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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. Please check your email, Facebook and our website for updates.

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Arnie Ondis

Membership

Lauren Anzaldo

Safer Congregation

Hugh Ed Turner

Social Justice

Paula Montgomery
Scott Satterwhite

Sunday Services

How do we build Beloved Community?

From Your Board: President's Letter

My Dear Church Community,

Here we are one quarter of the way through our church year, and yet it feels as though it's just begun. Fall (Florida style) is beginning, and the sweltering heat is over (we hope)! The Sunday Services Committee is already working on our church services for Thanksgiving week and Christmas/Hanukkah time!



Our wonderful board members and ministry teams have been busy. It makes me very happy to announce that Patti Underwood, one of our new board members, has agreed to oversee our Fun and Fellowship activities, most of which have regular volunteers, but since we are UU+++s there has been no one leader or coordinator for the entire category of activities. Instead, we have relied on whoever knows how to do things and whoever steps up. Our church is great that way! We are newly categorizing a number of things under Fun and Fellowship, including Coffee Hour (usually teamed by Michael Newcomb and Jack Comstock and whoever else pitches in), Circle Dinners (organized by Linda Cobb), The Lunch Bunch (organized by Hugh Ed Turner), the MLK Day Parade (organized by Kate Wolverton), Potluck Meals (a group to be determined ad hoc), The Readers' Group (organized by Laurie Winterberg) and the Church Campout (teamed this year by me, Denise Gunn, and Joe Vinson). We have been missing the Coffee and Conversation Time before church on Sundays, which before the pandemic was organized by our dear Rob Pallme. If you are interested in getting that going again, or have other ideas for Fun and Fellowship, please contact Patti!

Fun and Fellowship is very important to our community, and I, for one, NEVER say "That's enough fun for one day."

We have other folks who have stepped up to the plate to share their warmth, skills, and talents, too! We have two new folks joining with RE (Religious Education) to work with teens. Thank you so much to Crys Brockway and Honor Bell. The teens are going to have a rich and rewarding time!

Another new member is also sharing her talents. Charlotte Snyder, who lives in Milton and is in the landscaping business, first volunteered to work with our regular lawn person to make sure the grass is mowed regularly,

(cont. from page 1, President's Letter)

and now has volunteered to write the New Member bios for this newsletter.

So, this letter to all of you is written in great gratitude for the new members AND the old, those who know how we've always done things, so we don't have to reinvent the wheel, those who just carry on, taking responsibility and (without any fanfare and without much recognition) doing what needs to be done, and those who pitch in with brand new ideas and energy. There are those who can give a lot, and those who just bless us with their presence, or even stay in touch as best they can. We know you're out there and we all benefit from you being part of our community. Let's all remember to be grateful every day and express that gratitude whenever we can. I wish for you all a wonderful October.

In Love and Fellowship,

Laura Keith King

News from Lesley and Bob Ortiz

Says Lesley: It's nice up here. A bit chilly now with the leaves beginning to turn their reds, oranges, and yellows. Of course, that means before long the trees will be bare, and winter will begin.

Our new condo is just right: it has enough room for all that we need including Bob's "cave" and my hobby room. The location is ideal for us—only 25 minutes from the cottage. Much better than a 2 1/2 day drive! We are in the town of Springvale close to Sanford, Maine, and close to the UU church we now attend.

Our furniture and belongings have been moved to the condo, however, we continue to live in the cottage while some changes are being made. In the meantime, we unpack a few boxes when we are back at the condo to begin settling into our new home. Should be staying there soon, as in a few weeks we close this place for the winter.

Oh, I have found a couple of ladies who do needlework, so we get together every couple of weeks. It's fun. (This is in reference to a UUCP needlework group known as The Needlers, where several of us would meet every so often, first for lunch, then afterwards for needlework at a member's home. It was a wonderful group and may be a good idea for another Fun and Fellowship activity. I couldn't do needlework if my life depended on it, but they're all lovely people, and I'm very good at eating lunch and running my mouth, as many of our congregants can attest — *Ed.*)



New World Believers Little Free Library

The Little Free Library that UUCP sponsored at New World Believers center got stocked with kids' books this summer. There are so many young folks in the neighborhood and at the center that this little library is regularly cleaned out. Drop off your books at 2112 W Yonge St just off Pace Blvd. This library is a combined effort of UUCP, Humanists of West Florida, and Open Books.



CRE *** Faith Development

Enter, Rejoice and Come in!

Things are starting to happen in the children's religious exploration program. We had a soft start in September. This year we are again using the Soul Matters curriculum. October's theme this year is Courage.

We will also start Children's Chapel again this month. Children's Chapel is a time for children to become familiar with the service format in a safe space. The most important things I want them to learn are how to be themselves, to think critically and to have fun.

