They use these for bagging groceries and they never have enough. Our last few deliveries totaled 156 pounds of groceries. Let's see if we can top that by 100 pounds. Thanks.

## **Seeds of Hope**



The Seeds of Hope Fresh Market has begun and will run until August 6th. We have sold over \$200 for Farmer Louis Reid thanks to our volunteers who have been willing to work the

sales table these first two weeks. We are still in need of many more who are willing to step up and sign up. Please go to our website Social Action page or email Bauer Westernen at [bwesteren@hotmail.com](mailto:bwesteren@hotmail.com) and say "Yes, I'll Help!!" Thanks.

## **Transitions Volunteers Needed Second Saturday of Each Month**

Uucc 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](mailto:bobwhit46@gmail.com) to volunteer.

## **Children & Adult Chalice Lighters Needed**

Please celebrate a special event by becoming a Chalice Lighter. Having a birthday? An anniversary? New to Uucc? Uucc longtimer? We would like to celebrate with you! Write:



[dre@uucolumbia.org](mailto:dre@uucolumbia.org) today to reserve your date or sign up on the clipboard found on the information table in the Social Hall.

## **Vote for Uucc as Freetimes "Columbia's Best Church" by June 30!**

Once again, Uucc is up for Best Church in Columbia in the Freetimes. All you have to do is go to [www.freetimes.com/best-of-columbia/](http://www.freetimes.com/best-of-columbia/) and follow the instructions to vote.

### **Standing on the Side of Love T-shirts**

SSL T-shirts are still available for \$22 each in the following sizes (3 Small, 3 Medium, 1 Large, 4 X Large.) Get 'em while they last by contacting Linda McLeod at [bonneylass44@gmail.com](mailto:bonneylass44@gmail.com) or on Sundays after church service.

### **Kelly Fireworks Party, Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>**

Join host Michael “the honest Irishman” Kelly for their annual Fireworks Party at 306 Angus Drive, Columbia, 29223. Party starts at 7:30 p.m. with a party snacks pot luck: Please bring finger food and beverages to share, and bring lawn chairs to sit on. The fireworks “pop” luck starts at 9:00 p.m.: Please bring at least one firework per person costing between \$10 and \$100 to contribute to the display. Party starts to break up at 10:30 p.m.: Please bring a broom if you can help with the clean-up. Contact Mike at 727-8067 or [docrockz@juno.com](mailto:docrockz@juno.com) with any questions.

### **What Can I Do to Help Meet the Needs of Our Growing Congregation? Come to the Membership Committee Meeting on Sunday, July 9 to Find Out**

We anticipate a great increase of visitors in the coming months with the excitement of the people's desire to meet Rev. Jeff Liebmann and his wife, Jody. Do you have a warm smile to share as people come through our doors for the first time? Could you be in charge of stocking brochures to meet the needs of our growing congregation? Please join us in Room 8 on Sunday, July 9 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. to find out more. Snacks will be served. It takes a village!

### **Women's Book Group, Tuesday, July 11**



The Women's Book Group will meet at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8 on Tuesday, July 11 to discuss *Losing Moses on the Freeway: The 10 Commandments in America*, by Chris Hedges. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Chubon, 776-0784 or [sjchubon@sc.rr.com](mailto:sjchubon@sc.rr.com).

### **Visitor Orientation, Sunday, July 16**

Our next Visitor Orientation class will be held on Sunday, July 16 in the UUCC library, the detached building on Heyward Street with the red door. We will begin about 15 minutes after service and usually end in about 45 minutes. Light refreshments are served. If you are new to the UUCC, or have not come for a while and have questions, this session is for you. This class is designed to help familiarize you with the principles of Unitarian Universalism and answer any questions you might have. For more information or to arrange child care (with at least 48 hours notice please) contact: Buzzie or Mike Kelly email: [membership@uucolumbia.org](mailto:membership@uucolumbia.org) or 803-727-8068.

### **Did You Say White Supremacy?**

Yes, you might have heard about our upcoming Teach In on white supremacy culture, the white culture all around us that we as white people don't see but that is isolating to people of color. Find out what we're talking about on our website here: [bit.ly/uucc-teachin](http://bit.ly/uucc-teachin) and join us on **Sunday, July 23** to learn more.

### **UUCC Book Club, Sunday, July 23**

The next book club discussion is 6:30 pm on Sunday July 23. Joe long will facilitate a discussion on “*The Stuff of Thought: Language as a Window into Human Nature*” by Steven Pinker. We will meet at a member's home. The UUCC Book Club is open to all members and friends of UUCC. **We welcome new and returning participants!** Please contact Ruthie Saunders if you have questions or would like more information: [rsaunders@sc.edu](mailto:rsaunders@sc.edu)

### **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 UUCC 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](mailto:rsaunders@sc.edu) if you have questions.

