



# Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola The Light

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May 2022

*Celebrate Diversity · Strive for Justice · Inspire Love*



9888 Pensacola Blvd  
Pensacola, FL 32534  
[uupensacola.org](http://uupensacola.org)

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

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## From Our Minister

Nurturing Beauty is our theme for May. I find this a wide-open exercise, with the potential to deepen meaning in our lives. First, though, we must understand beauty as more than something pretty to look at. Beauty is something that captures our senses and opens us to a new awareness.



This new month opens as we emerge from the intersection of major religious observances in the Jewish, Muslim and Christian traditions. The faithful in these traditions have reflected on principal stories that inform their understanding of what it means to live ethically within the bonds of their religion. Around the world many have held hope that the power of this convergence, the first in 33 years, would “remind people,” as one spokesperson for Germany’s Coordination Council of Muslims explained, “that we are all siblings in humanity and must work together for good.”

I have expressed often during the last two years that we are living in liminal time. There is a sense now that we are coming back together, and yet, it is not the same. We are living with adjustments to changes that will continue to influence our perceptions and our decisions. Some of these changes affect us in very personal ways, such as our concerns for our own health, or new insights about our highest priorities in life. Some changes are global and challenge our previous understanding of what it meant to live a normal life in society.

There is much uncertainty about our future, as a people, as a country, as a world. Nurturing Beauty is an invitation to focus on what we have within our own realm that may offer grounding and direction for our future.

Our Soul Matters Theme Circle will be reflecting on Nurturing Beauty and these words of introduction to the Theme. Please see the next page.

*(continued on page 2)*

## Welcome to Nurturing Beauty

Beauty.  
We appreciate it.  
How could we not?  
We wonder at it.  
Get absorbed in it.  
Analyze it, if it's got a frame around it.

We make it.  
Grow it.  
Point at it.  
Collect it.  
Share it.  
Save it.

But how often do we listen to it?

How often do we ask, "What is it trying to get me to hear?"  
Rather than, "Do I like it or not?"

It's just so hard to step outside  
our mangled view of the world  
that sees everything in the light of consumption.  
Not everything is here for our possession.  
Not everything is here to entertain us.  
Not everything is meant to be put to use, even you.

We must find our way back,  
to those questions that were once alive  
but now are buried deep:  
"What if beauty is here to make us wise?"  
"What if beauty is the way the sacred speaks?"

Yes! Yes! It does so much more than decorate.  
It demands. It calls. It asks for commitment.  
It doesn't just say "Love and appreciate me."  
It says "Protect me! Fight for me!"  
It steps out in front of us and points to a precious world  
that needs our help.  
It paints a picture of new ways of living  
and declares, "Follow me there!"

It says, "Even in hell holes I find a way to grow."  
It sings, "This world was made for more than work."  
It whispers, "Use me to heal."  
It pleads, "Nurture a new relationship with me. One that allows me to talk!"

So, what is it saying to you?

## How do we build Beloved Community?

### From Your Board: President's Column

### Annual Congregational Meeting May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held in the Sanctuary after the Service on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Although it will also be carried on Zoom, please plan to attend in person, if possible.



We have three items of business that will require a vote:

Election of Governing Board for 2022-23 (see page 4).

Approval of the 2022-23 Operating Budget.

Application to UUA for Welcoming Congregation Designation.

The Board has been transparent in sharing information concerning our current financial status and its implications going into the 2022-23 Church Year. If you have questions, please contact any Board member.

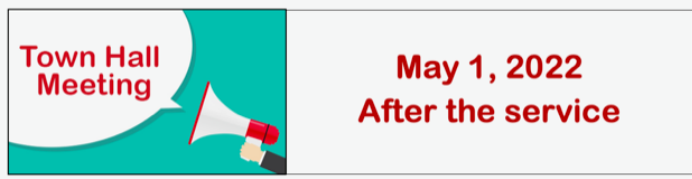
The Welcoming Congregation Designation Committee has also worked diligently to provide the information required for an informed vote.

The right of conscience and the use of democratic processes in our congregations is our Fifth Principle. Your voice and your vote are needed. Please be there.

Faithfully,

Arnie Ondis

Governing Board President



### Town Hall Meeting

**May 1, 2022 after the service.**

We need to take time to think about and discuss the results of the 2022-23 Pledge Drive and its effects on next year's budget before it comes up for a vote at the Annual Meeting on May 22.

To that end, the Board has mailed detailed budget information to every household in the congregation, with the goal of holding a **Town Hall discussion after the service on May 1.**

Please let Erin Renfroe know if you did not receive that mailing. We ask that you take the time to review the information, then bring your questions and best creative thinking to that meeting.

