



# Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

# The Light

VOLUME 62 ISSUE 5

May 2019

*Celebrate Diversity · Strive for Justice · Inspire Love*

## The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola



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## Coffee and Conversation 9-10am, Sunday Service 10-11am

### May 5 "Getting Curious"

Rev. Alice Syltie

Curiosity is the theme for May and I am curious about where the UUs of the Panhandle are headed. What are the dreams driving your congregation? What vision do you share for the future of Unitarian Universalism in your wider community? I'd love to hear your ideas. Talk to me, or email me. On May 5th not only will we consider the possibilities, members will voice their desires at the Congregational Meeting, following the Sunday Service.

### May 12 "The Goddess Blesses All Forms of Love" with the CRE Team and Service Leader, Kate Wolverton.

Come join us for a service for all ages celebrating the Pagan holiday, Beltane, featuring an interactive play adapted from Circle Round story, "The Goddess Blesses All Forms of Love." While Beltane services traditionally focus on celebrating fertility and sacred unions, our service will honor all those who love and nurture others. We will also recognize the hard work and efforts of our CRE teachers.

### May 19 "The Reason of Humanism—From the Dark Ages to the Present" UUCP Member Buz Ryland.

Humanists believe that human experience and rational thinking provide the only source of both knowledge and a moral code to live by ... Humanism is a democratic and ethical life stance, which affirms that human beings have the right and responsibility to give meaning and shape to their own lives. Buz will speak on the history and modernity of the movement, and the local activities of the Humanists of West Florida.

### May 26 "We Remember"

Rev. Alice Syltie

A moving part of the Sunday service at UUCP is the inclusion of We Remember, a time to recognize those whose lives were lost the previous week, in service to our country. While Memorial Day is often linked to the beginning of summer vacation, or a weekend for bargains, the sacrifice our citizens make for the values we claim to uphold does not come as a bargain. On this Sunday we will remember and honor the true meaning of the holiday, which, as the story goes, began as an expression of gratitude to Union soldiers by newly freed slaves in Charleston, South Carolina.

### June 2 "Reason, Reverence and Awe"

Rev. Alice Syltie

Our June theme of Beauty brings to mind words like reverence and awe. Remembering one of my dear professors at Meadville Lombard Theological School, I added reason to the trinity. In his book, *Reason and Reverence: Religious Humanism for the 21st Century*, Rev. William Murry writes, "Since the beginning of recorded history, part of the religious impulse in humankind has been to be open to the mystery that lies in and around us and to respond to that mystery with feelings of reverence and astonishment." What we revere we typically want to protect. How might our feelings of reverence and astonishment inform our response to the ethical and moral dilemmas we encounter today?

## From Our Minister, Rev. Alice Syltie

UU minister, Victoria Safford, speaks of curiosity using the metaphor of perception and sight. She writes,

“To see, simply to look and to see, is an ethical act and intentional choice; to see, with open eyes, is a spiritual practice and thus a risk, for it can open you to ways of knowing the world and loving it that will lead to inevitable consequences. The awakened eye is a conscious eye, a willful eye, and brave, because to see things as they are, each in its own truth, will make you very vulnerable.”

In response, Rev. Scott Tayler writes:

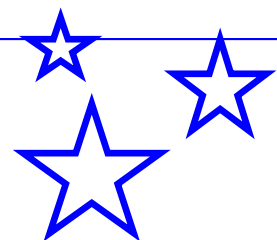
“Consequences. I’m not sure I’ve ever thought of curiosity in terms of consequences. But I think Safford’s got it right. There is a type of curiosity that is about enjoyment and adventure. It invites us to experience life as a playground. But there is another type of curiosity that leads to consequences, that changes us. This kind of curiosity is about more than enjoyment. Indeed, it’s the kind that drives us *past* enjoyment and comfort. It’s not about enriching oneself; it’s about altering oneself.”

Altering oneself can be a scary thought. We know, or at least we think we know, who we are now. To take steps that lead us into the unknown leaves us feeling vulnerable and insecure. And yet, how different our lives would be if we never stepped into the unknown, if we never took a risk. The risks in my life have been numerous. Marriage, deciding to have children, becoming a minister, moving to another city to answer a call to serve a congregation, were all life altering steps. When things don’t turn out like I hope, I call it a growth experience and search for a beneficial life lesson. I’ve discovered that getting curious can be an antidote to suffering. It can also open doors to amazing and wonderful discoveries.

