



9888 Pensacola Blvd
Pensacola, FL 32534
uupensacola.org

Office Hours:

*Closed until further notice—
calls and emails checked as usual*

UUCP Staff Contacts

Minister

Rev. Alice Syltje

Community Minister

Rev. Maggie Lovins

Children's Religious Ed Coordinator

Sarah Stubbs

Office Administrator/Editor

Terra Shute 850-475-9077,

uupensacola@gmail.com

Proofreading Editor: Charlotte Crane

UUCP Leadership Contacts

Governing Board

President: Lauren Anzaldo

President-Elect: Arnie Ondis

Past President: Nancy Hagman

Secretary: Jack Comstock

Treasurer: Erin Renfroe

Board Members at Large

Trista Blouin

Linda Cobb

Penny Featherstone

Marcy Moreland

Ministry Team Leaders

Building Team/Facilities Contacts

Gerry Donnelly & Jay Butcher

Caring

Penny Featherstone & Kate Wolverton

Communications/Publicity

communications@uupensacola.org

Charlie Steed, Erin Renfroe, Lauren

Anzaldo, Pam Levitt, Audrey Preston

Denominational Affairs

Trista Blouin

Finance

Marylee Donnelly

Laurie Winterberg

Fun and Fellowship

Trista Blouin

Leadership Development

Nancy Hagman

Membership

Laura Keith King

Laurie Winterberg

Safer Congregation

Arnie Ondis

Social Justice

Paula Montgomery

Scott Satterwhite

Sunday Services

Marylee Donnelly

*See our website, uupensacola.org for
a complete list of teams and members.*

FROM YOUR MINISTER

Our theme for November is Healing and our question to ponder is, What Does It Mean to Be A People of Healing? I found it interesting that I recently received two emails from separate sources, both talking about the importance of a broken-open heart for healing. From Soul Matters, a reminder from Parker Palmer of a tale from the Hasidic tradition:

A disciple asks the rebbe: "Why does Torah tell us to place these words upon your hearts? Why does it not tell us to place these holy words in our hearts?" The rebbe answers: "It is because as we are, our hearts are closed, and we cannot place the holy words in our hearts. So, we place them on top of our hearts. And there they stay until, one day, the heart breaks and the words fall in."

Here's what else Palmer has to say: "When the heart is supple, it can be "broken open" into a greater capacity to hold our own and the world's pain: it happens every day. When we hold our suffering in a way that opens us to greater compassion, heartbreak becomes a source of healing, deepening our empathy for others who suffer and extending our ability to reach out to them."

Joanna Macy reminds us, "The heart that breaks open can contain the whole universe...All is registered in the 'boundless heart' of the bodhisattva. Through our deepest and innermost responses to our world – to hunger and torture and the threat of annihilation – we touch that boundless heart."

In "An Almost Daily Devotional" that I receive from Rev. Cameron Trimble, she shared a quote from Mathew Fox that left her stunned. He said "People in the US spend \$56,000 EVERY SECOND on weapons development.

Instead of building weapons that kill people and destroy our planet, here are some things we could do with \$56,000 every second for the common good.

Eradicate hunger,

Build a farm to table movement that supports local community economies,

Develop treatments and vaccines for diseases impacting people around the world,

Give everyone who wants it access to higher education,

Begin the work of reparations,

Provide social services and support to help families thrive,

Rebuild our roads, bridges, and critical infrastructure,

Invest in minority and women-owned enterprises,

Develop clean energy solutions,

Clean our oceans...

In other words, we could care for the poor, heal the sick (and our planet), honor our children and elders, and protect the weakest among us. If we refused to invest in greed and tyranny, we could invest in a more just and generous world for all."

I'm comfortable claiming that over these last several months our hearts have been broken, and broken-open, by all that we have seen and experienced.

St. Thomas Aquinas, a medieval Roman Catholic scholar, was the first to coin the term "common good." He was concerned about the ways that governments care for all people, not just those who have privileges or access to power and wealth.

Caring for the "common good" is a core teaching of every major religion, including Unitarian Universalism.

