

**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: <https://www.ncuu.org>

**November, 2020**

## **President's Message**



In Unitarian Universalism, you can bring your whole self: your full identity, your questioning mind, and your expansive heart.

Together, we create a force more powerful than one person or one belief system. As Unitarian Universalists, we do not have to check our personal background and beliefs at the door: we join together on a journey that honors everywhere we've been before.

John

# SUNDAY SERVICE

**Sunday, November 1, 2020**

Speaker – Joe Wetzel



Joe Wetzel studied linguistics under a graduate fellowship. He was in academia as a French professor and over the years became fluent in Spanish, German and Italian. Literature in those languages is his hobby. He entered the business world in mid-life. He has eclectic tastes, and became a student again since retiring in 2000, concentrating mainly on history and political science. A Unitarian for half a century, he tends to bring a UU attitude to topics he studies or writes about when he imagines he has something to contribute. His first book is titled: *Our Unique Heritage: Lest We Forget*.

**Topic:** “Political Correctness: Should We Follow It Wherever It Leads?”

The *American Heritage Dictionary* defines Political Correctness as:

“Conforming to a particular sociopolitical ideology or point of view, especially to a liberal point of view concerned with promoting tolerance and avoiding offense in matters of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation.” However, some claim it means extravagance, elitism, an obsession, intimidation, censorship, and outright deception. One reads regularly that Political Correctness (PC) has run amok. My plan today is to offer for your esteemed consideration a short historical survey of PC usage, using concrete examples from the news. As we go, we can consider seriously what we think our UU principles suggest we might do in such cases.

**Sunday, November 8, 2020**

Speaker – Bing Futch



Using an Appalachian Mountain dulcimer, Native American flute, ukulele, and a board full of stomp-boxes, Bing celebrates traditional and modern Americana music with passion, humor and boundless energy. Known for his musical shape-shifting, Bing switches the channels on style and tone with every new song from his roots-rock and blues originals to The Rocky Horror Picture Show and Disney covers.

As a nationally touring solo performer, he's headlined at such events as the Walnut Valley Festival, The Florida Folk Festival, Old Songs Festival, the Indiana Fiddlers Gathering, The Big Muddy and Common Ground On the Hill.

**Topic: "Building Bridges"**

With so much division in our country at this time, there's a distinct need to become bridge-builders between people. How do we reach out to make repairs to our society?

**Sunday, November 15, 2020**

Speaker – Bonnie Wilder

**Topic:** "Susan B Anthony"

**Sunday, November 22, 2020**

Speaker – Kirsten Hunter



Kirsten Hunter is a lifelong UU and an educator with 25 years of teaching experience. She currently serves as Director of Lifespan Ministries in co-leadership at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Portsmouth, NH. She has been preaching and teaching within that community since 2012, and is believes deeply in the potential of our covenantal faith. Kirsten is the daughter of Jean and Robert Benner, who are congregants at NCUU. She is delighted to have the opportunity to share worship with all of you.

**Topic:** Wisdom at the Table

As we anticipate the coming holiday in the context of this unusual year, what is here to nourish us, and to teach us? Using stories from her own life and wisdom from our sources, Kirsten will offer an invitation toward harvesting the wisdom at our table.

**Sunday, November 29, 2020**

**Speaker – Rod Broker**



Over most of his working life, Rod was pastor of seven Lutheran churches, primarily in the Chicago suburbs, but also in Alabama, Virginia, and Southern Illinois -- where he was also on the University counseling staff. In retirement, he has enjoyed global travel experiences with his wife Doris over all five major oceans to all seven continents, often serving as interdenominational Protestant minister on various cruise ships -- because somebody has to do it! They also frequently travel throughout the US (including Alaska, Newfoundland and Labrador) in a small, mini-motorhome. Currently Rod best expresses his beliefs and

commitments through participation in the Humanists of North Central Florida community. His other interests include participating in and promoting lifelong learning, swimming, computer website projects, and the Chicago Cubs.

**Topic:** Jesus Without God

Through this presentation, we will approach some basic historical questions about Jesus and the time and region in which he may have lived: What do we really know about him? Did he even really exist? If so, what was the social, economic and political context of the region in which he lived? What was going on in his, likely, very small world that might have shaped, driven and motivated him? And why, finally, does any of this Jesus-stuff matter to most Christian believers and to many non-believers alike?

# NCUU Board of Directors

President	John Comer
Vice-President	Connie Hart
Clerk	Margo Wilson
Directors	Amy Haiken, Tom Hibberd, Bree Hill, Shirley Leonard, Pam Ricker and Don Wright

## NCUU Committees

Building	Matthew Ciszewski and John Comer
Bylaws	Amy Haiken and Gordon Hart
Calendar	Gordon Hart
Caring Committee	Connie Hart, Abby Madeiros
Choir Director	Sally Smith-Adams
Denominational Affairs	Bree Hill and Sheila Wood
Facebook	John Comer and Connie Hart
Finance	Shirley Leonard
Grounds	Bree Hill
Librarian	Tom Hibberd
Long Range Planning	Bob Madeiros
Media and Technology	Gordon Hart and Amy Haiken
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
Property	Matthew Ciszewski and John Comer
Religious Education	Available
Social Activities	Matthew Ciszewski and Pam Ricker
Social Justice	Don Wright
Sunday Service	Pam Ricker
Treasurer	Rob DeRemer
Website	Gordon Hart, Amy Haiken

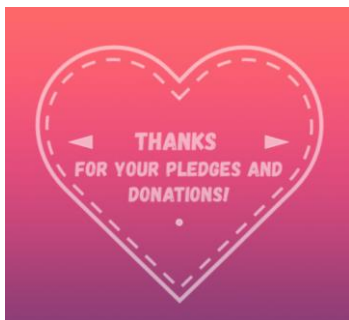
## Board of Directors

Our Board meeting is Monday, November 9th (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, Margo Wilson ([clerkatncuu@gmail.com](mailto:clerkatncuu@gmail.com)), about a week in advance.



