

NCUU

NATURE COAST

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

7633 N. Florida Ave (Hwy 41)

Citrus Springs, FL 34434

352-465-4225

Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist (NCUU) News



Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists

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

June, 2020

President's Message

To open or not to open? That is the question. Do I follow the UUA advice? Do I follow the President's advice? Do I follow the Governor of Florida's advice? Or do I go with my gut?

What an extraordinary responsibility this is.

It is a damned if you do and damned if you don't moment. There are people saying "Why did you open so early?!" or "Why did you open so late?!"

I know we are all eager to each other's shiny faces. But, I cannot risk our members, friends, guests, and speakers any harm what-so-ever. Please send positive vibes to board of directors. We all want what's best for everyone.

Be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars. In the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul.

Yours in service,

John

SUNDAY SERVICE

6/7/2020

Speaker: Francine Julius Edwards

Title: Juneteenth?

6/14/2020

Speaker: Barry Pendry

Title: TBA

6/21/2020

Speaker: Cliff Jackson

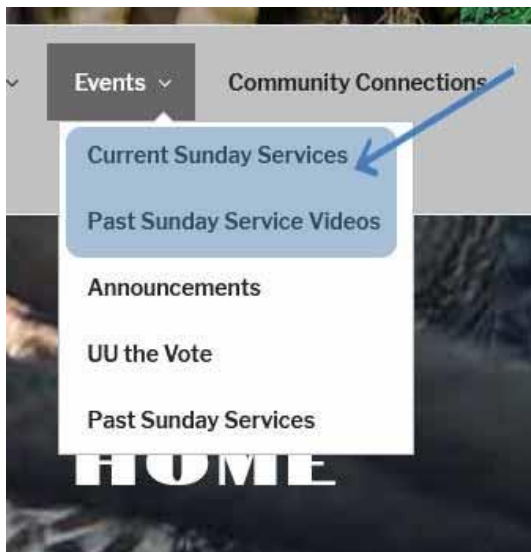
Title: TBA

6/28/2020

Speaker: Lauri Gist

Title: TBA

A follow up email will be sent with more details, once the speakers have updated us with the information.



I have made an update to the NCUU website menu. The current Sunday Service listing will be the menu item: 'Current Sunday Services'; the past Sunday Service Youtube videos will be the menu item: 'Past Sunday Service Videos'. Both menu items will reside under 'Events' on the menu bar as illustrated in the blue highlighted area.

NCUU Board of Directors

President	John Comer
Vice-President	Connie Hart
Clerk	Jean McCauley
Directors	Amy Haiken, Tom Hibberd, Bree Hill, Shirley Leonard, Pam Ricker and Sheila Woods

NCUU Committees

Audio/Visual	Gordon Hart
Building	Matthew Ciszewski and John Comer
Calendar	Gordon Hart
Caring Committee	Connie Hart, Abby Madeiros
Choir Director	Sally Smith-Adams
Denominational Affairs	Available
Facebook	John Comer and Connie Hart
Finance	Shirley Leonard
Grounds	Bree Hill
Librarian	Tom Hibberd
Long Range Planning	Bob Madeiros
Membership	Holly Alexander
Music	Sally Smith-Adams
Newsletter	Amy Haiken
Nominating Committee	Judy Capone, Jeanne Wright and Peter Freeman
Photographer	Gordon Hart
Piano	Connie Hart, Sally Smith-Adams, Sheila Woods
Publicity	Available
Property	Matthew Ciszewski and John Comer
Religious Education	Available
Social Activities	Available
Social Justice	Don Wright
Sunday Service	Pam Ricker
Treasurer	Rob DeRemer
Website	Gordon Hart, Amy Haiken

Board of Directors

Our Board meeting is Monday, June 8th (Second Monday of the month) at 10:30 AM.

If you want to place an item on the Board agenda, please send it to the clerk, Jean McCauley (ncuclerk@gmail.com), about a week in advance.

