




Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist (NCUU) News

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Citrus Springs, FL 34434
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 Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists

Website: <http://www.ncuu.org>

December, 2018

President's Message

A misunderstanding occurred on Sunday Nov. 18, 2018. I was attempting to speak on taking a straw poll from the fellowship to build an enclosure on our patio to increase our Lobby space, which is limited, and our Fellowship is growing. It is time to do this project which has been promoted since 2012.

The Concert on Nov. 16 and 17 was a success. Kathryn Taubert and Sally Smith-Adams were fabulous along with the drummer. It was also a financial success too. Thanks to everyone.

The Thanksgiving Dinner at the Fellowship was also a success. Everyone had a fabulous meal with love and friendship. There were 25 people that attended.

Carol and Gordon Dinmore have done a great job with Family Christmas. They have purchased many gifts and are really helping out with their family needs. They raised \$500. from the second collection and will be helping the Family Resource Center in Hernando.

God Speed,

Joe Verdi President

Sunday Services

12/04/18 Speaker: Rev. Donna Blevins

Background: Donna Blevins is a mindshift coach, motivational speaker, international professional poker player, and ordained minister, who used her MindShift Exercises™ to accelerate her miraculous recovery from a life-threatening stroke.

Topic: “The Healing Effect of the Mind”

Summary: The brain is the most powerful tool you own, yet most people fail to understand it. Imagine the possibilities if you could harness the power of this magnificent biological supercomputer! Rev. Donna Blevins will teach you to tap into this potential and be the best version of yourself: confident, authentic and totally in control!

12/9/18 **Speaker:** Peter Freeman

Background: Peter is a member of our congregation, A Brit who emigrated here 45 years ago, and worked as an engineering manager at Procter & Gamble. After retirement he became a life coach for several years. Since retiring from that, he has been teaching classes on happiness, and “Life Fulfillment.”

Topic: “Acceptance”

Summary: "Accepting what is" as a major contribution to happiness.

12/17/18 Speaker: Cliff Jackson

Background: Cliff has an Organic Chemistry degree from UCF. He is married to his wife Cathy for 43 wonderful years. They have two married daughters Lisa and Sandra, both are in Atlanta. Cliff started his own chemical manufacturing company in 1980. Cliff at first ran Diversified Technology and was later run by it until he sold it in 1996. Since then Cliff has been spending time with his family, been very active with UU in Ormond Beach and facilitating a spiritual growth class there since 1999.

Topic: Living in the Simplest Terms

Summary: How would you describe living in the simplest terms ? Cliff will share his journey to his focusing in on what is truly important in his life. Peeling the onion to find the core value at the center is the easy part of the journey. The real challenge is then expanding that core value into living in daily life.

12/23/18 **Speaker:** Rev. Phil Schulman

Background: Rev. Schulman is a life long ecology, peace & justice activist with 29 years working for human rights in field of mental health. After graduating Starr King (UU) seminary in 1989, Phillip brought trauma informed peer counseling to a hospital addiction unit in Shreveport, LA. He created a “spiritual assessment” that won praise from the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Hospitals. In 98, he directed the creation of a program to reduce the amount of force and violence in an upstate NY county’s mental health crisis response. Since then, he has organized and supported numerous “communities of care” using principles of peer support and nonviolence. He has served as Minister to congregations in Cal., NJ, St. John USVI, San Antonio and Houston TX.

Topic: “Room at the UU Inn”

Summary: What is Jesus to us?, and why should we bother with him now? Christian theology, doctrine and rituals are best left to religious conservatives, true or false? Rev. Phillip will suggest ways that we can reclaim the power of our faith tradition for Christmas. He will show us how we can have creative and empowering UU Christmas celebrations. We will seek and find the heart of this holiday. With a liberal understanding of the Christmas story we will invoke the magic of Christmas!

12/30/18 **Speaker:** Cathy Dewitt

Background: Cathy is the senior musician in residence for UF Health/Shands Arts in Medicine program, where she has provided musical respite for patients of all kinds and ages since 1995. She is an international award- winning songwriter and performer, sharing her music throughout the U.S. as well as in the Virgin Islands, Hawaii, Europe, and, most recently, Greece! In addition to solo work at hospitals, churches, and in the Posi movement, she is leader of the jazz band MoonDancer and the all-female folk and bluegrass group Patchwork.

Topic: TBA

Summary: TBA

NCUU Board of Directors

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

NCUU Committees

Audio/Visual	Gordon Hart
Building	Matthew Ciszewski and John Comer
Calendar	Gordon Hart
Caring Committee	Carol Dinmore
Choir Director	Sally Smith-Adams
Denominational Affairs	Joan Burnett
Facebook	John Comer, Connie Hart, and Nancy Pettus
Finance	Stan Brumaghim
Librarian	Tom Hibberd
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	Matthew Ciszewski and John Comer
Religious Education	Joan Burnett
Social Activities	John Comer
Social Justice	Available
Sunday Service	Pam Ricker
Treasurer	John Comer
Website	Gordon Hart, Amy Haiken

Board of Directors

Our Board meeting is Monday, December 10th 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)

Announcements and News

Important Holiday Dates

On the 9th – 20th anniversary celebration after church

On the 24th - Candlelight service Dec. 24th at 7:00 P.M.

