



# NEW OUTLOOK

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY

*A spiritual home where religion and reason meet*

NOVEMBER 2018

## Dear Ones



Our time with Rev. Amy has come to an end for at least the next year. The year-rounders have had time to say goodbyes and express gratitude. This has not been the case for our snowbirds. For this I am sorry.

I want to assure you that the Minister Search Task Force is hard at work. Please respond to their requests promptly. Mary Jane Williams is the chair.

Many thanks to Tom Deuley for recreating our website. Check it out at [www.uufcc.org](http://www.uufcc.org). If there are still areas that need addressing, please contact Tom.

The Worship Committee has planned services through January. Jim Boyle, our music director, will be back at the piano in November. Thursday night choir rehearsals are already occurring under the direction of our summer musician, Judy Gerlach. Many thanks to Judy for her melodic gifts.

By the time you read this, there should be a new floor in the nursery. The old one was ruined by a mysterious leak(s). During the last month all toilets have been reset, the air conditioning and dish washer have been serviced. We owe Don Liermann a big thank you! He has spent hours dealing with these and other maintenance issues. Folks, this is an area where we could use more support.

Don is also working to make our planned patio a reality. The pavers have been ordered. We expect installation to occur no later than Christmas. This 1,000 sq. ft. of shaded, exterior space will be lit with LED bulbs and furnished with metal mesh tables and chairs. We anticipate cushioned seating for at least three dozen folks. Thanks to Don's persistence, the project is costing \$3,000 under its \$15,000 budget. The patio will be a wonderful space for socializing, fund raising and celebrating.

Speaking of which, there are several activities that you may want to attend. On the November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10 am to 3 pm, we will hold our first Makers' Fair. The Fellowship will be filled with beautiful crafts including wood turnings, jewelry, quilts, photography and much more. Food will also be available for purchase. This is a great opportunity to do some holiday shopping.

Other dates to remember include our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party on January 12<sup>th</sup> and the annual auction on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

I will close by expressing how much I loved serving with Rev. Amy Kindred. She has been a blessing in my life and I will miss her and her husband, Phil Brown.

In faith and gratitude,  
Dennis Shaw, President, UUFCC Board of Trustees

# Many Paths...

## Sundays

**9:15 a.m.** Conversation Among Friends  
**10:30 a.m.** – Worship Service  
 Coffee Hour following Worship  
 Potluck Lunch on first Sunday

## Meditation and Buddhist Discussion Group

**Thursday nights, 5 - 6:15 pm**

Each evening we begin with a discussion and end with a period of meditation. All are welcome to attend.

## Sunday Services

*November 4<sup>th</sup> - "We Need One Another" -  
 Reverend Margaret L. Beard*



One of the primary purposes of a congregation is to care—for its members and friends. Care may also extend to the wider community and world. How does a congregation do this and in what ways might their reach go wider and deeper?

*November 11 - "For the Love of God" - Natosha Reid Rice*

In a time when our country is more divided than ever on topics of politics, race, faith, gender and justice, I would like for us to shine the light on the power of love. Although often underrated and limited to greeting cards and Valentine's Day, love is one of the most powerful and transformative forces in our world today. Love transcends faith lines, denominations, partisan politics, race, gender, etc. and has the power to transform our very souls and communities. I look forward to the opportunity to share and listen as we explore the power of love.



*November 18 - "The Second Reconstruction:  
 Gillum, Abrams and Things to Come"  
 James Abraham*



A promissory note to which Martin Luther King, Jr. referred during his "I Have a Dream" speech was written during Reconstruction, an experiment that failed. The Civil Rights movement delivered part of the promise of Reconstruction. Now progressive forces are threatened by the same ideology that left Reconstruction undone.

*November 25 - "Poems of Nature and  
 Gratitude" - Marion Menna*

Three poets presented in depth by three poetry lovers: Marion Menna, Betty Munford, and Dennis Shaw



# A Note from the Membership Coordinator

Lynn Ritchie



November, can that be? Already? How quickly this year has passed.

Traditionally a month of transitioning seasons, it holds significant meaning for us at UUFCC. We will be greeted this month by the departure of our beloved leader and minister, Rev Amy Kindred.

Since the notice of her resignation, I have witnessed the vitality and action of this congregation as we move forward and plan for this new reality. From initial responses of snowbirds coming down or contacting year-round members to offer support and solidarity; to the determined and speedy resolve of the Board in moving forward with the decision to seek a contract minister.

The membership has voted on a dedicated ministerial search task force to do the serious work of finding us a new minister. I encounter them at various groups and committees wherever members and friends gather, to solicit what it is we desire and need from a new minister.

