

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>

May 2022

SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, May 1, 2022

Speaker – Dr. Jeff Nall



Dr. Jeffrey Nall teaches philosophy and humanities courses for Indian River State College and the University of Central Florida. Dr. Nall also teaches courses in Florida Atlantic University's Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies department. He recently began a Substack newsletter and Podcast devoted to exploring the insights of the humanities to everyday life. For more information go to JeffreyNall.substack.com

Topic: “Getting Our Priorities Straight: Humanities and the Art of Living”

The arts and humanities are often diminished as a frivolous or fringe area of serious study. These areas of cultural expression and inquiry continue to face political pressure as public institutions face funding cuts and ongoing demands to center education on strictly defined workplace roles. In this talk, Dr. Jeffrey Nall draws on his experience as a high school dropout turned humanities professor to argue that the humanities' lessons in the art of living are an essential component of a complete education, regardless of our career choices. Great works of performing, visual, and language arts spiritually and morally fortify us. What's more, they help us recognize the too often overlooked distinction between the means and ends of life—the secular and the sacred. The fact that the humanities continue to be diminished as frivolous is itself evidence, argues Nall, of a lack of genuine appreciation for this elemental distinction.

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Speaker — Bob Benner



Bob has worn many hats on his life's journey. Recently, he has added the roles of nurse, chef, housekeeper, ship captain, maintenance person, and PT aide to his list as he helps Jean rehabilitate her new knee. Their farm on Long Island is calling them home now. They hope to be back lakeside next November.

Topic: "Transitions: Past, Present, Future"

Humans have experienced changes in their immediate world that have shaped their lives, often with unforeseen consequences. Do these developments lead to progress or does our quality of life diminish? We will examine a few transitory discoveries, then ask the congregation to predict developments to come.

Sunday, May 15, 2022

Speaker – UU Rev. Phil Schulman



Rev. Schulman is a life-long ecology, peace, and justice activist, who has spent 29 years working for human rights in the field of mental health. After graduating from Starr King School for the Ministry in 1989, Phillip brought trauma-informed peer counseling to a hospital addiction unit in Shreveport, La. He created a “spiritual assessment” that won praise from the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Hospitals. In 1998, he directed the creation of a program to reduce the amount of force and violence in an upstate New York county’s mental health crisis response. Since then, he has organized and supported

numerous “communities of care,” using principles of peer support and nonviolence. He has served as minister to congregations in California, New Jersey, St. John of the United States Virgin Islands, and San Antonio and Houston, Texas.

Topic: “Is Enlightenment Desirable?”

Today's sermon is a "Dharma Talk." We'll take a foray into a few core ideas attributed to Siddhartha Gautama, aka Buddha. This service aims to increase accessibility and embracing of practical teachings from Buddhist traditions. It's suited for anyone interested in Buddhism, developing mindfulness, or experiencing lasting peace.

Sunday, May 22, 2022

Speaker – Loren Smith



Loren Smith, brother of NCUU member Lowell Smith, spent 41 years as a family physician in rural West Virginia. Following his practice career, he served 10 years as the county health director. In his spare time, he created and manages a bluebird trail of 21 bird boxes and recently helped develop a children's nature park. He was married for 49 years until the loss of his wife in a fatal accident and has four children.

Topic: "Preserving Farmland"

Today's speaker will emphasize farmland as a part of our heritage and reasons for concern of its loss. He hopes to increase your awareness of the need to preserve farmland and what you and I can do about it.

Sunday, May 29, 2022

Speaker – Linda Starkweather



After a career in teaching and theater, Linda spends her retirement as an artist, activist, theater professional, carpenter, and snowbird, spending half the year in Dunnellon and the other half in Naples, N.Y. She and her partner, Lynne, have brought their unique perspective and philosophy to many UU congregations in both New York and Florida. They share their home with a Buddhist and a terrorist -- both beloved rescue dogs from Florida.

