

umstead park

UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

a thoughtful and progressive community of faith

February 2018

8208 Brownleigh Drive

Raleigh, NC 27617

www.upucc.org

FAITH IN ACTION



Imagine walking through a portal ...into a place of peace.

Imagine a space where tranquility reigns, that invites connection and calm.

Imagine the happy voices of children nearby, a spot to share a simple meal, a bench to reflect on, a labyrinth for prayer, a fire pit for s'mores.

As shared at the recent Congregational Meeting, follow this link to see more ideas from the UPUCC Garden Space Task Force: [LINK HERE](#).

(Many thanks to Mary Pat Peters and the members of the Task Force. If you have comments, questions or ideas to share, you may contact Mary Pat at marypatevans@mac.com)

Among the many Highlights within this newsletter:

- HKonJ 2018- February 10 page six
- 'Dimanche' Gras... February 11, our version of Mardi Gras this year!
- Spread the Love... FIA Collections each Sunday in February page six.
- Bent*- JTP's powerful production on Gay persecution in Nazi Germany
- Youth Faith and Sexuality Retreat- page four
- Rabbi Rami Shapiro- February 21-25 page ten
- John Dominic Crossan- March 23-24 page eleven
- Bird Sanctuaries by Eliseo... An Auction, page three

Lent: Respite from the Cacophony

‘Cacophony’ is the word that comes to my mind these days. I might define it simply as ‘competing and confusing noise’ but the examples taken from a Webster’s search are much more lucid:

“The **cacophony** of phlegmatic and tubercular lungs was punctuated here and there by a moan or a scream of someone terrified, thrashing in the throes of a nightmare.” —Ronald Gearles, *Undoing Time*, 2001

“Seething gas just beneath the sun's visible surface generates a **cacophony** of sound waves that ring the sun like a giant bell.” —R. Cowen, *Science News*, Mar. 18, 2000

“Shell casings littered the highway, where a **cacophony** of car alarms and sobbing rent the winter air.” —Jeff Stein, *GQ*, December 1997

“... no matter how forbearing he might have been, there were times when he simply needed to escape that **cacophony** of piping voices ...” —T. Coraghessan Boyle, *The Road to Wellville*, 1993

Who wants to live solely in a cacophonous world? And yet... we often find ourselves there. Politics, shouting heads on television, ALL CAPS SCREAMING ON THE INTERNET, home life can be cacophonous with all manner of directions and voices pulling and prodding and begging for attention, and even church... the place where we seek refuge... can easily become another source of cacophony if we do not intentionally work to find our center, The Center, the still point, God.

Enter Lent.

Enter a time of silence and reflection.

Enter the *opposite* of cacophony.

Harkening back to Moses, Elijah and others, the Gospels explain that Jesus began his adult ministry with 40 days of fasting and prayer. Appropriately, fasting and prayer, discernment and discipline, contemplation and covenant wove their way into the seasonal cycle of the Church. Lent, the spring season of the year when the days are lengthening [‘Lent’ from the Germanic “lencten” meaning ‘to lengthen’] evolved into the key season of *spiritual* lengthening and growth as well.

It is in this Lenten season of reflection and spiritual discernment that we ask ourselves, “How can we ‘hear’ God today? ...and where does that message lead?”

We will be asking those questions in various ways during our Lenten worship... and in so doing we will seek ways to find our balance in the cacophony of our wider world.

I hope you will join in that centering endeavor.

Additionally, I trust you will pay close attention to two additional exceptional opportunities, two extraordinary leaders of faith, soon coming who also hold the promise of assisting in finding our spiritual balance:

-Rabbi Rami Shapiro and (page 10)

-Father John Dominic Crossan (page 11)

With you, seeking centeredness in the cacophony-



eliseo's bird sanctuaries

"Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" Matthew 6:26, NIV



Over the past few months, several surprises have emerged as we explore what it means to offer a place of refuge here at UPUCC. Chief among those surprises is that WE have understood and felt more viscerally what this place, this refuge, means. Eliseo and his family have inhabited our building, yes, but even more so they have moved into our hearts and our community. UPUCC has become more of a sanctuary for *all* of us!

The first month or so that he was here, Eliseo walked within our space, looking for things to fix... and then fixed them. Carpets were suddenly cleaner and walls freshly painted.

