



Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

The Light

VOLUME 63 ISSUE 1

January 2020

Celebrate Diversity · Strive for Justice · Inspire Love



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Coffee and Conversation every Sunday from 9:00am to 10:00am

Jan. 5: "Caught, Not Taught: The Epidemiology of Belief" with Joe Vinson, Asst. Director of Communications at the UWF Innovation Institute and UUCP Member. Joe will discuss how the study of diseases (their distribution and patterns) can be useful in thinking about the spread of religions and other ideologies, what makes a belief more "infectious," and how to be a transmission vector for love and empathy.

Jan. 12: "Where No Sermon Has Gone Before" with Community Minister, Rev. Maggie Lovins. In this sermon, we will discover together little-known facts about the intersectionality of Vulcanism and the Bible. There is more there than just "Live Long and Prosper" in common. At the same time we will learn how Martin Luther King Jr. was the savior of Star Trek as we all know it and how the show's multi-planetary citizenship could be a model for us all to live in relative racial harmony.

Jan. 19: "Honoring the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." with Rev. Alice Syltie. As Unitarian Universalists we draw from a number of sources in our search for spiritual wisdom. We honor people of prophetic words and deeds which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love. I believe many would agree that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is the embodiment of this source. On this MLK Day weekend, we join many others across our land in recognizing the legacy of integrity he leaves us.

Jan. 26: "Exploring Our Inner Landscape" with Rev. Alice Syltie. Participating in a Unitarian Universalist community is an opportunity to search our own inner landscape for meaning and purpose. One perspective is that we are a religion that sees people struggling, not against our own sinful souls, but against a shallow, frantic and materialistic world that all-too-often leaves us disconnected from our deepest selves, life's gifts, and needs greater than one's own. One of the ways Unitarian Universalists are doing this is through groups of a dozen or so people who gather regularly to reflect together on monthly themes. This Sunday I will introduce this option with an invitation for you to participate in going deeper through Theme Circles starting in February.

Mid-Year Congregational Meeting

...will be held after Sunday Service January 26th in the Sanctuary.

All Members and Friends are encouraged to attend. It's a great way to learn more about how and why we do things here at UUCP.



Feb. 2: "A People of Resilience" with Rev. Alice Syltie. Our February theme is Resilience. What does it mean to be a people of resilience? Is it about being tough and independent? Is it learning to live together in a complicated world? Is it about taking care of ourselves physically, emotionally, and spiritually? If it means all of this, how might a covenanted community, like UUCP, support us in being A People Of Resilience?

What Does It Mean to Be a People of Integrity?

“Can you remember who you were, before the world told you who you should be?” Charles Bukowski

“I now know myself to be a person of weakness and strength, liability and giftedness, darkness and light. I now know that to be whole means to reject none of it but to embrace all of it.” Parker Palmer

“For nonconformity the world whips you with its displeasure.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

Which is easier for you? Telling the truth to others or telling the truth to yourself?

What’s your “integrity path?” Is integrity for you about staying faithful, allowing yourself to unfold, putting the pieces back together, matching your insides with your outsides or refusing to hide?



Do you enjoy contemplating and possibly sharing your thoughts on quotes and questions such as these? If so, I’d like to invite you to try something new in 2020. These ideas came from January’s Theme Packet on Integrity. Each month I receive a new packet on a different theme. The packet includes quotes, questions, readings, exercises, links to videos and articles, suggested movies, adding up to way more material than you might care to engage. And the great thing is participation requires nothing beyond a commitment to show up once a month, for a limited number of months, to explore whatever question related to the theme captures your interest. How much time you spend with the available material is up to you. There is **no homework**. The goals are to enrich your own life by learning more about who you are and to create relationships of trust with people willing to be present to one another in each other’s personal search for self knowledge and authenticity. If you are intrigued by the possibilities this offers as a path toward fulfilling Unitarian Universalist Principles of encouragement to spiritual growth and a free and responsible search for truth and meaning, I encourage you to be present for the Sunday Service on January 26. I’ll share my enthusiasm for this method of going deeper in exploring our inner landscape and offer an opportunity to sign up. Group size is limited in order to enable participation from each group member.

If you know you will be unable to attend church on January 26, and are already interested in signing up, email me at revaluu@gmail.com.

May the New Year bring answers you seek in your search for joy and fulfillment.

In Love and Hope,

Rev. Alice

Joshua Scott Buker, the son of UUCP member Elaine Buker, died Oct. 17 at the age of 53. Joshua resided in Lillian, AL. His death was due to severe lung infections.

In addition to his mother, who lives at Azalea Trace, he is survived by his brother Nathan Paul Buker. His father, John Buker, preceded him in death and was also a UUCP member.

