



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

Lesley Ortiz

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 OUR MINISTER

Our theme for May is Story and the question we ask ourselves is, "What does it mean to be a people of story?"

We certainly live with a lot of stories. I think the best stories are the ones through which we continue to discover new meaning, or that help us make meaning in times of struggle or pain.

Often, we visualize our lives unfolding like a story we hold in our imagination. Perhaps that story is one with which we are familiar and hope to repeat. Or perhaps our hope is that our own story will be totally different from the storied lives we've grown up around. Our life story might unfold as we planned, or we could have a year like this last one, where the story is promptly disrupted, and the vision forward forever changed.

When we think of what it means to be a people of story, we can think about our own personal stories, or the stories that form the context of our lives. Our families have stories. Our communities have stories. Our country has a story. And we are now very aware that the world has a story, and we are part of that, as well.

I'm reminded of that phrase, "Life is what happens when we are busy making plans." Now is the time for the stories that help us find meaning in times of struggle.

Unitarian Universalism has a story. Our spiritual ancestors were in a theological debate for which they gave their lives. All around them people were saying that God had predestined not just the big story of humanity, but our individual stories, too. Supposedly, some of us were slotted for heaven and others for hell. And God had written the list in ink. Nothing any of us could do about it. Our Unitarian and Universalist ancestors believed freedom played a larger role than fate.

This month we are encouraged to consider the tension between fate and freedom, as we contemplate how we might shape our own stories, as well as the stories within which we live.

Soul matters offers this thought: "All the world is an improv show! Our job is to hop on the stage and make up the script as we go!"

As we go through this month, I'd enjoy hearing your thoughts.

In Love and Hope,

Rev. Alice



How do we inspire love?

FROM YOUR BOARD: PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



What a beautiful day we had on Sunday, April 18! The rain held off that morning for our first in-person Sunday Service in more than one year. More than 50 of us celebrated the Flower Communion together. As Rev. Alice reminded us, each flower given and received in the Flower Communion represented a person – unique, glorious, and wondrous. We remembered those who couldn't be with us, too, including Billye and Carol, both of whom passed away since we have been socially distant from one another. We had flowers left over, so some of us brought home extras and kept in our thoughts those we missed. We also created paper flower pedals that will be artistically assembled by Trista Blouin into a poster to commemorate the special day.

This Sunday Service was possible because of the forethought and energy of members of our congregation. Because we covenant together to remain in community and to care for one another, the health and safety of **all** of our Members and Friends was paramount. While many of us have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, others of us have not yet gotten the shots, and some will not do so for various reasons. Any decisions and actions we as a church take regarding gathering must take into consideration the capabilities and needs of all of us. The service on April 18 was held in accordance with the church's recently adopted policy for outdoor gatherings, which was recommended by the Safer Congregation Ministry Team and approved by the Board. The policy requires masking and maintaining social distancing and prohibits sharing food or drink to avoid germ exposure. The Safer Congregation team now is developing recommendations for a policy on indoor gatherings, and we hope that the Board will be able to review and approve that policy at the May meeting.

The service also took some hard work to prepare the church and grounds for the gathering. The Saturday prior to the Sunday Service, despite drizzles of rain that later turned into a downpour, about 15 of us were at UUCP working like busy bees. We were pressure washing, raking, blowing away leaves, trimming branches, vacuuming, sweeping, mopping, sanitizing, organizing, moving lawn furniture, picking out a tablecloth and vessels for the flowers, and doing other clean-up activities to make the church and grounds clean and fresh for us to enjoy. The heartwarming thing about this workday was that the group was comprised of long-time Members such as the Butchers and Bill Caplinger and newcomers such as our most recent Friend, Heather Stefanescu, and even a couple of young Anzaldo-Satterwhites. The love of our church and desire to see our congregation succeed was palpable that day.

Speaking of loving and working for UUCP, I was proud to see that our congregation was well-represented at the recent virtual rally to prepare for the upcoming Nehemiah Action, which is the centerpiece event of the JUST Pensacola interfaith social justice coalition. Though we may be one of the smaller congregations involved with JUST Pensacola, we often have a disproportionately large number of our Members and Friends show up for coalition activities. I hope the same is true for the Nehemiah Action on Monday, May 3, at 6pm, which already will have occurred by the time most of you read this column. That event is when we hope to have 1,000 concerned people in the virtual room to send a powerful message to community decisionmakers that we expect positive changes in the juvenile justice system. Our community cannot continue to have the distinction of pushing exorbitantly high numbers of youth into the criminal system rather than providing options for second chances and help to improve and have a better future.

