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

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*See our website, [uupensacola.org](http://uupensacola.org) for  
a complete list of teams and members.*

## FROM OUR MINISTER

Our June Theme is Play. This month we are invited to ask ourselves what it means to be a people of play. Perhaps after all we've been through over the last year and a half, we don't remember what it is like to play. Last Wednesday was the last day of school for my grandchildren. So, on Thursday we went to the pool for the first time in two years. I forgot how relaxing it is to sit at the pool and watch children play.

Many of us have worked hard this year to keep things going, to keep ourselves and our families safe, to help our younger ones with virtual school, to support loved ones or friends through illness or loss. Perhaps you worked to regain or recover our own health.

If you found yourself staying mostly at home, you may have worked hard on all those projects you had been putting off for years.

While things may never be exactly as they were before, there is certainly a sense of relief now that cases of Covid-19 are dropping and vaccines are widely available.

Perhaps your spirits are somewhat lifted as you begin to re-gather with people you have not seen for a long time. We have been able to come together as a church community a couple of times and we know that before long we will be back in our building, celebrating our unique and beloved community.

Perhaps as we begin to emerge from over a year of one unexpected event after another, you will find yourself somewhere in these playful words from the Rev. Scott Tayler of Soul Matters.

We all are playing.

Playing it up, playing it down, trying to play fair.

Playing for keeps, playing favorites, playing it safe,  
sometimes too safe.

He plays hardball; They're playing house; I'm playing it by ear,  
or at least learning to play it by ear.

She's tired of playing second fiddle; He's playing right into their  
hands.

Please God, can't we all just throw out the playbook and start  
again?

Sometimes we're just played out; it's not always bad to play  
possum.

And what about playing with fire?

Let's hope so friends.

Don't you want to feel again that burning within,  
and let it loose?

Welcome to the month of play. May we all take it seriously!

In Love and Hope, Rev. Alice



## How do we inspire love?

### FROM YOUR BOARD: PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



It was so nice to gather virtually with all of you for our Annual Congregational Meeting on May 16. From the lively discussion about our budget, Charitable Trust, and recongregation plans, the love for our church and the concern and commitment to our future was clear. Recongregation plans are continually evolving as science and data emerge for us and guide decisions, and the church leadership and Communications Team will continue to keep you informed of our status and plans. As I am writing this column, we are conducting an anonymous survey to get a clearer picture of where our congregation stands as for vaccination rates. The results of this survey will inform our next steps regarding indoor gatherings.

This year's Board has been wonderful to work with throughout this important process. Many of the Board members will continue into 2021-22, but several will be stepping down as of June 30, the end of our church year. Nancy Hagman served three years on the Board — one year as President and two years as Past President — and took a tremendous load off me. Marcy Moreland and Jack Comstock are rolling off the Board after two years. Penny Featherstone is leaving the Board after one year filling a vacant position. We are so appreciative to the four of them for their dedication to our church through serving on the Board. I have appreciated their insights and contributions.

The outgoing Board members have one major task to do before finishing out their terms, however. This month, the 2020-21 Board will convene with the 2021-22 Board for a brainstorming and visioning session related to our UUCP Strategic Plan. During that meeting June 7, we will consider what it means for our church to fulfill our mission of Celebrating Diversity, Striving for Justice, and Inspiring Love. We expect to use some of the ideas generated from the brainstorming session as a springboard for further conversation with the congregation about the goals we would like to achieve in the coming months and years.

Speaking of years, I am wrapping up a two-year stint as President, which is normally a one-year charge. That means I have written 24 monthly columns (but who's counting)! I was speaking to UUCP Member Lal Goel recently, and he commented about my leadership. When I mentioned that I am on my way out, Lal asked, "Has it been that long already?" While I was glad to hear that my time as President hasn't seemed to drag on for some of our congregants, I also recognize that the 16-month period since COVID precautions were put into place has felt like a bit of a time warp. Nevertheless, I am ready to take the title of Past President soon and to focus on other areas and needs within UUCP.

