

# SOUTHEAST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SUMMER INSTITUTE


JULY 16-22, 2023  
CULLOWHEE, NC



*This jam-packed Confirmation NUUS edition has all the info you'll need for SUUSI 2023. We are so grateful to be together again as we Turn Our World Around! Can't wait to see you!*

**Check-in is from 10 AM - 5 PM on Sunday, July 16, in the Bardo Performing Arts Center.**

Check-in can take up to an hour. Plan your travel so you arrive to begin registration by 4 PM. Make sure to allow extra time for traffic delays. If you arrive later than 5 PM, you cannot check in until 8:30 AM Monday morning, and you will have to arrange your own dinner and housing for Sunday night. If circumstances beyond your control prevent you from arriving before 5 PM, text or call the registrar, Peter Lazar, at 540-250-3261.

 Early arrivals (before Sunday, June 16) **must be pre-approved** by SUUSI Core Staff. If you arrive prior to Sunday and have not been pre-approved, you must find another place to stay until your regular arrival day.

## One number does it all!

Call **66-ASK-SUUSI** 24 hours a day and press **1** for answers to all your questions.

Pastoral care needs? Call **66-ASK-SUUSI** and press **2** for the Minister on Duty.

Need support from the Covenant and Accountability Team? Call **66-ASK-SUUSI** and press **2** for the CAT.

## YOUR HEALTH AT SUUSI: 2023 Covid Protocols

**RIGHT NOW:** Consider buying travel insurance in case Covid disrupts your plans. Buy Covid tests, one for everyone coming with you. Start taking extra precautions in public so that you lower your risk of missing SUUSI. Consider getting a Covid booster if you haven't already.

**BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME:** Have everyone in your party take a rapid Covid test 24-48 hours before arriving at SUUSI. If you prefer, you may take a PCR test no more than 72 hours before arrival. Please pack masks! Acceptable masks include N95, KN95, or KF94, or well-fitting surgical masks. **SUUSI will not allow the use of cloth masks as research has shown they are not very effective at stopping transmission of the current dominant Covid-19 strains.** Plan precautions during the trip, like wearing masks while you travel. If you test positive, email [registration@suusi.org](mailto:registration@suusi.org) immediately. You will not be able to attend SUUSI, and your SUUSI tuition will be refunded if requested.



**ARRIVING AT SUUSI:** There will not be on-site rapid testing upon arrival at SUUSI this year (yay!). Continue on to Bardo Arts Center to begin check-in.

**AT SUUSI:** Masks will be **required** for all participants 6 years old and older in the following indoor locations: • The dorm(s) section that will be set aside as a mask-required indoor location in the hallways and other public areas. • The specified mask-required seating section in the Bardo auditorium *at all times*. • The SUUSI Store *during specified hours*. • SUUSI sponsored vehicles *at all times*. • Workshops when required by the leader. *Note that singing workshops seem to provide the most contagion.*

The first floor of Blue Ridge dorm is set aside as masks-required in hallways and other public areas. Masks are **strongly recommended** in any indoor areas not expressly mentioned above. **Please note** that SUUSI mask protocols apply only to SUUSI participants. We cannot ask or require that others on campus (WCU students, staff, participants in other camps) wear masks.

**Any participants exhibiting symptoms** of Covid-19 at SUUSI will be asked to take a PCR test and remain quarantined and masked at all times until a negative result is confirmed. Rapid PCR testing is available close to the Western Carolina University campus.



**Anyone who receives a positive PCR or rapid antigen test during SUUSI** will need to leave campus immediately and will have their remaining SUUSI tuition refunded if requested. SUUSI will not provide quarantine housing.



**drive slowly** at all times on Western Carolina's campus.

◆ Park where you're directed – or let the person directing traffic know you need disabled parking.

◆ Know the name of your family's primary registrant.

◆ Pick up your registration packet. *We're letting you choose which additional information (schedules, map, etc.) you want to have in print format. There will be an information table near the nametags.*

◆ Visit the stations listed on your registration packet. This may include the cashier (for payments and forms) and age-group tables (if you have youth, teens, etc.).

◆ Get your room key and swipe card from WCU staff. Your SUUSI nametag is not in your packet! After you pick up your key, at the next station, you'll trade your WCU tag for an official SUUSI nametag.

◆ Have your photo taken for the Mugbook, our participant directory.



Check-in can be hectic, especially if you arrive late in the day or if your travel was stressful. A few reminders for making check-in easier for everyone:

◆ Move hugs and conversations to the side of the room – or better yet, catch up *outside!*

◆ Offer a hand to people who look new, lost, or confused. Help them find the Newcomers area.

◆ Be patient with your all-volunteer SUUSI staff as they do their best to meet everyone's needs.

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10 AM - 5 PM	Check-in open • <i>Bardo Arts Center</i>
4 - 6 PM	Check-in for workshop leaders • <i>Blue Ridge 102 Commons</i>
5 PM	Meeting: Middler parents & 13's • <i>Forsyth 305</i>
4 - 8 PM	First SUUSI meal • <i>Courtyard Dining Hall</i>
6:30 PM	Gather for the Banner Parade – we'll step off at 6:45! <i>Central Plaza</i>
7 - 8 PM	Ingathering • <i>Bardo Arts Center</i>
8 - 8:30 PM	Teen & Teen Parent Meeting • <i>Bardo Arts Center</i>
9 PM - 12 AM	Cabaret • <i>Bardo Arts Center</i>
9 - 9:30 PM	Childcare Co-op meeting • <i>Blue Ridge 302 Commons</i>
10 PM - 1 AM	Serendipity (21+ dance) • <i>Hillside Grind</i>
11 PM - 1 AM	CACHE (14+ dance) • <i>Balsam/Blue Ridge Crossover Lounge</i>
1 - 3:30 AM	BBQUUSI • <i>Hillside Grind</i>



## NEWS FOR NEWCOMERS

Welcome 2023 SUUSI Newcomers! My name is Dianna MacPherson, and I am the SUUSI Registration Staffer in charge of Newcomers. You can reach me at [newcomers@suusi.org](mailto:newcomers@suusi.org). When you arrive, volunteers will escort you to meet us at the Newcomer table and guide you through the registration check-in area.

