

#### **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County**

1532 Forest Nelson Boulevard, Port Charlotte, Florida 33952 941.627.4303 — www.uufcc.org — www.facebook.com/uufcc

# COMMUUNIQUÉ

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM promotes SEVEN PRINCIPLES

as strong values & moral guides:

<u>Ist Principle</u>: The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

2nd Principle: Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;

3rd Principle:
Acceptance of one another and
encouragement to spiritual
growth in our congregations;

4th Principle:
A free and responsible search
for truth and meaning;

Sth Principle:
The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;

6th Principle:
The goal of world community
with peace, liberty, and
justice for all:

7th Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

#### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

are at 10:30 a.m.
Services are hybrid:
in-person &
on YouTube.
www.youtube.com
UUFCC Port Charlotte

## A Letter from the President

Dear Ones,

So many of the issues that are brought to the Board's attention require multiple meetings, extensive exploration and activities to reach conclusions. For example, there is a dying Live Oak tree on the northern edge of our property next to Forest Nelson Boulevard. The rotting tree came to the attention of the grounds crew after a large limb fell. My first response was to hire a tree removal company and be done with it.

However, I quickly learned that in order to remove a Live Oak, we need a permit from the county. So after several trips to the permitting office and paying \$106 in processing and evaluation fees, the permit was finally issued over a month after the tree's discovery.

With the permit in hand, the Board approved the tree's removal allowing us to schedule bids. The bidding process will take at least another two weeks. So estimate that from the time of discovery until the completion of this necessary project, at least two months will have passed.

Another issue that the Board is currently involved in is the search for a UU minister who will deliver a sermon at the Fellowship at least once per month. The challenges of this undertaking at first seem overwhelming. It requires an extensive search for the

appropriate person while being constantly aware of our budgetary restraints.

Under the leadership of the Worship Committee's co-chairs, Laura Anderson and Lorrie Douglas, with additional help from two Board members, we will be lucky to have a minister in place by the end of September.

A final example is replacing our antiquated audio and visual equipment. This process has been going on most of the summer under the expertise of Tom Deuley. This multi-staged goal could finally become a reality in September.

These three examples are intended to illustrate that the majority of issues that come before the Board are complex and take time to process. So, I ask for your patience as we move forward to accomplishing goals that will enhance our experiences at UUFCC.

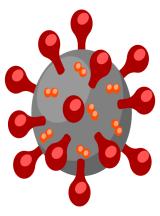
In faith,
Dennis Shaw, President
UUFCC Board of Trustees







## COVID ADVISORY COMMITTEE



As we continue to live with COVID, the virus has mutated many times. We at UUFCC have adjusted our gatherings to cope with this aggressively changing disease. The latest Omicron variants, 4 and 5, are even more highly transmissible. The CDC and the FDA may recommend a second booster shot for younger people. Researchers are working on updated vaccines. While vaccinated folks can contract COVID, it seems that the vaccines plus other medical tools such as new antiviral agents taken early in the disease can limit its severity in many individuals.

The recommendation to get fully vaccinated and boosted still stands. Isolate yourselves if exposed and get tested. If positive, contact your medical care provider. While so many people have stopped wearing them, MASKS ARE STILL HELPFUL. Consider wearing one when out and about, at least in enclosed spaces and in crowded open spaces. We continue to recommend masking and social distancing at UUFCC. While there is no way to safely get together with zero risk, our recommendations are designed to minimize risk while supporting our wonderful and loving community.

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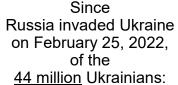
-Jae D., Member, COVID Advisory Committee

Unitarian Universalists include,
but are not limited to, agnostic, atheist,
Buddhist, Christian, earth-centered,
Hindu, Humanist,
Islam, Jewish, Muslim,
Pagan, Taoism,
believers in God,
and more.

www.uua.org/beliefs/ who-we-are







Five million have left and Seven million are internally displaced.

30,000 Ukrainian civilians and 10,000 Ukrainian soldiers have been killed.

There has been over one trillion dollars in property damage, caused by Russian missiles and artillery.

