

Unitarian Universalist Congregation



Ormond Beach

A WORD FROM OUR MINISTER— “What They Dreamed Be Ours to Do”



I hope this newsletter finds each one of you healthy and happy — as happy as anyone can be living through this pandemic. Enduring the realities of isolation has not been easy for any of us. Six weeks ago, we were suddenly cut off from our congregational life of fellowship, inspiration, and the good works we do together.

Yet we have quickly figured out ways to stay connected to each other through phone calls, emails, livestreaming, and video-conferencing. As we engage in this new way of being together, we are creating and sustaining a beloved community that is very real— we are maintaining connections which nourish our spirits and bring us a sense of stability amid the chaos of the world.

I believe COVID-19 has compelled us to discern what's important and what is essential in our lives. By the way in which so many of you have enthusiastically engaged in our virtual connectedness, it is obvious to me that our Unitarian Universalist community is of utmost value and importance to so many of you. The community was the same for the members and friends who eighteen years ago engaged in the monumental task of rebuilding a congregational home for themselves and for the future they envisioned. They built it for all who have come since and all who will come to be part of this beloved community that is our church home. They built it, we came, and now it is up to us to be good stewards of our congregational life and all it entails. “What they dreamed be ours to do” is part of a verse in the Hymn #358, “Rank by Rank Again We Stand.” The full verse reads:

**“Though the path be hard and long, still we strive in expectation;
Join we now their ageless song one with them in aspiration.
One in name, in honor one, guard we well the crown they won;
What they dreamed be ours to do, hope their hopes, and seal them true.”**

Now we, the members and friends of UUCOB, are called to “hope their hopes” and sustain the vision of those who gave so much of themselves in bringing about the Miracle on The Halifax that is our church home. We are now called to “seal these hopes true” as we reaffirm our own commitment to the financial support of the congregation. We are called now to engage in the pledge drive that will be the foundation of our 2020-2021 operating budget. And although it may be challenging to consider a financial commitment in these difficult times, I ask you to give careful thought to what this beloved community means to you. As you do, please remember the generosity and commitment of those who came before us. Please remember those who have endowed us and those who gave so much of themselves in creating what we now enjoy.

If you haven't already, you will be receiving an email or letter from our assistant treasurers with a request for you to respond with your renewed pledge amount. It is important that each of us responds **no later than May 7th** so that our Treasurer can prepare the operating budget in time for our Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 17th. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Yours in faith and love,
Rev. Kathy

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES**April 26— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, "Suffering and Silver Linings: The Tensions Created by COVID-19"**

The 50th Anniversary of Earth Day was celebrated this week, and we've been hearing uplifting stories of how COVID-19 has made a positive impact on air quality and ecosystems all over the world. How do we hold up these silver linings in the face of death, loss, and suffering we humans have endured during the pandemic?

May 3— Joe Donatone, Ministerial Intern, TriCounty UU, "Putting One Foot in Front of the Other"

UU seminarian and candidate for ministry, Joe Donatone, shares his experience on the long and winding road to ministry. Though leading in many different directions, every UU is on a journey. Exploring the broader themes of faith and identity, we will consider the meaning we find and meaning we make along the way.

May 10—Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, "The Prophetic Sisterhood"

At the end of the 19th Century, there were a number of Unitarian and Universalist clergywomen who served congregations on the frontier lands of America. Let's take a look at their ministries and how they approached their roles as religious leaders.

May 17— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, "The Threshold: A Chance to Take Stock"

COVID-19 has created for us a kind of threshold. We will soon cross the thresholds of our confinement into a post-pandemic society. What that will look like? We don't know but the threshold gives us a chance to pause for a moment to think about what from pre-pandemic times we want to take with us and what we want to leave behind.

Note: Our Congregation's Annual Meeting will follow the May 17th service via Zoom.

May 24— Rev. Kathy and the Worship Committee, "Memorial Day Service of Remembrance"

We will dedicate our Sunday service to those who died in service to our country and those in the congregation who died in the past year.

May 31— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, "Five Smooth Stones"

Hope, love, justice, courage, and joy – these are the transcendent values captured in James Luther Adams' "Five Smooth Stones of Liberal Religion." Let's take a closer look at each and how we might embody them, as a congregation.

Although we will NOT be meeting in person as a congregation for these Sunday services, they will be live-streamed on Zoom each appropriate Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Please join us and tune in then.

