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uupensacola.org

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

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Membership

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

Together Again! A July 4th Celebration

At long last, the day has arrived. This Sunday, July 4th, we will celebrate Independence Day in more than one way. Due to the hard work of the science and medical community, the good will and commitment to well-being of self and others among so many of our citizens, we have come to a place where we feel relatively safe gathering again in our building. We can celebrate independence from months of lock down and fear.

We know not everyone will be at the same stage of readiness for togetherness. While some of us may be eager to get back and fully engage in what once felt normal, we know that our youngest people are still not able to receive the vaccination. Among us will be individuals with a variety of reasons for feeling the need to be cautious. Some of you may choose to stay home and hopefully catch us on our best attempt to livestream the service. Others of you may come with masks on and a desire to socially distance. Wherever you are in this journey we are taking together, I hope we will all feel supported in the choices we make for our own sense of comfort and safety.

After 16 months of learning and adapting to ever-changing circumstances, we enter yet another phase of adapting and adjusting. We will continue to pay attention to health guidelines and safety procedures, knowing we have not reached the finish line yet.

It has been such a joy to work with so many of our church leaders who have given heart and soul and untold hours of commitment to learn and grow in new and unforeseen ways. I think we have stretched in every direction imaginable to achieve goals of sustaining our community and our mission.

I am grateful to all of you who have remained loving and supportive through the months of struggle that have no doubt changed us all in ways we have yet to discover. May our coming together on July 4th, whether in person or in spirit, be a time of Joy and Celebration, as well as acknowledgement of the many losses and griefs we have known.

In Love and Hope,

Rev. Alice



Inspiring love—Through 16 Months of a Pandemic

From Your Board: President's Column

In his recent *New York Times* op-ed, David Brooks declares that the American Renaissance has begun. He posits that, although Covid-19 has disrupted American life, the disruption has created space for something new. He discusses some ways this experience has changed us and closes his piece by saying “People are shifting their personal lives to address common problems – loneliness and loss of community. Nobody knows where this national journey of discovery will take us, but the voyage has begun.”



As I read the article, I could not help but think of our UUCP community. We have been affected by all sorts of adversity for more than a year including fear, illness, losses and social isolation. We have had to rely on ourselves, personally and collectively, to find new ways of navigating life as the old patterns were disrupted or destroyed. We intuited at the beginning of the shutdown that everything was changed, and we would come out the other end somehow different. No one knew for certain what that would look like.

But new space opened up. Inspired by love, Past President Lauren Anzaldo, Reverend Alice Syltie, the Governing Board, and Ministry Teams, especially Sunday Services, CRE, Membership and Fun and Fellowship, had to find new ways of meeting spiritual needs and countering social isolation to keep our bonds of community strong. That meant thinking creatively and developing skills in new areas such as Zooming, video production, Facebook live streaming, and establishing our own YouTube channel. Thanks to them, we now have an expanded digital presence that has created new possibilities, and these platforms will continue to serve us as we evolve.

We have been apart together, and we have all looked out for each other. Our Safer Congregation Team sought ways to bring us back together physically as soon and as safely as possible. Through it all, our life went on and we never flagged in our mission to celebrate diversity, strive for justice and inspire love.

We now come to a new turning, a new year replete with possibilities and new beginnings. What will we discover? How have we changed? How have we remained the same? Where will our journey of discovery take us? I do not have the answers to all these questions, but I do know this: our new journey has begun, and we will voyage together.

Faithfully,
Arnie Ondis, Board President

Caring Connection — Inspiring Love

Our loving thoughts are with Mary Ann Hodges as she has surgery and cancer treatments.

We share our sympathy with Crys Brockway on the death of her grandmother.

Our hearts are with Charlotte Crane who is going through a difficult time. Her son Brian passed away Monday of this week. Knowing that there are those who care and that we are not alone is helpful.

Marianne Kelly is now back in New Berne, New York, for the summer but will return in the fall.

Bob and Lesley Ortiz are also away for the summer but will be back in September. Thanks to internet, we are just a click away. Do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes to Rob Palme as he relocates to New Port Richey, FL. We will miss you, Rob.



July Faith Development



Summer Time
Sunday Mornings at 9am
 July 11 & 25

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.

UU trading cards have been a big hit with young and old. We plan to keep it up all summer. Keep a lookout for a table in the lobby where you can make one to trade.

To stay in the loop, please contact our office administrator at uupensacola@gmail.com to be added to the CRE weekly email.

Be sure to join us – Summer Time Sunday mornings, all are welcome!

Happenings!

I'm sure you have heard that the Church will be reopened for an in-person service inside our Sanctuary on July 4th. I know we are all excited to be together again. BUT, not so fast! Our young people are not vaccinated yet. Until they are, we will continue to have virtual gatherings of our young people on two Sundays each month (see left). AND they are still welcome in the church, but must be masked and socially distanced. Tabbitha has graciously agreed to be our childcare provider and will also wear a mask out of respect for the children. Children can be signed in for childcare at 9:45 in the Rainforest Room.