These weapons destroy
Ukrainian villages,
towns and cities
before
the Russian soldiers
march in.

Ukraine was the bread basket of Europe and Africa.

Due to the destruction of the Ukrainian economy and the Russian blockade of Ukrainian ports,

50 million people outside of Ukraine may starve.



In June, the United Nations World Food Programme fed 2.6 million Ukrainians.

It will expand this outreach as funds are available and the need increases. It aims to feed 4.8 million Ukrainians each month.

Its website is:

https://www.wfp.org/ emergencies/ukraineemergency

Sincerely yours, Howard Klein [Also appeared as a *Sun* 'Letter to the Editor' 07-20-22.]



Flag of Ukraine

## SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Saturday, July 16, 2022, the Social Justice Committee hosted and co-sponsored a nonpartisan:

#### MEET & GREET AIRPORT AUTHORITY CANDIDATES ROBERT HANCIK & ERIC BRETAN

Co-sponsors were the **League of Women Voters Charlotte County**(who spearheaded the event)
and **Indivisible Action SWFL**.

Candidates and co-sponsors set up info tables for attendees to visit. Supervisor of Elections Voter Registration Representative Anna Gogadze was also on hand, manning a table to register voters —and register she did, at least four.

**The** event was held at UUFCC

and well attended by over 60 people. (Team Punta Gorda CEO Nancy Johnson attended.) Event moderators were LWVCC President Jean Finks and LWVCC Secretary MaryLou Proudfoot Kennedy who is also secretary for the UUFCC SJC.

Questions came from attendees, moderators and candidates themselves. Why do you want this job? Who is better? What will you do? What about debt, bonds, increased Sunseeker Resort traffic, the Punta Gorda City Council, a jetway, keeping costs and noise down, adding airlines, growing

the commercial/industrial park, privatization, the bidding process for new airport restaurants, commercial airline fees, campaign fund sources, and so much more. Voters were informed.

SJC recognizes and thanks Question Getters Jackie W and Nancy W, Question Vetter Sharon W, Parking Attendant Ted Z, Detail Dynamo Betty B, Tech Tom D, and all those involved with planning, invites, setup, etc. It takes a village, and our UUFCC village rocks!

Thank you all! SJC Chair Herb Levin See the new SJC BROCHURE in the Social Hall!



SEE MEET & GREET PICTURES on page 5.



# Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion characterized by a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. Unitarian Universalists assert no creed, but instead are unified by their shared search for spiritual growth, guided by a dynamic, living tradition.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ Unitarian Universalism

# **WHY NOT ME?** by Janet Morrill

This is a confession of a rescuer. I have rescued 20+ animals over my life. I am currently a dog mom of three rescues. I have also been a rescuer of abused or neglected children. I have had the honor of being a foster mom of close to 20 children ranging in ages from 3-17 forced from their homes as a ward of the County. When I lived in Hershey, I was foster mom to a five-year-old boy, and three 16-year-old girls all at one time. THAT was fun! Although there have been some down sides, I have absolutely no regrets. I have this sense of trying to fix broken beings through love.

Recently, my husband and I decided to treat ourselves at one of MY favorite restaurants. Actually, almost ALL restaurants are my favorites because I hate to cook. My husband dropped me off at the door to the Metro Diner in Port Charlotte while he searched for a parking space. There was a disheveled gentlemen sleeping on the bench by the front door surrounded by his bags of belongings. I

went into the store and requested a table. While I was enjoying my meal I could not stop thinking of this residence-challenged individual sitting outside in the heat. I was suffering from a terrible case of financial privilege.

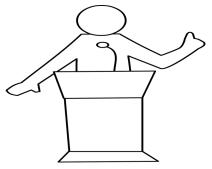
**Don't** get me wrong, I am NOT wealthy. I have a nice house and we have two vehicles that run and we own free and clear. There is money in the bank to take care of small emergencies, and money invested for my old age. No snickers, please! I do NOT consider myself in that old age category, yet.

