



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>

April 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 14 is the date of the NCUU Annual Meeting, and all are encouraged to attend if you are able since we will be voting on some important issues in addition to a board president and new board members. As Holly pointed out in her announcements, voting Members who are unable to attend can request an Absentee Ballot from the Secretary, Kimberly Brost. Among the matters to be voted on are approval of the proposal to form a search committee for the possible recruitment of a quarter time minister. Jean McCauley has distributed to all voting members by mail a copy of the proposal that must be approved by the congregation before a search can be launched. Once a suitable candidate has been identified, a two thirds majority of the congregation must approve that candidate before an offer can be made. Funds from the generous bequest left to NCUU by Mary Louise DeWolf for the sole purpose of supporting a ministry will be used to fund the position.

As most of you know from announcements posted by Holly Alexander, NCUU will hold a book sale 10 AM to 4 PM Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 at the church. Thanks to a bequest from the late Scott Forbes, one of NCUU's founders, we recently inherited a sizable library that we do not have enough space to accommodate. The books are in excellent condition, most new, some rare. Topics include fiction (novels), art, politics, science (including environmental science), history, classics, philosophy, geography, anthropology, archeology, religion and more. The sale is open to the public and Shirley Leonard has prepared an announcement for the Citrus Chronicle. Members and friends are invited to contribute books to the sale. Representatives of school and public libraries are welcome. Books will not be priced. Visitors and members are invited to take what they believe they might read and leave what they consider to be an appropriate donation on their way out. All proceeds will benefit local charities.

As our weather warms over the months ahead, coastal threats will grow. If you live west of US Hwy 19 or in other low-lying areas, I urge you to pay close attention to weather forecasts and warnings because you may be vulnerable. Rising sea temperatures are the main cause of increasing storm intensities, sea level rises, torrential rains, and coral bleaching. Sea temperature anomalies in late summer last year reached record highs throughout the northern hemisphere and temperatures are predicted to exceed those records this coming summer. For any of you who may want to know more about how climate change is impacting coasts, I refer you to a brief and non-technical review article that a colleague and I published in Journal of Marine Science and Engineering about six months ago (October 2023). The link is <https://doi.org/10.3390/jmse11101997>. This article is open access, and you can download the pdf at no cost. Just click on the link above to open the article and then click on the button labeled "Download". It will probably go directly to your download folder in case you can't find it.

Namaste
Don Wright



SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, Apr. 7, 2024

Speaker – Bill Payton



Bill Payton grew up in Akron, Ohio, served four years in the Marine Corps and returned home to attend the University of Akron where he graduated with a degree in Banking and Finance. He spent forty years in the insurance industry in a career that took him to seven different cities and states. He retired from the University of Missouri in January of 2007 where he served as the Director of Risk & Insurance Management. While in that capacity he was honored in 2006 as Distinguished Risk Manager of the Year by the University Risk Management and Insurance Association.

While attending a high school reunion in Akron he became reacquainted with a high school classmate, Mary Fran Raynault. Mary Fran was raised Universalist and, at that time, was President of her UU congregation in Paramus, NJ, thus Bill's introduction to UUism. Bill and Mary Fran are now life companions and moved to Sarasota in December of 2010. He became both a UU and a member of Unitarian Church of Sarasota in January of 2011 and has been active on several committees. He is currently the President of the Board of Trustees. He has three children, seven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren, plays tennis, golf and bridge and loves attending Sunday services with the Unitarian Universalists of Sarasota.

Topic: "Living up to the Principles...or Values"

Bill Payton likes and affirms the Principles. He says they are his compass. Will they still be around? How might the proposed Article II amendments remap our focus?

Sunday, Apr. 14, 2024

NCUU Annual Meeting

Sunday, Apr. 21, 2024

Speaker – UU Rev Steve Crump



The Reverend Dr. Steve J. Crump is Minister Emeritus of the congregation of the Unitarian Church, having completed forty years in the ministry, 36 of those years in Baton Rouge. He holds religion and ministry degrees from the University of Chicago Divinity School and Meadville-Lombard Theological School, Chicago. In Baton Rouge, he is known for leadership and activism around interfaith, anti-racism, and community organization and empowerment issues. He was one of the original founders of The Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge.

