

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

# The Light

Vol. 67 Issue 10 October 2024



**Celebrate Diversity**   **Strive for Justice**   **Inspire Love**

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## A Breath of Crisp New Air...

### From Your Board: President's Letter

Dear UUCP congregation,

As the vibrant colors of autumn begin to touch our surroundings here in Florida, we are reminded of the beauty that comes with change. While our seasons may not be as pronounced as in other parts of the country, the shorter days and crisper air invite us to reflect on our own journeys and growth.

Last month, the UWF Historic Trust dedicated the Museum of Industry's new train pavilion for the late Barbara Goggins, a beloved UUCP member. Now that it is open, please visit the Historic Pensacola Village on East Zarragossa Street and enjoy the impressive interpretive pavilion that Barbara's generosity made possible.

October brings us many opportunities to gather and connect. I'm excited about the excellent Sunday services we have lined up this month, which you can read about in this issue. Each service promises to inspire, challenge, and uplift us as we explore themes of community, compassion, and spirituality together.



*Joe Vinson, UUCP Board President*

Mark your calendars the Sunday before Samhain for our Trick-or-Treasure Hunt, organized by the Heathen Kinship group, on Sunday, October 27, from 2 to 4 PM. This event is a wonderful way for us to welcome children from the community for fun and fellowship alongside our UUCP kids. We will need volunteers to help set up and staff the tables, so please consider lending a hand to make this event a success.

Additionally, on the same day, we will kick off our "Not a Yard Sale" fundraiser. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to support our church while clearing out some space at home. Your contributions will make a significant difference, so I encourage everyone to participate. See the article by Laurie Winterberg for more details.

Lastly, keep an eye out for announcements from our Fun and Fellowship team, like attending Bands on the Beach on Tuesday, October 29.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our shared values.

Sincerely,

Joe Vinson

President, UUCP Board of Directors

## DIRECTORY

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

### Office Administrator

(850) 475-9077, [uupensacola@gmail.com](mailto:uupensacola@gmail.com)

### Community Minister

Rev. Maggie Lovins

### Governing Board

President: Joe Vinson

President Elect: Crys Brockway

Past President: Scott Satterwhite

Secretary: Lisa Rawson

Treasurer: Bradley Vinson

([treasurer@uupensacola.org](mailto:treasurer@uupensacola.org))

### Members at Large:

Marianne DeGrado

Denise Gunn

Patti Underwood

Barbara Wright

## MINISTRY TEAMS

**Adult Exploration:** Trista Blouin

**Buildings & Grounds:** Ed King

**Caring:** Trista Blouin & Rev. Maggie Lovins

([caring@uupensacola.org](mailto:caring@uupensacola.org))

**Children's Religious Education Coordinator:**

Honor M. Bell, III ([cre@uupensacola.org](mailto:cre@uupensacola.org))

**Communications:** Joe Vinson

([communications@uupensacola.org](mailto:communications@uupensacola.org))

**Denominational Affairs:** Scott Satterwhite

**Finance:** Laurie Winterberg

**Fun and Fellowship:** Trista Blouin

**Leadership Development:** Laura Keith King

**Membership:** Lauren Anzaldo

([membership@uupensacola.org](mailto:membership@uupensacola.org))

**Outreach:** Laura Keith King

**Safer Congregation:** Denise Gunn

([safer@uupensacola.org](mailto:safer@uupensacola.org))

**Social Justice:** Paula Montgomery & Scott Satterwhite

**Sunday Services:** Nancy Hagman

Join our UUCP group for the last concert of the year in the Bands on the Beach series.

### THE LADS

**BRITISH INVASION**  
Groovy 60's Music Show!

FEATURING  
**The Lads!**

Performing the music of: The Zombies • The Kinks • The Rolling Stones • Dave Clark Five • The Beatles • Herman's Hermits • The Hollies • Badfinger • The Who • Cream • The Searchers • Deep Purple • Gerry and the Pacemakers • The Moody Blues • The Foundations • Spencer Davis Group • more...

**Tuesday, October 29, 7-9pm.**  
Gulfside Pavillion, Casino Beach Boardwalk, Pensacola Beach, Florida

The Lads, led by Dickie Williams, are a British Invasion group playing a "Tribute Band" quality show that includes only British bands from 1963-1969.

The Lads consist of Brad Scott (Hammond B3), Johnny Wilson (Guitar), Doug Zimmerman (Drums) and Dickie Williams (Bass).

