

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

The Light

Vol. 68 Issue 6 June 2025



Celebrate Diversity Strive for Justice Inspire Love

The Vibrancy of Summer

From Your Board: President's Letter

Dear UUCP friends,

With the arrival of summer and the end of the school year, we begin to welcome longer days and brace for the coming months of sweltering heat. Memorial Day Weekend, when we honor our fallen service members, has traditionally marked the beginning of summer — and here in Pensacola, it's when our LGBTQ+ neighbors and visitors from around the region gather on our beautiful beaches in the spirit of Emma Jones.

With that bridge into June, I'm pleased to share that our Sunday Services team has arranged a very special slate of speakers to honor Pride Month. In a time when our LGBTQ+ loved ones face increasing hostility and challenges, these services are more important than ever. Our congregation's commitment to love, inclusion, and justice shines brightly as we come together to celebrate and support the full diversity of human identity and experience.



June also marks the final month of the UUCP board year, and with it, the close of my term as your president. It has truly been an honor to serve this vibrant and compassionate community. Over the past year, I am proud of what we have accomplished together — from strengthening our outreach through community events and improved video recording, to tackling nuts-and-bolts issues like our bylaws and insurance.

Looking ahead, I am excited to welcome Crys Brockway as the incoming board president. I have every confidence that Crys will build upon the momentum we have created and continue guiding our church with vision and heart.

Thank you all for your support, your participation, and your dedication to our shared values. Here's to a joyful and meaningful Pride Month and a bright future for UUCP.

With gratitude and hope,

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

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Past President: Scott Satterwhite

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(treasurer@uupensacola.org)

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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



JUST Pensacola

The Nehemiah Action was a big success. It was held on May 6th at First Baptist church of Warrington, with over 700 community members from 17 different congregations present. We heard commitments for local justice from our state attorney and two county commissioners. There were 40 of us from UUCP who attended. We should be very proud of our participation in this community action.

The issues we were addressing with the State Attorney, Ginger Bowden Madden, were the declining use of civil citations for juveniles and their inadequate usage for adults. Civil citations instead of arrests both save tax money and remove the stigma of an arrest record for first-time, non-violent offenders. The requests that JUST Pensacola Social Justice Committee made were three; they were designed to help JUST Pensacola watch the usage and find out where and how things can improve.

1) We asked that the Sheriff's Deputies and the Police Officers receive a training in the use of civil citations. The training will be designed and delivered by the office of the State Attorney. The law enforcement officers are the point of contact when a civil citation could be offered.

2) We asked for a quarterly update on statistics and what is helping or hindering the effort.

3) We asked for quarterly meeting with a representative of JUST Pensacola and a representative from the SA's office. She answered "Yes" to all the asks!!!

JUST for Justice!!!

We asked County Commissioners, Kohler and Stroberger for one commitment each. We asked that each of them identify parcels of land in their district that they will transfer into the Northwest Florida Community Land Trust. Once there, Habitat for Humanity has agreed to build permanently affordable housing either to rent or to buy on a percentage of the parcels.

They each said "Yes!"

Who deserves a place to stay! Every one everyday!

Questions? Ask Paula Montgomey

Sunday Services in June



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).

June 1, 2025

Transgender "Top" Surgery and what to expect

Presenter: Jocelyn E. Leveque, MD FACS

Please join us in hearing about Dr. Leveque's journey with her son as a gay man and about maintaining a medical practice as a Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon at the Gulf Coast Plastic Surgery campus on Brent. She has been practicing in Pensacola for 25 years. Her practice has included transgender surgery specifically "top" surgery.

Dr. Leveque will be available to meet after the service for further discussion and questions.

Second Hour: Heathen Kinship

June 8, 2025

The Tower and the Rock: Reclaiming Mary Magdalene and Rewriting the Stories That Built Patriarchy

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.

What if one of the most important women in the Gospels was quietly edited out—and what if that edit changed the course of Christian history? In this talk, based on the

work of Elizabeth Schrader and Diana Butler Bass, Zach Helton explores new scholarship on Mary Magdalene, revealing how her erasure shaped the church we inherited—and how reclaiming her story can help challenge oppressive, gender-based narratives. Join us for a reflection on patriarchy, possibility, and the liberating power of reimagined tradition.