Light fixtures brighter, the kitchen floor spotless, missing

trim missing-no-more... vacuums worked! (In a sense, Eliseo's practice of 'seeking out problems and fixing our structure' was a metaphor for our task as well... In the structure of our society there are egregious flaws apparent... We seek to address them.)

...And when Eliseo had fixed everything he could identify, he looked for other constructive ways to spend his time. (Continually being constructive while totally dependent upon the community you have entrusted yourself to... day in and day out, week in and week out... Can we even begin to imagine Eliseo's persistence, fighting to *stay* with his family... the only option being self-incarceration, separating himself from them the great majority of the time?) We find ourselves in awe. His humor, positive attitude, and gracious way of being leads some of us to believe Eliseo is a magical human being.

Under the tutelage and direction of Gary Welsh and several others, Eliseo has begun diligently working towards a GED. He graciously grants interviews to reporters, churches, college students and others who are curious or concerned about his plight. He continues to address small repairs around the church and also assists The Justice Theater Project in various ways. On weekends and holidays, he happily spends time with his children and wife- Allison, Christopher and Gabriela.

... And, in his *spare* time, Eliseo has begun fashioning bird houses. (Peter van Dorsten suggested we call them bird sanctuaries!). Because he had never built a bird house before, because he had marginal tools at his disposal, because he did not pursue the idea when it first came up in conversation, we imagined his houses would be rudimentary and simple. Not so! These 'bird sanctuaries' are true treasures, unique and beautiful pieces of folk art that double as places of refuge for the birds of the air.

For that reason, we want to give everyone an equal opportunity and fair chance to own one of them. Additionally, as Eliseo has always been the primary bread winner for his family, we want to maximize the proceeds that will go to their support.

The 5 'bird sanctuaries' in the photo above will be auctioned online with bidding open until 10:00 a.m. Feb. 11. For the online bidding go to: https://www.facebook.com/pg/UmsteadParkUCC/photos/?tab=album&album_id=2084583591560921

5 additional birdhouses will be auctioned live as part of our Feb. 11th 'Fat Sunday' event following worship. (The bidding will begin at approximately 12:30.) Those 5 birdhouses may be seen in the office lobby of the church.

You are encouraged to share this information with others who may also like to assist in the support of Eliseo's family.

Happy Bidding!! (Happy Birding!)



Regional Youth Event

Over MLK weekend, 17 youth and adults retreated to Blowing Rock, NC for the Southern & Southeastern Conferences' Winter Youth Retreat! While there, we gathered with 170 other youth and adults from NC, GA, TN, KY, and SC to ponder the question, "Am I Good?". We enjoyed large group sessions, small group discussions, fun & games, and a service opportunity with the firewood ministry of Boone United Methodist Church. I am grateful to have been part of this retreat weekend and to lead this group of hard-working, enthusiastic, and loving group of teens & tweens!

-Anne Maust, Youth Director

(Photos on this page from the retreat.)



February Youth Schedule

February 4 - 11:30a-1:30p
Youth meet at UPUCC

February 11 - 11:30a- 1p
Fat Sunday Celebration at UPUCC

February 17-18 (10a Sat-noon Sun)
Faith & Sexuality Retreat
Grades 8 & Up

February 25 - 11:30a-1:30p
Youth meet at UPUCC



children

Back by Popular Demand!

During late winter and early spring, Trish Breen returns to lead yoga followed by mindfulness work led by Lori Del Negro (with the lower and upper elementary Children's Church classes) on given Sundays. Families will be reminded to have their children dress in comfortable clothes on the Sundays their classes will be involved.



Activities for Children & Families during February and beyond

February 4- Upper Elementary students remain and assist in worship (February 4). Lower Elementary students have yoga during Children's Church time. Young Children's Class meets.

February 11-'Dimanche Gras'

Our annual Fat Tuesday celebration moves to an after-church celebration with meal, talent show and silent auction!

Upper Elementary students have yoga during Children's Church time (February 11).

Children prepare for their mission project with Faith In Action to collect children's clothing items for Note in the Pocket (Details page seven)

February 18- Note in the Pocket Collection held (Of course, families are welcome to participate in any and all of the February 'Spread the Love' collections listed on page six.) Opportunities during Lent for children to assist in worship (Feb 18 & 25-TBA). Children's Church classes meet.