In preparation for continuing our interfaith engagement with JUST Pensacola, I invite you to join a Zoom conversation on Sunday, November 8, at 11:30 am to answer the question, what is breaking your heart, or keeping you awake at night?

In Rev. Trimble's words, May we all break open for the sake of the common good. We are in this together.

In Love and Hope, Rev. Alice



How do we inspire love?

FROM YOUR BOARD: PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



We UUs identify our denomination as a covenantal faith. UUs are not required to espouse a particular creed or set of beliefs, yet we share common values. As the saying goes, We don't have to think alike to love alike. When we join this congregation, we commit — we covenant and affirm — to support one another in our individual and collective journeys and to practice honesty, courage, and integrity in our actions. These commitments are the interwoven threads that unite our church community and connect us with the larger society where we strive also to behave in a similar manner.

I have a vivid memory of a comment made during a church workshop years ago as our congregation worked to develop our current mission statement. A member said that the UU faith seemed to him to serve as “a mirror reflecting an image of my best self.” I have carried those words and that visual with me, and they have been meaningful to me on my own spiritual path ever since. I suppose that is where the faith part comes in for UUs. Being our best selves is no easy thing — not for us and not for others. Faith is what keeps us hoping for and believing that a better world is possible.

The Governing Board lately has been discussing the necessary work of promoting and maintaining Right Relations in our congregation. During a period when we are not spending face-to-face time together and when so many tumultuous events are occurring, anxieties are running high. We may feel confused or upset or on edge, and we may not experience the connection and loving embrace of our church community as strongly as we did when we were gathering in person. We may wish we had a clearer direction about the next steps ahead for our church and for society in general, even though we all recognize that, in many ways, we are playing by ear much of the time because of the evolving unknowns that we face.

Our church covenants provide vital guidelines for us in how to relate with one another and with the world at large during even the most trying times. Our Sunday Service covenant focuses on love, service, peace, and truth-seeking. Our Congregational Covenant expands these concepts and operationalizes them. The Congregational Covenant consists of the promises we make to one another when we enter into UUCP membership, which is also when existing members affirm our membership and join our lives with those of our new members. In the words of the Congregational Covenant, we agree to “hold one another accountable to our very best intentions.”

The Board developed tips for Right Relations derived from the words of our Congregational Covenant. The tip sheet appears in this issue of The Light newsletter. The tips remind us to speak with honesty, courtesy, and courage and to bring comments or concerns directly to the folks who have the ability to address them. Lines of communication must be open and clean, not tangled or overly complicated. The Board, our UUCP lay leaders, and our church members and friends all share the responsibility for ensuring that communication is open and direct. For instance, leadership positions and names of team leaders or key team members are posted in The Light and on our website. The online Simple Church directory (as well as the printed directory for those with limited internet capability) displays these positions and people along with their contact information.

Our minister, our leaders, and our Board members are ready and willing to listen to your input and to deploy your abilities and talents. If you or someone you know raises a question or voices a concern, remember that there is a channel for expressing it to the appropriate person(s). Sometimes those conversations are tough and may take some practice. The Board hopes to offer one or two workshops with role plays on Right Relations and healthy communication.

We are UUCP. Without a diocese or presbytery or other body directing our steps, our congregation has the ultimate authority over what UUCP is and will be. In the words of our Congregational Covenant, “May we be true to ourselves, true to each other, and true to the vision of the beloved community we are ever becoming.”

Until next time,

Lauren Anzaldo
Board President

RIGHT RELATIONS TIPS

The Congregational Covenant that we recite together during each New Member Ceremony and during other services includes details for building healthy congregational relations. The covenant states, in part, “We value honesty, direct speaking and courtesy in our conflict, courage in our speech, and integrity in our action.” Covenants such as this are aspirational — meaning we aspire to fulfill all the promises we make in the covenant but often fall short since we are human. Still, we are encouraged to affirm and reaffirm our promises and to continue working at relationships. This document provides helpful tips for improving relationships among church Members, Friends, and/or Staff.