May is often the month that Unitarian Universalist Congregations begin to wrap up a church year, make some decisions about the coming church year, then take a little time for rest and renewal. Although we no longer close our churches for the summer, while ministers head to Cape Cod, something of that rhythm remains. This Sunday, UUCP will make some decisions about its future. I hope the choices open doors to amazing and wonderful discoveries.

In Love and Hope,

*Rev. Alice*



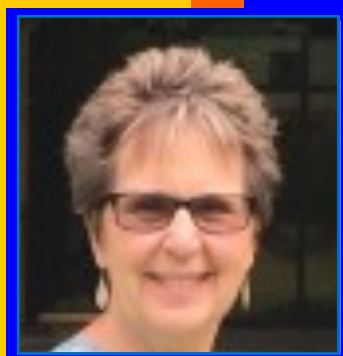
## CALLING ALL ARTISTS

The last week in May, we will be accepting artwork for our first Rotating Art Show in the Conference Room. This show will run from June 1-August 31. The submission guidelines will be available in the office beginning May 1, but please don’t plan to bring artwork until drop off dates have been established. More information soon! Questions? Call Carol Hemmye (850) 438-3736.

## From the Board...

At the Congregational Meeting on May 5, 2019, the Board will be presenting several items. Some will need a congregational vote and other items will need consensus approval.

A new slate of officers of the Board will be presented as well as a proposed budget. In addition, there are three current longtime members identified for Lifetime Honorary Membership status: Judy Freeman, JJ Jackson and Tom Springer.



The Social Justice Committee has been very active this year. At our meeting there will be a presentation about the Pensacola Area Interfaith Justice Ministry. This initiative has been moving forward in the Pensacola area. Rev. Alice Syltie made initial contact on our behalf with the serving minister of the organization and several members from our congregation's Social Justice team have attended events.

Leadership development is critical for the ongoing enhancement of our leaders and the growth of our congregation. The Board approved five members of the congregation attending online courses with the UU Leadership Institute, affiliated with the UUA. This allows increased leadership training at a significantly reduced cost. The Board is pleased that Marc Levitt, Lauren Anzaldo, Erin Renfroe, Lisa Hudson and Pam Levitt will participate in these courses.

Please plan to attend on May 5<sup>th</sup> and be a voice in our congregation.

*Nancy Hagman,*  
Board President

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MAY 5, 2019

UUCP will be holding its Annual Congregational Meeting on May 5, 2019, after the service. This is a very important meeting as we will be voting on the following:

Officers and other elected positions for the 2019-2020 church year

The budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year

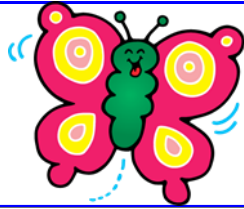
Several nominations for Lifetime Honorary Membership

A quorum of Members is required to be present to be able to vote on these items, so if you will have been a Member for six weeks by May 5, please plan to attend and vote.

If you would like a copy of the full budget to review before the meeting, please contact Erin Renfroe at [uucptreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:uucptreasurer@gmail.com)



# WAY COOL Sunday School



# May



**Greetings!** April Showers bring May flowers. At least that is what the shower curtain in my childhood home on 6th Avenue said. We are doing it backwards; we had our Flower Communion last month in April. Let's hope the rain will let up in May anyway—we want beautiful Sundays ahead for all there is to do around UUCP CRE!

Coming up on May 5 we have our Children's Chapel led by the remarkable Pam Levitt and assisted by the dear and dependable Holly Collins. After, there will be the Annual Congregational meeting. Tabitha will be on hand to mind the children until 12:30.

Mother's Day is May 12. This is the day we honor all our church Mothers that do so much to keep our WAY Cool Sunday School going. There will be a CRE Facilitator Recognition Ceremony during the service. I hope all of our people will be there to receive the recognition they go "above and beyond" to deserve.

May 19 & 26 we will have classes for our Wanderers and Adventurers with a Time For All Ages (TFAA) on the 26th. Then, jumping ahead to June, we will have our end-of-the-year Sundae Social; more to come on this.

