

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>

August 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Atlantic Hurricane season is now underway, and the activity began earlier than normal because of record-breaking sea surface temperatures. Fortunately, upper-level shear associated with this year's El Niño event is expected to help suppress cyclone development. However, the impending competition between El Niño and storm fueling by uncommonly hot sea surfaces is causing some uncertainty in long range forecasting so it is important to be mindful of what is happening in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico by regularly looking at the website of the National Hurricane Center and other sources (see links below).

1. **National Hurricane Center:** <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>
2. **Climate Risk and Resilience Portal:** <https://www.anl.gov/ccrds/ClimRR>
3. **Climate Central:** <https://www.climatecentral.org/>

As I explained during the Kitchen Table Forum in January: **Florida's Gulf coast is widely considered to be among the world's most vulnerable coasts to hurricanes and tropical storms.** We learned some important lessons from Ian and other recent storms. First, storm intensification is becoming more rapid, and several recent storms, including Hurricane Ian, have grown from tropical storms to major hurricanes over periods of one or two days. This considerably shortens the lead times of forecasts and advance preparations. In addition, the storms are increasingly accompanied by torrential rainfall which adds to storm surges to produce compound flooding. The storms that develop today are more dangerous than in past years. **So don't assume that just because you have safely weathered past hurricanes you can do it again and survive. If you live in a low elevation zone near the coast, please do not plan to "ride out" hurricanes or even tropical storms. Instead, heed evacuation notices even if you don't really believe them. Do not wait until roads are impassable to leave. And after the storm has passed, beware of lingering storm waters. They often contain diseases, snakes, and alligators.**

If you live in a threatened location and need a place to take refuge, remember that the NCUU building, though not legally certified as a "shelter", is well above the storm surge flood zone and many members of our congregation, including Jeanne and me, live in more elevated communities like Dunnellon, Citrus Springs, or Lecanto. You would be welcome to crash at one of our homes or at NCUU until the storm passes. If you need help finding a safe place to weather a storm, or advice, please e-mail me at ldwright@bellsouth.net or phone me at 352-283-6007. I will make sure that the

Fellowship building is unlocked, and the ADT system is disarmed. Hopefully, El Niño will subdue storms and all will be well. Have a safe and pleasant Summer.

Namaste,
Don Wright

SUNDAY SERVICE

There won't be any Sunday services at NCUU in August.

Please visit local Unitarian Universalist Fellowships in the area.

NCUU Board of Directors

President	Don Wright
Vice-President	Holly Alexander
Clerk	Open
Directors	Ned Davis, Rob Deremer, Carole Goodwin, Art Jones, Lowell Smith, Mike Taylor

NCUU Committees

Building	Lowell Smith
Bylaws	Open
Caring Committee	Jeanne Wright
Denominational Affairs	Bree Hill
Finance	Shirley Leonard
Grounds	Chas Anderson
Long-Range Planning	Art Jones
Media and Technology	Gordon Hart
Membership	Jeanne Wright, Connie Hart
Religious Education	Open
Social Activities	Bonnie Ignico
Social Justice	Art Jones
Sunday Service	Pam Ricker

Board of Directors

Our board meeting is Monday, September 11th at 4:00 p.m. If you want to place an item on the board agenda, please send it to the clerk, (clerkatncuu@gmail.com), about a week in advance.

NCUU Pledges

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.



Announcements

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

August 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.

Scott Forbes

Art Jones



Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That the Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is August 23, 2023. Late items will be included in the next newsletter.

All request entries should be sent to the email address: ncuu.news@gmail.com to keep all requests organized in one place. Please send the proofread text and photo attachments. Please keep your text to a maximum of two short paragraphs. If it is longer, we will edit to shorten the announcement.



Wildlife Club

The Wildlife Club is having their monthly meeting on the fourth Tuesday at 7pm with an exciting and interesting wildlife topic. We will definitely not have meetings in July and August but resuming in September.

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



Share the Plate – August and September

Since we will not meet in August, Share the Plate donations in both August and September will go to Citrus United Basket (CUB). CUB provides food, financial, and material assistance to Citrus County residents. They have a food pantry as well as a thrift store. They provide support to clients who have suffered abuse or in times of crisis and work with other agencies to find solutions for those in need.



From the Turners

Ed and I and JoLee have moved to Largo Florida. Our new address is:
Ed, Nancy & JoLee Turner
901 Seminole Blvd
Apt 156
Largo, FL 33770
727-223-5597

The apartment is in The Barrington Senior Independent Living. We have a 2 bedroom/2 bath on the 1st floor so JoLee can go out easily. We have downsized from the condo we had in Dunedin. The bedrooms are about the same size but the living room is a lot smaller. It suits us now. There are Assisted Living apartments and Memory Care in the Barrington for if & when we need it later on. They also come with lunch and dinner meals.

We Like it!
Nancy



Sunday Service Committee

On July 9, we will present our annual Poetry Sunday. I am collecting volunteers who would like to read an original poem or one of another poet.

Please see me if you would like to volunteer.

Thanks, Pam



NCUU Celebrates Pride Month



On June 24, NCUU celebrated Pride Month as we joined other members and friends of the LGBTQ+ community in a rally in downtown Inverness. Participants lined the sidewalk in front of the Old Courthouse, waving flags and signs, and our new NCUU banner was on public display for the first time. The "Out and Proud" themed rally, followed by a reception and light lunch was sponsored by the LGBTQ+ Democratic Caucus of the Nature Coast.

Social Justice Report

We are seeking to create a constitutional amendment to limit government interference with a woman's right to choose, and enable healthcare to offer appropriate services.

A citizens led ballot initiative has been going for a few months--aiming for over a million petition signatures to get the amendment on the Florida ballot in 2024.

A petition effort, here at NCUU, was started by Linda Myers and Jean McCauley. Jean has continued, making herself available every Sunday to the wider community. The local League of Women Voters has joined her blank petitions are here for you and your acquaintances

New Member



Mary Hedges and her husband, Josephier Brown, moved to Citrus County in 2008 from Minnesota. They live in Pine Ridge with two horses and a cat. While Mary spent the biggest part of her life in Minnesota, she grew up in West Virginia and has many siblings still there. Before retiring early, Mary worked for state government in Minnesota for 25 years, initially in the state’s Human Rights Department, later in the Department of Health, and the last 10 years as the director of the state agency that licenses ambulance services, paramedics and EMTs. Mary continues her career in EMS with her part-time, remote work with the National Association of State EMS Officials. She also served on the Board and as its last President, of Nature Coast Emergency Medical Services, Citrus County’s nonprofit ambulance service, before it was taken over by Citrus County Fire and Rescue in 2021. She has 3 children, 2 stepchildren, and a slew of grandkids between the two of them. When she is not traveling around the country to keep up with family, Mary is active in the Citrus County Democratic Party.

Mary explained her reasons for joining NCUU, albeit late in life. She was raised as a Catholic and while looking around for a church home that better fit her philosophy, she attended a local Episcopal church for 7 years—after all, it had the ritual of the Catholic Church but not the arcane rules. After becoming disillusioned with being a part of one of most conservative dioceses in the country, she started regularly attending NCUU. She reports it to be the first time she actually looks forward to attending Sunday service and looks forward to being engaged with NCUU.