Centered on our UUCP Mission Statement, committed to our Congregational Covenant, and focused on the vision of our church, our congregational relations mostly proceed congenially. However, conflicts are inevitable from time to time. Our expectation is that conflicts are resolved at the lowest level possible, e.g. through mutual and respectful interaction between persons involved. However, sometimes conflicts between Members, Friends, and/or Staff bubble over to others. When this happens, the results can be debilitating to the congregation unless the conflicts are handled properly.

In the event that one or more person(s) approach you to express a conflict or disagreement, the following responses are recommended and are listed in order of preference.

1. Ask the person(s) approaching you if they have spoken with the person(s) with whom there is conflict or disagreement in order to resolve the issue with honesty, direct speaking, and courtesy. Many conflicts are easily resolved through open communication. Encourage the person(s) to communicate with the person(s) with whom there is conflict, if they have not already. If the person(s) approaching you is not sure with whom to speak – such as if the concern is related to some aspect of church life like Sunday Services, Fun & Fellowship, or the budget – provide the person(s) with the name(s) of the Ministry Team Leader, Board Member, etc., who is a decisionmaker in that area and/or offer to help the person(s) identify who is the right person to approach. For example, refer to the latest issue of *The Light* or church website for a list of Board Members and Ministry Team Leaders and to the church directory on Simple Church for the decisionmaker’s contact information.
2. Offer to practice or role play with the person(s) approaching you what they might say to the other person(s). This approach allows the person(s) approaching you to think through their concerns, clarify what they believe needs to happen to resolve the conflict, and increase their courage and confidence in using honesty, direct speaking, and courtesy to resolve the conflict directly with the other person(s).
3. Offer to accompany the person(s) approaching you to meet or talk with the other person(s). This approach enables you to be supportive without getting directly involved in the conflict.
4. If all of the above are not fruitful and the person(s) continues to ask you to resolve the conflict for them, tell the person(s) that you will go the person(s) with whom there is conflict but that you will attribute the concern to the person(s) approaching you rather than attributing the concern to “someone” or “some people” or presenting the concern anonymously.

If a disagreement or conflict between or among UUCP Members, Friends, and/or Staff cannot be resolved with the above steps, the Governing Board may be asked to convene the Right Relations Team to help resolve the issue. The Board also may convene the Right Relations Team independent of a request if the Board notices an unresolved conflict affecting the congregation. A general goal of the Right Relations process is to adequately address the conflict and restore right relations without resulting in anyone involved choosing to leave the congregation, yet this is not always possible. The current UUCP Behavior Policy outlines policy for the Right Relations Team.

Helpful References:

Congregational Covenant
 UUCP Bylaws
 Behavior Policy

MINISTRY TEAMS (Revised August 2020)

Adult Exploration:

Thom Botsford

Building and Grounds:

Gerry Donnelly

Caring Team: (Needs Leader)

Meals/Food Coordination: Penny Featherstone

Memorial Garden: Kate Wolverton

Member News Column: Charlotte Crane

Greeting Cards: Nadine Hubble

Children's Religious Exploration (CRE):

(Needs Leader)

Linda Cobb

Penny Featherstone

Pam Levitt

Emma Mulvaney

Sarah Stubbs

Kate Wolverton

Communications and Publicity:

(Needs Leader)

Website: Erin Renfroe and Charlie Steed

Facebook page (public): Lauren Anzaldo,

Pam Levitt and Audrey Preston

Facebook page

(In Our Greater CommUnity – closed group):

Erin Renfroe

CRE Facebook page (closed group): Sarah Stubbs

Weekly Email: Terra Shute and Erin Renfroe

The Light: Terra Shute and Charlotte Crane

Denominational Affairs:

Trista Blouin

Finance:

Laurie Winterberg, Co-Leader

Marylee Donnelly, Co-Leader

Georgianna Bryant

Linda Cobb

Jack Comstock

Erin Renfroe

Fun and Fellowship Team:

Trista Blouin, Leader

Campout: Emma Mulvaney

Circle Dinners: Linda Cobb

Coffee Hour/Potlucks: Barbara Goggins

Coffee & Conversation: Rob Pallme

LUUnch BUUnch: Hugh Ed Turner

MLK Parade: Kate Wolverton

Virtual Happy Hour: Trista Blouin

Membership Team:

Laurie Winterberg, Leader

Laura Keith King

Safer Congregation Team:

Arnie Ondis, Leader

Gerry Donnelly

Leslie Grill

Denise Gunn

Marcy Moreland

Jean Siebenaler

Jack Wolverton

Social Justice:

Paula Montgomery, Co-Leader

Scott Satterwhite, Co-Leader

Sunday Services and Music:

Marylee Donnelly, Leader

Dolly Berthelot

Thom Botsford

Nancy Hagman

Laura Keith King

Paula Montgomery

Marcy Moreland

Rob Pallme

Sarah Stubbs

Leadership Development Team (1-Year Terms)

Nancy Hagman, Past President, Leader

Laurie Winterberg, Membership

Paula Montgomery

Jean Siebenaler

Committee on Ministry (3-Year Terms)

Scott Satterwhite

Carol Trotter

Laurie Winterberg



November Faith Development



Interfaith in November

- [All Saints Day](#) (Christian) - Nov. 1 (more [here](#))
- [All Souls Day](#) - Nov. 2 (more [here](#) and [here](#))
- [Samhain](#) (Wiccan) - Oct. 31 - Nov. 1 [[more](#)]
- [Diwali: Festival of Lights](#) (Hindu) - begins Nov. 14

Unitarian Universalist:

- [James Luther Adams](#) birthday - Nov. 12 [more](#)]
- [Francis David](#) died in prison on Nov. 15 (1579) (more [here](#))

National Holidays & Cultural:

- [Native American Heritage Month](#)
- Alzheimer's Awareness Month
- [Dia de Los Muertos](#)/Day of the Dead - Oct.31 - Nov. 2
- Carol Mosely Braun became the 1st African American woman elected to the US Senate - Nov. 3, 1992
- U.S. Elections - Nov. 3, 2020
- James Weldon Johnson & J. Rosamond Johnson composed "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" - Nov. 6, 1900
- Birthday of [Dorothy Day](#) - Nov. 8 (1897)
- [Veterans Day](#) - Nov. 11
- [Transgender Day of Remembrance](#) - Nov. 20 [[more](#)]
- [Thanksgiving Day](#) - Nov. 28

CRE Come As You Are Sunday Mornings at 9am

CRE Faith Development has moved back to Sunday mornings at 9am. Please contact Sarah Stubbs at Mssarahstubbs@gmail.com for the Zoom access information and to get in our weekly email list.

All PJs and breakfast munchers welcome!

- Nov 8th 9 am Come As You Are Sunday School
- Nov 15th 9 am Come As You Are Sunday School
- Nov 22nd Service for All Ages
- Nov 29th No Sunday School, Regular Service

CRE Acronyms & Jargon explained

- SFAA: Service For All Ages
- LREDA: Liberal Religious Educators' Association
- Children's Chapel: Mini Service for small people
- CRE: Children's Religious Education
- CREC: Children's Religious Education Coordinator
- Youth: Children 13ish to senior in HS
- SELREDA: South East Religious Educators' Association.

Children's Religious Education (CRE) Ministry Team

Coordinator: Sarah Stubbs (437-5979)
 Team Leader: Open
 Team Members: Emma Mulvaney, Linda Cobb, Penny Featherstone, Kate Wolverton, Pam Levitt
 Feel free to contact any member with comments or suggestions!



Our Caring Community

When Trista Blouin and son Chance set out for a month’s visit in Oregon, there were places to see and things to do and people to enjoy — but much more.

Chance at Mt. Saint Helens



“I was able to gain immense insight into my spiritual calling toward eco-ministry and Chance was able to learn living science in one of the most ecologically diverse areas in our country.” They were greeted by Trista’s longtime friend Kristin and her family; Trista and Kristin some 20 years ago had shared leadership roles in education regarding a women’s health topic.