### May Schedule:

5/5: Children's Chapel/  
Annual Congregational Mtg

5/12: SFAA Mothers' Day/  
Teacher Appreciation

5/19 Classes

5/26 Classes/TFAA  
(Memorial Day)

### The 2018-19 Teaching Teams:

Children's Chapel: Pam Levitt  
& Holly Collins

Wanderers: Kate Wolverton &  
Olivia Drouillard

Adventurers: Emma Mulvaney

Youth Pathfinders: Penny  
Featherstone & Linda Cobb

**Volunteers:** It is that time of year where you will see the CRE team wandering the halls with clip boards looking for people to serve on our great team of teachers in the next liturgical year.

It has become a favorite tradition of our WAY Cool Sunday School to celebrate a year well done with a Sundae Social on the last Regular day of WAY Cool Sunday School Classes. For more details see Pam Levitt or Sarah Stubbs.



### Children's Religious Education (CRE) Advisory Team

Coordinator: Sarah Stubbs (437-5979) Team Leader: Pam Levitt

[mssarahstubbs@gmail.com](mailto:mssarahstubbs@gmail.com)

[pmmlevitt@yahoo.com](mailto:pmmlevitt@yahoo.com)

Team Members: Linda Cobb, Holly Collins, Olivia Drouillard,  
Penny Featherstone, Emma Mulvaney, Kate Wolverton

Feel free to contact any member with comments or suggestions!



# SPRING





# What's UUp @ UUCP?

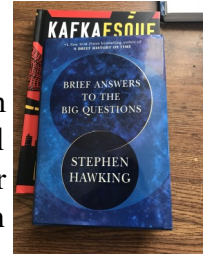
## NEW AUCTION OPPORTUNITY

We will be having our annual auction on Sunday, November 3, 2019, and enjoying another concert with Bobby van Deusen. But you don't have to wait until November! We are offering a fun new way for groups and individuals to get involved and help support our church.

Starting on Mother's Day we are promoting an addition to the auction...Gift Baskets! There will be a display in the Conference Room with photos of 23 different Gift Basket suggestions and an opportunity for groups or individuals to choose to create themed baskets that will be auctioned in November. For questions or to help, please see Lisa Hudson or Kate Wolverton.

## PONDER THE 'BIG QUESTIONS' WITH STEPHEN HAWKING

The world-famous cosmologist and bestselling author of *A Brief History of Time*, Stephen Hawking, left us with a lucid explanation of some of the most pressing issues of our day in his final book, *Brief Answers to the Big Questions*. We will review and discuss this remarkable work in our next Second Hour Book Review on Sunday, May 19, from 11:15 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in the church library. The discussion will be facilitated by Thom Botsford.



Here are some "big questions" Hawking attempts to answer: Is there a God? How did it all begin? Is time travel possible? Will we survive on earth?

Hawking "educated millions of readers about the origins of the universe and the nature of black holes and inspired millions more by defying a terrifying early prognosis of ALS, which originally gave him only two years to live. In later life he could communicate only by using a few facial muscles, but he continued to advance his field and serve as a revered voice on social and humanitarian issues."

All are welcome. As is the case with most reviews, this session is designed for those who have not read the book. For more information, contact Thom Botsford at (850) 384-3282 or at [thombotsford@gmail.com](mailto:thombotsford@gmail.com).

## UUCP SPRING YARD SALE FRIDAY, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup> & SATURDAY, MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

### **ATTENTION UUCP "BARGAIN HUNTERS!"**



The **BEST bargains** in town are found at the **Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola's (UUCP) Yard Sale** located at 9888 Pensacola Blvd./Highway 29 just north of Nine Mile Road, Pensacola. This sale is being held Friday & Saturday, May 3 & May 4 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Look for the yellow signs on Highway 29 near our church advertising our sale. All items are priced to sell as any remaining items are donated to charity. We are overflowing with some new and massive amounts of gently used items ready to take home! And for our "hard core" bargain shoppers, check out the sale mid-morning on Saturday as most items are further reduced! Most items are inside, so don't worry if it rains.