After Sunday, your Newcomers staff won't be going away. Find us in the SUUSI Office in Balsam, 2nd floor, rooms 230 and 202. The office is open from 8:30 AM - 2 PM Monday through Friday. Please drop by and visit us with any concerns or with just a smile during the week. Your first SUUSI can be overwhelming, and we are all here to help.

## THOSE FINAL FORMS

By now, the deadline to submit forms through SOLIS, our online registration system, has passed. If you have remaining forms to send in, e-mail them directly to SUUSI Registrar Peter Lazar at [registration@suusi.org](mailto:registration@suusi.org). Children coming to SUUSI for the first time must have their ages verified. Contact the Registrar for help.



If you are bringing someone else's child or teen to SUUSI, you must send in the guardianship forms – email a **digital copy** to [registrar@suusi.org](mailto:registrar@suusi.org) **AND** mail a **printed copy** to Peter Lazar, 1730 Sage Lane, Blacksburg, VA, 24060 as soon as possible.



## GETTING TO SUUSI

The Western Carolina University campus is located in Cullowhee, NC, five miles south of Sylva on NC Route 107. The closest airport is in Asheville, about an hour away. See [bit.ly/GetToWCU](https://bit.ly/GetToWCU) for detailed directions and more maps to help you, or set your GPS to 1 University Dr., Cullowhee, NC, 28723. Once you get to campus, there will be signs to guide you to check-in. If you're looking for a ride or can offer a ride to SUUSI, try posting a message to the SUUSI Friends Facebook group.

## UNLOADING & PARKING

Long-term parking for SUUSI participants will be in WCU lot 12, which is the same lot you'll park in temporarily for check-in. Parking directly behind the dorms is only for cars with staff parking permits or state-issued disabled parking permits.

◆ When you finish check-in, bring your car around to the Move In/Move Out zone closest to your dorm. You can pick up a SUUSI map at the info table at check-in. Move In/Move Out lots are marked with a star.



◆ Unload your car, leaving your belongings in a pile to be guarded by our Move-In staff, and move your car to the long-term parking lot.

◆ Return to the dorm on foot and relay your belongings up to your room.

Wheeled carts and wagons are useful for move-in! If you bring a cart and are willing to share it with others, ask the move-in staff to help you label it with your name and room number. The move-in staff cannot leave their areas to carry your belongings to the dorms, but all able-bodied participants are encouraged to assist those who may need help with their belongings.

## BOARD FORUM ON SUUSI LOCATIONS

The SUUSI Board wants *your* input!! SUUSI occasionally has to find a new location – whether we stay at WCU or look to move elsewhere, we want to know what factors matter most to you in host sites. Attend a discussion forum with board member Ivy Breivogel on Wednesday, 4 - 5 PM. Watch the NUUS for the location. While everyone is encouraged to attend, we especially encourage BIPOC, people with disabilities, and LGBTQIA2S+ people to join this conversation as we aim to center these perspectives.

## KEYS & CARDS

At check-in, you'll be given your room key and swipe card. The room key opens your room (surprise!), and the swipe card is used to receive meals at the dining hall and to open the outside doors of the dorms.

◆ You must return these to WCU at the end of the week or face a charge of \$35 (swipe card)/\$50 (key).

◆ Do not punch a hole in your swipe card or label it with marker; WCU considers that damage and will charge a fee.

◆ Do not remove the round paper tag from your metal room key. Without the tag, WCU won't be able to match the key to the room and will consider it a lost key.

◆ You *may* label your swipe card with removable tape such as blue painters' tape or washi tape.

◆ Youth aged 0 - 10 will not have swipe cards for meals. They'll be given a wristband at the Youth table during Check-in, which will grant them admission to meals. If they are in their own room, they will be given a swipe card for dorm entry. Youth 0 - 10 sleeping on their parents' floor will **not** be issued individual dorm entry swipe cards.

## NAMETAGS

WCU will provide you with a nylon badge holder with a neck strap. Your name will be on a WCU-printed label, but this is **not** your SUUSI name tag. **You must exchange this label for your official SUUSI name tag at the table next to WCU key distribution** – except for Teens, who get their name tags at the mandatory Teen Meeting on Sunday evening. SUUSI name tags are color-coded by age group and are required for admission into SUUSI spaces. **Please wear your SUUSI name tag throughout the week.**

## DORM LIFE AT SUUSI

Are you used to staying in deluxe hotels or charming B&Bs on vacation? SUUSI housing might require a little mental re-calibration. We keep costs low and social opportunities high by living in the dorms at WCU, which are simple but well-supplied with the basics. You can expect:

- ◆ Air conditioning.
- ◆ One or two twin beds, a trash can, and a desk, chair, and dresser for each bed.
- ◆ An **extremely firm** mattress. Sheets, towels, and pillows are **not** provided.
- ◆ Your own bathroom (doubles) or a bathroom shared with one other room (singles). Water Rock's rooms have shared hall bathrooms with communal sinks and individual toilet and shower stalls.

If you'll be sharing a bathroom, please be courteous about how much time and space you take up. Remember to unlock the door to the connecting room when you're done!

You may bring things to make your room more comfortable: rugs, lamps, mini fridges, and soft mattress toppers are all popular. Candles, incense burners, and halogen lamps are **not** permitted in WCU dorms.

Want to hang posters or other decorations? Bring painters tape or Command strips. **No** sticky tape!

If you rearrange the furniture in your room, be sure to return it to its original position before leaving. Snap a picture when you arrive, so

Luckily for us, WCU dorms offer free washers and dryers for our use! You will need to bring your own detergent. Only detergents labeled "HE" or "for High Efficiency washers" may be used in the WCU machines.

## BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

While SUUSI is one of our spiritual homes, we are guests at Western Carolina University, and we must remember to behave in accordance with our covenant, the policies of WCU, and the laws of North Carolina.



It is essential that you come to SUUSI staff, rather than WCU personnel, when you're feeling frustrated, disappointed, or annoyed. SUUSI will have a 24/7 Helpline for your questions, concerns, and requests. Just call **66-ASK-SUUSI**. Do not bring issues to WCU staff, even if you feel you are able to do so politely. If you see someone else behaving rudely or breaking substance-use laws, please call or text the SUUSI Helpline.

