

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

# The Light

Vol. 69 Issue 9 October 2026



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

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From the Governing Board

## President's Letter

Dear friends,



Probably like most of you, I keep waiting for the weather to turn but all it seems to do is rain. But this morning, I felt the slightest hint of a drop in the temperature. I think it was only 80° when I stepped outside. Not quite refreshing, but made me want to get a pumpkin spiced something and call it for what it is: autumn. Like it or not, we're here. One of my favorite things about autumn is the fall foods.

On that note, it was nice to see everyone at the most recent potluck. Getting together over food helps build a sense of community, and I appreciated the effort that went into making the event a success. More than anything, what we need now is camaraderie and community.

When I took office, one of my goals was to help steer our community through some troubled waters. It helps that I have been church president before. Towards the end of my first term, I felt like I had a better handle on the job. Now I get to put what I learned before into practice. What I see as "troubled waters" are a bunch of things that I'll address here in this letter.

First, using Maslow's hierarchy of needs, is shelter. For quite some time we have needed some rehab on the building, but the work requires certain things to fall into place. Top priority is the roof. Hopefully by the time this letter is read, we'll be able to report on some concrete news about the roof and where we go from here. Once the roof is fixed, we can immediately focus on the air conditioning to make the building temperature more tolerable. Lastly, once all of that is together, we can work to get the wind insurance back. Both the insurance and the air conditioning were tied up with the roof, and since it looks like we are on the path to getting the roof started, we are also on the path to having our shelter become safer, more comfortable, and protected.

Another priority that we are working on is with the safety of the congregation. As you know, election season is upon us, and this is a good time to make sure we do our community service by voting and encouraging others to do so.

President's Letter continued

I was recently at a fundraiser for our very own Joe Vinson and his campaign for open and clean government. It was inspiring to be in a room full of truly joyous people, filled with optimism, singing for a better day -- literally singing.

While I left that event feeling hopeful, I was also reminded that not everyone feels the same way. Not everyone in our political landscape thinks like we do or appreciates our point of view. That's great and makes the world more interesting. Nonetheless, it's also important to keep an eye out for each other and be aware of your surroundings, including at UUCP.

You should know that the board is doing our best to make sure the congregation is safe at all times, which includes a few recent safety measures we've started, but the best defense will always be vigilance. As I mentioned in my last letter, if you see or hear of anything that you think is odd, please let someone know. Even if it seems like nothing, it might be worthy of note. The safety of the congregation is a top priority, and we are doing our best to keep UUCP safe. If you have any reasonable suggestions, feel free to reach out to me.

Speaking of safety, I had the pleasure of sitting in on a CRE meeting the other day, and the work that is being done with the children is very commendable. It is great to see so many kids coming now, and our volunteers are doing a great job teaching the curriculum and looking out for the little ones. New safety measures are being implemented to better assure the safety of the children. I can assure you now, though, that the kids are in safe hands. We owe a lot to everyone who has been helping back there. We are still searching for a paid CRE coordinator (see the We're Hiring ad toward the back of this newsletter). In the meantime, our volunteers and paid childcare provider are doing great work, and I wanted to mention that.

One of my other priorities was to allow for the work of the board to be more transparent. To do so, I plan to hold a series of short Town Hall meetings via Zoom for members of the congregation. Of course, if you see me and have something to say, pull me aside. However, I know that it may be easier for some to talk in another format. You can always reach out to me in person, but you can also email, call, Zoom or whatever with any lingering questions or complaints. With that in mind, holding Town Halls seems helpful. You will see announcements for those in the coming days.

Lastly, one of the things that our congregation has done very well historically is be community-minded. With this in mind, we will begin JUST Pensacola House Meetings very soon. Currently, I know of meetings that will take place at an individual home and at the church itself. Keep your eye out for announcements about those meetings (see the calendar in this newsletter). I do understand that it can be frustrating sometimes to work for change and to see the change happen slowly and incrementally over a long period of time. Sometimes we walk away from the large gatherings feeling less than satisfied, but as many of you know, this is what democracy looks like. Lots of voices, lots of meetings, lots of compromises, and sometimes concrete actions. Sometimes not.

These victories are hard to accomplish and certainly hard on the organizers within the walls of our congregation and those outside. Nonetheless, for things to get better in our larger community, UUCP being involved is important. One of the things that I have always appreciated about JUST Pensacola is that our involvement puts us in direct contact with a diverse array of congregations across the city. Many of us do not have those opportunities outside of this kind of organizing, and to me that is some of the most important work that we can be doing right now.

