

NCUU

NATURE COAST

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

7633 N. Florida Ave. (Hwy 41)

Citrus Springs, FL 34434

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Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist (NCUU) News



Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists

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

June 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Jeanne and I have been members of NCUU for 12 years, and we have experienced loving engagement with many enlightened and caring members over that time. Many of our friends have died or moved away to be with their families. But their legacies remain embedded in the NCUU spirit and are being continually enriched by new members and friends and by UUA innovations. NCUU is a mandala: beautiful, dynamic, and forever evolving, thanks to our many altruistic and talented volunteers. The past two years have been challenging, but NCUU is emerging with exciting goals and a positive outlook.

I look forward to assisting in our collective pursuit of new and ongoing initiatives. Some of these include the following:

- A defining feature of Unitarian Universalism continues to be social justice and its many foci, some of which can be found on the Social Justice page of the NCUU website. We have now revived the monthly “Kitchen Table Forums” after a two-year, COVID-induced hiatus, and we welcome suggestions for topics and discussion leaders.
- The long-standing goal of increasing the racial and age diversity of our congregation must be pursued with renewed vigor, and I know that many members share this intent.
- Long range planning for future facility enhancements is consistent with the diversity and congregational growth goals.

- Over the course of the coming year, we should try to reach a consensus regarding the proposed “8th Principle” and its wording in preparation for casting our NCUU vote at the UUA Assembly in 2023. Several members feel that this should be given high priority, and I suggest that a Kitchen Table Forum be devoted to an open discussion on this topic.
- Returning to in-person services and gatherings with growing numbers of attendees is very comforting and rewarding. But by teaching us how to hold virtual meetings, the pandemic has also opened new horizons and made it possible for us to hear speakers who are remote from Florida. Hybrid services should continue for some time to come.
- Beyond adherence to our well-defined and irrefutable principles, UUs are not constrained by any dogma, prescribed doctrine, or set of scriptures. Spiritual pathways at NCUU are at least as numerous as our membership and are far from static. With the impending reinstatement of Religious Education, we should be able to share spiritual enrichment with each other openly and without judgment.

As we continue our journey to wholeness together, let us celebrate diversity and remain mindful of the critical needs of our congregants, humanity, and nature.

Namaste,
Don Wright

SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, June 5, 2022

Speaker – Scott Baldwin



Scott Baldwin began his career as an English teacher in Lancaster, Pa., in 1970. In 1976, he earned a Ph.D. in Linguistics and Educational Research from Ohio University. From 1976 to 2012, Scott was employed as a faculty member, Department Chair, Dean of Education, and/or Dean of the Graduate School at four universities, including 17 years at the University of Miami in Coral Gables. He belongs to several local service organizations.

Topic: “Critical Race Theory”

This presentation is designed to define Critical Race Theory and provide factual information so that members of the audience can draw their own conclusions regarding the merits of CRT. Sources of information include published research, such as the Federal Reserve System’s Board of Governors’ *FEDS Notes* from Sept. 28, 2020, “Disparities in Wealth by Race and Ethnicity in the 2019 Survey of Consumer Finances,” and the “Human Genome Project,” as summarized in Wikipedia. Some of the source material is difficult, but will be presented so that colleagues without backgrounds in disciplines, such as law and research statistics, will be able to apply the information to their own areas of interest. The presentation will be followed by a live question-and-answer session.

Sunday, June 12, 2022

Speaker — Alberita (Albie) Johnson



Alberita Johnson, “Albie,” is a lover of poetry and the arts. She considers life a series of journeys and looks forward to them all. As a curious being and seeker of religious and spiritual studies, Albie has served as minister, lay minister, and religious educator, prior to fully embracing Unitarian Universalism in 2016. She is currently seeking commissioning with the UUA and plans to return to seminary in 2023.

Topic: “Taking the 5th “Silences Us All”

We will share a brief history of the proposed UUA 8th principle, with a caveat pointing to inaction and denial as complicity to continued oppressions, thus “taking the 5th.” ... One’s silence and or inaction stymies progress of us all. We will also examine the conflicting nature of both our 1st and 7th Principles, considering both our liberal faith and our struggle with relational theology that we believe is crucial to the concept of the 8th principle.

Sunday, June 19, 2022

Speaker – Arbuth Bumgarner



Arbuth Bumgarner has been a resident of Citrus County since 1995. He has created a successful real estate business, “Dream Citrus.” His tag line is “Come for a visit, stay for a lifetime.” He has earned certification as an international property specialist and a military relocation specialist. He is a member of the Citrus County Agricultural Alliance, the Citrus County Builder’s Association and a veteran of the U.S. Army. He is an active member of the Unity of Citrus Fellowship, currently serving as the board treasurer and is the leader of the Finance and Usher Teams. Arbuth and his wife, Annie, started an import company in 2003 and have been traveling to China extensively for the last 18 years. Bumgarner’s formal education includes horticulture, business administration, and religious studies, with a brief stint in seminary at the Illif School of Theology.

Topic: “Crossroads”

Have you ever had any choices to make?

Every choice we make is an example of a crossroad that is before you.

Can we pause and become aware of all the abundant choices that we can create and observe where we will go, depending on the choices and the energy that we have?