Message from Your Webmaster



**Together we can
make it happen!**

Hi Everyone! I'm the webmaster, as well the member that creates the newsletter. In order to have updated information to you before the beginning of the month, I really need everyone's help in sending me everything that is needed before the deadline. Lately, I have been getting the content several days late, and when I have only a week to create the newsletter and update the website, it really becomes difficult. These are a fraction of the steps I need to take to make it happen:

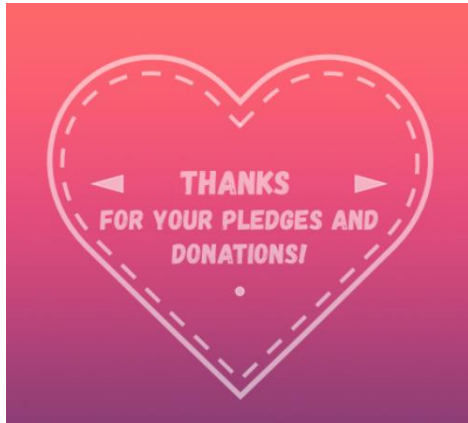
1. Organize emails into an online folder
2. Photoshop any images that I receive
3. Update the newsletter and edit the content for spelling and grammar
4. Correctly format it so that each page looks good, and the pagination is correct.
5. Send to Connie to check for any additional edits
6. Update the newsletter with edits
7. Send Connie the final version to send out to everyone
8. Photoshop images again for the website – sizing needs to be smaller
9. Code each of these pages: President's Message, Sunday Service, previous Month with links to videos, announcements, new members. The website isn't a copy and paste; it's actually coded programmatically, and that does take time.

Together, we can make it happen!

Thanks,

Amy

NCUU Pledges



[NCUU Pledges and You Video](#)

Our Fellowship is still functioning and has ongoing expenses. We will be “open and up and running” as soon as it is safe. Please find it in your generous hearts to keep your pledges and gifts up to date. Many thanks to all of you. Checks should be sent to:

Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist
P.O. Box 94
Holder, FL 34445

Connie Hart

Attention Committee Chairpersons:

When you schedule a meeting or activity virtually or in person, please inform Gordon Hart (gchshutterbug@gmail.com) in a timely manner with all the details, so he may place it on the website calendar. Thank you! Also, The Council of Committees will meet via Zoom tentatively on Saturday, June 13th at 1:00 P.M. If you are a Committee Chair, I will send you an invitation link. If you can't make it, please send a representative from your Committee to the virtual meeting.

Bring your ideas on how together we can support each other, help our community and grow our Fellowship.

Connie Hart

A Survey is Coming!

The Board of Directors, wants you to know how NCUU functions, and needs your help making it function more smoothly. It takes a village... When you receive your survey online or via mail, please take a moment to read about our Committees and see where your interest(s) lie, fill it out and follow directions on how to submit it.

Many thanks,
Connie Hart, V.P. of BoD

Message From Your NCUU Clerk

The next meeting of the NCUU Board of Directors will be on **06/08/20**. Items for the Meeting Agenda need to be received by the Clerk one week prior to the meeting which is **06/01/20**. For next month the Board of Directors meeting will be on **07/13/20**. Items for the Meeting Agenda need to be received by the Clerk one week prior to that meeting which is **07/06/20**.

Please submit in electronic format what you propose to add to the agenda to ncuclerk@gmail.com

Please be aware that agenda items must be approved by the president of NCUU. Additions to the Meeting Agenda after these dates will only be accepted if they are emergency items that affect the day-to-day- operations of NCUU.

The Board thanks you for your cooperation in helping the Board of Directors meetings run smoothly and efficiently. You can access our NCUU Bylaws, the Policy & Procedures Manual and Board of Directors Meeting Minutes under the **Members** section of our website at www.ncuu.org

Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That The Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is **June 23 2020**. **Please Adhere To This Deadline, Otherwise The Newsletter And Website Won't Be Updated On-Time, or it won't appear in the issue.** Send To: Ahaiken@Yahoo.Com And Put 'For Newsletter' In The Subject Line.