Palm Sunday - March 25- Children processing with palms.

Easter Sunday - April 1- Cooperative Egg Hunt follows worship.

*With inarticulate words and unfinished lives,
we yearn to further embody this holy love,
shaping the future as partners with God,
who dances and weeps with us along the way.*

faith in action

Saturday, February 10 - HKonJ People's Assembly 2018

HKonJ People's Assembly
Downtown Raleigh

The Historic Thousands on Jones Street (HKonJ) People's Assembly Coalition is made up of more than 125 of the NAACP's North Carolina branches, youth councils, and college chapters from across the state, as well as members of over 200 other social justice organizations. The 2018 Mass Moral March on Raleigh and HKonJ People's Assembly will mark 12 years since this movement began.

The pre-rally will begin at 9 a.m. across the street from Raleigh Memorial Auditorium, 2 East South Street. Look for the UPUCC banner to join our group. More information is available at the HKonJ website: <https://naacpnc.org/hkonj-peoples-assembly-coalition/>

Spread the Love on Each Sunday in February

Each Sunday in the month of February will feature different ways to "Spread the Love," with collection bins set up each week to feature a different donation opportunity.

Sunday, February 4... "Really Souper Sunday"

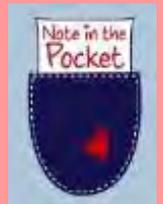
While prepping for the big game, let's take time to remember those in our communities who go hungry every night. Cans of soup will be collected and taken to Urban Ministries to support their mission of providing for those in need.

Sunday, February 11... "Sock-it-to-Me Sunday"

Socks are an item that is always in demand for the clients at Healing Transitions. Adult socks will be collected and provided to the Women's Campus down the street.

Sunday, February 18... "Note in the Pocket Sunday"

Note in the Pocket is an organization that provides clothing to impoverished and homeless children in Wake County. <http://www.noteinthepocket.org> New and gently used clothing of all sizes are accepted for donation, but some of the more immediate needs are Boys Sneakers: sizes 5, 5.5, 7, 7.5; Boys Coats: sizes 14-18; Men's Coats size small (for teenagers); Boys long sleeve graphic t-shirts: sizes 8-14; Girls long sleeve graphic t-shirts: sizes 12 & 16; Boys and Girls 3T tops. Please join FIA and the Children's Committee in dressing these kids for success! If you would prefer to make a financial donation to this organization, reference "Note in the Pocket" on your check or green envelope.



Sunday, February 25... "Second Chance Sunday"



This past November, we learned in Adult Forum about the ways that Oxford House assists people faced with substance use disorder / mental health challenges. They provide safe, supportive housing and a recovery environment for individuals trying to make the most of their second chance at life. <http://www.oxfordhousenc.org/> Toiletry items of all types (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.) as well as twin and full size sheets will be delivered to Oxford House for distribution. If you would prefer to make a financial donation to this organization, reference "Oxford House" on your check or green envelope – they are always in need of bus passes for their residents.

adult education

What IS Prayer? Series Wraps Up

February 5 - 7-8:30 p.m.

Richard Rohr, Cynthia Bourgeault, and others believe we have lost the full meaning of prayer. What do they mean? All are welcome to come explore with us these and other thoughts on WHAT IS PRAYER? Betsy Thigpen and Doug Long facilitating. (In this last session, Betsy Thigpen will bring focus to some of the work of Cynthia Bourgeault.)

Sunday Forums

February 4 - 9:30 am Prophets 101 David VandeVusse facilitates a discussion of our tradition through the prophets in the Hebrew Scriptures.

No Forum **February 11- Come celebrate Dimanche Gras following worship!** (see below)

February 18 - 9:30 am. Expanding our Extravagant Welcome to Transgender Individuals. We have bathroom signs. Now what? Join us for a discussion with co-leaders Gina Kentopp and Julie Heustis on how we can continue to show an extravagant welcome for those in the Transgender Community. Four years ago we put up our inclusive bathroom signs. Are there other things we can do to let folks know this is a safe and welcoming place to worship? Please bring your thoughts and suggestions! If you cannot make it but would like to share your ideas, please email Gina at gkentopp@hotmail.com

February 25 - 9:30 a.m. Heaven: Challenging Traditional Christian Theology. Our discussion will center around ideas voiced in John Shelby Spong's book *Eternal Life: A New Vision*. In this book, Bishop Spong promotes the idea of an ongoing existence beyond the physical, one that supersedes religious ideas of heaven and hell and even conventional notions of God. Gail Holden facilitating.

fellowship

Mardi Gras Celebration- 'Dimanche Gras!'

