

---

# ***WEEKLY DIGEST***

*June 13, 2024*

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington

---

## **In the Church**

- Sunday Worship, June 16
- Quest, June 16
- Share The Plate, June 16
- Voter Empowerment Training, June 17
- JUULIETs, June 28
- Last Week's Challenge

## **Social Justice**

## **In the Community**

- Request from Mercedes McLaughlin

## **On the Calendar**



## In the Church

---

### Sunday Worship, June 16

Sunday Worship Service will be June 16 at 10:30am. Service Led by Dan Wheat-Rivers, with music by the UUCWNC Choir.

To join via Zoom, please go to our website at [www.uucwnc.org](http://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, June 16

Quest is postponed for the Father's Day Holiday. We will return on June 23.

### Share The Plate, June 16

If the term '*Walking the Walk*' needed a picture to illustrate what that looks like, the team of four women who created **Humanity Now: Direct Refugee Relief** would be a fitting choice. Founded in Wilmington in early 2016 to address the desperate needs of refugees in Greece, the **Humanity Now** team raises money in the United States to invest in low-cost, practical projects helping displaced people, supporting both essential needs and long-term goals, like education and job-training. Because the all-volunteer team pays for their own administrative/travel costs, 100 percent of your gift will go directly to support displaced people, including those in Poland and Ukraine as well.

Last year the group raised \$109,000 for small-scale, targeted funding that will have a significant impact. Here is just a small sample of some of these projects:

- **\$2,300** will purchase a **refrigerator for a food distribution team** providing up to 7,000 meals a month to refugees and migrants in Athens (Saffron Kitchen Project).

- **\$5,400** will fund a **5-day summer camp** in Poland for 25 people, all of whom are disabled refugee children and their family members (Mudita Association).
- **\$6,000** will furnish a **bomb-shelter schoolroom** for 50 internally displaced children in the village of Hrun, near the Russian border in Ukraine (Stand with Ukraine Foundation).

With all the bad news these days, it's easy to feel powerless. In fact, as these projects demonstrate, your donations can do a lot to ease suffering. What a wonderful opportunity to see our donations help these vulnerable children and their families, giving them help, hope and a sense of humanity. Let's walk with **Humanity, Now.**

For more information go [humanity-now.org](https://humanity-now.org)

## Voter Empowerment Training at UUCWNC, June 17

### Only a Few Days Left to Register!

This important collaborative event with You Can Vote (YCV) is happening this coming **Monday, June 17**, from **5:30-7:00** pm (pizza at 5:30; training from 6:00-7:00). This comprehensive training is designed to equip volunteers with what they need to educate and empower the community for the upcoming election. Topics will include information needed to understand how to properly fill out a voter registration form, steps for best practices, and voter ID rules for this year! This training is for those looking to obtain knowledge and skills to support democracy during this election season and those interested in volunteering with YCV in registering new voters. **Please register so we know how much pizza to order!** Register here: <https://secure.everyaction.com/tpKAIZkX70qRbuV07mtkTA2>

## JUULIETs, June 28

### BACK TO LOVEY'S TO BEAT THE HEAT!

The JUULIETs (Just Unitarian Universalist Ladies Interested in Eating Together) will meet for lunch on Friday, June 28, 2024, at 1:00pm, at Lovey's Natural Food and Cafe. Join us for lunch or just come to chat. We'd love to see you and enjoy your

company. All women are welcome, JUULIETs is always open to new participants. One of the main purposes of the JUULIETs is to provide a ready-made social circle for women new to the congregation. This is an LGBTQ safe space event. We eat, we laugh, and we leave knowing each other a little bit better.

Lovey's is located at [1319 Military Cutoff Rd., Wilmington, NC 28405](#). The restaurant offers a variety of soups, hot foods made to order, and a well-stocked salad bar. The ingredients of each offering are listed on a card which also says whether the dish contains meat, is gluten free, vegetarian and/or vegan. There's something for everyone! Call or text Stacy Kitt with any questions: (518) 495-7436.

The next JUULIETs meeting will be on Friday, July 26, 2024.

## Last Week's Challenge

Last week I challenged you guess how I tied Yo-Yo Day into D-Day and defense of democracy in my digest introduction. The next day I noted that the key was in the quote, "comedy is a powerful tool to shed light on important issues and spark conversations." There were several notable attempts, but no one quite figured it out, so I hope you follow this link to find out who said it and enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UR39tRbDcBk>

## Social Justice

---

SPEAK UP: Two Opportunities!

1. **Email Your County Commissioners!!** This action is like the emails we sent in May to the State Board of Elections, but this time, we're emailing County Commissioners to advocate for adequate funding for elections. Will take you less than 10 minutes. **Deadline is June 17!**

Here are **5 easy steps**:

**Step 1:** Address an email to one of these recipients depending on where you live:

New Hanover County: [nhccommissioners@nhcgov.com](mailto:nhccommissioners@nhcgov.com)

Brunswick County: [boardclerk@brunswickcountync.gov](mailto:boardclerk@brunswickcountync.gov)

**Step 2:** Write **FY25 Budget** in the subject line.

**Step 3:** Type (or copy and paste) the message below. (Be sure to indicate the correct name of your county and include your name and address):