Our congregation will vote at the Annual Congregational Meeting to select the leadership for the 2022-23 church year. The Board of Directors has approved the following slate of nominees proposed by our current Leadership Development Team, and this slate will be presented for a congregational vote on Sunday, May 22, after the Sunday Service.

**Leadership Roster for UUCP 2022-23 (PROPOSED)**  
**(\*\* denote nominees to be voted on by congregation)**

**Governing Board Slate**

<b>President (1-year term)</b>	Laura Keith King**
<b>President Elect (1-year term)</b>	Scott Satterwhite**
<b>Past President (1-year term)</b>	Arnie Ondis
<b>Treasurer (Year 1 of 2-year term)</b>	Bradley Vinson**
<b>Secretary (Year 2 of 2-year term)</b>	Denise Gunn
<b>Members at Large</b>	
<i>Through June 2023</i>	Jean Siebenaler Joe Vinson Leslie Grill**
<i>Through June 2024</i>	Patti Underwood** Marianne DeGrado**

**Leadership Development Team (1-year terms)**

Arnie Ondis, Past President  
 Lauren Anzaldo, Membership  
 Trista Blouin\*\*  
 Penny Featherstone\*\*

**Committee on Ministry (3-year terms)**

Scott Satterwhite (Year 3 – through June 2023)  
 Laurie Winterberg (Year 3 – through June 2023)  
 Nancy Hagman (Year 2 – through June 2024)



# CRE \*\*\* Faith Development

## Soul Matters Lessons

Ah, spring. April showers bring May flowers.

This month we will focus on beauty. And not just surface beauty. We will take a deep dive into the many ways we encounter beauty in our every day lives. We will be celebrating beauty in others and our world. We will explore ways we can appreciate, create, own, and share the beauty that is us.

## CRE Zoom Meeting

April's CRE Zoom meeting went well. We firmed up our Easter Egg Hunt plans and selected a date for our Annual Ice Cream Sunday Social for May 21<sup>st</sup>. Each year we mark the end of our Sunday School Year with this sweet activity. Also, at this meeting Bradley Vinson agreed to volunteer as an occasional Sunday School teacher. Denice Gunn has also agreed to teach Sunday School.

May's meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>. We will be firming up our summer plans and will hear how teaching is going for our new volunteers.



## Nurturing Beauty

Our faith reminds us, when it comes to nurturing beauty, we need to "Appreciate It" in all its many forms, and that celebrating the beauty of others comes from understanding, awareness, and empathy.

Nurturing Beauty - Appreciate It: Celebrating Beauty in Others

Nurturing Beauty - Create It: Celebrating Our Power to Bring Beauty into the World

Nurturing Beauty - Experience It: Honoring All the Ways We Take Beauty In

Nurturing Beauty - Own It: Celebrating the Beauty That is Us

Nurturing Beauty - Share It: Memorial Day



## For Fun and on the Fringe:

- World Press Freedom Day - May 3
- Star Wars Day - May 4
- World Laughter Day - First Sunday in May
- Debut of "Rosie the Riveter," famous picture by Norman Rockwell, appears on the cover of the "Saturday Evening Post" - May 29, 1943

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

Coordinator: Sarah Stubbs Team Leader: Open

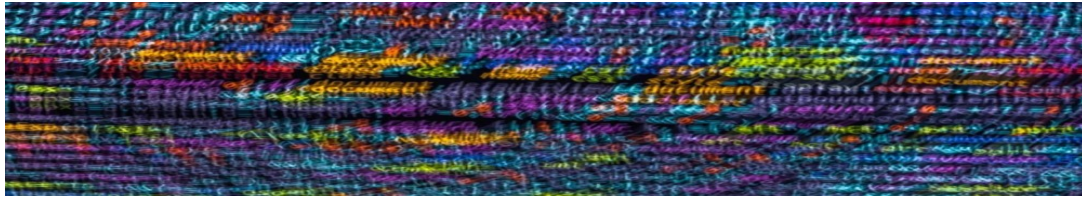
Team Members: Linda Cobb



## Sunday Services in April from 10am to 11am

### May 1 "Woven in a Single Garment of Destiny"

"We are not alone, though sometimes we forget that truth. We are woven into one cloth, one gorgeous blanket, designed for use, for comfort, to sustain and to love..." —Rev. Dr. Sarah Lenzi



"Woven in a Single Garment of Destiny" is a full-length video worship service exploring and celebrating hallmarks of our

Unitarian Universalist theology. We're all connected: an interdependent whole. Therefore, says Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, "covenant is our religious response to our fundamental interdependence." We make promises about how to be together, and how to be in the world. We also fall short of honoring those promises, inviting us to repair and strengthen the strands of community. The choice to mend broken strands of the web is an act of faithfulness.