This year's Fat Tuesday party will take place after church on Sunday, **February 11**.

Chef Todd returns to create his awesome Jambalaya (chicken, sausage, red beans & rice) plus a vegetarian offering of red beans and rice- to accompany delicious pancakes followed by a talent show and auction of birdhouses by Eliseo.

Look for future Fellowship Events-

Game Night

Family Feud Night

Brewery Outings (Burgers & Beer!)

Opportunity to create a Flying Solo Group

upucc february volunteers

February 4

Altar Prep: Eleanor Smith
Communion Prep: Larry & Janie Anderson
Coffee Set-Up: Lori Del Negro & Roger Sommer
Greeters: Arlene Peters
Ushers: Scott & Renate Andrews
Sound System: Nevin Fouts
Auditor: Martha Eller
Assistant Treasurer: Chris Ousley
Clean-Team: Edward McFarland, Tracy Denson,
Mark & Melanie Stevens, Linda Hébert

February 11

Altar Prep: Leslie Heavey
Coffee Set-Up: Julie & Miles Schumacher
Greeters: Marianne Drexler, Colin McKerrell
Ushers: Leslie Heavey
Sound System: Dan Harrell
Auditor: Gwen Vass
Assistant Treasurer: Lee Harrison
Clean-Team: Dawn McCarthy, Marcia Welsh, Mary Pat
Peters, Eliseo Jimenez

February 18

Altar Prep: Eleanor Smith
Coffee Set-Up: Sarah Sydney & Jim Gattis
Greeters: Julie & Miles Schumacher
Ushers: Richard & Colleen Frazer
Sound System: Peter van Dorsten
Auditor: Julie Schumacher
Assistant Treasurer: Chris Ousley
Clean-Team: Tim Champion & Dan Harrell,
Chris Ousley, Ada & Colin McKerrell

February 25

Altar Prep: Michael Lester
Coffee Set-Up: Roberta Ouellette
Greeters: Samantha Casey and Phyllis Evans
Ushers: Jamye & Chris Abram
Sound System: **TBD**
Auditor: Bob Martin
Assistant Treasurer: Dan Harrell
Clean-Team: Nevin & Carol Fouts, Scott Pope,
Doug Long & Janice Odom

Ash Wednesday Observance

February 14 - 5:45-6:45 p.m.

You are invited to a Drop-In Meditation, Communion and Imposition of Ashes in the worship space.

New Covenant Partners



Mother & Daughter, **Phyllis Evans & Samantha Casey**

Samantha (Sam) Casey said she was looking for a progressive church because she never felt like she belonged at any church. "When I started coming, I felt right at home." Living in Raleigh (with husband, John, three year old daughter and mother, Phyllis Evans), Sam says she feels a call to help people. She works in billing for a pediatrician and serves as a receptionist at a veterinary office.

Phyllis Evans describes her vocation as taking care of "my awesome granddaughter." Phyllis also has another daughter and enjoys reading, camping and cooking. Sam says she enjoys sleeping and family time.

In closing, Sam shared, "I've always felt very out of place in any religious setting. I wasn't raised in any way religious, and it was all very foreign to me. I still longed to have a connection and I would find myself praying but still felt empty. I'm very glad I found UPUCC, because I've always had a fearful view of church in the traditional sense, having been brought up in a very rural closed-minded part of the state; but UPUCC has shown me that 'my people' are out there. I'm glad I found them."

committee opportunities abound!

When you volunteer you give something back to the church by lending a helping hand. You also reap personal benefits and enhance your personal growth. At UPUCC, most of our volunteer efforts are channeled through our committees. The UPUCC Nominating Committee invites Covenant Partners to consider serving on one of the following committees:

Adult Education: coordinates Sunday forums, book studies, evening discussion groups, and other activities that enhance educational opportunities for our adult members. In conjunction with the Fellowship Committee and other groups, they sponsor film outings and retreats, and also publicize opportunities offered in the wider community.

