Just Don’t Sit There, Do Something by Bill Holston

I haven’t written about the Make America Great Again hat-wearing kids other than to post information on my Facebook page about the Native American man as a veteran.

The video of a confrontation in front of the Lincoln Memorial hit social media over the weekend and prompted emotional arguments and quick-takes by some commentators that were soon retracted as more video came to light.

I don’t know what happened. To be really honest, I don’t care. I think these viral things are terribly distracting. We waste tons of time and energy watching and re-watching the videos of things that are, frankly, not even that important. And then we wind up even angrier and more isolated.

Take just a moment. Think about something that is important and do that today. It might be:

1. Support an agency representing separated kids and asylum-seekers, like Human Rights Initiative, just like we were doing last week. If not us, RAICES, Workers Defense, and Mosaic Family Services are all fighting the good fight.
2. Find the nearest public school, ask them what they need — and then do it.
3. Think of your friends who might be park rangers or in the Coast Guard and send them a meal or gift certificate.
4. Check out volunteer opportunities at local nature centers.
5. Go through closets tonight and donate all that stuff you are never going to wear again to St. Vincent de Paul.
6. If you are a man, find a woman you love and tell her you respect her. Not that she is pretty, but that she is powerful.
7. Write your congressional representative and senator and tell them: Quit oppressing trans people and don’t build a wall.

That’s just off the top of my head.

(continued on page 2)
March 10 Speaker will be Daron’s Babcock:

Daron left a successful corporate career running several businesses in the supply chain/logistics field along with his comfortable home in Frisco, Texas to serve the inner-city residents of Bonton. Although Bonton is historically known for it's high crime, poverty and violence, he believes another world is possible. Daron’s broad professional experience coupled with his heart for serving inner-city communities brings a fresh and innovative perspective to solving problems there. He founded Bonton Farms in 2014 where he currently serves as Executive Director. Daron and his wife Theda live in Bonton.

**Bonton Farms Mission:** An agricultural intervention to **restore lives, create jobs and ignite hope** in the most forgotten and neglected neighborhoods for the most marginalized and vulnerable people.

*Bonton* is a historically African-American neighborhood in South Dallas, Texas. The area zip code 75215, is bounded by Hatcher St. and S Central Expressway to the North and West, respectively, and goes as far as Municipal St. and Donald St. to its East and South.

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**Share the Plate for March is Minister’s Discretionary Fund.** The month of March the Share the Plate, which happens **Sunday, March 31** will go to the **Minister’s Discretionary Fund.** This fund helps many members of our congregation and the community at large. **Half of the collection on Sunday, September 30 will go to Minister’s Discretionary Fund.** You can also donate to this cause all month long via the CUUC web page by selecting the Share the Plate option.

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**February Board of Trustee Highlights**

- The Stewardship Drive
- Renewal of the Sai Baba rental contract
- Church security
- The need for the Board to do more visioning and strategic planning
NTUUC Grant

This January our Community UU Church received a grant from the North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC) of $9,000 to pay for half of a electronic roadside sign. NTUUC is a confederation of the thirteen Unitarian Universalist congregations of North Texas, providing fellowship, leadership training, education and grant support for UU activities of its members. The other half of the sign will be paid from inheritance funds received in 2017. Our request was based on a quotation for a monochrome (red or yellow) LED sign measuring 8x2.5 feet, topped by a 1.5 foot tall backlit box with our church name and logo. Quotations for a full color sign were more than twice as much ($39K), and it was decided words were much more important than colorful digital images on our sign. We are currently seeking additional quotations, just in case there's a better deal. Consultations are beginning with the Plano Zoning Board on the exact configuration of the sign (our current sign violates the updated code, but is grandfathered in). The sign will have 4 lines of 5-inch high letters, 25 characters per line, so think of succinct UU thoughts we can display on it. Messages can scroll (slowly), and change as often as we like. If you're curious about what the actual sign will look like, it should closely resemble the LED signs outside PISD schools.

