
WEEKLY DIGEST

January 25, 2024

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington

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In the Church

Sunday Worship, January 28

Sunday Worship Service will be January 28 at 10:30am. Service Led by Pamela Waite. To join via Zoom, please go to our website at www.uucwnc.org and click the link at the top-center of the page, or click on the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/93934181063?pwd=SE5YUHREbnlVaHU3NWs2akh5ekErdz09>

Dial by your Location 1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 93934181063.

Quest, January 28

9:15am in Dobkin Hall, Childcare Provided

Love and It's Languages with Jimmy Reeves

In this week's Quest we'll explore love, the topic of February's services. To begin, we will consider philosophers' perspective on love's meaning. Some of the questions for us to consider are: do we love to become complete? Are we incomplete without love? Is there a "soul mate" for each of us? Or is Schopenhauer right and love is merely nature's way of getting us to make babies?

Finally, we will look at love languages. About 30 years ago [Gary Chapman](#), a counselor and pastor, proposed the idea that there are five love languages that encompass all of the ways love is communicated and received. Each of us has one primary language, and learning to speak it is the way to a successful relationship.

So, for all things love, please join us this Sunday as we engage in an interesting and lively discussion about a topic that is close to all our hearts.

If you are not on the QUEST list and would like the links to the videos, please email quest@uucwnc.org.

Share The Plate, January 28

Imagine hearing a prisoner say, "I never did anything good in my life until your program." That was said by one of the prisoners who participated in **Monty's Home**, this week's Share the Plate. Five times a year, 12 "stellar" prisoners work with 5-6 dogs who are pulled from the Pender County shelter. To participate in the Pawsitive Partners Prison Program, the dogs must pass a 13-point temperament evaluation, be spayed or neutered, and have their vaccinations. They live in the prison for 8 weeks, where they are crate trained, learn basic commands, and are socialized. They then go on to be adopted by families in southeast North Carolina. Those dogs chosen for the program are not the cutest ones who are deemed very adoptable. Instead, these are the shy or hesitant ones who are lucky to participate, given that the Pender County Shelter is a kill shelter.

Monty's Home has no paid staff and depends on volunteers and donations. Our contribution will help pay for microchipping, neutering, crates, beds, leashes, harnesses, AND we would be helping prisoners and the lucky people who adopt these well-behaved dogs.

Thanks to your generosity, we recently donated \$747.50 to Kids Making It and \$694.86 to the Good Shepherd Center.

Building Security

The morning of Sunday, January 21, the first congregant to arrive found the kitchen door wide open. The temperature went down to the 20's (or -5 Celsius if you prefer) on the night in question, which is bad news for our electricity bill and a major strain on our A/C units. Open doors are also an invitation to theft, bugs, rodents, and stray animals. ***Please take care when leaving the building that all doors are locked and secured.***

New Wi-Fi Password

The Wi-Fi password has changed. If you need access, you can find the password posted near the routers in the office.

JUULIETs, January 26

We're trying something different!

The JUULIETs (Just Unitarian Universalist Ladies Interested in Eating Together) will meet for a potluck lunch on Friday, January 26, 2023, at 1:00pm, at the home of Stacy Kitt. Join us for lunch or just come to chat. We'd love to see you and enjoy your company. JUULIETs is always open to new participants. All women are welcome and we're always open to new members. One of the main purposes of the JUULIETs is to provide a ready-made social circle for women new to the congregation. We eat, we laugh, and we leave knowing each other a little better. JUULIETs lunches are always an LGBTQ safe space.

Please contact Stacy to RSVP and with any questions. Call or text (518) 495-7436.

The February JUULIETs meeting will be on Friday, February 23, 2023. Location TBA.

Furthering LGBTQ+ Justice

Are you interested in furthering LGBTQ+ Justice in our congregation and community? We are proud to be a UUA recognized Welcoming Congregation, but there is always more that can be done! We're excited to organize a group of congregants who want to contribute to this important work. If you want to hear more about this opportunity, please contact Pam Cook (pamelacook99@gmail.com) or Rev. Kelley Wheat-Rivers (revkelley@uucwnc.org).

May Variety Show

Let's share our talents and skills! Balloon animals? Poetry? Juggling? Ventriloquism? Origami? Harmonica? Soft shoe? Or something else? Of course, our UU choir, musicians, and friends will be entertaining, too. A guaranteed good time!!!

To participate and/or get further information contact Tina at bzsab.baldrige@gmail.com.

Helping Hands

Calling All Potential Religious Education (RE) Volunteers!

If you are interested in volunteering with our Religious Education or want to learn more about the possibility, join us this Sunday, January 28th, in the kids' classroom at 12pm. Bring any questions you have and learn more about what volunteering could be like! It's an incredible delight to share time and space with our UU kiddos!

Social Justice

THANK YOU!!!

Many thanks to Rev. Kelley Wheat-Rivers who spoke at the **Interfaith Peace Vigil** last Sunday and to the approximately 20 UUs who showed up in support of peace!

LEARN MORE:

UUSJ Event - Power to Heal Film Screening & Discussion

Wednesday, Jan. 31 at 7:30 pm on Zoom.