What nagged at me was I own a home that has TWD spare bedrooms that are ready for family's infrequent visits. In between overnight guests, these rooms sit empty. They have fresh sheets on the bed and are clean, waiting to be inhabited. When I see or hear of a person who has no place to live, I think about opening the Morrill Motel and filling the beds for people who are sleeping in their vehicle, or on a bench in the park.

SEE WHY NOT ME? pa.5

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#### CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT

"Covenant" is Latin for "walking together." This Covenant is a living, dynamic document describing how we intend to live the Principles we value in our religious community.

We, the members of UUFCC, covenant to support and cherish all our members and friends and encourage each other to honor these high standards of relationship.

We value a free, open, and mutually respectful exchange of ideas. We honor all voices and encourage thoughtful freedom of expression.

We respect each other's views, backgrounds, and spiritual ideas. We listen to each other without judgement or interruption and speak directly with a person instead of about a person. We will address issues and behaviors, rather than people and personalities.

We will be considerate but courageous in name behavior that diminishes our community. We offer forgiveness and understanding and expect that from each other. In all situations, we strive to honor everyone's dignity and wellbeing.

We trust this Covenant will help us work well together to make decisions, solve problems, and express differences of opinion in a considerate, respectful, and genuinely caring way.

# SUNDAY SERVICES IN AUGUST Theme: Change in Transition

08-07-22 Welcoming, Communicating, Caring—Dos & Don'ts? Skit Leader Sharon W; Worship Associate Lorrie

**08-14-22** Charlotte County Public Schools Homeless Students Guest Speaker Lisa Bratton; Worship Associate Suzi

**08-21-22 Topic To Be Determined (TBD)**Guest Minister TBD; Worship Associate TBD

**08-28-22 Recovery**Panel Leader Lorrie; Worship Associate Sharon

## THE BOOK OF LIFE



Hear ye! Hear ye!

We do WANT to hear from you. Your entries into the Book of Life or announcements that you would like read from the pulpit on Sunday mornings are important. And the work of the worship associates seems never ending.

To make sure your entry or announcement gets read on Sunday morning, make sure to send it to:

#### bookoflife@uufcc.org

by 6:00 p.m. Saturday

If you have an emergent/urgent need to be announced after that, please call the worship associate directly (see info in *Weekly Update*).

Please help us help you.

Sincerely,

The Worship Associate Committee

## UU HUMOUR

Seems there is a guy who saves for 20 years to buy his dream car. He finally shells out a fortune for a brand-new, high-horsepower Lamborghini. Recognizing the deep felt significance of realizing his life-long dream, he drives over to a nearby Catholic Church and knocks on the parsonage door. "Father, I was wondering whether you'd be willing to say a blessing on my Lamborghini." "Certainly,

my son," replies the priest, "but what's a Lamborghini." "Sorry to have troubled you, father—I just have a feeling you're not the right man for the job."

So he drives to a nearby synagogue and repeats the question: "Rabbi, I was wondering whether you'd be willing to say a blessing on my Lamborghini." "Certainly," replies the Rabbi, "but what's a Lamborghini." "Gosh, Rabbi,



I guess maybe you're not the right person for this job either."

So he drives to his local UU meeting house and finds the minister. "I was wondering whether you would be willing to say a blessing on my Lamborghini." "Certainly," replies the UU minister, "I'd love to have one myself, but what's a 'blessing'?"

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#### SJC/LWV/INDIVISIBLE MEET & GREET AIRPORT AUTHORITY continued from page 3







▲Photos by Betty B.

#### WHY NOT ME? continued from page 3

After we finished our lunch, the man was still sitting on the bench outside the restaurant. A woman from the restaurant was speaking with him and reminded him in a very gentle voice, that he needed to leave. He agreed and told her he was going to walk to the Post Office in Punta Gorda to get his mail. WTH??? It was 90-some degrees outside! I also didn't realize that he had a physical disability that made ambulating a real challenge. There was no way I was letting him walk to Punta Gorda and back to Port Charlotte. I asked the server if he needed lunch and I was told Metro had been feeding him for three days, YAY, Metro!

