

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>

September, 2020

President's Message



We offer blessings for life and the end of life.
Blessings for the dying.
Blessings for the caregiver, holding love and carrying burden.

Blessed is the Body.
Youth claimed by death.
Elder claimed by death.
Blessed is all creation moving toward one ending in order to begin again.

Let us
Bless the wake, the gathering, the gathered —shiva
The food bought and cooked and delivered whether eaten or not
Bless the toasts
The drinks crashing down throats
The drinks shared with the ground in remembered friendship
Blessed are the stories told with tears and with loud, loud, loud laughter

Bless the hair cut short; the hair grown long in mourning

Blessed is the black for mourning
Blessed is the white worn for mourning
Blessed is the body wrapped for grieving
Blessed is the showing of pain

Blessed is the celebration of life

Bless the ashes
Bless the dust
Bless the grave

Bless the gravedigger
Bless the dirt and the feel of it in the hands

Bless the stones on the grave
the flowers
the headstone
the monument
Bless the inscription
Bless the Naming of the Dead

Blessed are the memories

Bless those who feel
Hurt and Hate
Anger and Sorrow
Fear and Confusion
Compassion and Love

Blessings to our Knowings of Death
May All Be Blessed
May All Be Held
Blessings on Life's Journey
Amen

SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, September 6, 2020

Speaker – Annie Bumgarner



Annie has a special interest in exploring wellness in others and supporting their inner healer.

She is a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist and has led numerous workshops on the value of PLAY and wellness. She is on the certification path of NVC, Non-violent Communication to help teach a language of love and oneness. She is the Licensed Unity Teacher at Unity of Citrus, Lecanto, FL, where she teaches classes, spiritual counseling, and is on

numerous teams to support Unity. She loves attending workshops on NVC, silent retreats, any topic that takes her out of her comfort zone.

In addition she is an owner of an import company with her husband, Arbuth.

She thrives on learning and believes that wellness and spiritual growth is a lifelong process of choices and renewal that creates quality of living.

Topic: "Belonging"

Is there a difference between Unity and Unitarian?

A quote from Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed:

"The central task of the religious community is to unveil the bonds that bind each to all. Together, our vision widens and our strength is renewed."

We need to connect and experience a Universal sense of belonging and connection with each other creating peace within and in our world.

Sunday, September 13, 2020

Speaker – Judi Siegal



Judi Siegal has a background in Jewish education, is a founding member of Congregation Beth Israel of Ocala, and is a Jewish community leader. She is a member of Ocala Harmony, women's barbershop chorus; loves RVing, and has three wonderful grandkids. She lives in Ocala with her husband of 49 years.

Judi is familiar to most of you because she has addressed this group many times. She is a retired Jewish educator and former columnist for the South Marion Citizen. She comes via Zoom to you from beautiful Marion County.

Topic: "Leviticus 19: In the Time of COVID 19"

Leviticus 19, also known as the holiness code, has much to teach us in these trying times. The laws and statutes contained within form the backbone of Western Society.

Sunday, September 20, 2020

Speaker – Pam Reader



Pamela is a graduate of Salve Regina University Newport, RI, RN program. She also has her Master's degree in Sociology with an emphasis in Family Therapy. Upon graduation, she served a tour as an Air Force Nurse. She worked as a Director of Nursing at a long- term care facility, as well as a Hospice nurse and counselor. She also worked as a Health Education Manager for CIGNA Healthcare and was an adjunct Sociology Professor. When she moved to Texas, she was an In- House Supervisor at Doctor's Regional Hospital, Corpus Christi. Additionally, she is a certified Hypnotherapist and author of "The Pipe and The Pen: Remembering Our Original Instructions"

After selling their fishing lodge business in East Texas, Pamela and her husband, David, moved to Florida in October of 2019. Pam and Dave live on a

water-access-only island on the Homosassa River and enjoy life on the water, particularly recreational crabbing.

Topic: "Meditation: Experiencing the Interconnectedness of All Things"

Exploring the concept of meditation, benefits, types and a short how-to.

READING:

"The first peace, which is the most important, is that which comes within the souls of people, when they realize their relationship, their oneness, with the universe in all its powers, and when they realize that at the center of the universe dwells the Great Spirit, and that this center is really everywhere, it is within each of us."

Black Elk,

(Lakota Healer 1863-1950)

Sunday, September 27, 2020

Speaker – Rev Carole Yorke



Rev Carole Yorke has been a Unitarian Universalist minister in Florida since 1998. She has served the Spirit of Life UUs, the UU Church in Stuart, and First UU Congregation of the Palm Beaches, but is now retired in Port St Lucie, where she lives with her five beautiful Pomeranians.

Topic: Courage in the Face of Fear; and Animal Blessing Service

A special blessing for our pets this year. How many of them have provided companionship as we all find our way through this pandemic? While you're at home, we can get to see all of your pets—invite them to participate from your laps.