You will find everything (except clothing) including children's items, assorted tools, outdoor yard items, pet items, electronics, furniture, pictures, photo frames, office supplies, craft supplies, wicker baskets, shoes, purses, holiday items, knickknacks, jewelry, linens, small appliances, lamps, personal care items, bathroom items, kitchen items, lots of books and CD's, VHS tapes, audio books, DVD's, etc.. Many unique items can be found. Don't miss it!!

And please remember to share info about our church's yard sale to your Facebook post so we can reach lots of potential shoppers! Thanks. **Any and all assistance is GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!**

Georgianna Bryant, Yard Sale Coordinator (623-2539 home or 572-1734 cell or [gbryant2@mchsi.com](mailto:gbryant2@mchsi.com))

## CELEBRATE FLO FULWILER'S 97<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY WITH JUNE LUNCH BUNCH



Join us on **Wednesday, June 12<sup>TH</sup>** at **1:00 p.m.** in Pace at **The Grand Buffet Restaurant**, 4210 US Highway 90, Pace/phone 850-994-3333, (directly across from Immanuel Baptist Church on the northeast corner of West Spencer Field Road and Highway 90) for the **June Lunch Bunch** to celebrate the 97th birthday of **one of UUCP's founders, Flo Fulwiler**.

If you are coming on Interstate 10, suggest you exit at Scenic Highway (exit 17) and go north on Scenic Highway to the intersection of US 90 and Scenic. From there, the restaurant is located a "smidge" over 6 miles. Counting the US 90 & Scenic traffic lights, there are 4 (four) traffic lights. At the fourth traffic light (Hardees on northwest corner and Immanuel Baptist Church on right), turn left and Grand Buffet restaurant is on the right in the Winn Dixie Shopping Center. Should you get lost, the restaurant's phone number is 994-3333 or call Georgianna at 572-1734.

Flo will be in attendance along with some of her family/friends and we will enjoy some cake after our lunch at one of Pace's well-frequented restaurants. You can choose buffet lunch or Hibachi Grill for \$7.25 which includes a large assortment of choices including non-Oriental, plus drink at \$1.59, plus tax, and tip—they offer 10% Senior Discount but you must remember to ask for it when you are in front of cashier. Birthday cards would be appreciated (her actual birthday is June 26<sup>th</sup>). We will have a separate room (provided we have at least 20 in attendance).

For those who wish to **carpool**, contact Hugh Ed Turner. Please **RSVP** no later than **Monday, June 10** for lunch or carpooling by contacting Hugh Ed Turner (478-2373) or Georgianna Bryant (623-2539 or 572-1734). Let's ALL help her blow out her many candles!

*Georgianna Bryant and Hugh Ed Turner*

### COME JOIN THE NEEDLERS GROUP

Do you knit, crochet or sew? Would you like to join a lunch bunch and work on a personal project? THE NEEDLERS might be for you. THE NEEDLERS get together the fourth Wednesday of every month for conversation, lunch and to do hand work. THE NEEDLERS eat at a nearby restaurant and then go to a member's home where we keep our hands busy. Barbara Gogins is hostess on May 22. Call her if interested 478-2953 or talk to Penny Featherstone, Erin Renfroe or Lesley Ortiz.

rich uncle. Yes, some feel that JP is all FRIED, but several cashiers advise otherwise that there are, besides the soups (seafood every day, and New England Clam on Wednesdays only) and the salads (one with grilled Salmon, and one with popcorn Shrimp, "crispy or boiled") there are usually two grilled dishes - Grilled Garlic Grouper, or lightly blackened Salmon. ... Prices range run from Dinners @ \$10.25+, Baskets \$7-11, and Sandwiches \$4.50 (Hamburger) to \$8 (Crab Burger).

As some of you may recall, or intuitively suspect, JP's is a booth type restaurant, minimum moving of furniture, so the best option is to ask for 2-3 booths at 4/@. Let me know if you're inclined to attend this "tourist aware" food experience. As usual, RSVP by Monday, May 6, to 478-2373 or [huturn@Juno.com](mailto:huturn@Juno.com).

