

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>

April 2021

President's Message



As the county reaches over 10,000 COVID-19 cases, and new variants of the virus hit Florida, the board of directors have decided to hold off opening the church until Aug. 1, 2021. This decision was long thought out and discussed at length. While the number of cases changes, and more and more people get vaccinated, the Board will be watching closely to see if we cannot open sooner.

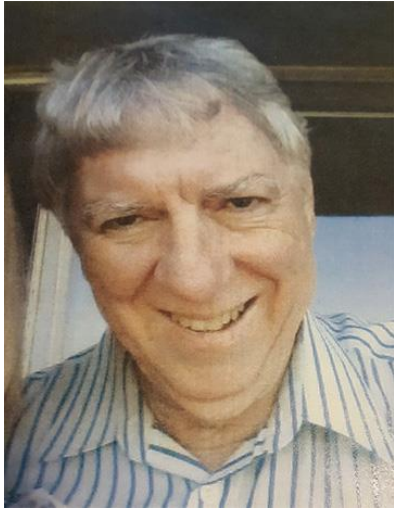
Yours in service,

John Comer

SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Speaker – the Rev. Ben Bortin



The Rev. Ben Bortin grew up in California, attending the University of California and Starr King School for the Ministry. Along the way, he lived two years in Japan. He served First Unitarian Church of Duluth, Minn., and more recently, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Staten Island, N.Y. He currently lives, along with his wife, Andrea, in Port Washington, N. Y., a little east of New York City. He has a daughter in graduate school. He is pursuing a hospital chaplaincy. He is part of a rather small minority as a lifelong Unitarian Universalist.

Topic: Moral Courage, Martyrdom, and Hope – An Easter Sermon

You might have noticed that Easter Sunday, this year, coincides with the anniversary of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The messages and majesty of these two religious leaders, Jesus and Dr. King, calling for nonviolence and love in a world blighted with violence and hatred, echo one another luminously.

So often, morally courageous individuals of the past are adulated, while their teachings go unheeded. Too often, that has been the case here. But what lessons and what hope can we derive, can the world derive, from these two martyred figures, the carpenter-prophet from Nazareth and the minister from Atlanta?

Sunday, April 11, 2021

Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Speaker – Don Wright



Don Wright and his wife Jeanne live in Dunnellon and have been members of NCUU since 2010.

Don retired in 2007 from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, where he was a professor specializing in physical and geological oceanography. Prior to moving to Virginia in 1982, Don was on the faculty of the University of Sydney, Australia. Don received his doctoral degree from Louisiana State University in 1970. He continues to work part time as Director of Coastal and Environmental Research for the

Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA), a nonprofit

Washington-based consortium of 60 universities. Most recently, he researched, edited, and contributed chapters to the book ***Tomorrow's Coasts: Complex and Impermanent***, which was published in 2019 by Springer International Publishers. He's also contributed climate-change-related articles to scientific journals and international conferences. Don serves as chair of the NCUU Social Justice Committee and is a member of the NCUU Board of Directors.

Topic: Climate Change and Its Global Refugees

Half of the world's people live near the coast. Coastal communities in the United States face increasing hazards, including compound flooding by coinciding or sequential storm surge and torrential rains and lingering post-event impacts on human health, superimposed on progressively rising sea levels and climate change. There is a broad consensus that communities in Low Elevation Coastal Zones (LECZ) are vulnerable now and will be much more vulnerable in future decades.

The increasing vulnerability results from a rising sea level and the fact that socioeconomic drivers and aging infrastructure amplify the physical impacts of the underlying climate-related hazards. Public health and safety questions demand increasing attention as prolonged flooding events become more frequent. Worldwide, many LECZ residents are poor and underrepresented, resulting in increasing levels of social vulnerability to coastal hazards. In some low-lying island nations, affected residents already are becoming refugees. Low income and minority residents in the LECZ are the most at risk and least able to adapt to hazards related to climate change.

