

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

# The Light

Vol. 66 Issue 1 January 2023



*Celebrate Diversity Strive for Justice Inspire Love*

## How do we build Beloved Community?

### From Your Board: President's Letter

Well, hello again, to my Beloved Church Family,

Yes, it's true that I feel that way. I do think of you as family and am so happy to have all of you in my life.

As I write this during the week before Christmas, I feel like my head is spinning a little with all that has been going on. In addition to the usual holiday preparations, which would keep me busy enough, there have been many things going on in our congregation and with our church building.

During the last month we've had some changes in our Children's Religious Education team, which you will have read about in one of our weekly emails. We are also working on hiring a new Office Administrator who will be working in the office rather than remotely. Terra has done such a great job, and we love her dearly, but the Board and Communications team, as well as Terra herself, feel it will solve some current logistical problems if we have someone who works in the office IN the building. Since Terra moved up to Tennessee, she has been a very positive, competent, and reliable remote worker, and together we'd planned from the beginning that working remotely was a temporary situation. Fortunately, the timing for a change is serendipitous because Terra is ready to work fewer hours so that she can have more time with family and pursue a new volunteer opportunity. We expect to have a new Office Administrator on board sometime early in February, and Terra will begin a less time-consuming job, that of spoiling another family's pets! We will miss her very much!



We've also had some building issues, namely the unlawful clearing of the property next to the church, which encroached on OUR property, and a recent insurance inspection revealing a few smaller issues, plus the larger issue of a potentially faulty electrical panels and panel components. And despite multiple calls and visits to our phone provider, we have had no luck restoring phone service to the building, although we can still leave and retrieve voicemail messages. Thank

## DIRECTORY

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Pensacola, FL 32534  
(850) 475-9077  
uupensacola@gmail.com

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

### Office Admin/Editor:

Terra Shute

### Community Minister:

Rev. Maggie Lovins

### Governing Board

President: Laura Keith King

President-Elect: Scott Satterwhite

Past President: Arnie Ondis

Secretary: Denise Gunn

Treasurer: Bradley Vinson

Members at Large:

Joe Vinson

Patti Underwood

Marianne DeGrado

## MINISTRY TEAMS

**Adult Exploration:** Trista Blouin

**Buildings & Grounds:** Hugh Ed Turner

**Communications:** Erin Renfro

**Denominational Affairs:** Laura Keith King

**Finance:** Laurie Winterberg

**Fun and Fellowship:** Pattie Underwood

**Leadership Development:** Arnie Ondis

**Membership:** Lauren Anzaldo

**Safer Congregation:** Hugh Ed Turner

**Social Justice:**

Paula Montgomery & Scott Satterwhite

**Sunday Services:** Nancy Hagman

goodness for mobile phones!

So, these are all issues we've been working on with Hugh Ed and the rest of the Building and Grounds Committee.

AND we're working on some much more positive things...By the time you read this, the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will have come and gone, and we'll be back to our Sunday Services offered both in person and on YouTube (thanks to Erin!). In addition, we continue to get ready for our first (maybe annual) Light the Darkness Music Festival, from 2:00 to 8:00 PM on January 14th, closely followed by the MLK Day Parade on the 16th!

There are also some intriguing Second Hour presentations in the works, so watch your calendar and stay in touch!

Happy New Year!

In Love and Fellowship,

*Laura Keith King*

## Back again post Covid: Circle Dinners!

### An adult dinner group

Do you want to get to know other UUs? How about some adult conversation or a stimulating evening out? Circle Dinners are your answer. This fun UUCP tradition provides a great opportunity to meet and get to know your fellow UUs.

