

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

The Light

Vol. 69 Issue 8 September 2026



Celebrate Diversity Strive for Justice Inspire Love

From the Governing Board

President's Letter

Dear friends,



The board is about to meet for its annual retreat. By the time you read this, we'll have met and I can inform you more of what's to come for the year. As you know, we have a full plate. In fact, I know a lot of you have been on the board before and know the plate is always full. The work of the governing board is somewhat similar to running a small business. Bills, of course, but also questions about the security and safety of the building, along with being able to keep the lights on while serving its purpose.

It's always a work in progress, but that's what I like about UUCP. In many ways, we're all a work in progress.

I appreciate those who've reached out to me about things they would like added to the agenda for discussion. I'd like to assure those who reached out that those items were added and we'll be discussing them at the retreat. Many of the concerns and requests revolved around safety. Let me spend a minute to address those concerns.

First and foremost, the safety of the congregation is at the top of my priority list. This comes in many ways. Issues with the roof, of course, along with the HVAC and insurance issues—those are safety issues for several obvious reasons. Currently, we're in a holding pattern with those issues because we can't work on the HVAC or insurance until we get the roof fixed. The roofing company, however, is who we're waiting on a response from. I assure you that we're working on this issue.

The physical safety of the building and congregation is a little more complicated. If you didn't know, we're in an election season. Also, if you didn't know it, some people out there don't think in the peaceful non-violent manner that we do. With the rhetoric ramping up on the news and social media, it's worth the time to pay attention to your surroundings. One of my priorities as I come into office is to do my best to help with the protection of the church.

From my research, one of the best things we can do as a congregation is simply be aware. We don't have to be paranoid, but there's that phrase: If you see something, say something. This goes for inside and outside of the church. If something seems odd, let someone in the leadership know. It may be nothing, but it might be something. It's worth the effort.

As a community, one thing we have to do is look out for each other. This congregation has done that for years in many capacities, and

it's just as important today. Look out for each other. In the meantime, the board will do its best to fix any holes we see and help however we can. We can only be as responsive to issues, however, if we know of them.

So please, if you'd like to talk about anything, reach out. You can email me, call me, text me. All three. I have even designated a little spot in the back of the sanctuary for my post-service "office hours." I'll get a slice of cake, a few cookies, and a cup of coffee. If anyone wants to drop in, I'm here for you.

One of the good things about empty nesting is that it opens up a few windows of time. That's one of the ways I'm filling up the time. While it's sad on the homefront without the kids around, it's nice to be a part of a community like ours, and I appreciate you all. That's why I'm here.

Sincerely,
Scott, UUCP Board President

Invest in JUST Pensacola  JUST Pensacola Justice United Seeking Transformation An Investment in J.U.S.T. Pensacola is an investment in the future of our community. Our annual Investment Drive is an incredibly important part of what we do. If we want to grow in our ability to change the way systems operate in the greater Pensacola area, then we have to "own" this power we are building. If you attended a House Meeting in Fall 2025 and committed as a Justice Network Member, or if you're not a network member but would still like to support the important work of J.U.S.T. Pensacola, now is the time to give an amount meaningful to you. To contribute, visit justpensacola.org for donation options, or see the flier posted across from the nametags.	 NEW & IMPROVED Readers' Zoom Group If you're interested in joining the ZOOM Readers' Group - let Laurie Winterberg know by email or phone/text. She'll then add your name to the Readers' Group and you'll continue to receive the ZOOM login email as you have in the past. If you're curious about the Readers' Group - we meet monthly, on the 3rd Monday of each month via ZOOM for about 1 hour. There are no assigned books to read! Participants share their reviews and comments about what they're currently, or recently, reading.
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DIRECTORY

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

9888 Pensacola Blvd., Pensacola, FL 32534
(850) 475-9077, uupensacola@gmail.com

Governing Board

President: Scott Satterwhite
President-Elect: Ian Briggs
Past President: Crys Brockway
Secretary: Audrey Preston
Treasurer: Bradley Vinson
treasurer@uupensacola.org