Sundays in October

- 10/2: Classes for Teens and Youth
- 10/9: No Class, Service for All Ages (SFAA)
- 10/16: Children's Chapel, Teens' Class
- 10/23: Classes for Teens and Youth
- 10/23: CREC's day off
- 10/30: 5th Sunday Fun and Games

ALL Together Quilt!

We will display the CRE All Together Quilt in the foyer when it is complete this month.

Sunday Mornings

Each Sunday please stop by the Children's Religious Education table in the Foyer to sign in your child for class and to find out what is going on in RE this month.

On the Sundays that classes meet the children will start with you in the service and will be sung out to class after the Time for All Ages (TFAA).



Children's Religious Education (CRE) Ministry Team

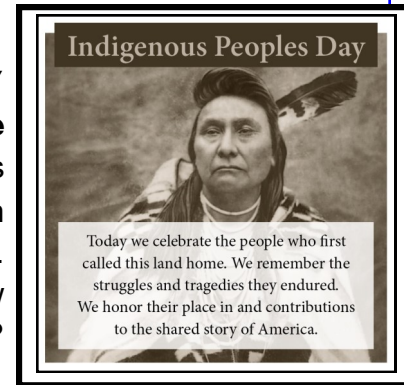
Coordinator: Sarah Stubbs Team Leader: Open

Team Members: Crys Brockway, Honor Bell, Tanya Seabrook, Bradley Vinson, Linda Cobb & Denise Gunn



Sunday Services in October 2022

October 2nd “Indigenous People’s Day: Adapting to a New World” presented by Scott Satterwhite, UUCP Member and Pres-Elect to the Board For many, the movement to recognize Indigenous People’s Day has been a long time coming. For others, these shifts in historical recognitions can be jarring and cause discomfort in a society that appears to be moving too fast. From statues to holidays, things are clearly changing. How do we learn and grow in these times of change and come to see the world from another’s perspective? These questions will be discussed as we prepare for the upcoming holidays.



How do we Celebrate Diversity?

October 9th, “COURAGE” with Barbara Wright. We welcome Barbara Wright, a relatively new member to UUCP, to present her first Service to our community. Courageous people change the world. So many examples of that this month. October’s celebration of LGBTQ+ history month reminds us of the many who bravely moved (and continue to move) our world toward greater acceptance and affirmation. The revolutionary prophet of peace, Mohandas Gandhi, was born on October 2. Our Christian friends celebrate Reformation Day and Martin Luther’s courage that changed

how we all think about religious authority. We rightly honor such giants. The problem is most of us aren’t that tall...Or are we?



October 16th “Hope When Hope is Hard to Find,” presented by Dr. Lauren Anzaldo, UUCP Member One of our beloved UU hymns, “Come, Sing a Song With Me,” contains the encouraging lines, “I’ll bring you hope when hope is hard to find, and I’ll bring a song of love and a rose in the wintertime.” During tough times personally, politically, and socially, hope can seem elusive. Lauren will share a few hopeful stories of folks who have faced tremendous adversity and from whom we might find inspiration as we encounter difficulties individually and collectively.



October 23rd “Wills: Do They Help Carry Out Our Last Wishes?” Presented by Dr. Paula Montgomery, a lifelong member of our congregation

