



NCUU NEWS



The **October, 2017**, monthly newsletter of the Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists
7633 N. Florida Ave. (Hwy. 41) Citrus Springs, FL 34434 352-465-4225 www.naturecoastuu.org

President's Message

Hello Everyone,

We made it through the storm. The dire forecast of a devastating category 3 hurricane, namely Irma, boiled down to a category 1 by the time it reached Citrus and Marion Counties, and we can all breathe a collective sigh of relief; however, not so for our brothers and sisters in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Natural disasters have claimed the lives of many people and homes and livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of island residents. Mexico has suffered through three earthquakes, the most devastating one registered 8.2 on the Richter scale and claimed the lives of over 230 men, women, and children, as well as homes, schools and places of business.

Early last month, Hurricane Harvey ravaged a huge portion of coastal Houston, Texas destroying thousands of homes and water systems, setting off chemical plant explosions, and creating a toxic soup of chemicals, sewage, and gasoline in the waters, flooding streets, homes, places of business, and schools. The NCUU collected almost \$1700 to send to the UUA/UUSC in order for them to disburse our collection to charities that will help defray some costs to restore Houston to its former self.

Last Sunday, we had a second collection for the victims of hurricanes Irma and Maria in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and we collected \$965. This money will also be sent to the UUA/ UUSC. I want to thank each and every one of you for your generous contributions to these worthy causes.

It seems that we are having more and more of these horrendous natural disasters, but the three hurricanes and the terrible earthquake in Mexico have been more than most of us can mentally register.

What so many people are still enduring as we go about our normal lives is a truly hard to comprehend. I know we'd like to do more to ease their suffering, but sending money to the UUA/UUSC is a really good start.

Again, let me reiterate my offer of our building as a sanctuary to anyone who feels unsafe in their home during another hurricane, especially for those who live on a flood plain, or on the west side of Route #19.

If you are a NCUU member, be sure you have a key to this building; see Carol Dinmore, she will issue one to you. If you are a "Friend" of the NCUU, you are welcome to stay, but first, contact a member who has a key.

One more note of sincere thanks to everyone who offered their home and safety to other members of the NCUU who needed a safe harbor during this most trying time.

Peace to You,
Pam

SUNDAY SERVICES

- Oct. 1 **Kurtland Davies**
"I Am John Muir"
- Oct. 8 **Tom Hibberd and the NCUU Players**
"How God Became Good"
- Oct. 15 **Rev. Carole Yorke:**
"Animal Blessing Ceremony"
Plan to bring your pets, everyone!
- Oct. 22 **Joe Wetzel**
"Faiths of the Founding Fathers"
- Oct. 29 **Dan Gribben**
"Gatsby and the American Dream"

Sally Smith-Adams

October Birthdays

If your birthday is in October, and your name is not on this list, please notify the editor: erickson872@att.net; 847-682-7527. Birthdays are celebrated at our Potluck Dinner, so plan on attending on October 20!

- 10/19 Barbara Ewing-DeRemer
- 10/19 Pamela A. Ricker



Monthly Potluck

Hurricane Irma forced the cancellation of our September potluck. However, we plan to make up for that loss by having a really SUPER potluck celebration on Friday, October 20. While celebrating all the October birthdays, we will try to make Barbara Deremer's 80th really special. She loves to dance, and dancing will be the featured activity. So, along with your covered dish, bring, or wear your dancing shoes. Big surprises in store. Hope to see you there whether you are a dancer or not. Come and help us celebrate.

Joan Burnett

SPECIAL AUCTION ITEM

A native American flute will be silently auctioned off at NCUU, over the next few weeks. Hand carved and worth about \$150. Proceeds will go to UUSC hurricane relief. Try it out and place a healthy bid. Great gift, too. Look in the lobby for the flute and silent auction sheet...starting this Sunday, Oct. 1.

Linda Myers

Caring Committee

Please inform the Caring Committee if an NCUU member is ill or in need of some cheer. Carol will keep in touch with ailing congregants, as well as our snowbirds.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this very fulfilling job, please contact Carol Dinmore at 352-419-5515. We especially need help during the summer months!

