

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

The Light

Vol. 68 Issue 3 March 2025



Celebrate Diversity *Strive for Justice* *Inspire Love*

King Cake and Celebrations

From Your Board: President's Letter

Dear UUCP friends,

March is upon us — “in like a lion, out like a lamb” — and with it comes the chance to celebrate, reflect, and reorient ourselves. This month, we honor Women's History, recognizing the contributions of women throughout history and today. At a time when misogyny seems to be rearing its ugly head — sometimes in the highest echelons of education and leadership — it's more important than ever to stand in solidarity, uplift women's voices, and push back against regressive attitudes. As a proud ally, I have a unique way of showing my commitment: I share my birthday with International Women's Day. (What can I say? I'm just that dedicated.)

March also brings us two very different traditions in the Christian calendar: Mardi Gras and the start of Lent. One is an explosion of indulgence; the other, a call to self-discipline. Whether or not you observe these traditions of faith, there's wisdom in setting aside time for reflection and simplifying our lives — especially after consuming an inordinate amount of king cake.

This month, our Sunday Services team has put together a wonderful series of programs that touch on these themes and more. We will also take time this month to celebrate our dear friends, the Wolvertons, as they embark on new adventures beyond the Pensacola area. They have been an integral part of our community, and while we will miss them, we send them off with love — and, of course, music!

Though our pledge drive has officially concluded, if you missed your opportunity to pledge, don't worry — it's not too late to declare, “I'm all in!” We're still in the process of planning next year's budget, and your support helps ensure that we can continue the vital work of this congregation. Thank you for your generosity and for your commitment to our mission: to celebrate diversity, strive for justice, and inspire love.

With gratitude and warmth,

Joe Vinson

President, UUCP Board of Directors



DIRECTORY

See our website, uupensacola.org, for updates and a complete list of teams

Office Administrator

(850) 475-9077, 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)

Members at Large:

Denise Gunn

Claire Helton

Marybeth Ramsey

Barbara Wright

MINISTRY TEAMS

Adult Exploration: TBD

Buildings & Grounds: Ed King

Caring: Trista Blouin & Rev. Maggie Lovins
(caring@uupensacola.org)

Children’s Religious Education Coordinator:
Honor M. Bell, III (cre@uupensacola.org)

Communications: Joe Vinson
(communications@uupensacola.org)

Denominational Affairs: Scott Satterwhite

Finance: Laurie Winterberg

Fun and Fellowship: Marybeth Ramsey

Leadership Development: Scott Satterwhite

Membership: Lauren Anzaldo
(membership@uupensacola.org)

Outreach: Laura Keith King

Safer Congregation: TBD
(safer@uupensacola.org)

Social Justice: Paula Montgomery & Scott Satterwhite

Sunday Services: Nancy Hagman

Who wants to go? Who wants to share a group to watch sections virtually from UUCP? Contact Paula



The UUA General Assembly is the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association, where delegates from congregations gather to conduct business, engage in worship, and discuss social justice issues.



At the congregational annual meeting in 1987, it was decided to establish a Charitable Trust for the Pensacola Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. The purpose of which was to manage the assets of the Trust so they grow and produce perpetual income for the benefit of the Church and ensure the presence of liberal faith in our region

The Trust's assets began with a \$1,000 donation and in it's 38 years, not only has the name of the Church changed to UUCP, but the assets of the Trust have grown to over one half a million dollars.

The Church has benefitted from the assets held by the Trust in ways such as support for the annual operating budget, member Memorial Garden nameplates and building repair/renovation loans.

The Trust Members of the Charitable Trust, would like to THANK those who have contributed in 2024-2025.

- Georgieanna Bryant
- Linda Cobb
- Heather and Daniel Cobb
- Jack Comstock
- Marylee Donnelly
- Michael Newcomb
- Hugh Turner
- Laurie Winterberg

More information on the Trust is available on the church website at: <https://uupensacola.org/about-us/uucp-charitable-trust/>

Sunday Services in March



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).

March 2, 2025

Lasting memories and meaningful relationships

Presenter: Infusion Band and Friends

Over 25+ years the Wolverton family have helped weave the tapestry of music and friendship within our UUCP family. This service will honor Jack and Kate Wolverton as they continue adventures in their lives. We will reflect on the impact they have made with stories of their life with us. The band created with Thom Botsford and Jack Wolverton will be present with added guests. Come and enjoy the Celebration.

