



# NCUU NEWS



The **March, 2018**, monthly newsletter of the **Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists**  
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 Facebook: Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists [www.naturecoastuu.org](http://www.naturecoastuu.org)

## President's Message

Upon asking our fellowship's visitors, "How did you hear about us?", most responses are, "Through the internet". This is the age of the computer, and most of us use the computer to do just about everything that we used to do via the phone book or the encyclopedia, which have pretty much become obsolete.

Jean McCauley inherited our fellowship's website from Bill Chess, long ago. She managed the duty for many years, but due to outside work related issues, she needed to turn this task over to someone else who was computer savvy and willing to expand the website exposure. Enter Gordon Hart and Amy Haiken.

Using Gordon's own words: "For my part, I agreed to take it on because we lost our webmaster and didn't have the budget to hire another one. The old site had been handed down from one person to another, and it needed to be more concise.

I enlisted the services of GainesvilleComputer.com to set up a test site, and started populating it with the features that the congregation said they wanted. Those include Google maps, pictures, a calendar and links to the UUA among others.

Once the concept was working, I had Gainesville Computer set up an actual staging site on the host server and went bumbling about creating what was to become the real thing.

At that point, a very talented software engineer with website developments skills, Amy Haiken, came to my rescue and saved the day."

Here are Amy's words: "I looked over the website and saw that it had only one page, so I looked over each segment of the page and determined what text belonged to a particular subject matter. Then analyzed it, and came up with the navigation names at the top of the page, and formatted each of the pages with HTML code. HTML is the web programming language that formats text, links, videos and images on a

webpage. In order to make each page font consistent, I standardized the fonts for each type of text that was placed on the page. I also decided to put a lot of Gordon's amazing photos of the Nature Coast, to keep with the theme of our fellowship.

Gordon and I had a bit of an issue with bandwidth, and we brought in Gordon and Connie's son Kevin to help determine the cause".

Kevin's help did the trick, and now the website runs smoothly and beautifully.

Amy and Gordon continue to run the website and encourage the congregation to send either of them content for the website to share.

We are so very grateful to Amy, Gordon, and Kevin for helping create our new website. Please visit: [ncuu.org](http://ncuu.org) and check it out, it's beautiful.

The final weeks of the pledge drive are underway to support our next year's budget. There has been excellent support by the congregation. However, there are several pledge forms still to be handed in. Please add any outstanding pledges to the wicker basket in the foyer. We are asking for pledges at this times. Payment for the pledges can be made at a time of your choosing.

Peace, Pam

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## SUNDAY SERVICES

The Sunday Service Committee meets on March 26th at 10 AM. (Last Monday of the month).

**03/04/18 Speaker: Rev. Carol Yorke**

**Biographical Summary:** Rev. Yorke, now retired, has been a UU minister in Florida since 1998 and is a NCUU favorite.

**Topic: The Promise and the Practice**

**Summary:** *Seeking to draw attention to the presence and patterns of white supremacy in our UU congregations and systems, this program asks us to halt those patterns – individual as well as collective – as we build a new way together. Today's worship was created specifically for The Promise and the Practice Sunday by*

black religious professionals who were compensated for their time, wisdom, and skills. Through dialogue and covenant they chose to “story” their own lives – that is, to draw on their lived experience and make of it a text to be absorbed by UUs of all races and ethnicities.

**\*Another “Summary” possibility from Rev. Yorke** that might be a possibility on our website. I told her that our NCUU Newsletter needs to be “short and sweet” because of space restrictions:

“Our worship service this morning is uniquely prophetic: it calls to us who identify as white to listen, humbly and perhaps with some discomfort, to the lived reality of black Unitarian Universalists in our midst. This discomfort is both a gesture of hospitality to voices that have not been heard enough, and a sign that we’re growing in the right direction. If you’re joining us today as a guest, know that you are witnessing this Unitarian Universalist congregation doing sacred work: collectively, we will wrestle with what it means to be a majority-white faith whose anti-racist intentions have not always been borne out.”

**03/11/18: Speaker: Jeffrey Weisberg**

**Biographical summary:** Jeffrey Weisberg is a co-founder and executive director of the River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding, a comprehensive community peacebuilding model. Jeffrey is a lead facilitator in conflict resolution, social emotional learning, experiential learning and leadership development. Jeffrey has presented at national conferences and offered his expertise internationally through the US state department.

