

Unitarian Universalist Congregation



Ormond Beach

A NOTE FROM OUR MINISTER: The Balancing Acts of Stewardship

Our fiscal year is changing. The new fiscal year will begin July 1, 2018 and end June 30, 2019. Therefore, our Stewardship Campaign will kick off on Sunday, May 13, a little later than in the past. It seems timely that our May worship theme is “Balance” since our Board presents us with a budget for the new fiscal year. At that point, we may be compelled to balance our checkbooks or balance our personal budgets to determine what balances we must seek in our lives in order to complete a pledge which will help support the carefully planned, balanced budget for 2018-2019.



That’s a lot of balancing! Though truthfully, the numbers are much easier to balance than trying to figure out what we value most in our lives and how to expend our limited resources supporting what we value—that is a balancing act which requires some reflection.

Years ago, as a lay person and stay-at-home mom, I valued my congregational life. Religious education for my children was important to me. Singing in the choir was important to me. Growing personally and spiritually was important to me. My minister and my fellow congregants were important to me. However, I was always challenged by making a healthy, supporting pledge to my Unitarian Universalist congregation—a pledge which pushed me and my household budget, which was tight in those days. I thought, “Where could I cut corners enough to make a difference?” That’s when I realized that if I gave up my \$5.00 Starbucks lattes two or three times a week, I could save up to \$15 a week. Multiply \$15 by 52 weeks and YOWSA, that’s nearly \$800!! Then as now, I value my UU congregation way more than I value lattes. I still indulge occasionally – everyone should treat themselves now and then – but doing the math made me realize what my priorities were when it came to balancing my personal budget and my pledge.

In this month of Balance, I invite you to reflect upon what you value and let it be your guide in pledging your support for our UU in this new fiscal year. Shifting as little as \$5 per week from lattes to Stewardship would greatly support the life of this Beloved congregation.

Yours in faith,
Rev. Kathy

FAITH Action Assembly - April 30th at 6:30 p.m. at Peabody Auditorium, 600 Auditorium Drive, Daytona Beach. This meeting is the one that all our members should attend to support the efforts to bring justice to our community. Remember that our strength is in our numbers!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—Gleanings from the Dessert Table

If you had the chance to participate in the Sunday World Café, you likely spent at least a few minutes with someone you'd never really spoken with before. At the Dessert Table, I was assigned to make notes of where the wide-open question in the title above allowed members and friends to think at random about all the other issues discussed. Thus, the thoughts were not organized or ranked in importance or according to likely impact. However, when I transcribed all the thoughts collected on the butcher paper table cover, I realized that you had offered some wise and practical and caring thoughts. I think they're worth your time. See below:

- Co-existence is always tough, but necessary for full and exuberant humanity.
- Consensus is better than compromise, but some compromise is nearly always necessary for consensus. You have to work at it.
- Kindness is necessary.
- Better to be kind than right
- What would love do? See the imaginary bracelet on your arm: WWLD?
- All celebrations should be open.
- Being open-minded and accepting of different ideas is great, but one needs to test those ideas against our seven principles. Cannot be so open-minded as to be mindless.
- It's good to talk about issues with a variety of people in order to constantly question our premises and preconceptions.
- Super-judgmentalism cuts off communication. Why are you judging? What is your goal? Are your reasons clear to you? To those being judged?
- It is largely people of good will who are a part of this community, and it's good to keep that in mind when we are feeling some kind of "rub" against someone or something.
- We need to try to ascribe the best motives we can to those we disagree with.
- It's important that we intentionally seek to vary the people we talk with. Let's have pot lucks with people purposely scattered by some arbitrary means: birthday months, drawn numbers, etc. Have group discussions that encourage movement among groups. Marketplace parties and events are good for this sometimes.
- When you feel anger against someone rising, wait for a cool head before you do anything.
- Don't discuss your anger with bunches of your friends to build a surreptitious cabal. Having one truly trustworthy safe person to discuss your feelings with might help clear your vision or reset your perspective and allow a better outcome than lashing out.
- If you're angry with someone, go to them after you've cleaned up your own act.
- Practice guidelines for meeting disputes in as non-destructive or disruptive a way as possible.
- Ask questions: How does this (whatever) relate to our mission? Why am I feeling this discomfort?
- All have "sinned" and come short of our ideals. Forgiveness is tough, but necessary for community.
- Letting go of resentments takes intentional work almost always. This is often long-term work.
- If you feel someone is asking you to be on their "side" against another "side," you know something is wrong. Time for both to talk with the pastor, probably.
- Love is having to say you're sorry.
- Although we are a caring community, we need to take risks to reach deeper levels.

