
WEEKLY DIGEST

July 18, 2024

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington

In the Church

- Sunday Worship, July 21
- Share The Plate, July 21
- Casting Call

Helping Hands

- From the Caring Committee & Pastoral Care Partners

Social Justice

In the Community

- Family Promise

On the Calendar



In the Church

Sunday Worship, July 21

Sunday Worship Service will be July 21 at 10:30am. Service Led by Dan Wheat-Rivers.

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.

Share The Plate, July 21

This week's Share the Plate recipient is LINC: Leading Into New Communities. Their mission is to educate and motivate youth to make positive life choices and to empower men and women returning from incarceration to be productive members of our community.

In Wilmington, LINC programs include:

- LITE: LINC Initiative To Educate, which supports African American males ages 12-24 to reduce barriers in education and employment.
- Local Reentry Council in which case managers provide all levels of support to people returning from prison.
- M. E. Roberts Residential Living Campus that provides educational, health, and rehabilitation services to individuals recently released from the correctional system.
- LINC Urban farm, which provides rewarding work activities as well as produce to residents, and
- Pathway Home 2, a partnership with the Cape Fear Community College to connect individuals returning from incarceration to job training and employment.

In 2023, LINC served 829 adults and 252 children, for a total of 1081 lives. Our generous donation will:

- support LINC programs

- purchase personal, residential, and urban farm items, and
- purchase a brick paver with our name and kind words for the “walkway of inspiration” at the residential campus

For more information, visit <https://lincnc.org/>

Casting Call

A Fall Fun-Raising theater event is scheduled for Oct 5th, but one of our cast members had to pull out. Who will replace that character?? PLEASE VOLUNTEER! No theatrical experience is necessary, and the rehearsal schedule is not terribly rigorous. Please contact Kathy Gillcrist to get involved in this fun project!! kagillcrist@gmail.com

Helping Hands

From the Caring Committee & Pastoral Care Partners (PCP)

The Caring Committee and PCP will periodically provide information in the Weekly Digest about congregants’ potential safety and health needs.

This month we are focusing on Scams: Everyone needs to be aware of the massive number of scams—by phone and online—that mainly target elderly folks. We have all heard, “If it is too good to be true, it probably is.” What can you do if you think you or someone you care about is a victim of scams?

Here are 6 Red Flags of Scamming:

1. Spoofing: a scammer contacts someone pretending they are a company, government agency or even our minister.
2. Pressuring the person to act immediately: the person has little chance to think through the request.
3. The scammer uses scare tactics such as an emergency request from the IRS.
4. Winning something, but there’s a catch. The person must send money to get more money.

5. Getting too personal: The person is asked to provide information like a social security number or bank account number.

6. Pay in unusual ways: the person is asked to pay with a gift card.

You can help prevent scamming: If you believe one of our congregants is being scammed (for example, asks for a large sum of money), please bring your concern to the attention of our Pastoral Minister or Pastoral Care Teams. We will maintain confidentiality, become involved if necessary and provide you with resources. Contact Rev. Kelley at revkelley@uucwnc.org if you have questions or concerns.

Social Justice

SPEAK UP:

Call to Action - Send Message to NC Hospital CEOs about Medical Debt! This month, the Governor's Office and the NC Department of Health and Human Services [announced a groundbreaking, win-win initiative](#) to relieve medical debt for two million North Carolinians, cap interest rates on medical debt, provide generous discounts on hospital prices to families with certain incomes, automatically enroll people into charity care, and prohibit selling debt to collectors. But this plan can only move forward if hospitals agree to participate. By choosing to participate, hospitals could boost their bottom line by drawing down federal dollars while simultaneously protecting patients from medical debt. [Use this NC Justice Center tool to urge hospital CEOs to help North Carolinians with Medical Debt!](#) (Will take you only a minute!)