**Topic: Humanizing Justice: From Conflict to Connection**

**Summary:** *Conflict is inevitable, yet violence is not. Hidden within conflict lies tremendous potential to heal, grow, co-create and transform our relationship with self and others. Dominic Barter, a restorative justice facilitator writes; “Rather than being dangerous, conflict holds within it vital messages regarding unmet needs and areas of necessary change. Given this understanding, safety is increased not by avoiding conflict, but by moving towards it with the intention of hearing the messages within.” So often in our criminal justice system, we focus on punishment as an act of accountability rather than using*

*a restorative lens to rebuild relationships and repair broken trust.*

**03/18/18: Speaker: Cliff Jackson**

**Biog. Summary:** Cliff has been married to his dear wife Cathy for 43 years. They have two children Lisa and Sandra who are both married and living out of the nest. Cliff got his Organic Chemistry degree from Florida Technological University (now called University of Central Florida) He started a chemical manufacturing business in 1980 that grew rapidly. (Be careful what you wish, lol) The last four years, which seemed like 20, it was running 24/7. He sold the business in 1996 and entered “slow time”; time to join UU, time to travel with family, time to grow personally and spiritually.

**Topic: Aden’s Introduction to Jonathan Livingston Seagull**

**Summary:** Life sends us challenges. Often, we have no choice in what comes our way. Surrounded by the shambles of what was, it is often difficult to see a clear way forward. Cliff has always enjoyed solving puzzles. Recently Cliff’s daughter presented a problem with his grandson. Pieces of that puzzle, a grandpa, a grandson, an illness, a soul matters packet, a dusty little book that has sat on a shelf for 30 years and an ocean come together to show a clear path for a new way forward. We may not have a choice in what comes our way, but we do have a choice in how we live with it.

**03/25/18: Lynne Westmoreland**

**Bio summary”** Lynne Westmoreland is a former professional pianist and teacher. In 2011 she received a second master’s in humane education. After teaching online for five years for the Institute for Humane Education she is now self-employed and teaching in the areas of humane education, non-violent communication, and meditation, mindful speech, and deep listening. Her teaching and talks draw on her Buddhist, Unitarian Universalist, Native American, and humane education experience. Her mission is to help us each discover those places where our lives and lifestyles may not accurately reflect our deepest values and ethics

**Topic: My Religion is Kindness**

Sally Smith-Adams and Amy Haiken

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## March Birthdays

If your birthday is in March, and your name is not on this list, please notify the editor: erickson872@att.net; 847-682-7527. Birthdays will be celebrated at our Potluck Dinner in March.

3/07 Monique Sondheim



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### MARCH 10 PLEDGE PIZZA PARTY!



The Board of Directors invites Members and Friends of the NCUU to a "Thank You" pizza party at the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 10. The festivities begin with a social gathering at 12:30 p.m., followed by a luncheon at 1:00 pm.

The Board would like to thank our kind members and friends for your time, talent and financial support for the current year May 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018. Pizza and soft drinks will be complimentary. Sign-up sheets will be in the foyer for the March 4 service for you to sign. Menu items must also be selected.

Come, celebrate!  
See you there!



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## SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS

"The greatest danger to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it..."

-Robert Swan-

Neighbors in Citrus County have formed a solar co-op to save money and make going solar easier, while building a network of solar supporters. The **League of Women Voters of Citrus County**, the Citrus County

Council, Suwanee – St. Johns Group Sierra Club, University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension, Kings Bay Springs Alliance, Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists and Solar United Neighbors are the co-op sponsors. The group is seeking members and will host an information meeting on Tuesday, March 6 at 6 p.m. at UF/IFAS Citrus County Extension, 3650 W Sovereign Path #1, Lecanto, to educate the community about solar and the co-op process.

Solar United Neighbors expands access to solar by educating Florida residents about the benefits of distributed solar energy, helping them organize group solar installations, and strengthening Florida's solar policies and its community of solar supporters. Solar United Neighbors has worked with more than a dozen solar co-ops, helping roughly 750 Florida homes go solar, saving residents more than \$3.4 million.