Joshua held a bachelor's degree in applied psychology from Anchorage Pacific University and worked for a number of years as a counselor at a youth detention facility in Anchorage, Alaska. He later became a computer and IT technician and developed "Buker PXE" - an application that enabled users to run a Windows interface to control multiple devices with disparate operating systems over a network.

Joshua also enjoyed working as a chef, was passionate about music, was passionate about the mysteries of the world and loved the outdoors, having had many adventures in Alaska during his time there. According to his life story as told in the PNJ obituary: “He was a thinker, conversationalist and wordsmith of considerable potency.”

He is being missed.

President's Column

From the Board

On Dec. 15, we had a discussion during and after the service about what the Board believes is our New Normal as a smaller congregation of under 120 members. Issues of sustainability and stewardship generated much discussion. UU congregations are independent and self-sustaining, which means our efforts at UUCP may be as broad or as focused as we are willing and able for them to be.

Last month I wrote about the power that comes with being real about **What Is**. I believe that UUCP is enough and is wonderful as is. That doesn't mean that I don't see room for improvement, but I also am realistic about what we are capable of right now. Congregations our size all across the country are finding they are unable to financially support a full-time minister. These congregations are being served by part-time ministers, contract ministers, and ministers who serve more than one congregation, or they are lay led. Our situation with Rev. Alice as a part-time contract consulting minister means we are similar to other UU congregations our size. And like those other congregations, we are doing really cool work that ignites the passion of our members. Not the least of these is our vibrant CRE program and our involvement with area faith groups through JUST Pensacola.



The Board and our Finance Team have an obligation to be good stewards of the money entrusted to this church by members and friends. When we had a full-time minister, the Finance Team would develop a Dream Budget and then would have to cut some \$20,000 out of that budget based on the actual dollars pledged. Essentials were paid first: the full-time minister's compensation package, utilities, and insurance. Items that were considered non-essential — such as program expenses and requests from the Ministry Teams — were cut to balance the budget.

Since transitioning to a part-time minister with less of the budget designated to the minister's compensation, we have been able to support our programs more robustly. Funding for the Ministry Teams and programs reflects our congregants' desires for innovative, thought-provoking, fun, and meaningful services, music, CRE, fellowship, and social justice activities as well as a beautiful, safe, and well-maintained building and grounds.

Having a part-time contract minister has taken some getting used to but has not hindered us in our efforts. In fact, Rev. Alice brings ideas and possibilities that have rejuvenated our church in many areas, like Sunday Services. She has helped the Board work with the congregation on understanding our WHY and aligning our activities with our mission to Celebrate Diversity, Strive for Justice, and Inspire Love. She also has ministered to us during many recent losses and changes in the dynamics of UUCP.

Catholic priest and philosopher Thomas Merton said, "What we have to be is what we are." At UUCP, we are open-minded, loving, justice-seeking people. Diversity, justice, and love drew us to UUCP and ground us here as part of this Beloved Community. May we keep being all that we are.

Until next time,

Lauren Anzaldo
Board President



One Room Sunday School 2019-2020

Happy New Year! Another year has passed us by. What a year it was! With OWL classes, UU ghosts from our storied past and we topped it all with our First Annual Christmas Pageant. But wait, there is more to come! Welcome to 2020! Between now and June there will be the MLK Parade, Mother's Day, and a Flower Communion, just to name a few. So, hang around and join in the fun. I look forward to seeing you there!

Please check your email on Saturdays for weekly updates. If you are not on the CRE Saturday email list let me know at mssarahstubbs@gmail.com.

Kind regards,
Sarah Stubbs, CREC

Children's Religious Education (CRE) Advisory Team

Coordinator: Sarah Stubbs (437-5979)

Team Leader: Open

mssarahstubbs@gmail.com

Team Members: Linda Cobb, Penny Featherstone, Tamara Grimes, Emma Mulvaney and Kate Wolverton.

Feel free to contact any member with comments or suggestions!



He had a dream...
for all children.

*On Class Days the students will start in the service to be sung out to class.

*On Children's Chapel day each month the students will start in the Chapel.

*Nursery drop-off starts at 9:45am.

January Schedule for Sunday School

- Jan. 5: Multi-Age Activity, Youth will meet, *CRE Team Meeting after the Service
- Jan. 12: Classes and Youth will meet
- Jan. 19: Children's Chapel
- Jan. 26: Service for All Ages

*All are welcome to join in on the CRE Team meeting. Childcare is provided.

Our New ORSS Age Groupings

I know, there is always something new, right? To better serve our population we are now breaking the children out as follows:

Birth - Kindergarten are in the Nursery.

1st - 6th grades are in the ORSS in the Rainforest Room.