Topic: “Still Praying for the Earth”

Starting with Ralph W. Emerson and the transcendentalists, we embrace our love and respect for nature and our religious tradition. From traditional and other sources, we select prayers for our Earth Day commemorative service.

Sunday, Apr. 28, 2024

Speaker – UU Rev Marni Harmony



Ordained in 1974, Marni served churches in State College, PA and Brookfield, WI before being called to Orlando, FL, where she served for 20 years. She then enjoyed two wonderful Interim ministries in Marietta, GA and Tarpon Springs, FL. UU since age 7, Marni received her B.A. from Tufts University; a Th.M. from Boston University School of Theology; an M.S.W. from the University of Wisconsin and a D.Min. from Columbia Seminary. She has served as a hospital chaplain, a college chaplain, and a psychotherapist, as well as being a VISTA volunteer. She is happily retired and makes her home in Winter Park with her spouse Nancy and their animal companion dogs Finn and Wilson and cat Meesha. She eats lots of vegetables, plays the Irish whistle, and takes chocolate seriously.

Topic: “Lamentations”

How is it that so often people apologize for crying? Or equate the vulnerability of tears with weakness? My experience of the world these days has me crying far more than usual. I’m thinking we could use a huge, collective wail!

NCUU Board of Directors

President	Don Wright
Vice-President	Holly Alexander
Secretary	Kimberly Brost
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 Anderson
Social Justice	Art Jones
Sunday Service	Pam Ricker

Board of Directors

Our board meeting is Tuesday, April 9th 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 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.

Grounds Committee

Spring is here! Chas invites you to come rake, weed, mulch, prune, plant and help beautiful the church grounds. First Fridays of the month, starting March 1st, 10 AM - 12 noon.



Beginners QiGong

Beginners QiGong (easy movement and energy), continues for the month of March on Fridays at 2PM in the NCUU sanctuary. Members and friends are welcome. There is no fee to attend.



April 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.

Sandy Sondheim

Wanda Brown



Book Sale

Your help is needed to facilitate the NCUU public book sale on Friday, April 26, and Saturday April 27 from 10 AM to 4 PM each day.

Scott Forbes one of NCUU 's founding members has bequeathed a sizable library that the church lacks space to accommodate.

Your help, your muscle and mind is needed for early prep, set up and sales! Please see Shirley or Chas to volunteer some time to assist this event.



Learn Your Cell Phone

Kimberly and Joy will be available after Social Hour on Sunday, April 7, 2024, to help you learn your cell phone features! Including Facebook and your Calendar Apps. Also, would you like to learn how to take a better photo? PLEASE COME PREPARED WITH ANY AND ALL QUESTIONS!!



Wildhart Photography

The photographs on the walls of the sanctuary can be purchased with 50% of 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



Wildlife Club

The Wildlife Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, at the Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist (NCUU) Fellowship Hall, 7633 N. Florida Ave., Citrus Springs.

Learn all about the mission of Ziggy's Haven Parrot Sanctuary of Inverness, a non-profit, to help parrots and owners through education, outreach, and sanctuary services, from our guest speaker, Laura Meadows, Education Coordinator, Treasurer, and Board Member of Ziggy's Haven. She will be coming with a couple of her rescued parrots.

REMINDER - The Wildlife Club will be having Grumbles this Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 7PM for their annual plant sale!

For more information contact: Brenda L. Roberts at 352-746-2384 or blr768@tampabay.rr.com



Membership Committee

Membership has a program called "I Can Help" to offer rides to those congregants in need of transportation to doctor's appointments, etc. Volunteers can sign up for various Citrus or Marion County neighborhoods.

Jeanne Wright and Connie Hart, Co-chairs, Membership



Social Activities Committee

The Ocala Civic Theatre had to change the show from CLUE to BASKERVILLE which is a Sherlock Holmes play. The show we have chosen is for Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending please buy your own tickets. They went on sale Feb. 19th. After the show we can go out to dinner. Also, I will have a sign up sheet in the lobby so we know who is coming and we can arrange to carpool.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Anderson, Social Activities Chair



Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That the Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is April 23, 2024. 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.