Linda Myers



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## 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, **March 1**.

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

## New Members

### Lynn A. Mc Donald

Originally from Troy, New York, I spent my youth in the 1960s, listening and dancing to “rock and roll” music.



Later in life, I was fortunate to travel outside the United States. I traveled with my mother to her ancestral home in Lithuania many times, first when it was under Soviet domination and then when it gained its independence.

More recently, I had the opportunity to visit Uganda, Africa, where I experienced the hardship of its citizens, especially for young girls trying to get an education.

My interests include being involved with causes that deal with injustices of any kind, taking part with an organization that helps young girls reach their full potential by staying in school and becoming leaders in their country.

Today, my husband and I are “snowbirds.” However, our northern home is in the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York, where we enjoy sharing time with family, and friends, and still listening to “rock and roll.”

Thank for extending your kindness to include me in your congregation. See you in November!

### Abby and Bob Madeiros

Abby and Bob Madeiros moved full time to Citrus County in the summer of 2016, retiring from Saint Petersburg.



Abby completed 30 plus years in the Pinellas County School System as a science teacher. While she misses her friends in Pinellas, she has since studied to become a Citrus County Master Gardener and is active in the local chapters of the League of Women Voters and the Native Plant Society. She still dabbles in teaching as a substitute teacher at the local elementary

school. Abby loves gardening, nature and her three grown boys.

Bob spent his career in manufacturing as a Quality Engineering manager building things for military and space applications. Originally from upstate NY, he came to Florida to escape winter and has been here ever since. He did 10 years as an assistant scout master (as the boys were growing up), and currently volunteers with the state quality award program.

Abby and Bob live on five acres in the woods, where they enjoy hiking, biking and kayaking. Summers are spent touring the state and country in their 30-foot motor home or at their cabin in Vermont. They look forward to a sense of community here at NCUU.

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## Pot Luck Dinner

Our Potluck Dinners are held on the third Friday of each month. We hope to see you on Friday, March 16th.

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## Membership Committee

### Membership News

Among many other tasks, the Membership Committee is gathering information for our senior members who may be in need of assistance, meals and or transportation after an illness or surgical procedure. If you are looking for this information, there will be a copy in the office, on the website, or you can contact Connie Hart or Carol Dinmore.

We will be having a New Member Ceremony on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, during our annual meeting. You may also read about our new members in the newsletter and on the website [ncuu.org](http://ncuu.org).

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 A.M. We welcome your ideas and input.

If you are interested in joining NCUU, please contact Connie Hart at [conlhart@gmail.com](mailto:conlhart@gmail.com).

Connie Hart

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## Ladies' Luncheon

Our March Ladies' Luncheon will be at noon on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Havana House Cafe, 1209 S. Lecanto Hwy in Lecanto. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer. Come join us!

For more information, contact Peg Gotz (527-4113) or Julie Macdonald (465-5646).

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## Social Justice Committee

The Social Justice Committee meets the first Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 7th, 2:30-3:30 at the church. Everyone is welcome to come to our meetings.

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## Earth Center Small Group Ministry



The Earth Center Small Group Ministry is a 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 also join us on Wednesday, March 21, at 3 PM (Third Wednesday of the month).

Joan Burnett

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## 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

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## 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

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## Board of Directors

Our Board meeting is Monday, March 12 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)

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## 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

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## Attention All Poets!!

The next poetry Sunday Service will be on May 6, 2018. If you would like to share your own original work, or your favorite poems during the service, please call Julie Macdonald at 352-465-5646.

Joan Burnett

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Send Sunday Morning Announcements to:

**[ncuuannouncements@gmail.com](mailto:ncuuannouncements@gmail.com)**

Deadline is the Friday before Sunday service.

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

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## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please remember that the deadline for April's Newsletter is **March 25 25**.

Send to: [erickson872@att.net](mailto:erickson872@att.net)

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## NCUU Committees

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

mailto: [erickson872@att.net](mailto:erickson872@att.net)

Nominating Committee..... Connie Hart,  
..... Rob DeRemer  
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 .....Andrea Rae, Tom Hibberd  
Sunday Service .....OPEN  
Treasurer (Acting) ..... Nick Kalfas

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## 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

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