



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County

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

COMMUNIQUE

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM promotes SEVEN PRINCIPLES

as strong values & moral guides:

1st Principle:

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;

5th 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,

I am writing from my daughter's home in Richmond, VA. Katie's partner, Jeff, is home from the hospital. As most of you know, Jeff has Stage IV cancer. I plan to be back in Port Charlotte February 16th and then will return to Richmond as needed. During my absences, our Administrator, **Mary Jane Williams**, and Vice President, **Laura Liermann**, will be available to address issues that might arise.



Dennis Shaw
President
UUFCC Board of Trustees

We are clearly making significant progress repairing the damage caused by **Hurricane Ian**. The rehab of the "porch" is very impressive and soon the former minister's study will serve as a badly needed storage room. All mold issues have been addressed and the sanctuary will soon be painted. The repairs to the roof are scheduled.

It is time for committees to prepare a summary of their accomplishments over the past year. These will be included in the Annual Report.

Also, please send committee budgetary requests to our Treasurer, **Dick Schwartz**, as soon as possible.

The Nominating Committee is seeking members to replace retiring members of the Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee. Please consider running for one of these important positions.

Finally, I want to express my gratitude for our **Worship Committee**. Under the leadership of **Lorrie Douglas and Laura Anderson**, we are consistently experiencing meaningful Sunday morning services. And our **music program** under the direction of **Jim Boyle** is stellar!

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



peace.



love.

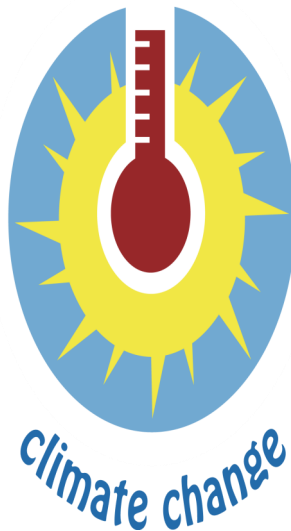


community.

Conversations with Climate Change Skeptics



Joe H. Oyer



One of the most effective weapons that each of us has in the battle to combat climate change is our voice.

Katherine Heyhoe, Ph.D., an internationally recognized climate scientist, emphasizes that we need to have more climate change conversations. We cannot assume that we know someone's position on climate change without a conversation. How can these conversations be most productive? Many learned scientists, activists and psychologists have weighed in on this topic.

The best conversations include listening, lots of listening! Find out what the other person believes, what their concerns are, and what are their hopes and dreams. Bonding and connecting as people, not as members of polar opposite groups, is highly recommended by Dr. Heyhoe. It is also very UU.

Aaron Bernstein, a psychologist at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, emphasizes three points for these conversations:

1. Know your goal;
2. Know your audience; and,
3. Frame the conversation around shared values.

The Climate Reality Project suggests five tips on "how to break the ice and speak to climate deniers":

1. Introduce the topic casually and ask lots of questions, listen!
2. Find points of connection and similarity, e.g., grandchildren, clean air, safe drinking water,

severe weather, healthy ecosystems, look for agreement in the middle ground.

3. Come prepared with evidence but be prepared to back off. Ask, "What evidence would change your mind?" If the answer is "nothing," you may have discovered an entrenched denier. If the person answers with specifics, be prepared to answer or to follow up with answers to their queries. Also, be prepared to respectfully refute misinformation. If you start meeting resistance, back off and find a subject that offers mutual concern or agreement.
4. Make it personal. Share your story. Why is climate change important to you? How does it impact you? State your concerns.
5. Continue the conversation. Don't look at this as a one time conversation that has to be won on the spot. Remind the person with whom you are conversing that you value and respect them. Think UU!!

You can join in the effort to mitigate climate change. Put your respectful UU voice forward!

For more on the subject, see:

YouTube Channel
Climate, Changing the Conversation
 by Katherine Heyhoe PhD
 (She is a terrific speaker!)

[Five Tips on How to Talk to Climate Deniers in Your Family](https://www.climaterealityproject.org/blog/starting-con...)
<https://www.climaterealityproject.org/blog/starting-con...>

— Joe H. Oyer

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.