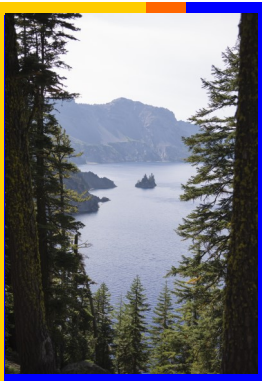
And while Mom was busy with renewing her friendship and discovering more of the world — and continuing long-distance her seminary classes — 8-year-old Chance was finding a new friend, Kristin’s 18-year-old son Colin, while keeping up with his own education via Florida Virtual School classes — and having fun.

Relates Trista: “Colin introduced Chance to a video game called Minecraft and they had a blast playing that together.”



Oswald West State Park, OR

And there was tourism — and tourists they were. Oregon had much for them to see. On the list of wonders: Mt. Saint Helens, Mt. Hood, the Columbia River Gorge, Crater Lake and downtown and greater Portland — and more than a dozen more: falls and parks and beaches and cliffs. They stayed once overnight in a tiny rustic cottage on a ranch in the desert near Bend, and in the Oregon Trail Room at a retro inn, hosted by a dedicated environmentalist in Coos Bay.



Crater Lake, deepest in USA

Their friends — their hosts — were “so generous,” says Trista. “They gave us tours of the area. My friend’s husband, Arun-deep, is a phenomenal chef, who grew up in India and is a

Sikh; he cooked vegetarian meals for Chance and me that were delicious – even though his family is not vegetarian.”

Our UU travelers returned on Oct. 12. Says Trista, “Words cannot describe how grateful I am for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.” ~

Scott Satterwhite also recently made a trip West, to San Antonio, Texas, his a sad occasion to attend the funeral service of his father, William Joseph Satterwhite, a veteran of the U.S. Navy who was buried with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. He died on August 21 from complications from Covid-19.

Scott’s father served as a Navy Corpsman during the Vietnam War. Incidentally, says Scott, “that was the same job I did in the Navy (Corpsman). In fact we were both in the Navy about the same amount of time, served at several of the same duty stations and reached the same rank (Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class).”



Scott & family at father’s funeral

Scott’s sister Rebecca accompanied him to the funeral. His father’s wife and stepchildren also were there.

A fond memory for Scott: “I remember playing football in the backyard a lot when I lived in Richmond, Virginia. That was fun. I also remember once, when I was in fourth grade, calling my dad at work and asking him if he could talk to my class about bones. Since he was a corpsman in the Navy,



Our Caring Community - continued

and I had a vague idea about what they did, I thought he would be a good guest speaker when our class was talking about anatomy. He agreed and came to my class. The class liked him. He was funny and engaging, and I remember being really proud of him that day.”

Scott also brings news from UWF of art and poetry events upcoming at Pensacola Museum of Art, which is owned by UWF, where Scott is an instructor in UWF’s Department of English. UWF will host the Poet Laureate of the United States, Joy Harjo, at a 6 to 7 p.m. virtual event Nov. 19, part of the Museum’s celebration of Native American Heritage Month. The PMA is also mounting a “pop-up exhibit” of portraits by the artist Panhandle Slim of the three sailors killed in last year’s terrorist attack at the Naval Air Station, where Scott’s wife, Lauren Anzaldo, is on the staff. Scott and Lauren donated the paintings to the PMA. The exhibit date is from November to December.



There’s more family news too:

— Son Desmond, 12, will be in a holiday play at Pensacola Little Theater: *Junie B. Jones, Jingle Bells and Batman Smells*. The play will be on the Mainstage in December and will stream live for those who can’t attend in person.



Lisa Noa

— Daughter Maddy, 15, just got her learner’s permit and will be driving on her own in the summer. ~

For Lisa Noa, the menace was a mower and for Hedwig Anderson, it was a wind extraordinary. But both UUCP members are in recovery from the damages.

Lisa, on June 21st, was managing her lawnmower when it somehow turned on her. “I almost gashed half my foot off and I shattered my ankle. So it’s taken four surgeries; it is still non-weight bearing. It is miraculous that I kept my whole foot.” Depending on x-ray results, she may begin to put weight on it. She was able to get a wheelchair on loan and that helped. Recently, two screws were found protruding and surgery on her foot was scheduled for their removal. Withal: “I am staying positive and doing pretty well.” ~



Hedwig Anderson

Hedwig Anderson is still recovering from a visit by Sally.