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Speaker – UU Rev. Anita Farber-Robertson



Topic: “Before and After”

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

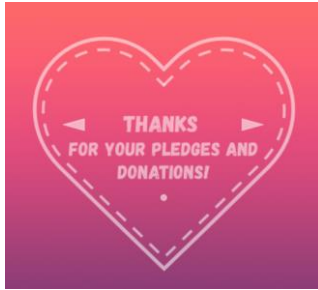
Building	Matthew Ciszewski and John Comer
Bylaws	Amy Haiken and Gordon Hart
Calendar	Gordon Hart
Caring Committee	Connie Hart, Abby Madeiros
Choir Director	Sally Smith-Adams
Denominational Affairs	Bree Hill and Sheila Wood
Facebook	John Comer and Connie Hart
Finance	Shirley Leonard
Grounds	Bree Hill
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	Jean McCauley
Website	Gordon Hart, Amy Haiken

Board of Directors

Our Board meeting is Monday, April 12 (Second Monday of the month) at 10:30 a.m. If you want to place an item on the Board agenda, please send it to the clerk, Margo Wilson (clerkatncuu@gmail.com), about a week in advance.

Announcements and News

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 Fellowship
P.O. Box 94
Holder, FL 34445

Connie Hart

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.

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

April 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.

Wanda Brown
Judy Capone
Lynn Carole Baker

Joe Wetzel
Sandy Sondheim

April Hike

April NCUU Hike: Wednesday, April 21.

We will meet at the fellowship building at 9 a.m. and will caravan to the trails.

We will check out two trails in the Goethe State Forest. The first trail, much of which is on a boardwalk, is less than half a mile out and back and goes to the Goethe Giant, one of the largest cypress trees in Florida. This marvelous tree is over 900 years old and more than 105 feet tall. For those who would like more miles, we'll go on to the trail at Buck Island Pond, a 1.8-mile trail. The second trail has a short section that can be muddy if it has just rained, and a short part of it is also a horse trail. There is a \$2 parking fee at the second trail, and no bathrooms at either trail.

Come hike with us!

Newsletter Deadline

Message from Rev Langley

A message from the Sunday Service Committee: The Rev. Tammy Langley spoke to NCUU on Sunday morning, March 7, about the influence of women as written in the Bible. If you would like to hear more from Rev. Langley, you can see her presentation for the League of Women Voters' Centennial Celebration, "What a Person Can Do," at the following link: <https://youtu.be/75-ftWIXpHU>

Connect With Conversation

Each Wednesday from 7-8 p.m., members can join each other for conversation via a recurring Zoom link.

Sometimes we have a topic, sometimes we play a game. We catch up on local events and concerns and learn about each other. It's a great way to get acquainted. You don't have to dress up or clean the house, either. We look forward to "seeing" you.

If you need assistance getting on Zoom, contact Amy or Gordon.

Connie

Please Remember That The Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is April 23, 2021. **Please Adhere To This Deadline; Otherwise, The Newsletter And Website Won't Be Updated On Time, or your material won't appear in the issue.** Send To: ncuu.news@gmail.com.

It's About Time

The Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution has been pending 100 years and is 200 years overdue. It was finally ratified by the required number of states. Last year, it passed the House of Representatives but was not brought before the Senate. This year, the House changed the deadline for ratification, and it will be brought to the Senate.

Please urge Senators Scott and Rubio to actively support it, even though Florida has never ratified it. Contact Rick Scott at (202) 224-5274; Marco Rubio at (202) 224-3041. We know that much has been asked of you recently. This is the culmination of so much work for equality and democracy.

Or Google their names and a contact form comes up for you to easily fill out and submit your request. Please get your friends and relatives to take part in this effort for our grandchildren.

-- Linda Myers

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.



NCUU Calendar

Please send additions, deletions, updates and edits to Gordon Hart, gchshutterbug@gmail.com, so that he may keep the calendar updated on our website, ncuu.org.



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 feet to whatever you are 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 a.m. Even if it is for just an hour before the heat builds up, you are welcome!

Bree Hill

Sunday Service Committee

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

[Speaker Feedback Form](#)

Thanks,
Pam Ricker



Caring Committee

The Caring Committee is working with the Membership Committee to make calls and keep in touch with you. Since we still can't meet in person, you may be receiving a personal call from a different member of our Fellowship once a month, just to touch base and say, "Hi." Thank you to the Caring Committee and Membership Committee for organizing this!



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 the coronavirus. The session is highly recommended.

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

Thanks, Pam!