The 2021-22 Board will be headed by Arnie Ondis as President as of July 1. The Board also will welcome a new Secretary, Denise Gunn, and three incoming Members at Large: Laura Keith King, Jean Siebenaler, and Joe Vinson. Knowing these folks and their talents as I do, I am excited and hopeful for what the new year will bring. For one, I expect that we might be seeing more of each other in 3-D.

See you around,  
Lauren Anzaldo



# June Faith Development



Summer Time  
Sunday Mornings at 9am  
 June 13 & 27

Our Summer time schedule will be reduced to 2 Sundays a month at 9am. We need to give our much beloved teachers a break. I'll be doing the Summer time classes and sending out family packets too.

The first packet I send will be UU Trading Cards! Some of you may have heard of Artists' Trading Cards. Mine is the same idea, but we will be using UU themes on our cards to create UU awareness community and fun! Watch your mail and the CRE FB group for more instructions.

Be sure to join us Summer Time Sunday Mornings, All are welcome!

**All PJs and breakfast munchers welcome!**

Summer Time

## Play

This month we're exploring the many ways our UU faith invites us to explore being "A People of Play." Here are four angles on Play with:

**Playing with Rainbows**

**Playing Just Pretend**

**Word Play**

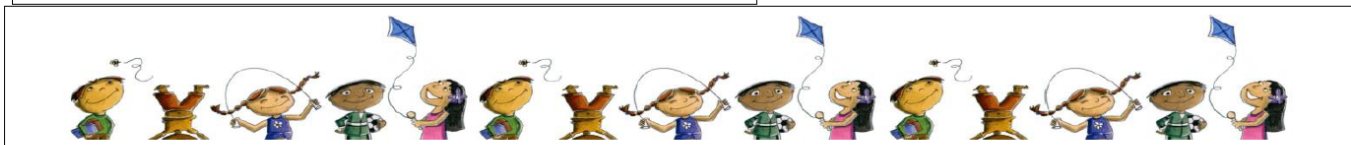
### Children's Religious Education (CRE) Ministry Team

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!



# Our Caring Community

Jack Comstock's sister, Mary Cortez, who lives near Dallas, TX, visited Pensacola recently and besides strolling Gulf Coast beaches and enjoying family, "she got to see a number of church members," as well, says Jack. "We visited Hannelore and Hedwig at Hannelore's home, ate late lunch with Barbara Gog-gins and Georgianna Bryant at McGuire's and had lunch with Linda Cobb at Bien Dong's."



Mary's visit was for a family beach stay at Port St. Joe. Jack went there accompanied by his son Tyler, daughter Sarah and Sarah's husband Matt and their twin girls, Emma and Ollie (5 next month) and their son Bennie (3 in June). Comments Jack: "Fantastic time on the beach with great weather. Great to be vaccinated, along with friends and family, so we can enjoy each other."

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Hannelore Musial celebrated Mother's Day with special friends including Jodie Manale, a former Pensacola UU now living in New Orleans and a frequent visitor to Hannelore. "I'm her surrogate mother," says Hannelore. "She calls me 'mutti', German for 'mother'." Another Mother's Day guest was Hedwig Anderson.

Jodie also conveyed news while here: she has opened her own realty business, Manale Realty, in New Orleans.

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Lauren Anzaldo and Scott Satterwhite celebrated their 14th wedding anniversary on May 5th with an overnight trip to Foley, AL. They stayed at the historic Hotel Magnolia downtown; a picture of them in the hotel atrium in front of the many beautiful crystal chandeliers is included here.

Says Lauren: "We took lots of walks and enjoyed the lovely jasmine and ate at a Jamaican cafe called Desmond's" – (That name ring a bell?).

A bigger family trip is planned for July – to NYC via Asheville, NC, Richmond, VA, and Toms River, NJ. "Toms River is where my family is originally from, where my parents met and married," says Lauren. "My maternal grandfather lives there and recently turned 91."