Topic: “Deep Adaptation”

Deep Adaptation is a concept, agenda, and international social movement. It presumes that extreme weather events and other effects of climate change will increasingly disrupt food, water, shelter, power, and social and governmental systems. These disruptions would likely or inevitably cause uneven societal collapse in the next few decades. The word “deep” indicates that strong measures are required to adapt to an unraveling of Western industrial lifestyles. The agenda includes values of nonviolence, compassion, curiosity, and respect, and a framework for constructive action.

NCUU Board of Directors

President	Don Wright
Vice-President	Connie Hart
Clerk	Margo Wilson
Directors	Rob Deremer, Carole Goodman, John Ivens, Shirley Leonard, Lowell Smith, and Mike Taylor

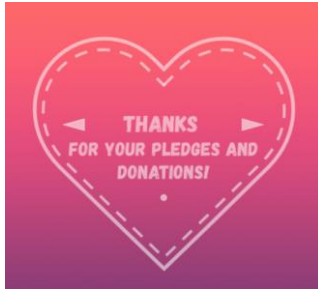
NCUU Committees

Building	Matthew Ciszewski, John Comer, and Lowell Smith
Bylaws	Open
Calendar	Gordon Hart
Caring Committee	Jeanne Wright and Dolores Harding
Choir Director	Sally Smith-Adams
Denominational Affairs	Bree Hill
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, John Comer, and Lowell Smith
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, May 9 (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.

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

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.

May 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.

Carole Goodwin

Matthew Ciszewski

John Comer

Karen Fournier

Ellen Saunders

Julie MacDonald

Stan Brumaghim

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee currently seeks to fill a vacancy. Anyone interested should contact Shirley Leonard at (781) 264-5098 or email reportersr@hotmail.com.

Share the Plate – May

Money collected through Share the Plate in May will be donated to the Florida Springs Institute. FSI works to protect Florida's fresh water springs through science and education. Based in High Springs, Fla., FSI conducts science research, helps to organize conservation efforts, and works to educate the public on threats to our water resources. They work with the Florida Springs Council to influence legislation that impacts the springs.

Holly

Announcements

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

Wildlife Club to Meet

The Wildlife Club will meet Tuesday, May 24th,
at 7 p.m. Grumbles House representatives will
be there with their beautiful plants, so don't miss
this one!

For more information, please contact Brenda
Roberts at 352-746-2384 or
blr768@tampabay.rr.com.

Social Justice Committee

The Social Justice Committee will meet on Zoom
May 21 at 4 p.m. There will be discussion of
forming partnerships with other UUs and like-
minded organizations, and perhaps information
on refugees to the US.

Linda Myers

Sanctuary Dedication Planned for May 15th

On Sunday, May 15th, NCUU will have a special
ceremony to dedicate the sanctuary in memory
of Joan Burnett. Please mark your calendar for
this long-awaited event. It will take place
during the Sunday service that begins at 10:30
a.m. in person or on Zoom.

Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That The Deadline For The
Next Newsletter Is **May. 23, 2022**. 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. In addition, please keep
your text to a maximum of three short
paragraphs. If it is longer, we will edit to
shorten the announcement.

Amy



Grounds Work Day

Even though we're in a winter 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



Wilderness Journey

Most of us are more or less newcomers to UU. In the late '60s when black empowerment was rising, UUs attempted to face and come to terms with these changes. Black UUs and allies demanded more of us, and for several years, the UUA wrestled with this. This often tore apart friendships and congregations.

YouTube has a documentary movie about what took place 50 years ago. It is slow, but will bring you to tears and make you proud of being a UU: "Wilderness Journey, The Struggle for black empowerment and racial justice."

Wildlife Club Meeting

Great News!!! The Wildlife Club has resumed its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month at NCUU. The guest speaker for April was Sue Silber, from Nature World Wildlife Rescue (NWWR), who presented "Adventures of a Wildlife Rescue Volunteer" with some live rescued wildlife that Sue brought with her. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for many free wildlife handouts and information. There is always a door prize and a 50/50 drawing held to benefit NCUU.

