The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola

The Light

Vol. 69 Issue 10 November 2026

Celebrate Diversity Strive for Justice Inspire Love

From the Governing Board

President's Letter

Dear friends,



Ever since the hurricane, I feel that it is safe to say that we have all been under some tremendous stress – not only preparing for the storm, but most of all the aftermath. I remember right afterwards, when it became clear that the storm was heading to our East, many of us said that we had dodged a bullet. Of course, this was not the case.

Several of our members took substantial damage. While we may say that it is only property and not people, which is very true, this doesn't take away the pain of being displaced or seeing a place that you've lived in feel unsafe. While our congregation certainly does not need another reminder that life can be very unpredictable and sometimes unstable, these moments have the potential to bring out the best in people.

What I saw in the immediate aftermath was a number of people quickly stepping up to help. So many people came out to the church to help clear debris that it would be hard to name them all, but just know that your work is appreciated. I went to meet a contractor the other day, and I was pleasantly surprised at how good the parking lot looked. Of course, the back parking lot is a different story, but we will rebuild and get through this.

As you can imagine, we will likely need help in many directions in the coming days, but for now I want to say that I am glad you are all physically unharmed. If there is any good that came from the aftermath, it was hearing that everyone was okay and seeing so many people work for the common good. For that alone, I again want to say thanks.

As always, feel free to reach out to me if you have any comments or concerns.
Sincerely,
Scott, UUCP Board President

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: Jack Comstock
Leadership Development: Crys Brockway
Membership: Lauren Anzaldo
membership@uupensacola.org
Outreach: Laura Keith King
Safer Congregation:
safer@uupensacola.org
Social Justice: Paula Montgomery
Sunday Services: Joe Vinson

Community Minister
Rev. Maggie Lovins

UU Lunch Bunch

By Hugh Ed Turner



For November's 2nd Wednesday, 11 November (rings a bell, doesn't it?), it's time we returned to McGuire's on East Gregory, 1PM as usual. Please let me know if you're coming, since, you may know, we have to stand and wait, outside or in, until the majority of the expected crowd has shown up.

So, how was Marie's on Cervantez? Well, patient and noisy. I was patient until 1300/1 PM, and then I ordered – grilled grouper with cheese grits and string beans, 2 hushpuppies. Then I looked for a clean table, trying a high table and chair, finding the chair uncomfortable, and then Julie P. walked in, and we found a low clean table on on the two paths into the diner – the chair more comfortable but designed to lessen the comfort/shorten the stay of those padded like me. Then Bill C. arrived, for a threesome, and we chatted above the diminished noise of the departing Noon crowd. ...

My food was pretty good, but for the prices, and the small-dish sides on the same plate as the entree struck me as poorly presented relative to the price. IF there is a next time, I'll go with one of the basket entrees, probably the best category value for the buck.

Sunday Services & Happenings in November

Sunday, November 1

Bring donations for Manna Food Bank on the 1st Sunday of each month

UUCP Singers Choir Practice – 9am

Sunday Service – 10am

Journeying with Heroes and Heroines – Speaker: Nancy Hagman, UUCP Member

During this service, we will explore the possibility of having experiences described by Joseph Campbell as a "universal pattern" found in lore, legends and rituals across cultures.

In addition, we will honor members of our congregation that left a legacy on our hearts as they shared their lives with us until their recent passing.

Second Hour: Love at the Center discussion group – 1130am

Join us in the Library to continue the conversation about the book "Love at the Center" and UU theology.



Love at the Center & What Moves Us

We're considering UU theologies using the book "Love at the Center" by Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt and the UU faith development curriculum known as "What Moves Us: Unitarian Universalist Theology."

This 2nd Hour discussion series explores UU identity, values, and history through the lives of UU forebearers to help shape our personal theology.

"Love at the Center" is available for purchase through most major booksellers, including the UUA bookstore, InSpirit

Meeting Dates: Aug 30, Sept 6, Nov 1, Dec 6, Jan (TBD), Feb 7, March 14, April 11

Sunday Sweets



Sunday Sweets for the month of November scheduled for Sunday November 15th.
Thank you,
Michael Newcomb

Saturday, November 7

Trans Support Group – 4pm

Sunday, November 8

UUCP Singers Choir Practice – 9am

Sunday Service – 10am

JUST Pensacola: Looking Back & Looking Forward – Speaker: Tricia Wessel

Tricia Wessel, lead organizer of JUST Pensacola, will provide an update on the organization's progress in 2026, including the disappointing lack of attendance by local officials at the most recent Nehemiah Action, and the key research areas and strategy for 2027.

Second Hour: Wisdom Circle – 1130am

UUCP Friend Julie Patton leads the second Wisdom Practice Circle in the Library. This circle focuses on wisdom methods informed by ancient truths and practices.

Wednesday, November 11

Lunch Bunch – 1pm (See page 2)

Sunday Services & Happenings in November

Sunday, November 15

Singers Choir Practice – 9am

Sunday Service – 10am

Changing the World with Art –

Speaker: Laura Keith King

UUCP member, past president and artist, Laura Keith King, will illuminate ways that literature, visual arts, drama, and music has not only reflected the world, but changed it for the better. She will also talk about why the world needs YOUR art.

