

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF WILMINGTON



BEACON DECEMBER 2018

OFFICE HOURS

MINISTER

REV. CHERYL M. WALKER

TUESDAY 11AM – 4PM

WEDNESDAY 11AM – 4PM

THURSDAY 11AM – 4PM

AND BY APPOINTMENT

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LESLIE O'CONNOR

MONDAY 10:30AM - 3:30PM

WEDNESDAY 10:30AM - 3:30PM

THURSDAY 10:30AM - 3:30PM

ADMINISTRATOR

JULIE BURCHAM

TUESDAY 9AM – 2PM

WEDNESDAY 9AM – 2PM

THURSDAY 9AM – 2PM

FRIDAY 9AM – 2PM

***SUBJECT TO CHANGE - PLEASE CALL
AHEAD**

DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DEC. 2

REV. CHERYL

DEC. 9

REV. CHERYL

DEC. 16

REV. CHERYL W/CHOIR

DEC. 23

REV. CHERYL

DEC. 24

**6PM CHRISTMAS
PAGEANT
8PM CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICE**

DEC. 30

**WORSHIP TEAM
ONE SERVICE 10:15AM**

UUCWNC BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: BILL SINGLETON

VICE PRESIDENT: DON SMITH

SECRETARY: TAMMY ELLISON

KAREN GOTTOVI

MIKE HOSICK

MELTON MCLAURIN

RICK NIDA

BETH O'CONNELL

PAMELA WAITE

TREASURER: JOHN GRIGSBY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Good day everyone, and Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Ramadan, Boxing Day, and, of course, Festivus for the Rest of Us!

As a second-year member of the Board of Trustees, I'm still learning to understand our function in "running the Church". The reality is, of course, that we don't "run" it. Our role is to set policy; to put in place a framework that allows Committees and individuals to function and accomplish all the wonderful things that just "happen".

One of those Committees, formed just within the last year, is the Generous Life Team. These fine folks are making great strides in realigning our thinking about how we raise revenue to support the Congregation's mission. Rather than focus on a yearly Pledge Drive (which does still remain of high importance), we're instead being asked how we can be a generous Congregation in all ways, not with just monetary contributions, but also our time and talents. We on the Board are asking for your creativity and organizational skills in helping find ways we might...

- a. Build fellowship and comradery
- b. Raise some funds in the process

If you have thoughts on projects which might take place either instead of or in addition to our bi-annual Auction, we'd love to hear from you. Street fairs, sales, raffles, perhaps some idea that has been successful for you in some previous group...let your imaginations run wild, and feed your ideas to any Board member, or to Reverend Cheryl. We look forward to hearing your many suggestions!

Thank you for your time and your talents,

Don Smith, Board of Trustees Vice-President



MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Another year has come and gone. The older I get the faster the years seem to go. I know that the days don't go any faster, and that a year still has at least 365 days. It just seems that the time goes by so much quicker. Maybe my perspective has changed because each year is a decreasing percentage of my total life. When I was 10, a year was 10 percent of my life. Now at 62 it is only 1.6 percent and decreasing by the day. The same thing is true of our congregation. Each year seems to speed by.

It seems like only yesterday we were preparing for our 50th anniversary celebration. What a wonderful party we had and having Rev. Fritz Hudson joins us made it extra special. Then there was a poster auction, put together by Kim and Bill Singleton and Barbara Wolk. The Generous Life Team led an innovative breakfast/worship/canvass Sunday that produced the best budget in the history of the congregation. Summer came and so did tropical storm Florence. It set us back but did not knock us out. Over thirty volunteers showed up to make our grounds better than before the storm. Once again we showed that together there isn't anything we can't do.

And now we come to end of the year. Like every year it was a good year and a difficult year. We had to say good bye to old friends, Anne Colter, Alex Kuzmuk and Johanne Trotter. We welcomed 21 new members. Our long time Director of Religious Education, Sue Graffius, retired after 15 years of service and we welcome Leslie O'Connor as our Interim Director of Faith Formation. These are just a few of the things that happened in our congregation. It was a year of both joy and sorrow.