*Charlotte Crane*



Many thanks to Charlotte Crane, author of the "Our Caring Community" column, which helped us feel more connected during Covid-19 with all the news that was fit to print each month. Charlotte was also the hard-working editor extraordinaire who tried to keep me on the straight and narrow and eased my worries with her sharp-eyed proofreading. She is trading her 'red pencil' for working on her own creative projects. Charlotte, we thank you with all our hearts. Enjoy your "retirement" and may you be gifted with many happy surprises in your new ventures! — Ed.

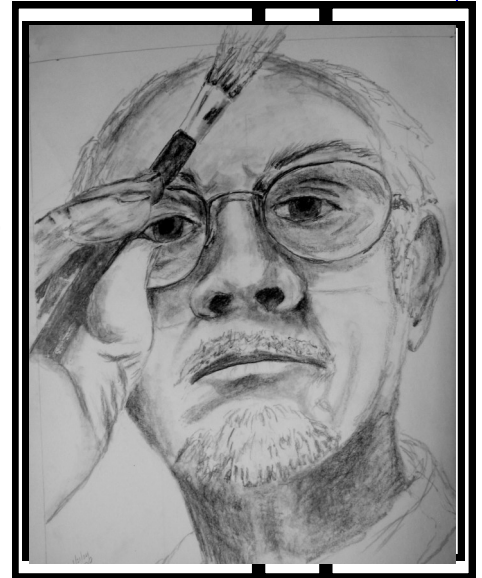
Rob Pallme is an artist, a writer, a philosopher, a religious historian, and a presenter of thoughts at the podium.

He is a member of UUCP, but as of June 15<sup>th</sup> he will be missed, from the day when his move to New Port Richey, Florida, to be closer to his daughter Astrid, becomes official. Rob has had several recent health encounters, including the five-day stay in hospital in December which may have created the turning point for one who has lived alone since the death of his wife in 2010.

Neither losses nor interruptions, however, have been cause for idleness for Rob. He has served in the Navy and with the Naval Reserve. On retirement in 1991 he trained as an artist, became a docent at the Pensacola Museum of Art and artist member of Quayside Gallery. With the move to south Florida, he will be continuing his historic writings, which have included the founding of Unitarianism and the views of caring for others of Roman, Islamic and Christian churches. He also reports, however, "I'm writing a different area of history lately – the history of Tarpon Springs," a town close to his new residence area.

Rob has already begun adjusting to the new place to be called home: He has joined the UU church at Tarpon Springs and joined the church's Writers Club. His house at Newport Richie is a small, second home owned by his daughter – just right for one -- and located a 10-minute drive from her, crossing canals.

Like to keep in touch? Rob has started a blog on the computer. The website: [palatea.site](http://palatea.site)



*Charlotte Crane*

In honor of Rob's latest adventure, we have published a beautiful piece he wrote recently. Farewell, dear friend, may your newest journey bring you great joy.

### **A Holy Place**

I lay in that elaborate bed, in that quiet night. Tubes and wires held me in place, and little alarm bells would sound if any were disturbed. Nurses would come and fix things, they would come to ensure my safety, comfort, and healing.

One was with me; it was time to "Take my vital signs." She apologized for waking me and I kidded her about the possibilities of sleeping at all at night in a hospital. I knew that by my bed, in her, were years of study, years of experience, and the nearly divine inclination and motivation to help those who needed help. And deeper than that, centuries of efforts of good people to make life better for everyone.

To the French, a hospital is a house of God: Hotel Dieu.

We are heirs to the western Christian Church. The Byzantine Church and Islam developed hospitals where the sick were cured. The western churches placed hostels by their cathedrals as places where alms were dispensed, pilgrims housed, and the poor came to die. Monks and nuns tended them. They were conceived to fulfill Saint Paul's admonition to practice "Faith, Hope, and Charity."