## DIRECTORY

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

9888 Pensacola Blvd., Pensacola, FL 32534  
(850) 475-9077, [uupensacola@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:caring@uupensacola.org)  
**Communications:** Joe Vinson  
[communications@uupensacola.org](mailto:communications@uupensacola.org)  
**Children's Religious Exploration:** Lauren Anzaldo  
[cre@uupensacola.org](mailto:cre@uupensacola.org)  
**Denominational Affairs:** Crys Brockway  
**Finance:** Laurie Winterberg  
**Fun and Fellowship:** Jack Comstock  
**Leadership Development:** Crys Brockway  
**Membership:** Lauren Anzaldo  
[membership@uupensacola.org](mailto:membership@uupensacola.org)  
**Outreach:** Laura Keith King  
**Safer Congregation:**  
[safer@uupensacola.org](mailto:safer@uupensacola.org)  
**Social Justice:** Paula Montgomery  
**Sunday Services:** Joe Vinson

*Community Minister*  
Rev. Maggie Lovins

### President's Letter continued

Getting together, talking to each other, and trying to find common ground will bring us closer to progress. If there is anything Unitarian Universalists are known for, it is this: staying engaged, being on the front lines, and not losing faith that a better world is out there. The path might be messy and filled with our mistakes along the way, but if we continue and learn from the past, we can do our part to make a better world.

These are certainly interesting times, but we are also very interesting people. This would be a good moment for us to rise to the occasion.

If you ever need anything, or have any suggestions, feel free to reach out to me.

Until then, I'll close with the immortal words of the late Bo Davidson:

**"It's a Great Day  
to be a Unitarian Universalist."**

Sincerely,  
Scott, UUCP Board President



**Out of the Darkness walk  
by American Foundation for Suicide Prevention  
on Sun, Oct 25 in Pensacola**

**See announcement on page 5**

# Sunday Services & Happenings in October

**Thursday, October 1**

**JUST Pensacola House Meeting –**

**6pm at a private residence**



**JUST Pensacola**

Justice United Seeking Transformation

**Saturday, October 3**

**Trans Support Group – 4pm**

**Sunday, October 4**

**UUCP Singers Choir Practice – 9am**

**Sunday Service – 10am**

**Deeds, Not Creeds: A Heaven Without God**

Speaker – Ross Rosenberg

Through his poem "Heaven," Ross Rosenberg recounts his journey toward accepting death as permanent yet transcendent. He explores how Judaism and Humanism helped him see heaven not as a supernatural realm but as a philosophical and tangible form of immortality. His perspective offers solace to those questioning traditional beliefs by suggesting that we endure through the meaning we create and the lives we touch.

**Bring donations for Manna Food Bank  
on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month**



## Sunday Sweets



Sunday Sweets for the month of October will be held on Sunday October 11th.

Thank you,  
Michael Newcomb

**Sunday, October 11**

**UUCP Singers Choir Practice – 9am**

**Sunday Service – 10am**

**Ballot Measures**

Speaker – Charlyle Parrish

As we prepare to exercise our right to vote this election season, Charlyle Parrish from the League of Women Voters Pensacola Bay Area will join us to break down the upcoming ballot. She will explain the wording and impacts of this November's constitutional amendments, empowering you to make confident, informed decisions at the polls.

**Second Hour: Wisdom Circle – 1130am**

UUCP Friend Julie Patton leads the second in a six-session Wisdom Practice Circle taking place in the Library during Second Hour (1130am-1230pm). This circle is designed for people interested in experience with specific wisdom methods informed by ancient truths and practices that have always sustained the human race.

**Monday, October 12**

**Readers' Zoom Group – 10am**

Get in touch with Laurie W for login details.

# Sunday Services & Happenings in October

## Wednesday, October 14

### Lunch Bunch – 1pm

See article on page 6 for location and details. Contact Hugh Ed Turner to RSVP for Lunch Bunch.

## Saturday, October 17

### Trans Support Group – 4pm

## Sunday, October 18

### UUCP Singers Choir Practice – 9am

### Sunday Service – 10am

#### Humanism 101: History and UUA Influence

Speaker – Buz Ryland

Buz Ryland from Humanists of West Florida will explore the lives of famous figures from antiquity to the modern day who championed freedom of thought — and how they shaped our understanding of reason, ethics, and individual liberty over time.

#### Second Hour: JUST Pensacola House Meeting in the church Sanctuary – 1130am

See article on page 7 for more details.

#### Second Hour: Earthstars meeting in the Teen Room – 1130am

## Wednesday, October 21

### UUCP Governing Board Meeting – 6pm

Members and Friends may attend monthly Board Meetings held via Zoom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. Request Zoom link from President or Board.

## Sunday, October 25

### UUCP Singers Choir Practice – 9am

### Sunday Service – 10am

#### Haunted Pensacola Tales & Costume Parade

In this Service for All Ages, we will hear some spooky tales of old Pensacola and watch our youth (and anyone else who wants to participate) parade their costumes in a Halloween fashion show.

