
WEEKLY DIGEST

March 14, 2024

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington

In the Church

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On the Calendar



In the Church

Sunday Worship, March 17

Sunday Worship Service will be March 17 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.

Change to Dobkin Overflow Seating, March 17

This Sunday is our final Soup Sunday for the season, and we will not be setting up Dobkin for overflow seating. Please join us in the Sanctuary this Sunday!

Quest, March 17

9:15 in Dobkin Hall

The End of Scarcity with Jimmy Reeves

For all of human existence our lives, and for that matter all life, have been driven by scarcity. The need to find food, shelter, safety from predators, that new i-phone or the four-wheel drive pickup, our attention seems uniquely focused on how to get hold of what we perceive as scarce. In the BBC *Sound* series, “The End of Scarcity” James Burke delivers a gripping account of some of the changes that have upended our lives, more often than not in unexpected ways, and where he argues it will all inevitably lead. In this week’s Quest we’ll consider his ideas about “The End of Scarcity” and what the implications may be.

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

Share The Plate, March 17

"When great trees fall in forests, small things recoil into silence," Maya Angelou

This week's Share the Plate goes to The Alliance for Cape Fear Trees. ACFT is a non-profit program whose mission is to preserve, protect, and plant trees to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations. With an active core of over twenty experts in trees and advisory services they are deeply committed to nurture, protect, and regulate the Urban Forest. In the past year, ACFT has distributed over 1500 trees to the community. They have planted 219 trees, including 25 trees commemorating the 125th anniversary of the 1898 Wilmington Massacre and coup d'état.

Their commitment goes well beyond the city and includes the entire lower Cape Fear region, preserving local ecosystems, managing storm water, creating shade, and reducing air pollution for the health of the community and environment. Give a Cape Fear Legacy Tree to celebrate a special occasion, honor someone, or in memory of a loved one. Volunteers are currently being sought who could adopt at least two recently planted trees during the summer season drought to water once a week if there is no rain. For more information, go to [Tree Steward Program](#)

The Alliance for Cape Fear Trees is offering free trees for your spring gardening on March 9, 9am-noon, at Legion Stadium.

Soup Sunday, March 17

Come join us after the service on Sunday, March 17 in Dobkin Hall for the **last** Soup Sunday of the 2023-2024 Soup Season. Enjoy a variety of soups and desserts while visiting with friends old and new! Donations are \$8.00 per person; children 12 and under eat for free! As always, vegan soups and desserts are on the menu.

Thanks to our February Soup Chefs: Robin Raim, Jill Pollock, Linda Harootyan, Dot Hodder, and Dennis McCulley for such a great array of amazing soups.

We are looking forward to tasting what our March cooks: Jeanette Koshar, Becky Six, Julia Hendricks, and Carl Middleton have in store for us!

If **you** love to make soup, and/or bake yummy desserts, we'd love to have you as one of our 'guest' chefs next year! Contact Robin at rlmiddle2119@gmail.com for more information.

Irish Coffeehouse, March 17

Just a gentle reminder for the Celtic-inspired, Warren Elliot inspired members of our Congregation, that this Sunday evening, March 17th at 6PM we'll be remembering Warren's life and spirit with a special Irish Coffeehouse, in our Sanctuary. Warren gave so much to this Congregation over the decades, not the least of which was his love of music and community. We'll have songs and remembrances by Thea, Jerry, Ed & Martha, Rob Bosco, Jeff Reid and many more. Please come join us in raising a parting glass to Warren.

Thank you,
Thea Hagepanos, Joyce Elliot, and Jerry Winsett

From The UUCWNC Settled Minister Search Team

We have now completed meetings with each of our precandidates during rigorous weekends of getting to know one another well. We can report that they bring a deep commitment to Unitarian Universalism, an inclusive concept of Beloved Community, and welcoming, optimistic energies. As we continue this process, we're guided by the findings of our Congregational Survey and Cottage Meetings. This congregation agreed we wanted a minister who would deliver thought-provoking and inspirational sermons, collaborate with us in a shared vision of ministry including pastoral care, provide a warm and welcoming presence which invites people in, support Social Justice in community activities and sermons, and use their administrative skills to help us grow.

In the coming week, SMSC and all other congregational search committees will submit their rank-ordered lists of precandidates to UUA. Minister candidates also submit similar rank-ordered lists of the congregations they have visited. UUA staff then review the lists to discern minister/congregation matches. As we have been doing, we will keep you informed as the next search milestones are reached.

Our team continues to work in harmony and alignment as we move through this process. We are honored to be representing the needs and values of this vibrant and caring Congregation. Thank you for providing input this past fall, and for your confidence in our continued work.

Sara, Dan, Thea, Bob, Elizabeth, Cornelia and Stephen

Taking Down the Banner

At our last Board of Trustees meeting, we decided it is time to remove the "Side with Love" banner on the front of the church. The banner is sagging, and the theme is also somewhat dated. If you have any questions, just ask a Board member, or contact Gary O'Connell at goconnel@yahoo.com

The Art Wall at UUCWNC Presents...

This spring we are delighted to showcase pastel paintings by Joy Rademacher. Joy received her BA in languages from Georgetown College and began taking art classes in Syracuse while raising her family. Pastel quickly became her favorite medium. Upon moving to coastal North Carolina, she was inspired to paint landscapes, particularly marshes. You can spot her around Southport, Oak Island, or along the Shallotte River painting en plein air every week. Joy is an associate member of the Pastel Society of America, a founding member of the Coastal Carolina Pastel Painters, signature member of the Pastel Society of North Carolina, and has had paintings juried into many international as well as local shows.