## A Holy Place—continued

That nurse left and soon after another came. She was called the “Vampire Nurse” and she came in the middle of the night collecting blood. Unlike the others, hers was a lonely job. We were not people, we were rooms and veins.

Room 242, young, good veins. Lost blood, some accident or shooting. Room 243, old lady, fat, hard to find the veins. Room 244, old, starved, no blood pressure, no veins. Stab and hope.

Awake, I had awaited her. Light left on. Large she loomed, dark with hair in a pile on her head, adorned with beads. I offered my arm and she scanned the band on my arm. She pumped the meager flesh and I made a fist. Her needle was in her hand and I felt a sharp pain. Several vials lay on the covers, soon to be filled with red. She was intent and silent.

“That blood is pretty important, isn’t it?” I asked.

I looked at her eyes and she looked up at me. We were two people then. She spoke and there was feeling in her words. “Every drop tells a story about you when it gets to the lab. Blood tells everything. What’s wrong, what to do. The doctors are told by the lab in the morning.”

The last vial was full of red and she took back her needle and threw it away.

“Have a good night,” she said as she left.

Alone with my thoughts, I pondered and recalled the people who had formed the preceding day and would form the one yet to dawn.

I had never felt destined to spend days in hospitals. I had regarded them as big buildings with many people providing services. Businesses where every malaise has a code and a price. And then I had seen them as a place to die. My mother first, my father, then my step-mother. And most recently my sister, but I was not there for her in the end.

And then this year it was me. I wondered if it were my turn. Now I was aware maybe not.

The ancient hospitals were a place to die. But times have changed. More than ever, they are a place to be healed, cured, fixed, and sent out again.

The day nurses came before breakfast. They introduced themselves; supervisor, two others. “Call if you need anything.” One nurse came several times during the day and would stay a while. From the Philippines, she was homesick for her family. She said I reminded her of a grandfather and a great-uncle she loved. That I had any semblance to those men of a far culture brought home the knowledge that we are all one race.

Then the doctors came. White coats and stethoscopes. No longer the round mirror with the hole. No more peering down throats, but now listening to hearts. Identifying and solving problems, they made their healing rounds.

Once adjuncts to cathedrals, hospitals have become special places attended by special people. The concept of divine messengers – angels – is ancient. Artists have portrayed them as cupids, winged babes, everywhere-presences. Other religions see them as unseen manifestations of an unseen God. As I lay, dehydrated and a bit closer to being among them, I sensed that I was where so many of them were present in everyone about me. Better angels. Inclinations and divine inspirations to care for those who needed care. More than in any church or cathedral where I had ever been, this place was truly holy, a house of God.

*Rob Pallme*



LET'S GET  
**Together**



## JUNE LUNCH-BUNCH

In earlier times, a few months after EPT, (Early Pandemic Time), I finally submitted to the Light, after some protocol clearances, a request for guesstimates from steady, renewing, or new Lunch-Bunchers of WHEN they thought the next Lunch Bunch would happen. At that time (about June '20), I projected the month of August, 2021, 14 months into the future. As of now, early May, I will stick with that prognostication.

Relatedly, recently reading in the Wall Street Journal (27 April, '21) that more employers are likely to be asking their employees to get at least one Covid-19 shot before they come back to work, I felt it advisable that regular LB members might comment on their preferences regarding eating at restaurants where the staff is said to be/ considered to be 100% vaccinated, or not.

So, as soon as you read this, please advise me, Hugh Ed Turner, your Guess as to When (not necessarily commercial - perhaps UUCP dining); and, as to future dining, i.e., your willingness to dine out "willy-nilly" or only at 100% vaccinated restaurants only.

Thanks for your usual attendance, and your two replies. If you cannot get my contact info (either email or phone) through Simple Church, please email the church office at [uupensacola@gmail.com](mailto:uupensacola@gmail.com) or call the office at 850-475-9077 and leave a message and our Office Administrator will get back with you asap. — Hugh T.

