



Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist (NCUU) News

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 Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists
Website: <http://www.ncuu.org>

May, 2018

In Memory of Irene LeMon

OUR GRIEF IS A HOLY THING

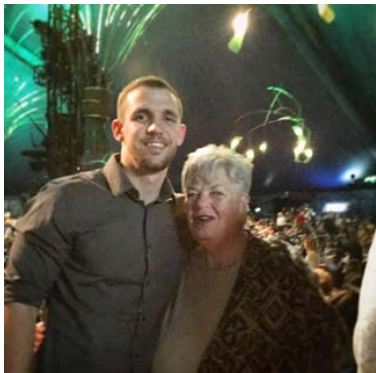
By Tracie Barrett-Welser

Our grief is a holy thing. It is that proof that another life touched ours in a profound way. It is the mark of love, the mark of connection, and the mark of a life well lived.

We will mourn, we will cry, we will miss Irene. Time will move on and we may not hurt like we hurt now, but then a thought or a bit of music or a smell, will remind us of her and it will all come back. Those moments, too, are holy: they're reminders of that connection that will never fully go away. It's important to hold on to that connection, because it is through those memories that Irene stays

with us. In our memories of her, that love and connection stay alive, and with it, a part of Irene.

We shared some of those memories today. Hold on to those memories, tell the stories that make you smile, the stories that make you laugh, share the memories with people who knew her and people who didn't. May they remind you of the beauty of Irene's life, of her passion and her connection to us. And may it bring you peace on this day.



President's Message

After a Fun Race I am honored to be your new President. As a forty year progressive UU I look forward to gentle growth in our caring fellowship.

As we move forward a place of honor will remain for our beloved Board Member Irene LeMon at every board meeting, who will attend in spirit.

Working members have requested a change in our monthly Pot Lucks from Friday to Saturday so that that may attend. A fellowship vote will be taken on this change, if necessary.

More to follow, in person.

God Speed,

Joe Verdi

Sunday Services

05/06/18 Speaker: Julie Macdonald

Bio summary: Our own Julie Macdonald has been a UU since 1960 and a member of NCUU since 2004. She feels that it is here, in this welcoming community, that she's found a unique testing ground that has inspired and enabled her to grow personally. Her passions include music, particularly opera and singing in our NCUU choir; gardening which offers creativity, beauty and patience; and the great joy of the struggle, excitement and birth of writing a good poem.

Topic: Why Poetry is Neither Elitist, Boring, Marginal nor Irrelevant

Summary: "Poetry links the material and spiritual, bringing together rhythm and speech and being among the most fruitful and inspiring disciplines of the mind. . . that brings about a particular state of awareness and instant perfect harmony about the most important things. After a brief discussion, various presenters will read poetry.

05/13/18: Speakers: Joan Burnett and Company

Bio Summary: Joan and "company" are all NCUU members.

Topic: Mothers: Various Perspectives

Summary: see directly above.

5/20/18: Speaker: Kurtland & Gaia Davies

Bio summary: Please don't call Gaia and Kurtland Davies retired. That word drags with it a bunch of unappealing synonyms: Shrinking. Disengaging. Withdrawing. Shutting down. Living a life of boredom, without purpose and meaning. To the contrary - in the past few months, Kurtland and Gaia have made presentations at three UU churches; convened meetings on local recycling concerns; facilitated Soul Matters spiritual growth groups at their UU; participated in Caring, Worship, Alliance and Ministry Committee

meetings; worked for 4 days at our rummage sale; and joined 4 community Social Justice marches and gatherings. Kurtland volunteered hours of physical labor on the UU grounds. He also re-landscaped and painted the outside of their house with a friend. He visits two homebound UUs regularly. He plays tennis 3 times a week and drags Gaia to workout 3 days. Gaia helped cook Easter brunch for and 2 Soup Sunday fundraisers for 70 people and is getting ready to host a fundraiser Thai dinner. And she almost finished their taxes on time! They are busy, enthusiastic, constantly changing, challenging, and growing. You can call them some other R words: "Refreshed and Ready!"

Topic: Hatching Out of Your Egg

Summary: "You cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad." -C.S. Lewis. The only constant in life is change. The Universe constantly challenges us to break out of our old patterns and emerge into new realities. Our culture wants us to stay stuck in our fear. But we are a work in progress, continually growing, turning, evolving. What we were in the past was right for that time. What we are now is good for this time. What we will be become next...and next... and next.....is spectacular.

05/27/18: Rev. Janet Onnie

Bio summary: a very busy Unitarian, Universalist minister. Find out more about this wonderful guest speaker on 5/27/18.