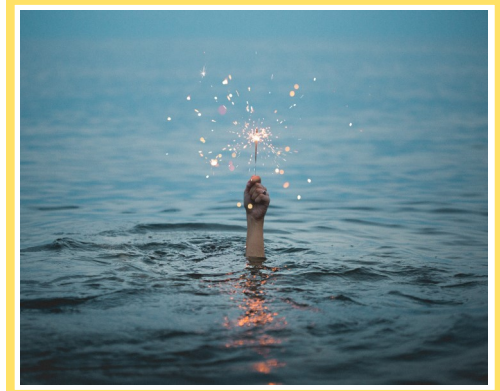
The liturgist for this service, Rev. Erika Hewitt (UUA Minister of Worship Arts), coordinated a wide range of leaders for you to enjoy—including two original songs composed just for this service.

**May 8 TBA**

**May 15 TBA**

### May 22 "Commitment"

Merriam Webster defines the word "commitment" as "an agreement or pledge to do something in the future," "the state or an instance of being obligated or emotionally impelled," or "an act of committing to a charge or trust." Synonyms include faithfulness, devotion, dedication and loyalty. With so many different shades of meaning, as various members of UUCP speak of the roles their commitments have in their lives, a diverse variety of perspectives will be offered. What part does commitment play in your life, and which of your commitments enrich it, and you? Photo by [Kristopher Roller](#) on [Unsplash](#)



### May 29 "Suicide Prevention and the EscaRosa Suicide Prevention Coalition" with Lauren Anzaldo, EdD, LCSW, CAP

Our Fifth Sunday recipient for May will be the EscaRosa Suicide Prevention Coalition. In Florida, suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for persons aged 25-34 and the 3rd leading cause of death for persons aged 10-14 and 15-24. ERSPC is a passionate and dedicated group of professionals, organizations, and persons with lived experience who recognize the importance of suicide prevention in our community. The coalition works to impact the suicide rate and transform Escambia and Santa Rosa counties by raising awareness, increasing knowledge and skills, and implementing strategic interventions. The coalition's vision is to eliminate suicide in our community. Learn more about the EscaRosa Suicide Prevention Coalition [here](#).



LET'S GET  
**Together**

## “Exploring a Spirituality of One’s Own:”

### Six-Month Workshop Continues

Our next workshop in our series will be held on Sunday, May 15 at 11:30 in the library. We will be digging into our work on Part 4: A Poetic Life. Remember to bring the art you created in your practice of Chapter 7 and your experience of visiting a public art piece with the sacred gaze. How did you come to experience your muses, angels, and daimons throughout the month? The second half of our time together will be a quick appetizer around Part 5: Beyond the Self: Inner Guidance. (Please spend the week before our gathering simply reading Part 5, no work is required in this section prior to our time together.) Remaining classes:

**May 15**

Part 5 - Beyond the Self: Inner Guidance

**June 5**

Part 6 - Soul and Spirit & Postlude - Living Your Bliss

If you have any questions, please reach out to me by email. My contact info is listed in Simple Church or you may call or email the Office at 850.475.9077 or [uupensacola@gmail.com](mailto:uupensacola@gmail.com) and your message will be forwarded to me.

I look forward to taking this journey with you.

~Trista

### Lunch Bunch May 11 at 1 pm

Dear Lunch Bunchers:

Sorry, but just a two week notice on this one, too: 11 May is the second Wednesday of May. We'll try the atmosphere and some elements of the weather at the [Oar House](#), at the foot of Pace Blvd...

I'll reserve for 10, and if I don't get at least 9 emails, I'll call them to cut back to eight. We will continue LB on 2nd Wednesdays, 1 PM as usual. —Hugh Ed Turner



### Readers' Groups

The (in person) Readers' Group scheduled for May 16th has been cancelled.

**Both meetings will be held via Zoom.**

**Here are the schedule and the details:**

10:00am-11:00am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month

**May 12**

**Discuss the Book** with Joyce Smandra via Zoom

9:30am-10:30am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month

**May 18**

*Participate in one or both. Questions – Contact Laurie Winterberg.*



### Don't Miss the Adult Ed Second Hour

Book Discussion with Thom Botsford May 29 after the service—watch the Thur. Email for details to come.

## *Caring Connection*



**Bob and Lesley**

The time for them to go has arrived much too fast. From Lesley Ortiz: “Bob and I leave the first week in May for Maine. We will be staying at the cottage and will house hunt from there as we have not yet found a place. Once there it will be easier to shop around. When we have found a new home, we will send you the address and other contact information. In the meantime, our new mailing address can be found in Simple Church. Our cell numbers and email addresses will remain the same.

