

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>

January 2022

SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022

Speaker – Vanessa Fuller Brown

Vanessa Fuller-Brown is a lifelong student, educator, and practitioner of the Sacred Arts and Sciences within humanity's Wisdom Traditions. Both professional fine artist and social artist, she is a certified drum facilitator and sound healing practitioner, pioneering Rhythm Arts Programs as powerful tools for self-expression, transformation, and community building for all ages. As a Minister of The Divine Arts, Vanessa imparts wisdom through ceremonial arts and earth practices, educational workshops, and creative mentorship. "Falling into Rhythm is a Natural Path to Wellness and Vitality, and the Way of The Heart," according to Vanessa.

Topic: Community Drum Circle

As drum circles grow increasingly popular, science is realizing the ever increasing health benefits of drumming and the advantage of drumming in a group. The presentation will introduce sound and rhythm as an instrument for healing, personal growth, and community building, inviting mental, emotional, and physical wellbeing. Included in the presentation will be an introduction to drum circles and their heritage, the djembe and percussion instruments. This will be followed with guided drumming instruction and a facilitated rhythm circle.

Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022

Speaker — Judi Siegal



Judi is a native of Connecticut and frequent speaker to the UUs. She is a graduate of Adelphi University and is a retired Jewish educator. Many remember her column on Judaism which ran for several years in the Citrus County Chronicle and the Marion Citizen. She is active in her community and enjoys reading and RVing. She has three grandchildren who are the joy of her life.

Topic: Jewish Magic

Magic is all around us in our daily lives. Join me as we explore the magical side of the Jewish faith from hamsas to golems, mezuzahs to chai necklaces and others in between.

Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022

Speaker — To Be Announced

Sunday, Jan. 23, 2022

Speaker – UU Rev Brock Leach



Rev. Brock Leach lives in Sarasota and works for the Unitarian Universalist Association as executive consultant for emerging ministries, helping develop and lead denominational efforts to support religious innovators.

In Sarasota, Brock volunteers on the boards of Children First, Sarasota County's Head Start agency, the Education Foundation of Sarasota County, and the Sarasota African American Cultural Coalition. He chairs the Professional Advisory Group for Pastoral Care at Tampa General Hospital. He also serves on the board of Protect Our Defenders, a national organization that supports victims of sexual assault in the military and spearheaded the successful effort to reform the military justice system recently

passed by Congress.

Brock is currently a Doctor of Ministry student at Boston University's School of Theology.

Topic: Living Abundantly

The last year has made it clear that humanity is at an inflection point, with disease, climate, and resource pressures stressing the very systems that sustain life. Yet, we also know that after a point, more people and more consumption don't add to our wellbeing anyway. Can we redirect our evolutionary drive to create abundant human life toward a shared practice of living more abundantly?

Sunday, Jan. 30, 2022

Speaker – Sally Smith-Adams

NCUU Board of Directors

President	John Comer
Vice-President	Connie Hart
Clerk	Margo Wilson
Directors	Amy Haiken, Bree Hill, John Ivens, Shirley Leonard, Lowell Smith, and Don Wright

NCUU Committees

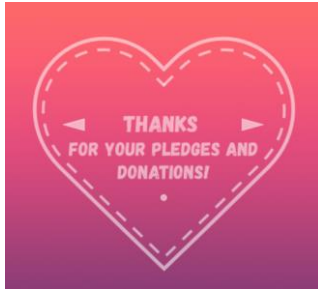
Building	Matthew Ciszewski and John Comer
Bylaws	Amy Haiken and Gordon Hart
Calendar	Gordon Hart
Caring Committee	Connie Hart, Abby Madeiros
Choir Director	Sally Smith-Adams
Denominational Affairs	Bree Hill and Sheila Wood
Facebook	Jean McCauley, John Comer, and Connie Hart
Finance	Shirley Leonard
Grounds	Bree Hill
Librarian	Tom Hibberd
Long-Range Planning	Bob Madeiros
Media and Technology	Gordon Hart
Membership	Holly Alexander
Music	Sally Smith-Adams
Newsletter	Amy Haiken
Nominating Committee	Abby Madeiros, Jeanne Wright, and Mike Taylor
Photographer	Gordon Hart
Piano	Connie Hart, Sally Smith-Adams, Sheila Woods
Property	Matthew Ciszewski and John Comer
Religious Education	John Ivens
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, Jan. 10 (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 are open. 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

Announcements

Send Sunday Morning Announcements To:
Contactncuu@Gmail.Com Write "For Announcements" in the subject line. Deadline is the Friday before Sunday service.

January 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.

Lonnee Zingg
Jeanne Wright
Amy Haiken

Bob Madeiros
Sheila Woods
Gordon Hart

Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award

The NCUU Board of Directors will be commending persons and/or Committees who have spent many hours before and since the pandemic keeping our Fellowship alive and functioning. The first nominee was Pam Ricker and her Sunday Service Committee.

Please see the last section for the full article.

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.