Circle Dinners begin with a "Meet & Greet" in January followed by dinners in February, March, and April. Participants will have an opportunity one month to host and provide a main dish. Others guests provide salad/vegetables or dessert/bread. The host will decide on a convenient date by conferring with those assigned. The six assigned people will provide the side dishes, and the host may invite two new UU

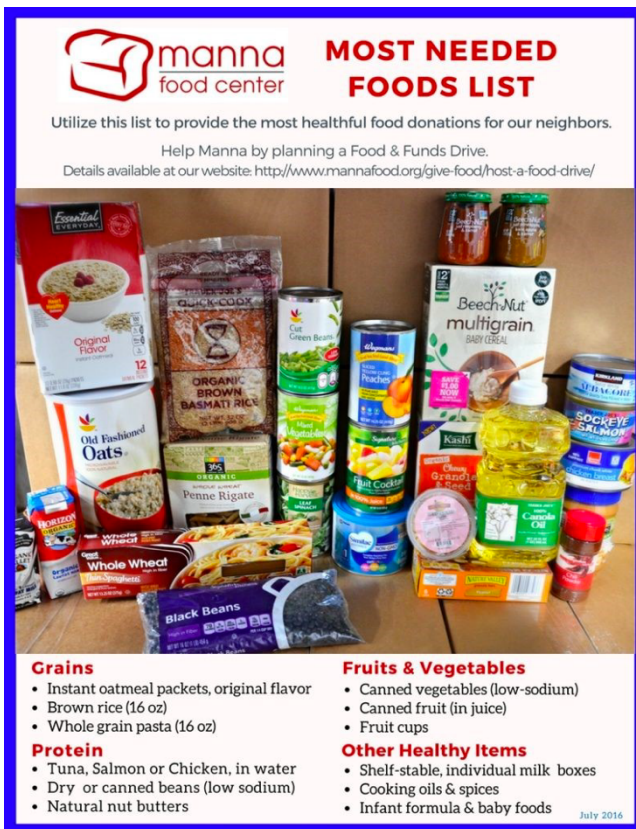
members or others from the church they would like to get to know better. This means there could be six, eight or more adults participating.

Singles as well as couples are encouraged to join. Substitutes are always needed. Should you be interested in participating – as a regular or a substitute – please specify on the sign-up sheet which can be found in the foyer of the church. Please indicate if you would like to host a dinner at your house, have dietary needs, or have other relevant information to share.

Any questions or to sign-up, contact Linda Cobb.

### From the UUCP Governing Board:

After several years of service, Sarah Stubbs has resigned her position as the Children’s Religious Education (CRE) Coordinator, and we wish her the best in her future endeavors. The CRE program will be volunteer-led for the immediate future, and if anyone would like information about the CRE program, please contact Laura Keith King, Board President.



**manna**  
food center

**MOST NEEDED FOODS LIST**

Utilize this list to provide the most helpful 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/>

**Grains**

- Instant oatmeal packets, original flavor
- Brown rice (16 oz)
- Whole grain pasta (16 oz)

**Protein**

- Tuna, Salmon or Chicken, in water
- Dry or canned beans (low sodium)
- Natural nut butters

**Fruits & Vegetables**

- Canned vegetables (low-sodium)
- Canned fruit (in juice)
- Fruit cups

**Other Healthy Items**

- Shelf-stable, individual milk boxes
- Cooking oils & spices
- Infant formula & baby foods

July 2016

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

### Who Does UUCP’s Lawn Service?

**Give Samuel Sample a call**

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Lawn Care  
Sprinkler Repair  
Pavers  
...and more!**



**SAMUEL SAMPLE**  
**850-483-9639**  
2921 N Blue Angel 32506

## Sunday Services in January

**January 1, 2023:** *Some Old Blues for a New Year: The Return of Steve Gunter.*

Veteran Bluesman Steve Gunter will be joined by Thom Botsford and Jack Wolverton to ring in the New Year in style. He'll be playing a variety of classic blues, including the bewitching Delta blues of Robert Johnson.

**January 8, 2023:** *Lost Pensacola, Part I*

Joe Vinson, UUCP member, will present his capstone project for his Master's Degree in Public History. Joe will walk us through the histories of six lost Pensacola landmarks that he recreated as vintage-style posters, including the Panton Leslie trading post, Fort McRee, and the old Opera House.