As we look back at the year that was in our personal lives, we too can ask what were the joys and sorrows of our days! Some years our sorrows seem to overshadow our joy and in those times its important to remember that there were good days too. And in those years when our joys were much greater than our sorrows, we need to remember that there were some bad days. Every year is filled with joy and sorrow and each day that we are given is precious.

Soon we will welcome a new year. And whether we consciously think of it, or not, we will be filled with anticipation. It is natural for us to wonder about the future and what it will bring. We don't know for sure what will happen other than there will be days of joy and days of sorrow. For that is the way of the years gone by and will be the way of years to come. Let the past year remind us that we have weathered the storms of life and the sun did shine again. And let us enter a new year knowing that together we will weather whatever storms life will bring us, and the sun will shine.

I am grateful to have been your minister for another year. And hopeful about the year to come. Together, let us continue to make the sun shine upon our congregation and each other.

Many kind blessings,

Rev. Cheryl



GENEROUS LIFE TEAM



The Precious Generosity of the Soul

“A wise woman who was traveling in the mountains found a precious stone in a stream. The next day she met another traveler who was hungry, and the wise woman opened her bag to share her food. The hungry traveler saw the precious stone and asked the woman to give it to him. She did so without hesitation. The traveler left rejoicing in his good fortune. He knew the stone was worth enough to give him security for a lifetime. But, a few days later, he came back to return the stone to the wise woman. “I’ve been thinking,” he said. “I know how valuable this stone is, but I give it back in the hope that you can give me something even more precious. Give me what you have within you that enabled you to give me this stone.””

In May of 1940 Germany had invaded the Netherlands, by the summer of 1942, the deportations of Jews had begun. At the time educator Johan van Hulst was the supervisor of a Teachers Training College that was diagonally opposite a theater used by the Nazis as a way station for Jews sent to the death camps in German-occupied Poland. The garden of Van Hulst’s College bordered the garden of a Jewish child care center. Under Van Hulst’s supervision, approximately 600 Jewish infants and children were passed across the hedge and hidden in his school

In September 1943, van Hulst found out that the Jewish child care center was about to be closed. He was asked how many of the remaining children he could smuggle to safety before they fell into the hands of the Germans. “Now try to imagine 80, 90, perhaps 70 or 100 children standing there and you have to decide which children to take with you,” said van Hulst, “That was the most difficult day of my life. ... I took 12 with me. Later on I asked myself: ‘Why not 13?’”

- Van Hulst was among more than 26,500 gentiles – 5,595 from the Netherlands who had within them what the hungry man in the parable was seeking, something worth more than all the precious stones in the universe; a precious and beautiful generosity of the soul.



THANK YOU, UUCWNC VOLUNTEERS!

The Generous Life Team (GLT) acknowledges the many volunteers who provide their time and talents to make UUCWNC a special place for each of us to grow our faith.

This month we highlight the Worship Team who collaborates with Rev. Cheryl to present worship services each Sunday that nurtures the spiritual needs and satisfies the emotional and intellectual desires of a diverse congregation. They participate during the service as Worship Associates, readers, sound, lighting and environmental management, offertory collection and whatever is needed to ensure a quality spiritual experience for everyone present. Also, this dynamite team periodically performs “lay led” services where they strive to present a timely and meaningful message to fellow members.

Thank You!!!



UUCWNC'S WORSHIP TEAM

(L TO R :) ELIZABETH T., PAMELA W., THEA H., TERRI M., MERRITT B., MARGARET A., & RON C.



Caring Committee



The Caring Committee Acting in concert with the minister provides short term support, care and assistance to UUCW members and friends who are experiencing illness, injury or crisis. We are here for you. Please let us know when you need help with a difficult situation. If you are looking for a way to make a difference in our community, consider becoming a member of the Caring Committee, or just let us know that you are available to make a meal, provide a ride, or a visit when the need arises. To join or offer your services, please contact any of our members. When needed we do meet during the month to discuss our agenda. Kami O'Keeffe will be the committee chair for December. Other members are: Tina Schenk, Jeannie Lennon, Diane Halley, Jane Linn, Kami O'Keeffe, Kim Singleton, and Rev. Cheryl M. Walker.

