

NEWSLETTER 2/5/26

Sunday Service, 3 P.M.:
FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE
625 SOUTH ST., DAVIDSON

Please visit our events calendar for more information.

Mail: P.O. Box 991 Davidson, NC 28036

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN TO THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER

Feb. 8 - All-Music Service If you were ever going to invite your friends to a Unitarians of Lake Norman service, this is the one. All music for 90 minutes, in deference to folks who think two hours is too long. Born on Gail and Jim Arnold's back porch as an auction item, the popularity of this ringing tribute to the musical heritages of all who show up exceeds expectations and turns out to be a big, beautiful affirmation of who we are and what we love.

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.

Feb. 15 - Rev. Gary Phillips and three other writers: 'Welcome to Death Faire' Phillips and friends will share with us from *Welcome to Death Faire*, the work of 31 writers and probably that many photographers. It is a lavish, creative effort to do what the book's curator, Tami Schwerin, calls "bringing death out of the closet." Like the Mexican Day of the Dead, Death Faire has graced Pittsboro, N.C., for the past ten years with three-day gatherings of funeral directors, casket makers, hospice workers, health care workers and other caring community folks to face death and maybe even dance with it a little. Schwerin will be with Rev. Phillips along with a couple of the other writers including our own Pat Jobe.

Chaos reigned with ice and snow, but our Feb. 1 service drew a small but quality Zoom crowd. We have heard from some folks who struggled with the Zoom link. May the great spirit of love protect us from future needs to use Zoom.

Thanks to all who engaged with the five regrets of the dying, and the five secrets we must discover before dying. The similarities between the two lists, gathered by writers on two different continents, are striking. Here are the regrets: missing the life that would have been true to myself, working too hard (when a man from the Quaker congregation heard the topic, he said, "too much time at the office"), failing to express true feelings, failing to stay in touch with friends, and "wishing I had let myself be happier."

The writer of the *Five Regrets of the Dying* book is Bronnie Ware. It's a little long on details from her life story, but there are profound moments in the book. Dr. John Izzo's book on the

five secrets is based on years of research with people over 60 who have some wisdom to offer. The stories in this book are more from the points of view of the research subjects.

The five secrets are: be true to yourself, leave no regrets, become love, live in the moment and give more than you take. Obviously, we can return to these lists over and over. They may not be Ten Commandments, but they feel like ten pretty good recommendations. When I read the lists to Gabriele, she said, "I think we're doing okay." I do too. I'd love to hear how the rest of you feel these lists measure up in terms of your own lives.

P.S. This Sunday's Share the Plate collection will benefit All Souls Community of Rutherford County.

Though the world looks trapped
Beneath the ice on evergreens
Life is waiting crouched and set to spring!

-- N.C. songwriter Mike Cross in honor of Imbolc, the Gaelic festival celebrated on Feb. 1, the midpoint of winter.

The next fence build by Heart of the Carolinas UU Animal Ministry will be Saturday, Feb. 14 at 9 a.m., after repeated postponements due to expected bad weather. We will be building two enclosures for 16 well-loved dogs. The address is 1448 Bess Chapel Church Rd., Cherryville. If you've ever wondered what we're about, please join us. We need lots of helping hands. Please call Claudia (704 280-2354) if you have any questions about how you can help.

Our congregation's next volunteer shift at FeedNC is Thursday, Feb. 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please contact Jim Arnold if you can help.

Auction NewsMark your calendars: UU FUNdraising Auction, May 7, 6 p.m., Bailey's Glen Clubhouse, 12100 Meetinghouse Dr., Cornelius.

Only 93 days until the auction! That sounds like a long time, but it will be here before you know it. Have you been thinking of items or events you may like to donate? Have you started a project that you might like to donate? This is the biggest fundraiser for the Fellowship. The evening will include amazing items, friendly bidding, delicious foods and drinks and lots of laughs. We will have previous catalogs for you to check out if you need ideas. Forms for donations will be available soon. Questions? Contact Pat or Doug Wall.

Since May 2020, North Carolina UUs and friends have gathered on Friday mornings at 11 to review events of the previous week and take action on the issues. Last Friday, we reached out to call for the improvement of deplorable conditions at the Dilley Detention Center in Texas. We contacted our U.S. representatives calling for the impeachment of Kristi Noem. We requested support for extending Temporary Protected Status for Haitians. We asked our senators to oppose additional ICE funding. Information, phone numbers and suggested scripts for all of these actions are spelled out in the Action Hour document.

Join us this Friday morning at 11 via this Zoom link. If Friday doesn't work for you, please take a moment to look over the Action Hour document here. It is updated every week to describe small actions you can take to support Unitarian values through action.

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

2026 Board of Trustees
Greg Davis, President
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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.

Lake Norman UU Fellowship
P O Box 991, Davidson 28036

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