### YOU MAY ALSO ENJOY OUR...



**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, or send an email to the UUCP office at [uupensacola@gmail.com](mailto:uupensacola@gmail.com) or call the office at 850-475-9077 and leave a message. We'll get back with you asap.

**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. If you are not a Member or Friend of UUCP, send an email to the UUCP office at [uupensacola@gmail.com](mailto:uupensacola@gmail.com) or call the office at 850-475-9077 and leave a message.

### READERS' GROUPS *Zooming* THROUGH JUNE 2021

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

**Thursday - June 3 - 10 am**

**Saturday - June 26 - 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, or the Office Administrator to receive the Zoom link.





# LGBTQIA Pride Month: How can we Celebrate Diversity?



Unitarian Universalism honors diversity of genders and gendered experiences. This page offers ways you and your congregation can increase your welcome and inclusion of transgender people, basic definitions, and further resources. You can read more from the UUA [here](#).

## LGBTQIA PRIDE MONTH: 10 Ways to be More Welcoming and Inclusive of Transgender People

1. Avoid making assumptions about gender identity or sexual orientation.
2. Respect a person's identity and self-label, and respect a person's chosen name and pronouns. Practice offering your own pronouns when you meet new people.
3. Do not assume a trans person wants to speak about trans issues and only trans issues. Engage them in conversation and get to know them as you would anyone. Learn more about transgender identity and gender diversity on your own (consider starting with the resources below).

Recognize that "transgender" is not a sexual orientation and educate yourself and others on the distinctions between [sexual orientation and gender identity/expression](#). Don't say "lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender" if you are only talking about sexuality. Recognize that a person can identify with more than one of those labels.

1. Use terms that encompass all genders rather than only two (e.g., "children" instead of "boys and girls"; "people" instead of "women and men"; "siblings," "kindred," or "brothers and sisters and siblings of all genders" instead of "brothers and sisters").

2. Review your congregation's policies and procedures. For example, are gender-exclusive groups inclusive of trans men and women? Do people with non-binary identities have a way to be involved? If you use forms that ask for gender, is that information necessary? If it is, make it an open field if possible, and if not, include the option "Transgender" as well as a fill-in-the-blank box, and allow people to check more than one box. Look into your congregation's policies for youth gatherings, your Safe Congregation Policy, and more.

3. Talk to children about gender diversity. Provide age-appropriate education around understanding one's gender identity and how gender roles and norms play out in our society.

Designate [gender neutral bathroom\(s\)](#) and label all bathrooms in a welcoming way. Make sure your signs throughout your space point the way to all bathroom options.

1. Do continuing education for your congregation specifically on transgender issues and gender diversity. You might consider using one of the recommended curricula below, a film showing and discussion, a panel discussion, and/or a sermon on the topic.
2. Learn about local and federal laws and how to change them if they are not inclusive (e.g., non-discrimination policies around employment, housing, credit, school and college admissions, and public accommodations; name changes; and gender marker changes). Follow the leadership of local and national transgender organizations.

## Basic Definitions About Gender Identity

Our culture tends to limit its understanding of gender to only two options: man and woman. Unitarian Universalism recognizes that there are more than two genders, and an infinite variety of gendered experience in the world. For more information, [click here](#).

## Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity 101

We are a [welcoming](#) faith. Unitarian Universalism doesn't just open its doors to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities—we *value diversity of sexuality and gender and see this diversity as a profound spiritual gift*.

## "Finding the Right Words"

Language about sexual orientation and gender identity shifts and changes: new words are born; other words change meanings. Learning how different people use language to create meaning is important, as is using [inclusive language](#) ourselves. In conversation with many people and communities, we've developed some working definitions. Don't stop with these definitions, though--see the bottom of this page for next steps to deepen your understanding.

## Basic Definitions

We affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person. Sexual orientation is a central part of who we are—being true to ourselves and honoring each other's truth is a spiritual imperative. **Sexual orientation** describes the pattern of a person's sexual attractions based on gender. (see page 8)



**(continued from page 7)**

Sexual attraction and romantic attraction are often lumped together as if they are the same. That is not always the case. **Affectional orientation** describes the pattern of a person's romantic attraction, or the gender of the people a person falls in love with or desires to partner with.