We at UUCP have dreams and plans and deep commitment to one another and to our Beloved Community. **We will learn about some of these plans and commitment during our Annual Congregational Meeting, which will be held virtually via Zoom on Sunday, May 16, at 12:30pm, in lieu of Coffee Hour that day.** You will receive a series of emails providing the log-in and call-in info and reminding you about the meeting. Among the agenda items scheduled for that day are votes on our Slate of Candidates to lead and guide the congregation in 2021-22 (refer to the slate posted elsewhere in the newsletter) and our budget for 2021-22. We will also provide an update on plans for UUCP moving forward. The Annual Congregational Meeting is an important element of our church's governance, and your attendance and involvement is critical. I look forward to seeing and hearing from you all!

Until next time,
Lauren Anzaldo, Board President



MAY Faith Development



Story

This month we're exploring the many ways our UU faith invites us to explore being "A People of Story."

We're doing that by looking at five ways that stories remind us who we are:

- As UU's**
- As a Family**
- As Anti-Racists**
- As Living and Interconnected**
- As Courageous People**

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 on our weekly email list.

All PJs and breakfast munchers welcome!

- May 2: no classes
- May 9: Come as You are Sunday School
- May 16: Multi-Age Service
- May 23: Come as You Are Sunday School
- May 30: Children's Chapel

Children's Religious Education (CRE) Ministry Team

Coordinator: Sarah Stubbs

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!



Love radically.
Serve gratefully.
Wonder daily.
Unitarian Universalism



Update on the Outdoor Flower Communion Service of April 18



It was wonderful to see so many of you present for our first in-person Sunday Service in over a year. Miraculously the rain stopped and the sun came out just in time for us to have the perfect weather for our outside gathering. I am grateful to all the people who helped make this event such a big success. During our Joys and Sorrows we celebrated being together, while acknowledging loss and how much Carol Trotter and Billye Cutchen are missed. We have been through quite a year together. I look forward to more opportunities to be with one another. (And the Sunday Services Team says that it may be happening again in the not too distant future! -Ed.)

Rev. Alice



Chance Blouin presents the Commemorative Flower Communion Board that Trista Blouin created for us.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You — UUCPers are the Best!

Saturday, April 17 was a workday to prepare for the In-Person Service the next day.

A call for help was sent out and you responded.

There are not words to express our gratitude for all the hard work and effort that was given to get us spruced up and ready.

Thanks to: Laurie Winterberg, Carol Hemmye, Erin Renfro, Arnie Ondis, Jay and Lynne Butcher, Denise Gunn, Michael Newcomb, Hugh Ed Turner, Patti Underwood, Laura Keith King, Bill Caplinger, Lauren Anzaldo, Maddy Anzaldo-Satterwhite, Des Anzaldo-Satterwhite, Heather Stefanescu, and Gerry and Marylee Donnelly.

Do you think we're ready to get back to church? YES!!!



It's Time to Strive for Justice!



Our UUCP mission is to Celebrate Diversity, Strive for Justice and Inspire Love. UUCP works hand-in-hand with the 22 local congregations who make up JUST (Justice United Seeking Transformation in) Pensacola.

Our Purpose is to join other congregations who are committed to JUST Pensacola and create a critical mass to influence public leaders who will be attending this event.

So Members and Friends, please attend and invite your friends! We really need at least 1,000 people to make the greatest impact so that our local leaders will recognize the importance of adopting the proven solutions we will ask for at this Nehemiah Action.

We are striving for 100% participation from our UUCP congregation, but ALL are welcome -- and needed.

Please register below for the

JUST Pensacola 2021 Nehemiah Action on Monday, May 3 at 6pm CDT

Zoom registration link here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tfuiugT0rGN1DqllY-bdqKNU6mXBEtf>

Our Facebook page Event has the link too: <https://www.facebook.com/JUSTPensacola> if you need to find it anytime.

Please share this info any way you can: organizational and congregational newsletters and bulletins, Facebook pages, the link to the JUST Pensacola Facebook Event, etc.

And if you can, please invite your friends and family to participate!

As a bonus, here is the WUWF Oct. 2020 interview as a way to get excited about what we're doing: [WUWF Interview: "Churches Push For A More 'JUST' Pensacola Community"](#)

Please submit any questions to Paula Montgomery, Co-Team Leader of UUCP Social Justice Team, or to justpensacola@gmail.com



VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, MAY 16 AT 12:30PM

The time has come for our Annual Congregational Meeting. Given ongoing COVID-19 precautions, **our meeting this year will be held virtually on Sunday, May 16, at 12:30pm**, in lieu of Coffee Hour that week. We will meet via **Zoom**, which allows us to **connect by landline phone, smartphone, OR by internet with or without video capability**. You do not have to have an internet connection to call in to the meeting, but you must have a phone connection, and there will be long-distance charges if calling from a landline. We will be able to hear one another, and some of us will be able to see and be seen as well.