CUUC Facilities Team (Tom Brikowski, Duane Mortensen, Dick Hildenbrand, Bill Daffinee)

Women's Alliance Annual Retreat!!

The Woman's Alliance annual retreat this year will be held on the weekend of April 5, 6 and 7. Our theme this year is "Blooming". We all have busy lives, so come join us this weekend for a time to relax, reflect and refresh your mind, heart and spirit. Come find out what "Ponder Blooms" are!! We invite all women 18 years and older to join us at Glen Lakes Retreat and Camp Center in Glenrose, TX.

The cost for the weekend is $100 for a cabin with a lower bunk bed including 3 meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday.

For more information or to make a reservation, contact Barb Salvo.
Simple Living Chalice Circle
The next meeting will be Saturday morning, March 9 at 11am.
Theme/topic – Learning together to live deliberately.
Facilitator Ona Tannehill at Email simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org.

Women’s Fellowship Breakfast.
To all the women of the Church:
We’re having a fellowship breakfast gathering of all the women of the Church on Saturday, March 16 at Poor Richard’s Café, 2442 K Ave. in Plano, starting at 8:30-9am and ending around 9:30-10am. Come join us for a morning of good food and fellowship to meet other women in the church. For more information, questions and to RSVP, contact Vicki Verinder at membcom-chair@communityuuchurch.org.

The Men’s Fellowship Breakfast is Saturday, March 16, 8:30am at Poor Richards Café, 2442 K Avenue, Plano, TX 75074. If you plan to attend, please let Tom Bieg know by 6pm Friday, March 15.

Deadline for the April newsletter is Friday, March 22. Email articles to newsletter@communityuuchurch.org.

Friday Flix. Snack, beverages and conversation at 6:30pm with the movie starting at 7pm in Founders Hall.
March 8 - TBA
March 22 - TBA

Literary Ladies Book Club
Upcoming Meeting. Women members and friends of Community UU Church are welcome to join us on the third Tuesday of the month from 7 – 9pm.
Date: March 19
Location: Pam Reinke-Walters’ home. Please contact Pam by Friday, March 15 if you plan to attend.

Selection: Grandma Gatewood’s Walk by Ben Montgomery

Emma Gatewood told her family she was going on a walk and left her small Ohio hometown with a change of clothes and less than two hundred dollars. The next anybody heard from her, this genteel, farm-reared, sixty-seven-year-old great-grandmother had walked 800 miles along the 2,050-mile Appalachian Trail. By September 1955 she stood atop Maine’s Mount Katahdin, sang “America, the Beautiful,” and proclaimed, “I said I’ll do it, and I’ve done it.”

Driven by a painful marriage, Grandma Gatewood not only hiked the trail alone, she was the first person—man or woman—to walk it twice and three times. At age seventy-one, she hiked the 2,000-mile Oregon Trail. Gatewood became a hiking celebrity, and appeared on TV with Groucho Marx and Art Linkletter. The public attention she brought to the trail was unprecedented. Her vocal criticism of the lousy, difficult stretches led to bolstered maintenance, and very likely saved the trail from extinction. Amazon
President's Column

This is an exciting time at Community UU Church! Yes, that’s right! It’s time for our stewardship drive.

You will be hearing from folks just like you every Sunday as they tell their personal stories about the saving power of this Church and the changes it has made in their lives. You will have the opportunity to have one of our visiting stewards speak with you in person. This is your chance to tell us your story and let us know why you support this Church with your time, talent, and treasure.

Our theme this year is “There is no place like our home.” We tinkered with Dorothy Gail’s incantation a bit to emphasize that this Church is like our home. To celebrate the hominess of Community UU, our kick-off lunch will be in the sanctuary as part of the worship service. Breaking bread, eating together like a family will be an experience we have not had for a few years. So, bring your appetite, your willingness to share with each other, and your commitment to this Church on Sunday, March 17.