Board Members at Large

Lynne Butcher
Michael Gaines
Nancy Hagman
Mark Swaney
Barbara Wright

MINISTRY TEAMS

Adult Exploration: Scott Satterwhite
Buildings & Grounds: Nancy Hagman
Caring: Crys Brockway
caring@uupensacola.org
Communications: Joe Vinson
communications@uupensacola.org
Children's Religious Exploration: Lauren Anzaldo
cre@uupensacola.org
Denominational Affairs: Crys Brockway
Finance: Laurie Winterberg
Fun and Fellowship: Vacant
Leadership Development: Crys Brockway
Membership: Lauren Anzaldo
membership@uupensacola.org
Outreach: Laura Keith King
Safer Congregation: Vacant
safer@uupensacola.org
Social Justice: Paula Montgomery
Sunday Services: Joe Vinson

Community Minister
Rev. Maggie Lovins

Lunch Bunch for 9 September goes westward

By Hugh Ed Turner



So, what's for next month, 9/26? Well, Polonzo Bistro on N. Palafox was being considered, BUT 100 Buffet enters the picture, on the suggestion of Lady Margaret. At 19 North Navy in Warrington, it's less convenient for some, better for others; the pictures of the seafood, certainly stimulating, may mitigate the distances. As usual, 1 PM on 9 September. We'll plan on seating for 9 when we get there. \$12.99 is the indicated price. Phone 850/285-0185 in case you need it. (On day of the event, to come-or-not questions means come and we'll fit you in.)

About the Cactus Cantina ... With Mexican music playing in the background, the chips and salsa came out pretty fast, for 6, even though Michael and I were the only guests present. Soon joined by four, no five more, the foods came fast enough.

The conversation needed to be unsubtle at times due to the Cantina Music. I ordered the camaron (Spanish for shrimp, when there's a "tilde" over the "o") soup had a nice description, and was tasty while hot to warm, but maybe the 10 or so good size shrimp needed a little something extra, with lots of veggies and pasta and the usual color of Mexican rice on the side with chopped cilantro. And still plenty of chips, very thin, almost fragile. And pretty attentive service too, with an increasing number of patrons. Most had carry-home boxes.

... See you on 9/9.

Sunday Services & Happenings in September

Saturday, Sept 5, 2026

Trans Support Group – 4pm

Sunday, September 6



Image: Russian Orthodox icon of the Three Men visiting Abraham

"The Sacred Mandate of Hospitality" – 10am

Presenter: Joe Vinson

From "Zeus's Law" in "The Odyssey" to Abraham entertaining divine guests, ancient traditions name the failure of hospitality as a culture's ultimate moral collapse. Despite modern political rhetoric to the contrary, one of the Bible's most insistent commandments is to love the stranger. We will examine how the timeless law of hospitality in myth and scripture calls us to build longer tables instead of higher walls.

Bring donations for Manna Food Bank (1st Sunday)

Wednesday, September 9

Lunch Bunch – 1pm

See article on page 3 for location and details. Contact Hugh Ed Turner to RSVP for Lunch Bunch.

Sunday, September 13

Sunday Sweets



Sunday Sweets for the month of September will be held on **Sunday, September 13th.**

Thank you,
Michael Newcomb

"UUCP Ingathering Service – Water Communion" – 10am

Presenter: Rev. Maggie Lovins

Annually we mark the significance of our community coming back together as a congregation after the summer months. All are invited to bring a small container of water — perhaps water from the tap that meets your daily thirst, rain collected from your garden, or water brought back from distant travels. All will be mingled together and blessed, just as we ourselves are. Children are invited to join and sit with their families

for this Service For All Ages. Services For All Ages occur monthly and will be denoted in the service descriptions.