As membership coordinator, I look forward to taking this time to focus on who **we** are as individuals and how **we** identify as a community. In what ways do we fulfill our Mission Statement? Remember, that while we are choosing, we also wish to be chosen!

I so look forward to welcoming back our snowbirds. We need your energy and input more than ever. And to those of you who have experienced this transition either here, or in another congregation, we seek your wisdom.

The next Who Are UU? Breakfast will be held on Saturday, December 8. Watch for notices in the Weekly Updates or speak with me any time about membership or participation.

May all be well,  
Lynn

## *November birthdays*

Mark Ellefson 11/5  
Nancy Weaver 11/6  
Frank Wilmer 11/8  
Kay Azar 11/7  
Mary Jane Williams 11/22  
Ted Zawistoski 11/27  
Chris Mc Coy 11/29



If you would like your special day to be recognized please contact Stephanie Garrett.

# Ministerial Search Task Force Update

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The members of the search team spent most of October developing a survey that has been distributed to all members and friends of UUFCC to assist in the search process and ongoing operations of the Fellowship. The time and effort that our community is putting into completing the survey is invaluable to the process of finding the perfect match between our Fellowship and a new minister. We are hoping to begin the process of analyzing the data in early November.

The next step in the process is to put together a document for candidate ministers to use in learning about our congregation, community, and activities. We expect to have this completed in November.

All members of the search task force are involved in surveying committees and groups within the UUFCC community to gather input from the members about their priorities and preferences in a prospective minister. We welcome the opportunity to talk with any member or friend who has input or concerns either in these group settings or in a one-to-one communication. A list of search task force members and contact info went out with the survey link and is repeated here for convenience.

Ginger Abraham	<a href="mailto:gm54uu@gmail.com">gm54uu@gmail.com</a>	941-204-4067
Sue Burgess	<a href="mailto:suea222@yahoo.com">suea222@yahoo.com</a>	941-235-2150
Joseph Fenty	<a href="mailto:jmfenty@gmail.com">jmfenty@gmail.com</a>	941-286-7876
Linda Himes	<a href="mailto:himes.music@comcast.net">himes.music@comcast.net</a>	941-456-0163
Gudrun Matthaus	<a href="mailto:gmatthaus@gmail.com">gmatthaus@gmail.com</a>	941-286-7503
Robert Moran	<a href="mailto:robertmoran70@gmail.com">robertmoran70@gmail.com</a>	941-380-8648
Mary Jane Williams	<a href="mailto:maryjanewms@comcast.net">maryjanewms@comcast.net</a>	941-223-4739

An update on the search process will be conducted immediately following the service on November 18<sup>th</sup>. We plan to continue to provide an opportunity to meet with the task force members as needed and at least monthly throughout the search process.

## Immigration Justice

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The Immigration Justice Committee of the UUFCC will host a series of films dealing with the current Immigration Crisis. The films will be shown at 5:30 PM at the Mid-County Regional Library, Forrest Nelson and Tamiami Trail on four consecutive Mondays beginning November 12 and ending December 3. The discussion that follows each film will be led by informed and trained personnel.

The first film on Nov. 12 is “Sin Pais” and tells one family’s harrowing deportation story. Maria Lara from an immigration attorney’s office will lead this discussion. *This film will be shown at the Fellowship.*

The second film on November 19 is “4.1 Miles” and charts the harrowing trek of Turkish asylum seekers. Samar Jarrah will lead this discussion.

The next film on Nov. 26 is “A World Not Ours” and examines Lebanese refugee camps where displaced persons have lived for generations.

The last film on Dec. 3 is “Don’t Tell Anyone” and exposes the terrifying life of an undocumented immigrant family living in the United States.

All are invited to these four free films to witness the struggle of people searching for better lives. More information: [immigrationjusticeuu@gmail.com](mailto:immigrationjusticeuu@gmail.com); Betty Barriga, Committee Chair.

# UU Endowment of Charlotte County

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The UU Endowment continues to grow and support recognition of those who have passed, and to honor those still among us for initiatives to support liberal religious beliefs. The meeting of the UUE Board, it's first since the departure of coordinator MaryHolly Allison, is being held after deadline for this issue of the Outlook. MaryHolly has left us an outline of tasks to be completed and assignments to be made for continuity in support of the Fellowship and UUA endeavors. Her contributions to our progress as a stand-alone financial component of UU support with a vision of the now and future of the Endowment is a credit to her administrative abilities. MaryHolly will be missed.