--Joan Thate

Upcoming Pulpit Presentations—

April 29— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, “Emergence, Part II: A Theology for Our Time”

We'll explore a non-dualistic concept of God, the Universe, and Everything via Quantum Physics and Process Theology. Based on the book, *A God That Could Be Real*—not as complicated as it sounds, honest!

Service Leader: Chris Gruner

May 6— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, “To Save or Savor the World?”

A famous passage from E.B. White explores choosing between saving the world or savoring it; he quips, “This makes it hard to plan the day.” This month, our worship theme is Balance. What does balance mean in the context of a spiritual value or practice? What does it look like or feel like to be “balanced?” Would you choose to save or to savor?

Service Leader: Cliff Jackson

May 13— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, “Balancing Act: The Material and The Spiritual”

If you look closely at a statue of the Hindu god, Ganesha (elephant head/human body) you'll notice one of his feet is on the ground while the other is raised and facing outward. This placement symbolizes having one foot in reality and one foot in the spiritual world, suggesting that the wise person is of this earth, yet not entirely of this earth. What might this mean for UU's? Should we as humans be concerned only with objective reality? As UU's are we not called to seek the intangibles of truth and meaning in our lives? How might this play out for us individually and in our congregational life together?

Service Leader: Linda Kalaydjian

May 20— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, “A Third Way”

In a world that craves the balance of the binary — good/bad, black/white, win/lose, right/wrong — there is a potential for creating the ternary or “third way” which can bring about a completely new realm of possibility. In doing so, where before there were only dialectics, we can now find the potential for creating Beloved Community. The Third Way is inspired by the ideas of the well-known ecumenical teacher Fr. Richard Rohr.

Service Leader: Rita Scheeler

May 27— Dan Kerr and our Choir –Memorial Day Celebration

Through music, we will pay tribute to the men and women who have served their country in the military. But beyond that, we will be paying tribute to some ordinary people who were placed in extraordinary circumstances, heroes who risked their lives in the service of others.

Service Leader: Denise Carter

SHARE-THE-PLATE — Shoes-That-Fit

On Sunday, May 20th we will share our offering with the Shoes-That-Fit program. Since 2006, our UU has provided new shoes and socks for school-aged children in Volusia County. This year we will purchase new footwear for the teenagers who live in Brian's House and Destiny House, both facilities run by the Children's Home Society of Volusia County. These teenaged girls and boys have been taken out of their homes for their own safety. Living at Brian or Destiny offers them a sense of security and stability. Each teen's name, size, age and gender are then given to the Alliance, and our members purchase the new shoes and socks for them. Shoes-That-Fit is uniquely efficient and effective in helping kids improve their self-esteem and fit in at school by eliminating one of poverty's most visible and debilitating marks. So, on Sunday, **May 20th** please remember to bring your generous contribution. Many thanks!

--Joyce Nelson

**The FAITH Action Assembly — Please attend! Monday, 30 April 2018 at 6:30 pm
Peabody Auditorium at 600 Auditorium Blvd. in Daytona Beach**

When a large number of us show up, that in itself sends an important message!

Although the 32 congregations that make up FAITH “differ in their theology, they stand united in their commitment to fulfill the call to do Justice. They work together to address the root cause of community problems by using the power of organized people to hold public leaders accountable for fair and just policy.”

April has been a busy month for FAITH. Team members has met several times with State Attorney R.J. Larizza of the 7th Judicial Circuit Court concerning the use of civil citations in place of arrests. Good progress is being made—Mr. Larizza is establishing a restitution service that will accept restitution funds from the civil citation recipient and give them to victims. Lack of this capability at the Department of Juvenile Justice in the past meant that what might have been civil citations became instead arrests. Thus, while the court handled the restitution funds, young first-time offenders were often burdened with lifetime criminal-arrest records.

Mr. Larizza also agreed to compose a Memorandum of Understanding that will establish the use of civil citations by all law enforcement agencies in the 7th Judicial District. FAITH hopes that this memorandum will be signed by the District 7 States Attorney, the Volusia County sheriff and local police chiefs at the Action Assembly.