Zoom comes to NCUU!

As most of you are probably aware by now, our NCUU Sunday Services are available live via Zoom. If you don't have internet on any device, you can still hear the services via your smart phone. Please contact Don Wright for assistance at 352-283-6007.

These services available live on zoom and later on the website via youtube would not be possible without the long hours of preparation of two of our technically talented members. Please be sure to thank **Don Wright and Amy Haiken** for their long hours, patience and expertise in accomplishing this for us!

Connie Hart

June Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

If your birthday is not included, and your name is not on this list, please notify the editor: ahaiken@yahoo.com. Birthdays will be celebrated for now with a card from the Caring Committee. Please take time to text, call or email these members this month.

Dave Koveleski
Bree Hill

Donald House

Send Sunday Morning Announcements To:

Contactncuu@Gmail.Com With For Announcements In The Subject Line. Deadline Is The Friday Before Sunday Service.

Women's Suffrage Celebration



August 22 is the date for the Citrus Centennial Celebration of Women's Suffrage. This project was began two years ago and includes NCUU members and also received personal donations from NCUU Board members. It celebrates 100 years since the August passage of the 19th Amendment .

We are proceeding with the planning for August 22. We hope The County will be more open and safe in August. Right now, our location (Citrus Springs Community Center) follows State directives. However, we have reserved October 17th as a back up.

Please "pencil in" August 22 and October 17. Hope to see you there.

Linda Myers

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

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.



Unitarian Universalists have been part of every movement in US history, and we are ready to show up for the 2020 election like never before. Our forebears and ancestors gave us the blueprints for seeking justice in the world and speaking truth to power.

Press the control key and click on the image to view the following video.



Past Speaker In The News



One of our past speakers, Lucille Davis, had a front page article in the Chronicle on the role of black women in Amendment 19 and beyond. Sunday May 10, front page of the Commentary section. If you missed it, she is giving another talk, August 11 for the League of Women Voters -- it may be zoomed. I will let you know.

Linda Myers.

Social Justice Committee

This [link](#) is an editorial on the World Health Organization is scheduled to appear in tomorrow's issue of Science. The underlying message is that effective solutions to global crises like pandemics and climate change require global collaboration. It is imperative that we all do what we can, even a tiny bit, to convince our leaders of this.

Don Wright

Congratulations, Hailey!!



We are very happy to announce our youngest member, Hailey Ochsenbein, is graduating from High School with Honors! She recently finished all the required work for her senior year of Virtual School, Marion County. Hailey, we congratulate you for all your hard work and wish you all the best in the future. We are all proud of you!

In The News

Charlotte Langley is in rehab with a broken hip. Please send best wishes.

Crystal River Health and Rehab
136 NE 12th Ave, Crystal River, FL 34429

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.

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

Loving Energy by Pam Reader

Pam Reader, one of our newest members, is a nurse, counselor and hypnotherapist. Pam has created a hypnotherapy session that she would like to share with all of our fellowship, especially with us all going through this stressful time with Coronavirus. It is highly recommended.

Please click on this [link](#) to her Youtube video.

Thanks Pam!



Upcoming Election

Based upon the letter that the UUA lawyer distributed, members of our fellowship can participate politically within the congregation. Please refer to Davis Senseman's letter in the last section of this newsletter (question and answer 4). I would like to create a group of members and their friends to utilize an organization that sends postcards to voters. I have used this organization in the past, and they were very influential in helping particular candidates that hold similar values to UU principles.

Please let me know by email:
ahaiken@yahoo.com if you are interested.

Thanks,
Amy

Let's Connect!

During this time of uncertainty, let's stay connected to each other. Please take a moment to call, text or email a member or two each day. Calls are especially nice for those who don't have email, are ailing or are grieving. Just check the newly revised Directory, print or save it and use it to help lift the spirit of our members.