We have both been in the Pensacola area for a number of years and have attended UUCP for over 20 years. You all will be missed.” And you and Bob will be missed as well, Lesley. Enjoy your new home but please come back for a visit soon. ~ ~ ~

Congratulations to Jack Wolverton on his long-awaited retirement! Jack converted a high-top van (with the help of Kate’s decorating and sewing skills) into the Camper That Has It All and he and Kate are heading out on the road for a few months to celebrate his new freedom. We know you are one Grateful Dude, Jack! Wishing safe, happy and adventurous travels to you and Kate.



### **Sunday Sweets Returns!**

After a two-year pandemic hiatus, one of our favorite traditions is back: Sunday Sweets will resume on Sunday, May 8. UUCP’s celebrated coterie of cooks will have a selection of goodies for sale after the service (first-time visitors will be given a ticket for a free treat).

After many years as Chief Chef, Hannelore Musial has passed the torch to Patti Underwood. Vielen Dank to Hannelore for her service and leadership over the years, and thanks to Patti and Michael Newcomb for getting the bakers back in business!

Celebrate Mother’s Day and indulge yourself with a slice of cake or handful of cookies from our world-class Sunday Sweets team.

### **Coming in June: The Gift Certificate Mart!**

We had such a great time (and raised over \$1,400!) with our Buy It Now experiment that we decided to do a sequel. This time the 100% on-line sale will feature gift certificates for all the services, suppers, activities, and homemade goodies we’ve come to love during our annual auctions.

This is not an auction; there is no competitive bidding. All prices are set and it’s first come, first served. Some items, like group dinners, will have a date and time established by the donor. The timing of other services, like car washes, computer help, or a batch of homemade cookies, will be negotiable between buyer and donor. (But all gift certificates will expire June 30, 2023.)

Linda Cobb is in charge of collecting contributions, so think about your particular skills and get in touch with her to donate your talent and time. The deadline for donations is Sunday, May 22. The planned date for the sale to open is June 1.

### **Resources for Sustainability—or How to Care for the Interdependent Web of All Existence of Which We Are a Part**



[This link](#) is a shared folder containing a PDF listing online stores, companies, services, and news articles related to sustainability and environmentalism as well as several screenshots of examples of how to use these resources. Resources provided by Heather Stefanescu, who co-presented the Sunday Service for Earth Day with Daniel Cobb.

(The April 24 service video will be available to watch on our YouTube channel next week after a minor technical difficulty is dealt with.)



## How do we Strive for Justice?

### The Countdown to the Nehemiah Action is on!

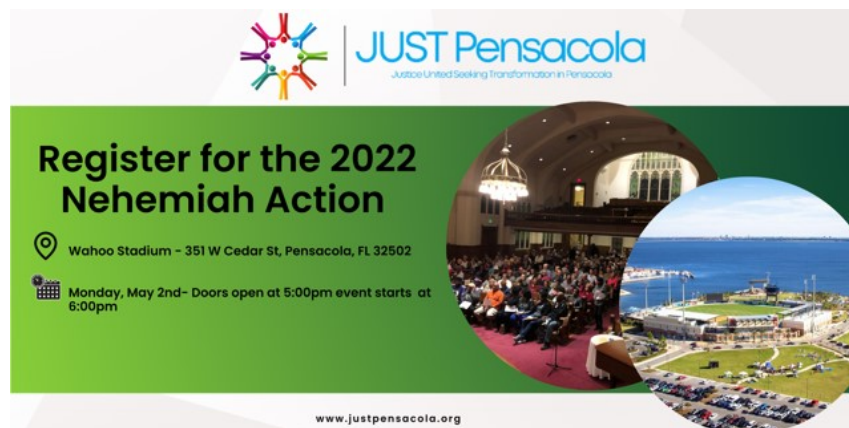


Be part of the direct action of engaging with and publicly holding our Pensacola and Escambia County officials accountable for our justice issues.

Along with over 1,200 people, our elected officials will be present. We will be taking action around the issues of affordable housing and a civil citation program.

Please join us in making justice roll down like a mighty river!

Register for the 2022 Nehemiah Action [here](#).



JUST Pensacola is currently working on two issues: Affordable Housing and Criminal Justice. Learn more [here](#).

**Save the date for [JUST Pensacola](#)**

**Monday, May 2 at 6 pm at [Wahoo Stadium](#)**

It's been 2 years since we have had a Nehemiah Action Assembly in person. **This is it, people!** Finally, we can bring out 1,200 or more people to impress our stakeholders (and the city officials who'll be there) that we mean business. We will ask our public officials to make policies and take actions that can and will make a dent in the Affordable Housing Crisis and significantly increase the use of Civil Citations. We want Pensacola to do much better and be a better place to live for all its residents.

***These are the exciting times, when we ask for justice for our community.***

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Return service requested

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[www.uupensacola.org](http://www.uupensacola.org)

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

The first Sunday of the month is Manna Sunday, but we welcome donations on any Sunday.

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**Deadline for submissions for  
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Saturday, MAY 21st**



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