What kind of behavior changes are we talking about? Here are examples:

**Past:** You see WCU staff doing something that doesn't seem environmentally responsible. You stop to explain to them why they should do it differently.

**Future:** You go on your way, deciding that you'll send an email to SUUSI's Core Staff later with your concern.

**Past:** The dining hall runs out of coffee, so you tell the nearest WCU worker how badly UUs need our coffee and ask them to ensure they never run out.

**Future:** You call 66-ASK-SUUSI, and a SUUSI staffer works with dining staff to address our caffeine needs. Meanwhile, you get a cup of coffee at the Common Ground Cafe.

**Past:** You (and everyone you know) think that marijuana laws are wrong. You bring marijuana to SUUSI and smoke it in your room or outside.

**Future:** You don't smoke marijuana at SUUSI at all. It's illegal in North Carolina, and our hosts care about that.

We must act with patience, understanding, and respect towards each other, SUUSI staff, and our hosts. The Core Staff and Board will intervene if people act in ways that jeopardize our relationship with our host campus – even, if necessary, to send people home – just as we hold that option in reserve for actions that cause harm to other SUUSI participants.

you'll remember where everything belongs. Be sure to pick up furniture rather than slide it across the floor; the floors scratch easily!

Please leave your room in good condition at the end of SUUSI. All room damage charges will be passed on from the university directly to the participant. Check your room when you arrive and report any damage, missing furniture, or other issues with your room. The

SUUSI Office can put you in touch with the right WCU personnel.

Please be aware and respectful of people around you. Someone might be trying to sleep nearby, day or night! Watch your volume.

Be careful of noise in hallways, stairwells, and elevator lobbies. Treat WCU housekeepers and conference staff with courtesy. They are valued members of our community.



## FEELING HUNGRY?

SUUSI meals will be provided in the Courtyard Dining Hall, directly across from Blue Ridge & Balsam dorms. Unless you are Early Arrival staff, your first meal on campus will be dinner on Sunday night. Dining swipe cards have exactly enough meal credits on them for the week, so if you charge lunch on Sunday (or swipe twice for any meal), you will run out of meals before Saturday morning. If you arrive Sunday morning, plan to pay cash for your lunch, either on or off campus.



The Courtyard Dining Hall will once again be open from 7 AM to 8 PM daily, rather than closing in between meals. We hope you enjoy the ability to eat during off-peak hours!

SUUSI staff work closely with the food service staff to try to assure a sufficient variety of food for any dietary needs. Lunch and dinner will always have at least four entrees, soup, and a salad bar. If you have questions or concerns about dining, call **66-ASK-SUUSI** for help. There will be a designated SUUSI staff person on duty in the cafeteria during peak meal hours. **Do not bring requests or complaints directly to dining staff.** There will be special tours of the dining hall at 3 PM on Sunday and 9:30 AM on Monday for those with food allergies.

The dining hall can be crowded at peak hours, especially at lunch. We encourage you to eat early or late if your schedule permits. Want to dine *al fresco*? You are permitted to take dining trays to the outdoor terraces **so long as you return them** when you're done to the indoor tray return.



## ACCESSIBILITY

SUUSI values the inclusion of people of all ability levels. Rachel Bevins and Alexis Long are our accessibility coordinators. Contact them via **66-ASK-SUUSI** or via [access@suusi.org](mailto:access@suusi.org) if accessibility issues arise during any SUUSI event or if your housing assignment does not meet your requested needs.

Star Cars are volunteer-driven golf carts which provide rides for people who need them. Star Car service is available from breakfast until Nightlife programming ends at 1 AM (2 AM Friday). Visit the Star Car table at check-in or look for the contact number in the NUUS. Star Cars may not be driven on the sidewalk anymore, so riders will have to walk to and from the nearest road or parking lot to the door. If your mobility is significantly limited, consider renting an electric cart or power wheelchair for your trip (see last page).



## BRING YOUR LINENS

WCU does **not** supply linens. You will need to bring sheets (size **twin extra-long**), a pillow, a bath towel and washcloth, and a light blanket for each person in your family. If you have children who will be sleeping on the floor, you'll want to bring an air mattress or camping pad for them to use. Shower curtains are provided, but bathmats are not. Don't forget your beach towel if you're planning an aquatics trip or just want to splash in the fountain!

Also, we don't know if you've heard, but the beds at WCU are **extremely firm**. We strongly recommend that you bring some type of mattress pad. If you forget (or don't have space), there are always a few available for sale at stores in Sylva – but shop early before they run out!

## NO ALCOHOL IN DORM FRIDGES

WCU requires that no alcohol be stored or consumed in public spaces, including dorm lounges and kitchens. SUUSI staff will pour out alcohol left in common areas. Mini fridges and alcohol consumption are allowed in dorm rooms. You may wish to coordinate with friends to share a mini fridge or bring a cooler. Alcohol consumption is prohibited for participants under age 21.

## HILLSIDE GRIND

*Enjoy this comfortable, off-campus coffeehouse space located up the hill from Blue Ridge and the Community Time quad. It will host BBQUSI, Serendipity, morning worship, and a variety of social and food- or alcohol-oriented workshops. Pick up a SUUSI map for the exact location.*



## YOUR HEALTH AT SUUSI

Remember that SUUSI is a marathon, not a sprint. Make sure that you have set aside enough time for rest and sleep. Healthy food and plenty of water will also help you get through SUUSI at your best.



Remember to bring your own prescription medications and any over-the-counter remedies you may need. SUUSI staff are **not** permitted to dispense medicine of any kind – even Tylenol.

Call **66-ASK-SUUSI** for information on local health resources, including WCU's on-campus services and nearby urgent care facilities and hospitals. In the event of an emergency, dial 911. You do **not** need to contact a SUUSI staff member before dialing 911.

If you are injured at SUUSI, please visit the Office (Balsam 230) or talk to a Core Staffer to fill out an incident report. It's important to submit a report even if you don't blame SUUSI for your injury! Incident reports help us understand where there may be risks to others. They also help us to follow up with you to make sure you're okay.