In the meantime, seven of us ventured out to LIVE (Garden & Colby, block west of Ever'man, north side) to experience mostly raw foods; we had 5 thumbs up and two "half-thumbs" (unaware that Gazpacho usually means cold soup, but they were menu-ed under "soup", usually implying "hot" to most of us). Three of us enjoyed the lunch special, slightly warm chili (i.e., cooked beans?), with good flavors, and salad with creamy (cashew? and oil) dressing, very good. All in all, most of us would visit again. (Though the veggies are not certified organic, LIVE is intentional about buying from a particular place that consciously provides from non-chemical farmers Flora-Bama on Mobile Highway).



LET'S GET  
**Together**

### May Lunch Bunch

For 8 May's 2nd Wednesday, we will revisit Joey Patti's Seafood Restaurant (610 South "C" Street, Ph: 434-3193/3187). It sits on the west border of the Patti complex (The Big Stars and Stripes), best approached via "C" St. (west side of Bell Steel), south off Main (after "A" St. if coming west on Main). JP's is fast seafood, not gourmet, where you might take your visiting cousins, not your

## Welcome new member – Denise Gunn



Denise Gunn says she has enjoyed all her jobs and learned a lot from each one. And that's so easy to recognize as she opens the chapters of her careers.

Denise retired in 2012 as a special agent with the FBI after 21 years, serving in Salt Lake City, Utah, for seven years and completing her FBI career in Mobile and Pensacola, moving to the region in the year 2000. Earlier, at age 19, she had enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, where she served for seven years. She also taught special education in public schools for two years.

About her FBI sleuthing: "I particularly enjoyed investigating Crimes Against Children matters and I also was involved in Criminal Profiling." Travel was part of her adventures too: "I was fortunate to travel extensively with the USAF and with the FBI. My first assignment in the USAF was

Guam; I also was stationed in Korea and South Carolina but took advantage of free travel to go to Germany, France, Philippines, Japan and other places."

She was born and raised in Northeastern Mississippi in a small town called Walnut – "about 1.5 hours from Tupelo, birthplace of Elvis" (she adds with a smile).

As a retiree today, Denise continues to work for the good of others. "I enjoy volunteering with various groups and agencies. I especially hold an affinity for women, children, and the marginalized. I enjoy researching, attending community events, reading, and volunteering at Favor House and Covenant Care on a regular basis."

Denise earned a B.A. degree in psychology from University of South Carolina in 1986, while in the Air Force, completing college studies begun in Mississippi, her home state. She moved to Pensacola in 2000, the year when she and her husband, Steve Weathersby, were married. They had met in Salt Lake City; he had transferred to Pensacola in 1999 and is retired from the U.S. Marshals Service.

"My husband and I love traveling and visiting family and friends in Utah and Idaho." The couple has four children between them, from previous marriages. "The two oldest are in Idaho and have five of our grandchildren between them. The youngest is in Colorado in graduate school and the other one lives in Pensacola and has a 4.5-year-old son.

"Steve and I each moved our parents to Pensacola about 15 years ago. We continue to help care for both our moms and my special needs brother."

Denise spent most of her spiritual years as a member of Christian churches.

"I grew up in northern Mississippi and only knew Southern Baptist. I went through a period of Agnosticism in my twenties and returned to Christianity after having children. I was a member of Presbyterian and Methodist churches and later rejoined SBC when my kids became involved in a local church."

She researched and became interested in the Unitarian church after deciding to leave mainstream Christianity. "The precursor to making this decision was my daughter coming out as gay, my numerous questions about social justice and inequality, and the desire to find like-minded people wanting to make a difference in the world."

Welcome to UUCP.

*Charlotte Crane*



# Celebrate Diversity Inspire Love

## A Coalition Working for Justice

An Interfaith Justice Ministry has formed in the Pensacola area, and UUCP is taking steps to further our congregation's mission by joining in the coalition's justice work in our community. The coalition is a non-profit corporation that includes 19 local congregations of varied faith traditions, including Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim. The local group is part of a national organization called DART that consists of local grassroots affiliates in communities around the country. By mobilizing members of the congregations that are a part of the local coalitions, these affiliates have seen success in campaigns such as improving public education and increasing access to health care, among other initiatives.

The group will conduct its work over a three-year cycle that includes the training of Justice Ministry Teams from member congregations. Trainings were scheduled April 29 and May 13, and UUCP expects to send delegates to participate. The teams then help conduct a listening process to learn about concerns in the community. Specific actions to take to address these concerns or issues then will be identified.