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!



UUCP is excited to announce that we will be recongregating in our Sanctuary beginning July 4th.

After months of isolation, our Safety Team has helped us to begin to return to services. Without their diligence we would not be able to make this announcement.

“Welcome Home” with Rev. Alice Sylie

This Sunday we celebrate our Independence from the Covid-19 lockdown, as we gather once again in our church home. Some of you will be present in the sanctuary and some of you will be with us on the Facebook Live Stream. Please choose whatever makes you most comfortable. Whether this will be your first time, or your hundredth time, or more, we invite you to be present to the welcoming home we create when we come together as the Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola.

Now that change has become our normal, we are ready to be together in both familiar and new ways. Be prepared for some surprises. All ages are welcome to this service.

Let's celebrate this homecoming. We are ready to return and enjoy each other's company.

From the Safer Congregation Team

Services Resume Indoors on July 4th: What to Expect

Indoor Services resume starting July 4th. The Best Practices, as outlined in the Recongregation Plan Phase II: Indoor Gatherings, will be observed. Here is what you can expect.

Upon Entering: Review the COVID-19 Screen and, if you answer “yes” to any of the questions, you should return home and contact your health care provider. You will notice signage regarding face mask requirements and other vital information. The greeters will be able to assist you with any questions you may have.

Face Masks: If you are fully vaccinated, face masks are not required but are optional. If you are unvaccinated or medically compromised, face masks are required. Face masks are also required for children aged 2 to 12 years (presumably unvaccinated).

Social Distancing: Distancing is not necessary for fully vaccinated persons. If you are unvaccinated or medically compromised, it is your responsibility to maintain a safe distance from others. However, opportunities will be available for safe distancing, and you may wear a sticker that will help everyone maintain that space. Those stickers will be available at the greeting table. If you require safe distancing while using the restrooms, ensure that it is vacant, and then use the slide bolt on the inside of the door.

Choir and Congregational Singing: Face masks are required for unvaccinated individuals.

Food and Beverage Service: There are no restrictions, but congestion should be reduced in smaller spaces.

Children and Youth: Childcare will be available, but no regular Sunday School classes will take place. Children aged 2 to 12, presumably unvaccinated, must wear a mask per CDC guidelines. Our childcare provider will be masked, and disposable children's masks will be available. Children may begin to gather in the Rainforest Room at 9:45 a.m. Virtual summer activities will continue alternate Sundays via Zoom.

Sanitation: General sanitation applies, and hand sanitizer will be available.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola Recongregation Plan

Phase II: Indoor Gatherings

Rationale

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola is committed to providing for the safety and wellness of its members, friends and guests while meeting its mission to celebrate diversity, strive for justice and inspire love.

This Phase II: Indoor Gatherings supersedes the restrictions of the previous plan's phases and complies with recent (May 2021) CDC guidance, and the desire of church membership to resume indoor gatherings.

Best Practices

The UUCP Governing Board may upgrade or downgrade the following best practices to comply with local public health advisories.

Per CDC guidance, *fully vaccinated* people may now resume pre-pandemic activities, including gathering indoors, without wearing a mask or practicing social distancing. While opportunities will be provided for social distancing for unvaccinated or compromised individuals, they are responsible for maintaining distance and observing any other applicable health guidelines.

Facilities: All UUCP facilities are open for use. Restroom exhaust fans will operate while the building is occupied by more than six people.

Capacity: No restrictions.

Face Masks: Not required, but optional, for fully vaccinated individuals. Unvaccinated and compromised adults, and children age 2 to 12 years (presumably unvaccinated) must wear masks.

Social distancing: Not required for fully vaccinated individuals.

Choir and congregational singing: Face masks and social distancing required for unvaccinated individuals.

CRE: Follows guidelines for face masks and social distancing for unvaccinated children.

Food and beverage service: No restrictions, but attempts should be made to reduce congestion in smaller spaces.

Sanitation: General sanitation should resume on a regular schedule.

References:

When You've Been Fully Vaccinated | CDC

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

Choosing Safer Activities | CDC

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/participate-in-activities.html>

Governing Board Approval 06/07/2021



LET'S GET
Together

YOU MAY ALSO ENJOY OUR...

UUCP Virtual ZOOM Coffee Hour at 12:30pm on Sundays — Please join us at 12:30pm every Sunday 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, send an email to the UUCP office at uupensacola@gmail.com or call the office at 850-475-9077 and leave a message. We'll call back soon.



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 password to use. If you are not a Member or Friend of UUCP, contact the UUCP office.

READERS' GROUPS on Vacation for July and August

The twice a month ZOOM Readers' Groups will be on vacation for the months of July and August.

If you have any questions please contact Laurie Winterberg, or send an email to the UUCP office at uupensacola@gmail.com. You can also call the office at 850-475-9077 and leave a message for Laurie.



Card received from UUCP Member since February 1972 – Evelyn Jackson

"Dear Friends, What a marvelous 'happening' to get a lifetime membership from my long-time love — the UUCP.