*Dear County Commissioners,*

*I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County and I am emailing you to request that you support sufficient funding to support accessible, safe, and fair elections. These funds are needed to adequately provide adequate early polling sites and hours; voter education; recruitment, training, and retention of poll workers; and functional voting equipment and technology. Please keep these needs in mind as you vote on the budget for the upcoming fiscal year.*

*Sincerely,*

[Your name and address]

**Step 4:** Press SEND!

**Step 5: Report your action** in our database: <https://tinyurl.com/UUSJM> and check Action #3 - *Advocating for pro-democracy policies and procedures.*

(If you have any difficulty reporting your action, contact Michael Sheridan at [mjsheridan08@gmail.com](mailto:mjsheridan08@gmail.com))

2. **Email Your State Legislator!! Urgent Call to Action from Democracy NC - Tell Lawmakers to Vote No on HB 237.** "Anti-democratic politicians in the NC legislature are trying to ram through a bad bill that would make it harder for people, including those with medical conditions, to wear masks in public to protect their health. But the same bill would make it much easier for wealthy donors to mask their identities when pouring money into political parties, and from there into candidates' campaign bank accounts. HB 237 would tear down protections against the corrosive influence of big money in our elections. If it passes, our elections could be flooded by unaccountable cash from self-interested mega-donors, all while keeping North Carolina voters in the dark." [ACT NOW: Tell the legislature that we refuse to let](#)

[wealthy political donors buy our elections in North Carolina!](#) [It's easy; just fill in your name address and click write letter, which is there for you. They will send it to the right person.]

SHOW UP: Several Opportunities!!

CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH!!!:

**2024 Wilmington Juneteenth Events-June**

**Tuesday, June 18, 6:00-9:00 pm:** Family Movie Night: "Shirley" – the Shirley Chisholm Story; MLK Center, 401 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street; Free Event

**Wednesday, June 19, 9:30-11:30 am:** Juneteenth Breakfast at Thalian Hall; \$35 for adults and children over 12: \$15 for children under 12.

**Sunday, June 23, 2:00 pm:** Juneteenth Gospel Fest at Williston Middle School; Free Event

**Health is Freedom: Celebrating Healthcare Access Through Art**

**Saturday, June 22, 1:00-4:00 pm, Sokoto House, [1213 Dawson Street, Wilmington](#)**

Je'wel Lucas, a Black woman multidisciplinary artist based in Charlotte, will share a mini magazine she created specifically to encourage Black North Carolinians to enroll in Medicaid expansion. Je'wel will also share her personal healthcare story and inspiration behind the project. The event will include face painting and art stations, a bounce house, food and drinks, free swag, and music. Plus, healthcare information and N.C. Navigators will be available on site to help folks enroll in Medicaid. Don't miss out on this opportunity to support Black health. Let's come together for a day of empowerment and community!

JOIN US:

**UUCWNC Social Justice Ministry**

**Monday, July 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](mailto:mjsheridan08@gmail.com).

**UU Justice NC's Friday Action Hour**

**Friday June 14, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Join Rev. Lisa Garcia-Sampson and other UUs around the state. This week, Aminah Ghaffar, Policy Director for [Seven Directions of Service](#) will speak with us about **House Bill 385** which threatens to make it easier for developers to bulldoze Native burial sites in North Carolina. We will also get an update on **HB 237** the anti-masking/campaign finance bill and we'll continue to advocate for emergency appropriations of \$300 million for childcare facilities. Review this week's Actions on our [Google Doc](#), and join using this **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](mailto:rawitschp@mac.com) to be added to this important email list.

## In the Community

---

### Request from Mercedes McLaughlin

As some may know we are on day 55 of a likely 110+ day NICU stay as our daughter was born nearly 4 months premature. Due to many factors, it has taken awhile to get my milk supply up, but we hit a huge milestone: we have enough frozen milk at the hospital! Now we need to start storing it at home; however, we have a very small freezer. Does anyone have an extra deep freezer or garage fridge they'd be willing to either sell or donate? We are just asking community groups before purchasing one! Thanks in advance!

## On the Calendar

---

6/13/2024	10:00 AM	Rehearsal (S)	Sanctuary
	11:00 AM	Movement Class (D)	Dobkin Hall
6/14/2024	1:00 PM	Mah Jongg (D)	Dobkin Hall
			Sanctuary & Zoom
6/16/2024	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship (S&Z)	Zoom

	10:30 AM	Youth Religious Ed	Classrooms
	12:00 PM	Annual Picnic (Long Leaf Park)	Long Leaf Park
6/17/2024	11:00 AM	Movement Class (D)	Dobkin Hall
	5:00 PM	You Can Vote Registration Training (S)	Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	UU Book Discussion Group (D)	Dobkin Hall
6/18/2024	5:00 PM	BOT Meeting (C2)	Classroom 2
6/19/2024	6:45 PM	Choir Rehearsal (S)	Sanctuary
6/20/2024	11:00 AM	Movement Class (D)	Dobkin Hall
	11:30 AM	ROMEO Lunch (O)	Off Campus
	2:00 PM	Poetry Group (C2, Z2)	Classroom 2, Zoom 2
6/21/2024	1:00 PM	Mah Jongg (D)	Dobkin Hall
6/22/2024	3:00 PM	NYRDs Game Night (D & C3)	Dobkin Hall, Classroom 3
6/23/2024	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](mailto: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](mailto: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/>