FAITH representatives met with several school principals and Volusia County School Board members to discuss the use of restorative justice because it focuses on building relationships and repairing harm, rather than simply punishing students for misbehavior. This program is being used, with great success at several middle schools in Volusia County. Several school board members will participate at the April 30th Action Assembly.

FAITH met with *Daytona Beach News-Journal* editor Pat Rice to discuss the use of civil citations and encourage the paper to investigate and report on the use of civil citations and restorative justice instead of arrests and school suspensions for young offenders. Mr. Rice said he saw the need to bring these issues to the attention of the public and will publish information in the paper prior to the Action Assembly as well as reporting on the Action Assembly itself on Monday, April 30th at 6:30 pm.

--Leigh Montgomery and Harry White

THE ALLIANCE—Celebrating a Successful Year

The Alliance had a busy year! We hosted two holiday meals at our church—Christmas Eve supper and the Easter Brunch. The Alliance paid for all of the food, and all of the proceeds were donated to our UU treasury. Both meals were successful and raised about \$2,000 for the UUCOB general fund.

We also hosted several soup lunches during the year. All of the proceeds were donated to FAITH, Family Renew, and our Christmas Giving project. Additionally, at Christmas time, our cookie sale, craft sale, and Share-the-Plate offering raised funds to buy gifts for sixteen teenagers living in two group homes in DeLand.

In addition to Shoes-That-Fit, Meals-on-Wheels, and 2nd Harvest Food Bank, as well as Volunteers in Medicine, Sophie’s Circle is another favorite charity of the Alliance. We combined the Share the Plate revenue, money collected at one of our meetings, and a generous donation from our treasury. We bought \$1,000 worth of cat food to donate to the pet food pantry.

We are always looking for new members! Before the Alliance takes a summer break, we are celebrating our successful year by going to Caribbean Jack's on May 10th. All are invited to join in on the fun.

--Jeanne Young

LIFE LONG LEARNING— Programs for May

The Life Long Learning programs for 2018 will be varied and include topics related to philosophy, history, the arts and archaeology as well as science and education. Each program includes time for audience questions and comments. **Program are scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.**

“Poetry is Personal”— May 9th

This program presents a panel of poetry aficionados, who will discuss their individual, personal experience with poetry. Each will explain why poetry is important in their life and will share with us some poems, which are meaningful to them.

Jim Cunningham has taught poetry and other areas of the humanities for 44 years. In addition, Dr. Cunningham has served as Department of Humanities & Social Sciences Chair at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and more recently as Associate Vice President, Academics and Director of the Study Abroad Programs at Embry-Riddle.

Rodney Rogers has had a thoroughly unconventional 46-year academic career, teaching literature, computer science, and aeronautical science at universities including Clemson, the Citadel, the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Dr. Rogers earned doctoral degrees in English and American Literature from the University of Virginia and in Computer Science from the University of Central Florida.

Joan Thate is the President of the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation Board of Trustees. She has spent a long career teaching high school students and then teachers. During her 47-year career, she has taught American and English literature, creative and expository writing, speech, drama, American and European history, sociology, psychology, economics, advanced placement English and American History, and lunch duty. She also spent her summers taking additional courses a variety of subjects.

“The Impact of Stigma on Mental Health and Mental Illness” — May 23rd

Many people with mental disorders and problems experience unnecessary extra suffering. The social stigma attached to mental ill health and the discrimination that individuals experience, often reinforced by media depictions and language, can make recovery more difficult. **Preston Garrison** will explore the history, course of development, and impact on people who experience such stigmatization and who live with one of the world's most common and complicated problems of global health.

Dr. Garrison retired in September 2009 as the Secretary-General and Chief Executive Officer of the World Federation for Mental Health, the oldest and largest international citizen's advocacy and educational organization working in the field of mental health. Preston served as the chief executive officer for the National Mental Health Association (US) from 1984 through 1991. Earlier, he served as chief staff officer for NMHA affiliates in Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida, which focused on the development of effective grassroots mental health public policy advocacy, public awareness, and consumer involvement.

--Tom Hilburn

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS—Focus on Social Justice

Miami—The Social Justice team of the UU Congregation of Miami is starting a statewide ballot initiative on issues related to gun violence and looking for help on putting one together. To find out more, contact Terry Lowman at 515-441-9844 or e-mail him at terryleelowman@gmail.com

Unitarian Universalist Association Mid-Year Update 2018— UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and Chief Operation Officer Carey McDonald. This mid-year update reports on several new national initiatives, including “Side With Love” as well as “Love Resists” and the “UU College of Social Justice.” Search for “UUA and Mid-Year Update” to find the article.