At the meeting, we will review the past year and receive an update on plans for recongregating in the coming year. **We will conduct a vote to decide on our slate of candidates for the 2021-22 year and our budget for 2021-22.**

An invitation to the Annual Congregational Meeting with call-in/log-in instructions will go out to members and friends at least twice prior to the meeting. When you receive the email(s), please hold on to the information as you will need the call-in/log-in instructions, including the Meeting ID and the Password to enter the meeting. We will be reaching out personally to those members and friends who do not have an email address on file.

Help is available for those who need assistance using the call-in or log-in feature. If you need assistance, please contact Board President Lauren Anzaldo, any other member of the Board, or your Cluster Group Captain to request help.

We look forward to many voices participating in the governance of our church.

Slate of Candidates 2021-22

**denote those being voted on, new to the position



Governing Board:

President (1-year term):	Arnie Ondis
President Elect (1-year term):	VACANT
Past President (1-year term):	Lauren Anzaldo
Treasurer (Year 2 of 2-year term):	Erin Renfroe
Secretary (2-year term):	Denise Gunn**

Board Members at Large (2-year terms)

Through June 2022

Trista Blouin (Year 2)

Linda Cobb (Year 2)

Through June 2023

Laura Keith King**

Jean Siebenaler**

Joe Vinson**

Leadership Development Team (1-year terms)

Team Leader

Lauren Anzaldo (Past President)

Laurie Winterberg (Membership)

Audrey Preston**

Bradley Vinson**

Committee on Ministry (3-year terms)

Scott Satterwhite (Year 2)

Laurie Winterberg (Year 2)

Nancy Hagman**

Erin Renfroe's year-long research delving into the lives and doings of Escambia County residents of 200 years ago – an exploration shared in two headline-news stories in the *Pensacola News Journal*, one of them written by Erin-- will help make history itself as our county celebrates its 200-year anniversary on July 17.

Erin was the Senior Researcher on the project, named “1821: A Pensacola Sampler” (under the auspices of the West Florida Genealogical Society as a participating organization in the county commemoration), and aimed at identifying people who lived here in 1821. She and fellow researcher Virginia Shelby managed to identify some 2,300 people, with Shelby focusing on historical family data and Erin combing through records such as the 1820 Spanish census, Army and Navy registers, marriage books, deeds, cemetery readings, early issues of the *The Floridian* newspaper, and scholarly papers. Identifying unnamed people such as enslaved individuals and indigenous dwellers was close to impossible, though a few were found.

Recently, folks in the current populace were invited to participate in a photo-sharing activity -- pairing fun with education -- in which they might connect themselves with an 1821 person. That activity was described in an April 24 PNJ story, a follow-up to the newspaper's April 12 story written by Erin. The PNJ's first Sampler story is among several PNJ stories run every Monday leading up to the 200th anniversary celebration.

To participate in the Sampler, go to the link: pco.la/1821.

(Erin created this authentic 1821 period dress for a presentation that she was asked to give to the Local chapter of the Colonial Dames.)



Our Caring Community - continued

Marianne Kelly was late to arrive – just weeks ago – for her traditional winter residence in Pensacola, and now summer's abode near family members back in East Berne, N.Y., is soon to begin – just a month away – and is star-lighted with important events. In June, Marianne's granddaughter, Emma, will graduate from high school in Berne, and in August, Marianne will become a great-grandmother, courtesy of Emma's older sister, Madison, who is expecting to give birth in the New England area, where her husband is stationed at a submarine base.

Meanwhile, our wintertime pilgrim is enjoying mingling with friends, tuning in to virtual church services and applauding twice-weekly opera performances, provided especially for her by Hannelore Musial, who opens her vast music library to Marianne's delight – and her own.

Marianne has promised to attempt to begin her winter stay here earlier for 2021-22. ~ ~ ~

Marcy Moreland returned recently from a two-week stay in California, visiting her sister, Mary, and



family. Mary, age 80, has had several health issues this year. During Marcy's visit, she and Mary's daughter were able to accompany Mary for her initial visit with a neurologist, who after numerous exams and a medical history review, diagnosed Mary as having a form of dementia. "The diagnosis was not a complete shock, but still difficult knowing the progressive path of this disorder," said Marcy. There had been some hope that Mary's confusion and disorientation were secondary to seven instances of general anesthesia for knee, cancer, and brain surgeries in the past nine months, said Marcy. "For now, my sister will continue to live with her daughter and family, and some home care is being arranged."