I am encouraging everyone to pledge this year. Even if you have never pledged before, please pledge this year. If you usually just put money in the plate each Sunday, pledge this year. If you just pledge one dollar, or five dollars a month, it is a commitment to this Church and to your religious community, your Church home. You will be surprised how easy it is to give to the Church if you just get started. For those of you who are long time contributors, I ask that you raise your pledge as much as you can. Try raising your pledge one percent, or five percent, or even 10 percent.

This is a watershed moment in the history of our Church. This is the time we declare our readiness to step up and be the Church in our vision and mission statement. This is the time to make ready for the future. This is the time to ensure we hire a minister who can guide us to an even bigger and better vision. This is the time to make a commitment to our Church home. Remember, there is no place like our home.

Blessings, Sarah

A Path to Membership

Interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism or Community UU Church, Plano? Considering membership with our congregation? Want to learn more about our religion, church or activities?

Come to our next “A Path to Membership” class being held on March 3rd and 10th at 9am in the Library (Room D).

For more information and to RSVP (required for childcare), contact Vicki Verinder at membcom-chair@communityuuuchurch.org.
Social Action News

What’s New in the Community Garden? The next time you walk out to Community Harvest Garden, listen for a faint, eerie sound. North Texas Food Bank has gifted us solar-powered sonic devices to discourage hungry voles from eating our plants. See if you can find the three sound-emitting stakes that are helping to defend our produce. Stroll further through the paths and you’ll see colorful, kinetic garden art among the cabbages, mustard, kale, and turnips.

Saturday, March 9th gardeners will be sharing tips with those who purchased the auction hands-on lesson in preparing a vegetable garden. They’ll learn best practices for planting, watering, pest control, and erosion-prevention. It really is possible to grow nourishing food for your table year-round in North Texas! Start up a conversation with gardeners while they work their plots after a Sunday service and you’ll be surprised at what you can learn in just 10 minutes!

Gods Pantry - in 2018 the Pantry experienced an unexpected growth in clients of over 30% from last year of families in need of food. Many thanks to the support of this and other local Churches as well as the North Texas Food Bank they were able to meet the unprecedented demand and expect another increase this year. They send a special thanks to the Community Garden for the fresh vegetables delivered every Saturday. Their donations are a big hit with the clients.

Barron Elementary School is asking for us to replenish the school health supplies such as facial tissues, hand sanitizers, hand wipes/baby wipes, and also plastic bags (sandwich, quart, and gallon sizes). Please bring any of these to Church to place in a box marked for Barron in the Social Action alcove across from the water fountains. The Art teacher has also asked for any art related supplies like markers, crayons, construction paper, poster board etc. which you can donate. Check with me if donations are bigger and won’t fit in the donation box, so I can transport and deliver those items to Barron. Thanks! Anne Smith

Calendar of Upcoming Family-Friendly Events in March

3/10/19 6pm-3/16/19 12:00pm Rummage Sale working

3/14/19 5:30-8:00 pm Sneak peek friends and family sale

3/15/19 7am-6pm Rummage Sale

3/16/19 7am-12pm Rummage Sale

3/16/19 11am-12pm Dollar Days Rummage Sale

3/24/19 Rally Planning
**UBarU**

Our UBarU Youth Summer Camp ONLINE registration is open and prices now apply (March 31, 2019) for Age-tiered week-long camps.

[http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp](http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp)

June 9-15 Beginner Camp  rising grades 4 thru 6th grades or 9-11 years old

June 24-30  Intermediate Camp  rising grades 7th-9th graders or 12-14 years old

June 23-29 Senior/Reeb Camp rising grade 10 through 2019 high-school graduates

All meals are included from Sunday dinner through Saturday breakfast. Campers are to arrive beginning 4 pm on the Sunday of the first day of camp and will be ready to leave by 10:30am the Saturday of the last day of camp. Parents and guardians are welcome to join us for our final worship gathering of the week on Saturday mornings at 9am.