**Tuesday, October 29, 2024, 7-9:00pm.**

We will meet at the Gulfside Pavillion, Casino Beach, Pensacola Beach. **Barbara Wright** is coordinating this event. Please let her know if you are interested in joining the group.

Bring a beach chair, beverage and snacks.

### REQUEST!



Trista B., one of our members, is currently looking for a small 2-bedroom place to rent that is under \$1000. She can provide more specific information upon request. Please reach out to her via her contact info on Simple Church.



## Sunday Services in October



The first Sunday of the month is always Manna Sunday! The collection basket will be in the lobby to drop off items. Most requested items from Manna Food Pantries include canned fruit in 100% juice, fruit cups (20 oz. or less), soups (low sodium), canned dinners (20 oz. or less), and canned tomatoes (16 oz. or less).

### October 6, 2024

#### Government by the People Past, Present and Maybe Future

Presenter: Paula Montgomery BA MD

After Paula retired from her Medical Practice she has served on the board of the League of Women Voters for many years. Her interests are wide ranging from ecology to health to education and more. The main focus of the League of Women Voters has always been educating voters in a nonpartisan way and encouraging citizens to use their votes to shift the needle toward justice and equity.

**Second Hour:** *Heathen Kinship; LWV Voter Services chair Charlyle Parrish will present the amendments that will appear on the ballot giving explanations with pros and cons.*

### October 13, 2024

#### Ralph Waldo Emerson: Renegade Unitarian

Presenter: Thom Botsford, UUCP friend

A new biography of Emerson--*Glad To the Brink of Fear* by James Marcus--reminds us that the great thinker and man of letters was considerably ahead of his time compared with the Unitarians of

his day and much at odds with religious orthodoxy.

**Second Hour: *OutoftheBox Story Circle, facilitated by Claire Helton 11:30-12:30, in the Library***

### October 20, 2024

#### Where Did the Principles Go?: Unpacking the UUA's "New" Values

Presenter: Claire Helton, member of UUCP

For many Unitarian Universalists, the "principles and sources" have been a foundational aspect of what it means to identify as a UU. This summer, the General Assembly of the UUA (our national denominational body) voted to adopt a new language that replaces the "principles" with "values" while shifting and expanding the language about the sources by which our faith is inspired. Join us to unpack the changes, to learn about the process that led to them, and to explore how this shifting represents the UUA's commitment to embodying itself as a "living tradition."

**Second Hour: *Heathen Kinship,***

### October 27, 2024

#### Are our jails the equivalent of the "debtors' prisons" of previous centuries?

Presenter: Beau Wetherford who is the Regional Director of the Bail Project

A large number of people who are in jail are not guilty of anything except not having the money to make bail. The Bail Project strives for a more perfect justice system, one that works for all people no matter their race or wealth. By providing free bail assistance to those in need, we restore the presumption of innocence, reunite families, and gather evidence for change. By advocating for better policies, we seek to take money out of justice and to create a pretrial system that is more just, equitable, and humane.

*This is our 5th Sunday (Non-profit) recipient.*

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*"Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its law" These are familiar words. Most of us know them by heart. Most UU churches in the US have adopted them as a covenant. Do we know where they came from? I just recently learned myself.*

*The words were written by the Reverend James Vila Blake in the 1880s. He was minister of First Unitarian Church in Evanston, Illinois.*

## October at UUCP

*It is told that not only was he good with words he was a very cool character. One story told of him is that his church building caught fire during Sunday Service one day. The room filled with smoke and the floorboards were getting very hot. Rev Blake made sure that all the congregants were safely out of the building before he left and closed the door. As he calmly walked away, the church went up in a whoosh of flame. Every one was safe and he was calm and cool. He knew that the building was just a building, the church was the people*



### Sunday Sweets

for the month of October will be held on Sunday October 13th. To accommodate members who are practicing gluten-free eating there will be a separate table for gluten free baked goods to prevent cross contamination..