Building & Grounds: plans for maintenance and use of our building, grounds and furnishings. Possible projects include an outdoor playground, garden, and gathering space considerations.

Children's Committee: organizes educational and social opportunities for infants through fifth graders. Working closely with the Children's Director, this committee assists with the Children's Church program, teacher training and scheduling of teachers and nursery volunteers. Special events for children also fall under this committee.

Faith in Action: encourages members to be actively involved in social justice issues. Through the leadership of this committee, UPUCC supports national and international organizations like Bread for the World, Heifer International, UCC special offerings, and also commits support to local initiatives such as Oxford House and Urban Ministries.

Fellowship: provides opportunities for UPUCC'ers to know each other better through special events such as barbecue luncheons, Fat Tuesday and Christmas Caroling, (just to name a few!) Besides coordinating Sunday morning coffee and goodies, this committee also plans various meals on a regular basis.

Membership & Publicity: publicizes the UPUCC community through print and internet advertising, website, promotional items, brochures and other media. They provide welcome packets and help new Covenant Partners make connections with each other. They are responsible for the Sunday morning welcome table setup, name badges and recruiting greeters.

Pastoral Care: offers congregational care and spiritual support by focusing on individual needs and caring for personal relationships. They prepare the weekly e-prayer list, send birthday cards and notes of encouragement to members and friends, coordinate meals for those with special circumstances, coordinate the church's Care Teams and provide assistance and compassion in a variety of ways.

Stewardship & Finance: is responsible for the supervision of the finances of the church. As part of this, the committee plans and implements the annual pledge campaign and works with other committees in the Church to formulate a proposed annual budget. Those recommendations are then presented to the Coordinating Council and Congregation. They also manage many other financial-related tasks including: insurance programs, weekly contribution deposits, financial reports, and analyzing contribution data.

Worship & Music: is in charge of the music program of the church including supporting the choir director and pianist, selection, acquisition and maintenance of musical instruments and materials. They are responsible for volunteers for communion preparation, ushering and sound system set up. They also coordinate with the pastor in planning worship services.

Youth: works with the associate pastor to provide teenagers the opportunity to establish and nurture a relationship with God, themselves and with their community. Special ministries throughout the year are designed to be fun and promote spiritual growth in grades 6-12. Retreats, summer camp outs, lock-ins, local service projects, mission trips, special fellowships, fund raisers and worship are all part of the mix. Youth Committee also assists with selection of curricula, coordinating programs, identifying program leaders and leader training.

Personnel: responsible for personnel policies, including salary recommendations and benefits. This committee maintains written job descriptions for all paid positions. It also provides both accountability and support to paid staff by working with staff to create goals for the year. The committee screens applicants for employment with the church.

Nominating Committee (Year Round): to be in charge of preparing a slate of candidates for all outgoing officers and committee chairs, as well as populating committees throughout the year.

Officers and committees are elected at our Spring Congregational Meeting at the end of April, and terms begin in May. Most committees meet the second Sunday of each month. For further information, please contact Moderator -Elect, Renate Andrews at rma8805@gmail.com

Invite all to participate in the choices which shape us, sharing decisions equally and responsibly, and, in so doing, reclaim the constructive use of power;

in our wider community

Rabbi Rami Shapiro to be in Raleigh Feb. 21-25 ... and UPUCC is a Sponsor!



Rabbi Rami Shapiro

An emerging multi-faith clergy coalition (www.facebook.com/Multi-faithCoalition) has invited Rabbi Rami Shapiro, award-winning author of over 30 books on religion and spirituality and a Congregational Rabbi, to lead a series of interactive lectures including conversation and contemplation for seekers of all stripes.