## SMOKING POLICY

WCU policy does not allow smoking or vaping inside any buildings on campus. The no-smoking policy extends **50 feet from every building**. Smoking and vaping are not allowed in the seating area outside the dining hall, on balconies, or in the courtyard between Blue Ridge and Balsam dorms. An area with picnic tables and smoker receptacles is between Blue Ridge/Balsam, but we ask that you be sensitive to times when large numbers of participants are walking that path to get to Bardo for Ingathering, worship, or TWOB.

## INGATHERING

At 6:30 PM Sunday, we'll gather in the quad outside Blue Ridge for our opening Banner Parade. We encourage you to bring a banner from your congregation and – if you like – a drum. Drummers will start gathering at 6:15 PM to practice and build the excitement. At 6:45, parade with us across campus to the site of our Ingathering service. You may also choose to skip the parade and meet us at Bardo Arts Center at 7 PM.

Ingathering service is a fun, energetic, all-ages introduction to SUUSI. Learn more about what the week will bring, preview the Concert Hour performers, and meet some folks! During our Ingathering Worship Service, we will celebrate being together, newcomers, long-timers, and all, for this week of building our intentional community. Rather than having our traditional outdoor Opening Circle, we will welcome one another, new friends and old, in a way that is compatible with the unpredictable weather in these mountains of North Carolina, is accessible for all, and allows the teens and their families to move directly into their mandatory meeting following the service.

## ARTISANS' BAZAAR

The Artisans' Bazaar showcases the work of SUUSI artists and crafters. From 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM Monday-Friday you'll find •

- Unique handmade jewelry, fabric art, pottery, stationery, stuffed animals, and other creations
- Drink tickets for Serendipity (alcohol, soda)
- Raffle drawings to raise money for SUUSIships. Find the Bazaar in Blue Ridge Conference Center C&D, right next door to the SUUSI store!



## THE SUUSI STORE

The SUUSI Store will be open from 10 AM - 5 PM on Sunday and from 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM Monday to Friday in Blue Ridge Conference Center A&B. Here you'll find • General-interest books and merchandise • Books recommended by workshop presenters • Books written by your fellow SUUSI participants • CDs from the fabulous musicians you'll hear during the week • SUUSI memorabilia • Raffle drawings to raise money for SUUSIships • Daily performances by musicians and authors • Drink tickets.

If you are an author with your books, or a musician with CDs, we would love to make your work available to the SUUSI community. Please contact Jackie Winner, SUUSI Store Coordinator, at [store@suusi.org](mailto:store@suusi.org). **NOTE:** We are no longer collecting or selling used books as a fundraiser. Thanks for past support!

## CAMPUS RECREATION CENTER

Guest passes are sold in a "visit" package and are only valid for those 18 years old and older. Each entrance to a facility (CRC or Reid Pool) will count as a visit. A guest pass grants access to the CRC, Reid Pool (Open Swim), Climbing Wall and Group Exercise classes. 1 Visit: \$10, 3 Visits: \$25, 5 Visits: \$40, 10 Visits: \$75 [Find more details here.](#)

## HEY, WORKSHOP LEADERS!

All workshop leaders must visit Blue Ridge dorm 102 Commons between 4 - 6 PM on Sunday to pick up your information from Beth Nicholson, Workshops Coordinator.

## WHO ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE?

**The Mugbook** is SUUSI's printed participant directory. At check-in, all members of your group will have individual pictures taken for inclusion in the Mugbook. You may have purchased a Mugbook when you registered (if you did, it will be listed under "Fees" in your registration statement in SOLIS). If you didn't, you may order one at check-in for \$10. Mugbooks will be available for pick-up in the dining hall on Wednesday evening and Thursday.

## SUUSI T-SHIRTS – GET THEM WHILE THEY LAST!

T-shirts with this year's beautiful SUUSI theme art will be on sale at check-in on Sunday. Any shirts not sold at check-in will be available in the SUUSI Store starting on Monday on a first-come, first-serve basis. No new shirts will be ordered, so be sure to pick up your size and color at check-in!

## VOLUNTEER FOR SUUSI

SUUSI is an all-volunteer organization. Everyone is encouraged to share their time, talent, and energy! If you signed up to volunteer when you registered, our volunteer coordinator will match your interests to a role prior to your arrival. The most up-to-date information on volunteer assignments can be found by viewing your confirmation statement and going to the ["Your Statement" link](#). Even if you didn't sign up to volunteer, we encourage you to pitch in wherever you see help is needed! Volunteering provides a great opportunity to meet more SUUSI folks and to get a close-up look "behind the scenes." If you have questions about volunteering, please contact Kim Breivogel at [volunteers@suusi.org](mailto:volunteers@suusi.org).

If everyone is a volunteer, why are some people staff? Participants are called "staff" if they've been chosen through an application process, completed training, and work a set number of hours. In return, depending on how many hours they work, staff get some or all of their SUUSI costs covered. "Core Staff" are department heads responsible for managing specific areas and supervising both staff and volunteers. Your SUUSI Core Staff work year-round to make SUUSI a success – and no, they don't get paid either!

## SUUSI BOARD ELECTIONS

Serving on the Board is a great way to contribute to this gathering we love so much. On Thursday, we'll elect one Adult Trustee for a three-year term and one Youth Trustee for a two-year term. Want to run? Contact the elections coordinator at [elections@suusi.org](mailto:elections@suusi.org). Nominations must be submitted to [elections@suusi.org](mailto:elections@suusi.org) **by noon on Tuesday, July 18**. Nominees must also submit a candidate introduction to the SUUSI NUUS ([nuus@suusi.org](mailto:nuus@suusi.org)) by 1 PM the same day. There will be an Adult Board Candidate Forum in Coulter Recital Hall on Wednesday from 5 - 6 PM. Candidate bios will be printed in the NUUS on Wednesday morning, so you'll have the opportunity to follow up with questions Wednesday evening. Ask current Board of Trustees members anything about SUUSI.

## SERVICE PROJECT

In 2023, we are again working with Community Table, Cullowhee's soup kitchen and food pantry. A monetary collection will be taken at Monday's worship. Please donate nonperishable food and hygiene items at check-in.

## SUUSI OFFICE

Helpful, knowledgeable, and friendly volunteers staff the SUUSI Office from 8:30 AM - 2 PM Monday through Friday. It is located on the second floor of Balsam, in rooms 230 and 202. Come see us, or call us at **66-ASK-SUUSI**.