What happened that night: “I opened the screen door and the wind got me. I fell on the cement patio, on my left side. I am still wobbly.” She doesn’t walk out and about much. “A neighbor goes shopping for me and my daughter Brenda comes over.” Although Hedwig’s face is still hurting and her left leg is still black and blue and swollen, “I’m doing lots better,” she says. ~



Pensacola Parade People store after Hurricane Sally

Ever since Hurricane Sally flooded the Pensacola Parade People store in downtown Pensacola, owner Audrey Preston has been busy renovating, setting sights to reopening by Thanksgiving and looking ahead to Mardi Gras.

What Sally cost the Government Street business when it deluged the store with three feet of water was a \$100,000 loss in compromised inventory – some 30 pallets of beads intended for sale to celebrate parades and holidays.

With a number of parades already canceled this year due to Covid-19, says Audrey, “It was the worst possible year for us to get a hurricane.” While bead orders for the February event were already placed pre-Sally, were they to be cancelled, it would be another huge blow, says Audrey. “So fingers crossed.” ~



Charlotte Crane





HOW TO GET IN TOUCH: 2020—2021 MEMBER DIRECTORY IS HERE!

The latest version of the UUCP Directory is available. You can access it on the password protected Members section of our [website](#). An email has been sent out just to UUCP Members and Friends with the necessary passwords and login information.

The document on the website is a PDF and you can download and print it from your home computer. You can also contact either Terra in the church virtual office or Laurie Winterberg to be emailed the PDF. You can then open it up and print it if a printed copy is needed.

The PDF version of the directory is produced yearly - as updates occur (address, phone, email, etc.) they'll be reflected on Simple Church but the PDF Directory on the website cannot be updated until the following year.

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ALSO ARE INVITED TO THE:

UUCP VIRTUAL ZOOM COFFEE HOUR at 12:30pm on Sundays: Please join us at 12:30pm Sundays for a virtual Coffee Hour through the Zoom platform. Look for the Facebook post each week or a separate email from Rev. Alice or Lauren Anzaldo with info on how to get into the Coffee Hour online. To join the Zoom Meeting, you'll be sent an email that will give you the link, the Meeting ID number and a password to use.

UUCP VIRTUAL ZOOM HAPPY HOUR at 5:30pm on Fridays: Trista Blouin says, "Please grab a beverage and join your UUCP family on Friday evenings for a time of light-hearted conversation. We're finding it to be a great time to just laugh and let go of cares for an hour. Hope to see you there." To join the Zoom Meeting, you'll be sent an email that will give you the link, the Meeting ID number and a password to use.

READER'S GROUPS ReZOOM!

Since COVID-19 is still with us and the Readers' Group meetings by ZOOM have been well received, they have been extended through early December. Below are the dates:

Tuesday - November 10 - 1:00 PM

Thursday - December 3 - 10:00 AM

Tuesday - December 8 - 1:00 PM

An email will be sent out a few days prior to each session containing the login information.

There are NO required books to read. Participants share their experiences and recommendations on good reads and we all benefit.

Questions - contact Laurie Winterberg or Laura Keith King



Great people, fancy drinks, exciting bidding for treasures and fun-filled experiences...but now, you can do it all in your pajamas!

**November 6, 2020
5:30 p.m.**

Are you ready to go



OVER THE RAINBOW?

**Watch for the Kick off Happy Hour
invitation in your email!**

In the meantime, visit:

www.auctria.com/auction/UUPensacola2020



How do we strive for justice?

Our UU Principles at work:

2nd Principle: Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;

6th Principle: The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all

JUST Pensacola is entering a new cycle of action for justice.

JUST Pensacola has completed its first year with a successful mass meeting (by ZOOM) of 700 people addressing community needs. These needs were directly addressed to our incoming State Attorney and the two candidates for sheriff, all of whom committed to increase the use of Civil Citations instead of arrest in appropriate cases for juveniles. We also brought forward the problem of the more than 50% of our children who are not kindergarten ready.