You are cordially invited to join as we all deepen our understanding of the Perennial Wisdom (a term referring to the shared insights at the mystical heart of all religions) and its impact on our individual expressions of faith. You are welcome at any or all of the following opportunities:

- **Wednesday, February 21, 7:00 pm -Quail Ridge Books Reading**, North Hills, 4209-100 Lassiter Mill Rd, Raleigh, “Perennial Wisdom for the Spiritually Independent”
- **Friday, February 23, 7-8:30 pm Temple Beth Or Conversations**, 5315 Creedmoor Rd, Raleigh, “*Religion as Language: a New Model for Understanding the World’s Religions.*”
- **Saturday, February 24, 10:30 am–12 noon Temple Beth Or Learning Sabbath Service**, “*Jewish Spiritual Practice and World Spirituality*” Q&A session.
12:15 - 1:00pm. **Optional Box Lunch** (must be pre-purchased by Tuesday, February 20, on <http://www.facebook.com/Multi-faithcoalition> (click ”Shop Now”) \$12.00. For details contact: adminasst@tboraleigh.org
- **Saturday, February 24, 1-3:30 pm Temple Beth Or Conversations**, “*Perennial Wisdom and the Five Questions that shape the human search for meaning.*”
- **Sunday, February 25, 10:30-11:30 am Wake Forest Christian Church Worship**, 701 S. Main St. Wake Forest “Who do you say I am?” - basic ways we humans think about God, and how to understand Jesus from a Perennial Wisdom perspective. Contact: David Griffin jdavidgriffin24@gmail.com

Rabbi Rami Shapiro, PhD, professor of religious studies, student of the Ramakrishna Order of Vedanta Hinduism, and a congregational rabbi, currently directs the One River Foundation for the study of Perennial Wisdom: <http://oneriverfoundation.org/>. *Books for sale will be available at all events.*

Sponsors:

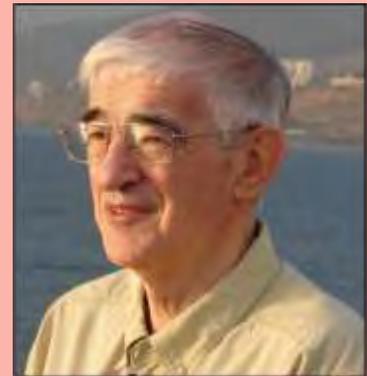
- *The Fountain Church of Raleigh
- *Temple Beth Or
- *Umstead Park United Church of Christ
- *Department of Religious and Ethical Studies at Meredith College
- *Pullen Baptist Church
- *Wake Forest Christian Church
- *The Theosophical Society in America

*We come together as travelers on a journey,
each bringing our unique histories, traditions, and stories of faith,*

in our wider community continued...

John Dominic Crossan March 23-24

First Reformed United Church of Christ
513 W. Front Street
Burlington, NC



The Challenge of the Christian Bible

- Fri. 7:00 – 8:30 pm Covenantal Law:
Human Destiny or Divine Sanction?
- Sat. 9 - 10:30 am Original Sin:
Sexual Temptation or Escalatory Violence?
- Sat. 11 am - 12:30 pm God's Kingdom:
Violent Revolt or Non-Violent Resistance?

<http://www.123formbuilder.com/form-3368347/Event-Registration-Form>

Cost: \$10 for Friday only; \$20 for Saturday only; \$25 for BOTH days

Payment options:

Visit www.firstreformeducc.org

Click the tab "OnLine Gifts"

Type the word CROSSAN in

"add special instructions to the seller"

Mail check to:

OR First Reformed UCC

513 W. Front St.

Burlington, NC 27215

For more information: email fruccrev@bellsouth.net or call 336-226-7346

upucc advocacy task force

North Carolina Issues

Six Task Force members joined about 300 other concerned people from across the State at the January 10 "Fair Courts Citizen Action Day" on Judicial reform. After that program, four who are constituents of Senator John Alexander met with his Legislative Assistant for 90 minutes for a wide-ranging discussion of issues and views.

On January 30, Representative Cynthia Ball and the Meredith College Department of Political Science hosted a forum on "Threats to an Independent Judiciary" at Meredith College.

Current key issues for Advocacy are:

- Threats to an Independent Judiciary,
- Redistricting/Gerrymandering,
- Class size in public schools.
- GenX Pollution

Current Key Issues at the Federal Level

DACA, Path to Citizenship and Immigration Reform.

Please keep calling Burr (202) 224-3154, Tillis (202) 224-6342 and your US Representative.