7th - 12th grades are in the Youth Pathfinders (Teen) Room.

CRE ACRONYMS and JARGON EXPLAINED

- CRE: Children's Religious Education
- CREC: Children's Religious Education Coordinator
- Children's Chapel: Mini-Service for small folks
- ORSS: One Room Sunday School
- SFAA: Service for All Ages
- Youth: Children 13-ish to high school senior

Our Caring Community

Lauren Anzaldo was on her way to work at Naval Air Station Pensacola just before 7 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 6, when she received a call from one of her employees that there was an active shooter aboard the installation. After waiting in a nearby parking lot off base for several hours to see what was going to happen, she came home and spent the day texting and keeping employees informed as they began to create their plan for the emergency response; she and six other employees reported to work at 3 p.m. that day, about the time the base was releasing staff sheltering in place since early in the morning.

Lauren is the clinical supervisor at the base's Fleet and Family Support Center, located about two blocks from Building 633, where the shooting occurred. She oversees the counseling program and the suicide prevention case management program, providing clinical counseling for individuals, couples, children and families. Since the shooting, FFSC has opened an Emergency Family Assistance Center (EFAC) using reception staff, support staff and counselors to provide information, referral, support and counseling to the victims, witnesses, family members, friends and employees affiliated with NAS Pensacola and affected by the shooting, the deaths and injuries.

The shooting caused four deaths, including the shooter, and eight injuries, and continues to be investigated.

"The population I serve is affected in many different ways by this tragedy," says Lauren. "Some were first responders; some were victims; some were witnesses, some were instructors or co-workers of the student victims, family members (spouses or children) of the victim, or witnesses, friends, roommates, classmates of the victims or witnesses. The entire base is affected."

Leslie Grill also works at a Pensacola Navy base, at Saufley Field. Concerning that tragic day, "Initially we didn't know what was going on and some of the team was getting automated phone calls about 'something.' We knew that something was going on, but not what...They locked down all of the bases in the area, NASP, Corry Station and Saufley Field, which was scary in itself. By the time I left at 2:30, we had pretty much pieced together the basic story, but not details." And then she watched the news. "Some of it is still kind of a blur."

Trista Blouin has been accepted into United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, to work toward a Master of Divinity in UU Studies. Beginning in January she will be studying full-time via live streaming video conferencing. The Seminary is one of the schools recommended by the UUA.

To have the flexibility needed to manage her multiple tasking, Trista has reactivated her portrait photography company, Look Who Just Blouin Photography, a business which earlier supported her for over 10 years. Renewing the business, she believes, "will provide me with the most flexibility to take care of my three children, work, and attend school."

Until recently she worked with Guardian ad Litem. "But at the beginning of December, due to the high number of children who have been removed from their homes in our circuit, my job as Volunteer Resource Manager had to be reallocated to a mission critical position directly serving children."

Spain and Wisconsin were choices for Thanksgiving travels for Bob and Lesley Ortiz – Lesley with her daughter Wendy to Madrid and Barcelona, Bob to longtime home turf in Wisconsin for a 20-member gathering of sons, daughter, family spouses, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Wendy, a schoolteacher, and Lesley first spent several days in Madrid, then took a high-speed train to Barcelona, where they rode the metro to traverse places of interest, sample tapas, visit Christmas markets featuring locally handcrafted items and – a highlight, to view the works of famous architect Antoni Gaudi, most of which are in Barcelona; "most impressive," says Lesley: Sagrada Familia, the church he designed.

Welcome new member – Patricia Beebe

Patricia Beebe cares: for her children at home and school-children in her classroom, for her country – where she’s visited 40 of its 50 states – and lately, for UUCP, a discovery well-made.

Patricia, the mother of four daughters, is an Elementary School Counselor at McArthur Elementary at Pensacola – a job which she notes “has been quite an adventure” and preceded by longer career terms in counseling, at mostly Middle Schools, in both Pensacola and Nashville, TN.

At home, Patricia is Mom to Camille, 10; twins Cayle and Caroline, 7; and Chloe, 5. In the wider landscape, places she’s known beyond classroom or household, have been extensive; reports Patricia: “I have been to about 40 U.S. states. I LOVE to travel. One day I am hoping to go to Canada. I have never been there – which is sad considering I grew up in Minnesota.



“Mostly I traveled with my family on vacations. My grandmother loved traveling and I made it to this high amount mostly because of her. (In 2009 we took a summer road trip!)”

Patricia was born and raised in Minneapolis. (“Go Gophers!” she inserted enthusiastically in her UU bio questionnaire.) She attended National American University in St. Paul, MN, earning a degree in management information systems (MIS). She later attended Tennessee State University, where she earned a master’s degree in education. She also received her School Counselor licensure from Tennessee State.