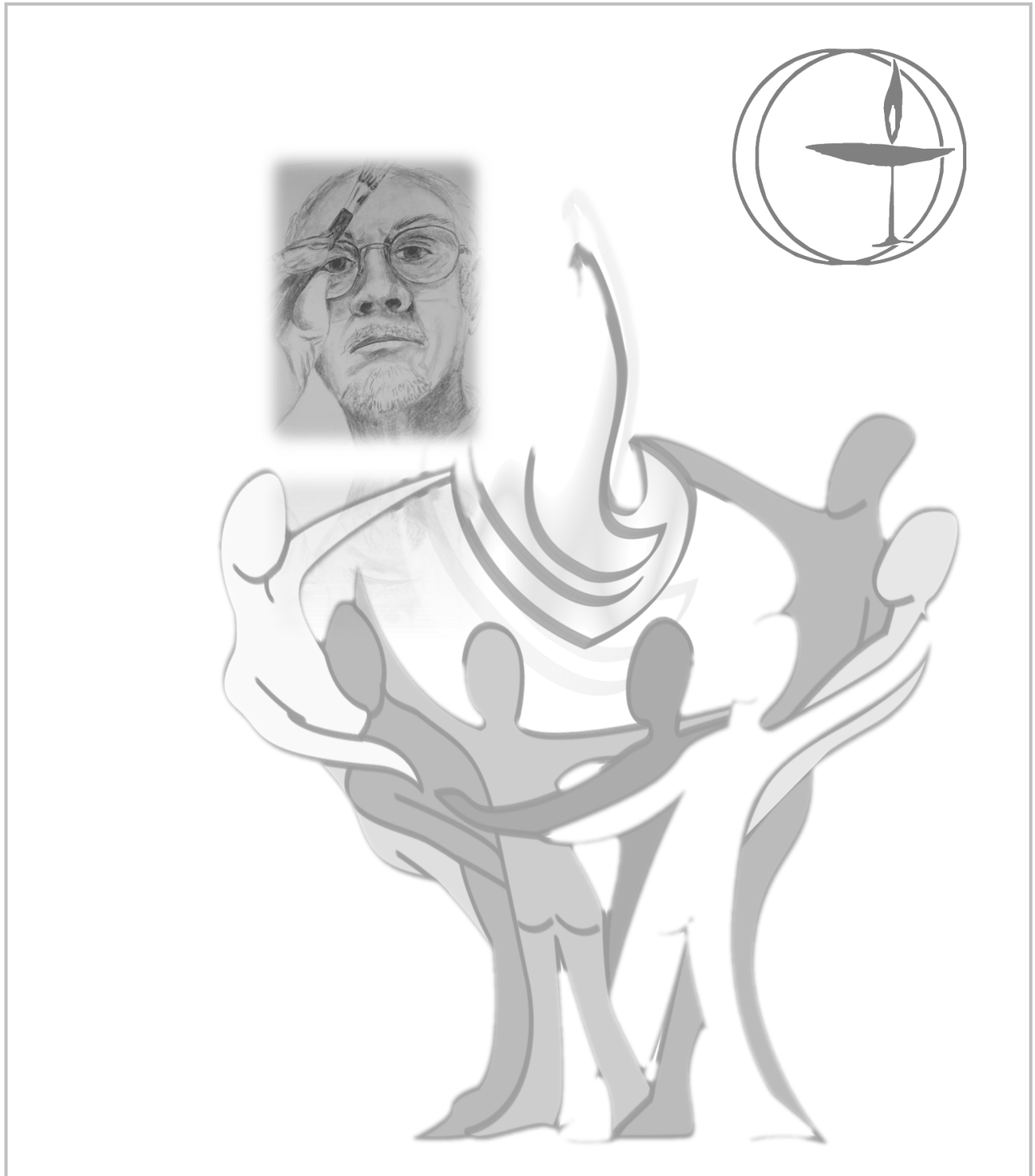
Perhaps we all want our last wishes carried out. Does a will do that for us and if so, which type of will?

A Last Will and Testament is an official document about your assets and possessions and how you want them distributed when you are gone.

A Living Will lets people know what medical treatments and procedures you would like to have if you are unable to speak for yourself.

An Ethical Will may be even more important to those you leave behind. It is a statement of the things you have learned and found valuable. It is your life’s wisdom that you hope will be meaningful to your loved ones. This statement may be given to loved ones while you are alive or read at a memorial service after you are gone.

October 30th TBA



*A Celebration of Life for Rob Pallme will be held on Saturday, October 29, 2022
at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola*

Welcome New Members

Crys Brockway (they, them, their) and Their Son James Brockway



Crys moved to Pensacola in April of 2020 when their mom became sick and needed help. They moved from Decatur, Illinois where they had lived for 10 years with their children. While they love Pensacola's beaches and wonderful weather, they have also met some of the most amazing people here!

Crys was born and raised in Rockford, Illinois where they attended Auburn High School & Rock Valley College. They started classes for their CNA, (Certified Nurse Assistant) license in their senior year of high school and went straight to work right out of high school first as a caregiver, then as a CNA when they passed the state exams at 18. Crys is currently enrolled at Fortis Institute in the RN, (Registered Nurse) program. Classes start October 3rd.

They have worked for the last 21 years as a caregiver/CNA and became interested in caregiving when their grandmother had a stroke and needed help at home. They have worked in the healthcare field in many different areas including hospital positions in ER, med/surg, and oncology, nursing homes and recovery centers, and homecare and dementia/Alzheimer's care.

Crys is currently working in homecare for Comfort Keepers as a Dementia Specialist CNA and plans to work in Dementia care when they complete their RN training. They love taking care of people and knowing that they are making a difference in others' lives. Helping and listening to those who are at their most vulnerable gives Crys purpose.

Crys has 3 sons: Eddy will be 18 on Dec 30, James (who is also a member) will be 17 on Mar 16, and Keaghan will be 13 on May 8. They have a large chosen family in the queer community and Crys considers their friends at the UUCP to be their chosen family and dearest friends.

They have many interests and hobbies. Among them are reading, writing/journaling, art, swimming, hiking, biking, photography, animal rescue, advocacy and social justice, Wiccan education, Paganism, and religious exploration.

Crys' life for the last 12 years has been an adventure. Their husband and the father of their children became addicted to drugs and overdosed in February 2010 while they were 6 months pregnant with their youngest son. This nearly impossible situation has given Crys the strength to get through the past 12 years and has made them a stronger, kinder, more compassionate, and more caring person.