Second Hour: OutoftheBox Story Circle

June 15, 2025

God Made Me Gay

Presenter: Mike Maeshiro is a gay ex-pastor and is now a consultant for queer and deconstructing Christians

Mike Maeshiro will talk about how he sincerely suffocated for Jesus, not realizing that it was people and bigotry that kept him in the closet, not Jesus. Mike will share his story of how his relationship with God led him out of the closet and into the arena of advocacy for LGBTQ+ people.

Mike Maeshiro will be available after the service for further discussion and conversation.

Second Hour: Heathen Kinship

June 22, 2025

Taking Action and Making It Count

Presenter: Angelique Godwin - Director of Transgender Equality, Equality Florida

Angelique Godwin will be sharing her story identifying how choosing to take up space, telling your story, and speaking truth to power can lead to inspiring others and creating change in minds and action. She will touch on what you can do to get involved and make a difference in your community.

June 29, 2025

Advancing Health Justice: The Impact of FQHCs and Community Health Northwest Florida

Presenter: Walter Arrington, MSW, Advocacy & Special Projects Community Health Northwest Florida

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), like Community Health Northwest Florida, originated from a national movement in the 1960s to bring accessible, community-driven healthcare to underserved populations. As a patient-governed FQHC, Community Health Northwest Florida reflects the mission of this movement by delivering comprehensive, affordable healthcare care. With continued federal support and a strong commitment to health justice, Community Health Northwest Florida plays a vital role in expanding access to

June at UUCP

primary care and addressing health disparities in the region.

This Service is the recipient of our 5th Sunday "Pass the Plate" donation to a non-profit organization.



Sunday Sweets

On Summer Break

The Sunday Sweets Fall Schedule for 2025 is:

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

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

Thank you to all the bakers who took the time and effort to make an item for this church fund raiser. Michael Newcomb

Readers' Group

The monthly Reader's Group participants discuss these sorts of insights. Might you agree?

Here's some of what we're reading this month. Enjoy!

Highway 59 Series - starting with Bluebird Bluebird - *Attica Locke*

Songbird - *Walter Zacharius*

Personal Librarian - *Marie Benedict*

First Ladies - *Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray*

The Book of Alchemy - *Suleika Jaouad*

Death in Venice (part of series) - *Daniel Silva*

Although not a book, a recommended 'watch' is the recent PBS Independent Lense 2-hour program "Free for All" - about Public Libraries. Thanks, Michael, for the recommendation.

Next meeting will be **Monday, June 9th, at 10 am.** An email with the ZOOM link will be sent out shortly before that date.

The June meeting will be the last of this series of meetings. New series to begin in August.



"A book read by a thousand different people is a thousand different books."

Andrei Tarkousky

The Sunday Sweets Sweet Tooth Recipes

The Sunday Sweets Bunch have been asked to provide a few recipes for you to try until we

return in September. So, here's the first one. Hope you like it.

FRENCH BREAKFAST PUFFS

Grease mini muffin tins. Preheat oven to 350

Mix together:

1/3 cup shortening

1 egg

1/2 cup sugar

Mix together:

1 & 1/2 cups GLUTEN FREE FLOUR MIX

1/2 tsp salt

1/4 tsp nutmeg

1 & 1/2 tsps baking powder

Stir both mixtures together. When combined, add 1/2 cup milk and stir until blended.

Scoop into the greased mini muffin tins and bake until lightly browned.

Roll into:

8 oz melted butter. Then into a mixture of 1/2 cup sugar and 1 tsp or more ground cinnamon .

This recipe started out using regular wheat flour; so if you're not Gluten-Free, you can just substitute the same amount of regular flour for the GF FLOUR.

Enjoy!

Patti Underwood

JUNE LUNCH BUNCH

For June's Lunch Bunch - is it already June, almost halfway thru the year? Well certainly, the heat is already here.... We'll go for Kalbi Ichiban, at 600 W. Garden. I'd say it was a little before the beginning of the Pandemic when we were last there, about 2020. Every few weeks I see the menu notices on their ground level "neon" sign, but since most parking is in the back, I have no idea how busy they've been. The last time we were 10+ as I recall and had the front room to ourselves. Barbecue, Korean and Japanese is their range and quality is their game. (I threw that in, partly because we had previous good experience with their operation on North Davis, south of Airport: smaller but more crowded.)