**January 15, 2023:** *Great Peacemakers Series, Part I*

Martin Luther King (MLK) is a well-known icon advocating for Peace. But who influenced him and whom did he influence? Brazilian musician Anderson Sa may not be a household name; however, his influence 10 years after MLK's death has impacted many youth around the world.

Introduced by Nancy Hagman, UUCP member. This Series was offered and designed by Marla Loturco from the Red River UU Congregation.

**January 22, 2023:** *Lost Pensacola, Part II*

Joe Vinson, UUCP member, will continue his walk through the histories of another six lost Pensacola landmarks that he recreated as vintage-style posters, including the San Carlos Hotel, the Spearman Brewery, and the Spanish Village.

**January 29, 2023:** *I Will Do My Best: Service to Community*

Service to our community has an impact beyond the work being done or the person doing it. This Sunday Service presented by UUCP Members Scott Satterwhite and Dr. Lauren Anzaldo will focus on community service, including the service done through youth scouting organizations. The service will include a Fifth Sunday collection to benefit the Eagle Scout project of our own Desmond Anzaldo-Satterwhite, who plans to repaint and refresh our church parking lots and driveways. During this service, we will also hold a New Member Welcome Ceremony.





**Saturday, January 14,  
2023, from 2:00pm to  
8:00pm**

**Featuring: Pianist Chris  
Saunders, singer Tori Lucia,  
and Infusion**

A popular pianist, a new  
young singer, and a smooth  
jazz band will perform at the  
first Light the Dark-ness

Music Festival at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola, 9888 Pensacola Blvd.

Pianist Chris Saunders will open the festival at 2 p.m. Originally from Wales, Saunders has played in the U.S. and around the world, often in New Orleans and Nashville, including a stint with famous New Orleans trumpeter Al Hirt, and a tour through Australia with Chuck Berry. His repertoire covers Dixieland jazz, rock, pop and cabaret styles.

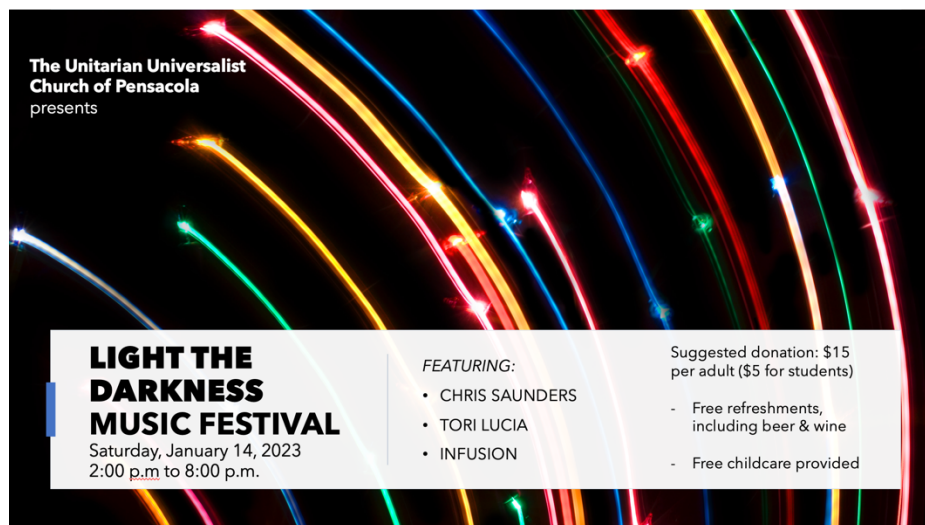
At 4 p.m. the six-piece band Infusion will take the stage, specializing in the jazz-pop-rock fusion of the 1970s and '80s: think Steely Dan, Sade, Average White Band, Boz Scaggs and Chicago. Members of Infusion are vocalist Resia Williams; Jim Armstrong, guitar; Thom Botsford, tenor sax; Walt Kattner, bass; and Jack Wolverton, drums.

Singer Tori Lucia will conclude the festival with a performance at 7pm. Tori is a student from Pensacola. Beyond singing, she is also a violinist, and plays piano and guitar. Recently, she released an album, "Tori Lucia & the Nitty Gritties," with her band of the same name performing their original music at local venues and music festivals.