You can also access the link for them on our website at <http://www.uuormond.org/>

CORRECTION—The poem "And the people stayed home", which was used in our recent Flower Communion service, was actually written by Kitty O'Meara in March 2020. The information that it was written by Kathleen O'Mara in 1869 and reprinted during the Flu Pandemic of 1918-1919 is "fake news." Ellen Nielsen apologies for not fact-checking more carefully.

IN MEMORIAM—

We will miss Walter L. Dobbins Jr. who passed away peacefully on April 16, 2020. Walter was born into a family of Quakers and grew up in Ormond Beach, graduating from Seabreeze High School in 1958. He earned a degree in mathematics from Guilford College where he met his wife Dorothy Raines Dobbins. After Walter retired from the City of Holly Hill Water Department, he pursued his many interests, including gardening, astronomy, electronics, and the study of religions. He was very active in Tibetan Buddhist groups in Florida and other states. Walter and Dorothy joined our UU Congregation here in Ormond Beach in 2014. Former UUCOB members Bonnie and Jim Bostrom are creating a 45-day cycle of prayers for him, and our congregation will celebrate Walter's life when we are able to safely gather together for meetings and worship services once again.

**HELPING HANDS— Help During Our Coronavirus Crisis**

Our Caring Committee has several volunteers with HIDDEN HANDS. These folks will shop for groceries, pick up prescriptions, etc. for those home-bound individuals who cannot go out or are isolating themselves while Covid-19 threatens the vulnerable in our community. If you know of someone that needs this service, please let me know and I will see that they are connected with a volunteer. Right now, we have most areas covered: Daytona Beach, Port Orange, Palm Coast, Ormond Beach and Ormond-by-the-Sea. I am thrilled that so many of our members have volunteered to help other people. Thanks so much!

—Joyce Nelson

OUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—Supporting Our UU

One more month of "social distancing" and sheltering at home has gone by. While we have been away from each other during the weeks and at Sunday services, I've admired our congregation's strong "holding together" efforts and have realized anew how much we care for each other. I hope you stay safe and healthy as we take the opportunity to connect with each other "virtually" on Sundays and during the week.

I can think of only one other time that I have been troubled by our congregation having to work and congregate away from our beloved UU building— that was when, with tears in our eyes, we said goodbye to our old building as it was torn down to make way for construction of the new building we have today.

It was not a pandemic that kept us away then, but rather a happier reason for the break from 56 N. Halifax for some months. During those months we managed to meet at the Senior Center in Daytona for the once-a-week Sunday worship service, while our new building was taking shape.

We shared a vision then – we wanted so much to keep our UU home on our land for our congregation and for new UU members as well as for future generations. When Rev. Kathy spoke of the "Miracle on Halifax" in her Sunday service a few weeks ago, it brought back many happy memories of meetings and planning for the new building and, by Jove! we did raise the money because we believed in that vision with all our hearts.

I know I am not alone in thinking back on these times when we, as a congregation, determined that we wanted, indeed, that we needed to leave a solid foundation for the future of Unitarian Universalism in Ormond Beach by having a debt-free UU congregational meeting place. If you value our community as I do, remember to pledge your support for the coming 2020-2021 fiscal year as soon as you can.

--Betty Green

UUA’S GIVING GUIDE— Sustaining Our Building, our Programs, and Our Congregation

Not sure what amount to pledge in financial support of the congregation? The guide to giving below was developed and published by the Unitarian Universalist Association. The following are descriptions for each giving level:

Supporter: The congregation is a significant part of my spiritual and intellectual life that I want to support. My fair-share financial commitment starts at 2% of my income and rises to 6% as my income and capacity increase.

Sustainer: The congregation is my central community; I am committed to sustaining the programs and ministries of my congregation. My fair-share financial commitment begins at 3% of my income and rises to 7% as my income and capacity increase.

Visionary: My commitment is a clear demonstration of the unique importance of this congregation and of my spiritual principles. My fair-share financial commitment starts at 5% of my income and rises to 9% as my income and capacity to donate increase.

Transformer: I am deeply committed to the congregation; my contribution provides fuel for transformation and is part of my spiritual practices in living out my UU Principles. My fair-share financial commitment represents 10% of my income.