There are three basic types of sexual orientations: Monosexual, polysexual, and asexual.

**Same-Sex Orientation**

Some people are exclusively attracted to members of only one gender. Sexual orientation labels used by people of the same sex include:

**Gay:** generally refers to a man who is attracted to men. Sometimes refers to all people who are attracted to people of the same sex; sometimes "homosexual" is used for this also, although this label is seen by many today as a medical term that should be retired from common use.

**Lesbian:** a woman who is attracted to women. Sometimes also or alternately "same gender-loving woman" or "woman loving woman."

**Straight:** a man who is exclusively attracted to women or a woman who is exclusively attracted to men; also sometimes generally used to refer to people whose sexualities are societally normative. Alternately referred to as "heterosexual."

**Polysexual Orientation**

Some people are attracted to members of multiple genders. Sexual orientation labels used by polysexual people include:

**Bisexual:** attracted to people of one's own gender and people of other gender(s). Often referred to as "bi." See [Bisexuality 101](#) to learn more.

**Pansexual:** attracted to people regardless of gender. Sometimes also or alternately "omnisexual."

**Queer:** similar to pansexual, queer can be an identity label meaning that a person is attracted to people of many genders; however, queer is a multi-faceted word with more than one definition and use, and is viewed as offensive by some people. See [Queer 101](#) to learn more.

**Asexual Orientation**

Some people do not experience sexual attraction. Most people this applies to identify as asexual.

**Asexual:** not sexually attracted to anyone and/or not acting on attraction to anyone. Does not necessarily mean sexless. Asexual people sometimes do experience affectional (romantic) attraction. See [Asexuality 101](#) to learn more.

In addition to the above, some people don't like and don't use labels. Other people identify as **Questioning:** a term used to describe someone who is unsure of or exploring their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

**Gender Identity and Expression**

We affirm each person's ability to judge for themselves who they are and express themselves in the way that is most authentic to their soul. We honor the diversity of truths that exists within our communities.

**Gender** is complex and multi-faceted. In North American culture several distinct facets of ourselves get lumped together when we talk about "gender":

**Biological Sex:** attributes such as anatomy, chromosomes, and hormones that is usually assigned at birth and inform whether a person is male, female, or intersex.

**Gender Identity:** An individual's internal sense of being a man, a woman, neither of these, both, and so on—it is one's inner sense of being and one's own understanding of how one relates to the gender binary. With the exception of agender people, who often do not have an internal sense of gender, most people have a gender identity.

**Gender Expression:** the ways in which a person manifests masculinity, femininity, both, or neither through appearance, behavior, dress, speech patterns, preferences, and more.

The cultural expectation is that one's biological sex, gender identity, and gender expression will align in stereotypical ways: that someone who is male will identify as a boy/man and have a masculine gender expression, for example. This expectation does not serve our diverse world and the myriad experiences of self that exist.

For more definitions about gender identity and expression, see [Transgender 101](#). We also have resources for [Queer and Trans Youth](#).



## How do we Strive for Justice?



There are several new laws out of the most recent legislative session that are contrary to our values as a nation and as UUs.

I could write paragraphs about each of them, but will focus on two areas of extreme concern. If you have questions about any of the areas in the UUJustice Florida newsletter as quoted below, please ask me, Paula Montgomery.

“Public education is being put through the wringer. Public schools and teachers have been strained over the last 15 months by the pandemic. Additionally, the expansion of the voucher system and the charter school system both divert finances from public schools. The most egregious problem is with the new set of standards for teaching civics. The new standards are a push for Christian nationalism while denying any mention of race as an issue in our government. Adding insult to injury is forbidding the teaching of democracy as a founding principle. Instead the push is to call it all a republic, not use the word democracy anywhere.

