

NEWSLETTER 12/11/25

Sunday Service, 3 P.M.:
FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE
625 SOUTH ST., DAVIDSON
Mail: P.O. Box 991 Davidson, NC 28036

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN TO THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER

Dec. 14 - Rev. Pat Jobe: 'How to End a Year Well': Prior to our annual meeting, Rev. Pat will riff on ending a year well with the help of Theresa Woody at the piano. How do you end things well? A day? A project? An event? Ending sometimes "puts a bow on things." We all need good beginnings, middles and ends. The Rev. Pat Jobe joined our Fellowship on Aug. 1, 2020. He is married to his lovely spouse Gabe and is an enthusiastic supporter of UU Lake Norman, FeedNC, Heart of the Carolinas UU Animal Ministry, the Barefoot Ministry, and all work done by UUs in our area.

Services can be viewed live at 3:10 p.m., and later for replays, by visiting our website. Information on upcoming services can also be found on our Facebook page.

The years keep rolling by. I asked my oldest son if he noticed any signs of aging. He said the groceries aren't quite as light as they used to be. There's a book called Children's Letters to God. One child asks, "Why do you keep sending babies and taking out old people? Why don't you just keep the ones you've got?" When it comes to the Unitarians of Lake Norman, nothing would make me happier than keeping the ones we've got including first-time visitors, but we know that's not the way the cookie crumbles. Just read here that we have a great bunch made up of some of the finest people I have ever known. Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve.

P.S. We raised \$632 for Siembra NC, a pro-immigration group that has had great success with origin response to the immigration policies of the administration and securing housing for immigrants across North Carolina.

We will hold our annual meeting this Sunday, Dec. 14, following our regular service. There will be a short report of activities we participated in during the year, a review of the 2026 budget and an election for the Board of Trustees slate of officers for 2026. Members will vote on the nominations below that are in bold. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

If you are not able to attend Sunday's meeting, you may vote by sending an email to this address before the meeting starts at 4 p.m. You may vote for or against each new officer or accept/ reject the slate as a whole.

Board of Trustees

President: Greg Davis, moving from 2025 Vice President in accordance with our bylaws (a one-year term expiring in December 2026)

Vice President: Jim Price (a one-year term, becomes president in 2027)

Secretary: Véronique Singerman (a one-year term expiring December 2026)
 Co-Treasurers: Karen Abrams and Linda Heydenburg (terms expire December 2026)
 Immediate past President Jim Arnold (a one-year term expiring December 2026)
 Trustee at large: Gail Arnold (a one-year term expiring in December 2026)

Building Committee

Phil Sterner (a three-year term expiring December 2028)
 Tracy Grimm(a two-year term expiring December 2027)
 Alan Perkinson (a one-year term expiring December 2026)

Nominating Committee

Andi Smith (a three-year term expiring December 2028)
 Sue Friday (a two-year term expiring December 2027)
 Agnes Fiore (a one-year term expiring December 2026)

2026 Budget

Category	Budget	Notes
Advertising	\$2,500	
Auction set-up	\$1,000	
Charitable gifts	\$1,400	\$100/ea. to nine Share the Plate offerings, \$500 to fence-build ministry
UUA Dues	\$3,020	
Insurance	\$3,480	Building, board, auction insurance
*Discretionary fund	\$1,000	For individual cases of need
*Compensation.	\$50,400	
Office expenses	\$1,500	
Postage	\$225	
Rent	\$4,800	\$100/service to Friends
Speaker fees	\$2,750	\$250 a speaker, one speaker/mo.
Spiritual Exploration	\$250	Supplies and snacks
*Future building needs	\$3,000	\$250/mo. to fund future rental
Total	\$75,325	

*Compensation for minister and musicians has been increased. "Ministerial discretionary fund" and "future building needs" are new budget categories and expenditures.

Two proposed amendments, dealing with our Co-Treasurer and past-President positions, will be voted on Jan. 25.