**While** my husband went to retrieve the car, I introduced myself to Dave and before we knew it, we loaded Dave and his belongings into our truck and we were headed to Punta Gorda. Here is what Dave's story is, straight from the horse's mouth. He was struck as a pedestrian several times all by hit and run drivers. This doesn't surprise me in the hit and run land of SW Florida. He has no family in the area. He sleeps on benches in parks. My impression of Dave: he is a sweet, gentle, non-complaining and appreciative person. I am not qualified to identify potential mental or addiction issues, although he relates he doesn't smoke or drink. During our drive to Punta Gorda and back to Port Charlotte I was driving myself nuts trying to figure out what else I could do to help. Anyone could have given him a ride but I wasn't interested in giving him a

solution to an immediate problem. I struggled with my conscience on dealing with his ongoing problems.

 $oldsymbol{I}$  thought back to the time when I lived in Punta Gorda and this UU provided a list of resources in Charlotte County with things ranging from a shower ministry, clothing bank, someone to help with temporary housing, etc. Where was that list? We just dropped off garbage bag full of almost new men's socks to a thrift store and couldn't oet Dave's old, white "auitters" (slouching socks due to worn out elastic) out of my mind. What I know I could have done is brought him home to Englewood, given him the use of one of our bedrooms with his own shower. I could have washed the dirty clothes he had on and given him something out of my husband's closet that he doesn't wear. I could have bought him new sneakers to replace his worn out ones. I would have taken him to get a haircut. Dave deserved this and he would have appreciated it. Because I didn't do any of that, I feel like a crappy person.

Maybe I can't do anything more for Dave because even though I look to check on him I may not find him again. I want to be more prepared for the next Dave I meet. There are many Dave's out there. I am infuriated with those who judge people in Dave's circumstances. As for me, I ask myself, why Dave, and why NOT me?

#### **AHEM**

A traveler couldn't find the local UU church. After looking in the center of town, in the suburbs. and out in the surrounding countryside, the traveler asked a farmer. "Am I too far out for the UU church? The farmer's reply: "Nobody is too far out for them."



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# ART ON THE WALL COMMITTEE

I hope everyone has taken a few minutes to check out our current

# ART ON THE WALL SUMMER EXHIBIT!

We have so many talented members and friends of UUFCC. Among our first time exhibitors are:

Paintings by **Joanne Collins** 

Watercolors and Needlework by **Mary Jane Williams** 

Photos on Canvas by

Photos on Canvas by **William Kumpf**  and framed
Handmade Cards by **Debbie Conrad.** 

Other artist participants include:

Stan Samis Oddson
Bill Howat
Gina Battle
Ken Brennan
and

#### **Trudy Gerhardt**

The exhibit will be extended through August. We may even have a few more entries. Also, please take a second look at **William Kumpf's** 

three photos printed on canvas and ready to hang in your home.

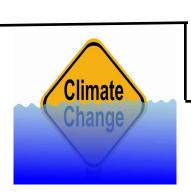
He will donate all proceeds to UUFCC.

#### Thank you to William!

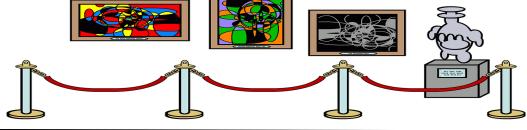
Always grateful to everyone who contributed to this exhibit and to past exhibits.

We welcome ideas for future exhibits, and are open to partnering with other committees or individuals.

> Trudy Gerhardt Co-Chair Art Committee







#### Will I need boots to go shopping at Publix Punta Gorda?

**Answer:** Sea level has risen over the last 25 years by about three inches, or one foot per century (NDAA).

The good news is that if you look at the NOAA online map, showing the effects of sea level rise in Charlotte County, it seems we'll not need a boat to

get to Publix until the water level increases by five feet.

This means it will take 500 years of sea level rise (July 2522?) before we'll have to fire up the outboard to buy cornflakes.

**H**owever, we should be aware that the rate of sea level

increase is accelerating, that long before Publix succumbs to the Gulf, many areas of Punta Gorda will be under water, and that by then Punta Gorda Isles will be an archipelago, no longer protected from the ocean by mangroves.

