



**EARTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY
EVENTS CALENDAR
May 2017**

MUSLIM CONNECTION

For more information, please contact Colleen at afinegan@gmail.com

WHAT'S UP WITH WHITENESS

May Calling In Session will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 6:30-8:30pm (RE Commons downstairs). Join us for our monthly What's Up with Whiteness: Calling In session. This is an opportunity for participants to discuss and practice difficult conversations about racism that they have had (or need to have) with family members, co-workers, fellow congregants, etc. about issues relating to racism. For more information, contact Elizabeth Schell (<mailto:elizabeth@lainschell.com?subject=>) or just show up! FB event link here (<https://t.e2ma.net/click/4jbkv/ov1j8n/0k1dng>).

WEEKLY SESSIONS FOR STAYING ACCOUNTABLE IN DOING ANTI-RACISM WORK:

Tuesdays, 10-12 at Firestorm (ASURJ Do!scussion)

Fridays, 10-12 at 23 Edwin (Anti-Racism Accountability group)

These are weekly opportunities to challenge yourself and white supremacy through difficult discussions with others who also want to fight the powers that be! For more info, contact Elizabeth: elizabeth@lainschell.com

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES:

Crossover day may have come and gone in the NC General Assembly and some legislators may believe this bill is dead for the session. But it's not dead until WE say it's dead and the pressure is just beginning to mount.

We need to keep on posting and sending out the link <http://ncwethepeople.org/ncwtp-help-online.html> relentlessly. The Rules Committee members have to remain inundated with emails on H453/S354 and reminded about Article 1, Section 2 of the State Constitution of NC.

Please sign the petition for a ballot measure in North Carolina that will allow voters to tell Congress to pass a Constitutional Amendment declaring that corporations are not people and money is not speech:

<http://www.ncwethepeople.org>

HUNGER & HOMELESS COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

- **DRIVERS ARE NEEDED** to deliver MANNA packs to schools for the remainder of this school year and starting up again in the fall with the new school year. This would involve picking up the packs at MANNA and delivering them to one of the schools that does not presently have a volunteer driver. This can be done as little as once a month, weekly, or more often if you would like. If you think this is something you can do, or for more information, contact Jim Lee (jameslee@alum.mit.edu).
- **SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM:** The Summer Feeding Program feeds lunch to children that normally receive a meal at school during the school year. The program begins on June 14th and continues through August 8th except for July 4th. The time required is about 2 to 2-1/2 hrs. Buncombe Co. School System prepares and delivers hot lunches to designated high poverty sites for volunteers to distribute free to children ages 2-18 and to the disabled. The sites where the meals are distributed are: Wellington Estates in Arden, Woodbridge Apts. in Emma, Black Locust Trailer Park in Woodfin, Leicester Community Center in Leicester, and across from Reynolds High School in East Asheville. A training video of 40 minutes with 6 questions is required of all volunteers as well as an online background check. A large number of UU members have participated in this program each year. To volunteer or for more information contact Judy Mattox (judymattox@sbcglobal.net, 615-585-4570) or Ann McLellan (annmclellan1@gmail.com, 828-350-9005).
- **MANNA FOODBANK VOLUNTEERS:** Join us on our next workday, Friday, May 19th from 9-11 a.m. as we sort and pack food at MANNA FoodBank. No heavy lifting required. It's a great way to do your part to fight hunger in our community and to get to know fellow congregants. Since this is sandal weather, please be advised that no open-toed shoes will be allowed on the floor. This will be our last workday until school resumes next fall. FMI contact Joyce Birkenholz (jbwallis@charter.net).

PEACEMAKING POTLUCK: JUST MERCY (II)

Wednesday, May 10, 6pm (sh).

Please join the Potluck as we continue our discussion of Bryan Stevenson's best selling book *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. Stevenson will be this year's Ware Lecturer at the UUA General Assembly. This month we will discuss pages 92-226. (Interested in the book but unable to attend the Potluck? Bruce has three copies available for free upon request.)

The Potluck is open to all. We gather in Sandburg Hall from 6-6:15pm, potluck

from 6:15-6:45pm, and transition from 6:45-7pm. Discussion takes place from 7-8:15pm, after which we tidy up. FMI: please contact **Bruce Larson/683-5548**.

ROOM IN THE INN, the interfaith project that provides shelter for up to 12 homeless women will be May 21-27 in partnership with Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. Volunteers are needed as overnight hosts, as well as to provide bag lunches and dinner items. Contact Paula Massey, massey.paula@gmail.com

EARTH COMMUNITY CIRCLE MONTHLY MEETING
Wednesday, May 17, 6-8pm (RE 4)

Please join us as we review efforts in progress and plan upcoming efforts to support the congregation's environmental sustainability. FMI, contact **Sunita Patterson/sunitapatterson@gmail.com** or **T. S. Pennington/pennints@gmail.com**.

JOIN THE UUCA CLEAN STREAM TEAM!!!