The other area of extreme concern is the law denying rights of free speech in public spaces. This is called the anti riot bill but does not define what a riot is. Instead it claims that three or more unruly speakers can constitute a threat to public safety. It does not permit local governments to set aside public areas for gatherings without first getting approval from the Florida governor. There is a lot more to be concerned about.

The major takeaway for me is that we all need to be paying attention. We know that elections have consequences. Our local representatives and senator did not stand up for our values. There will be another election. Our democracy gives us the power to elect folks who will represent us. Pay attention between now and our next election. Support the people who support our UU and American values.

Apathy is not an option.

*Paula Montgomery*

### The Legislative Session

The 2022 Legislative Session will convene in January and will be preceded by six weeks of committee meetings when state legislators will be in Tallahassee. The first week of meetings will be held Sept. 20 to Sept. 24 and the last from Nov. 29 to Dec. 3. Thus, it will be important for congregations and organizations to form their Legislative Action teams over the summer months and request appointments to meet with their legislators either in person or virtually before the first of these pre-session meetings and before their appointment calendars fill up.

Each team will receive a suggested agenda and list of missed opportunities that progressive Floridians supported in the 2021 session that ended in April. Regrettably these proposed bills were never placed on committee agendas for a hearings or votes and died in committee. Our goal will be to show there is significant public interest and support for passage of these bills when they will most likely be re-introduced in the 2022 session.

Listed below are twelve categories which will be amended over the summer to include items of missed opportunities. Each team is encouraged to prioritize or focus on those categories which are of greatest interest in your congregation, organization or community.

### Items (Died in Committee) Which Will be Amended Over the Summer

1. Home Rule vs. Preemption to the State
2. Accountability of Police and Law Enforcement
3. Health Care Affordability and Accessibility
4. Public School Education (see below)
5. Environmental Sustainability
6. Representative Democracy/Election Reform
7. Human Rights (esp. for Women, Children and Minorities)
8. Public Safety
9. Budget and Taxation
10. Jobs and Economic Opportunity
11. Immigration
12. Redistricting

***Looking ahead to the 2022 session, it is expected Governor DeSantis will most likely follow the lead of his State Board of Education Commissioner and 15 other states in efforts to muzzle the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Florida's Public Schools. By participating in your organizations' Legislative Advocacy Teams, you will be showing strong public support for a school curriculum that teaches critical analysis as a tool for addressing complex issues in today's diverse and fast changing world.***



Recognizing the importance of shared ministry and the many innovative approaches to worship created by congregations during the pandemic, UUA President, Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick Gray, selected the [First Universalist Church of Minneapolis](#) to serve as worship leaders for this year's GA Sunday Morning Service. Music will be offered through collaboration with 2021 GA Choir Director Susan Mashiyama, the GA virtual choir, and musicians from First Universalist. First Universalist has been a model of shared ministry and what it means to put the work of dismantling white supremacy and building anti-racist, anti-oppressive practices at the center of their ministry.

They have been on the front lines in support of the Movement for Black Lives in Minneapolis, bringing spiritual care and moral leadership in the wake of George Floyd's murder by police and the important uprisings for justice that followed. Children and families are a vital part of their ministry, and they have been using creative approaches to engage all ages in worship during the pandemic. Their leadership exemplifies some of the best practices for the creativity, spiritual depth, and moral leadership that is possible when we embrace the work of shared ministry rooted in love and justice. Last year more than 10,000 screens tuned in to the watch the Sunday Morning Worship at GA! **Please join us again this year on Sunday, June 27 at 9 Pacific / 10 Mountain / 11 Central / noon Eastern for the largest annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists in worship.** We encourage all congregations to gather as is possible and practical to participate in this wonderful, communal event. The service will be streamed on [uua.org](http://uua.org) and on the UUA's [YouTube channel](#); members of the public are welcome.



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Return service requested

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Deadline for submissions



for **JULY LIGHT:**

**Wednesday, JUNE 16th**

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