### Readers' Group

Here are a few of the books recommended during the recent

#### Zoom Readers' Group

The Magician - Colm Toibin

The Women - Kristin Hannah

Trust - Hernan Diaz

The Dance of the Dissident

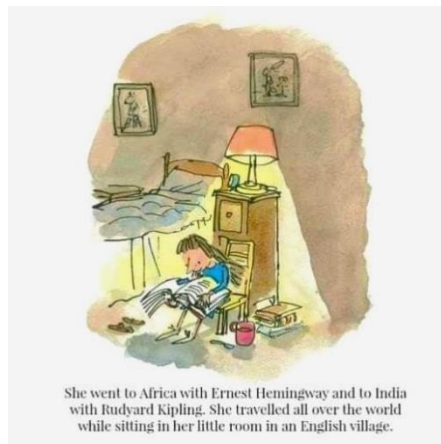
Daughter - Sue Monk Kidd

The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store - James McBride

Has Anyone Seen My Toes -  
Christopher Buckley

Join us **Monday, October 14 at 10 AM** on Zoom and check out what folks are reading! The Zoom link will be emailed to Members and Friends a few days prior to the meeting.

Want to know more - contact  
Laurie Winterberg



### Coffee Hour Crew and Clean up



Many thanks to the many people that make our Coffee, Tea and Talk time available every week after service. Michael Newcomb and Jack Comstock are two of the regulars and there are more that provide the refreshments..

The clean up afterward is headed up by Michael Newcomb and we have several people that assist him. Many thanks to Laura Ericson,

Marybeth Ramsey, Lisa Rawson, Leah and Sam Fox, Paula Montgomery, Heather Viron, Nancy Hagman, Laura and Ed King, Jaqueline Straus, Dianna M and Renee Perry.

It would be wonderful to have a few more individuals that would be willing to stay after the Coffee time to clean up. Michael runs the kitchen and dishwashing. So that allows the assistant to gather everything to the kitchen, gather up the garbage bags and help overall clean up in all the spaces.

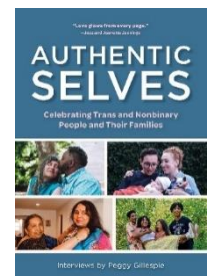
If you are willing to spend a little extra time please contact Nancy Hagman. She is coordinating the "assistants" with an email request and Patti Underwood tries to text a reminder each week to the volunteer.

### UUA Common Read

The 2024–2025  
UU Common

Read is *Authentic Selves: Celebrating Trans and Nonbinary People and Their Families*, edited by Peggy Gillespie. The Common Read builds community in our congregations and our movement by giving diverse people a shared platform for reflection and a shared focus for action. *Authentic Selves* invites us to explore the nature of living authentically and the ways connections among us help us thrive.

[Click for entire announcement](#)



### October LUUnch BUUnch

So, what's on for the Fall'ish month of October, with more coolness? We'll try Tucan's Mexican Restaurant at 596 East 9-Mile Rd., #7. It comes recommended by an LB'er and we haven't done Mex in quite a while. Its on-line pictures suggest not quite the average Mexican setting, so we'll see. As usual, at 1 PM on October 9; smaller setting suggests making reservation ahead, so let me, Hugh T., know by Sunday the 6th.



And how was Bubba's? I think a positive approval was registered by all four of our LBer's. The food was good, the decor, and all the TV screens, were fine, but: the noise... No, wait, that wasn't noise, it was the music system, sufficiently loud that it was easily mistaken for NOISE. We asked several of the staff if it could be turned down, and they either said "probably not", or "I'll ask". Maybe it receded a bit toward the end, or adaptation with intent listening, or all talking louder. If a next time, ask for the quieter area of the building. (The bar was on the east/Davis side, we were on the west side.)

They do have 4 seat and 6 seat booths, so with the cancellation of two due to rain concerns, we four had plenty of room. And the waitress was well practiced in the details of the menu. Probably more activity, and human noise, on a game day.

-Hugh Ed T.



**HB 1365** now essentially makes homelessness illegal. Strive is looking for people willing to participate in our temporary emergency housing program. If you can or know someone who can provide a couch, room, or even an Airbnb for short-term housing for LGBTQ+ people in our community experiencing homelessness reach out to Honor M. Bell, III or email [strivepensacola@gmail.com](mailto:strivepensacola@gmail.com)

*Paid Advertisement. Not endorsed by UUCP or its leadership*

#### The *Bushwacker* / Powerwasher cleanup and



*potluck* lunch (bring enough to share) will be on **Saturday October 5th from 9 AM until 2 PM**. So come one come all and bring your tools!