If you have questions or need more information, contact Gary Welsh garywelsh02@gmail.com
or Ted Frazer fkassoc@aol.com

upucc february calendar

Sat.	Feb. 3	10:00 a.m. Meditation Group meets in the library. 2:00 p.m. Book Discussion, <i>The Pink Triangle</i> at Quail Ridge Books.
Sun.	Feb. 4	9:30 a.m. Forum: Prophets 101. See page seven. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Communion: "Where Were the Christians? (<i>Bent</i>), Doug Long preaching. Following worship Newcomers & Inquirers Session in the library. Following worship UPUCC Advocacy Task Force meets in the large atrium conference room. 11:30 a.m-1:30 p.m. Youth meet.
Mon.	Feb. 5	7:00 p.m. What IS Prayer? series. See page seven.
Tues.	Feb. 6	9:30 a.m. Creativity Group meets in the library.
Wed.	Feb. 7	3:00 p.m. Creativity Group to Healing Transitions. 7:00 p.m. UPUCC Choir rehearsal in the worship space.
Fri.	Feb. 9	7:30 p.m. JTP Bent Opening Night Performance in the worship space.
Sat.	Feb. 10	9:00 a.m. Moral March on Raleigh (HKonJ People's Assembly)-Downtown Raleigh. See page six. 2:00 p.m. JTP Bent Performance in the worship space. 7:30 p.m. JTP Bent Performance in the worship space.
Sun.	Feb. 11	9:30 a.m. Committee Meeting Time. Childcare provided. 10:30 a.m. Worship: "Dimanche Gras," Doug Long preaching. Following worship Fat Sunday Celebration in the worship space. See page seven. 3:00 p.m. JTP Bent Performance in the worship space.
Mon.	Feb. 12	6:30 p.m. Evening Creativity Group meets in the worship space.
Wed.	Feb. 14	5:45-6:45 p.m. Ash Wednesday Communion and Imposition of Ashes. See page eight. 7:00 p.m. UPUCC Choir rehearsal in the worship space.
Thurs.	Feb. 15	Deadline for UPUCC March Newsletter 7:30 p.m. JTP Bent Performance in the worship space.
Fri.	Feb. 16	7:30 p.m. JTP Bent Performance in the worship space.
Sat.	Feb. 17	9:30 a.m. Yoga in the worship space with Ellen Beidler. 10:00 a.m. Youth Faith & Sexuality Retreat 2:00 p.m. JTP Bent Performance in the worship space. 7:00 p.m. JTP Bent Performance in the worship space.
Sun.	Feb. 18	9:30 a.m. Forum: Expanding our Extravagant Welcome to Transgender Individuals. See page seven. 10:30 a.m. Worship: "The Evolution of Christian Nationalism," Doug Long preaching. 12:00 p.m. Worship & Music Committee meets in the library. 3:00 p.m. JTP Bent Closing Performance in the worship space.
Tues.	Feb. 20	9:30 a.m. Creativity Group meets in the library. 7:00 p.m. Coordinating Council meets in the library.
Wed.	Feb. 21	7:00 p.m. UPUCC Choir rehearsal in the worship space.
Sat.	Feb. 24	10:30 a.m. Rabbit Rami Shapiro at Temple Beth Or. See page 10.

Calendar continued on next page...

upucc february calendar *continued...*

Sun.	Feb. 25	9:30 a.m. Forum: Heaven: Challenging Traditional Christian Theology. See page seven. 10:30 a.m. Worship: "Who Do You Say He Is?" Doug Long preaching. 11:30 am-1:30 pm Youth meet.
Mon.	Feb. 26	7:00 p.m. UPUCC Men's Group. Contact reedaltman@gmail.com for details.
Wed.	Feb. 28	7:00 p.m. UPUCC Choir rehearsal in the worship space.

the justice theater project



Bent By Martin Sherman



February 9 - 18, 2018

Umstead Park UCC [8208 Brownleigh Drive, Raleigh](http://www.umsteadparkucc.org)

Sponsored by Workplace Options

**7:30 pm Performances:
February 9, 10, 15, 16, 17**

**2:00 pm Saturday
Performances:
February 10 and 17**

**3:00 pm Sunday
Performances:
February 11 and 18**

This show is rated NC 17 and intended for adult audiences.

For complete ticket information:
Email thejusticetheaterproject@gmail.com
919-264-7089