Patricia’s immediate family (other than her girls) resides mostly in Nashville; other relatives are in California, Philadelphia and S. Carolina. She herself has lived in Minneapolis, Las Vegas, Nashville, and now Pensacola. “I have enjoyed all of them for different reasons,” she notes. “A few reasons why I enjoy Pensacola is the laid back vibe and beaches. I also enjoy no big traffic issues!” She moved here in response to a job offer.

Finding UU was a long time coming, but gratifying at the conclusion, she reports. “Some years back I took this silly quiz, ‘What religion suits you best?’ And I got like 99% UU! I had never heard of UU before so I started to research and decided that was a great fit for me. This year I finally decided to check it out and we love it!

“My daughters LOVE coming to church and that makes me so happy!”

Asked about what she might change or add to the UU curriculum she responds: “I wish there were more children and minorities in our church. I am not sure how to go about achieving that, however. I am still working on that solution!”

For now though, there’s this: “Thank you to everyone who has been so awesome to my family! We truly appreciate it!”

Charlotte Crane

ATTENTION: NEW (or Returning) MEMBERS!

We’re so glad you’ve become a Member of our beloved community. If you haven’t had a Get-to-Know-You Biography published yet and would like to, please contact Charlotte Crane or the Church Office. We’d love to feature you!



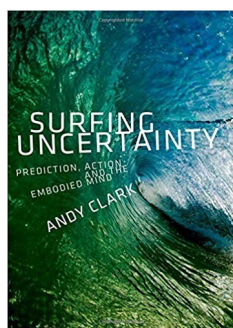
The Lunch Bunch



For January 8, as early as a 2nd Wednesday can be, we will plan to meet at 1 PM at Taqueria Olgys, interesting Mexican food restaurant we first tried 3-4 years ago, at 5222 North W Street, just south of Beverly (the road name between Michigan and Brent), 292-4642. We did not visit one Mex/Tex type restaurant in the year of 2019, so we'll remedy that with this new year's start. ... As usual, your intention to attend is appreciated in order to make seating earlier arrangements, via huturn@juno.com or 850-478-2373 by 6 Jan. (or 501-5142 to cancel). (I feel guilty if I reserve seats/tables that we fail to fill.)

Our 11 Dec. visit to Taste of Jerusalem went well despite colder cloudy weather which did not discourage 14 of the 17 intending to experience the ToJ hospitality ...which is the impression when, with only 5 already seated, each table carries 4-6 samples of the dip condiments (tzatziki, baba ganoush, and hot or hot/spicy sauces, with plenty of oven baked naan/pita type bread in which to dip it). The ordering went fairly well, except that for the second month, ordering first brought me the last delivery (shakshuka): over-light fried eggs on top of tomato/onion/spices, very fresh off the stove, very tasty; a sort of more spicy huevos rancheros, middle eastern style. (I also ordered the tabbouleh, but it failed to arrive.) ... 2020 should offer new opportunities.

LET'S GET
Together



Second Hour Book Discussion, January 5 at 11:15am

Book session to discuss 'groundbreaking' work in predictive science

Our next book review session will examine Andy Clark's new book, *Surfing Uncertainty*, a work that suggests that our minds are really "prediction machines."

"How is it that thoroughly physical material beings such as ourselves can think, dream, feel, create and understand ideas, theories and concepts?" Clark asks. "How does mere matter give rise to all these non-material mental states, including consciousness itself?"

"An answer to this central question of our existence is emerging at the busy intersection of neuroscience, psychology, artificial intelligence, and robotics," he says.

According to Clark, our minds "have evolved to anticipate the incoming streams of sensory stimulation before they arrive. These predictions then initiate actions that structure our worlds and alter the very things we need to engage and predict."

This review is the brainchild of Christian Williams, who will return to lead our discussion. We begin at 11:15 am and go for about an hour. We welcome all, including latecomers.

It isn't necessary to read the book before attending. Indeed, these sessions are designed as introductions so that people can determine whether they wish to invest their time in reading the entire work.

Are You Crafty? The UUCP Needlers group will be meeting on Wednesday, January 15 at 11:30am



Do you knit, crochet or sew? Would you like to join a lunch bunch and work on a personal project? The Needlers group is for you. We welcome any experience level and any handcraft you can fit in a bag and bring along.

Meeting times and places vary, though we usually meet for lunch at a nearby restaurant —this month at [Cazadores](#) — then head to a member's home nearby to do crafting. We'll meet at Penny Featherstone's house after lunch. Non-crafters are welcome to join us for socializing. Please contact Barbara Goggins (phone 478-2953) or Lesley Ortiz (lesortiz710@gmail.com) for more information.