Second Hour: *Newcomer Orientation in Sanctuary – 1130am*



Saturday, September 19

Trans Support Group – 4pm

Sunday, September 20

"Sacred Mirrors: Seeing Yourself Deeply, Loving Yourself As You Are" – 10am

Presenter: Catherine Quiring

We all carry a quiet ache to be truly seen — not the polished, acceptable version of ourselves, but the whole of who we are. In this talk, counselor and spiritual coach Catherine Quiring draws on Internal Family Systems, attachment science, and her own journey to explore how we learn to belong to ourselves, and discover the mirrors — such as therapists, friends, solitude,

dreams, and story — that help us recognize our own light. In this talk, Catherine invites us to see ourselves more clearly, and love what we find there.

Second Hour: Earthstars – 1130am; CRE Team Meeting – 1130am



Image: Photo taken by Molly Chopin at the Chapel of Sacred Mirrors in Wappingers Falls, NY

Sunday, September 27
“Deconstructing Basic Trust: the Body, the Brain, and Contemplative Practice” – 10am
Presenter: Julie Patton

The physiology of numinous experience will be the focus of this talk. Throughout human history, religious and wisdom teachers have described mystical experience through visions, dreams, and stories. Recent scientific and archeological discoveries are beginning to back them up with explanations of how mind, body, and spirit interact to move human hearts

towards wholeness, compassion, and beloved community. Without attending to what happens in the body and physical brain, it is difficult to live our values, rather than being overtaken by fear and the physical appetites and needs described by Plato and later philosophers. Julie will discuss keys to opening the heart and dispelling fear which have been uncovered in our lifetimes.



Welcome New Member

Ross Rosenberg

Preferred Pronouns: He/him

Where were you born and raised? Education – High school, college, major, graduation? Born in Chicago IL. Raised in Mt. Prospect IL. High school: John Hersey. College: Towson State University. Graduate school: Boston University. Clinical Psychology major.

Your career – Current or former work? Your chosen profession? What did you like about your career? I've been a psychotherapist for 38 years. Since 2013, I've run a solo private practice in Pensacola, the Self-Love Recovery Institute, specializing in codependency, narcissistic abuse, trauma, and addictions.

My career has also included professional training and speaking, expert witness work, and mental health education online. Earlier on, I provided mental health services to children and adolescents and worked in the foster care system.

New Member continued from p. 5

What I've liked most is the clinical work itself — helping people who felt stuck or broken make real changes in their lives. I've also enjoyed teaching and writing. In recent years my practice became narrowly specialized, and I've missed working with children, which is part of what drew me to the Guardian ad Litem program.

Adventures or valued experiences the work has provided for you – and/or is still providing. The work has given me some memorable experiences — I've presented trainings in many cities around the country and a few overseas, and I've heard from readers and viewers whose lives were helped by my work, which is always gratifying. But the experiences I value most are the everyday clinical ones: being with a client when something finally clicks and watching them build a better life from there. The work has also pushed me to keep growing personally, and it still does. Volunteering as a Guardian ad Litem feels like a natural next step — a return to working with children.

Family – Parents, siblings, spouse, special relatives, friends. Parents are deceased. Three siblings.

Children: names, ages. Grandchildren. My only child is Benjamin Rosenberg, age 32, who lives in the suburbs of Chicago.

Are you from the Pensacola area, or recently moved here? What made you decide to choose the Pensacola area and where did you move from? Moved here to start my life over, and recover from a traumatic divorce. I was living on Vancouver Island Canada.

What do you like about the area? Sunshine, climate, beaches, and all of the activities that surround them.

Special interests or hobbies – now or in the past? Sports, music, reading, art, community volunteering, advocating for a cause, other? Traveling, photography, cooking, fishing, kayaking, landscaping, music. Just got accepted as a FL Guardian Ad Litem volunteer.

Life's adventures you'd like to share. I have travelled all around the world. I raised my son by myself. Started several companies, including the current one, "The Self-Love Recovery Institute."