Among the expectations for membership in this local coalition are 1) to make a financial contribution to the group's operating budget, 2) to provide members for the Justice Ministry Teams, and 3) to mobilize members of our congregation to attend a justice rally in May 2020. UUCP's financial contribution to the group is currently slated to come out of the Social Justice Team's off-budget account. A video about DART and the work of one of its affiliate groups can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7h7oA92Pwp4&feature=youtu.be%20%5Ct%20blank>. This initiative will be presented at the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 5.



## Our First "Second-Hour" Interfaith Dialogue Coffee Hour

Thank you to Bazlul Wahab Shaheen and Mofidul (Shumon) Islam, members of the Islamic Center of Northwest Florida (ICONWF), for coming to UUCP on April 28 and teaching us a little more about Islam. Thank you for reaching out to us and for helping to make this Second Hour happen. We appreciate your time and energy, and we look forward to more interfaith dialogue. And thank you to all the UUs who showed up to help and participate. If you would like to see the video shown before the meeting, the sermon by UU minister Rev. M'ellen Kennedy titled "What I Love about Islam," can be found on the main UU website, [uupensacola.org](http://uupensacola.org) under "News." At the drop-down menu select "Second Hour," or it can be [seen here](#). *(And a huge Thank You to Emma Mulvaney, who made it happen)* —Ed.





## Where in the World is Rev. Maggie Lovins?

Does that phrase sound a little familiar? Maybe some of you, or some of your children, played that game or watched the TV show back in the early 90s; it is also a phrase one of my girlfriends uses with me when she's not sure of my (very diminished over the last few years) travel schedule. I tell people my community is the world and therefore I serve wherever I am needed. I thought before we move into the summertime I should update y'all with some of the comings and goings of your UUCP Community Minister and invite you into what is to come!

In January I was blessed to be invited back over to lay-led Bay County (Panama City) to give the Martin Luther King Jr. Day sermon. I was very excited about this as I planned to marry MLK Jr.'s voice of inclusion to the Final Frontier of the original Star Trek and tell the tale of how a chance meeting changed Star Trek, Nichelle Nichols and Gene Roddenberry's trajectory forever. It was a great service. As I left from their small, beautiful house, now converted into their congregation's home, we noted that so much of the area was still nowhere close to recovering from Hurricane Michael. We promised to try to get our congregations to partner together more often, as they had recently by serving meals to the homeless.

In February I was invited to lead the Sunday service of the lay-led congregation known as Heartland UU in Zionsville, IN. This is the home congregation of my niece, Christina, and though I have accompanied her there several times this was my first time in their pulpit. It was also the first time a few of my family members were able to come to one of my services, making it even more special! That morning we talked about intersectionalities, how we run into too many roles demanding too much of our time and attention and how we might put some of those down to have better family and spiritual lives, changing our society in the process.

Many of you know Chad and I visit Costa Rica a couple of times a year when my health allows. We go to the southern Caribbean coast; it's a real melting pot, away from all the tourists but in a very poor area that still has a large indigenous population known as the BriBri. I have made friends with the couple who have run the local soup kitchen (for 16 years!) as well as providing school uniforms, backpacks, supplies and even tuition when available. Nancy and Barry are from the group Science of Mind <https://scienceofmind.com/10-core-concepts/> <https://www.csl.org/en/> that has principles that align very closely with Unitarian Universalism. They have put their heart and soul into this work and I have vowed to assist them in their mission of helping these lovely people and their children as part of my ministry to the world. I will be collecting donations and supplies throughout the year at different locations and events around the area. I hope that UUCP and the caring people that call it home might wish to be a part of it at some time as well, but that is a discussion for another time! Pura Vida!

And the final thing I wish to share with y'all is that I will be leading a two-and-a-half day workshop at UUWomenspirit at The Mountain next month! I ask for prayers and good vibes for my health to hold out and for those Women who are taking my class to really get what they need out of it. If any of you ladies have never been, now is the time to come! Several of our members go once or twice a year (it's held in the late spring and again in mid-October) so car-pooling is usually available and there is usually a wonderful workshop being led by one of our talented UUCP members!