Topic: The Devil Made Me Do It!

Summary: Unitarian Universalists lack a theology of evil. But our ancestors took evil seriously enough to be afraid of it and the one who personified it — the Devil. Perhaps it's time to start listening to them.

NCUU Board of Directors

President	Joe Verdi
Vice-President	Sheila Woods
Clerk	Holly Alexander
Directors	Rob Deremer, Gordon Dinmore, Bree Hill, Nancy Pettus, Ellen Saunders

NCUU Committees

Building	Bill Howat
Calendar	Open
Caring Committee	Carol Dinmore
Choir Director	Sally Smith-Adams
Denominational Affairs	Joan Burnett
Facebook	Connie Hart
Finance	Stan Brumaghim
Librarian	Tom Hibberd
Media	Gordon Hart
Membership	Connie Hart
Music	Sally Smith-Adams
Newsletter	Amy Haiken
Nominating Committee	Joan Burnett, Pam Ricker, Sandy Sondheim
Photographer	Gordon Hart
Piano	Connie Hart, Sally Smith-Adams, Sheila Woods
Publicity	OPEN
Property	Carol Dinmore
Religious Education	Joan Burnett
Social Activities	Bill Howat
Social Justice	Available
Sunday Service	Pam Ricker
Treasurer (Acting)	Nick Kalfas
Website	Gordon Hart, Amy Haiken

Board of Directors

Our Board meeting is Monday, May 7th 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)

BOOKS!

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BOOKS!

Collect and Save them for our Fall Sale in October.
-- Peg Gotz



Wanted Poems

Forsooth we do now contrive
Yon Sunday for the sixth of May
Me thinks and there fore doth proclaim
'Tis our fond Annual Poetry Day

Be not slack but spur them on
Happily to share in this fair mix
To speak thy good powem at service
Seek or hail Julie at 465-5646

-- Thanks, Julie MacDonald



Pot Luck Dinner

Our Potluck Dinners are held on the third Friday
of each month. We hope to see you on Friday, April
20th.



May Birthdays

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

If your birthday is in June, and
your name is not on this list,
please notify the editor:

ahaiken@bellsouth.net. Birthdays will be celebrated
at our Potluck Dinner in May.

5/3	Gordon Dinmore
5/12	Walt Erickson
5/18	Julie Macdonald
5/24	Stan Brumaghim Jr

Grounds & Gardens Day

The **First Friday of every month** is **Grounds & Gardens Day** at NCUU.

Do you like to work outside in the yard and garden? Whether weeding, trimming, planting, raking, the NCUU Yard and Garden Crew always needs help. Please come Friday morning, **May 4.**

Gordie Dinmore and Bree Hill are usually there by sun-up. (*The rest of us usually are not.*) We're normally done by 10:30 - 11:00.

Sally Smith-Adams



Membership Committee Membership News

If you are interested in helping with the Membership Committee, please contact Connie Hart. We have many functions and always can use a helping hand. The next Membership Committee meeting is Wednesday, **May 23rd** at 9:30 a.m. You can even join us by speaker phone!



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



Ladies Luncheon

Our NCUU Ladies Luncheons are held every last Tuesday of the month at 1 P.M. Come join us! See sign-up sheets on foyer table.

-- Peg Gotz



Social Service Help Line

Wellcare a health insurance company, has set up a help line for social services. If you need assistance, call 1-866-775-2192

Denominational Affairs

The 2018 General Assembly of the UUA will take place in Kansas City, Missouri on June 24-28. NCUU will be able to send two delegates to be our voice. Please consider being one of those delegates. Ask anyone who has attended a GA about how transformational that experience can be. Former delegates were, Pam Ricker, Irene LeMon, Linda Myers, Edythe Reid and Joan Burnett. Registration begins on March 1, 2018. The Denominational Affairs Committee has funds to cover the expense of your registration fee. Please give this opportunity serious thought.
Joan Burnett

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

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please remember that the deadline for June's Newsletter is **May 25 2018**.
Send to: ahaiken@bellsouth.net and put 'For Newsletter' in the subject line.

Pay it Forward Story

When two teams were playing football, one team gave the other team their trick play details to the other team. They had been working on for quite some time on the play for a determined 10 year old that was a special needs child. This kid was taken under the wings of the coach and the entire team. The special needs kid had the ball, and the opposing team, as subtly as they could, couldn't stop the child as he made a touchdown. They wanted the child to know how it feels to score a touchdown in a game. This is true sportsmanship, and a great lesson for the kids and parents.