

February, 2019

President's Message

There are three important posts that need to be filled in the near future:

1. Vice-President.
2. Board Member to replace Gordon Dinmore.
3. Nominating Committee member.

There has been exciting growth from 2018 to 2019 with the patio overhaul in the planning stage.

MLK Parade January 21, 2019



In spite of the cold temperature -the parade was well attended by our NCUU. There was a respectful ceremony at the end of the parade with discussion and comfort food.

Please support our Annual Pledge Drive and pick-up your envelope in the Foyer and return as soon as possible.

The Book Club will now include a movie rotation monthly. This month will be "The Post" with Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep a timely important reflection on our current White House disaster, discussion to follow over Wine and Cheese. The date will be Saturday March 2, 2019 at 1:30 pm.

God Speed,

Joe Verdi President

Sunday Services

2/03/19 Speaker: Barry Pendry

Background: Barry was born and raised in rural North Carolina. He holds a Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology and a Ph.D. in Social & Educational Change Theory. He served 4 years in the U.S. Marine Corps with a tour of duty in Vietnam. He worked in hospital administration at All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida for 38 years and retired in 2012. Barry and his wife Cathi have lived in Floral City, Florida for over 20 years. They divide their time between Floral City and St. Petersburg and are friends of the UU fellowship in Citrus. Barry is a life member of the Theosophical Society and his current spiritual practice is primarily directed at the study and integration of esoteric Christianity and Zen.

Topic: "Towards A Theology of the Stranger"

Summary: The mystical brain: Neurotheology and the Spiritual experience; Implications for Unitarian Universalists. Currently there is world wide interest in Neurotheology also known as the Science of Religion. This talk reviews Neurotheology from a UU perspective with emphasis on the spiritual/mystical experience. At the core of being we are all mystics with opportunities to live the awakened life. Proponents say that Neurotheology is providing us with a cliff notes version of how to encounter the divine. You be the judge ... and oh, don't forget to "Bring your brain to church" for this one.

2/10/19 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: "Science in Our Religious Community"

Summary: Ever since Unitarian and Universalists formed congregations in America, we have held science in great esteem. Yet we have done relatively little to give science a place in our liturgy or spiritual practices. Are we now ready to show that religion and science can mix? Come experience an intentional use of science in our liturgy.

2/17/19 Speaker: Dr. Kyaien O'Connor

Background: Dr. Kyaien Conner is a professor of cultural diversity and mental health at the University of South Florida in the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences and is a professor of West African Dance at the University of Tampa in the School of Dance. Dr. Conner has presented her work on cultural competence and health disparities facing the African American community all over the country as well as internationally; and her research has been published in well-respected academic journals and text books. Dr. Conner has studied West African dance and its physical, psychological and spiritual benefits for over a decade and has traveled to Africa on multiple occasions to gain a better understanding of the true meaning behind West African drum, dance and song

Topic: TBA

2/24/19 Speaker: Elaine Silver

Background: Elaine Silver (A.K.A. "Faerie" Elaine) is a seasoned performer, songwriter, touring musician and recording artist (20 CDs to date and counting!). She has been blessed with the voice of an Angel, often described as stunningly clear, supple, rich and like fine crystal.

Elaine is thrilled to have her music and life experiences evolve into a Musical Ministry that teaches Universal Law and Truth Principles in ways that fully engage the audience in a context of Peace, Love, Joy and Wisdom. She has had the honor of working in conjunction with many world-renowned spiritual leaders, teacher and authors including Deepak Chopra, Neale Donald Walsh, don Miguel Ruiz, Marianne Williamson, Alan Cohen and Wayne Dyer.

Topic: 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
Long Range Planning	Bob Madeiros
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, February 11th 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

February Potluck

(Time has been changed to 6pm)

The next potluck will be celebrated on Saturday, February 16th at 6pm. There will be a slide show presentation by Amy and Mike called "Splendid China". They toured Mainland China for 3 weeks in 1995.



Nature Coast and It's Future

Dr. Don Wright will talk about our nature coast and its future on Feb. 12 at 10:15 AM at the League of Women Voters' meeting. The LWV meets at the Coastal (Crystal River) Library the second Tuesday of the month.

All are invited. BTW The Citrus League was reborn at our NCUU .

- Linda Myers



Long Range Planning Committee

On February 23rd, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm we will be holding a Long Range Planning meeting. Bob Madeiros will be facilitating this session to develop both the short (1 -5 year) and longer term (5 to 10 year) vision of our fellowship. Where do you see our fellowship in the future? Come join us on Saturday, to help develop that vision. All members are welcome.

- Bob Madeiros



Membership Committee Notes

Happy Valentine's Day!

Membership hosted a "bring a friend to service" on Jan. 27th. We hope you were there with your friends. Hot soup from Social Activities was enjoyed by all. New Blue NCUU T-shirts were ordered, and we are expecting their arrival very soon.

If you are thinking of joining NCUU, please let us know. We invite you to be a member of our friendly, open thinking, and accepting congregation. Please contact Connie Hart for more information.

