**NCUU****NATURE COAST****UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**

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Citrus Springs, FL 34434

352-465-4225

Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist (NCUU) News



Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists

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

Sunday, Jul. 2, 2023

Speaker — Art Jones



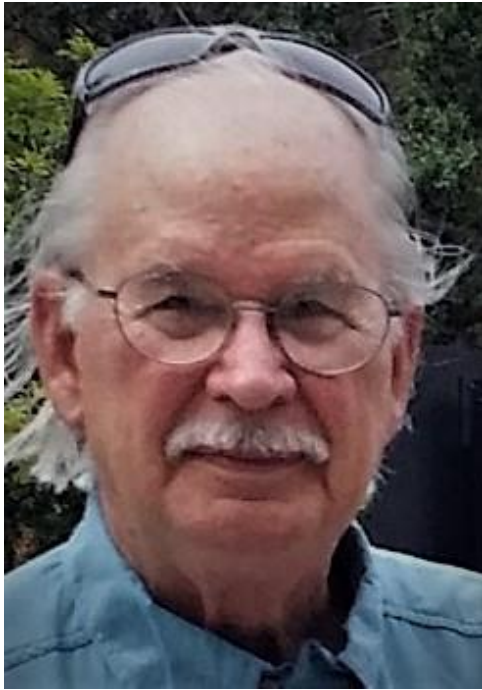
The first time Art Jones discovered the springs of Florida in 2003 he decided right then they were too beautiful to not cleanup and restore so he started raking Lyngbya algae out of Kings Bay in Crystal River all by himself. As time more people joined his effort and the project grew to clean and replant eelgrass in over 70 acres in Kings Bay and transform a once mucky dying bay back to clear water again and a live living ecosystem. Moving to the Rainbow River in Dunnellon in 2018 he is now undertaking a restoration project there.

Topic: “Environmental Justice for the Rainbow River”

Since the days of Phosphate mining in the 1890's the Rainbow River has never had the environmental damage cleaned up. Now with the One Rake at a Time project dedicated to cleaning up and removing Hydrilla, Lyngbya algae and muck and replanting native plants like eelgrass we can begin to restore the ecosystem.

Sunday, Jul. 9, 2023

Speaker – Jim Davis



Writers and musicians do a bit of magic. They pull music and words from seemingly nowhere. Jim Davis is a practicing poet and musician who, upon occasion, pulls musical and metaphorical rabbits out of his hat. A resident of Citrus County since 1994, he helped found Woodview Coffee House in Lecanto; has written columns and feature stories for the Citrus County Chronicle; played double bass with numerous folk, jazz and classical music groups. He believes in the fusion of music, poetry and visual arts. To that end he is affiliated with artOasis, a collective of visual artists and poets. These efforts reflect a sense of spiritual interaction with audiences and performers alike. His readings and the music of Lew Alpaugh attempt to achieve the level of ceremonial magic.

Topic: “The Music of Words”

The music of words will present the efforts of local poets and musicians demonstrating the intricate linkage of poetry and music. The presentation will include poems from the speaker and local poet Jan Hitchcock (read by Pam Ricker) as well as two poems of Thomas Hardy set to music from Lewis Alpaugh. Among his works Jim will read a poem entitled “Waltz Whitman” which emerges from listening to music by the ensemble “Goat Rodeo” playing a tune with the same name as the poem.

Sunday, Jul. 16, 2023

Speaker — Vanessa Fuller-Brown



Vanessa Fuller-Brown is a lifelong student, educator, and practitioner of the Wisdom Traditions, with personal practice, ministry and services dedicated to transformation through the sacred arts and sciences. A professional fine artist, visionary and social artist, she is a minister of sound, certified drum facilitator and sound healing practitioner. Vanessa integrates science, spirit and cultural heritage into 'creation' curriculums, pioneering experiential arts programs that gather, transform and strengthen communities of all ages. "Falling into Rhythm is a Natural Path to Wellness and Vitality, and the Way of The Heart"

Topic: "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 facilitated drum circle will introduce the spirit of drumming and rhythm as an instrument for well-being, resilience, empowerment, celebration and community building.