Saturday, May 20, 10am-2pm (offsite). On Saturday, May 20, we are joining other teams across the county to participate in the 41st Annual GreenWorks Clean Stream Day! We have selected Reed Creek Greenway, which is located off Broadway near historic Montford and has been a valuable section of the greenway since 2012. Our team will clean the creek and adjacent greenway from 10 am and then will join the "after cleanup" party at 2 pm sponsored by Highland Brewery and French Broad Outfitters. Work gloves and trash bags will be onsite or you can bring your favorite gloves (and wear work clothes and sturdy shoes). If you have any questions, or to sign up, contact **Paula Massey, massey.paula@gmail.com**. Signup sheets will also be available at the ESJM table Sundays. Sponsored by the Earth Community Circle

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SIERRA CLUB NEWSLETTER FOR MAY- JULY:

- **Flowers, Trees, Mountains of Appalachian Spring May 3:**
Sierra Club will present on Wed, May 3 at 7 pm "Flowers, Trees, and Mountains of our Appalachian Spring" with Scott Dean, naturalist and photographer. Scott has been a part of both UNCA & Great Smoky Mountain Spring. Pilgrimages for years, and teaches at the Arboretum.

Location: Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 1 Edwin Pl, (corner of Charlotte & Edwin) in Asheville. Contact: Judy Mattox, judymattox@sbcglobal.net, [828-683-2176](tel:828-683-2176).

Free & open to the public

- **Hikes**
 1. Sat May 13, Pink Beds/Barnett Branch Waterfall, easy/moderate,

10 am - 5 pm, 5 miles, good foot wear required, contact: Lisa McWherter at lisamcw2@gmail.com

2. Wed, May 17, Looking Glass rock, 6.4 miles, elevation gain, need to be in good physical shape, great views and lunch on the rock, contact: David Reid at daviddbreid@charter.net, 828-713-1607
3. Wed, May 24, Graybeard Falls in Montreat, moderate/difficult 5 miles, good foot wear, 9:30 am - 3 pm. contact Jane Laping at janelaping@sbcglobal.net, 828-772-0379
4. Wed, May 31, Green Knob, 4 miles descending from Blue Ridge Pkway, viewing Black Mts, potential wilderness designation, 9 am - 4 pm. contact: David Reid at daviddbreid@charter.net, 828-713-1607

FRENCH BROAD RIVER CLEAN-UP: SAT MAY 20 10:00 AM

On water in canoes provided by Greenworks, and on land, if enough sign ups. Party and free beer after at Highland Brewing. Contact: Mark Threlkeld, focusmdt@gmail.com

THANK YOU FOR CLIMATE MARCH, BUS TO DC, AND MARCH FOR SCIENCE!

Thanks to all of you who rode all-night by bus to march in DC; to all of you marching in Asheville for Science and for the People's Climate March. All were very successful!

FILM THURS MAY 4: URANIUM & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN

AUSTRALIA "WALKING FOR COUNTRY", 7 pm at the Block off Biltmore (corner of Eagle & Market St in Downtown Asheville, info: Mary Olson, 828-252-8409, free but donation requested

BUNCOMBE COUNTY SCHOOLS provides a **SUMMER FREE LUNCH PROGRAM** and **volunteers are needed.**

Dates: June 14 -- Aug 18

Days: Monday through Fridays, (not July 4)

Times: Lunchtime – serve for one hour, need time for set up & cleanup

Signups: Can sign up for one day, but better to sign up for a certain day, like all Mondays at one site

Sites: In Arden, Wellington Estates, 42 Avalon Dr , off Airport Rd.
In Emma, Woodridge Apts, 61 Bingham Rd, off N. Louisiana Ave in west

Avl In Woodfin, Black Locust Trailer Park, 50 Black Locust Rd , off I-26 & Elk Mt In Leicester, Leicester Community Center, 2979 New Leicester Hwy Across from Reynolds High School, off 74A in East Asheville, Curci's Fairview Terr., Curci's Drive, Asheville 28803

Program Description:

1. Buncombe Ct School System prepares and delivers hot lunches to designated high poverty neighborhood sites, for volunteers to distribute free to children ages 2-18 and to the disabled.
2. Online background checks are required of all volunteers. A training video of 40 minutes with 6 questions is required.
3. Two people can adequately cover the feeding site.

Contact: Judy Mattox, judymattox@sbcglobal.net, 615-584-4570, Ann McLellan, annmclellan1@gmail.com, 828-350-9005

ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE FILM NIGHT FRIDAY, MAY 12TH, 7 PM

In How to Let Go of the World and Love All the Things Climate Can't Change, Oscar Nominated di- rector Josh Fox (GASLAND) continues in his deeply personal style, investigating climate change – the greatest threat our world has ever known. Traveling to 12 countries on six continents, the film acknowledges that it may be too late to stop some of the worst consequences and asks, what is so deep within us that no calamity can take it away?

Fox concludes that courage, resilience, innovation, democracy and community are among the ideals that must thrive in order for us to weather the coming challenges. In fact, people in places as di- verse as China, Africa, the Amazon, the Pacific and the U.S. are relying on these very qualities and basic civic values in their ongoing battles to save the planet and ourselves.

"Tough. As in tough to watch, Tough to consider, Tough to ignore." – Ken Jaworowski, New York Times, Apr 19, 2016

"How to Let Go" says all the right things about an unnerving peril, and the various ways some highly motivated people are trying to combat it."

– Robert Abele, Los Angeles Times, Jun 2, 2016

Official Website & Trailer <http://www.howtoletgomovie.com/index.html> runtime, 2 hrs.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Asheville One Edwin Place, Asheville, NC 28801

There is no charge for viewing the film Donations are welcomed