**Evening Webinar Jan. 15, from 6 to 8pm in the Sanctuary,
#3 “Stewardship and Sustainability For the Long Haul.”**

Morning Webinar Reprise: “A Year of Learning and Connection for Smaller Congregations.”

(alternative viewing days/time)

Unable to attend the evening broadcast of this webinar series? You are invited to join us for daytime showings and discussion of maximizing our potential as a smaller congregation and living our WHY. Daytime showings will start in January on Thursday mornings at 10am in the Sanctuary. The Webinar has four sessions:

#1 Smalls Making a Big Difference - January 16, 2020 at 10am

#2 Right Sizing Your Congregation’s Operations - January 30, 2020 at 10am

#3 Stewardship and Sustainability for the Long Haul – TBA

#4 Being Beloved Community – TBA

Join us for the replays of this interesting and thought-provoking UUA Webinar and stay for what we hope will be a candid and lively discussion of what you believe is important to our congregation as we move forward. Typically, the webinar has been 90 minutes long followed by a 30-minute discussion. You can also view the recorded version of this webinar series from home. Links to the recorded webinars are made available through our weekly emails, website, and newsletter. Some of us simply prefer to watch and how these relate to our congregation.



Circle Dinners, An Adult Dinner Group

Do you want to get to know other UUs? How about some adult conversation or a stimulating evening? **Circle Dinners** are your answer.

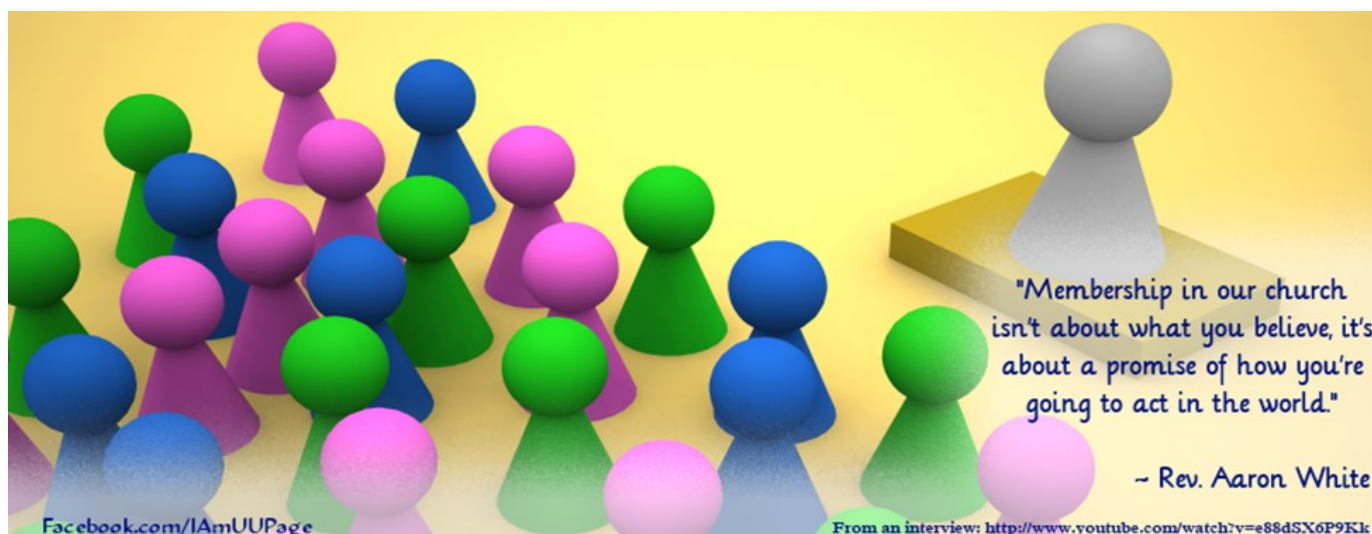
Circle Dinners align with UU principles affirming human worth, dignity, compassion, and acceptance of one another. Plus, they’re fun! The company’s great — and so is the food! They are a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know your fellow UUs.

Circle Dinners begin with a “UUCP Circle Dinner Kickoff Party” in February followed by dinners in February, March, and April. Participants will have an opportunity one month to host and provide a main dish. Others provide salad/vegetables or dessert/bread. The host will decide on a convenient date by conferring with those assigned. The six assigned people will provide the food, and the host may invite two new UU members, or others from the church, he or she would like to get to know better. This means there could be six, eight or more adults participating.

Singles as well as couples are encouraged to join. Substitutes are always needed. Should you be interested in participating – as a regular or a substitute – just indicate on the sign-up sheet in the foyer! We are signing up now.

