



9888 Pensacola Blvd  
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[uupensacola.org](http://uupensacola.org)

**Office Hours:**

We do not have regular hours at this time, but arrangements can be made as needed. Email and phone messages are checked as usual. Check your email, Facebook and our website for updates.

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**Social Justice**

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**Sunday Services**

Marylee Donnelly

## From Our Minister

We are back! For the second time. Let's hope it sticks. These days I have to continually remind myself to plan for what I hope and be ready for the unexpected. It's the best time for a Tao perspective. No need to fight the current. These are days to do my best to be in the flow.

*"That which offers no resistance, overcomes the hardest substances.*

*That which offers no resistance can enter where there is no space.*

*Few in the world can comprehend the teachings without words, or understand the value of non-action."*

*From chapter 43 of the Tao Te Ching, Lao Tzu*

As we return to our building for in-person Sunday Services, much will be the same, while some things may not be exactly as before. Hopefully what is familiar will be comforting enough to make up for any differences which might require us to adjust.

Our Theme for November is Holding History. As a congregation, I can't help but think that we are moving into a new era in our history. I don't see how things can ever be exactly as they were following the experience of a life-altering global pandemic. As we have noted many times throughout the last couple of years, the pandemic was not an event solely in itself. It was also an event that brought to light many ongoing societal issues more easily ignored previously.

We have not all had the same experience. For some, the time out from the typical routine created space to narrow the focus, perhaps pursue other interests, or get back to a neglected one. A lot of people certainly caught up on long-awaited projects around the house. For others, it has amplified loss, boredom, or isolation. Maybe it has been a little of all these things. However we experienced this time out of ordinary time, it makes sense to me that we have each had new insights and reflections. In some way we are changed. What might change in a church is a newer sense of what is most important and how a community responds to that knowing. Actually, that has been happening all along.

We are fortunate to have thoughtful leaders who have stayed tuned in to the important needs of a community in a constantly changing and evolving set of circumstances. This includes a special team to do the needed research to guide us as best they can in a climate of intense scientific research and emerging discoveries. Other leaders have delved into the research and developing technology in response to the human needs for belonging and connection. We are set to enter this new phase of congregational life with great leaders, and a church community that has stayed connected and in touch with what is most important through extraordinarily challenging times.

I am proud and happy to serve as your minister. I look forward to working and planning with all our leaders, teams, and staff, as we regroup and move boldly into our future.

In Love and Hope,  
Rev. Alice



## How do we build Beloved Community?

### From Your Board: President's Column

*The person best suited to look out for your interests is you. The more you depend on yourself, the more positive control you have over every aspect of your life. Take personal responsibility for who you are, what you do, and how you live. You are the only person who knows what is best for you.*

- Les Brown



Harsh words or a lost focus? I think the latter.

Throughout the ups and downs and twists and turns of this pandemic, UUCP leadership has taken its roles and responsibilities for the safety and wellbeing of our congregants very seriously. The needs of our Members and Friends during this time have been the central factor driving the Governing Board and Ministry Teams.

We have relied on guidance from the UUA and local public health authorities. We have been true to our values of protecting the most vulnerable among us and leaving no one behind. And we have recognized that physical protection can cause loneliness and despair.

We have kept moving forward, adjusting to the demands of an ever-changing landscape. Most recently, the Board has approved vaccination mandates for invited speakers, employees, and contractors/vendors.

What is different now from the first time we recongregated is the increased transmission risk of the Delta variant, and the passage of time. The data have shown that full vaccination immunity diminishes over time and the question of what constitutes full vaccination arises with the advent of the third booster. This is something that the CDC has announced that it will tackle soon. If you are eligible, get that third booster when it is available to you!