Scholarship applications are available through NTUUC. Please contact Bill Daffinee for information wrdaffinee@aol.com

Email Robyn at director@ubaru.org with questions about camp, scholarship, being a Junior counselor or adult counselor, etc. Adults and youth who are selected will be offered a Coupon code to use for a camp registration.

Additional details, applications and job descriptions are available at [http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp](http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp)

**NTUUC take away points from the NTUUC Board meeting January 26, 2019.**

- a. New NTUUC President – David Pollard
- b. The Board Worked on vision statement and will continue to work on it
- c. The NTUUC Board Needs a secretary
- d. Awards were distributed at the NTUUC Awards Luncheon, Jan. 26 at Oak Cliff UU, Robinson Award for Volunteers - Kelly Cofield-Dyer, Red River Unitarian Universalist Church; Elizabeth Gustwick, Horizon Unitarian Universalist Church; Conrad Hamric, First Unitarian Church of Dallas; Dianne Nixon, Westside Unitarian Universalist Church; Beth Wasson, Pathways Church, a UU Congregation; Robinson Award for Staff Lauren Daniell, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, Horizon Unitarian Universalist Church; Raible Award for Clergy - Rev. Dr. Daniel Kanter, Senior Minister, First Unitarian Church of Dallas. Grants for congregations were also distributed at the Luncheon.
- e. Legislative training occurred on February 9, Pathways UU, Hurst - preparation for trip to Austin to speak with Tx Representatives.
- f. UU Austin trip is March 20 with two chartered busses. One leaving from Arlington UU and the second from Horizon UU. Suggested donation $10. Sign ups - go to NTUUC website or contact Daniel Polk, NTUUC Executive Director.
- g. Women'sConference - Southwest UU Women in Hot Springs Arkansas occurred on February 22-23.
- h. Rev. Thandeka will be in Oak Cliff on March 27.

Celeste Kennedy, NTUUC Representative - Community UU Church
**Adult Religious Education Classes**

The Mission of the Adult Religious Education Program is to nurture and stimulate the religious and personal growth of the adult church community. We offer a varied and cohesive program within the context of the living Unitarian Universalist tradition and principles. **The church website has been updated with the latest classes and class descriptions - check it out at www.CommunityUUChurch.org, under Adult Religious Education.** CHILDCARE is available for all classes, upon request. To reserve childcare call the church office (972-424-8989) at least 48 hours in advance.

**Tuesday**

Tibetan Buddhism – 7pm – in the sanctuary. Meditation and Mind Training. Please join us for guided meditation and a skillful approach to developing mental peace and clarity. **Facilitated by the Ven. Tashi Nyima.**

**Thursday**

Humanist Group – New Direction meets at 6pm in Room G. The Humanist Group continues to meet prior to The Meaning of Life: Perspectives from the World’s Great Intellectual Tradition class led by Rev. Don Fielding. Each week different group members plan the discussion on a Humanist-oriented topic which helps us learn more about Humanism, its history, its relationship to UU ism, and its applications to our lives and spiritual-personal development. **March topics: TBD.**

Exploring the Roots of Religion in Room G at 7pm. Facilitator Don Fielding. The Meaning of Life: Perspectives from the World’s Great Intellectual Tradition, Professor Garfield has put together an intellectually gripping course that is every bit the equal of the monumental subject it sets out to explore. **November topics:** March topics: March 7 - Darwin and Natural Selection; March 14 - The Evidence for Natural Selection; March 21 - The Origins of Life; March 28 - Life on Earth—Single-celled Organisms.