What is your religious background? When did you become interested in Unitarian Universalism, and what about the tradition appeals to you? I spent most of my life outside of any faith-based organization. In recent years, I fully embraced my non-theistic, scientific leanings and found that Humanism deeply resonated with me — believing not in superstition but in humankind is, I've come to feel, a kind of faith of its own. UUCP is the first congregation I've ever belonged to, and I found it on my own after moving to Pensacola; no family or friends brought me to it, and I had no previous involvement with UUCP. What appeals to me about Unitarian Universalism is that it welcomes people like me: it asks for open minds and caring hearts rather than shared beliefs.

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

I've been warmly welcomed from the start, and I appreciate the intellectual openness and genuine community here. I was honored to give a presentation to the congregation on the healing power of self-love — my first live presentation in six years — and I look forward to contributing more. I don't have changes to suggest yet; I'm still happily learning my way around.

UUCP Church Year Calendar 2026-27

Have you wondered about the patterns and seasons of UUCP?

It can be helpful to know what to expect and what to get excited about within a group or organization. Some folks have observed that it takes a while to get used to the flow of events at UUCP, especially for anyone not familiar with our denomination or who may not have come from a religious tradition that follows certain calendars. We thought this church year overview might be helpful to allow folks to plan and see where they might be interested to get involved.

The usual activities at UUCP follow a general pattern according to the seasons, holidays, transition periods, and liturgical observances. Activities listed below are organized by month and include the team or person usually responsible. However, keep in mind that these events may not always occur and may not adhere to a strict schedule, especially since we are a volunteer, lay-led congregation, and we as humans are doing the best we can!

Our **church year** runs from July 1 – June 30.

Sunday Sweets is a bake sale fundraiser for the church held monthly, usually on the second Sunday, except between June-August.

Lunch Bunch, a lunch gathering organized by Hugh Ed Turner, meets monthly on the second Wednesday at 1pm at various locations announced in the newsletter and email.

July

July 1: Church year begins

-Leadership transition (Board & Leadership Development Team)

-Identify Team Leaders (Board)

-Identify Cluster Group Leaders (Membership)

-Beach Day (Fun & Fellowship)

August

Aug 9: Back to School Service For All Ages (Sunday Services, CRE)

Aug 22: Board Retreat (Board)

September

Sept 6: Labor Day weekend

Sept 13: Ingathering Water Communion Service For All Ages (Sunday Services, CRE)

-Ministry Teams Roundtable & Planning Meeting (Board, Ministry Teams, Office Admin)

-JUST Pensacola house meetings (Social Justice)



October

-Fall Campout (Fun & Fellowship)

-JUST Pensacola Community Problems Assembly (Social Justice)

Oct 25: Service For All Ages

Oct 25: Trick or Treasure Hunt (CRE & Earthstars)

-All Souls Day - memorial plaque ceremony (Caring & Sunday Services)

November

Nov 22: Bread Communion Service For All Ages (Sunday Services)

-Thanksgiving Potluck (Fun & Fellowship)

-Holiday collection for staff (Board)

-Guest At Your Table (Board & CRE)

Winter Holidays

—Tree & Deck the Halls, Nov 29 (Anzaldo Satterwhite Family & helpers)

—Advent wreath (Sunday Services)

—Menorah (Sunday Services)

Calendar continued from p. 7

December

Dec 20: Wholly Family Service For All Ages (Sunday Services)

Dec 20: Holiday Gift Exchange (Fun & Fellowship)

Dec 20: Children's Holiday Party (CRE)

Dec 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Sunday Services)

January

-Undeck the Halls, Jan 3 (Anzaldo Satterwhite Family & helpers)

-Annual Financial Giving Statements (Finance & Treasurer)

Jan 17: Service For All Ages (Sunday Services)

Jan 18: MLK Parade (Social Justice with Fun & Fellowship)

-30 Days of Love - MLK to Valentines (UUA Side with Love)