Second Hour: Earthstars – 1130am

Ministry Team Roundtable – 1130am

All Ministry Team Leaders are requested to join with Board Members for this annual discussion to build relationships, to coordinate, and to plan for the year ahead. Contact Scott Satterwhite for info.

Going-Away Party for Bill Sloan – 2pm

Join us for a going away celebration for Bill Sloan, who is moving to Seattle to be closer to his son. His friends are throwing him a little potluck shin dig. Bring drinks to share, a little food, and a lot of cheer to send our friend off with some love. Contact Scott for info.

Monday, November 16

UUCP Readers Group

Wednesday, November 18

UUCP Governing Board Meeting – 6pm

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

Saturday, November 21

Trans Support Group – 4pm

Sunday, November 22

UUCP Singers Choir Practice – 9am

Sunday Service – 10am

Bread Communion led by Barbara Wright

Our Bread Communion is one of three annual celebrations. Similar to our congregants, bread comes in a wide variety with various histories. All civilizations have made some type of bread. This communion service reminds us that we all need food to live, that we must share our one earth which feeds us all, and that part of our purpose is to share our unique gifts with one another - so all can be fed (both physically and spiritually).

Following this service, we will share a Thanksgiving Potluck together.

Sunday, November 29

UUCP Singers Choir Practice – 9am

Sunday Service – 10am

Humanism 101: Its History and the UUA Influence on It – Speaker: Buz Ryland

Buz Ryland from the 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. Service was rescheduled after being disrupted by Hurricane Isaias.

Deck the Halls – 1130am

Many hands make light work! Pitch in to deck the UUCP halls by decorating our tree with handmade paper stars and hanging wreaths and ribbons on our church entryway. We'll have some holiday music and nibbles. You may bring some finger foods to share.

Renewing our commitment to Affordable Housing, Mental Health & Criminal Justice with JUST Pensacola

Cries for justice and mercy went up recently from a group of 100 members of a dozen local congregations. Seven of us from UUCP were in that group. We gathered at the JUST Pensacola Community Problems Assembly on Tuesday, October 27. We heard updates on the three community problem areas that JUST Pensacola has been working on.

- **Affordable Housing:** County Commissioners Stroberger and Kohler agreed to designate parcels of land for the community land trust administered by Habitat for Humanity to be set aside for affordable rental housing. However, despite what the commissioners agreed to in May 2025 at the Nehemiah Action, the transfer of land hasn't been completed. We in JUST Pensacola continue to monitor this action to ensure that the land is designated.
- **Mental Health:** Many community members struggle with mental health challenges and have difficulty navigating fragmented systems. We have higher than average rates of substance abuse and mental illness. The solution that JUST Pensacola proposes is to institute a pilot program using care coordinators and the existing 211 system run by United Way to assist people with navigating resources during periods of need. We continue to work with county and city decisionmakers on funding for this initiative.
- **Criminal Justice:** The efforts continue to increase the number of youth and adults who are given civil citations rather than arrest for less serious offenses. Pensacola Police Chief Eric Winstrom supports the use of civil citations and spoke about the initiative at the gathering.

Committees work throughout the year to monitor each of these problems and to engage in actions to advance the JUST Pensacola agenda for justice. The next step for our justice movement is to hold the Research Action Kickoff, which is when new and returning members meet to plan the stakeholders they will be reaching out to in the coming months. All UUCP member are welcome to participate in the Research Action Kickoff. Details below.

Research Action Kickooff
Tuesday, Dec 1, 6-730pm
The Wright Place at First United Methodist Church, 6 E Wright St

Other Important Upcoming Dates
JUST Pensacola Rally
Tues, March 9, 6pm
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Nehemiah Action
Tues, April 13, 6pm

Celebration
Thurs, June 3, 6pm
St. Joseph's Catholic Church



You're invited as Meadville Lombard Theological School hosts public virtual invites

Greetings ~ Meadville Lombard Theological School would like to invite all members and friends of Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola to our forthcoming public virtual events. These are free virtual events. All are invited.

Here is the announcement below - one may register with the links. Thank you ~

Presentation: Meadville Lombard's One Hundredth Anniversary in Chicago and Treasures from the Meadville Lombard Records Preserved in the Archives – Nov. 2nd, 6:30 p.m. CT

Lecture: The Sabbath Way with Dr. Travis West – Dec. 7th, 6:30 p.m. CT

Meadville Lombard is a school that strives to educate ethical leadership, grounded in Unitarian Universalist tradition. Our students and alums bring justice, equity, and compassion to our communities. Thank you for being in community with MLTS!

If you'd enjoy our public virtual community vespers, academic lectures, and presentations of interest, please join our **MLTS News List**, which issues our event invites and news by email.

Readers' Group

If you're curious about the Readers' Group - we meet monthly, on the 3rd Monday of each month via ZOOM for about 1 hour. See Laurie Winterberg for more info.

HIRING

Childcare Providers

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

9888 Pensacola Boulevard
Pensacola, FL 32532

LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation

Children's Religious Exploration

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
uucpcre@gmail.com

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

TO:

Deadline for December *Light*:

Saturday, November 21



UUCP is proudly an

LGBTQ

Welcoming Congregation