On the 25th - Christmas potluck 1pm signup sheet will be available

On the 31st - Smudging Ceremony 7 pm signup sheet will be available



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Mark your calendar for the annual Christmas Eve candlelight service on Monday, December 24th at 7:00 P.M. You are invited to share traditional carols and Yule tide festivities. Bring your favorite Holiday cookies or treats to share afterward.



New Years Eve bonfire

Social Activities and The Earth Centered Small Group Ministry invite you and your friends to experience a New Years Eve bonfire with drumming, smudging, food and fun on Monday, December 31st, at 6:30 P.M. This is a great way to ring in the new year!



Membership Committee Notes

We are very happy to welcome Karen Fornier into our congregation as a member! If you are interested in joining, please contact Connie Hart. Greeters at the door for our Sunday Service are very important for making everyone feel welcome. If you'd like to serve as a greeter, please inform Holly Alexander.

Mark Sunday January 27th on your calendar, as it will be our first official "Bring a friend to the Service" Sunday. Of course, you may bring as many as you are able. We'll have coffee and some yummy refreshments also.

Be sure to check the monthly newsletter written by Amy Haiken and sent via email from Sheila Woods. It is also posted on the ncuu.org website. If you have information for the website, send calendar items to Gordon Hart, gchshutterbug@gmail.com and other items to Amy Haiken ahaiken@bellsouth.net. Happy Holidays!



Ladies Luncheon

Our NCUU Ladies' Luncheons will resume the last Tuesday of each month. See details and sign-up sheet on foyer table and come join us.

-- Peg Gotz



Religious Education

This Course is important to All Of Us

During the month of January, Lynne Westmoreland will be offering a course on Mindful Communication. The course will meet on 4 Saturdays, January 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th from 10AM until noon. The first meeting will focus on Marshall Rosenberg's "Non-Violent Communication: Create Your Life, Your Relationships, and Your World in Harmony with Your Values" and will serve as the central theme of our four weeks together. We will, however, build on Rosenberg's pedagogy and include weeks on "Deep Listening and Mindful Speech", "Silence: Complicity or Encouragement?" and "The Practice of Loving Kindness". The course cost will be \$25.00 and each participant is encouraged to have read Rosenberg's book before the January 5th gathering.

And a brief bio:

Lynne Westmoreland is a humane educator, combining education from that field with Buddhist training and indigenous spirituality, and is a long time UU. Her current encore career work includes teaching meditation, facilitating spiritual growth groups, and speaking in churches and local communities about our interdependence and our ability to shape this time in our evolutionary history. She has been a speaker at NCUU twice. Her latest sermon was about kindness.

League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters and the Art Center of Hernando are having a joint meeting Dec 11., 1 pm at the Center. \$5 for lunch and a presentation of the Freedom Quilt. Flyer is on the bulletin board in the lobby.rsvp 637-9623

-- Linda Myers



Service Leader Training

Hello All,

Due to Joan's illness, training will not take place tomorrow. We will discuss another day in the near future that fills all our schedules.

Thanks for your understanding.
Pam



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



Send Sunday Morning Announcements to:

ContactNCUU@gmail.com with For Announcements in the subject line. Deadline is the Friday before Sunday service.



December Birthdays



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

ahaiken@bellsouth.net. Birthdays will be celebrated the first Sunday of each month acknowledging all birthdays.

12/8 June Wetzel
12/13 Don Wright
12/14 Maralyn Boysen
12/15 Mike Taylor
12/28 Ginny Fitzgerald



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



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 January's Newsletter is **December 23 2018**.

Send to: ahaiken@bellsouth.net and put 'For Newsletter' in the subject line.



NCUU Choir Practice

NCUU Choir practice are on Sunday mornings, at 9:00 a.m.



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. 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



Special Story



Above the dais in Baltimore's First Unitarian Church, 64,000 pieces of iridescent glass form to make an image of the Last Supper, featuring Jesus and the Holy Grail at the center of one of the world's largest Tiffany mosaics.

Just below the artwork, a relic of the church's Christian roots, are plaques representing Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism and Confucianism.

The church — founded 200 years ago this weekend — substitutes a search for personal truth, recognition of human dignity and pursuit of justice for religious dogma. The congregation fought for abolition and women's rights, taught poor children trades and supported soldiers returning from war.

Today, members rally around social justice causes, including gay rights, a higher minimum wage and the Black Lives Matter movement.

"This church is a vital presence in the city," said D. Doreion Colter, the church's board president. "Wiccan to Jewish to Buddhist, we have it all. Each person is free to search for truth and meaning in their own way."

To read the entire article: <https://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-city/bs-md-ci-first-unitarian-church-20170209-story.html>