We are holding the “UUCP Circle Dinner Kickoff Party Meet and Greet” on Saturday, February 1 from 2pm to 4pm here at UUCP. I hope to see you there! *If you are unable to participate in the “Meet & Greet”, you are still invited to join our group. For any questions or to sign up, call/text Linda Cobb at 850-501-3186 or email Lindawcobb@gmail.com.





Membership at UUCP - Did you Know? Privileges, Benefits & Responsibilities

The sentiment expressed in the graphic captures so much of who and how we are –
it is about how we act in the world.

Here are some other things to keep in mind for both new and current members:

As a Member -

you are **entitled to:**

- Receive the services of the minister without fee;
- Use the church property for events in accordance with established policy;
- Receive a free subscription to the *UU World* magazine;
- Have your information included in the church Directory and Simple Church;
- Vote at congregational business meetings (Mid-Year meeting is January 26, 2020) after six weeks' membership;
- Stand for elections and hold elected office; and
- Be remembered on our Memorial Garden plaque.

you **agree to:**

- Uphold our By-Laws (they're on the website and a paper copy is available upon request); and
- Participate in the life of the congregation through two things:
 - Personal involvement, and
 - A record of financial contribution (\$) within the church year (*the annual Budget Drive is approaching!*).

Questions about membership – contact Membership Team Members
Laurie Winterberg, Laura Keith King or Nancy Hagman



Inspire Love

Get Ready for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Day Parade!

The theme for the Parade this year is, "In Unity There is Strength." We hope you can make it out for this meaningful and fun event. *Did you know we have been participating in the Pensacola MLK DAY PARADE since the very first year they started having it?*

We will be gathering to make preparations for the MLK Parade after services. Come with ideas to make this year's float the best ever! We will be making paper flowers and attaching MLK quotes to them to hand out at the parade. Supplies for making flowers will be available in the Rain Forest Room, so please feel free to fold up some flowers anytime; we need as many as possible!

Starting December 29th, we will gratefully receive for parade throws such as small paper flowers and attaching MLK quotes to them to hand out at the parade. Supplies for making flowers will be available in the Rain Forest Room, so please feel free to fold up some flowers anytime; we need as many as possible!

On January 19th after the service, at 11:00! For more information, 206-6859 (I will be out of town January 13th).



ly receive beads and other donated stuffed animals or candy. There will be a specially decorated box in the parade lineup. We usually meet between 9:00am and 10:30am on Spring Street near Government to congregating, the paper flowers and set up the drums on our float so bring a drum if you want to join the beat. **The parade** contact Kate Wolverton at 850-333-3333 through the 12th but available

Monday, January 20th in the parade lineup. We usually meet between 9:00am and 10:30am on Spring Street near Government to congregating, the paper flowers and set up the drums on our float so bring a drum if you want to join the beat. **The parade** contact Kate Wolverton at 850-333-3333 through the 12th but available

Marching in the MLK Parade has long been a tradition for UUCP. It is a chance to show our love and support for the work of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and so many others who gave their lives in the struggle for Civil Rights — a fight which still continues. **These include fellow Unitarian Universalists Viola Fauver, Gregg Liuzzo, Rev. James Reeb and Rev. Donald Thompson.**

Celebrate Diversity



What's UUp @ UUCP?

Auction Update

Up-to-date numbers for the Auction are finally in, and what a success it was! We raised \$1,430 for the Music program, and the auction itself brought in \$5,370! Many thanks to Kate Wolverton, Lisa Hudson, Bobby van Deusen and all the donors and volunteers who made the event possible.

Thanks to YoUUr Generosity...

our congregation donated \$617 to the Members' Assistance Fund on Christmas Eve, and \$335 to [Florida Cares](#) for the 5th Sunday Share the Plate Offering on December 29th. Thank you for supporting the values of this congregation and the work of our church within and beyond our walls.

Please Help Un-Deck Our Halls

Thank you so much to all of our wonderful volunteers who made our building so beautiful this Christmas! Now that we are beginning a brand new year, volunteers are needed to take down our Christmas tree and decorations. Please join us after the service on January 5th at 11:15. Trista Blouin is happy to answer any questions.

News From UUCP's Special Savings Account: UUCP Charitable Trust

There were several comments made at a recent Second Hour discussion about how “fortunate” we are that early organizers (late 1980's) of the **UUCP Charitable Trust** made provision for a financial mechanism to provide our church with a “safety mechanism” to help our church over difficult financial times by setting up the Charitable Trust whereby the interest earned from the Endowment Fund is available to the UUCP Church Board for unbudgeted or unanticipated church needs. Initially, the **Endowment Fund** was a modest amount, but today, after 30+ years of existence, it totals around \$360,000. Several members use the Charitable Trust as a way to honor or memorialize someone dear to them by donating to the Trust in that person's name. The honoree or family member is notified of these donations.