Thank you!
Connie



New Members



Pamela and David Reader

We moved to Florida from Texas in October 2019. We love the area, people and activities and hope to get back to our normal abnormalities soon. David is a 30 year Navy veteran who served as COB on submarines. For the past 10 years we ran a small fish camp in Texas. Pam is an Air Force nurse veteran and worked as a hospice nurse/counselor/hypnotherapist. She co-authored a book called "The Pipe and the Pen" and produced a hypnotherapy CD called "Loving Energy". We enjoy the outdoors and heat and humidity! Lol We live on an island on the Homosassa River and are members of the Homosassa River Alliance, Homosassa Civic Club, Nature Coast Dragonboat Club, and Citrus County Democrat Club and of course recently joined Nature Coast UU! Stay safe and loving healing energies to all!



Charrington "Charlie" Morell, Marilyn Butler, and Hal Butler

Charlie, pictured on left, is the daughter of Marilyn and Hal Butler.

Charlie an RN, is presently very busy, studying for her Masters degree and working full time remotely as Division Manager for West Florida Clinical Document Improvement. She has resided in Florida since 2000, presently lives in Inverness and enjoys having several cats and dogs. She also loves gardening and birdwatching. Working with stained glass is her art outlet. According to her mom, she creates beautiful pieces.

Marilyn and Hal resided in Connecticut for many years before moving "out the door in '94" to Florida. Marilyn taught Foreign Languages (Spanish and French) at a high school in Brookfield. Her hobbies now include bridge, when not social distancing, and reading on her Kindle. She likes playing the piano and used to enjoy play tennis.

Hal also worked in education as a Social Studies teacher in Bridgeport, CT. He loves history, is a Biblical scholar and an expert on Shakespeare. Hal is devoted to his Australian Shepherd rescue, Beau. The Butlers have 2 children, 8 grandchildren and 1 great grandson. Their residence now is located in Beverly Hills, FL.

Special Announcement - UUA

Hello! My name is Davis Senseman and I am honored to be supporting the important work of UU the Vote by providing legal counsel regarding how congregations can engage in bold, effective electoral work fully within your rights and IRS status as 501c3 religious organizations.

I'm collaborating with the #UUTheVote team to provide comprehensive guidance around the issue throughout the campaign.

Here are four key questions that we've already heard from several congregational leaders:

Question 1: Can we openly preach, teach, or act about being opposed to war, or supporting the Green New Deal? Have these become partisan issues?

Response: YES YOU CAN. Unless you are persuading people to vote for/against a specific candidate, you are absolutely allowed to take a definitive stance on issues, including issues regarding actions of the current administration. Opposition to war, combating climate change, resisting oppression in all forms—these are foundational UU beliefs. They can and should be at the center of sermons and congregational work.

Question 2: Can we partner with an organization if they are not a 501(c)3?

Response: YES YOU CAN. Congregations can partner with c(4) organizations or unions to carry out charitable, nonpartisan activities consistent with the church's 501(c)3 status and mission. For UU congregations, that includes activities advocating for foundational UU beliefs.

Question 3: Can Individuals from the congregation (especially the minister) publicly endorse candidates?

Response: YES THEY CAN. So long as the individual is not speaking at an official church function, in an official church publication, or otherwise using the church's assets, and does not claim to speak as a representative of the church, they are free to endorse and speak publicly on behalf of any candidate.

Question 4: Can we ever host partisan activities in the congregation?

Response: YES YOU CAN, as long as the event is consistent with pre-existing space use policies (i.e. - you don't charge for space use and aren't charging the folks holding the partisan event, or you only allow groups invited by a member to use the building). Furthermore, your policies can include a requirement that any group using the space hold similar values to UU principles to avoid having to host groups whose partisan activities are contrary to UU beliefs.

The UU the Vote team is here for your questions and looks forward to helping all UU congregations engage in prophetic, nonpartisan work in support of our values in 2020. Join us at our January 12 launch!

Best,

Davis Senseman, Esq.