They grew up in a Fundamentalist Christian family who did not live out their faith. At the young age of 14, they started exploring other religions and searching for what fit with their belief system. Six years ago, they found the UU Church of Pensacola. They were drawn to UUCP because of its inclusivity of all religions, sexual orientations, and gender identities. They were a member of the UU Fellowship of Decatur in Decatur, Illinois, and looked for a UU fellowship here in Pensacola immediately upon arrival.

They love that everyone at UUCP made them feel welcome, accepted, and included from the first moment they came in.

**New member Charlotte Snyder has kindly agreed to write New Member Welcome bios for those who joined UUCP after our long-time biographer Charlotte Crane retired. Watch for them every month!*

October – a Time to Celebrate LGBTQIA+ History



LGBTQ+ History Month is observed in October. As we situate our current moment in the greater arc of history, it may be helpful to reflect on the many accomplishments as well as challenges that mark LGBTQ+ history in our nation. One website dedicated to the LGBTQ Rights Movement in American history identified the era from 1975-2000 as the “Conservative Resurgence.” The years from 2000-2020, meanwhile, were identified as “The 21st Century Transformation” era. However, since at least 2015, there has been a new conservative resurgence that has turned back many of the achievements in LGBTQ rights that came earlier.

To us as UUs, these efforts to restrict the rights and liberties of LGBTQ+ persons present an affront to our faith and our affirmation of the inherent worth and dignity of all people. As stated by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) in regard to LGBTQ+ equity, “[W]e value diversity of sexuality and gender and see it as a spiritual gift. We create inclusive religious communities and work for LGBTQ justice and equity as a core part of who we are.” May that be true for us during the month of October and every day.

How do we Inspire Love?



Below is a brief, incomplete timeline of significant events in LGBTQ history in the last 50 years. More detail is available at <https://www.lgbtqhistory.org/lgbt-rights-timeline-in-american-history/> and <https://nsucurrent.nova.edu/2018/10/02/lgbtq-timeline/>

1977 – Anita Bryant leads campaign against Dade County, Florida, ordinance *preventing* discrimination against homosexuals, which was then repealed.

1977 – Harvey Milk, elected county supervisor in San Francisco and becomes the third “out” elected public official in the United States. Milk was assassinated on Nov. 27, 1978.

1978 (June 25) – In San Francisco, the Rainbow Flag is first flown during the Gay Freedom Parade.

1979 – National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Over 100,000 people gathered in support of gay and lesbian rights.

1979 – Chapters of the national organization of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) are founded across the United States.

1981 (June 5) – AIDS Epidemic begins.

1985 – Rock Hudson dies. He was a leading actor in many movies in the 1950s and 1960s. He died of complications related to AIDS. After his death, it was revealed that he was gay and had several male relationships.

1985 – The AIDS Quilt concept was conceived and implemented by Cleve Jones, an LGBT activist in San Francisco.

1987 – The organization, ACT UP formed in New York. The purpose of ACT UP was to impact the lives of people living with AIDS, to advocate for legislation, medical research, and treatment, and to bring an end to the disease. The organization is still active today.

1988 (Dec. 1) – The World Health Organization (WHO) declared December 1 as the first World AIDS Day.

1993 – The U.S. Congress passed, and President Bill Clinton signed “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” that allowed gay and lesbian people to serve in the military. They would not be asked their sexual orientation during enlistment screening.



1994 – Greg Louganis, four-time Olympic gold medalist and considered one of the greatest divers in history, publicly came out as gay as part of the Gay Games in New York City.

1997 – Ellen DeGeneres, a comedian, TV actor and television host, was one of the first popular entertainers who publicly came out as a lesbian.

1998 – Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old student at the University of Wyoming, was brutally attacked and tied to a fence in a field outside of Laramie, Wyo. and left to die because he was gay. He died from his wounds several days later. This was one of the most notorious anti-gay hate crimes in America and resulted in a federal law passed 10 years later in 2009 called the “Hate Crimes Prevention Act”, a federal law against bias crimes directed at lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender people.

2008 (November) – Proposition 8 passes with a 52% yes vote in California declaring that marriage is between a man and a woman.

2010 – The U.S. Congress passed, and President Barack Obama signed the repeal of “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” so that gay and lesbian people could serve openly in the military.

2013 – U.S. v. Windsor / Repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act – DOMA (Supreme Court Decision)

2015 – Obergefell v. Hodges (Supreme Court Decision): The Court voted 5-4 that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples by both the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. This decision mandated that states must allow same-sex couples to legally marry.

2016 (March) – A North Carolina bill that became known as “the bathroom bill” thrusts the state, the topic of gender-neutral bathrooms, and transgender issues into the national spotlight.

2016 (June 12) – 49 people are killed, and 53 are wounded in a shooting at Pulse, a nightclub in Orlando, FL, frequented by members of the LGBTQ+ community.