- 1) This amendment applies to section IV Board of Trustees Point A- The Composition of the Board: The president will continue to serve on the Board for the year following their term of office. They will serve as an advisor to the Board and will also have full voting rights.
- 2) Item #7 on the list of the Treasurer responsibilities (see Bylaws in Directory and Documents) will be modified to the following: The position of co-treasurer will be established, but may possibly be eliminated or changed in the future should the congregation engage a full-time administrator. The Co- Treasurer will be a full member of the Board and as such will be able to vote on all issues. Both treasurers will be elected for two- year terms.

As of Tuesday we have received \$70,925 in pledges and gifts toward our goal of \$75,324. That puts us 94% of the way! Of our 57 members, 47 have made a commitment for a participation rate of 82%. Of our friends, 10 out of 16 have made a commitment for a 62% participation rate. Yay us!

But can we do even better? Yes, we can! A Secret Santa has issued a special matching gift challenge. All new pledges and any additional increases in pledges that have already been made will qualify for the match. Let's not miss this opportunity. The drive will officially conclude this Sunday. Please let us hear from you today. Contact us by clicking this link.

Cookie is hoping Santa and his elves will be there this Saturday to build her a place to run around so she can stay warm and play in the winter months.

Heart of the Carolinas UU Animal Ministry won a trophy in Denver's holiday parade this year for Best Civic Organization! Thanks to everyone who participated and helped make this happen.

This Saturday's will be our last build for 2025. We built 24 fences and made the lives better for 50 dogs this year. Since our organization began, we have built 167 fences and made a difference in the lives of 390 dogs.

A sincere thank you to all of our volunteers and donors. It is only possible to do what we do through your participation at builds and through donations that are generously given to us to support the program.

One hundred percent of the funds we raise go directly to building our fences and for the care and comfort for the dogs. If you would like to make a year-end contribution, please use our QR code or mail a check to Heart of The Carolinas UU Animal Ministry: Claudia Perkinson, 3858 Fox Run, Denver, NC 28037. Heart of the Carolinas is a 501(c) (3) organization.

Together is Better Lunch: Mark your calendars now for the "Together is Better Lunch" on Sunday, Jan. 18. What a great way to start the New Year! We're joining with members of Temple Kol Tikvah, our neighbor on Davidson's South Street, for lunch from 1-2:30 p.m. that day. This gathering has grown out of the visit we enjoyed when Rabbi Becca spoke to our Fellowship for Easter services. We all agreed that we would like to get to know our neighbors, and what better way than to break bread together? We are also asking our Quaker Friends if they would like to join us as well. Lunch will be inside at the temple. All we need to bring is dessert and homemade breads.

Since May 2020, North Carolina UUs and friends have gathered online at 11 a.m. on Fridays to take action and experience the joy and power of community at Friday Action Hour. Organized by UU Justice NC, we recap the past week and take action on the issues impacting our state and country. Join us and you will learn more about these issues and get guidance and encouragement to take action. Join us this Friday on this Zoom link. Follow our concerns and actions each week as outlined in the Google Doc. Sign up for our weekly Friday Action Hour email.

UU Lake Norman's Building Fund accepts donations to help ensure our future. For more information, please contact Alan Perkinson.

FROM OUR TREASURER; Thanks to all who have pledged to keep our Fellowship strong. You can mail your pledge to: UU Lake Norman, P.O. Box 991, Davidson 28036. To set up easy online giving from our website, just click the "Pledge or Donate" tab at the top of the page.

Join us? If you are not a member but would like more information on becoming a member, please contact Marjorie Flowers at admin@UULakeNorman.org.

Rev. Pat Jobe, UU Lake Norman Minister

2025 Board of Trustees:

Jim Arnold, President

Greg Davis, Vice President

Véronique Singerman, Secretary

Karen Abrams & Linda Heydenburg, Co-Treasurers

Natalie Heling, At-Large Trustee

We walk diverse paths to find meaning and purpose, but we are united by our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all, and the obligation to express our faith through acts of justice and compassion. Join us as we create a diverse, spirit-curious, and justice-seeking community.

Please send your newsletter items, suggestions or comments to Bruce Henderson at news@uulakenorman.org. The deadline for each week's newsletter is midnight Wednesday.

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