SAVE THE DATE: The next scheduled Wildlife Club Meeting will be Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at 7 p.m. at NCUU with the much-awaited PLANT and FLOWER SALE, provided by the Grumbles House Garden Shop of Dunnellon. It's always a crowd-pleaser. For more information, contact Wildlife Club President Brenda L. Roberts at 352-746-2384 or at blr768@tampabay.rr.com.




Wildhart Photography

The photographs on the walls of the sanctuary can be purchased with 50% off the purchase price going to NCUU.

Talk to Gordon Hart if interested.

Please check out wildhartphotography.com for more of Gordon's photographs.

The same deal will be honored if someone from the congregation wants to order a photo from the website.



Florida Emancipation Day

The Tampa Bay History Museum is celebrating Florida Emancipation Day at the Chinsegut Park in Brooksville on Saturday, May 21. The Emancipation Proclamation was originally read at the State Capitol.

Carpooling is forming in time to be there at 11, when ceremonies and entertainment begin. This will last until about noon, when house tours begin.

The house tours are \$10, but the rest is free. Please send me, Linda Myers, an email at rubitime@gmail.com if you want a tour ticket for the house tours. If you don't go on the tour, you can hang around for the entertainment and walk the trails.

The ceremony will be in an outdoor tent with seats. Food trucks will be selling lunches.

Chinsegut Hill is an historic plantation house on 114 acres with trails. It is the highest point around. Google Chinsegut if you would like to get further information about the place.



Caring Committee

Jeanne Wright has graciously agreed to be the Caring Contact for NCUU. If you or a member you know is ill, hospitalized, or has a death in the family, please let Jeanne know. Her email address is jeannewright@bellsouth.net. She'll also be sending birthday cards and informing us of special anniversaries and celebrations. Dolores Harding will be assisting Jeanne. Thank you, Jeanne and Dolores!

Bettina Mulle

Now I know what "larger than life" means. Bettina Mulle is one of those personalities. Far from her family, cut off by Facebook, I need to talk about her.

She was full of big ideas and great love: her husband, dog, bird, "bike," NCUU; she expressed her feelings.

She told about adopting and losing children; the horror of a son shot to death; and asked us to be with her when a brother killed himself. She reached out for help when her mind was tormented. She faced, with optimism, repeated cancer bouts. Each event was larger than life to me

I never had a close friend who lived in a trailer park before moving here; it was so filled with flowers, sounds.

Now, I hear her again, talking about NCUU, even stumbling over readings, telling me: "It is what it is. ...We don't all have the same skill set. Ask yourself what NCUU means to you and translate that to a contribution."

She walked with Carl's meditation group; bugged us until we finally did a May Day service with a maypole (hard to make, harder to dance). She cheerfully participated in plays and earth science performances with gusto and costumes.

Now, one more friend is gone from that era, all leaving many memories. Thank you, Bettina, for insisting on being croned as a wise woman at 70. What courage, spirit, and élan. She asked for and received what she wanted: a Wiccan crone ceremony. What fun it was for all.

-- Linda Myers

New Member



Joan Johnson

Thank you all for the warm welcome to NCUU. I am so happy to have found this community! I grew up Catholic in Iowa and became UU when I moved to northern Virginia in 2007. My career is in federal contracting. I moved to Ocala during 2020 to be with a sister during the pandemic. I ended up being able to continue working remotely and relocated to Oak Run in Ocala a year ago. I have two sons in Panama City Beach, Fla., and am lucky to have two awesome grandsons. I have become a dog owner since moving to Florida with a labradoodle and a rescue chihuahua. I enjoy volunteering with the Oak Run Democrats. I like travel, knitting, theater, and beaches. I am currently focused on my plans to retire next year and live in Mexico most of the time.