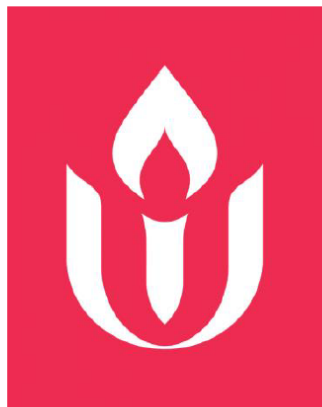
We've all been responsible to one another, but the piece that has been lost in all of this, in my opinion, is the personal responsibility that we have to ourselves. COVID is becoming endemic and will be with us for a long time in one form or another. There can never be a one-size-fits-all Recongregation policy. While trying to meet the most needs, it is not possible to meet every need. But you have been given tools (information and data) and participation options (in-person, live stream, YouTube Channel, Zoom meetings) to make the most informed decisions for yourself, and you have been empowered to speak up for yourself in preserving the physical space, or other accommodations, that you may need.

*You are the only person who knows what is best for you.*

Faithfully,

Arnie Ondis

Governing Board President



# CRE \*\*\* Faith Development

## Fall into CRE

This year our monthly themes invite us to think about not only what values our UU faith calls us to but also the key actions and skills that our times require of us. Pandemic time exposes the need for humanity to change and adjust in key ways. So, each month we will explore a different skill that we need to develop or lean into so that we don't just return to normal but actually bring about a "new normal."

## **Sunday School**

In November we explore the ways in which our times call us to "Hold History." There are four ways we will tease apart the idea of holding history with our children.

### Class Schedule for November:

# TBD

Keep an eye out for Saturday's email from me for news regarding the coming Sundays. If you do not receive my Saturday emails, contact [UUpensacola@gmail.com](mailto:UUpensacola@gmail.com) to get added to the list.

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

Coordinator: Sarah Stubbs

Team Leader: Open

Team Members: Linda Cobb, Penny Featherstone, and Kate Wolverton

Feel free to contact any member with comments or suggestions!



## Caring Connection — Inspiring Love



**Marcy Moreland**

Longtime UUCP members Marcy Moreland and Hugh Ed Turner were prominently featured in the photo accompanying an article in Tuesday's Pensacola News Journal about a federal judge clearing way for lawsuits against the new Florida election laws. Both are wearing UU shirts, and Hugh Ed's shirt with the chalice is clearly visible in the front. The photo is from an August 28 voting rights march in Pensacola. About this important issue, Marcy says, "Now let us all continue the work to overturn restrictions and keep voting accessible."

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.pnj.com/amp/6058353001>

For photo to copy, go to: <https://www.facebook.com/UUCPensacola/photos/a.745458845522532/4971522006249507/>



**Hugh Ed Turner**

Marianne Kelly sends greetings to UUCP. She is still in New Berne, New York, enjoying the fall colors and will spend Thanksgiving with her family there. The plan is to spend Christmas in the DC area with her daughter and family. More news from Marianne—she has a great-grandson, Theodore, born in August, and a granddaughter who recently signed on to sing with the Boston Lyric Opera Company. Congratulations on your new great-grandson and your very talented granddaughter!

To her delight, Mae O'Shea recently welcomed her second great-grandson. How wonderful, Mae!

Mike Hennigan says: I am grateful for both getting the opportunity to open our new endocrinology practice this past week and then also to travel to Alaska to see my new 6-month-old grandson and to also be working with their hospital there - blest indeed. You are ndeed very blest, Mike. Enjoy your new grandbaby!

November birthdays include Hannelore Musial and Joyce Smandra. Happy Birthday to all those with birthdays in November!





## 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; contact information is on the front page of this newsletter.

### READERS' GROUP

Our usual Zoom groups will be held on the following dates:

**Friday, November 12 from 10—11am via Zoom**

**Monday, November 15 from 1—2 pm at the Ortiz home**

An email will be sent out a few days prior to the ZOOM meeting group with a guide to the day's session. Meetings last roughly an hour, and there is NO REQUIRED reading. We enjoy sharing our experiences and recommendations, and passions for escaping in a good book. Info - Contact Laurie Winterberg.