- Alan Searl

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#### **UUFCC REACH-OUT SUPPORTS LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY**

Progress! Three meetings have been held for those interested in forming a local chapter of *PFLAG* (Parents, Friends, and Family of the LGBTQ+ community). Strong interest: up to 36 at last count.

PFLAG Mission? Support. Educate. Advocate. "Create a caring, just and affirming world for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them." Vision? "An equitable, inclusive world where every LGBTQ+ is safe, celebrated, empowered and loved."

#### https://pflag.org

PFLAG has been around since 1973. It is the first and largest organization dedicated to supporting, educating, and advocating

for LGBTQ+ people and their families. *PFLAG* has hundreds of chapters and more than 325,000 members.

Community support from ARAY (All Rainbow And Youth) and *PFLAG* Sarasota continues.

https://pflagsarasota.org

allrainbowandalliedyouth.org

New support from Sparkle Like Spencerarrived at latest meeting.

https://www.spreadspencerssparkle.com/

Progress on creating a local chapter is moving quickly.

Step One: Identify a Board of Directors. Done. For *PFLAG* purposes, the Board of Directors is also known as a Steering Committee as it consists of not just Board

of Director elected officers, but also non-elected Members-at-Large willing to serve in committee leadership roles: Diversity Coordinator, Membership, Advocacy, Community Outreach, Web & Social Mgr, Events Mgr, Safe Schools Coordinator, etc.

Step Two: The Steering Committee Group zoommeets with National PFLAG next week and again the week after.

Thank Lorrie D and Laura A for starting this effort which all can support. Doesn't everyone have a friend, relative or loved one in the LGBTQ+community?

Together we can do this!

MaryLou Proudfoot Kennedy
Steering Committee Coordinator



NEXT INTEREST MEETING
11:45 a.m.
Sunday, August 7, 2022
Hybrid Meetings:
In-person at UUFCC; or,
Zoom—For sign in link, email
LGBTQ.ccfl@gmail.com

#### A LITERARY QUOTE

"A Unitarian very
earnestly disbelieves
in almost everything that
anybody else believes
and he has a very lively
sustaining faith in
he doesn't quite know what."

—William Somerset Maugham, Of Human Bondage

### Vegetarian? MANGO MISO from Carole Burkett

#### Ingredients:

500gm Mascarpone Cheese 600ml thickened cream 1/3-c powdered sugar 2 egg yolks 1-tsp vanilla paste Juice of 2 oranges 1/2-c Cointreau 300gm Savoiardi (ladyfingers) 3 mangoes, sliced thinly

#### **Raspberry Sauce:**

1/4-c powdered sugar 2-tbs water 250gm raspberries (fresh or frozen) Juice of 1 lemon

Line base of 9-inch springform pan with parchment paper.

**P**lace Mascarpone, cream, sugar, egg yolks & vanilla in bowl of electric mixer and beat on high until thick and well combined.

Combine Cointreau and orange juice in small bowl.

**D**ip half the ladyfingers in the juice mixture and layer in the base of the cake pan.

Spread with 1/3 of the Mascarpone mixture, then top with 1/3 of the Mango slices.

**R**epeat juice-dipped ladyfingers, Mascarpone mixture and Mango slices; top with Mascarpone mixture.

Cover & chill for 2 hours or overnight. Place sugar & 2-tbs water in small saucepan over medium heat stirring to dissolve sugar. Cool slightly then add berries & lemon juice. Whiz in food processor till smooth, then pass thru a sieve.