2016: There were 41 openly gay, lesbian, or bisexual athletes in the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. This is the highest amount the Olympics games have ever seen.

2016: *Moonlight* is one of the first movies from a major Hollywood studio to deal with gay romance. Set in Miami, the film is directed by Barry Jenkins, who graduated from FSU Film School in Tallahassee, FL.

2017 (July 26): President Donald Trump announces a ban on transgender people serving openly in the military, reversing a protection issued earlier by President Barack Obama in June 2016 and later reinstated by President Joe Biden after he came into office in January 2021.

2021 (October) – Admiral Rachel Levin, the first openly transgender four-star officer, is sworn in to lead the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

2022 – A historic number of anti-LGBTQ bills are passed in states and municipalities across the nation. Read detailed summaries of the bills at <https://www.them.us/story/anti-lgbtq-bills-2022-explained-trans-sports-laws-youth-healthcare-mandated-reporter>

Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola: Ministry Teams 2022- 2023

(Revised Sept. 2022)

Team Name and Members, Leader in Italics

Adult Exploration:

**Trista Blouin*

Building and Grounds:

Scott Satterwhite

Daniel Cobb

Jack Wolverton

Jay Butcher

Caring Team/Pastoral Care:

Arnie Ondis

Meals/Food Coordination: Penny Featherstone

Greeting Cards: Nadine Hubble and others (Board Members)

*Joys and Sorrows: Crys Brockway

Children's Religious Exploration (CRE):

Needs Leader

Sarah Stubbs (Coordinator: Paid Position, 10 hours per week)

Linda Cobb

Denise Gunn

Bradley Vinson

Crys Brockway

Honor Bell

Communications and Publicity

Erin Renfroe, Leader

Website: Erin Renfroe

YouTube Channel: Erin Renfroe

Facebook page (public): Lauren Anzaldo

Facebook page (In Our Greater CommUnity – closed group): Erin Renfroe

CRE Facebook page (closed group): Sarah Stubbs

Weekly Email: Terra Shute

The Light: Terra Shute and Linda Cobb

Member News Column: ?

*New Member Profiles: Charlotte Snyder

Denominational Affairs: Laura Keith King

Finance:

Laurie Winterberg, Leader

Bradley Vinson, Treasurer

Georgianna Bryant

Linda Cobb

Jack Comstock

Patti Underwood

Erin Renfroe

Board Liaison

Marianne DeGrado

Scott Satterwhite

Arnie Ondis

Bradley Vinson

Joe Vinson

Bradley Vinson

Team Name and Members, Leader in Italics**Board Liaison****Fun and Fellowship Team:**

Patti Underwood

Patti Underwood: Leader**Campout:** Denise Gunn, Laura Keith King, Joe Vinson**Circle Dinners:** Linda Cobb**Coffee Hour:** Currently Jack Comstock and Michael Newcomb**Coffee and Conversation:** Vacant**Lunch Bunch:** Hugh Ed Turner***MLK Parade:** Kate Wolverton**Potlucks: ?****Sunday Sweets:** Patti Underwood**Leadership Development Team (1–Year Terms)**

Arnie Ondis

Arnie Ondis, (Past President)

Lauren Anzaldo (Membership)

Trista Blouin

Penny Featherstone

Membership Team:

Scott Satterwhite

*Lauren Anzaldo

*New Member Profiles: Charlotte Snyder

Safer Congregation Team:

Denise Gunn

Hugh Ed: Leader

Leslie Grill

Denise Gunn

Marcy Moreland

Jean Siebenaler

Jack Wolverton

Social Justice:

Scott Satterwhite

Paula Montgomery, Co-LeaderScott Satterwhite, Co-Leader***MLK Parade:** Kate Wolverton**JUST Pensacola:** Paula**5TH Sunday Offering:** Paula**Sunday Services and Music:**

Laura Keith King

Nancy Hagman, Leader

Dolly Berthelot

Laura Keith King

Paula Montgomery

Sarah Stubbs

Marybeth Ramsey

Barbara Wright

*Crys Brockway: Joys and Sorrows

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UUCP FALL YARD SALE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21st & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22nd

Many of you have asked “WHEN” is the next Yard Sale? It is finally happening in October!!! Do your “Cleaning Out” NOW while the heat index is too high to be outside. Don’t wait until the week of the sale as we won’t have time to get your items priced and hence these items will go unsold.