We, the UUE Trustees would like to thank the following donation:  
In memory of Annie Shea-Ross - Renee DesRosiers

UUE Board Members

Kenneth Brennen, Stephanie Garrett, Mary Howard, Jack Osborn, Delmar Wooden

## Art on the Wall

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Four local artists will be featured in the November/December exhibit. These talented artists are from diverse backgrounds and have exhibited in both national and local exhibits.



Ralph La Gro loves to paint people in formal portraits or incorporated into a composition.

Jeanette Chupack shows several of her "Old Florida" paintings taken from kayak trips along our state's rivers and waterways.



Kaytee Esser, who is new to this area, has already garnered a number of awards locally. Featured paintings are from her series of animal portraits, both domestic and wild. She calls this series "The Menageries." Esser especially enjoys painting people and pet portrait commissions.

Sandra Maxwell-Miller, also new to this area, has enjoyed doing a painting a day, a discipline which many artists practice. Miller describes her inspiration as "beauty day-to-day, humor and ironies challenge my artistic expression." She loves the intense colors of pastel.



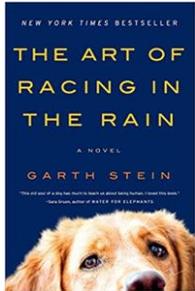
The public is invited to an opening reception on Friday November 9, from 4-6 pm. Come and meet these talented artists. Refreshments will be served.

# Book Group

The Book Group meets at the UUFCC on the last Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. except for the November and December discussions, which are combined and held on a date to be determined. This year the meeting will be on November 28. For further information contact Mary Jane Williams [maryjanewms@comcast.net](mailto:maryjanewms@comcast.net)

All are welcome to attend and suggestions for future discussions are welcome. Please keep in mind that we try to keep the price down for books that need to be purchased by discussion participants. The availability of inexpensive used copies is frequently a consideration.

## Book Selection for November/December *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein (fiction)



The New York Times bestselling novel from Garth Stein—a heart-wrenching but deeply funny and ultimately uplifting story of a dog’s efforts to hold together his family in the face of a divisive custody battle.

Enzo knows he is different from other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul (and an obsession with opposable thumbs), he has educated himself by watching television extensively, and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver.

Through Denny, Enzo has gained tremendous insight into the human condition, and he sees that life, like racing, isn't simply about going fast. Using the techniques needed on the race track, one can successfully navigate all of life's ordeals.

On the eve of his death, Enzo takes stock of his life, recalling all that he and his family have been through: the sacrifices Denny has made to succeed professionally; the unexpected loss of Eve, Denny's wife; the three-year battle over their daughter, Zoë, whose maternal grandparents pulled every string to gain custody. In the end, despite what he sees as his own limitations, Enzo comes through heroically to preserve the Swift family, holding in his heart the dream that Denny will become a racing champion with Zoë at his side. Having learned what it takes to be a compassionate and successful person, the wise canine can barely wait until his next lifetime, when he is sure he will return as a man.

## Maker's Fair

UUFCC Sanctuary

Saturday, 3 Nov, 2018 Hours 10 AM - 3 PM

Jewelry

Wood Turning

Hand Painted Items

Soaps, Lotions

And much, much more ....

Fabric Arts

Photography

Handbags

Beverages, snacks and lunch will be available for purchase.

# WEEKLY EVENTS

**Mondays, November 5, 12, 19, 26** – Conversational Spanish 5 pm  
**Thursdays, November 1, 8, 15, 29** – Meditation 5 pm, Choir Practice 6:15

- Nov. 3** Yoga for Life 9 am  
 Maker's Fair 10 am (see p. 6)  
 Art on the Wall Set Up 5 pm
- 7** Immigration Justice 5 pm  
 Gulf Coast Acoustic Guitar Society 7 pm
- 9** Artist Reception 4 pm  
 Café Serendipity 7 pm
- 10** Ministerial Search Task Force 10 am  
 Chalice Circle 2 pm
- 11** Social Justice Committee 12 pm
- 13** NAMI Group
- 14** Caring and Hospitality Committee 10 am
- 16** UUFCC Gaming Night
- 17** Yoga for Life 9 am
- 18** Art Committee 12 pm  
 Mystical Experiences 12 pm
- 20** UUFCC Board Meeting 6 pm  
 Sierra Club 7 pm
- 21** Immigration Justice 5 pm
- 24** Ministerial Search Task Force 10 am  
 Chalice Circle 2 pm  
 Meatless Meal 5:30 pm
- 28** Book Group 1:30 pm  
 Healing Oasis 6 pm