Jan 24: Midyear Congregational Meeting with lunch (Board, Finance, Charitable Trust, Ministry Teams for reports)

February

Feb 14: Service For All Ages (Sunday Services, CRE) – School holiday weekend

-Budget Drive with Reaffirmation of Membership & Friendship (Finance & Treasurer)

-Budget Drive potluck or meal (Sunday Services, Fun & Fellowship)

March-April

March 28: Flower Communion Service For All Ages, Easter (Sunday Services, CRE)

-Egg Hunt (CRE)

-Review of Membership Rolls (Membership, Board)



April

-Review rental terms & Rental Coordinator contract (Board & Rental Coordinator)

April 22: Earth Day (Social Justice & Outreach)

April 25: Service For All Ages (Sunday Services, CRE)

April 25: Earth Blessing Ceremony (Earthstars & Sunday Services)

-JUST Pensacola Nehemiah Action (Social Justice)

-Wahoos game (Fun & Fellowship)

May

May 9: Mother's Day Service For All Ages (Sunday Services, CRE)

May 16: Annual Congregational Meeting with lunch - elections & budget vote (Board, Finance, Charitable Trust, Leadership Development)

May 23: Children's Ice Cream Social (CRE)

May 30: Memorial Day weekend

June

-Pride month (Social Justice)

June 23-June 27: General Assembly (Denominational Affairs & UUA)

June 27: Father's Day Service For All Ages (Sunday Services, CRE)

June 30: Church year ends



Making Racism Wrong Again

A Convocation, held via Zoom, of the Unitarian
Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council

**Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026, 11 a.m.-1 pm Central time
(Starts at Noon Eastern, 10:00 am Mtn, 9:00 am Pacific)**

3 Featured Speakers address aspects of this issue



How best to use law to fight racism at this time. **Melissa Staas** has spent her legal career fighting against the racial and economic inequity that families experience in the family regulation ("child protection") system. As a managing attorney at the ACLU of Illinois, Melissa's current practice focuses on systems reform through litigation and related advocacy, including disability and family justice issues that disproportionately harm Black and brown people. Melissa has engaged in systems-based litigation reform, including class action lawsuits and individual civil rights cases against the state child welfare agency. Melissa is a 2007 graduate of Loyola University Chicago School of Law, where she served as Editor-in-Chief of the Children's Legal Rights Journal.



Best political strategies to fight racism at this time. **Alex Zamalin** is a Professor of Africana Studies and Political Science at Rutgers University-New Brunswick. He is the author of numerous books, *African American Political Thought and American Culture: The Nation's Struggle for Racial Justice* (New York: Palgrave, 2015), *Struggle on their Minds: The Political Thought of African American Resistance* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2017) and many more. Zamalin is also co-editor of *Revolutionary Hope in a Time of Crisis* (Routledge, 2024) and *American Political Thought: An Alternative View* (New York: Routledge, 2017). His scholarly essays have appeared in various edited book collections and journals.



How people of faith can best fight racism at this time. **Dr. Kenneth Christiansen** has been active with race issues since participating in a Lutheran volunteer ministry serving residents of the Robert Taylor Homes public housing project in Chicago, 1965-67. He taught religion and sociology classes, including Cultural Diversity and Business Ethics, at Defiance College in Ohio from 1974 to 2008. From 2014 – 2021 Dr. Christiansen held leadership positions with ICARE, the Interfaith Coalition for Action, Reconciliation and Empowerment, a Church Based Community Organization in Jacksonville, Florida.

There will be time for questions and comments by those in attendance

**TO REGISTER send an email to UUMUAC@gmail.com;
Zoom codes will be sent the day before the Convocation**



HIRING



Childcare Providers

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

9888 Pensacola Boulevard
Pensacola, FL 32532



Unitarian Universalism encompasses many faith traditions. Unlike most religions, it is not centered on specific theological beliefs. Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religious movement characterized by a "free and responsible search for truth and meaning". Individually and in community with others we seek to make a difference in our world through active, tangible expressions of love, justice, and peace.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

This position is responsible for supervising, nurturing, and caring for children, typically between the ages of 8 weeks to 5 years of age on Sunday mornings at our campus.