At the office, you will find:

- Information and answers to all of your SUUSI questions
- Workshop and Nature Trip add-drop
- Late arrival check-in and early departure check-out
- The SUUSI Lost & Found
- Mailboxes for the SUUSI Core Staff and Board.



## INTERNET ACCESS

WCU has free wireless internet access in the buildings and also in some places outside. No password is needed, but you may need to sign back on each time you enter a new building. SUUSI doesn't have control over campus internet service, which is often spotty. Dorm rooms have Ethernet ports. Bring a cable to take advantage of faster wired internet.

## COMMON GROUND CAFÉ

Common Ground is SUUSI's self-service coffee house, open continuously from Sunday at 10 PM to Saturday at 1 AM. Find it on the first floor of Balsam dorm in Commons 102. Enjoy our excellent selection of certified fair-trade and organic coffees, plus hot chocolate, teas, specialty drinks, baked goods, and on-the-go snack foods. Payment is by the honor system: record your purchases all week in the Common Ground book and then settle your tab by Friday in the early evening.



**FAIRTRADE**

## PAIR-A-DICE

Pair-A-Dice is SUUSI's all day board and card game lounge, located in Balsam 302, 305, and 330. Look for our helpful staff at a table in the 3rd floor lobby. Play a game onsite or check it out and play elsewhere. Registration is free for 13 and under and \$5 for adults. You can register and pay right at the Pair-A-Dice staff desk, on your phone or other device, or one floor down at the SUUSI office. You can also explore the UU-themed world of WUURTH, an on-going Dungeons & Dragons land of adventure and stories created by SUUSI game masters and players. There are seven different game sessions being offered this year. Register in Pair-A-Dice, \$5 per session. Kids 13 and under must attend with a responsible adult. If you love mind puzzles, stop by Pair-a-Dice every day for a new one. If you solve them all, you could win a custom SUUSI Puzzler t-shirt!



## OASUUS LOUNGE

In the OasUUs Lounge, we offer safe space for SUUSI BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) to gather, talk, reflect, meditate, and replenish in body or spirit. Look for the location in the Arrival NUUS. It's open 24 hours a day. (Use your swipe card to access Blue Ridge.) For non-BIPOC SUUSI folks, please note that OasUUs is not the appropriate space to engage BIPOC in discussion of issues in society at large, or at SUUSI, unless invited into such conversation. If you have questions, please email Elizabeth Cameron, our DEI Director, at DEI@suusi.org.

## SONG CIRCLE

Night owls gather from 11 PM until ??? in Water Rock 3108 lounge for the Late Night Song Circle. Bring your instrument, your voice, or just your appreciation!

## NATURE TRIPS

Last year's national shortage of passenger vans allowed for travel on nature trips to take place in personal cars. That turned out to be positive for a lot of people! This year we will continue with a combination of vans and personal cars. You can find updated FAQs as well as the SUUSI driver info/waiver form and Insurance Guidelines [here](#). If you have any questions or concerns about driving, needing a ride, or anything nature-related, email [nature@suusi.org](mailto:nature@suusi.org).



## COME ONE, COME ALL TO COMMUNITY TIME!

You may have heard a rumor that Community Time is just for families with little kids, but nothing could be further from the truth. Every day from 4 - 6 PM, in the Central Plaza in front of the dining hall, we will have crafts, activities, and games **for all ages**! Meet new people, do coloring pages (adults and kids), make a SUUSI Love Rock, paint your nails, get a temporary tattoo, dance with bubbles, play games, and *so much more*! Here's a taste of what we've got planned for the week:

**MONDAY:** Let's begin the week with joy and gratitude! Join in making a Community Time banner to be used in next year's banner parade. We will also host other activities to center us in joy and gratitude for the week.

**TUESDAY:** We are an intergenerational camp, so let's take Tuesday to explore what that means! Each age group will be hosting an activity or craft.



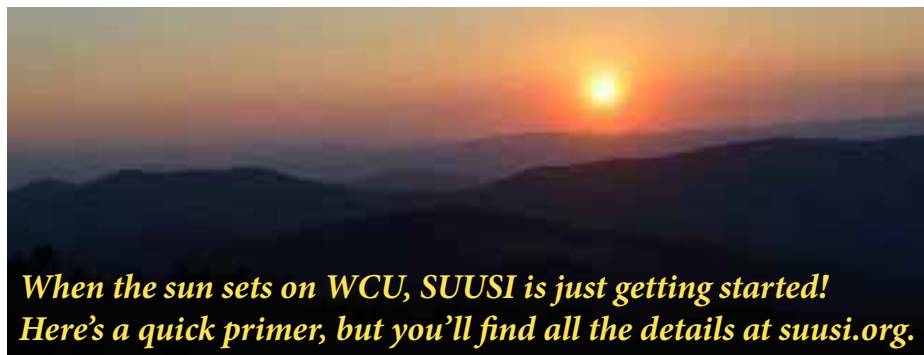
**WEDNESDAY:** Wear or bring your Pride swag and join our celebration of the fabulous LGBTQIA+ community. There will be a queer fashion tent hosted by Jill Stingray. You can create pride crafts for the parade that starts at 5 PM.

**THURSDAY:** SUUSI is a place where imagination and creativity are in abundant supply. Come show off what you have been creating during SUUSI. We will have paint, pastels, colored pencils, markers, clay, a poetry station, and plenty of inspiration to get you started with your own creative practice.

**FRIDAY:** We know SUUSI's got talent! Are you a singer, a poet, a dancer, a comedian, an artist, or an eternal being with some other talent? We ask that you sign up at Community Time throughout the week, so we can create a schedule that will be published in the daily NUUS.

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

Looking for ways to make deeper personal and spiritual connections? We've got you covered with Adult Connection Circles! Whether you are new to SUUSI, are returning after a while away, or simply want to meet new people and explore meaning making at SUUSI, we invite you to join a Connection Circle; these small groups (like covenant groups, table teams, or touch groups) feature daily intentional meet ups for deeper connection and grounding. Register for the time of day that's right for you! And if you're feeling overwhelmed or lonely, call **66-ASK-SUUSI** and press **2** for the Pastoral Care Line to reach a chaplain or minister.