Full Moon Gathering for December



According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, the December full moon was known by some Native American tribes as the "Full Cold Moon" and by others as the "Long Night's Moon" because it occurs so near the winter solstice (the day with the least amount of sunlight). There are many celebrations during the dark and chilly month of December beginning with Hanukkah during the first week of December and ending with Kwanzaa celebrated during the last week of the month. The Geminid Meteor Shower, considered to be the most active meteor shower of the year, also takes place on the night of December 13th /14th. The peak viewing time will be about 2 AM, but the shower will begin as early as 9 PM.

Join us, then, as we celebrate the Winter Solstice on Tuesday, December 18th at 7 PM with Robin B. leading our ritual at Diane M.'s house.

All women of any age are welcomed to these gatherings. However, if you plan to attend, please RSVP to the hostess or to the Full Moon's email address, fullmoon@uufwilmington.org. This website can also be used for any questions or for information about the Full Moon gatherings including directions to the gatherings.

OPEN HOUSE for December

Holiday Open House at Elizabeth and Rev. Cheryl's

Bring the whole family!

When: **Sunday, December 16, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

Where: Home of Elizabeth and Rev. Cheryl, Near Wade Park

Who: The whole gang! Families, friends, & kids.

What to Bring: YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY, plus a dish or beverage to share.

What to do: **Celebrate** the holidays, **Eat** delicious food, **Enjoy** good conversation, **Connect** with others.

Watch for fliers in Dobkin Hall or call the Office at 910-392-6454 for more details.



Christmas Tree Decorating Party

Please join us on Saturday, December 15th

2:00 – 5:00pm

Young and old will make decorations, eat Christmas cookies, sing carols and decorate the Congregation's tree! If you are a musician, please bring your instrument for an impromptu jam. Craft materials will be provided, and crafting ideas will be suitable for all ages, so bring the kids and the grandparents!

UUCWNC Social Justice Ministry - Update & Upcoming Events

Written by Eden Avery

Over 20 UUCWNC members and friends gathered in November for an introduction to "*Love Resists*" - a joint campaign of the UUA and UUSC focusing on creating safer, more equitable and welcoming communities both inside and outside of our Congregation. We explored the history of racism and divisiveness entrenched in American society and how this continues systemically today. "Love Resists" provides us with a foundation to live out our UU principles as we seek to dismantle and heal from this oppression by living in covenant, building community, and providing sanctuary. We will use this as our framework in moving forward with our social justice engagement. More information will be coming soon for ways to be involved! Learn more at <https://www.uua.org/loversists>.

In addition, stay tuned for more about our efforts to renew our status with the UUA as a *Welcoming Congregation*. This year, we will work to reaffirm our commitment to acceptance and support of LGBTQ+ people within the UUCWNC and the community. Our Congregation first made this commitment in 1995 and the UUA recommends all approved Welcoming Congregations renew their commitment at least every 5 years. Please contact Eden Avery if you are interested in helping to plan this process.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!

Annual NAACP MLK Breakfast, Saturday, January 19, Shriner's Club, 9 am. Tickets are \$30. Contact Eden Avery to reserve your seat at the UUCWNC table(s)!

Annual MLK Community Parade, Monday, January 21, Downtown Wilmington. Plan to march with the UUCWNC! Watch for more details to come soon.

NC NAACP Historic Thousands on Jones Street (HKonJ) Moral March & Rally, Saturday, February 9, Downtown Raleigh. Watch for more details to ride on the NAACP bus from Wilmington.





Navigators Scouts Chapter 109

December meetings: 6 pm: 12/5, Annex and 12/19, Dobkin Hall

Co-ed scouting group for all genders, ages 5 to 18

Join us on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month for a fun scouting experience! We've been working on conservation and camping badges, and we welcome new students...come see what we're all about! We welcome all genders, sexualities and abilities.