Sunday, Jul. 23, 2023

Speaker – UU Rev Cynthia Snavelly



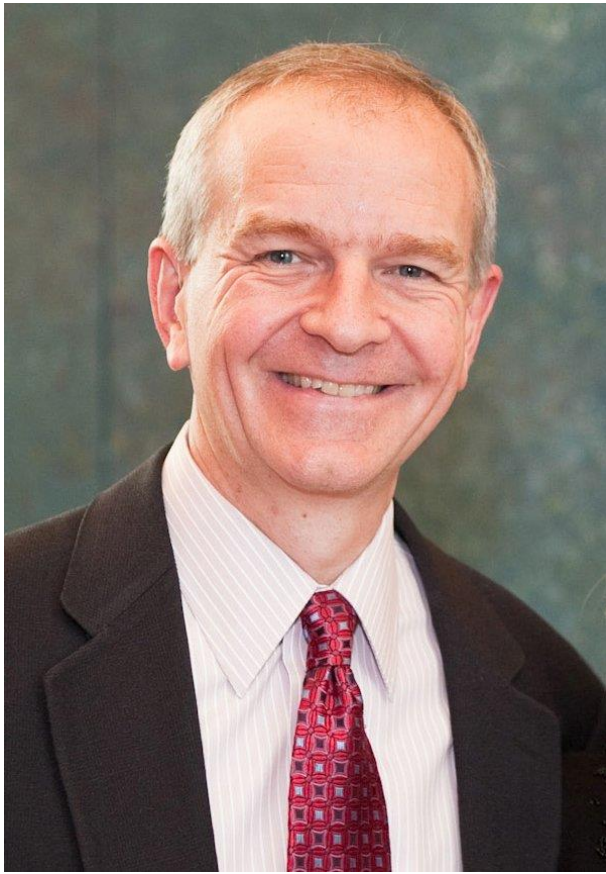
Rev. Cynthia Snavelly currently serves Tri-County Unitarian Universalists in Summerfield, FL and the UU Congregation of Lake County in Eustis, FL as their interim minister. Rev. Snavelly began her ministry as a United Methodist and moved into Unitarian Universalist ministry in the early 90s. She has served congregations in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina. She currently lives in Lady Lake, FL with her daughter and four grandsons.

Topic: “Knowing the World Through Others’ Stories”

Maybe you are not lesbian but you have read Ruby Fruit Jungle by Rita Mae Brown. Maybe you are not black but you have read Ta-Nehisi Coates’ Between the World and Me. We can never know fully what it means to be in someone else’s skin, but we can begin to understand as we hear one another’s stories.

Sunday, Jul. 30, 2023

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, the Sarasota African American Cultural Coalition, and co-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: "Knowing the World Through Others' Stories"

As UU's we aspire to help bring about Martin Luther King's vision of Beloved Community, places in which people of all identities and cultures can feel they belong and can grow spiritually. But how? This morning we'll explore what it means to be interculturally competent individuals, what it would take to build a multicultural congregation, and what we can do to help foster multiculturalism wherever we find ourselves. Reverend Leach will share some learnings from his recent doctoral research with six UU congregations across the country and 50 of their leaders.

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, July 10th 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.

July 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.

Connie Hart
Tom Hibberd

Ned Davis

Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That the Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is July 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. Our next few meetings would be May23 and possibly June 27. 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

From Linda Myers

I thought I was the last person to go into a "home." Brentwood was to be my last place. In fact, Florida was the last place I thought I would live.

I am now at Lake Port Square in Leesburg. It is independent living with a lifetime contract for continuing care. I have a small apartment on the fifth floor, with my dog, Bingle. We are both adjusting well.. There is a nice UU not far; Ellen Saunders has already been inducted.

I can meet for lunch half way,, or, come see us. 800 Lake Port Blvd., Leesburg 34748.

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

Environmental Justice

Art Jones, head of our environmental Justice committee announced the awarding of a grant to help clean up and restore the Rainbow River in Dunnellon. Art and his volunteers have been hand raking hydrilla and Lyngbya algae for years, including keeping the beach at the city of Dunnellon public swimming area, having a cleanup there just last week.

The Rainbow River Restoration Project on Thursday June 15, 2023, received a 1.8 million dollar grant for a pilot project to remove Hydrilla, Lyngbya algae and Muck from the lower Rainbow River and planting eelgrass on the now clean, natural bottom of the river. The money will be used in hiring professional mechanical help in cleaning where it is not possible to do any hand raking. OneRakeataTime.org.

Click [here](#) to see article.

Art

Share the Plate – July

Share the Plate contributions in July will be donated to the Citrus County Education Foundation. The Foundation is dedicated to encouraging business and community involvement in the public school system, recognizing outstanding achievements of students, teacher, support personnel and administrators, fostering excellence in learning, and promoting creative and innovative educational programs.