## CABARET

Cabaret is our nightly live music venue. To sign up to perform at Cabaret, be sure to stop by the Nightlife table at check-in on Sunday. Last-minute idea? Sign up at Cabaret throughout the week! Sunday night is the start of Cabaret with our Open Mic night from 9 PM (directly after Ingathering) to midnight. Sign up at the Nightlife table at check-in. Many of our Sunday night performers will be invited back for another set later in the week, so this is an ideal time to put yourself out there.

## LET'S DANCE: BALLROOM & SERENDIPITY

Ballroom hour will be held in Campus Rec Center Studio 1 from 6:30 - 8 PM. Begin the night there, and then head up to Hillside Grind later on to continue your night of dancing!

Serendipity is SUUSI's 21-and-up dance club, open 10:30 PM - 1AM Sunday - Thursday and 10:30 PM - 2 AM Friday. It's a great place to dance, people watch, or relax with a beverage and friends. Like all our Nightlife venues, Serendipity is smoke-free. Alcohol and sodas will be available, but no cash is accepted onsite. You will need to buy drink tickets at the SUUSI Store, at the Artisans' Bazaar. or at Concert Hour.

Serendipity will be off-campus at Hillside Grind. This location is in a residential neighborhood where, unfortunately, noise ordinances apply. We will be trying to balance the need to respect our neighbors and the need to dance! Wireless headphone rigs connected to the DJ system will be



available for people who would prefer to dance outside to reduce their Covid risk. Please make sure that you follow all guidelines and directions from Serendipity staff.

### SERENDIPITY DANCE THEMES

**SUNDAY:** Black and White **MONDAY:** Rainbow  
**TUESDAY:** Shiny **WEDNESDAY:** Tropical **THURSDAY:** Tie Dye **FRIDAY:** Prom Night

*Information changes quickly at SUUSI, and sometimes even the emailed NUUS might be behind the times. During SUUSI, the most up-to-date information will always be found on our website, **suusi.org**. You can also always call **66-ASK-SUUSI** to get your questions answered. Thanks to SUUSI's technology department, in addition to the NUUS, each night you'll receive an email from SOLIS notifying you of everything you're signed up for the following day. Locations will be current as of that night.*

## CACHE

CACHE stands for Clean Air Clear Heads Everyone and welcomes anyone age 14 and over who loves to dance. CACHE will be held in the Crossover Lounge. It is a fun, self-guided dance party in an alcohol- and smoke-free space. Our DJs will be playing the latest in dance music and invite any song requests that you have. CACHE is open Sunday night from 11 PM - 1 AM, and Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10 PM - 1AM.

## BBQUUSI

After hours of dancing, you're probably hungry, right? BBQUUSI offers grilled delights for all (vegetarians and omnivores) from 1 - 3:30 AM on Sunday, Monday, and Wednesday nights, and 2 - 4:30 AM on Friday night. (Technically, it's the wee hours of Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, but you know what we mean.) This



year BBQUUSI can be found at the Hillside Grind, outside Serendipity and just up the hill from the dorms!

## STAYING UP TO DATE

Your SUUSI Communications staff publishes a daily newsletter known as the SUUSI NUUS. In an amazing act of time travel, you'll receive each day's NUUS the night before by email. Make sure the email address you have listed in SOLIS is the one you want us to use for the NUUS. For those without email access during SUUSI, paper printouts of the daily NUUS will be posted at the entrances to the dining hall and in the SUUSI Office.



## FOR YOUTH AND THEIR PARENTS

With a good group of kids aged 0 - 10 registered for SUUSI, we're expecting the Youth program to be hopping with excitement every day! Check your confirmation packet for a letter from your child's Age Group Leader with essential information about their class schedule, such as trips, water play, and tie dyeing.

- ◆ Be sure to stop at the Youth table at Sunday Check-in. We'll give you information about the week ahead and supply you with your children's nametags and (for younger children) meal wristbands.

- ◆ One parent/guardian must attend the mandatory parent meeting held on Monday morning from 9 - 9:30 AM in the youth building (Killian).

- ◆ In your check-in packet, you'll find a participant locator form. Post it on your dorm room door so that Youth staff can always find you in an emergency. If all parents/guardians are going to be off campus for a trip, name an alternate adult emergency contact for your child. Post that information on your door and notify your child's Age Group Leader.

## COMING OF AGE

Thirteen-year-olds at SUUSI participate in special Coming of Age programming, culminating in a special ceremony on Friday evening and an introduction to the Teen program. If you have a 13-year-old, check your confirmation packet for additional details about the Coming of Age program's special hours. The 13-year-olds get their own special introduction to the Teen Dorm as part of their programming. As the parent of a 13-year-old, you probably have your own questions as well. The Teen Staff will host a tour of the Teen Dorm and a Q&A session with the Teen Directors on Thursday at 2:15 PM.

## CHILDCARE CO-OP

Signed up for the childcare co-op dorm? Here's how it works:

- ◆ Each adult in your room will sign up for one two-hour shift of co-op duty. During your shift, you'll sit in the hall with a clipboard and cell phone or be a "runner" available to find parents as needed.

- ◆ If young kids wake up, you'll call their adult. If older kids try to wander the halls, you'll send them back to bed.

- ◆ Not on duty? Once your kids are settled, head out to enjoy the night! (until 1 AM when an adult must be in after the co-op ends)! Please note all co-op shifts require sober participants. We'll call if your child needs you.

- ◆ Those who've not selected a shift by July 9 will be assigned one. You can find the sign up at [tinyurl.com/co-op2023](https://tinyurl.com/co-op2023).

**There will be a mandatory co-op meeting at 9 PM on Sunday in Blue Ridge 302. At least one adult from each room in the co-op dorm must attend this meeting.**



**IMPORTANT NEWS** All adults in the co-op dorm must complete a criminal background check. You should have received an email from Susan Enwright Hicks ([susie4suusi@gmail.com](mailto:susie4suusi@gmail.com)) with instructions for how to submit your information. This must be done as far in advance as possible. If you do not submit your background check in time for it to clear before SUUSI, your family will be re-assigned to the non-co-op dorm. There will be no exceptions.