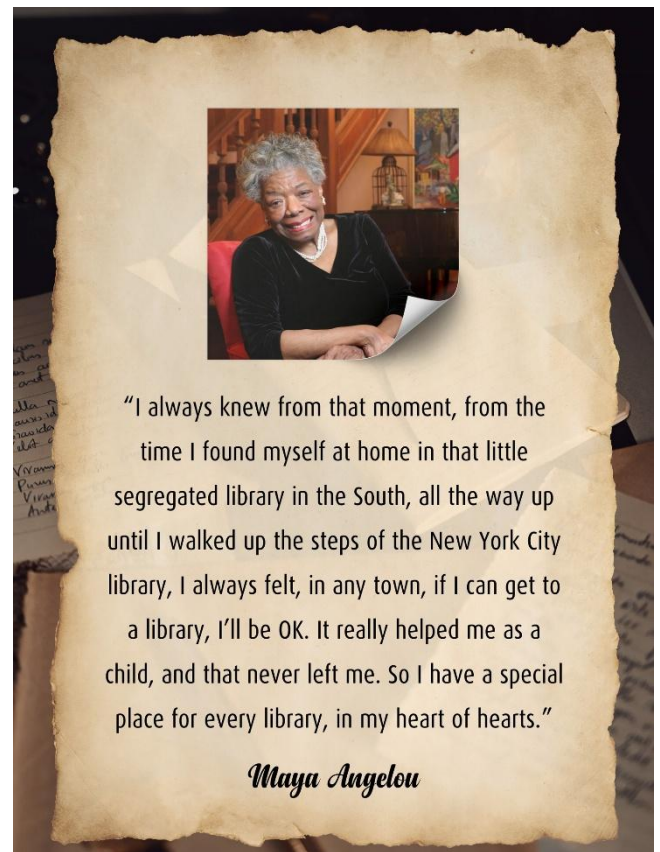
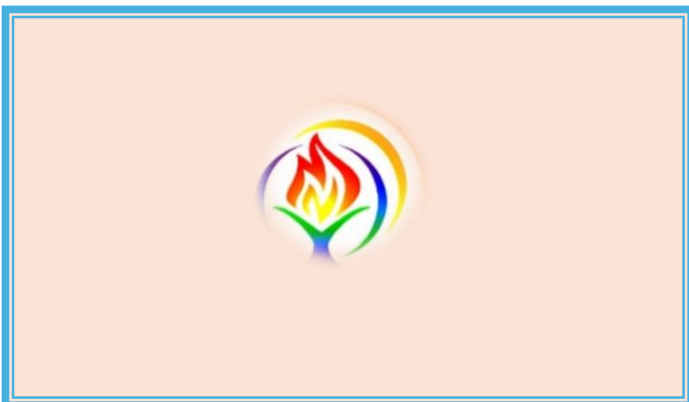
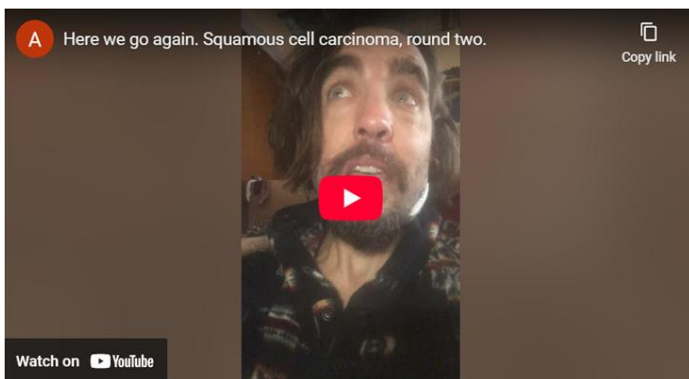


As usual, 1 PM (1300) is the time, but not as usual, we'll go for Tuesday the tenth (10th) of June, as discussed with those attending at Nick's Boathouse, discussed below. As always, I would appreciate knowing your intentions to be there, better to facilitate the adequate size or number of tables, chairs.

Nick's Boathouse worked out pretty well. We eight missed a few folks for various reasons (and we didn't talk too much about you). but we hope you can make it to Ichiban. I had the Macaroni and Cheese with shrimp and crab, and enjoyed the leftovers twice when mixed with some veggies, and with a can of Tuna the second time.... Feeling in need of protein with the IHMC/NIH study getting me into the gym three times a week, including Wednesdays at 2 PM; ask me if you're over 60 and want exercise supervision 3 X's per week (and a good physical exam).

-Hugh Ed T.

[Click to help Mike. Help them fight their cancer.](#)



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

TO:



LGBTQ

Welcoming Congregation

Deadline for the July *Light*:
Saturday, June 21

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