What keeps you awake at night? What is going on in our community that needs attention and care?

It is time now to identify the issues that are troubling us today. Last year we had meetings in various homes where we identified problems in our community. This year we will all meet by ZOOM on Sunday the 8th of November for that discussion. All issues will be considered and brought to the larger group of 20 congregations to select the ones most urgent or most widespread for study and action.

Please plan to join us at 11:30 on Sunday November 8th, for lively discussion and sharing of our community needs. Watch for the ZOOM link which will be sent to members.

Paula Montgomery, Co-Team Leader, Social Justice Team (please contact for further info)

[Justice United Seeking Transformation in Pensacola](#)



(article adapted from DART website referenced above—the Direct Action and Research Training Center who trains congregational coalitions in social justice actions all across the U.S.)

JUST Pensacola is a diverse and growing coalition of over 20 congregations working for justice in Pensacola. Our goal is to listen to surface community problems, research systemic solutions, and take direct action to hold decision makers accountable for change.

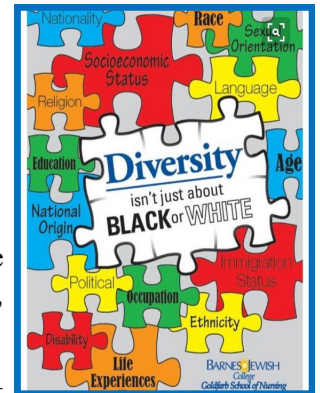
Just Pensacola completed its first listening, research to action process and began its investment drive in September 2020. During this year, JUST Pensacola has welcomed four new congregations: Cokesbury United Methodist Church, First City Church, Greater Morning Star Baptist Church, and Mary's Missionary Baptist Church. We are now 24 congregations strong!

During its first listening process, JUST hosted 60 house meetings and engaged over 500 congregation members in those sacred conversations. Out of those 500 members, 347 agreed to become network members. During its Covenant Assembly, JUST brought together 270 members who voted to focus their research on Criminal Justice and Education. Despite COVID -19, JUST Pensacola board members agreed to move forward and host a Nehemiah Action virtually. On August 17, 2020, 180 JUST Pensacola members came together virtually to vote on the 2020 Nehemiah Asks and to re-affirm their commitment to turnout, 600 members, to the first Nehemiah Action.

On August 31, JUST Pensacola exceeded its goal by turning out 700 members (from 65 different congregations) to the Nehemiah Action. JUST Pensacola invited the State Attorney Elect, Ginger Bowden Madden to attend and commit to increasing the use of youth civil citations from 41 to 80 percent. While she did not agree to a numeric goal, she did agree to increase the use of civil citations, allowing more than one civil citation and adding offenses to the civil citation that were removed by the current State Attorney. Finally, the State Attorney Elect agreed to participate in an exploratory committee to learn about adult civil citations. JUST Pensacola members will continue to monitor the use of civil citations and continue to meet with decision-makers to ensure civil citations remain at the top of their priority list.

Among other things, JUST would like to share that they joined the DART FL Criminal Justice Coalition in 2020. As part of the efforts of the DART CJ Coalition, JUST Pensacola organized 120 members to send letters to the Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Justice in support of civil citations.

Find us on social media: www.facebook.com/JUSTPensacola





UUCP Celebrates diversity, strives for justice, inspires love

The [Fifth Principle](#) of Unitarian Universalism calls for the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process—within our congregations and in society at large.



Special Announcement from Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, UUA President

Dear Friends,

I hold you all in my heart in these unpredictable and volatile times. I know I am not alone in having moments of overwhelming grief for too many loved ones lost, and moments of acute fear and despair, mindful of all that is at stake in this coming election.

One thing we must be honest about is the reality that our democracy is under attack and has been for a long time. Almost daily, there are efforts, whether by policy or inflammatory rhetoric, to systematically undermine faith in our elections. Shameful examples of voter suppression and the trampling of rights are happening all across the country. History teaches us that, in the United States democracy has never been available to everyone. Its expansion and protection have always come through struggle, organizing, and protest. This time is no different.