SHOW UP:

Two Upcoming Voter Registration Opportunities with "You Can Vote"

- **July 30, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm, Kure Beach Farmers Market, 105 Atlantic Ave., Kure Beach**
- **August 3, Going Beyond the Pink Food Truck Festival, 4276 Harrington Rd., Leland**

If you've been trained within the past 12 months, you can sign up for one of the 2-hour shifts on the YCV website under events: <https://youcanvote.org>. If you missed

our YCV training at UUCWNC on June 17, you can still sign up for one of their virtual trainings here: <https://www.youcanvote.org/training>. **Remember to report** both your involvement in the training *and* registering voters on our Action Report Form at <https://tinyurl.com/UUSJM!!>

Waccamaw Siouan's 4th Annual STEM Day

Saturday, Sept. 7, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm; Lake Waccamaw State Park, 1866 State Park Drive, Lake Waccamaw (Columbus County)

Volunteers are needed for the Waccamaw Siouan's 4th Annual STEM Day at Lake Waccamaw State Park. They are expecting 130 Tribal Youth from across North Carolina to attend. All workshops will be outdoors, with access to Lake Waccamaw and beautiful areas of shade trees. For more information, contact Peter Rawitsch at rawitschp@mac.com. To register to volunteer for a two-hour shift, use this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4AA4A72DABFECE9-2023#/>

The Long March for Unity & Justice – Across the State

Sept. 20th to 29th

The Beloved Community Center is organizing the “Long March for Unity & Justice.” It will take place over 10 days with 12 stops across North Carolina, beginning in Asheville on September 20, 2024, and **culminating in Wilmington on Sunday, September 29**. If you are interested in volunteering on September 29, contact Peter Rawitsch at rawitschp@mac.com. You can learn more at: <https://belovedcommunitycenter.org/news/the-long-march/>

JOIN US:

UUCWNC Social Justice Ministry Retreat (Please note different time & location!)

Saturday, August 10, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (Breakfast at 8:30 am)

613 Pine Valley Drive, Wilmington

SJM will be holding a special **Saturday retreat** to focus on our goals for next year! (We will not be meeting on our usual 2nd Monday this month.) Please email Kami O’Keeffe if you plan to attend as she is preparing breakfast for us: kamiokeeffe@gmail.com

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 July 19, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join Rev. Lisa Garcia-Sampson and other UUs around the state! This week, we will hold space to reflect on the political violence that occurred this weekend in Pennsylvania. And on this week when we could really use a win, Rebecca Cerese from the NC Justice Center will also join us to celebrate a huge milestone in Medicaid Expansion enrollment, and talk about a new [groundbreaking state initiative](#) to relieve medical debt for two million North Carolinians. Review this week's Actions & Resources on our [Google Doc](#). 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

Family Promise

As coordinator of the volunteers for the family promise dinners, I want to thank: Jeanette K., Deb D., Twink B., Ellen H. and Roxie M. for bringing some delicious meals to the two guest families this past week. We had two single moms and five school aged children this time around, all of whom were super appreciative. A couple of the kids even rewarded us with hugs. We left with a good feeling about having met an obvious need.

Anyone new who is interested in trying out this experience, Tina Schenk can often be found in church on Sundays and can also be reached by email at: familypromise@uucwnc.org.

On the Calendar

7/18/2024	11:00 AM	(D) Movement Class	Dobkin Hall
	11:30 AM	ROMEO Lunch (O)	Off Campus
	4:00 PM	BOT Exec. Meeting (Z)	Zoom 1
7/19/2024	1:00 PM	Mah Jongg (D)	Dobkin Hall
7/21/2024	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship (S&Z)	Sanctuary & Zoom
	10:30 AM	Youth Religious Ed	Classrooms
7/22/2024	11:00 AM	(D) Movement Class	Dobkin Hall
7/23/2024	6:00 PM	Rehearsal (S)	Sanctuary
7/24/2024	10:00 AM	Furniture Moving Party!	entire campus
7/25/2024	10:00 AM	Furniture Moving Party!	entire campus
	11:00 AM	(D) Movement Class	Dobkin Hall
	4:00 PM	BOT Meeting (C2, Z)	Zoom 1, Classroom 2
7/26/2024	1:00 PM	JUULIETs (O)	off campus
	1:00 PM	Mah Jongg (D)	Dobkin Hall
7/28/2024	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/>