For information, email: chapter109@navigatorusa.org and/or join our Facebook group for updates: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1480816658913681/> (or search for Navigators Chapter 109)

We hope to see you there!



DECEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>25 9:30 AM Quest (D) 10:15 AM Worship Service (S) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	<p>26 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 6:30 PM Beginner's Yoga (D)</p>	<p>27 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 12:30 PM ROMEO's Lunch 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 3:00 PM GLT (C1) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>28 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:00 PM Progressive Book Club (D) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>29 5:30 PM gtt Set Up (S) 6:00 PM GLT/BOT Meeting (S) 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D) 7:30 PM gtt Clean Up (S)</p>	<p>30 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>1 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3)</p>
<p>2 9:30 AM Quest (D) 9:30 AM Worship Service (S) 9:30 AM Youth Religious Ed 11:00 AM Worship Service (S) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	<p>3 Sanctuary Ceiling Painting 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 6:30 PM Beginner's Yoga (D)</p>	<p>4 Sanctuary Ceiling Painting 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>5 Sanctuary Ceiling Painting 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (C1) 6:00 PM Navigator Scouts (A) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (D)</p>	<p>6 Sanctuary Ceiling Painting 12:00 PM Ministerial Round Table (D) 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>7 Sanctuary Ceiling Painting 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>8 10:00 AM GLT Meeting (C1) 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3) 6:30 PM Wilmington Progressive Coalition Potluck (D)</p>
<p>9 9:30 AM Quest (D) 9:30 AM Worship Service (S) 9:30 AM Youth Religious Ed 11:00 AM Worship Service (S) 12:00 PM Soup Sunday (D) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	<p>10 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 6:30 PM Beginner's Yoga (D)</p>	<p>11 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 12:30 PM ROMEO's Lunch 1:00 PM Chalice Quilters (A1) 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Grow Your Soul (C1) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>12 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:00 PM Progressive Book Club (D) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>13 5:45 PM Carling Committee (C2) 6:30 PM BOT, Exec. Meeting 6:30 PM Grow Your Soul (C1) 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>14 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>15 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3) 2:00 PM Christmas Tree Decorating Party (D)</p>
<p>16 9:30 AM Quest (D) 9:30 AM Worship Service (S) 9:30 AM Youth Religious Ed 10:45 AM BOT Conversations with the Congregation, (D) 11:00 AM Worship Service (S) 12:15 PM BOT Conversations with the Congregation, (S) 1:30 PM UUCWNC Community Speaker Series (S, C1) 4:00 PM Open House 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	<p>17 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 6:30 PM Beginner's Yoga (D) 6:30 PM UU Book Group (A2)</p>	<p>18 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>19 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:00 PM Navigator Scouts (D) 6:00 PM Worship Meeting (C2) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>20 5:30 PM Set up Board Mtg (S) 6:00 PM Board Meeting (S) 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>21 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 12:30 PM Rumi Reading Group (D) 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3) 8:00 PM Wedding Set Up (D)</p>	<p>22 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3) 1:30 PM Private Wedding Reception (D)</p>
<p>23 9:30 AM Quest (D) 9:30 AM Worship Service (S) 9:30 AM Youth Religious Ed 11:00 AM Worship Service (S) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	<p>24 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 PM Christmas Pageant (S) 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Service (S)</p>	<p>25 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 AM Christmas Brunch (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2)</p>	<p>26 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:00 PM Progressive Book Club (D) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>27 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>28 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>29 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3)</p>
<p>30 9:30 AM Quest (D) 10:15 AM Worship Service (S) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	<p>31 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 6:30 PM Beginner's Yoga (D)</p>	<p>1 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>2 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 3:45 PM RGMS Cheer (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:00 PM Navigator Scouts (D) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>3 12:00 PM Ministerial Round Table (D) 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>4 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>5 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3)</p>