### Trick-or-Treasure Hunt – 1-3pm



This fun fall-themed annual event includes games, a cakewalk, and a raffle. Kids and families, regardless of UUCP involvement, are welcome to attend. Trick-or-Treasure Hunt is organized by the Earthstars group.

### Out of the Darkness Walk – 12pm check-in

Athena Lietzau is organizing a UUCP team to walk at the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's annual [Out of the Darkness walk](#) on Sat, Oct 25 at Pensacola's Community Maritime Park. See Athena to join.



## October's UU Lunch Bunch, the 14<sup>th</sup> (Need those "UU"s.)

Some of you may have seen the PNJ's article on "the 10 best sandwiches" in Pensacola, reading designed to promote salivation.

One of those mentioned was Marie's Seafood at 621 East Cervantes (south side of Cv, most parking in the back, some at front). The selling of seafood happens in the east half of the building (take a number) via the Cv door. The restaurant's main door is via the back parking lot, about center of the building. ... separate

doors, but you can walk through. ...

We of the LBer's were last in Marie's before Covid 19, but the menu looks about the same. The article mentioned a Grouper Sandwich, not noted on the menu, but maybe a specialty ...?

So, as usual, we'll go for 1300 /1 PM, and may have "split" tables. Knowledge of your coming may mitigate seating confusion. There are high tables and chairs, and low tables/chairs. We should go for the low tables for seating comfort/safety. If the crowd is slack at 1:00, we may find 8-10 together. And the ordering is done at the register at the "south"/back wall counter, with pickup likely there? (It's been so long ago, I don't remember.)

Well, 100 Buffet (19 North Navy) lived up to its reputation. All 10 attendees filled their plate more than once, some thrice, plus of course the dessert course. The range of steam table choices seemed less than the (only other buffet I know currently) Golden Corral; GC's are spread out (for lots of walking) while 100B's are more compactly located. And labeled, if you're not sure reidentifying the food item. And the sushi area ... well, easy to miss unless it's a special interest, and a good reason to go back, explore more and eat more slowly.

... Our table of 10 did result in some restricted flow, but I ignored the obvious solution at first (move the tables out into the aisle) until we were seated and busy with plates. Also interestingly, knives are a request item, and some of the food did need cutting up.

--Hugh Ed Turner

"READ BOOKS!" THEY SAID,  
"IT'LL BE FUN!!" THEY SAID

NOW I HAVE A READING ADDICTION,  
IMPOSSIBLY HIGH STANDARDS AND  
I'M UNSATISFIED WITH THE REAL WORLD.

## Readers' Group Resumes --

### Here's Some Good Reads for You

The online Readers' Group resumed for the Fall Season earlier in September. Here's some of the recommendations. Especially if you're unsatisfied with the real world.....

*Crossing to Safety* - Wallace Stegner

*The Wedding People* - Alison Espach

*The Bee Sting* - Paul Murray

*The Other Wes Moore* - Wes Moore

*Dog Songs* - Mary Oliver

*The Swedish Art of Aging Exuberantly* - Margaret Magnusson

*When the Cranes Fly South* - Lisa Ridzen

October's Readers' Zoom Group is scheduled for Monday, October 12th beginning at 10 am.

If you want to join, get in touch with Laurie Winterberg. She'll send you the login link a few days before.

## Gather for Justice with Fellow UUs



Fall is a time for gathering and deepening our relationships. Our involvement with JUST Pensacola is similar. In

October, we hold House Meetings to build our church's justice movement alongside other congregations across the Pensacola area.

Everyone in our congregation is invited to attend one House Meeting, whether or not you have ever participated with JUST Pensacola. You have two date/time options to attend a House Meeting -- just alert the host that you'd like to attend one of the meetings below.

Thurs, Oct 1, 6-730pm

Hosted by Scott & Lauren at their home

Sun, Oct 18, 1130am-1 pm

Hosted by Paula Montgomery at church

JUST Pensacola stands for Justice United Seeking Transformation in Pensacola, which is an interfaith coalition of local congregations from across racial and socioeconomic lines. We are unified to bring more justice to our communities through evidence-based solutions for serious community problems like housing, mental health, and crime. UUCP has been an active member congregation of JUST Pensacola since 2019. Many of us have found the experience enriching as it brings us into dialogue with others we wouldn't otherwise interact with, allows us to join with a large number of other people to affect real change, and helps us become and stay knowledgeable about important community issues.

See Lauren or Paula if you have questions. We hope you will join us for justice!



# 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](mailto:uucpre@gmail.com)

or call (904) 475-6077

# 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](mailto:cre@uupensacola.org).**

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

TO:



Deadline for November *Light*:  
Wednesday, October 21



UUCP is proudly an



**LGBTQ**  
Welcoming Congregation