--John Horner

THE MOUNTAIN—UU Style Fun, Adventure, Relaxation and Inspiration

The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center is a non-profit program center, a summer youth camp and also a retreat for individuals and groups. The varied programs aim to inspire people of all ages through a nurturing community, connection with nature study and fun, challenging programs.



Voted by USA TODAY as "one of ten great places to renew the soul," the Mountain is an ecologically conscious center that has been inspiring people of all ages for more than 30 years with enriching programs, a caring environment and amazing beauty. Located in the southern Appalachian Mountains, within the Nantahala National Forest in western North Carolina, the Mountain is an extraordinary camp and retreat center serving youth, adults and families.

Founded in 1979, the center continues to be guided by Unitarian Universalist values and is open to all, providing experiences that include a strong commitment to peace, justice and environmental stewardship. A variety of programs are open to families with children as well as individuals. For more information, registration links, costs, and specific program descriptions, go to www.mountaincenters.org and discover new ways to spend a relaxing, interesting and inspiring summer vacation.



Kudos!

We thank our sound team and also our backup musicians, who add music and joy to our services when our choir and pianist are not available. They appreciate the respectful silence our congregation gives them during their presentations.



May 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>April 29 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Congregational Meeting: noon Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>April 30 FAITH Action Assembly: Peabody Aud. Daytona Bch. 6:30 pm</p>	<p>1 Mah Jongg: 10 am-noon Woman's Group: 1-2:30 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>2 Worship Mtg.: 11 am-noon Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p>3 Caring Mtg. 10 -11:00 am Democracy Now: 10:15 am-noon Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>4 1st Friday Potluck 6-8:30 pm</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>7 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Guided Meditation w. Ashkhen: 7- 9 pm</p>	<p>8 Writers Group: 10 am-noon Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>9 Life Long Learning: 4-5:30 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p>10 Democracy Now: 10:15- noon Finance Mtg.: 10:30 am-noon Alliance: noon-2 pm @ Caribbean Jack's Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 Mother's Day Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>14 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Guided Meditation w. Ashkhen: 7- 9 pm</p>	<p>15 Mah Jongg: 10 am-noon Woman's Group: 1-2:30 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>16 Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p>17 Democracy Now: 10:15- noon Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm Board of Trustees Mtg: 5:30-7 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>18 Guild Auditions: 9 am-5 pm (bldg. reserved) Exploring Metaphysics: 6-7 pm</p>	<p>19 Guild Auditions: 9 am-5 pm (bldg. reserved) Jotter articles due tomorrow</p>
<p>20 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am (Share-the-Plate) Recital: 1:15-5:15 pm Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>21 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Guided Meditation w. Ashkhen: 7- 9 pm</p>	<p>22 Writers Group: 10 am-noon Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>23 Life Long Learning: 4-5:30 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p>24 Democracy Now: 10:15- noon Membership Mtg: 2:30-4 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>28 Memorial Day</p>	<p>29 Mah Jongg: 10 am-noon Woman's Group: 1-2:30 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>30 Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p>31 Democracy Now: 10:15- noon Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p>June 1st 1st Friday Potluck 6-8:30 pm</p>	

Upcoming Sunday Services

Theme for May: **Balance**

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Topic:</u>	<u>Presenter:</u>	<u>Service Leader:</u>
April 29 th	“Emergence, Part II: A Theology for Our Time” Annual Congregational meeting immediately following the service	--Rev. Kathy Rickey	--Chris Gruner
May 6 th	“To Save or Savor the World?”	--Rev. Kathy Rickey	--Cliff Jackson
May 13 th	“Balancing Act: The Material and The Spiritual”	--Rev. Kathy Rickey	--Linda Kalaydjian
May 20 th	“A Third Way” Share-the-Plate Offering with Shoes-that-Fit	--Rev. Kathy Rickey	--Rita Scheeler
May 27 th	“Musical Memorial Day Celebration	--Dan Kerr and our choir	--Denise Carter

May Birthdays

Judy McCausland-11 th	Leigh Montgomery-14 th	John King-17 th
Patty Alsobrook-12 th	Cathy Jackson-17 th	Charles Hall-18 th
		Bill Ternent-22 nd



The Jotter

May 2018

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach

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 Children’s’ RE on Sunday 10:15 -11:45 a.m.
 Discussion Group meets Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday Service: 10:30 -11:30 a.m.