1. **Bring items to the church beginning Sunday, October 2nd (not before please) or arrange to bring your items with someone who has a church key during the week.** Remember we don’t currently have an Office Administrator presence at the church during the week. Kitchen items, linens, toys, children’s books, outdoor items, furniture, electronics, shoes, purses, hats, knickknacks, tools, jewelry, pictures, collectibles, appliances, gardening supplies, and pet items are all good sellers. Items can be placed in the back hallway away from the exit doors. Putting items in **stackable boxes** would be a “big help.”
2. Bring us your **portable folding tables by Sunday, October 16th.** Be sure your name is underneath the tabletop. Tables can be picked up on Sunday, October 23rd. We always need more display tables!
3. Because there are so many tasks associated with planning and coordinating our Yard Sales, we are asking that you make arrangements with other church members/friends to pick up and deliver your large or heavy items to the church ahead of the sale. We need these items no later than **Sunday, October 16th** or **Monday, October 17th** to include them in the sale. Thanks for understanding.
4. Plan to **stay after church Sunday, October 16th** to help with initial set up. Help is needed to set up some long tables and to bring items from storage to the church foyer. Just an hour would help a lot.
5. Volunteer to help with set up and pricing of items on **Monday, October 17th, Tuesday, October 18th, and Wednesday, October 19th beginning at 9:00 a.m.** (until about 4:00 p.m.) –any shift during these times will be appreciated. Contact Linda Cobb with days/times you can help. A sandwich lunch will be provided. Other food donations appreciated. We need lots of helpers just to organize items so they will sell better. No expertise required. Remember volunteer helpers find the “early bargains.” We may also work **Thursday, October 20th** if not done on Wednesday.
6. Volunteer to help with the actual sale on **Friday, Oct. 21st and Saturday, October 22nd.** Any shift you can work between 7:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. would be great. Help will be needed on Saturday after the sale to help organize remaining items for “freecycle” for our members on Sunday. On Sunday help would be appreciated to get everything boxed up with remaining items for donation to charity on Monday.

Any and all assistance is GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!

Linda Cobb & Georgianna Bryant, UUCP Yard Sale Coordinators

Please contact them using their information in Simple Church or by calling a friend.

If you don’t have access to Simple Church you may call the Office at 850-475-9077 and leave a message with your name and number for them to call you, or email the Office at uupensacola@gmail.com and your email will be forwarded to them both. Thanks!

What's Up at UUCP?

Board Meeting Oct 5th

UUCP's monthly Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 5pm. In October the meeting will be on October 5th.

Sunday Sweets Oct 9th from 11am to 12pm

...will normally be held on the second Sunday of every month. Pro tip: Get in line after the service; don't delay. These mouth-watering home-baked goodies go fast! The bakers each decide what they'd like to make for us and we're happy to report there is, of course, lots of cake involved.

Zoom Readers' Groups Oct 10th

These Zoom groups will meet on the 2nd Monday of the month beginning at 10 am. The login information will be sent out to all UUCP Members & Friends a few days prior to the meeting.

What makes this group a bit different is that there are NO books you are required to read. Participants share their recommendations and thoughts about the books they've read and enjoyed (or didn't).

The next meeting will be **October 10**. There's no RSVP or registration—just click on the provided Zoom link and you're in. All sessions begin at 10 am and last approximately 1 hour. Questions or more information—contact Laurie Winterberg.

2nd Wednesday Lunch Bunch on October 12th

Congratulations Lunch Bunchers...

I asked for a table of 12, and sure 'nuf, 11 showed up as anticipated at Cactus Flower, 12th Ave; though the server wanted to put everyone on the same ticket for ease of billing, there were no volunteers (to pick up the tab). It did seem however, that all were appreciative of the Cal-Mex flavors and presentation. (I enjoyed my second half on Sunday night.)

Perhaps you saw the page 3 article on Zaytouna's (means butter in Arabic?) in the Sunday PNJ. I managed to locate it this morning (440 East Chase), the first block east of 9th, between Chase and Gregory (both one way). Z's is in the east end of the one-story building (with Fusion Fine Wines in the west end, perhaps a 2-story shop). Z has one of those "fast" signs, white canvass tied up across the front above the front windows, a bit obscured by trees at the east end of the building. The online menu is a bit difficult to dig out, but it's there, prices a buck or two over Cactus Flower, but then it is the downtown tourist district. As usual, 1:00 PM (1300), and ask for two tables if you're the first one there - they're small 4-seaters. We may need more. (HOWEVER, I'll only know before the 12th IF YOU let me know.)

From the look of it, and the waiter who chuckled when asked if they take reservations (NO!), I'll be in hopes that by the second Wednesday of October, the 12th, they'll still be in business, and we'll be part of the "early crowd" of a successful operation, or we'll be among the last customers of a brave effort by Mr. Mazin Mustafa. ... Bon Appetit.

What's Up at UUCP?

2nd Hour: Sunday, October 16, 11:30 Long Strange Trip—UU History

For our 2nd Hour on Oct 16th after the Sunday service, join us for the first installment of *Long Strange Trip - a journey through two thousand years of Unitarian Universalist history: In the Beginning*. Part I examines the roots of religious thought prior to the Reformation, including heretics such as Jan Hus and concludes with the life of Michael Servetus. UUCP Community Minister Rev. Maggie Lovins facilitates.