Thank you, Gordon Hart, for ordering solar lighting for our wooden sign out front, so it will be easier to see the entrance.

The Membership Committee will meet Wednesday, February 27th, at 9:30 a.m.



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



February Birthdays



If your birthday is in February, 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.

- 2/2 Charlotte Langley
- 2/4 Holly Alexander
- 2/7 John Rushong
- 2/12 A. Rob Deremer
- 2/21 Peg Gotz
- 2/27 Lynn McDonald



Emergency Mental Health Info

Several times we have gotten calls at NCUU for emergency mental health information. We often refer them to 211. Citrus County is short of residential treatment facilities including immediate Baker Act in patient care:

The Centers on so Lecanto Highway (491) can provide outpatient, substance abuse, and telephone assistance if the person is on **medicaid**. 352 628-5020. Residential care, there, requires private payments.

Life Stream has been given the contract to provide for indigent persons with **no** insurance. They are not fully set up yet in Citrus. Their crisis line goes to a central spot from which they determine where and how to proceed 352-315-7500. It is hoped that this agency will provide better mental and substance abuse aid. Most of the funds for this public program come from Lutheran Services plus the County, with County authorization.



Jean Farewell

A FOND FAREWELL (leaving Friday, March 1, 2019)

I will cherish the memories from the last five years of being a snowbird member of NCUU.

This is an especially warm and welcoming congregation; and my life has been enriched by being a part of it. Thank you for being my family away from home. I will miss all of you.

Until we meet again,

Jean Brown



Finance Committee

The pledge drive for FY 2019/20 began in January and continues into February. Pledge payments are the greatest source of NCUU income and support our many programs and fixed expenses such as insurances, mortgage payments and utilities. The time and talents of members and active friends get the work done, but pledges are an important enabler.

Envelopes containing pledge forms are in a wicker basket in the foyer for pick-up by our members and active friends. If you have not done so, please pick up your envelope today. A larger wicker basket is also there for completed forms.



Send Sunday Morning Announcements to:

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




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.



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



NCUU Choir Practice


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



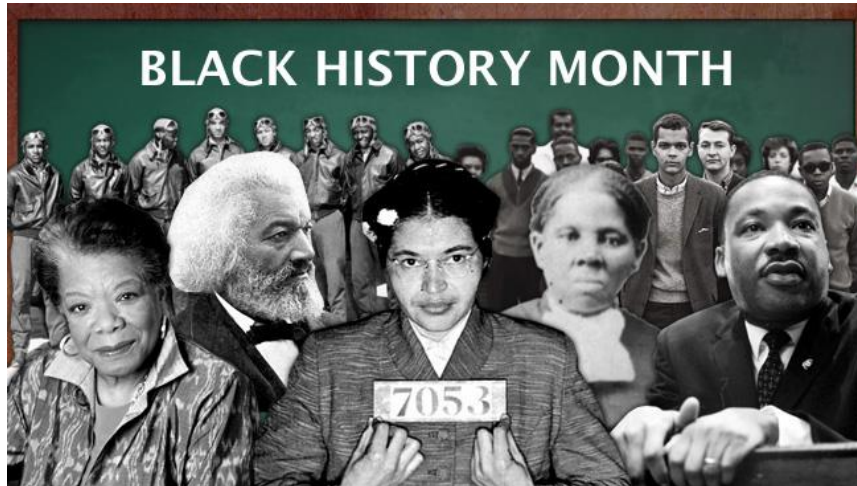
Newsletter Deadline

Please remember that the deadline for March's Newsletter is **February 24 2019**.

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



Black History Month



The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society.

As a Harvard-trained historian, Carter G. Woodson, like W. E. B. Du Bois before him, believed that truth could not be denied and that reason would prevail over prejudice. His hopes to raise awareness of African American's contributions to civilization was realized when he and the organization he founded, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), conceived and announced Negro History Week in 1925. The event was first celebrated during a week in February 1926 that encompassed the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The response was overwhelming: Black history clubs sprang up; teachers demanded materials to instruct their pupils; and progressive whites, not simply white scholars and philanthropists, stepped forward to endorse the effort.

By the time of Woodson's death in 1950, Negro History Week had become a central part of African American life and substantial progress had been made in bringing more Americans to appreciate the celebration. At mid-century, mayors of cities nationwide issued proclamations noting Negro History Week. The Black Awakening of the 1960s dramatically expanded the consciousness of African Americans about the importance of black history, and the Civil Rights movement focused Americans of all color on the subject of the contributions of African Americans to our history and culture.

The celebration was expanded to a month in 1976, the nation's bicentennial. President Gerald R. Ford urged Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." That year, fifty years after the first celebration, the association held the first African American History Month. By this time, the entire nation had come to recognize the importance of Black history in the drama of the American story. Since then each American president has issued African American History Month proclamations. And the association—now the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)—continues to promote the study of Black history all year.

(Excerpt from an essay by Daryl Michael Scott, Howard University, for the Association for the Study of African American Life and History)