Mary's family lives in Hidden Valley Lake, a rural area north of Calistoga, a resort area, and Napa wine country. "No sightseeing this visit," said Marcy. ~ ~ ~

Seen your name in the newspaper lately? Not serious, we hope. For Dolly Berthelot her name in print wasn't a problem – she put it there writing a column laden with frustration, over not the policeman's ticket handed her for her expired vehicle tag but concerning the \$113 charge she wanted to pay (like a good citizen) and couldn't find anyone who would take the money.

Latest word: She did get paid-up. Maybe the column helped. ~ ~ ~

For Scott Satterwhite, his Independent News interview in celebration of Independent Bookstore Day on April 24 provided recognition of good deeds accomplished years ago and continuing. In 2007 Scott founded Open Books with several friends, following his creation of the Prison Book Project in 2000. Prison Books currently sends around 10,000 books a year to Florida prison inmates. And the nonprofit Open Books is the only used-books store in Pensacola. Write on!

Charlotte Crane





LET'S GET
Together



MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ARE ALSO 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. If you don't receive Coffee Hour information, please ask another Member or Friend for the information.

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.

READERS' GROUPS *Zooming* THROUGH JUNE 2021

The twice a month Zoom Readers' Groups are scheduled through June 2021.

Thursday - May 6 - 10 am

Saturday - May 22 - 1 pm

There are NO REQUIRED books to read. Participants share their experiences and recommendations for "Good Reads."

An email from the church is sent to all UUCP Members and Friends on Sunday before the scheduled Zoom meeting.

The email will contain the link to the meeting. Questions — contact Laurie Winterberg or Laura Keith King.

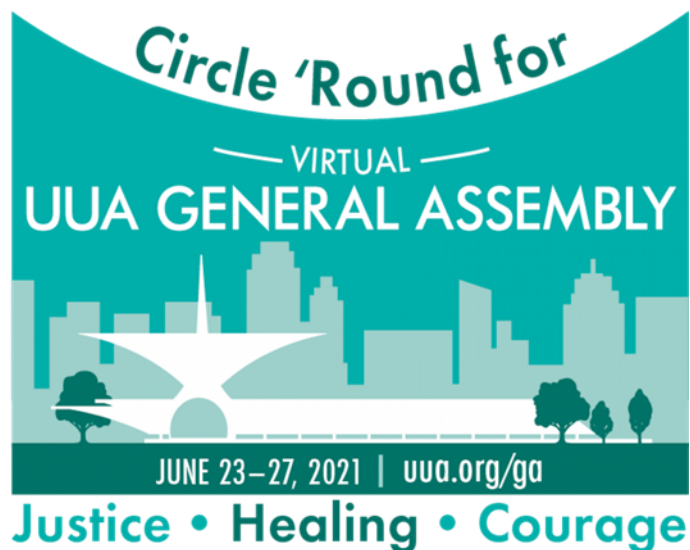


AND LET'S MAKE SURE TO SEE EACH OTHER AT OUR *VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING*

Sunday, MAY 16 AT 12:30 (in lieu of Coffee Hour that day).

How do we celebrate diversity?

The 2021 “100% Virtual UUA General Assembly” – Your Attendance Could Help Break the Record!



What a unique opportunity to attend our General Assembly for those of us who might have never been able to go because of distance. Last year there were nearly 5,000 who attended the all-virtual event — what a way to connect with our fellow faith travelers from over 750 congregations! This year, they hope to break the record for attendance; will you be there?

The theme of this year's General Assembly is Circle 'Round for Justice, Healing, and Courage, a fitting theme for a time when seeing and appreciating our circles — friendships, congregation, work, family, community, has become more important than ever. What potential insights and inspiration will we be able to bring back to our local congregation and community-at-large regarding these three important actions? How will our shared time light the creative fire within us to have the courage to seek justice and healing?

Visit <https://www.uua.org/ga> for more information and to register. Please email me if you have registered, are interested in attending, or need help getting more information.

Trista Blouin

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

Return service requested

uupensacola@gmail.com
www.uupensacola.org

Deadline for submissions
for **JUNE LIGHT:**



Sunday, MAY 16th

Thanks so much to these businesses who support UUCP with excellent service at very reasonable prices!

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





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!**

RAIN BIRD®
Licensed & Insured