NCUU Opens for In-Person/Hybrid Services

On Dec. 12, NCUU opened its doors. We had a wonderful service with speakers Kurtland and Gaia Davies. A special thanks goes to Gordon Hart and the Media/Tech Committee, for making it possible to Zoom the service live and to record it. Gordon has volunteered countless hours in this endeavor. Bree is assisting in the office.

Gordon, Bree, and I also hung the shade sails on the patio, making for a pleasant outdoor social distancing conversation spot.

Now let's hope we can stay open!



*Pictured are, from left, Ned Davis, Lowell Smith, Carole Goodwin, and Susan Smith.

-- Connie Hart

Caring from Connie

As most of you know, our dear member, Ginny Fitzgerald, passed away Dec. 11. A service will be planned in March or April. An obituary will be posted soon. Cards of condolence may be sent to Richard Fitzgerald at Ginny's address in the directory.

Maralyn Boysen is still in a Rehabilitation Center after her fall. Cards may be sent to NCUU, Box 94, Holder, FL 34445, and they will be delivered.

Share the Plate News - January

The "Share the Plate" collection in January will be donated to the Spot Family Center, a nonprofit Christian organization. It was started 18 years ago by Joe and Evelyn Vissicchio to do something special at Christmas for needy children. Every year, they provide food, gifts, and holiday cheer at the Christmas Jam at the Church of God's Ministry Complex on the two days before Christmas. Throughout the year, they provide food, clothing, toiletries and other goods to those in need.

More information can be found on Facebook at The Spot Family Center.

(Thanks to Margo Wilson, who wrote an article on The Spot that appeared in the Citrus County Chronicle on Dec. 11.

Please [click](#) on this link to view a video of photos about what happened at this year's Spot Family Resource Center event.

Finance Committee

The finance committee has only three members. We are seeking to fill two open positions. We meet once a month until preparations for the April annual meeting requires two meetings. Anyone interested in joining us should contact Shirley Leonard, chair, at (781) 264-5098 or by email at reportersr@hotmail.com.

Learn About Your Fellow Members

A new website section is being developed for NCUU Members!

Do you have an interest, business, or hobby you'd like to share? For example, Gordon Hart has a new photo website. Amy Haiken and Mike Taylor have started a wood craft business. Ned Davis is a ham radio enthusiast. Please contact Amy if you would like your hobby or business posted in our private section.

- Connie Hart

Grounds Work Day

Even though we're in a holiday lull, the 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

Share the Plate News

Our "Share the Plate" collection for December was our annual collection for Kids Christmas through the Family Resource Center. As of this printing, we collected \$700!! Thanks to all at NCUU for your generosity. Our "Share the Plate" for January will be The Spot Family Center. (See "Share the Place News – January" story above.) Thank YOU to all NCUU members and friends for all you do to support our community.

Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That The Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is **Jan. 23, 2021**. Please Adhere To This Deadline; otherwise, your material won't be included in the newsletter.

All request entries should be sent to the email address: ncuu.news@gmail.com. That will make it easier to keep all requests organized in one place. Please send the proofread text and photo attachments.

Amy



Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award

The NCUU Board of Directors will be commending persons and/or committees who have spent many hours before and since the pandemic keeping our Fellowship alive and functioning. The first nominee was Pam Ricker and her Sunday Service Committee, pictured here receiving their awards. Here's what our talented and creative clerk, Margo Wilson, wrote:

Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award

Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship relies upon the contributions of all our members. We don't have a pastor and staff to do the work for us. We are a member-supported-and-operated community.

And that means some of our members give tirelessly of their time and talents to keep our doors open and our congregation returning.

The members of the NCUU Board of Directors have approved establishing a Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award to recognize some of our members who have contributed to the good of our congregation. We plan to give, on a regular basis, the award to a deserving individual or group.

This month, we'd like to recognize the NCUU Sunday Service Committee members, including Pam Ricker, the committee's chair, as the first recipients of the Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award.

Throughout the pandemic, while our sanctuary was closed, Pam and the Sunday Service Committee continued getting us speakers and music. The committee not only located an inspiring and diverse group of speakers, but got the speakers to sign speaker agreements, paid the speakers, and sent them a thank you note. The committee continues its work in this area.

Pam's committee also prepared scripts during the pandemic for the Sunday Service leaders, so things would go smoothly on Zoom. Now that we're back in our Sanctuary, the committee continues to work with the Sunday Service leaders.

The committee, as well, met with, and continues to coordinate with, the Media and Technology Committee about the speakers' and committee's needs.

The Sunday Service Committee and Pam represent the best of the selfless service that comprises the essence of Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

The NCUU Board thus resoundingly chooses Pam and the Sunday Service Committee as the first recipients of the Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award.

Would the following award winners please come to the podium to accept your award? If you're on Zoom, we'll recognize you there:

Pam Ricker
Jean McCauley
Linda Myers
Sally Smith Adams
Lowell Smith

Thank you once again for all you do for our congregation. You are, indeed, spirits of life, and weavers of our interdependent web of existence.



Pictured from left, front row, are NCUU President John Comer,
Sally Smith-Adams,
Jean McCauley, and Sunday Service Committee Chair Pam Ricker.
Back row, Lowell Smith.