## WHERE ARE YOUR CHILDREN?

At SUUSI, "Youth" are children aged 0 - 10. If your kids are 11 - 13, they're "Middlers." Age 14 - 17 are "Teens." Children between the ages of 0 - 13 must be appropriately supervised at all times, including while asleep.

- ◆ Young children should be with a parent or responsible adult when not in programming.

- ◆ Older children and Middlers may be in a set location, such as a dorm lounge, **if there are regular checks from a responsible adult**. However, parents may not go out for the evening (or go to bed) and leave kids in a lounge.

- ◆ Children with check-out privileges may go directly from Youth/Middler programming to an agreed-on location to meet their parents/guardians.

- ◆ Parents can (and do!) informally share care among themselves, as long as every child knows which adult is supervising them and every adult knows who has their kids.

- ◆ Co-op parents need to be home by the time co-op hours are over at 1:15 AM (2:15 AM Friday). In the family dorm (non co-op), each child must have a responsible adult present at night, even while asleep.

- ◆ Youth and Middlers have a curfew from 9:30 PM to 6 AM, during which they must either be in their dorm room or with their own parent or



**Child safety concern? Call 66-ASK-SUUSI**

## YOUTH PROGRAM HOURS

Youth program hours run from 9 AM - noon and from 2 - 4 PM. You may check in your child beginning 15 minutes before each session, and to accommodate parents' workshop schedules, we allow pickup up to 15 minutes after each session. Some afternoon workshops have different start times – be sure to check your child's schedule.

At lunchtime, children 8 and under must be picked up and dropped off by a responsible adult or older sibling. Nine and ten-year-olds can sign themselves out for lunch, but are expected to go directly to meet their adults at the dining hall. Note that self-checkout doesn't apply at the end of the day! An adult must pick all children up.

## YOUTH SPECIAL EVENTS

**BABY DEDICATION** If you want your child to be included in the child dedication at Thursday night's worship, email [nurture@suusi.org](mailto:nurture@suusi.org) or leave a note for the Nurture Staff Director in the SUUSI Office.

**YOUTH CLOSING CIRCLE** Friday 3:30 PM Parents and friends are invited to watch the children's end-of-week performances.

## INFORMATION FOR AND ABOUT TEENS

At last, the week that Teens wait for year-round! Your Teen Staff and Teen Leaders are just as excited to see you as you are to finally be heading for SUUSI, and we're hard at work on a program schedule. Suggestions? Email your ideas for workshops and activities to [teens@suusi.org](mailto:teens@suusi.org). Don't worry – we've already got a few fun activities planned!

On Sunday, stop by the Teen table at Check-in to meet the Staff and pick up important information. All teens and their parents/guardians must also attend the mandatory Teen meeting on Sunday immediately after Ingathering, in the Bardo Arts Center. This is where Teens will get their name tags and where everyone will go over the rules and expectations for life in the Teen Dorm.

Parents, this is a great time to start a conversation with your teen about what your expectations are for behavior at SUUSI. Review the Rules for Teens, which were part of your registration materials and can also be found in the policy manual on the SUUSI website. Also discuss any additional rules or expectations required by your family.

**TEEN OUTDOOR ADVENTURE:** The entire Teen Dorm will be headed to the river for tubing, hiking, games and relaxing on the "beach" on Monday afternoon. Be sure to pack what you need for your chosen activity. You'll find the Nature staff [approved shoe list here](#):



## FOR MIDLERS AND THEIR PARENTS

At ages 11 - 13, our Middlers are in the transition space between the Youth program and the bold new independence of the Teen Dorm. Parents/guardians must sign their child into Middler programming each morning **between 8:45 and 9 AM**. You may give permission for your child to sign out independently for lunch and at the end of the program day at 4pm, but make sure that you plan where you will meet up with them. Middlers are not permitted to roam campus freely without a responsible adult.

There will be a mandatory meeting for Middler parents and 13-year-olds on Sunday at 5 PM in Forsyth 305. If you have a Middler in your family, please make sure that an adult attends this meeting.

## MIDDLER EVENTS

### DANCE PARTY FOR MIDLERS:

Wednesday 7 - 9 PM  
CACHE space (Crossover Lounge)  
The Middlers program will staff the event, but we would love some parent chaperones!

### MIDDLER TRIP TO GLENNVILLE LAKE:

Thursday 9 AM - 1:30 PM  
All Middlers are scheduled for this fun-filled half-day of swimming, water play, and nature exploration.



**CLOSING CIRCLE:** Friday 2:15 PM  
Parents and friends are invited and encouraged to attend!

## ANTI-HARASSMENT

**Any harassment regarding sex, race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, handicap, gender, gender identity or expression, or affectional orientation will not be tolerated.**

Such harassment may include unsolicited remarks, gestures or physical contact, and display or circulation of written materials or derogatory pictures directed at any of these categories. Conduct or communication which interferes with an individual's position on the staff or Board or their participation in SUUSI will not be tolerated. Neither will creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

Incidents of this nature should be immediately reported to the Minister on Duty, Director, or Board President. Contact information for these individuals will be in the SUUSI Office. You may also contact any Core Staff or Board member. Please call **66-ASK-SUUSI** and press **2** to reach a Minister on Duty.

The Minister on Duty is charged with contacting the complainant to ensure that their needs for support, care, and safety are met, and to explain the various options available to them. The complainant may choose to take no action, file a confidential complaint, or file an open report.



## COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

In order for every participant to have a rewarding SUUSI experience, we affirm our commitment to an environment free of all forms of harassment and violence, as well as discrimination on the basis of gender, race, color, ethnicity, religion, age, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. In our large and open community, all participants must respect each individual's rights and privacy.