After the service, join the Infusion Band and Friends in the Sanctuary to listen as there will be more “music together”.

Second Hour: Heathen Kinship

March 9, 2025

She Hath Wings: A Choral Service of Women’s Resistance & Resilience

Presenter: UU members and Community members

To mark Women’s History Month, we will be joined by the leadership of Pensacola’s FemFest and a choir of former FemFest participants, UU members & friends to raise our voices in a service of resistance and

resilience. Those interested in joining the day’s choir are welcome, and are invited to extra rehearsals ahead of time - contact Laura Keith King or Claire Helton for more details.

Second Hour: OutoftheBox

March 16, 2025

Facing Freedom – Or Fascism? Part 2 of 2

Presenter: Lauren Anzaldo, EdD, LCSW, CAP and member of UUCP

This talk considers the continuing appeal of authoritarianism and how democratically minded people might respond, drawing on the tradition of prophetic voices of antifascists such as Simone Weil and Erich Fromm. This talk is the second Sunday Service in a two-part series. The first talk was held on February 23rd.

Second Hour: Heathen Kinship

March 23, 2025

Judgment, Karma, and the Work of Lent

Presenter: Zach Helton is an ordained minister, board-certified spiritual care counselor at Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, and a writer exploring the intersection of storytelling and spirituality.

“Judgment” is often a bad word in liberal spiritual circles, but what if

there were a healthier way to think about it? Not as shame or condemnation, but as a kind of karma—the natural consequences of our collective choices? Using Lenten passages from the Gospels, this talk explores how judgment, differently understood, could lead to understanding, responsibility, and hope.

March 30, 2025

Everyone Can Prevent Suicide

Presenter: Rachelle Burns, M.A. (Marriage & Family Therapy), Chair of EscaRosa Suicide Prevention Coalition & Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition

Rachelle Burns will share about the work of ERSPC and how you can help save lives. Suicide prevention is something we can all engage in. Our local nonprofit, EscaRosa Suicide Prevention Coalition, is proof of that. There are over 100 different organizations and individuals partnering to prevent suicide in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties.

EscaRosa Suicide Prevention Coalition, non-profit organization, is the recipient of our 5th Sunday pass-the-plate initiative.



March at UUCP



Sunday Sweets

Sunday Sweets for the month of January will be held on Sunday January 12th after the service.

The Sunday Sweets Schedule for 2025 is:

Winter :: March 9th; April 13th; May 11th

Summer Break

Fall: Sept. 14th; Oct. 12th; Nov. 12th; and Dec. 14th.

Sunday Sweets is held on the **second Sunday** of each month.

Thank you. Michael Newcomb

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

READERS' ON-LINE GROUP - RESUMES

Join your fellow readers on Monday, March 10 at 10am on ZOOM as we resume . Now in it's 6th year, participants enjoy answering the perennial question - "what are you reading?"

An email with the ZOOM link will be sent to all UUCP Members and Friends a few days before.



Memorial request forms are available in the church foyer or by contacting Laurie Winterberg

Jack & Kate's "See You Soon" party will be held immediately after service, Sunday, March 30th. The theme is "Around the World", so please bring a finger food inspired by one of your food places. Let's send our friends off into the world with love and support!

If you are willing and able to help with setup/cleanup, please reach out to Marybeth Ramsey



You can now have a memorial nameplate added to the new Beloved Companions pet memorial pole located on the south side of the Memorial Garden. The nameplate will be 2"x3" and made of weather resistant material. The fee for a pet memorial is \$50 which covers the cost of the nameplate and funds for the maintenance of the Memorial Garden.

The mosaic that marks the memorial pole was crafted by Kate Wolverton.

In the spirit of democracy and shared governance, the Leadership Development Team would like to let UUCP members know that we have several positions that will be open in the church leadership, from the board to the ministry teams. If you would be interested in being nominated for a position within the church, please reach out to the Leadership Development Team chair Scott Satterwhite for more information. We'd love for you to join us.



March Lunch Bunch: the 12th.