UUCP Family Campout, October 14-16!

We have a new location and a date for our Annual (or semi-annual) UUCP Campout! There hasn't been a campout since 2019, and many of us have fond memories of great times and miss it. Joe Vinson suggested his parent's property in Century, which is a lovely place with lots of space, and lovely water features. It's close enough to Pensacola that it's quite feasible for people to just come for some of the activities, even if they don't want to camp out. There is even a cabin with a few beds available for some of us who are just not able to sleep in a tent. A committee [has been] organized to plan the activities. It will happen October 14, 15th and 16th, so put it on your calendar, NOW! For questions, contact Laura Keith King or Joe Vinson.

Save Lives!

Save Blood—Save the Date Sunday, October 30th

What a perfect day for a blood drive! One Blood Mobile Unit will be at UUCP, 9 am to 2:30 pm, and you're invited to donate blood and help save up to 3 lives.

Donors can be as young as 16 years with permission from a parent or guardian and there is no upper age limit. Please sign up on any Sunday in October in the lobby. One Blood would like a commitment of at least 10 donors. Our goal is at least 18 donors. Thanks for being generous! Contact Penny Featherstone with questions (or to sign up by phone after October 16th).

Trunk or Treat! Sunday, October 30th

Calling all goblins, ghosts and ghouls. Dress in your favorite costume and join us for fun and treats after our church service.

Invite your friends. Watch out for vampires since we are also having a blood drive that day. You are welcome to decorate your trunk to provide for our kids. Child care will be provided. For more details and/or to volunteer contact Crys Brockway.

What UUCP Folks Read During the Summer

If you had given some consideration to attending the September Readers' Group, but couldn't make it, or even if you didn't consider it at all, but reading is something you enjoy—you can see from the listing of recommended reads below, that in just an hour, we were able to share so many fabulous, recommended reads and authors!

We readers wanted to share some of our recent reads with you (in no particular order).

Enjoy!

Kara and the Sun – by Kazo Ishiguru

The Storied Life of A J Fikry – by Gabrielle Zevin

The Rose Code – by Kate Quinn

Revenge in a Cold River – by Anne Perry

Sing Unburied Sing – by Jesmyn Ward

Midnight Library – by Matt Haig

Black Cake – by Charmaine Wilkerson

The Last Flight – by Julie Clark

A Lesson Before Dying - by Ernest Gaines

What's the "T" – A Guide to All Things Trans - by Juno Dawson

The German Wife – by Kelly Rimmer

The Sweetness of Water – by Nathan Harris

And authors – Anything by:

Anthony Horowitz

Terry Pratchett

Douglas Adams

Louise Penny

Carol Drinkwater

Our October group will meet via Zoom on Monday, October 10 at 10 am. Login info is emailed to all UUCPers via our Simple Church system about 24 hours before the meeting.

A Note from Thom Botsford:

‘I am boycotting the UUA—but not the UUCP’

Fellow members and friends, I did not renew my membership in the Unitarian Universalist Association this spring because of the way our denomination has treated dissenting voices over the past few years. The case of the Rev. Todd F. Eklof of the Spokane UU Church is especially troubling.

It has taken a while for me to run down pertinent details, but our denomination basically “excommunicated” a heretic despite its commitment to “the free and responsible search for truth and meaning” (Fourth Principle) and the right of conscience (Fifth Principle).

Eklof, the minister of a church historically committed to religious humanism, was shocked when he was upbraided for distributing a book critical of the UUA:

“It is difficult to imagine that [more than 125 years after the Spokane church’s founding] I would be excommunicated from the community of Unitarian Universalist ministers for writing and freely distributing a book of dissenting essays at the UUA’s 2019 General Assembly,” he wrote.

“Although I expected some backlash, given that such backlash was essentially what I was writing about, I could not have imagined how explosive my little book [*The Gadfly Papers*] would become only a few short hours after I began giving it away to members of this venerable tradition, the most liberal religion in human history, who barely had time to read past its cover.”

Eklof managed to hand out fewer than 200 of the 750 copies he had planned to give away before being confronted by five members of the UUA Assembly’s so-called Right Relations Team. Before the day was over, he had been expelled from the assembly.

“During the following twelve months,” he noted, “I would be publicly condemned by hundreds of my colleagues, fired without cause or explanation as an adjunct professor at Meadville-Lombard Theological school, censured by the UU Ministers’ Association, learn that top leaders in the UUA had conspired with some in my own congregation to help remove me from my post, and, finally, have my professional credentials removed by the UUA’s Ministerial Fellowship Community—excommunicated from the professional community of my peers....”

I know some of you will wonder about my motivation and have some questions:

What does all this have to do with me? Why be so concerned about an issue that has no immediate impact on this church?