*Also bring mosquito repellent-clothes or spray!*



## **Ian Briggs UUCP New Member Questionnaire**

*This congregation considers it important to get to know one another. Each person, upon becoming a UUCP member, is asked to request and respond to a New Member Questionnaire. Thank you,  
Dolly Berthelot, Membership Committee*

**What are your pronouns?** He/him

**Where were you born and raised?** I was born here in Pensacola and raised in the next county over in Pace.

**Education—High school, college, major, graduation?**

I went to Milton High School, class of 2014. I started college at the University of West Florida right after with my major in Computer Science. I graduated and received my Bachelor's in 2018.

**Current or former work? Your chosen profession? What do/did you like about it?**

I am currently employed as an operations analyst for Santa Rosa County District Schools. I specifically work in student information services, programming the databases containing student records. Most of my work involves writing queries to provide data to other folks in the district. They then take this data to make meaningful insights into how the schools are run, how students are doing academically, etc. Being behind-the-scenes to help others and actually making a difference is quite rewarding.

**Family: Parents, siblings, spouse, special relatives, friends.**

I live with my mom, Leslie, who made me the man I am today. I have a younger sister, Annabeth, who lives in Louisiana, and an older half-sibling, Joie, who lives in Iowa. My cousin Adam and I are pretty close, despite him being 10+ years older than I am. I am blessed to still have a living great-grandfather, Lamar, who will turn 100 in October. Fun fact: Creighton Road is named after my great-grandfather's father (Creighton is their last name), who was a county commissioner here in Pensacola back in the 1930s. He operated a dairy farm on Olive Road and later a general store during WWII on what is now Creighton.

**What do you like about the area?**

The history, natural beauty, and the diversity of people and lifestyles.

**Special interests or hobbies—now or in the past?**

I am a huge video game nerd, so I would say that's my main hobby. Whenever the opportunity strikes, I love to play board and card games with my friends (absolutely LOVE mahjong!) Since the pandemic, I have enjoyed walking, trying my best to walk at least an hour a day. Earlier this year I started painting, most of which are cartoon characters on transparency film over separate backgrounds in watercolor or marker (imagine a single frame from an animation). I have attempted to get into gardening, but I don't have much of a green thumb; I have, however, kept a Venus fly trap alive for almost two years! I have also started to read more, having completed six books since I started my new job.

**Life's adventures you'd like to share.**

This year, I set out to learn how to program video games for the Nintendo Gameboy. I ended up making two little card game adaptations and published them online for free. It was really exciting when I got my first download and review! I also own a company, Generic Brand Systems LLC, that I used to publish them, among other things.



**What is your religious background? When did you become interested in Unitarianism, and what is there about it that appeals to you? Were other family members associated with a Unitarian Universalist Church, specifically UUCP?**

I grew up in a Christian household, though my family was not strict in any sense. When I was in elementary school, we attended Milton First Baptist Church for a few years. In middle school, I learned about different religious viewpoints on the Internet and became an atheist, which I stayed as for most of my adult life (though I kept this a secret.) During the pandemic, I played with Discordianism and the Church of the Subgenius. I soon after began to believe in a greater power, in a panendeistic sort of way. More recently, I have explored Quakerism, progressive Christian Universalism, and Daoism.

I first heard about UU in high school but didn't seriously explore it until June of this year when I decided to check out UUCP on my own. What appeals to me the most is that all are accepted and allowed to flourish in the way they feel is right. As someone who doesn't quite fit neatly into any one definition, being in a place like this is truly wonderful.

As for family members associated with UU, I was surprised to learn recently that my half-sibling Joie attended UUCP a few years ago! Y'all would have known them as Evie.

**Were you a member previously?** No.

**What do you like about our church? Changes you would like to see made? Programs you'd like to see added?**

Aside from the core message behind UU in general, I have come to love the friendliness. Socializing after service is one of the highlights of my week! Everyone is so genuine and authentic, perhaps because we can safely be who we are, which are values missing, sadly, in the world today.

I'd like to see more adult religious education classes. I enjoy reading about different religions, but most of my knowledge is superficial due to not knowing where to go to learn more about them (without getting overwhelmed.)

*A Free-Cycle & A Yard Sale*

*Got Together*

*And They Had -*

**Not A Yard Sale\***

**Sundays – Oct 27 & Nov 3, 2024**

*After Sunday Service*

*Conference Room*

**No set prices**

- *Select what you like*
- *Take your found treasures with you*
- *Make a \$\$\$ donation as you are willing and able*
  - *All proceeds go to the Church*

\*An experimental fundraiser



Sponsored by the Finance Team.

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

TO:



**LGBTQ**

*Welcoming Congregation*

Deadline for the November  
*Light*:  
Monday, October 21



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