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**Board of Trustees**

board@communityuuchurch.org

Sarah Reiling, President  Keary Liu, Secretary  Kimberly Schramm, President Elect
reilingsarah51@gmail.com kearylui@hotmail.com kschramm10@gmail.com

c# 214-620-4515  h # 469-403-5849  c# 949-439-8048

Cindy Hadden, Treasurer  Tom Brikowski, Facilities Coordinator			
treasurer@communityuuchurch.org facilitites@communityuuchurch.org

c# 214-212-8309

Jodie Zoeller, Personnel  Vacant, VP Programs  Alyssa Church, Communications
jodiezoeller@gmail.com programs@communityuuchurch.org communication@communityuuchurch.org

c# 214-212-8309

**RE Board**

reboard@communityuuchurch.org

President – Brennan Hadden  Members: Steve Dodds, Jack Dorman, Angela Hathaway and Danni Williams
January Financial Report

Finance Report by Cindy Hadden Treasurer

The January financial summary for our operating accounts is listed below. The cumulative Net Income gap is $43.7K above budget. We received the payout of the 2018 earnings on the Endowment this month. This was lower then budgeted because I have not taken into account the earnings are based on a calendar year, and because the markets took a nose dive at the end of 2018. But taking that into account, the earnings were actually reasonable, and even better than expected.

Where we are: By all accounts this was going to be a different year. Hiring has been challenging, due to a very limited supply of ministers and even lower supply of DRE’s. Balloon Festival did not exactly work out the way we had hoped. Some of our long time members moved or passed away, which in some cases caused a significant drop in pledges. But, even when we take all of those into account, we are in great financial shape. We have the money to hire a new minister and DRE, when the search committees find a suitable candidate, and we can offer several benefits that we were unable to easily offer last year, like moving benefits. This year has done exactly what we were hoping it would do; it has put us in a great place to go forward.

INCOME & EXPENSE January, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>January 2019</th>
<th>Month Budget</th>
<th>YTD Actual</th>
<th>YTD Budget</th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
<th>% Annual Budget (FY 66.67% comp)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Offering</td>
<td>$18,429</td>
<td>$16,689</td>
<td>$141,877</td>
<td>$135,323</td>
<td>$201,292</td>
<td>70.48%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Fund Raiser</td>
<td>$ 382</td>
<td>$ 1,000</td>
<td>$ 12,534</td>
<td>$ 18,815</td>
<td>$ 22,615</td>
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<td>Total Building</td>
<td>$ 2,357</td>
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<td>$ 17,488</td>
<td>$ 17,045</td>
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<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>$ 6,690</td>
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<td>$ 16,740</td>
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<td>TOTAL INCOME</td>
<td>$27,858</td>
<td>$35,062</td>
<td>$180,236</td>
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<td>67.29%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSE</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<td>$ 4,844</td>
<td>$ 4,904</td>
<td>$30,027</td>
<td>$40,904</td>
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<td>Denomination</td>
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<td>TOTAL EXPENSE</td>
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<td>NET INCOME</td>
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Upcoming Share the Plate Offerings

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Minister’s Discretionary Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>Service Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you forget your checkbook on a Share the Plate Sunday, remember you can always donate online.

January Share the Plate netted $324.50 for the Community Harvest Garden. Thank you!

FREE MONEY!

Kroger: NOTE: It’s time to renew your Kroger Community Rewards - just follow this link: https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards
Amazon.com: Use this link for purchases: http://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-1787256
The church will get a portion of all purchase amounts!
March

For our March 2019 calendar, go to our website at:
CommunityUUChurch.org

Events listed on the calendar are subject to change. For more information and confirmation of these events, please visit the church calendar at http://www.communityuuchurch.org/pages/calendar.
UU Church Contact Email Addresses

President, Sarah Reiling:
president@CommunityUUChurch.org

Director of Music, Christopher Wolff
musicdir@communityuuchurch.org

Church Secretary, Connie Meints:
cuuc-office@CommunityUUChurch.org

Church Bookkeeper, John Elder:
bookkeeper@CommunityUUChurch.org

Facilities Coordinator, Tom Brikowski
facilities@CommunityUUChurch.org

Treasurer, Cindy Hadden
treasurer@communityuuchurch.org

Board of Trustees: board@CommunityUUChurch.org
Trustees meetings are held the third Saturday of each month at
10am in the Annex. Members, friends and visitors are always
welcome.