Can we explore all the many crossroads that we greet each and every day?

Can we proceed universally to recognize we are all part of this process and have a direct impact on our Divine World?

Sunday, June 26, 2022

Speaker – UU Rev. Janet Onnie



The Rev. Janet Onnie has supplied pulpits, trained congregations in lay pastoral care, and facilitated workshops on organizational and leadership development and conflict management. As an outspoken supporter of professional clergy, Rev. Onnie has served as a mentor and intern supervisor to ministers in formation and as a good officer to troubled ministries. She was named Minister Emerita of the Tri-County Unitarian Universalists (FL) and served first, as treasurer, then as president, of the Florida Chapter of the UU Ministers Association. As a founder of, and contributor to, interfaith organizations, she is a passionate advocate for social justice issues, in cooperation with interfaith partners and allies. She is a frequent contributor to

newspapers and public forums. Rev. Onnie retired to Staunton, Va., in January 2021, where she continues to supply local pulpits and, via Zoom, served as sabbatical minister for a congregation in Canada. She also revived her pre-ministerial career as a professional musician, serving as volunteer coordinator for the local music festival, playing with the local community band, and mentoring young players in the local youth orchestra.

Topic: “Countering Hate”

Most Unitarian Universalists are aware that June is Pride Month, just as they are aware of the struggles of the GLBTQ+ community to gain their civil rights. And they know GLBTQ+ folx, especially Trans folx, continue to experience discrimination, undergirded by fear, and manifested by hatred. Today, we will broaden our discussion to consider how to counter the hatred that impacts not only the GLBTQ+ community, but all those who are deemed “different.”

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

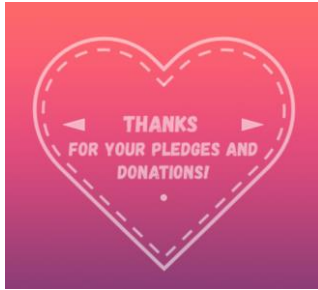
NCUU Committees

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	John Comer
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	Linda Myers
Sunday Service	Pam Ricker
Treasurer	Jean McCauley
Website	Gordon Hart, Amy Haiken

Board of Directors

Our board meeting is Monday, June 13 (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.

June 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.

Dave Koveleski

Bree Hill

Finance Committee

Our "Share the Plate" collection for April was the UUSC Ukraine Relief Fund. We raised \$770 through NCUU. More has been donated directly through the UUSC website by NCUU members. Thanks to all for your generosity. In celebration of LGBTQA+ Pride month, our Share the Plate for June will be Equality Florida. They are a political advocacy group that advocates for civil rights and protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer residents of Florida.

Thanks again!

I won't bother you anymore :)

Shirley Leonard

Announcements

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

Emancipation Day Celebration



Jean McCauley and Linda Myers met Mable Sims at the Emancipation Day celebration at Chinsegut Hills Historical Museum. Mable was the winner of an award in acknowledgement of Women's Nation History Month. She refused to tell what was in her corn cob pipe.

Linda Myers

Mary Louise DeWolf

The Rev. Mary Louise DeWolf, NCUU Minister Emerita, passed away peacefully on April 26. She was our part-time minister 2003-2010. A memorial service is planned for 11 a.m. on June 4 in Ocala at Roberts Downtown Chapel, 606 SW Second Ave. The minister for the service is Cynthia Snively, interim minister at Tri-County UU. Please plan to attend.

[Obituaries in Ocala, FL | Ocala Star-Banner](#)

Sanctuary Dedicated to Joan Burnett



On Sunday, May 15th, our sanctuary was dedicated to former member, Joan Burnett, who passed away March 12, 2019. During the service, Pam Ricker spoke fluently about the positive and loving influence Joan had on her and on our congregation. Several of Joan's friends were present. All viewed the oil portrait of Joan by Jackie Nash and the plaque created by Amy Haiken and Mike Taylor. A lovely luncheon was served by the Social Activities Committee. A special thank you to Pam Ricker, Dolores Harding, and Woody Harding for organizing this event.



Grounds Work Day

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



Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That The Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is **June 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



Share the Plate – June

Money collected to Share the Plate will be donated to Equality Florida. This is the largest civil rights organization dedicated to securing full equality for Florida's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) community through lobbying, grassroots organizing, education, and coalition building. They want to change Florida so that no one suffers harassment or discrimination on the basis of one's sexual orientation or gender identity or expression. News and activities are found at the group's website <https://www.eqfl.org/>

-- Holly



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.



Social Justice Committee



The June Social Justice Committee meeting will be on June 25 at 4 p.m. It probably will be hybrid -- both ZOOMED and at the Fellowship. We will hear reports on how nearby UU's handle social justice and ascertain if there are projects to work on jointly. Linda Myers is the new committee chair and invites you to attend.

June 11, 10 to noon. Inverness Old Courthouse Heritage Museum, Route 41 frontage: "We Say Gay" rally, sponsored by Democratic Equality Caucus.



June 18 Ocala Juneteenth fair at Webb Field at the MLK Jr. Recreation Complex, 1510 NW Fourth St. The event will be similar to last year, but there won't be an NCUU tent. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Ocala Juneteenth Commission.



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.