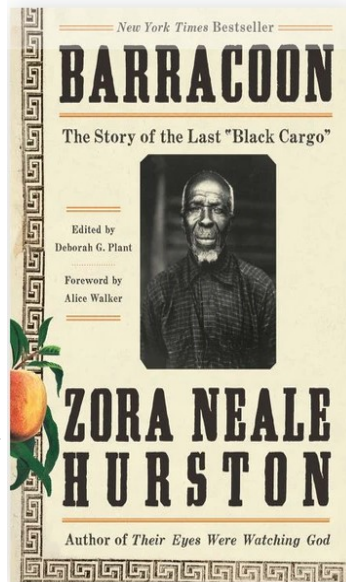
www.uua.org/beliefs/who-we-are

THOUGHT-PROVOKING BOOKS

I was fortunate to have been raised in a family that valued books. Reading opened eyes and minds to worlds, histories, cultures and perspectives. It was also a way to self-entertain as an only child.

My learning of my history, as an African American, began with my mother's grandmother. Mama had a small library of books by Black authors and also subscribed to *Jet & Ebony Magazine* and the *Philadelphia Tribune*. Black authors introduced me to poetry, history, imagination and accomplishments of my people. *Jet Magazine* introduced me, in 1955, to the story of Emmett Till and what hatred looked like in an open casket. *Jet* is still available online. *Ebony Magazine* introduced me to black entertainers, entrepreneurs, black firsts and fashion, and, among other things, my history. The *Philadelphia (PA) Tribune*, founded in 1884 and still published today, is the oldest continually published newspaper reflecting African American Life. We celebrated Negro History Week in my racially integrated elementary school in the 1950s in Philadelphia PA.

Black history is American history in all of its forms. *The New York Times Magazine's "The 1619 Project"* (now a book) has been questioned by some suggesting that it isn't accurate or relevant to today's youth. Books are being banned, history courses altered or eliminated altogether because of the decisions of a few. This, an unhappy



remembrance of the Dark Ages, 12th -17th Century Europe. How much knowledge was lost people of color from the Middle East and Africa and their contributions to society at large?

The international slave trade was real. Although made illegal in America in 1807, it c o n t i n u e d . Documentation was provided, in the first person, by Florida native **Zora Neale Hurston**. Hurston was a Black educated poet, film maker, folklorist, novelist and cultural anthropologist. In 1927, she went to what was/is known as Africatown,

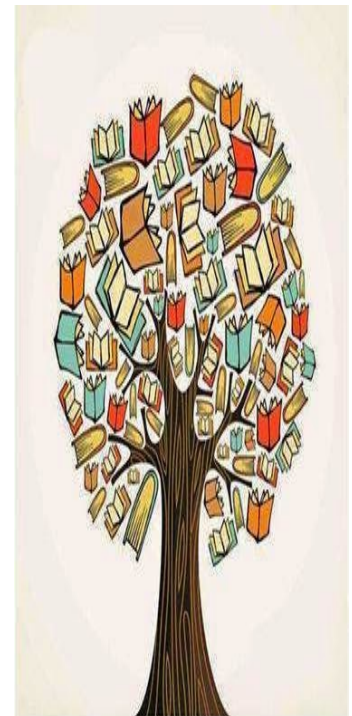
Georgia. She was introduced to and spent time with the last living survivor of the last (illegal) slave ship, the Clotilda, 1860.

The Book, *Barracoon, The Story of the Last "Black Cargo"*, is the story of 90-year-old Kossola who was captured at age 19 from Dahomey (Benin). The book, completed in 1931, wasn't published until 2018 because Hurston wrote in the vernacular he used. Whites wouldn't understand. Joel Chandler Harris, the creator of Uncle Remus and Br'er Rabbit and a white man, also wrote in a negro vernacular. Uncle Remus was published in 1881.

Imagine a firsthand telling of a journey from freedom to bondage to Reconstruction Era freedom in Georgia. A must read.