The first, and most important thing we can do to make sure our voices are heard is to vote in massive numbers. We launched UU The Vote with a goal of reaching one million potential voters. By late September, we had already reached 1.3 million.

And we must also prepare for how we will continue to work for justice, democracy, and the protection of our loved ones and our communities after November 3rd. So much is uncertain, and rhetoric that encourages white supremacists to threaten public officials, watch polling locations, and that questions election results is dangerous.

If the results of the election are challenged, if the integrity of the election is compromised, or if there is a refusal to respect the results, **we must be prepared to join in collective, moral, faithful action to defend our democracy.** Now is the time to prepare to act if need be.

Will we show up in the streets, set up or contribute to a bail or legal assistance fund? Will you open your congregation building to protesters needing sanctuary from state repression, for a medic station, organize fundraisers or tap into discretionary funds to make sure frontline organizers have the money they need to move the work? It's more important than ever that we have bold spiritual imagination and audacious leaders and communities that show a new way forward.

As Unitarian Universalists, it is important to remember that our commitment to democracy is not just political or moral, it is fundamentally theological. It grows from our affirmation of the inherent worth and dignity of every person and the Universalist understanding that we are all part of one creation, interconnected. These theological values of human dignity and interdependence are why we know everyone needs a voice in the matters that affect their lives.

Whenever I feel discouraged by the rhetoric of division, scarcity, and cruelty, I draw strength from our faith and from all of you. From the borderlands of Arizona, to the cities of Louisville, Rochester, Kenosha, Portland, and so many more—Unitarian Universalists are demonstrating that we have the courage, the heart, and the faith to meet this moment, together.

Yours in faith and gratitude,

Susan

[“BENDING THE ARC—THE VOTE” DOCUMENTARY](#) ...is the first in a seven-part documentary miniseries exploring the long struggle against racism and the hard-fought battle to expand voting rights to all people in Alabama in the 1960s. **The film is a call to action for all people to exercise their right to vote in the upcoming election.** To learn more about the Bending the Arc Project and upcoming films in the miniseries, please visit the [Bending the Arc website](#).

The project explores the stories of African-Americans and a small group of little-known white allies who fought for racial justice during the Civil Rights Movement. It was created and is managed by producer/director Pam Powell and producer/videographer David Brower in partnership with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola
 9888 Pensacola Blvd.
 Pensacola, FL 32534

Return service requested

uupensacola@gmail.com
www.uupensacola.org

Deadline for submissions



for **DECEMBER LIGHT:**

Monday, NOVEMBER 16th

www.creativefuelco.com



Inspiration
 Innovation
 Imagination

Our Virtual Team can meet all your creative, digital, advertising and marketing needs.

- Competitive Pricing
- Effective & Efficient
- On Time & On Budget

Contact Us Today!

info@creativefuelco.com
www.creativefuelco.com

Inside this issue, don't miss:

From Our Minister	Page	1
From Our Board President	Page	2
Right Relations Tips	Page	3
Ministry Teams and Members	Page	4
Children's Religious Education	Page	5
Our Caring Community	Page	6-7
Let's Get Together	Page	8
Somewhere Over the Rainbow — Auction!	Page	9
How Do We Strive for Justice?	Page	10
Democracy is Part of UU Theology	Page	11

FAMILY
 Heating & Air

Medal of Excellence

bryant Factory Authorized Dealer
 Heating & Cooling Systems

Over 50 years experience in the Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration industry! **24-Hour Emergency Service!** In addition, we now offer Duct Cleaning Services!

We are bonded, insured and a Bryant Factory Authorized Dealer! We service and install all major brands of air conditioning, heating and refrigeration equipment!

Call us today at **850-972-1879!** You can also visit us on the web

@www.familyheatingandac.com
 Facebook @familyheatingandac
 Instagram @family_heatingandair

Landscaping
Tree Surgery
Lawn Care
Sprinkler Repair
Pavers

SAMUEL SAMPLE
850-483-9639
 2921 N Blue Angel 32506

Who Does UUCP's Lawn Service?
Give Samuel Sample a call!
RAINBIRD®
 Licensed & Insured