
WEEKLY DIGEST

June 20, 2024

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington

In the Church

- Sunday Worship, June 23
- Quest, June 23
- Share The Plate, June 23
- Kudos to Our Voter Empowerment Trainees!
- Would You Host an Open House?
- Sunday Flowers Requested
- Got Receipts?

Social Justice

In the Community

- Free Summer Concert

On the Calendar



In the Church

Sunday Worship, June 23

Sunday Worship Service will be June 23 at 10:30am. Service Led by Thea Hagepanos: *The gods We Live By*.

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, June 23

9:15 in Dobkin Hall

Your Childhood Pathway to Here with Carl Middleton

We are a congregation of searchers. Our Sunday services are gatherings of people who arrived at the door of our UU faith having travelled on very diverse spiritual pathways. The childhood roots of those pathways are the subject of this week's Quest discussion. Did you belong to a mainstream Protestant religion or have a more fundamentalist Christian upbringing? Were your roots in Judaism or Catholicism? Did you come from a Buddhist or other eastern religion background? Were you raised atheist? Or is yours a lifelong UU journey?

Whatever your childhood spiritual experiences were, how did they bring you to this place as an adult? What were the childhood teachings you had to turn away from, and what are those you continue to hold firmly on to? What are your memories of your childhood 'religion'?

There are no readings or videos for this week's Quest, just a request that you give some thought to the topic of discussion and come prepared (as you always do!) to share your insights and experiences.

Share The Plate, June 23

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 directly 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: humanity-now.org

Kudos to Our Voter Empowerment Trainees!

Many thanks to the 34 folks who attended our "Voter Empowerment Training" by *You Can Vote* on Monday! A lot of good information was shared, and we now have

a cadre of people trained to register voters. If you missed this training, it's not too late! Go to the *You Can Vote* website (<https://www.youcanvote.org/>) and sign up for one of their virtual trainings. Just click on "Volunteer Training" under the **Events** tab and scroll down to see when these one-hour virtual trainings are available. There is one happening on **June 27** and **July 8**, both from 6:00-7:00 pm. And remember, after you attend the training, **report this** on our Action Report Form at <https://tinyurl.com/UUSJM>. [If you have any trouble with this, please contact Michael Sheridan at mjsheridan08@gmail.com]

Would You Host an Open House?

Do you love getting to know members and newcomers of UUCW? Do you enjoy offering hospitality in your home, apartment, condo or development's recreation center? The Open House team is looking for hosts for the monthly Second Sunday UUCW Open House.

Available dates are August 11, November 10, and December 8, 2024.

These potluck events have sparked many lasting friendships over the years. Even if you can't host, mark the dates to attend! Please contact Roxie Morison, morisonroxie@gmail.com if you are interested.

Sunday Flowers Requested

Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful; they are sunshine, food, and medicine for the soul. Luther Burbank

Please support us in providing flowers for a Sunday service. A bouquet of live flowers, a growing plant, or a dried arrangement are all appropriate. The Flower Calendar is located on the bulletin board found in the hallway next to the restrooms. Sign your name and reason, if applicable, for giving the flowers. This information will be acknowledged in the Sunday video order of service.

Flowers should be delivered to the sanctuary by 10:00 Sunday morning and removed after service. If you have specific questions, please contact Sylvia at sybquinn@gmail.com. Thank you for helping create a beautiful, happier sanctuary space!

Got Receipts?

If you have any receipts from UUCWNC purchases loitering around your house or wallet, please fill out a Reimbursement Form, attach the receipt, and leave it in Holly's mailbox in the hallway. The end of the fiscal year is quickly approaching, so please do your best to get your receipts in before June 30!

Social Justice

SPEAK UP:

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!](#) (Only takes a few minutes-script provided!)

SHOW UP:

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!

CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH!!!:

2024 Wilmington Juneteenth Events - 2 Free Events!

Sunday, June 23, 2:00 pm: Juneteenth Gospel Fest at Williston Middle School

Saturday, June 29, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm: Juneteenth Workshop with Jaki Shelton at Cameron Art Museum

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 S. at mjsheridan08@gmail.com.

UU Justice NC's Friday Action Hour

Friday June 14, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Letter to the Editor - Fighting for Early Childcare Funding - Join Rev. Lisa Garcia-Sampson and other UUs around the state. If the NC General Assembly doesn't fund early childhood education by the end of June, nearly 1/3 of childcare providers may have to shut down, leaving 100,000 kids without care and families without options. Last week, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation released a report estimating that breakdowns in the childcare system are costing North Carolina \$5.65 billion in lost economic activity every year. This Friday, we will be writing Letters to the Editor sounding the alarm about this crisis. 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 to be added to this important email list.

In the Community

Free Summer Concert

The UNCW Summer Concert Band consists of over 100 musicians who play wind instruments, piano, and percussion. Musicians include students from middle school, high school, and college as well as adults and seniors. The fun free concert is 7:30 PM Monday June 24th in Kenan Auditorium. Selections include The Symphonic Gershwin, How to Train Your Dragon, and Caribana Afterparty. From our congregation, you'll see Bob Bogart on percussion and Martha Brophy on French Horn. Hope to see you there!

On the Calendar

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 Dobkin Hall,
			Classroom 3
6/22/2024	3:00 PM	NYRDs Game Night (D & C3)	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
6/24/2024	11:00 AM	Movement Class (D)	Dobkin Hall
6/27/2024	11:00 AM	Movement Class (D)	Dobkin Hall
6/28/2024	1:00 PM	JUULIETs (O)	off campus
	1:00 PM	Mah Jongg (D)	Dobkin Hall
6/30/2024	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:

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