Stephanie Garrett
Coordinator, UU Endowment
of Charlotte County

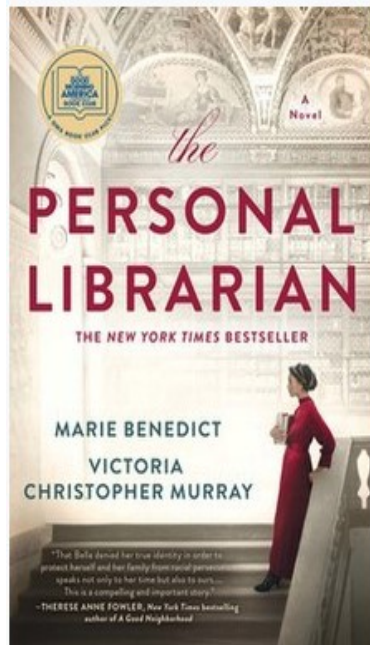
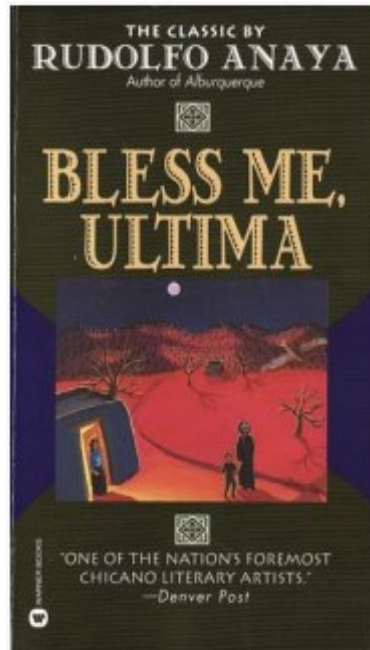


Reading can
seriously damage
your ignorance

UUFCC Book Group

On **March 29th at 1:30 pm**, the UUFCC Book Group will be discussing *Bless me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya. *Bless Me, Ultima* focuses on a young boy's spiritual transformation amidst cultural and societal changes in the American Southwest during World War II. Anaya's work aims to reflect the uniqueness of the Hispanic experience in the context of modernization in New Mexico—a place bearing the memory of European and indigenous cultures in contact spanning nearly half a millennium. The relationship between Anaya's protagonist, Antonio, and his spiritual guide, Ultima, unfolds in an enchanted landscape that accommodates cultural, religious, moral and epistemological contradictions: Márez vs. Luna, the Golden Carp vs the Christian God, good vs evil, Ultima's way of knowing vs the Church's or the school's way of knowing (from Wikipedia).

The book has been the subject of frequent censorship attempts and challenges. I remember reading it when it was first published in 1972. It was the book that introduced me to the literature and writing styles of the Southwest and Mexico.



The book made it on to PBS's **The Great American Read** list of America's 100 most-loved books. For a list of all the top 100 best loved books, please go to:

https://bento.cdn.pbs.org/hosted/bento-prod/filer_public/gar-phase-2/assets/TGAR_Book_Checklist_2018.pdf

On **April 26th at 1:30 pm**, we will be reading and discussing *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray.

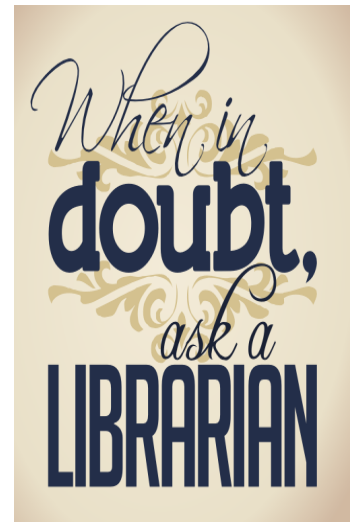
The Personal Librarian is fictionalized telling of the lifework of Belle da Costa Greene, the personal librarian to J.P. Morgan, as well as the first director of the Morgan Library & Museum. This book became an instant best seller and was named a Best Book of the Year by NPR and a Notable Book of the Year by the Washington Post!

The Personal Librarian tells the story of an extraordinary woman, famous for her intellect, style and wit, and shares the lengths she must go to—for the protection of her family

and her legacy—to preserve her carefully crafted white identity in the racist world in which she lives.



Mary Jane Williams
Chair, UUFCC Book Group
Office Admin., UUFCC



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

ASPIRATIONS — *Linda Richardson*

I am enjoying my recent membership at UUFCC. It is exciting to support and collaborate with people doing so much good for our community.