JJ and I communicate by phone but cannot be together for now. His health is very good and I share all the main news and try to keep memories alive.

Love and Hugs,

Evelyn Jackson



How do we celebrate diversity?



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

From the Membership Team – Let's Put UUCP's Mission Statement into Action to:
celebrate diversity,
strive for justice, and
inspire love

We recognize and celebrate the many facets of the human spirit
among ourselves and in the larger community.

You can demonstrate your support of inclusion within our UUCP congregation by:

- ◆ Updating your name tag by adding your pronouns. Pre-printed stickers will be available on the table just outside the Library.
- ◆ Updating your Simple Church profile page with just a few easy steps. The simplest way to do this is by using the phone app. Use the "Edit Profile" button on your opening page. Then, in the area for First Name, type in your first name, and then, in parenthesis, your pronouns.

You May Have Questions

What is a gender pronoun?

In English, gender pronouns are gender identifiers for the third-person singular. In the past, gender pronouns were separated into masculine (*he/him/his*) and feminine (*she/her/hers*). This separation of masculine and feminine is called gender binary and only recognizes men and women. Many people identify outside of the gender binary. Gender-neutral pronouns such as *they/them* or *xe/xer/xers* allow individuals to use pronouns ... [that] fit with their identities.

Why do pronouns matter?

Pronouns, like personal names, are connected to a person's identity. Just as we can show respect by calling others by their correct name(s), we can show respect by using the correct pronouns. Using the wrong pronoun can make a person uncomfortable and possibly invalidated or alienated.

A person's name or physical appearance do not necessarily indicate their gender so we should not make gender assumptions based on these.

From: The Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Walden University

An Opportunity to Memorialize Non-UUCP Members

If you would like to memorialize a loved one who was not a member of our UUCP congregation, consider purchasing a memorial nameplate that will be displayed in the Memorial Garden. The nameplates are 2" x 6" and made of a durable, weather-resistant material. Included on the name plate will be the deceased's first and last name, their birth year and death year. The cost is \$50 per person to be memorialized.

Although there is no deadline for purchasing a memorial, consider doing so by mid-September so that they can be on display for Day of the Dead.

Just complete a short information form which can be emailed or can be mailed to you by US Post. If you have questions, contact Kate Wolverton or Laurie Winterberg.



How do we Strive for Justice?



JUST Pensacola

Congratulations UUCP! We were recognized at the JUST Pensacola Celebration for have 86% of our usual Sunday attendance present at the Nehemiah Action on May 3rd. Well done! This demonstrates in a very tangible way, our dedication to Justice in our local community.

The Celebration meeting on June 14th was to review our success in the last cycle of action and to get us ready for the next cycle.

This fall we will begin again with small house meetings to review what justice issues are troubling us in Pensacola. From the summary of concerns, we will again select two issues to research and finally to take action on during the next Nehemiah Action in the spring. Based on our success in getting the attention of our officials this year for Civil Citations, I have a strong feeling that going forward we will gather even more attention and action for justice.

Meanwhile the organization that holds us together so that our voices will be heard has to have money. There are rents and salaries to pay as well as printing, electronic usage (think Zoom) and other incidental expenses. Our congregation voted to support JUST Pensacola. The UUCP board acted in accord with our vote and has pledged to contribute 0.6% of our budget (\$850). The JUST Pensacola organization also suggests that each of us commit to an individual donation in an amount you are comfortable with. A number of the individual members of UUCP have already made that commitment to donate for our success. The suggested amount is \$200. Your pledge can be paid all at once or in installments.

Your donation can be made in a number of different ways.

Through this website: <https://justpensacola.nationbuilder.com/invest>

Making your investment online is easy and convenient!

1. To make a one-time investment in JUST Pensacola, select the amount that you wish to invest on the left - either all at once or in installments.

2. On CashApp (\$JUSTPensacola): [https://cash.app/\\$JUSTPensacola](https://cash.app/$JUSTPensacola)

3. Or mail in a check :
 JUST Pensacola
 511 Woodland Drive
 Pensacola FL, 32503

For questions please contact Paula Montgomery.

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

Return service requested

uupensacola@gmail.com

www.uupensacola.org

First Sunday Manna Sunday




**MOST NEEDED
FOODS LIST**

Utilize this list to provide the most healthful food donations for our neighbors.
 Help Manna by planning a Food & Funds Drive.
 Details available at our website: <http://www.mannafood.org/give-food/host-a-food-drive/>



<p>Grains</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instant oatmeal packets, original flavor • Brown rice (16 oz) • Whole grain pasta (16 oz) <p>Protein</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuna, Salmon or Chicken, in water • Dry or canned beans (low sodium) • Natural nut butters 	<p>Fruits & Vegetables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canned vegetables (low-sodium) • Canned fruit (in juice) • Fruit cups <p>Other Healthy Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelf-stable, individual milk boxes • Cooking oils & spices • Infant formula & baby foods
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July 2016

Deadline for submissions
 for **AUGUST LIGHT:**
 **Friday, JULY 16th**

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