To serve, carefully remove sides & base of cake pan & transfer to a platter. Decorate with slices & serve with berry sauce. —Enjoy, CB



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# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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# on SUZI BARBEE



#### **FAMOUS UUs**

John Quincy Adams -Sixth US president

Louisa May Alcott novelist, writer, poet

P.T. Barnum showman & circus owner

Clara Barton — American Red Cross organizer

Béla Bartók - composer

Tim Berners-Lee creator of world wide web

Lord Bullock - historian

Charles Darwin — English naturalist & biologist

Ralph Waldo Emerson - writer and thinker

Sylvia Plath - poet
Christopher Reeve Actor

Pete Seeger - musician
Mary Wollstonecraft women's rights activitist

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ List\_of\_Unitarians\_Universalist s, and Unitarian\_Universalists The 1980s: the era of big hair, big shoulder pads, lots of makeup (remember Tammie Faye?), and lots of perfume. I was living in Fort Worth, Texas, and friends were members of First Jeff UU so I went. I loved it.

We marched to end hunger, we partied at members' homes (remember wine in a box?), we ate out after church, and we attended SWUUSI—Southeast UU Summer Institute—and met people from all over.

I met Vic — at church and when we moved away, I joined CLF (Church of the Larger Fellowship) headed by Lynn Unger. Those were the days of dialup internet and I had my first iMac. (I was not better then than now with computers.) CLF helped me survive the isolation in rural Texas. I loved the group and Lynn but lost touch when we retired and moved Maine.

**First** Universalist Church in Rockland, Maine, was different — there were kids, loud and underfoot,

and old folks with dementia that we watched out for. I loved the members and the groups, but I have no memory of the minister or services. It was all about making friends and chatting in the fellowship hall.

When we moved here in 2014, I became a docent at Ringling, Selby Gardens, and Edison-Ford. Sunday was my favorite day to give tours because it was always so busy. My Ringling group traveled together frequently.

**COVID** ended all that.

After staying home and reading murder mysteries for a year, I decided to join UUFCC which I passed nearly every day going to the library. So glad to have UU friends and groups again. UUFCC is very caring and welcoming.

*I* keep up with my friends in Texas and Maine. Lynn Unger is on Facebook with her dancing dogs and poems. COVID brought us closer.

*I* even like Zoom meetings and services at UUFCC but I like being with members more.



▲Photo by Tom. D.



#### **Weekly Events for August 2022**

Sundays - 9:00 am Conversation Among Friends

10:30 am Worship Services

Mondays - 4:00 pm Spanish for Beginners

Wednesdays - 7:00 pm Happy Hour with John Lee

#### August 2022

1st Mon. 10:30am Membership Committee
2:00pm Moran Chalice Circle
2:00pm Shaw Chalice Circle
4:00 pm Azar Chalice Circle
2nd Tue. 10:00am Betty's Class
3rd Wed. 2:00pm Whitehill Chalice Circle
5:00pm Immigration Justice Com

5:00pm Immigration Justice Committee 6th Sat. 10:00am Worship Associates

7th Sun. Noon PFLAG Interest Meeting

 $8^{\text{th}}$  Mon. 1:30pm Summer Social Lunch @ Luigi's

9th Tue. 10:00am Betty's Class 4:00pm Azar Chalice Circle

10th Wed. 10:00am Policies & Procedures

1:00pm Caring Committee

11th Thu. 4:30pm Buddhist Meditation

12<sup>th</sup> Fri. 2:30pm Communications Committee
 14<sup>th</sup> Sun. Noon Social Justice Committee

15<sup>th</sup> Mon. 2:00pm Moran Chalice Circle 2:00pm Shaw Chalice Circle

4:00pm Azar Chalice Circle

16th Tue. 10:00am Betty's Class

17th Wed. 2:00pm Whitehill Chalice Circle

5:00pm Immigration Justice Committee

18<sup>th</sup> Thu. 4:00pm Board of Trustees 21<sup>st</sup> Sun. Noon Art Committee

Noon PFLAG Interest Meeting

23<sup>rd</sup> Tue. 10:00am Betty's Class

4:00pm Azar Chalice Circle

24<sup>th</sup> Wed. 10:00am Policies & Procedures 25<sup>th</sup> Thu. 4:30pm Buddhist Meditation 29<sup>th</sup> Mon. 2:00pm Shaw Chalice Circle

2:00pm Moran Chalice Circle 2:00pm Shaw Chalice Circle

31st Wed. 1:30pm Book Group

For Birthday Shout-Out, Contact Stephanie Garrett: <a href="mailto:editorialboard@uufcc.org">editorialboard@uufcc.org</a>

#### Links

Use UNIVERSAL ZOOM for most activities https://zoom.us/j/93526372148

To add to SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS or BOOK OF LIFE email <a href="mailto:bookoflife@uufcc.org">bookoflife@uufcc.org</a> by Saturday night

CONVERSATION AMONG FRIENDS https://zoom.us/j/95584243345

CHALICE CIRCLES have their own Zoom links.