There will be other short performances by select UUCP choir members, and some surprise art and music activities. "We have hosted some great music in past years, and this time we're putting it all together into one fabulous event with something for everyone," said Laura Keith King, President of the UUCP Board.

A donation of \$15 is suggested for admission, \$5 for students. Refreshments, including beer and wine will be available at no charge and free childcare will be provided.

Members and Friends, please help make the **Light the Darkness Music Festival** a ringing success! We are asking everyone to participate by bringing appetizers and snacks to share. Since we will also be offering the lifting of spirits of other sorts than musical, we are putting out a plea for soft drinks, wine and beer donations. These you can just place in the kitchen at any time. Please let Patti Underwood know what foods you're planning to bring so we have an idea if we need to fill any gaps. Thanks for making the winter doldrums a bit brighter!



## How do we Celebrate Diversity?

UUCP will participate in the 34th anniversary of the  
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade on Monday, January 16, 2023  
*Will you join us?*

UUCP has been participating in the MLK Parade since its beginning. The parade is back on again after a 2-year hiatus. We've won awards for our floats and our music, and you can see our trophies in the library!

This year the theme is "What is your life's blueprint?" From a speech he gave young students in



Philadelphia, MLK said each person should have a life blueprint including three things:

- \* A deep belief in their own worth and dignity,
- \* A determination to achieve excellence in all endeavors,
- \* A commitment to the eternal principals of beauty, love and justice.

I have been attending the MLK Parade nearly every year since my husband Jack and I, and our two boys (7 and 10 years old) moved to Pensacola in 2000. The first parade was awe-inspiring, sharing the experience in a large crowd of people celebrating MLK. Angie Ott, a former member who also orchestrated the painting of the Rainforest Room, made huge papier mâché puppets with white and black skin tones. Three people were required to operate each: one person holding the big head-and-arms framework with a nylon cloak, and one person at each of the arms. We walked, danced, and even had the crowd 'give the puppets five' with their VERY BIG hands! One year it was so windy we were staggering down the parade route! Eventually we retired the big puppets when they were so battered, they started looking scary.

One year we created a Peace Dove with sheets and chicken wire. (We had to retire it early when it tore in the wind).

### Please Join Us:

January 8th, after the service to turn the trailer into a float (carpentry and building)

January 15th, after the service to decorate the trailer/ float

Monday, January 16th around 10:00am (to be announced). The location is typically near Spring St., south of Garden St. This will also be confirmed.

Rev. Maggie Lovins introduced handing out our handmade tissue paper flowers to which we attached quotes by Rev. Dr. King and information about our church. We focused on gifting elder women a flower. The practice of making and gifting flowers is special to me and fills me with feelings of love and community.

We almost always have hand drummers on our floats, providing a rhythm as we proceed. We throw beads, candy and toys to the people watching, carry signs and banners, and most of all, share our common goals and make connections.

I love that Pensacola continues to honor Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King with a parade and I am so glad we can honor him by being part of it!

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## What's UUp at UUCP?

### Thank You UUCP, for Helping Unhoused Youth

UUCP delivered more than two dozen blankets and at least 50 individual hygiene items to Children's Home Society (CHS) for distribution to homeless and runaway youth this winter. These young people are served by CHS in their Street Solutions youth outreach program. "We are so grateful for the donations," said CHS program manager Kelli Foster. "They will serve many youth in our program." UUCP has previously collected toilet paper, paper towels, blankets, and coats for the young men and women in the Street Solutions program.

### Board Meeting January 4th at 5:30

UUCP's monthly Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 5pm. In January the meeting will be on the 4th.

### Sunday Sweets January 8th from 11am to 12pm

Sunday Sweets is usually 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 that there are, of course, lots of cake and cookies involved. See the Thursday Weekly Email for the full schedule.