## NCUU Pledges



### [NCUU Pledges and Youtube Video](#)

Our Fellowship is still functioning and has ongoing expenses. Click the above link if you are viewing this on your email to watch the video. 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

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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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### **Send Sunday Morning Announcements To:**

[Contactncuu@Gmail.Com](mailto:Contactncuu@Gmail.Com) Write “For Announcements” in the subject line. Deadline Is The Friday Before Sunday Service.

## Library Day



Photo by [Alfons Morales](#) on [Unsplash](#)

We are designating the first Friday of every month as the NCUU Library Day. The next one will be Nov. 6.

The building and the library will be open from 9 AM to Noon.

You can use this time to:

--check out and return books

--donate books

--help Tom Hibberd keep the library up to date and in order

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### **Newsletter Deadline**

Please Remember That The Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is **November 21, 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: [ncuu.news@gmail.com](mailto:ncuu.news@gmail.com).

## Bingo Night!



How about a fun night with Bingo on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm? This will be instead of the weekly 'Connect with Conversation.' Please send me an email at [ahaiken@bellsouth.net](mailto:ahaiken@bellsouth.net) if you are interested, and I will send you Bingo cards for the evening.

Thank you.  
Amy



## Book Club



Read a good book lately? The NCUU is starting up the book club again. Those who are interested please contact me at [jcomer3801@gmail.com](mailto:jcomer3801@gmail.com).

Thank you.  
John



## Sunday Service Committee

If you would like to give feedback on any or all our speakers, please click the link and do so at any time. The Sunday Service Com. appreciates your input.

### [Speaker Feedback Form](#)

Thanks,  
Pam



## Voting



Margo Wilson wrote an amazing article about voting. Please visit our [Community Connections](#) webpage to read this article that discusses the history of voting, as well as important links to our tri-county Supervisor of Elections. Please feel free to share this article with your friends!

Thanks,  
Amy





## Newsletter and Website

All request entries should now be sent to the email address [ncuu.news@gmail.com](mailto:ncuu.news@gmail.com). That will make it easier to keep all requests organized in one place.

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### Grounds Workday

Even if NCUU is closed right now, plants and weeds keep growing! If you are looking for a way to get out of the house, maintain social distancing (6 ft to whatever you comfortable with) and get some fresh air and exercise, Sally and I would be happy for you to join us on the first Friday every month between sunup and 11 AM. Even if it is for just an hour before the heat builds up, you are welcome!

Bree Hill

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### Media and Technology Committee

Please use the following request form for scheduling a Zoom meeting:

<https://forms.gle/13xthsAFNXJg2T7n9>

Gordon will put the meeting on the calendar, and either Gordon or Amy will create the Zoom session and send the link to the host's email address. If you are sending a meeting request that is fewer than 7 days in advance, the form should be filled out and you should call either Gordon or Amy to alert us. The Zoom link will be included in the meeting's detail section in the regular calendar. The host can then share the Zoom link with the committee members.

## Stay Zoomed in for Connect with Conversation!

Each Wednesday at 7:00 P.M. members are invited to join us on Zoom. We discuss many subjects and have a great time conversing. We are planning some games and other activities too, so stay tuned to your Tuesday e blast reminder, or just go to the recurring link found in your email.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92150311007?pwd=d1cxTHE4bnRmREZlU09mMmRNMHljUT09>

Meeting ID: 921 5031 1007

Passcode: 196695

Your ideas for discussion are welcome.

"See" you there!

Connie

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### November Birthdays

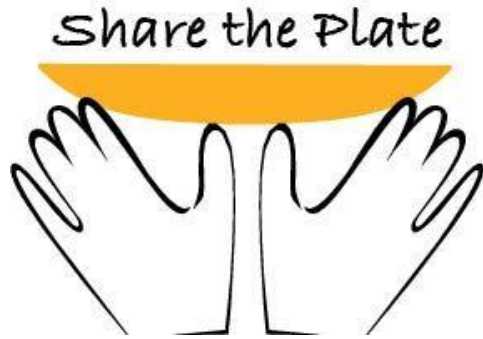


If your birthday is not included, and your name is not on this list, please notify the editor: [ahaiken@yahoo.com](mailto:ahaiken@yahoo.com). Birthdays will be celebrated for now with a card from the Caring Committee. Please take time to text, call or email these members this month.

Margie Butler  
Shirley Leonard

Margo Wilson

## Share the Plate



We have been blessed this hurricane season by escaping the paths of such an active hurricane season. The unfortunate part is that some have not been so lucky in the Gulf Shores.

Therefore, our share of the plate Partner will be feeding the gulf coast.

Please make your check payable to the NCUU or you can make it payable to feeding the gulf coast 5248 mobile south street Theodore, AL 36582

Thank you for your continuous generosity towards others in their time of need.

Yours in service

John

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## Caring Committee Steps Up to the "Plate"

Many of our members have been taking turns providing meals for Sheila and Mark Woods while Sheila undergoes chemotherapy. Thank you to these people who have already contributed or will contribute dishes in the future: Sally Smith-Adams, John Comer & Matthew Ciszewski, Amy Haiken, Connie Hart, Abby Madeiros, Jean McCauley and Linda Myers. Bree Hill and Jean McCauley have also been helping Sheila with transportation. Thank you!

Also, please let me know if someone in our membership is in need of a call or other contact. The Caring Committee is here to assist.

Connie Hart 386-334-7684

[CONLHART@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CONLHART@GMAIL.COM)

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## Loving Energy by Pamela Reader

Pamela 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!

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## 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.