Ladies' Luncheon

The NCUU October Ladies Luncheon will be Tuesday, October 31, (last Tuesday of the month).

Sign-up sheet, directions, and menu sheet are in the foyer. If you have any questions, contact Peg Gotz (527-4113) or Julie Macdonald (465-5646)

Membership Committee

We are happy to announce that we have two new members joining us this month. Please be sure to welcome Amy Haiken and her husband, Mike Taylor, who live in Marion County north of Dunnellon. We are glad to have them with us. I'm certain that Amy and Mike will be a wonderful addition to our congregation!

Getting the newly revised NCUU website up and running has taken a bit longer than expected, as it was interrupted by Hurricane Irma. Please be patient and check out our Facebook page, Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist, for speaker listings and other event announcements.

The NCUU directory is being updated. Please get any new contact information to Wanda Brown; wfbrown41@gmail.com. The next Membership Committee Meeting is Wednesday, October 25th at 10:00 A.M

Connie Hart

Caring Committee

Please inform the Caring Committee if an NCUU member is ill or in need of some cheer. Carol will keep in touch with ailing congregants, as well as our snowbirds.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this very fulfilling job, please contact Carol Dinmore at 352-419-5515. We especially need help during the summer months!



Earth Center Small Group Ministry

We are a focused, lay-led small group that deepens and expands the ministry of our NCUU Congregation. We focus to build and deepen community relationships.

The members of our group have made a commitment to one another and to the spiritual, physical and emotional well-being of our group's participants.

Please join us on Wednesday, October 18, at 3 PM (Third Wednesday of the month).

Joan Burnett

Social Justice Committee

The NCUU Social Justice Committee is coordinating with The Suwannee-St. John's Group Sierra Club and the Citrus League of Women Voters to sponsor a free **Legislative Training Workshop**. Come and learn how to advocate for YOUR issues.

What: Legislative Training Workshop
When: **Saturday, October 21st from 1:00 – 4:00**
Where: The **Dunnellon Public Library** 20351 Robinson Rd Dunnellon, FL
Admission: Free

The Social Justice Committee meets the first Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2:30-3:30 at the church. Everyone is welcome to come to our meetings.

Religious Education Assistance Needed

We love to have children come to NCUU with their parents. If you would like to help out with the children present once a month for 20 minutes during the service, please contact Connie Hart; conlhart@gmail.com. Many thanks.

Board of Directors

Our Board meeting is Monday, Oct. 9, at 2 PM. If you want to place an item on the Board agenda, please send it to the clerk, Holly Alexander about a week in advance. (Second Monday of the month)

Zen Sitting Group

We meet on Fridays at 3:45 PM at the church (except for the 3rd Friday when potluck is on). For subsequent sitting locations please confirm with: Barbara Ewing DeRemer at: 352-795-5736.

Wireless amplifying headphones are now available at the rear of the sanctuary. See Gordon Hart or Gordie Dinmore for assistance on Sundays.

Send Sunday Morning Announcements to:
ncuuanouncements@gmail.com
Deadline is the Friday before Sunday service.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please remember that the deadline for October's Newsletter is **October 29**.
Send to: erickson872@att.net

Sunday Service Committee

Next meeting is Monday Oct. 30th, at 10 AM. (Last Monday of the month)

NCUU Board of Directors

President Pam Ricker
Vice-President..... Sheila Woods
Clerk Holly Alexander
Directors Irene LeMon
Tom Hibberd, Gordon Dinmore, Nancy Pettus,
Rob Deremer, and Ellen Saunders

NCUU Committees

Building Carol & Gordon Dinmore
Calendar Linda Myers
Caring Committee.....Carol Dinmore
Choir Director Sally Smith-Adams
Denominational Affairs Joan Burnett
Facebook Available
Finance Stan Brumaghim
Librarian Tom Hibberd
Membership Connie Hart

