



NCUU

NATURE COAST

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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Citrus Springs, FL 34434

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Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist (NCUU) News



Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists

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

June 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On June 19, 1865, two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation and two months after the end of the Civil War, Federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas and notified all African Americans that they were now free. This Black Independence Day is now a national holiday called “Juneteenth”. Like Martin Luther King’s birthday, it is celebrated by Unitarian Universalists nationwide to remind ourselves of the fundamental importance of racial justice. For UUs, Juneteenth should be a special day of awareness, empathy, and universal love. Let us be “woke” and commit to the continual pursuit of mindful “wokeness” for ourselves and others.

The latest draft of the Article II document being developed by UUA considers universal *love* to be the center of gravity of our UU faith and to anchor the concepts of *Interdependence, Equity, Transformation, Pluralism, Generosity, and Justice*. Celebration of Juneteenth is only one of many everyday expressions of our commitment to racial equity and to the overarching unity -and sacredness- of humanity and nature. Unitarian Universalists seek to illuminate awareness of the interdependence and oneness of all life and phenomena and to promote social justice. Unitarian Universalism encourages unbridled spiritual growth without the constraints of creed, dogma, doctrine, scripture, or adherence to irrational stasis. Impermanence, diversity, and never-ending transformation are axiomatic consequences of interdependence and should be embraced, not feared, or resisted.

As most of us learned during the May 28 service, our dear friend and devoted “high priestess” of social justice, Linda Myers, is relocating to Leesburg, Florida. Hopefully, she will still visit us from time to time. We owe Linda our thanks for her non-stop energy in advocating for many social justice causes including Black Lives Matter, celebration of Martin Luther King Day and Juneteenth, petitioning for reproductive health and abortion rights, assuming a leadership role in the Citrus County League of Women Voters and many other activities. Thank you, Linda, and best wishes for your future travels and adventures!

Namaste

Don Wright

SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, Jun. 4, 2023

Speaker – UU Rev Carole Yorke



Rev. Carole 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 NOW FOUR Pomeranians, she has served three churches in Florida. She was ordained in Plainfield, NJ 25 years ago, and continues to preach occasionally, does Memorial services and leads Bereavement Groups at the UU Fellowship of Vero Beach.

She is one of the founders of The Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge.

Topic: “Flower Communion and Norbert Capek – Centennial Anniversary”

It is said of the Buddha that one day as his followers gathered to hear him preach, he rose and faced them, wordlessly holding forth a lotus blossom. In utter silence, as they waited for him to speak, he simply stood holding the flower – letting the blossom speak for itself and to them in its own language. After a while, the message of beauty penetrated the minds of his listeners; they “heard” the flower sermon and were blessed. Let us listen to the flowers’ message of beauty and accept the blessing that ALL are welcome here.

Sunday, Jun. 11 2023

Speaker – Jennifer Hancock



Jennifer Hancock is the author of several best-selling and award winning books and is the founder of Humanist Learning Systems. Not only was she raised as a Humanist, she is considered one of the top speakers and writers in the world of Humanism today. Her professional background is varied, including leadership positions in both the for profit and non-profit sectors.

She teaches Humanism – a combination of Love, Rationality, Science and Responsibility. Her courses will give you hope. It will help you simplify your life by reducing complexity of the problems you face, which will in turn – help you reduce your anxiety. Finally- because this is all science based – it will work.

Topic: “Facing Adversity as a Humanist”

The Humanist philosophy is not simply a non-religious approach to ethics. It’s a life philosophy that can help us cope with the difficulties of life. In this presentation, Ms. Hancock, author of the Humanist Approach to Happiness will discuss what Humanism is and talk about how we can use the philosophy to deal with adversity in our lives.

Sunday, Jun. 18, 2023

Speaker – UU Rev Janet Onnie



The Reverend 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 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 and is a frequent contributor to newspapers and public forums. Rev. Onnie retired to Staunton, Virginia in January 2021, where she continues to supply local pulpits and, via Zoom, completed service as sabbatical minister

for congregations in Canada and California. She also revived her pre-ministerial career as a professional musician, serving as volunteer coordinator for the Staunton Music Festival, playing with the Charlottesville Band and the Rockledge Symphony Orchestra.

Topic: “Shopping for Redemption”

Violence generally, and gun violence specifically is rising in America. We are held in thrall to the Myth of Redemptive Violence – the myth that “might makes right”. Let’s explore the origins of this myth and two ways in which Unitarian Universalists might shift to a different paradigm.

Sunday, Jun 25, 2023

Speaker – Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti



Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti serves as Senior Minister of the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor, Michigan. He is a co-editor of "Conversations with the Sacred: A Collection of Prayers" (2020) and the 2018-2019 UUA common read, "Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and the Environment." He has served extensively in Unitarian Universalist leadership, including as a member of the UUSC Board of Trustees; the UUA Board of Trustees; President of DRUUMM (our UU people of color organization, Diverse and

Revolutionary Unitarian Universalist Multicultural Ministries); Commissioner on the UUA Commission on Appraisal; Secretary of the Board of Starr King School for the Ministry; and as an author and advocate of the 2007 General Assembly resolution confronting gender identity-related discrimination. He brings to the ministry his multicultural experience serving as a U.S. diplomat during the Clinton administration. Rev. Manish loves desert hiking and his amazing kids and husband.

Topic: "UUA Annual Gathering"

Join us for the largest annual gathering of UUs joining in worship. This powerful, communal worship experience will stream on Sunday, June 25, 2023 at 11:00 am ET. Members of the public are welcome to view the service.

The Office of the UUA President, the Rev. Susan Frederick Gray, is pleased to announce that the Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Senior Minister of the First UU Congregation of Ann Arbor, MI will lead the 2023 Sunday Service at GA.

NCUU Board of Directors

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Media and Technology	Gordon Hart
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Religious Education	Open
Social Activities	Bonnie Ignico
Social Justice	Art Jones
Sunday Service	Pam Ricker

Board of Directors

Our board meeting is Monday, June 8th 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.

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
Bonnie Ignico

Bree Hill

Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That the Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is June 22, 2022. 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

On June 4, 1923, the first Unitarian Flower Communion was celebrated in Prague, Czechoslovakia by Rev. Norbert Chapek as a symbol of religious community as fascism loomed in Europe.

On Sunday June 4, 2023 the NCUU will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Flower Communion as will all UU churches in the world.

Rev Carole Yorke will conduct our ceremony. Please bring a flower from your garden to share with your friends here at NCUU.

Pam

Social Justice

On June 3, a gun safety rally is scheduled for the Inverness old courthouse area. It is sponsored by the Coffee Coalition and assisted by Moms Demand Action plus others. If possible, please wear orange clothing. Jean and Linda will be seeking petition signers there.

To all Snowbirds and vacation bound members and friends:

Please remember to gather a small bottle or jar of water from your homes up North or your vacation destinations to help celebrate our annual Water Service in October. The exact date has not yet been set, but it will be toward the end of the month when most of you have returned to us.

Have a nice summer, Pam

Share the Plate – May

Share the Plate contributions in June will be donated to the Boys and Girls Club of Marion County in Dunnellon. Their mission is to enable young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens. They provide target programs and activities that focus on three priority outcomes: academic success, good character and citizenship, and healthy lifestyles.

Jean and Linda have been collecting signatures for a petition to include a vote on abortion on the 2014 ballots. A total of 900,000 signatures is required. UUs around the state are serving as collection points, including NCCU.

If you would like to sign the petition or learn more, please contact Linda or Jean. They are available at NCUU on Sundays and will go out of their way to provide you with the necessary materials or information.

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Linda Myers