So, what's on for the next Lunch Bunch? Well, due to popular demand (3 of the 4 seated at the February event), we'll try Petrella's in the northwest of our urban area, since its both located in the NW urban area and serves Italian, which, I agree, we haven't tried in a good while. It's at 2174 West Nine Mile Rd., (850-471-9444) and I certainly feel my taste buds salivating just "reading" the menu photos. Let me know if you are similarly tempted for 1 PM on Wed. 12 March (by Sunday 9/3, Thank you). I'll probably be out of there at half the \$\$ left at George's; may mean more Westside visits... As I haven't been in that area since my cycling days, I'd want to know that it is on the NE corner of 9 Mile and Pine Forest in the middle of a stretched out shopping center. (Word to the random 'should I ?/is there room ?/how many ?/who else ?' participant calling me on the event day, just come and take your chances; I probably won't hear my phone anyway. Spam calls per day out number known numbers 10-20:1 most days, 95% ignored.)

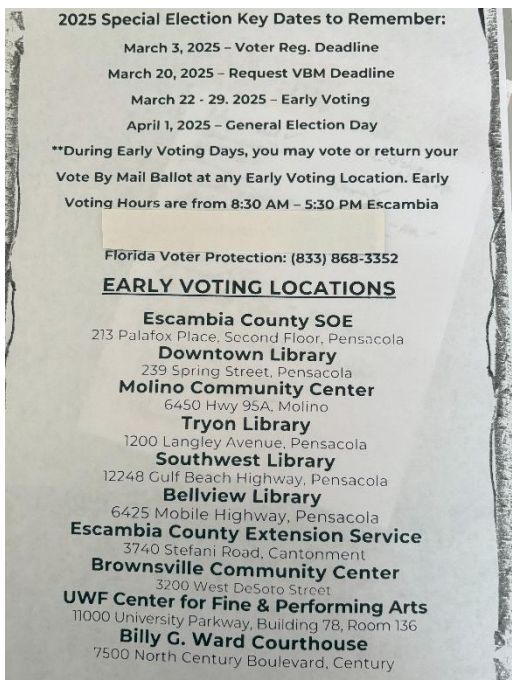


Well, George's (9th and Schwab) went pretty well. Sure, a little outside wind. but plenty of inside tables (and cushioned chair bottoms if the wooden seats at the corner table (room for 6), became over-hard. The waitress was full of information about specials (soups and entrees), and the one page Lunch menu was fairly easy to get thru. (And later, home via bicycle, I noted that the time to receive and eat had put us out earlier than most Wednesday lunches; 1:15 vs. 1:30/40, so George's has a pretty efficient kitchen operation.)

I got the Avocado/Kale/Quinoa Power Salad, and though 1/3 or more \$\$ than the average restaurant entre salad, it was probably the most complicated salad I've ever had; about 1/3 came home with me to finish that night, and was still worthy of savoring. It had none of the "usual" SAD (Standard American Diet) salad ingredients (except maybe onions - not tasting like the usual red onions): i.e., no tomato, lettuce or carrot. I did get the grilled shrimp to boost the protein content, but they really detracted from the overall quality of the salad..

-Hugh Ed T.

Voters are encouraged to register to VOTE BY MAIL...by calling the Supervisor of Elections at 850-595-3900 or on line at escambiavotes.gov



March 16th, Second Hour – Caring Canines of Pensacola

For almost 30 years now, teams of handlers and therapy dogs have been volunteering in a variety of settings in and around Northwest Florida. On March 16 th you will be able to meet some of the Caring Canines of Pensacola and their handlers and hear firsthand how these amazing dogs are bringing their special care and compassion to a variety of settings. We will have representative team members who visit local hospitals bringing furry smiles of joy to adults and children who are hospitalized. We will also introduce you to teams who visit Assisted Living and Long Term Care Centers, making any day a little brighter. The Paw Patrol, stationed at Pensacola Airport and charged with helping reduce the stress of flying will also be represented. Additionally, several of the teams who have special training and registration as Reading Education Assistance Dogs® (R.E.A.D.) and work in libraries with young people who need a little extra nudge to help their reading skills, will demonstrate their 'reading' ability.

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

TO:



LGBTQ

Welcoming Congregation

Deadline for the April
Light:
Friday, March 21



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