**To ensure safety and promote a positive SUUSI experience for all, please observe the following community expectations:**

- ◆ **Do** ensure that your children are supervised by a responsible adult at all times, including at night.
- ◆ **Do** be mindful of others. Avoid loud conversation or other excessive noise, as there are always others trying to sleep.
- ◆ **Do** make sure your pets are left at home. The campus has no accommodations for animals. Service animals are welcome, of course, and may be properly cared for in their owner's living space.
- ◆ **Do** respect and obey the rules in effect on the Western Carolina campus.
- ◆ **Do** remember that we are guests of the university, and we are sharing it with others for the week. Treat university staff with kindness and compassion, understanding that each of us is an ambassador for SUUSI and for Unitarian Universalism.
- ◆ **Do** use bicycles only where permitted and where their use does not endanger the safety or comfort of others. Bicycles are not allowed inside university buildings. Helmets must be worn at all times while biking. Skates, scooters, and skateboards are prohibited on campus streets and sidewalks. Devices needed for accessibility are allowed everywhere.
- ◆ **Do** set a good example. SUUSI expects all participants to conduct themselves respectfully, showing concern for SUUSI-goers and non-SUUSI-goers alike.
- ◆ **Do** take care of each other. Notice situations where others could use assistance, and do what you can to help.
- ◆ **Do** be alert to issues that may require Core Staff involvement. Help keep our beloved community safe.
- ◆ **Don't** use candles or other open flames (including burning incense) inside any building. Turn off appliances when you leave. Fire is a serious concern in dorms.
- ◆ **Don't** smoke or use e-cigs or vaping devices indoors or within 50 feet of building entrances and air intake vents.
- ◆ **Don't** smoke on the balconies, in the seating area outside the dining hall, or in the Blue Ridge/Balsam/Water Rock courtyard.
- ◆ **Don't** break alcohol, drug, or other state or local laws. By North Carolina law, consuming alcohol is prohibited in public areas. This includes anywhere outside or inside buildings accessible to the public. It is allowed in dorm rooms (but not the Teen dorm) and at SUUSI events where alcohol is available such as Serendipity or adult beverage workshops. WCU regulations ban alcohol from all academic buildings.



# SUGGESTED ITEMS TO PACK

- ☐ Linens, towels, and pillows
- ☐ A mattress pad is strongly suggested – mattresses are EXTRA firm – sheets need to be twin XL
- ☐ Bath mat or towel for use as a bathmat
- ☐ Masks: N95, KN95, KF94, or well-fitting surgical masks. Be sure to bring plenty of extras
- ☐ Over the door hooks (may not fit all doors) and/or coat hangers
- ☐ Folding camp chairs and/or picnic blanket – we'll want to socialize outside as much as possible for Covid safety
- ☐ Medicines, band-aids, first aid supplies
- ☐ Extra glasses or contact lenses
- ☐ Doorstop – if desired (highly recommended for teens)
- ☐ Nightlight/flashlight – if desired
- ☐ Earplugs – we are staying in dorms, and your neighbors might be loud
- ☐ Roll of blue painters' tape for posting anything on doors or walls
- ☐ Laundry detergent (marked safe for HE machines) and hand soap, as well as shower soap and shampoo
- ☐ Reusable water bottle and reusable travel mug/cup
- ☐ Poncho, raincoat, or umbrella. Locals joke that WCU stands for "We Carry Umbrellas" – expect a daily rain shower.
- ☐ Summer casual clothes, plus (optional) dressy or costume stuff if you want to dress for the dance themes
- ☐ Since we will be in the mountains, bring long pants/jeans and a light jacket, too
- ☐ Sunscreen & insect repellent
- ☐ Good walking shoes – Nature Staff have strong opinions about shoes! Find out more here: <https://www.suusi.org/shoes-for-nature-trips/>
- ☐ Musical instruments – you never know who you might find to play with
- ☐ Required gear for any nature trips – double-check the requirements in the catalog if you're signed up for trips.



73 AIRPORT RD  
ARDEN, NC 28704  
[dme@mobilelifemedical.com](mailto:dme@mobilelifemedical.com)



Owned Small Business

Exit 40



## Mobility Scooter Rentals

Customer Store Pick Up & Return

Location: 73 Airport Road, Arden, NC 28704 (Vicinity - AVL REG Airport) (M-F 9AM - 4:30PM)

\* Customers may Return Scooters the Next Day



Email Us Your Rental Request  
[dme@mobilelifemedical.com](mailto:dme@mobilelifemedical.com)

Request Information and Receive Quotes

- \* Provide Height & Weight for Sizing
- \* Provide Requested Rental Dates
- \* Provide Delivery Location & Address

Scooter Concierge Delivery Services (\$69.50)

Biltmore Village and Inn Hotels  
Omni Grove Park Inn & Spa  
Downtown Asheville Hotels  
Local Bread & Breakfast  
Asheville Events & Conferences

### Rates

- \* Model: Pride Mobility GOGO Travel Scooter
- \* Supports 325LB, 12 Mile Distance per Charge
- \* Battery Charger and Front Basket Included

DAILY	2 DAYS	3 DAYS	4-7 DAYS
\$79.50	\$139.50	\$180.00	\$235.00

Weekend Rental Options Available: Coordinate with Hotel Front Desk for MobileLife to Deliver your Rental on Friday and Pick Up on Monday

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO RENT A SCOOTER DURING SUUSI?

Mobility Scooters may be rented through [MobileLife of Arden, NC](http://MobileLife of Arden, NC). Contact them at [dme@mobilelifemedical.com](mailto:dme@mobilelifemedical.com) or call (828) 676-2760 to arrange for your rental. Scooter rental normally costs \$400 for a week, but the company is offering a special rate for SUUSI! Western Carolina is outside of their delivery radius, but flexible pick up options are available. Here details from the company:

Customers may reserve scooter rentals and pick up and return at our location at 73 Airport Rd, Arden, NC 28704 (I-26 Exit 40 - AVL Airport Exit). They may pick up the scooters on the Thursday or Friday prior to the event and return them the following Monday (if needed). We also have a process to pick up and return scooter rentals on the weekends and after business hours. We can reduce the weekly rental rate for event goers down to \$200.00 (plus tax) for customers who pick up and return their scooters.

For additional info, visit [wncmobilelife.com](http://wncmobilelife.com) or contact the SUUSI Accessibility team at [access@suusi.org](mailto:access@suusi.org).



CHECK SUUSI.ORG FOR YOUR WORKSHOP DETAILS

southeast unitarian universalist summer institute

Home Join us in 2023! 2023 Catalog By Age By Interest NUUS About SUUSI Donate to SUUSI

### Catalog of Events

To find a **SUUSI** event, enter in the event number, event name, or keywords in the keywords search box! You can also filter by type.

To view by date, go to [SUUSI Events Daily](#).

Filter by: Keywords

Event Type