**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>

## November 2022

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1. *Interfaith collaboration-* Several of our members visited other churches in our region during the month of August, and established varying levels of dialogue with them. In early September, Margo Wilson connected with leaders from local Baha'i and Unity-Citrus County congregations. We followed up on those connections and have made plans to host a kitchen table forum in late November focused on identifying potential interfaith and multi congregation social justice pursuits. On September 1, Reverend Luz Lecour of Unity-Citrus County phoned me and invited me to give a brief introduction of Unitarian Universalism and offer a "message of oneness" at Unity's "World Day of Prayer" in the evening of September 8, and I accepted. At the event, I briefly explained that Unitarian Universalism is a creedless faith with the mission of providing a liberal and welcoming spiritual community promoting love and social justice. I pointed out that we place a high value on reason, diversity and compassion and that, while we respect the messages of love found in all religions, the UU faith is underpinned not by dogma or scripture but by our seven principles. This seemed to resonate with many of the attendees. Other contributors, in addition to Unity and NCUU, represented Baha'i, Hindu and Native American perspectives. Six other NCUU members also attended and were warmly welcomed.
2. *Bequests from the Robert L. Campbell and Mary Louise DeWolf Revocable Living Trust-* As most of our congregation are aware, the will left by Reverend Mary Louise DeWolf specified that 10% of the remainder of her trust be given to NCUU to support and grow our ministry. This bequest was very generous and represents a significant endowment, but with the explicit stipulation that it be applied to support and enhance the ministry. Over the coming months we must decide how best to utilize this in ways that further the NCUU goals while also meeting the expectations of Mary Louise. The second item in the bequest states that an additional 10% of the trust should also be used by the UUA to start a new UU congregation in Florida but that, in the event that that is not feasible, the NCUU Board of Directors should advise UUA on an acceptable ministerial application of the funds. The Board of Directors discussed this bequest at our September 12, 2022 meeting which was attended (via Zoom) by Jay Pacitti and Brock Leach from UUA. As many of you know, Brock Leach has spoken to us numerous times and knows us well. Because UUA does not currently engage in starting new churches, the purpose

for this gift, as outlined in the third amendment of the trust, is impractical and/or impossible to fulfill. The Board has determined a designation that is as near as possible to the original purpose. The Board voted, without dissent, that it be designated to the fund that the Unitarian Universalist Association is now creating to support new communities and innovative ministries in Florida. We discussed the idea of NCUU being part of a multi-congregation collaborative ministry and Brock Leach offered to assist us in pulling such a consortium together. This initiative, if it materializes, would be administered by UUA, not NCUU.

3. *Social justice*- Linda Myers, as chair of the Social Justice Committee, is leading multi-pronged UUA-sponsored "UU the Vote" campaigns aimed at getting out the vote in November. Please join her campaigns if you can.
4. *Eighth UU Principle*- The UUA has proposed adding an 8th Principle to the existing 7. The wording proposed by the UUA reads as follows: *"We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions."* John Ivens is leading the NCUU debate on this initiative prior to voting as a congregation on its acceptance. A kitchen table forum is scheduled for Saturday October 22 to facilitate an open discussion. For those attending in person, it has been proposed that discussions be followed by a Pot-Luck supper. The next newsletter will confirm the plans.
5. *Oneness*- As Unitarian Universalists, we seek to illuminate awareness of the universal interdependence and oneness of all life and phenomena. In the words spoken in 1855 by Chief Seattle of the Suquamish Native American people: "All things are Connected". Last year the Dalai Lama said that "the world's seven billion people need a sense of oneness". Let us all be guided by such a vision.

Namaste.

Don

# SUNDAY SERVICE

**Sunday, Nov. 6, 2022**

**Speaker** — Rayna Alvarado



Today's speaker, Rayna Alvarado, is a senior at Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Currently, she is studying ecopsychology and Spanish in Mexico. She will define ecopsychology, explain what work can be done within the field, and her personal interests in such. It is important to know that young people are very interested in the environment and its interaction with people. Outside of academia, Rayna enjoys reading historical fiction, ceramic art, and walks in the beautiful Glen Helen Nature Preserve in Yellow Springs.

**Topic:** "This Thing Called Ecopsychology"

**Sunday, Nov. 13, 2022**

**Speaker** – To Be Announced

**Sunday, Nov. 20, 2022**

**Speaker** – UU Rev. Carole Yorke



The Rev. Carole Yorke has been visiting us at NCUU since about 2000 and is delighted that we continue to invite her to guest preach. Now retired in Port St. Lucie with her three Pomeranians, she has served three churches in Florida. She was ordained in Plainfield, N.J., over 25 years ago, and continues to preach occasionally, do Memorial services, and lead Bereavement Groups at the UU Fellowship of Vero Beach.

**Topic:** “The Law of Love: Blessing of the Animals”

This service will be an extra special blessing for our pets this year. How many of them provided well-needed companionship as we all found our way through the pandemic? Either from the Fellowship or from home, we can now get to see all of your beloved pets. Bring your dogs, cats, birds, kangaroos (huh?) to be blessed. Bring pictures of deceased pets whom you want to remember.

**Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022**

**Speakers** – Robert Keim and Rosemarie Grubba

Robert Keim is the Lay Chaplain for Unitarian Universalist Church in the Pines in Brooksville and president of the congregation. He has a deep background in religion and Florida geography. Rosemarie Grubba is a trustee.

**Topic:** “Water – A Spiritual Reality”

This is a presentation on the spirituality and meaning of water to us and on why those of us in this part of the world should be focused on the meaning and value of water. If we would be asked what the phrase “spirituality of water” means, we would seek to explore meanings that are different for different people. We can agree that water is one of the powerful, necessary, life-sustaining classical elements (air, earth, water, and fire). Having water sets us apart from other planets in our solar system that are too hot or too cold to have liquid water, if they have any water at all. So, while our speaker may focus on water, he will also be speaking to the value and meaning of our interdependent web. Following his presentation, Rosemarie Grubba will speak briefly about an effort to produce an amendment to the Florida State Constitution guaranteeing citizens the right to clean, safe , water.

# 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

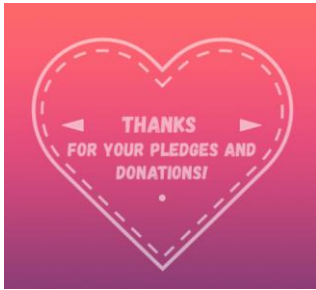
## NCUU Committees

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
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, Nov. 14 (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](mailto: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

### SAVE THE DATE!

Welcome the Holidays by helping the elves decorate the Fellowship on Saturday, Dec. 3. Bring a donation for a food bank. Then we will decorate and celebrate with a potluck. All are welcome. Look for more information at the end of the month.

### November Birthdays



If your birthday is not included, and your name is not on this list, please notify the editor: [ahaiken@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

Margie Butler  
Shirley Leonard

---

### November – Share the Plate

Our donations to Share the Plate for November will be sent to the Family Resource Center of Citrus County. Their mission is to strengthen the family unit and improve the quality of life for families in Citrus County. They offer parent education classes on behavior management and communication; a lending library with materials about family life, baby furniture, and other services, including a food pantry and clothes closet.

- Holly

---

### NCUU Calendar

Please send additions, deletions, updates, and edits to Gordon Hart, [gchshutterbug@gmail.com](mailto:gchshutterbug@gmail.com), so that he may keep the calendar updated on our website, [ncuu.org](http://ncuu.org).

---

## Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That the Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is **Nov. 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](mailto: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 two short paragraphs. If it is longer, we will edit to shorten the announcement.

Amy

---



### 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

## Request for an Assistant Treasurer and Two Members

The Finance Committee is looking for a parishioner with accounting experience to serve as assistant treasurer. Knowledge of QuickBooks helpful. We also need to fill two vacancies. Contact Chairwoman Shirley Leonard, (781) 264-5098, or email [reportersr@hotmail.com](mailto:reportersr@hotmail.com) if interested.

### Announcements

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

### 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 <http://www.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

### 8th Principle Ballot

In the week following our Oct 22 kitchen table forum, we will mail ballots to each NCUU member. The Social Justice committee urges each of us to vote on whether or not to adopt the 8th Principle: This proposed principle reads as follows:

“We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”

Please return this ballot by Nov. 12. A stamped return envelope will be provided with the mailing.

John Ivens



Jean McCauley at Oct. 7 Rally

There won't be a general Social Justice meeting in November or December because of the holidays. The last meeting of the year is Oct 29 at 4 p.m.

### THANKSGIVING INTERFAITH SERVICE AT CONGREGATION BETH SHOLOM

We are all invited to attend Congregation Beth Sholom's annual interfaith service Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. in Beverly Hills. The Chronicle will print an article with more details as we get closer to the date.

The Community Center half of the Synagogue is at the rear of 107 Civic Circle.

The Interfaith Coalition on Reproductive Health and Justice, of which we are a member, has offered us yard signs reading:  
“Abortion bans are against my religion.”

Let Linda Myers know if you want a sign.

- Linda Myers



## NCUU Hikes

The weather is cooler; snowbirds are coming back, so let's start hiking again and enjoy this beautiful weather. Hiking will be a monthly NCUU event. Let's start with the second Wednesday of the month and see how that works out. Our first hike will be **Wednesday, Nov. 9**, on the **Blue Run Trail**. We will meet at the parking area on County Road 39, just east of US 41, about a mile south of Dunnellon, at **10:30 a.m.** We will walk to the bridge over the Withlacoochee River, which will give us 2 miles if we turn around there, or we could go further into the Cypress swamp. The trail is paved, so this will be an easy hike to get us going. If anyone is interested, we can go to lunch in Dunnellon, where there are several restaurants to choose from. If you have questions, contact Holly (316) 734-0023 or Wanda (651) 260-5890.