### FROM THE FINANCE TEAM – AMAZONSMILE

AmazonSmile is a way you can support UUCP every time you shop with Amazon, at no additional cost. And with the gift-giving holidays approaching, this should interest you. Just shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and you will find the same Amazon you know and love, with the added bonus that AmazonSmile will donate a portion of the eligible purchase to UUCP when you select us as the recipient of your contribution.

#### How to sign up for AmazonSmile

##### How to use AmazonSmile on a web browser:

1. Visit <https://smile.amazon.com>.
2. Sign in with the same account you use for Amazon.com.
3. Select your charity – in this case Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola.
4. Start shopping! Remember to checkout at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to generate donations to UUCP. Tip: Add a book mark to make it easier to shop at AmazonSmile.



##### How to use AmazonSmile using the Amazon app on your mobile phone:

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app.
2. Navigate to the main menu (=).
3. Tap on Settings and then select “AmazonSmile.”
4. Select Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola and then follow the on-screen instructions to turn ON AmazonSmile in the mobile app.
5. Once AmazonSmile has been activated in your app, future eligible app purchases will generate a donation for the church. Note: The tablet app is not yet supported. Please visit [amazon.com/ontheqo](https://amazon.com/ontheqo) to learn more.

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**HOW MUCH OF MY PURCHASE WILL UUCP RECEIVE?** Once you've chosen the church, anything that you buy on the Smile site will include a donation of [0.5% of your purchase](#). The donation is made through the AmazonSmile Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) private foundation created by Amazon.

**DOES THE SHOPPER NEED TO BE A MEMBER OR FRIEND OR EVEN HAVE ATTENDED UUCP?** Nope, anyone can designate the church as their recipient of their donation. Think about asking your friends and relatives to consider.

**DOES AMAZON SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PEOPLE AND THEIR PURCHASES WITH THE CHURCHES WHO USE THE 'SMILE' PROGRAM?** Nope, the only information the church receives from Smile Amazon is the dollar amount that is deposited into our checking account. It's not huge, but it's generally several hundred a year. And there's little effort on anyone's part.

## How do we Inspire Love?

### Happy Days Are Here Again: In-Person Services Resume at UUCP

Due to the COVID transmission rate dropping below 5%, we will resume full operations beginning Sunday, October 31st, including the Coffee Hour. Unvaccinated persons must wear masks; fully vaccinated persons are strongly encouraged to wear masks except while eating or drinking.

Vaccinated choir members may sing without masks at the front of the church, but people in the audience must wear masks while singing.

Facility rentals will be considered on a case by case basis until further notice.

### “... to help one another.”

A reminder that while we are resuming in-person services and refreshments in response to the Escambia County Covid transmission rate falling below 5%, our covenant calls for us to help those who choose to attend our services who may need the rest of us to continue masking and social distancing even if we are vaccinated. Please:

Express those needs clearly if you have them,

*and*

Respond to those needs when they are expressed, especially when you're unmasked to eat or drink.

If weather permits, consider enjoying the fresh air in our Memorial Garden along with your coffee!

### Once-a-Month Volunteer Opportunity Available


UUCP has a long history of collecting food and personal care items for Manna Food Pantries, which serves those in need in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. At the moment, we do not have anyone in charge of taking our donations to Manna once a month. We are a generous congregation and this volunteer will need to have the physical ability to lift a few grocery bags' worth each trip.

Please contact Board President Arnie Ondis or Treasurer Erin Renfroe if this volunteer opportunity sounds like a good fit for you.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola  
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*Return service requested*

[uupensacola@gmail.com](mailto:uupensacola@gmail.com)  
[www.uupensacola.org](http://www.uupensacola.org)

Deadline for submissions for  

**DECEMBER LIGHT:**  
**Tuesday, November 16th**

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

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