# Religious Exploration

## Hogwarts School of Magic and Fun Sign-up

Registration for Hogwarts is open only the second week, July 24– 28. Please reserve your child's space before the second week fills, too! The cost to members for registering your child for one week is \$150.00 with a deposit of \$75.00 required at time of registration. The cost for non-members is \$200.00 with \$100.00 due at time of registration. To register, please see, call or email our Director of Religious Education, Stephanie Palmer-Smith, at 799-0845 or dre@uucolumbia.org.



## CYRE Help Needed

Our fantastic CYRE program needs you! Please sign up to spend an exciting hour with our children and youth! You will be glad you did. Sign-up sheets are available at the CYRE table.

## Change in Playground Usage

To encourage interaction between CYRE parents and guardians, children and youth, and the rest of the congregation, we will be dismissing CYRE into the social hall after service. We will have a sign-in/sign-out sheet for parents to check off. However, IF you want your children to go to the playground they must be accompanied by you. There will be staff on the patio side of the building, outside the social hall, and a basket of appropriate toys for your children to play with. To ensure safety, children will need to be signed in and out with our Erin and/or Katie. Questions? Please speak with Stephanie Palmer-Smith 207-400-9428.

## CYRE Calendar

- Sunday July 2 – Sailing to Spain with Nancie Shillington-Perez
- Sunday July 9 – puppet theater creation with Gail Dawson
- Sunday July 16 – Gallivanting to Germany with Cindy Blackman
- Sunday July 23- CYRE Water Day!
- Sunday July 30 – Trekking to Taiwan with Ginny Verne



# Chalice Lighter Call

Dear Southeast Unitarian Universalists,

The Spring 2017 Chalice Lighter call for our Southeast geographical area has been awarded to the **Unitarian Universalist Church of Spartanburg**, South Carolina, for **ADA accessibility improvements** to their campus.

The Chalice Lighters Program is a nearly 30 year old program by which individuals and congregations may help their neighbors cross significant thresholds - in keeping with our historic polity admonition to provide "succor" to our congregational neighbors.

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Spartanburg (UUCS) is located close to downtown Spartanburg and is part of a traditionally African American neighborhood. UUCS completed a beautiful new sanctuary ten years ago and has worshipped there ever since. Their building includes unfinished space below the sanctuary. At this time they are planning to make their entire building fully accessible by installing an elevator. Even in its unfinished state, the space is being used by the wider community and UUCS would like to optimize it to help further their mission in the community.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Spartanburg's plans for fundraising toward full accessibility include using Faithify and applying for a state accessibility grant. Chalice Lighter funding would help UUCS meet their funding goal.

Individual and congregational contributions to Unitarian Universalist Church of Spartanburg will be a gift to support growth at UUCS as well as the overall growth of Unitarian Universalism across the Southern Region. Chalice Lighters, please give generously! Congregations, please consider holding a special offering or share the plate collection to share gifts with UUCS!

## **How to contribute:**

**Online donations** may be made here: <http://uucs.org/donate/>

**Donations by check**, payable to "UUCS" with a memo "Chalice Lighters," may be mailed to:  
UU Church of Spartanburg  
P.O. Box 1942  
Spartanburg, SC 29304

This Chalice Lighter call will end July 5, 2017.

Thank you for your generous support of the Southern Region Chalice Lighter program!

In faith,  
*Reverend Kenn Hurto*  
and  
*Your Southern Region Chalice Lighter Working Team*

# Meetings & Rentals

Art For All Group	Thursdays	10:00 am	Social Hall
Board Meeting	Wednesday, July 19	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Chair Yoga	Suspended for Summer		
Children & Youth RE Committee	TBA		
Choir	Suspended for Summer	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	Sunday, July 9	12:30 pm	Classroom # 8
Visitor Orientation	Sunday, TBA	12:15 pm	Library
Science & Religion	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
September Set	Friday, June 23	<b>6:00 pm</b>	Social Hall
Social Action Committee	Sunday, July 9	7:00 pm	Classroom # 5
Technology Committee	Wednesday, July 5	6:00 pm	Workroom 1
UU Animal Ministry	Thursday, July 12	5:00 pm	Classroom # 5
UU Book Club	Sunday, July 23	6:30 pm	Member's Home
UU Humanist	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
UU Partner Church Committee	Lee Minghi, 798-0904; Carita Barr, 782-0053	TBA	
Women's Book Club	Tuesday, July 11	7:00 pm	Classroom # 8
Writing Group	Suspended for Summer	6:30 pm	Classroom # 5
<b>Rentals</b>			
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
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

Presidents, Phil Turner	<i>president@uucolumbia.org</i>
President-Elect, Richard Culler	<i>president-elect@uucolumbia.org</i>
Treasurer, Bob Whitaker	<i>treasurer@uucolumbia.org</i>
Secretary, Sandy Chubon	<i>secretary@uucolumbia.org</i>
Members at Large, Donald Griggs, Tim VanDenBerg, Cheryl Soehl, Joan Watterson, Emilio Perez-Jorge	
Past Co-Presidents, Marc & Patty Drews, 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	Bill Dolley, <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

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

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

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