As we begin a new year, we ask that our congregation members, think about not only donating to the operating budget of the church through their pledges, but donating to our church's long-term financial well-being by making some sort of commitment/donation to the Trust. Donations can be done through including the Charitable Trust in your will, donating stock or other resources, as well as an outright gift of funds, which are tax-deductible. To date, trustees have been notified that about 10 to 12 members have made the UUCP Trust part of their estate plans. Just as we make provision in our own lives for our finances to cover our daily living expenses and some finances set aside for “long-term savings,” **our church needs resources earmarked as “savings” too**. Contact any Trustee for further information or clarification: **Chair, Marcy Moreland; Secretary, Georgianna Bryant; Treasurer, Gerry Donnelly; Trustee, Erin Renfro; and Trustee, Barbara Goggins.**

Save the date!

Mid-year Congregational Meeting January 26, 11:15am. Gather for updates on our finances, the Charitable Trust, the Sign Task Force, Ministry Teams and highlights of what we've accomplished. A sandwich lunch will be provided.

Are You New to UUCP?

Do you like what you've experienced and want to find out more about UUCP? You're invited to **meet Reverend Alice, our Minister, in our Library on Sunday, January 19 at 11:15 am** after the service. Child care will be available upon request.

Although not required, Nancy Hagman or Laurie Winterberg will appreciate knowing if you're interested in participating. You can reach Nancy at nancyshagman@gmail.com or 850-206-5638 or Laurie at LaurieAnne1950@gmail.com or 850-857-9646. Looking forward to getting to know you better.

Simple Church



Want to know what's happening at UUCP? Want to plan an event, or coordinate your UUCP activities with other things on your calendar? Our church calendar is digital, and there are three ways to view the calendar.

1) UUCP website <https://uupensacola.org/news/sc-calendar/>

2) Simple Church website (requires log in with your assigned username and password)

<https://uupensacola.simplechurchcrm.com/>

3) Simple Church **free app** downloadable in your device's App Store: once installed, you'll have the entire Church Directory on your phone and can text and make phone calls easily from the app.

If you want to add an event to calendar, make sure you are working with a Ministry Team and/or contact our Office Administrator Terra Shute to assist. Coordinating our events is so important to avoid conflicts.

Simple Church FAQs

Q - Do I need a username and a password?

A - Yes, you do. There are several easy ways to get one, or if you've forgotten yours, get another. **Go to:**

- 1) uupensacola.simplechurchcrm.com (**this is our domain name**) **HINT** - Don't forget the 'c r m' in the address.
- 2) Click on "Forgot Password." When asked, be sure to use your email address that is in the church directory.
- 3) Check your email. You should have received an email that will contain your username and a temporary password. **HINT** - the email will have "login here" in the text.
- 4) At the login page, enter the username and password that was in the email. **HINT** - don't forget the '.' (period) between your first and last name.
- 5) If you wish, change your password to something more your liking. You can do that by clicking on the "Account" tab. **HINT** - don't forget to click on the "SAVE" button at the bottom of the page.

Q - I didn't get my picture taken, can I upload my own? A - Yes, you can.

Q - I can see a record of my financial contributions to the church on my page. Can other people see that too?

A - NO - only you, the Treasurer, Office Admin and Membership Chair can see that information.

Q - Will I still receive a giving statement in January for my taxes? A - YES - it may be emailed. IF you don't have an email or want a paper copy, get in touch with Treasurer Erin Renfroe.

Q - Can I update my address, phone, email, etc.?

A - YES you can, just click on the EDIT tab. Don't forget to click the "SAVE" button at the bottom of the page.

Q - I just submitted an update; it isn't showing yet.

A - Updates sit in a holding area for a day or so before you see them on your page. This is so the changes can also be made on other documents - like the printed Directory.

Q - I have a smart phone, can I use the APP? A - YES. Just download it from your usual app store - it's FREE. ENTER our domain name (see #1 above). Log in.

Q - How do I get to the calendar? A - On the dark blue bar towards the top of the screen, on the RIGHT HAND side, you'll see an icon that looks like a calendar page. Just click.

Q - How do I get back to the PEOPLE?

A - On the dark blue bar towards the top of the screen, the very last thing is the word "PEOPLE". Just click.

Q - I still need some help. A - Just get in touch with Membership Co-Chair - Laurie Winterberg at 850-857-9646 or LaurieAnne1950@gmail.com.



The Celebration of the Life of Thomas Len Springer will be held on Sunday, January 12, 2020, 12 noon at UUCP. It will be jointly led by UUCP and the Humanists of West Florida. Individuals who wish to, may make financial donations in his memory to either the UUCP Members' Assistance Fund or the Humanists of West Florida Members' Memorial Fund.