Azar Chalice Circle https://zoom.us/j/92886172999

#### IMMIGRATION JUSTICE COMMITTEE

https://zoom.us/

j/97789863043pwd=c2tUenpGMmhjSExaUINOL3V HNIk5UT09

UUFCC Social Group Sign-Up social-uufcc@googlegroups.com

#### **Spanish for Beginners**

https://us02web.zoom.us/ j/81408957224pwd=cUhGejBuOVVRckU0L1R2SkM 2SXhZQT09



#### **August Birthdays!**

4th Linda Himes 20th Norma Jock 23rd Bill Howat 25th Rosemary Hagen 30th Maureen Peters Mission: UUFCC offers a caring and diverse religious community. We are guided by reason and conscience, encourage intellectual inquiry, foster individual spiritual growth, and promote social justice and environmental responsibility. *UUFCC PPM*.

Purpose: UUFCC is a religious community committed to diversity and social justice where spirituality, reason, compassion, service and fellowship meet. UUFCC Bylaws Art. III (03.27.22).

Welcoming: UUFCC strives to practice non-discrimination by embodying what UUFCC hopes to see in the world—a just, loving community in which people are free to be themselves fully and without fear.

UUFCC Bylaws Art. IV (Adopted 03.27.22).

#### **SUMMER READ? BUMMER READ?**

UUs are rebels who love to buck the norm.
Nothing better than a great debate.
Enjoy agreeing to disagree? Or just disagreeing?
So what's a typical UU book review?
Consider the following email stream amongst seven UUFCC members:

KS: I'm reading <u>Search</u> by Michelle Huneven right now and think some of you may enjoy it. Nothing heavy, a light read but **captures UU culture** and allows us to see and sometimes laugh at ourselves. Personalities abound.

#### **UUFCC CONTACTS**

artcommittee@uufcc.org board@uufcc.org bookgroup@uufcc.org bookoflife@uufcc.org buddhistmeditation@uufcc.org caring@uufcc.org choir@uufcc.org editorialboard@uufcc.org hospitalityandsocial@uufcc.org membership@uufcc.org minister@uufcc.org office@uufcc.org patientadvocacy@uufcc.org pflag@uufcc.org president@uufcc.org socialiustice@uufcc.org sundaytech@uufcc.org worship@uufcc.org

MJ: I read this book a few weeks ago. It was great! Not a bad thing to read while sans minister.

NW: So funny. I just bought it for a summer read.

KA: Our minister up north had nothing good to say about the book.

#### https://youtu.be/Hlu230oDXRU

LA: My knee-jerk reaction to authority? Just makes it sound more desirable!
KS: That minister seems to be under the impression this is a serious book rather than the light, funny novel it is.

# [Novel is about a UU ministerial search committee.]

LR: After hearing your reviews and then that minister's humorless sermon, I'd advise it as required reading for the future UUFCC search committee. We should admit we have a unique UU stereo -type and that we can laugh at ourselves too.

MJ: There were laugh out loud parts. There were parts where you got angry and wanted to smack some people.



That makes for a great read.

AC: And now I have to read it!

Perfect UU read? You decide!

#### An Elevator Speech

Unitarian Universalists gather in community to support one another's individual spiritual journeys, trusting that openness to one another's experiences will enhance their own understanding of their own links with the divine, with history, and with one another.

—UU Rev. Janalu Jahnstan,

—UU Rev. Jonalu Johnston, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma http://archive.uuworld.org/ 2003/06/affirmations.html

## UUFCC COMMUUNIQUÉ EDITORIAL BOARD

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