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 Sheila Woods

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
Publicity	Margo Wilson
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, September 14th (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-elect, Margo Wilson (clerkatncuu@gmail.com), about a week in advance.

Announcements and News

NCUU Pledges



[NCUU Pledges and You 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

Social Zoom Hour

During this time of Social Distancing, we thought it might be nice to have a time to get together to talk, get to know each other and connect. So... The Membership and Social Activities committees would like to invite to join us on Zoom for “Connect with Conversation” on Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M. Watch for the link in an e-blast from Connie to join in the fun. “See” you there!
--Connie

Finance Committee

The finance committee recently reorganized and has begun holding regular monthly meetings. The scheduled meetings are for the fourth Saturday each month at 10 a.m. Committee members include Shirley Leonard, chairman; John Comer, Rob DeRemer, Jean McCauley and Karen Fournier. There is an opening for a sixth member or even more if people are interested in serving. Anyone interested should contact Shirley at (781) 264-5098 or by email, reportersr@hotmail.com.

Attention Committee Chairs:

The Council of Committees will meet on Saturday, September 12th. The time is TBA. Thanks! Connie

Send Sunday Morning Announcements To:

Contactncuu@Gmail.Com Write “For Announcements” in the subject line. Deadline Is The Friday Before Sunday Service.

Tribute to Joan Burnett



The Board of Directors has commissioned local artist, Jackie Nash, to do **an oil painting of Joan Burnett**. It will be 20 x 24 and should be finished in about 2 months. Donations for the painting may be sent to NCUU, P.O. Box 94, Holder, FL 34445 with **"Joan Burnett Painting" in the subject line**. A deposit has been donated already and we still need \$330 to be donated to pay for the painting. The photo above was chosen by Joan, herself, for her obituary, and it will be used for the painting. Gordon Hart will frame it. Thank you for you donation in her memory. As you probably already know, she not only was loved by all of us, but she also generously bequeathed the funds to pay off our land and building mortgages. We still need \$330. to pay the artist in full when she finishes.

September Birthdays



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.

Roger Adams

John Ivens

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.

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

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.



Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That The Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is **September 22 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.



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!



Newsletter and Website

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

There is a misunderstanding that the website will be updated when members send in a request. For the most part, the website will be updated once a month. If time permits, there will be occasional updates to the announcement or Sunday service webpages. We're unable to accept new requests during the newsletter/website monthly update period, due to time constraints. If there is an immediate need for the information to be available for all members and friends, an email should be sent.



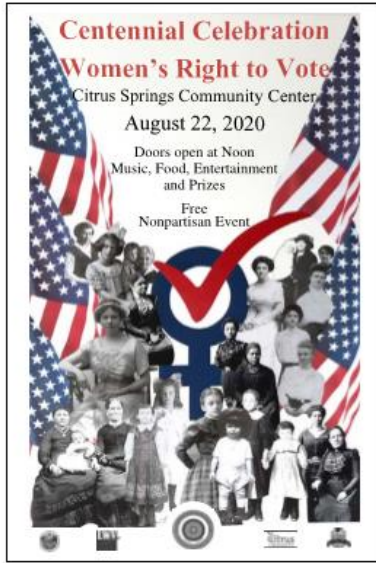
Grounds Workday

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



Women's Suffrage Celebration



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.

Citrus County's Centennial celebration



Jeanie dressed as suffragette

Linda Myers
Coordinator



FIRST DAYS ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE MAILED TO VOTERS 2020*			
Alabama	9/19	Maine	10/04
Alaska	10/09	Maryland	10/13
Arizona	10/07	Massachusetts	10/13
Arkansas	9/18	Michigan	9/19
California	10/03	Minnesota	9/18
Colorado	10/12	Mississippi	9/24
Connecticut	10/03	Missouri	9/22
Delaware	9/19	Montana	10/09
Florida	9/24	Nebraska	9/29
Georgia	9/19	Nevada	10/14
Hawaii	10/14	New Hampshire	10/04
Idaho	9/19	New Jersey	9/19
Illinois	9/24	New Mexico	10/12
Indiana	9/19	New York	10/02
Iowa	10/06	North Carolina	9/04
Kansas	10/14	North Dakota	9/24
Kentucky	9/14	Ohio	10/06
Louisiana	9/19	Oklahoma	9/19
		Oregon	10/14
		Pennsylvania	9/14
		Rhode Island	9/19
		South Carolina	10/04
		South Dakota	9/18
		Tennessee	9/19
		Texas	9/19
		Utah	10/13
		Vermont	9/19
		Virginia	9/19
		Washington	10/16
		West Virginia	9/18
		Wisconsin	9/17
		Wyoming	9/19



*Data from <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vppg-table-7-when-states-mail-out-absentee-ballots>. Check with your local boards of election for specific info.

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.