Adjusted Monthly Income	Approx. Adjusted Annual Income	Supporter 2-6% of Income		Sustainer 3-7% of Income		Visionary 5-9% of Income		Transformer 10% of Income	
		Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge
\$1,000	\$12,000	2%	\$20	3%	\$30	5%	\$50	10%	\$100
\$1,500	\$18,000	2%	\$30	3%	\$45	5%	\$75	10%	\$150
\$2,000	\$25,000	2%	\$40	3%	\$60	5%	\$100	10%	\$200
\$3,000	\$36,000	2%	\$60	3%	\$90	5%	\$150	10%	\$300
\$4,000	\$50,000	3%	\$120	4%	\$160	5%	\$200	10%	\$400
\$6,500	\$80,000	3%	\$195	4%	\$260	6%	\$390	10%	\$650
\$8,500	\$100,000	3%	\$255	5%	\$425	6%	\$510	10%	\$850
\$10,000	\$120,000	3%	\$300	5%	\$500	6%	\$600	10%	\$1,000
\$12,500	\$150,000	4%	\$500	5%	\$625	6%	\$750	10%	\$1,250
\$17,000	\$200,000	4%	\$680	6%	\$1,020	7%	\$1,190	10%	\$1,700
\$25,000	\$300,000	5%	\$1,250	6%	\$1,500	8%	\$2,000	10%	\$2,500
\$40,000	\$500,000	6%	\$2,400	7%	\$2,800	9%	\$3,600	10%	\$4,000

Wherever you find the right level, revisit it periodically and reassess whether it’s still the right level for you or if you are ready to move to a deeper level of support.

Stewardship For Us | www.stewardshipforus.com

Each person or household should decide what is right for their budget but most strive for at least a “Supporter” level of 2 to 3% of adjusted income (income minus extraordinary expenses).

*https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/fair_share_contribution_guide.pdf

May 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Pot Luck: Cancelled	2
3 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 both via Zoom Tai Chi: Postponed N Anon: 7-8 pm	4 Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: Noon – 1 pm via Zoom Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	5 Mah Jongg: Postponed Meditation: Postponed N Anon: 7-8 pm	6 Worship mtg. 11 am-Noon via Zoom Choir practice: Postponed	7 Caring mtg.: Postponed Democracy Now: Postponed Spiritual Growth: 4:30 – 6 pm via Zoom	8	9
10 Mother's Day Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 both via Zoom Tai Chi: Postponed N Anon: : 7-8 pm	11 Finance Com. 10:30-noon via Zoom Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: Noon – 1 pm via Zoom Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	12 Mah Jongg: Postponed Meditation: Postponed N Anon: 7-8 pm	13 Life Long Learning: Postponed Choir practice: Postponed	14 Writers Group: Postponed Democracy Now: Postponed Spiritual Growth: 4:30 – 6 via Zoom Board of Trustees mtg: 5:30- 7 pm via Zoom Democratic Club: Postponed	15	16
17 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 & Congregational mtg: 11:30- 12:30 all via Zoom Tai Chi: Postponed N Anon: 7-8 pm	18 Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: Noon – 1 pm via Zoom Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	19 Mah Jongg: Postponed Meditation: Postponed N Anon: 7-8 pm	20 Bhagavad Gita Postponed Choir practice: Postponed Jotter articles due	21 Democracy Now: Postponed Spiritual Growth: 4:30 - 6 pm via Zoom	22	23
24 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 both via Zoom Tai Chi: Postponed N Anon: 7-8 pm	25 Memorial Day	26 Mah Jongg: Postponed Meditation: Postponed N Anon: 7-8 pm	27 Life Long Learning: Postponed Choir practice: Postponed	28 Writers Group: Postponed Democracy Now: Postponed Membership Mtg: 2:30- 4 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30 - 6 pm both via Zoom	29	30
31 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 both via Zoom Tai Chi: 4-5 pm Postponed N Anon: 7-8 pm						

Upcoming Worship Services

Theme for April – Liberation

Date: _____ Topic: _____ Presenter: _____

April 26 -- "Suffering & Silver Linings: The Tensions Created by COVID-19" --Rev. Kathy Rickey

May 3 -- "Putting One Foot in Front of the Other" --Joe Donatone, Ministerial Intern, TriCounty UU

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Judy McCausland-11th

Patty Alsobrook-12th

Leigh Montgomery-14

Cathy Jackaon-17th

John King--17th

Charles Hall-18th

Bill Ternent-22nd

May Birthdays



The Jotter

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach

May 2020

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RE teachers: Debra Hanson/Mary Wentzel

Children's RE via Zoom

Discussion Group is cancelled for May

Church administrator Cathy Jackson will be working from home; you can e-mail her or leave a message at 677-6172.