Primary responsibilities: Arrive by 9:30am, welcome children and families, and ensure all feel comfortable and seen.

Additional responsibilities: preparing rooms for planned activities, ensuring sign-in and sign-out sheets are completed, referring visitors to CRE Coordinator, engaging in play as appropriate, assisting with snacks, and straightening/lightly cleaning. In the event no nursery-age children are in attendance, you may be asked to assist with another children's class (ages 6-13).

Hours: Sundays from 9:30am – 11:30am (two hours minimum guaranteed) or later dependent on other scheduled events. Exact work hours will be determined prior to service each week.

Frequency: Prefer weekly on a regular basis but will consider once or twice monthly.

Starting Pay: \$15.00 hourly

For more information or to apply, submit
resume or letter of interest to
uucpre@gmail.com

|| (904) 475-6075

WE'RE HIRING

Children's Religious Education (CRE) Coordinator

Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

9888 Pensacola Blvd, Pensacola, FL 32534

About Us: The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola (UUCP) is to "Celebrate Diversity, Strive for Justice, and Inspire Love." We believe that families come in many forms, and all are welcome in our church. We are designated as a Welcoming Congregation, which means we strive to create space that honors every part of our identities, backgrounds, and experiences.

This position pays \$175 per week, working approximately 7 hours per week.

Requirements:

- Training and experience as an educator
- Love for children & understanding of the principles of child development
- Ability to maintain a patient and friendly demeanor at all times
- Physical fitness and ability to care for children's basic needs
- Knowledge of what to do in an emergency situation
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Knowledge of (or willingness to learn) UU principles & sensitivity to the diverse viewpoints of UU congregations
- Knowledge of (or willingness to become familiar with) UU religious educational curricula
- Expertise in online sharing platforms, Microsoft Word, and Excel spreadsheets
- Clean criminal records check

Responsibilities:

- Serve as the CRE contact person, serve as the lead teacher, and work with the volunteer teachers and advisory team to communicate with families and the congregation.
- Work with the CRE ministry team to maintain the CRE budget; purchase and maintain supplies and equipment as needed and keep records current. Arrange and send reminders for CRE Team meetings.
- Communicate program needs to the Team Leader(s) of the CRE ministry team, to the Board Liaison, and/or the President of the Board, as needed.
- Work with Teachers to assess the status of children, family needs and interests.
- Work with the CRE Team to recruit and recognize teachers. Work with the team to ensure that teachers and childcare providers receive adequate training. Ensure the CRE program is filled and publicized.
- Maintain records of CRE program documents such as:
 - CRE program schedules
 - Criminal records checks for CRE personnel and volunteers
 - Family and Volunteer Registration forms
 - Program Roster, Attendance sheets and family contact info
 - Write monthly CRE newsletter column



To apply, submit resume to cre@uupensacola.org.

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

TO:



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

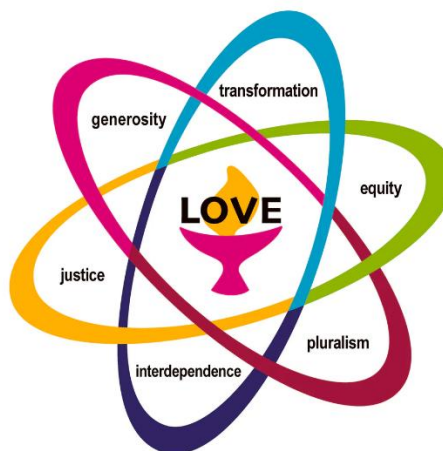


UUCP is proudly an



LGBTQ

Welcoming Congregation



Graphic by Susan Winkler (susanwinkler.org)