How do we Strive for Justice?



JUST Pensacola Update: UUCP's Community Partner's in Social Justice Action

The research phase of the J.U.S.T. social action project got off to a great start at the Research Kick-Off meeting, which was held on December 10th at the First Baptist Church of Ferry Pass. Six of our members participated in the research teams that voted on the final two local problems, one related to education and the other to criminal justice reform.

Two problems were adopted and are believed to be solvable at the local level. They were, in education, the low participation in Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) and Headstart programs, and in criminal justice reform, the high arrest rates for non-violent offenders.

The research phase will continue and will include reaching out to members of the community who have been identified as having related expertise and/or have the power to make the desired changes. We will also investigate how these problems have been remedied in other communities; since JUST Pensacola is part of a larger umbrella organization network, DART (Direct Action Research and Training) we will have access to the records of communities who've faced similar issues. We'll see how they have approached their problems and what successes they have had.

This will prepare us for the final phase, our Direct Action. We will gather with other citizens, who are also led by their congregations, and present our investigations and research to the leaders who can effect change. We don't yet know how many people will be physically present at the Direct Action meeting, but we do know that our 20+ congregations represent approximately 4,000 Escambia County constituents in an election year. Mark your calendars – the *Nehemiah* next J.U.S.T. Pensacola meeting will be held on Monday, April 27th.

The next meeting date for the research teams is January 7, 2:30 p.m., location to be announced. This is a wonderful opportunity to transform our faith, hope, and love into action. If you are interested in becoming more active in this social justice initiative, please contact Paula Montgomery.

Arnie Ondis



Unitarian Universalist Justice Florida
Bending Florida toward Justice

UUJF Legislative Days in 2020!


The 2020 Legislative Days are coming up fast—on January 27-28—because of the Election Year. Some great events are planned for this session. Hope you can come! See all the details and register ASAP if interested at <https://uujusticefl.org/take-action-2/> so our UUJF team can plan adequately for meals, room accommodations and ride sharing. Please remember, non-UUs need to make their hotel reservations directly with the Days Inn. Deadline for reservations at the hotel is January 7!

Kindra Muntz
Past President, UU Justice Florida
941-266-8278

From Paula Montgomery: Last year Patti Gunderson and I attended the UUJF days in Tallahassee. It was enlightening and fun. We got to meet UUs from all over the state who are interested in Social Justice. And we met with our legislators to acquaint them with the issues of interest. Last year our hotel rooms were paid for and we had a very good dinner with the Tallahassee UU Church.


If this interests you I encourage you to look over the details and plan to go. It is much more fun if you go with someone you know, to compare notes and to help navigate Tallahassee. I wish that I could go this year, but prior scheduling precludes it. If you have questions please contact me, Paula Montgomery, at 850 438 8891 or Kindra Muntz at 941-266-8278.

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Donate to Manna Conversation Hour 9a Choir Practice 9:30a Sunday Service 10a Coffee Hour 11a 2nd Hour "Surfing Uncertainty"	6 Board Meeting 5:45pm	7	8 LUUNCH BUUNCH 1pm at Taqueria Olgys	9	10	11
12 Conversation Hour 9a Choir Practice 9a Sunday Service 10a Coffee Hour 11a Celebration of Life for Tom Springer 12p	13	14	15 <i>The Needlers Group 11:30, see Barbara Goggins</i> <hr/> UUCP Webinar p.m. Meeting: "Stewardship & Sustainability for the Long Haul" 6-8p	16 UUCP Webinar a.m. Meeting #1: "Smalls Making a Big Difference" 10a	17 SUBMISSIONS FOR FEBRUARY LIGHT DUE 	18
19 Conversation Hour 9a Choir Practice 9:30a Sunday Service 10a Coffee Hour 11a Meet the Minister 11:15a Decorate MLK Day Float 11:15a	20 UUCP Marches in MLK Day Parade at 10a	21	22 Sunday Services Team Meeting at 1p at UUCP	23	24	25 Auction Purchase: Thai/Asian Dinner - See Jack Comstock
26 Conversation Hour 9a Choir Practice 9a Sunday Service 10a Coffee Hour 11a MID-YEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 11:30a	27	28	29	30 UUCP Webinar a.m. Meeting #2: "Right Sizing Your Congregation's Operations" 10a	31	

Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola
 9888 Pensacola Blvd.
 Pensacola, FL 32534
 www.uupensacola.org

Return Service Requested



**Deadline for submissions for
 FEBRUARY LIGHT:
 THURSDAY, JANUARY 16**

Celebrate Diversity · Strive for Justice · Inspire Love

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