So, 'where in the world is Rev. Maggie?' Usually at home nursing some form of medical issue, but I have been blessed to have enough strength to take my message of Unitarian Universalism being a place where you can belong no matter how broken or whole you are, no matter your color or gender, no matter your physical abilities or age, no matter where in the world you live – you are loved...and that it's a great day to be a Unitarian Universalist from Pensacola!

Brightest Blessings,

*Rev. Maggie*





# STRIVE FOR JUSTICE

May every LGBTQ+ leader who withstands the pain and harm of congregations, institutions, and denominations find **healing, love and power.**



As we gear up for Gay Pride month in June, our 10th Anniversary of PensacolaPRIDE is on track to be the biggest and best yet. This year more than ever we will need volunteers to help out. There are dates, times, events, interests, and needs to allow everyone to find a place that is right for them. Come see a preview of all the events planned, find where you can volunteer, enjoy free pizza, and make some new friends. Please invite others to come along. PensacolaPRIDE 2019 shirts will be for sale as well as tickets to the Celebration Banquet. Hope to see you Friday May 3rd at 7pm, at Holy Cross Metropolitan Community Church located at 3130 W Fairfield Dr, Pensacola, Florida 32505. <https://www.facebook.com/events/2026600520974479/?ti=cl>



Let us remember who we are supporting as we Stand On the Side of Love with our LGBTQ+ brothers, sisters and others both in UUCP and in our wider community. May we all be blessed as we stand with them in support of their struggle.

This is a blessing from the LGBTQ+ community of faith and spirit approaching the United Methodist Conference Special Session on human sexuality. Those who signed this blessing represent many traditions, faiths, and spiritual practices, but since there are almost 300 names, we don't have space to list them in this newsletter.

Bless all those who love.

Bless all of us queer and lesbian and gay and trans and bi and nonbinary and beyond who lead in the path of spirit whether we are wanted or not, whether we are fearful or brave, whether we are out or not.

Our family has always been called to spiritual leadership and we serve in many ways.

As healers and song leaders, committee chairs and ordained clergy, counselors and prophets.

We preside over communion tables and Shabbat services, at bedsides and weddings and direct actions. We are at births and deaths, leading choirs and capital campaigns. We are everyday people in the pews ready to offer and receive food for our spirits.

May every LGBTQ+ person who doubts that they deserve a spiritual community find a home of spirit and celebration.

May every LGBTQ+ spiritual leader who guides their people with love and skill in the face of homophobia, transphobia, biphobia, know their worth and brilliance.

May every LGBTQ+ leader who withstands the pain and harm of congregations, institutions, and denominations find healing, love and power.

Bless all those who are self-avowed, practicing lovers of justice and liberation.

Bless all those who love.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>MAY</b></p> <p><b>2019</b></p>			1	2 Lit Lover's Readers Group 6-7:30pm See Laurie W.	3 HELP WANTED FOR YARD SALE!	4 HELP WANTED FOR YARD SALE!
5 Manna Donations Conversation Hour 9am Choir Practice 9am Sunday Service 10am Coffee and Annual Congregational Meeting 11am	6	7	8 LUUNCH BUUNCH 1pm Joe Patti's Seafood Restaurant 	9	10	11 Celebration of Life for Audrey Grill, mother of Leslie Grill and Friend of UUCP, at 1pm.
12 Conversation Hour 9am Sunday Service 10am– Beltane Service for All Ages and Mother's Day Coffee Hour 11am	13	14 Lit Lover's Readers Group 10-11:30am See Billye C.	15	16 SUBMISSIONS FOR JUNE LIGHT DUE MAY 16 	17	18
19 Conversation Hour 9am Choir Practice 9am Sunday Service 10am Sunday Sweets 11am Second Hour 11:30am	20	21 Sunday Services Team Meeting 1pm	22	23	24	25
26 Conversation Hour 9am Sunday Service 10am - Memorial Day - "We Remember" Coffee Hour 11am	27	28 Lit Lover's Readers Group 2-3:30pm See Robert P.	29	30	31	





*Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola*  
9888 Pensacola Blvd.  
Pensacola, FL 32534  
[www.uupensacola.org](http://www.uupensacola.org)

**Return Service Requested**

Deadline for submissions for  
**JUNE LIGHT:**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 16**



*Celebrate Diversity · Strive for Justice · Inspire Love*

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