Worship Programs (Sunday Services, Ushers
Coordinator, Interior Arts)
worshipteam@CommunityUUChurch.org

Caring Committee Coordinator, June Bruns
caring@CommunityUUChurch.org

Communications Director, Alyssa Church
communications@communityuuchurch.org

Membership Council
membcom@communityuuchurch.org
Personnel Coordinator, Jodie Zoeller
personnel-chair@communityuuchurch.org

Committee on Ministry, Karen Bethel, Chair
Mincom@communityuuchurch.org

Social Action Programs, Linda Frank
UUSInAction@CommunityUUChurch.org

Bridge Group Coordinator, Clint Burleson:
bridge@CommunityUUChurch.org

Circle Suppers Coordinator, John Snyder:
Circle suppers@CommunityUUChurch.org

Friday Flix Coordinator, Celeste Kennedy
flicks@CommunityUUChurch.org

First Friday Folksingers Coordinator, Dick Hildenbrand:
folsingers@CommunityUUChurch.org

Outdoor Advance Coordinator, Dick Hildenbrand:
outdooradventure@CommunityUUChurch.org

Leadership Development Committee:
ldc@CommunityUUChurch.org

Capital Improvement

Strategic Planning Committee:
planning@CommunityUUChurch.org

Chalice Circle/Simple Living Coordinator Ona Tannehill
simpleliving@CommunityUUChurch.org

Program Board: Vacant Chair
programs@CommunityUUChurch.org

Finance Committee: finance@CommunityUUChurch.org

Stewardship Committee Gene Verinder, Chair
stewardship@CommunityUUChurch.org

Investment Committee: David Hollands, Chair, Carol Wise,
Karen Bethel investment@CommunityUUChurch.org

Young Religious Unitarian Universalists vacant
yruu@CommunityUUChurch.org

Adult Enrichment/Adult Education Celeste Kennedy,
Director adulte@CommunityUUChurch.org

Men’s Fellowship Tom Bieg, Coordinator
men@CommunityUUChurch.org

Religious Education Board Brennan Hadden, Chairperson
reboard@CommunityUUChurch.org

Hospitality Committee Gene Verinder, Coordinator
hospitality@CommunityUUChurch.org

Women’s Alliance: women@CommunityUUChurch.org

Safe Congregations
Safecongregations@communityuuchurch.org

UU Website Links

Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA): www.uua.org

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC):
www.uusc.org

UUA Southern Region: www.uua.org/southern

North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC):
www.ntuuc.org

CUUC Representatives, Celeste Kennedy and Grace
Morrison
NTUUC@CommunityUUChurch.org

UBarU Camp and Retreat Center, Trustee, Bill Daffinee
Wrdaffinee@aol.com
Church Office Hours

**Monday:** church offices closed

**Tuesday:** 9 am to 3 pm

**Wednesday:** 9 am to 2:30 pm

**Thursday:** 9 am to 2:30 pm

**Friday:** 9 am to Noon

**Office Phone:** # 972-424-8989

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**Bookkeeper John Elder Tuesday & Thursday:** 10:30am - 2:30pm other times by appointment.

**Church Secretary Connie Meints**

**Tuesday** 9am to 3pm, **Wednesday & Thursday** 9am to 2:30pm. **Friday** 9am to noon.

**Music Director Christopher Wolff**

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**The Community News**

_The Community News_ is distributed to Members and Friends of this church. Visitors who complete a visitor card receive issues for three months. To continue receiving issues, sign the “Welcome Back” book on each visit. Others may subscribe for an annual donation of $25.00.

The editor encourages and appreciates submissions and on-time submissions are especially delightful. The Community News is published once a month.

**Email articles to**

_ newsletter@CommunityUUChurch.org_

Please include your name on any news item submitted for The Community News.

Items may be edited for clarity and brevity.