### Please Help Clean Up at UUCP

With all of the activity at church lately, some clutter has accumulated, and we need to do some cleaning up. Have you left anything at church that you need to reunite with? Maybe you dropped off something for someone who never picked it up, or maybe your item was used for an event at church and now just needs to be taken home. There will be a collection of items in the library that we are asking folks to take a look at and to claim. A clean-up day is being planned **after the Sunday Service**

on **January 8**, in conjunction with the holiday **Un-Deck the Halls** event. Anything remaining at the church on that day will be donated to a thrift store or to a future UUCP yard sale.

### Lunch Bunch

Dear Lunch Bunch habitués and 2023 "wannabees:"

Just to remind you, the first Lunch Bunch of 2023 will be our usual 2nd Wednesday of January, the 11th, at (not heretofore visited as a group), McGuire's. Someone, including me, will be in line by 12:45pm to register our interest in seating for ("X" number) - just let us know if you plan to attend. Please let me know by Sunday 8th January so that I can spread the total number of potential attendees to the whole group so that the first UU in line can accurately inform the McGuire table/gate responsible person. Please contact my usual phone or email address, or on Sunday the 8th at UUCP.

... Happy New Year, etc., Hugh T.



## UUCP Partners with J.U.S.T. Pensacola

We know through our work in JUST Pensacola that there are families and individuals all throughout our county that are facing difficult circumstances and are also being denied help in their moment of need. For example, we know from our house meetings that:

- Seniors are choosing between medicine, food, and paying rent.
- Young families are moving back home with their parents because they can't afford housing.
- Mothers are being forced into homelessness and living in their cars with their children.
- Families are living together in small houses to split the bills...

... and so much more.

We also know that both adults and children continue to be arrested unnecessarily for non-violent

misdemeanors. These arrest records make it harder, if not impossible, for people to get certain jobs, go to certain schools, qualify for housing and more. Our community is in the middle of an affordable rental housing crisis. The

solution we are proposing would create thousands of affordable homes for our neighbors. Join us for our Building the Heat Workshop to learn not only about our solution, but how we want to win it.



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



# J.U.S.T. PENSACOLA

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING (AH) / CIVIL CITATIONS (CJ) RESEARCH DON'T MISS THESE OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS!

Upcoming meetings with city officials:

AH: Mayor DC Reeves:  
Wednesday, January 11,  
2023, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

CJ: Chief of Staff Keisha  
Mulford: Adult Civil  
Citation Program in the  
Ninth Judicial Circuit: -  
January 13, 2023, 9:00 –  
11:00 am via Zoom

Want to get more involved in issue work?

Both the criminal justice research committee and affordable housing committee are still hard at work pushing for the answers to refine our solutions. If you would like to join research meetings or be kept up to date, please click the button below to be added to the research email list.

JUST Pensacola members have already met with the following city officials:

- AH: City Council Member Bare: Thursday, December 15
- AH: Council Member Wiggins: Tuesday, December 20
- CJ: Police Chief Randall: Thursday, December 22

Please register for any meetings you want to attend at [www.justpensacola.org](http://www.justpensacola.org); this will help us keep you updated if there is a change in the date, time or venue of the meeting. Knowing how many people plan on attending also helps us know the size of the meeting area we'll need to request. Thank you!

JUST Pensacola Invites you to join us for the

# BUILDING THE HEAT WORKSHOP

**Affordable Rental Housing: We know the solution, now let's win it**

When: Monday, January 9th, 2023 from 6:00 PM – 8:00 pm

Where: First United Methodist Church

In collaboration with:

## COMMUNITY CHANGE

For those of you that are new to the research aspect of the process that JUST Pensacola follows, we spend 5-6 months researching the injustices to fully understand the issues and identify viable solutions to help resolve the problems. Before our meetings with city officials, we generally have a pre-meeting for an hour to be certain we're on the same page regarding the meeting ahead. In this session, the spokesperson practices and reviews questions, we make sure we are of one accord and strategize talking points in case extra support is needed.

**The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola**  
**9888 Pensacola Boulevard**  
**Pensacola, FL 32534**

TO:

Deadline for the February *Light*:

Saturday, January 21

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