Power to Heal tells the story of a poignant chapter in the historic struggle to secure equal and adequate access to healthcare for all Americans. Central to the story is the tale of how a new national program, Medicare, was used to mount a dramatic, coordinated effort that desegregated thousands of hospitals across the country in a matter of months. The evening will also include a discussion about the current state of Medicare with policy guests Brittany Shannahan, Medicare-for-All Campaign Organizer with Public Citizen, and our very own Rebecca Cerese, Healthcare Advocate with the NC Justice Center. [Register Here.](#)

SIGN UP & SHOW UP:

Education Rally in Raleigh-Leandro Education Plan Oral Arguments

February 22 - NC Supreme Court, Raleigh

We will be gathering with others from around the state to press the NC Supreme Court to (once again) rule that the Leandro Plan needs to be fully funded by the General Assembly. This would bring over \$57 billion to New Hanover County schools and \$26 billion to Brunswick County schools *annually*! We are organizing a

bus to take us there and back, which is being funded by a grant, so the ride is free! Also, free lunch and a teach-in. We're looking for singers, as well. Let's "Show Up for Justice" UUCWNC and have an impressive presence at this important event! Contact Peter Rawitsch for further information: rawitschp@mac.com

SAVE THE DATE:

Poor People's Campaign Mass Mobilization

March 2 - Raleigh and other locations across the country. More information will be forthcoming but put it on your calendar now!

VOTING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Democracy North Carolina

- Become a **Vote Protector**. These volunteers are needed to monitor polls in key precincts all over the state for signs of trouble voting on Election Day, including resolving provisional ballot issues and reporting voter intimidation issues to the Vote Protection Hotline. Interested in becoming a vote protector? Click [here](#) to connect with us.
- Become a **Hotline Volunteer** to assist with our NC Election Protection Hotline and provide real-time voter information and field voting problems. Volunteers answer calls from voters across the state, documenting problems and working to remove barriers to voting. All volunteers will receive a brief training on NC election law before their first shift. To serve as a hotline volunteer, you should hold a JD, or be currently enrolled in law school, or have prior experience answering a nonpartisan voter hotline. Interested in answering hotline calls this election? Click [here](#) to connect with us.
- Become an **Elections Advocate** and help improve elections in your county. Elections Advocates attend, document, and advocate at local meetings where decisions around funding and planning for the elections in that county are decided. They work to protect democracy and defend voter freedoms for every North Carolinian, no matter the political stripe. Interested in becoming an Election Advocate? Click [here](#) to connect with us.

JOIN US:

UUCWNC Social Justice Ministry – PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME!

The next meeting of the Social Justice Ministry of the UUCWNC will be **in person** on **Monday, Feb. 8, 5:30-7:00 pm**. We are meeting at church in **Dobkin Hall**. For more information about our Social Justice Ministry or any of these announcements and events, contact Michael Sheridan at mjsheridan08@gmail.com.

UU Justice NC's Friday Action Hour – PLEASE NOTE NEW ZOOM LINK!

Friday, Jan. 26, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm Join Rev. Lisa Garcia-Sampson and other NC UU's to learn about current social justice issues and take action. This week will focus on reproductive rights. ***NEW*** **Zoom Link:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87452791684>

STAY INFORMED:

If you are interested in showing up for justice in New Hanover County and around the state, sign up for our **UU Action Alert**. The Action Alert emails will notify you about late-breaking rallies, marches, demonstrations that miss the deadline of the weekly UU Digest. Contact Peter Rawitsch at rawitschp@mac.com to be added to this important email list.

In the Community

Family Promise

Kudos and many thanks go out to our most recent volunteers who served dinners to 9 clients on 2 evenings for our quarterly rotation. Our families this time included two dads, two moms, a newborn, an autistic 5-year-old, a math genius 6-year-old, and an extremely vocal one- and three-year old! Appreciation goes out to Linda H., Jody S., Sherene M., Dennis M., Jeanette K., Twink B., and Roxie M. To find out more about our program, stop by the Family Promise table at the Committee Fair on February 11, or contact Tina at familypromise@uucwnc.org.

On the Calendar

1/25/2024	11:00 AM	Movement Class (D)	Dobkin Hall
	3:00 PM	Caring Committee (C1)	Classroom 1
1/26/2024	1:00 PM	Mah Jongg (D)	Dobkin Hall
1/27/2024	9:30 AM	GLT (C1)	Classroom 1
	3:00 PM	NYRDs Game Night (D & C3)	Dobkin Hall, Classroom 3
1/28/2024	9:15 AM	Quest (D)	Dobkin Hall
	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship (S&Z)	Sanctuary & Zoom
	10:30 AM	Youth Religious Ed	Classrooms
1/29/2024	11:00 AM	Movement Class (D)	Dobkin Hall
1/31/2024	6:45 PM	Choir Rehearsal (S)	Sanctuary
2/1/2024	11:00 AM	Movement Class (D)	Dobkin Hall
	11:30 AM	ROMEO Lunch (O)	Off Campus



To get your event on the calendar, send an email to office@uucwnc.org with the name of the event, day & time, and the room requested. If you require a Zoom meeting, please include that in your request.



To submit an item to the UU Digest please email it to: uudigest@uucwnc.org.
(Submissions must be received by Wednesday at 5:00pm.)

For more information: <https://www.uucwnc.org/newsletter-faq/>



For Secure Member Directory:

<https://www.uucwnc.org/serve/member-directory-login/>