Please contact Joy or the office for sales; 30% of all proceeds will be donated to UUCW.

Social Justice

LEARN MORE:

UU the Vote 2024 National Launch

Thursday, March 14, 7:00 - 8:30 pm ET

We enter the work of *UU the Vote 2024* grounded in the current political and spiritual conditions of our faith and national community. The work that is needed in 2024 will require us to anchor in our power and connect authentically to mobilize

UUs, voters, and our local communities. North Carolina will be featured at this event and Rev. Lisa Garcia-Sampson will preview our electoral work in the year ahead. Democracy is on the line! Register here:

<https://secure.everyaction.com/15gwk4JrxUO2eEcwBkgI0w2>

SHOW UP:

NHC Board of Education Policy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 10:00 am, NHC Board of Education Center, 1805 S. 13th Street.

Several of UUCWNC's congregants have been working with "Love Our Children" for over a year to get the NHC Board of Education to consider revising *Short-Term Suspension Policy 4351*, which states that students do not have the right to have a parent or other representative present during a hearing determining whether they will be suspended. The Board has *finally* decided to discuss it! We need folks to show up and wear the t-shirt of their choice (Love Our Children, Show Up For Justice, Public School Strong, Side with Love). Let's be a significant presence at this important event!

Wilmington Women's Rally (RESCHEDULED)

Saturday, March 14, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Innes Park at 3rd Street & Princess St.

Women Organizing for Wilmington is hosting this rally where speakers will address International Women's Day (March 8th), voting rights and responsibilities, Reproductive Issues, LGBTQ+ issues, and more. We will have our "Show Up For Justice" banner there. Come and join us!

Protest in Raleigh for Access to Abortion Medication Mifepristone.

Tuesday, March 26, 10:00 am – noon, Terry Sanford Federal Building, [310 New Bern Ave.](#) On March 26th, the US Supreme Court will hear oral arguments concerning Mifepristone and the FDA. Currently, the majority of abortions are by medicine and use Mifepristone. To protest the action of SCOTUS, North Carolina people of faith will gather that same day. At the same time, there will be a major protest in Washington D.C. organized by the Women's March. This rally is being organized by the Community Church of CH UU in collaboration with the [Triangle Interfaith Reproductive Justice Coalition](#). Here is [rally info](#). Any questions, contact melvafokun@gmail.com.

JOIN US:

UUCWNC Social Justice Ministry – PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME!

Monday, April 8, 5:30-7:00 pm

The next meeting of the Social Justice Ministry of the UUCWNC will be **in person** 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!

March 15, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join Rev. Lisa Garcia-Sampson and other NC UUs to discuss state and federal funding for our children. Staff from the [NC Budget & Tax Center](#) will share their exciting new tool documenting all federal and state-level investments in services and programs for children and youth in North Carolina. We'll discuss how this data can be used to advocate for investments for kids, and specifically how it connects to the fights for fair tax policy and for equitably funding early childhood education. Join using this **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

Azalea Festival Home Tour, April 6-7

Are you interested in architecture, renovation, home interiors, and Wilmington's history? Then you should consider this year's [Home Tour](#) featuring the Westbrook-Ardmore neighborhood! Two-day tickets are \$40 each, with limited \$35 VIP upgrades available for treats and discounts at nearby local businesses. Proceeds support the [Historic Wilmington Foundation](#), a 501(c)(3) on a mission to protect the irreplaceable in Brunswick, Pender and New Hanover counties.

Accessibility: The Azalea Festival Home Tour is over one mile in length, depending on your route. Due to the historic nature of the featured homes, all require tour

goers to traverse stairs. HWF advises those with mobility concerns to call their office with any additional questions: (910) 762-2511.

Interested in volunteering? Please email Isabelle Shepherd at shepherd@historicwilmington.org.

On the Calendar

3/14/2024	7:00 PM	Accessibility Meeting (Z)	Zoom 1
3/15/2024	1:00 PM	Mah Jongg (D)	Dobkin Hall
3/16/2024	9:30 AM	GLT (C1)	Classroom 1
	3:00 PM	NYRDs Game Night (D & C3)	Dobkin Hall, Classroom 3
3/17/2024	9:15 AM	Quest (D)	Dobkin Hall
	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship (S&Z)	Sanctuary & Zoom
	10:30 AM	Youth Religious Ed	Classrooms
	12:00 PM	Soup Sunday (D)	Dobkin Hall
	6:00 PM	The Coffeehouse (D)	Dobkin Hall
3/18/2024	11:00 AM	Movement Class (D)	Dobkin Hall
	6:00 PM	CFM (C1)	Classroom 1
	7:00 PM	UU Book Discussion Group (S)	Sanctuary
3/19/2024	5:00 PM	BOT Meeting (Z)	Zoom 1
3/20/2024	6:45 PM	Choir Rehearsal (S)	Sanctuary
3/21/2024	2:00 PM	Poetry Group (C2, Z2)	Classroom 2, Zoom 2
3/22/2024	1:00 PM	Mah Jongg (D)	Dobkin Hall
3/24/2024	9:15 AM	Quest (D)	Dobkin Hall
	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship (S&Z)	Sanctuary & Zoom
	10:30 AM	Youth Religious Ed	Classrooms



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:

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