(cont. on page 16)

(cont. from page 15)

First, I have studied *The Gadfly Papers*, *The Gadfly Affair*, and two other recent books critical of the UUA. I know there is nothing in any of these books that is outrageous, obscene, or libelous. Anyone who feels “hurt” after reading them misunderstands the nature of political and academic discourse and may try to shut down discussion and debate. When that happens, we cut short the search for truth and meaning, violating our own Fourth Principle.

Second, I could have easily written a book like *The Gadfly Papers* myself. Because I am an old white man (whose sexual orientation may not be obvious), I can see myself in Eklof’s place. What happened to him might have happened to me.

Third, I do not want to support financially those who trample on free speech and reasoned discourse. What controversial issue will be the next target of censors? Proud and “woke,” the UUA thinks it has done nothing wrong. It surely has not apologized to Eklof or even admitted that it effectively banished him for writing a book the UUA leadership resented.

There is a lot more to this controversy, including disagreements over our denomination’s “self-confessed” White Supremacy Culture. For more details, follow this link for a copy of the talk I gave at the Fairhope UU Fellowship on Aug. 28: <https://uupensacola.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/A-New-Dogma-Four-Critical-Books.pdf>

Fortunately, our own church welcomes nonmembers, including longtime friends. I plan to attend, participate as usual, and maintain my financial commitment. I love this little church. See you soon!

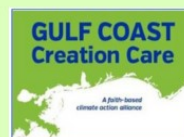
- Thom



From Resilience to Restoration



UU Justice Florida is in a coalition effort called *From Resilience to Restoration: Leveraging Houses of Faith to Move the Gulf South*. We invite you to consider how a network that connects us can strengthen us as we respond to our current climate change and social challenges. We are coming together to create a vision of how we can increase resilience and work for social, ecological and ecumenical restoration.



We need your input so the Gulf South states, including our Florida communities, can become more resilient and move towards ecological restoration and social improvement. When we all work together we will achieve great things, so please fill out the survey at the link below.

This message was supported by the Gulf Research Program of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine under award number 200013216.

Take the Survey

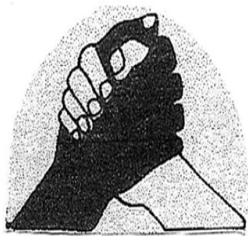


UUMUAC

Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council

1448 E. 52nd St., Box 267, Chicago, IL 60615

uumuac@gmail.com www.uumuac.org



"For the Unity of the Light and
Dark Skinned People Of The World."

Call to Action—October 28 – October 30, 2022

**The Michael Servetus/InterNational Conference Against Racism
(MS/INCAR)**

Theme: The vital role which Multiracial Unitarian Universalism as an embodiment of the Seven Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, especially the Fourth Principle, can play in the struggle against racism in all its forms from Afghanistan to Zambia.

We do this, in part, by commemorating the life, theology, and martyrdom of one of the ancestors of UUMUAC, Brother Michael Servetus. We do this mainly by inviting members and friends of UUMUAC from around the world to take part in this event. Plus, all others interested in our Multiracial Unitarian Universalist approach to the struggle against racist ideologies in all their forms, especially reaching out to our non-American participants.

It is time to make Multiracial Unitarian Universalism an international force, along with others committed to multiracial unity, multicultural synergy, and international solidarity. We have a world to win.

To learn more about the conference, click [here](#).



703-608-3178 kaeli@justpensacola.org 511 Woodland Dr. Pensacola, FL 32503

J.U.S.T. Pensacola In-Church House Meeting

With our UU commitment still strong in the vote we took to support JUST Pensacola, it is time for house meetings again. In case you are not familiar, these are small meetings held to compare notes on what is going on in our community that needs to be addressed for the sake of justice. What is it that keeps you awake or makes you boiling mad that we need to change as a community? We collect comments and stories from those of us in our church community and pass them along to the other 18 congregations in JUST Pensacola. Then we all come together in a very large meeting to discuss the problems and select a justice issue for the group to study and address.

For more information about JUST Pensacola, you can go online and look up our [web site](#). Or ask Paula M, Penny F, Lauren A, Honor B, or Nancy H. We all know what this organization is and its great potential to do meaningful service in our community.

After the service on October 2nd, we will meet in our initial house meeting. It will take about an hour. We will have sandwiches and lemonade (donations are welcome). We'll share stories about what keeps us awake at night. We have several qualified house meeting leaders, so if the group is too large, we can split up into smaller groups. If you cannot make it on October 2nd, there will be a couple of house meetings later on that you can be included in.

Be thinking about where and how you want to see justice done. Please remember to be sure to set aside October 2nd at Second Hour, 11:30am after the Sunday Service.

Paula Montgomery

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Return service requested

uupensacola@gmail.com
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>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

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

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**Deadline for submissions for
NOVEMBER LIGHT:
Friday, OCTOBER 21st**







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