I am also new to the NAACP. Thanks to all of you who are also NAACP members. Many of you have given **local NAACP Unit 5093-B** your leadership and support for years. As an At Large member of the Executive Committee of reactivated 5093-B, I am grateful for those who attended our first general membership meeting, Saturday, January 21, 2023, at St. Mary's Baptist Church. I will be chairing the Criminal Justice Committee in 2023.

This is my first Black History Month article for the UUFCC newsletter in my new roles at UUFCC and the NAACP. I hope it will increase conversation and activism for racial justice.

After watching the video of George Floyd's murder, recorded by a 17 year old girl, I asked myself:

“What am I doing to stop racism?”

The answer was nothing.

I took the **HARVARD UNIVERSITY BIAS TEST** at:

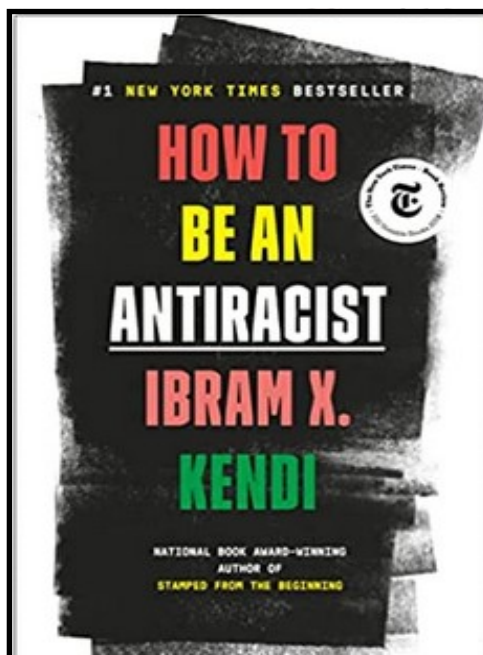
implicit.harvard.edu

I was embarrassed and disappointed to learn that I had implicit bias against Black males. Acts taken because of unconscious biases are discriminatory. Systems set up to benefit one race more than others are racist.

Since I believe that racism is the biggest threat to our democracy, and it is based on bias, I knew I

needed to change. I developed my personal **Anti-Racist Strategic Plan**. Because of the impact of George Floyd's murder on so many, there were many great ideas on how to lift up people of color and work for them and with them in the quest for justice.

One was to read books by Black authors. Because they significantly changed me, I recommend the following books for those looking to “fine tune” their antiracism activism:



How to be an Antiracist

by Ibram X. Kendi

White Fragility

by Robin DiAngelo

Caste

by Isabelle Wilkerson

Four Hundred Souls

edited by Ibram X. Kendi
and Keisha N. Blain

The Warmth of Different Suns

by Isabelle Wilkerson

Century: A People's History of Charlotte County

edited by James Abraham

I welcome input from you on other books, movies and resources that will help me grow. After reading, I was able to retake the bias test and show no bias. I know that being here at UUFCC and the NAACP will give me the skills and support I need to grow more effective as an anti-racist.

I hope for a time when all humans “start with the [human] in the mirror” just as Michael Jackson's song encouraged and end racism. May it be so.

UU SOURCES OF OUR LIVING TRADITION

UU congregations “live out [their seven] Principles within a ‘living tradition’ of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from sources as diverse as science, poetry, scripture and personal experience. These are the six sources our congregations affirm and promote:

- “Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- “Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- “Wisdom from the world’s religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- “Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God’s love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- “Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
- “Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.”

<https://www.uua.org/beliefs/what-we-believe/sources>

HUMOUR

Six Supreme Court Justices Floating Facedown in a River

All six conservative members of the Supreme Court of the United States got stranded in the woods with only a giant suitcase and a couple of paddles. Then they came to a raging river. It was fast-moving, wide and rocky but only waist deep. They began to bicker over how to get across.

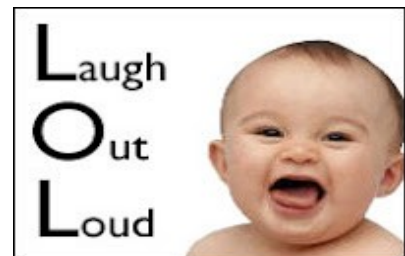
Kavanaugh, Thomas, and Gorsuch said, “We are strong and manly. We shall march across these raging waters unafraid!”

Barrett, Alito and Roberts countered, “God has given us the suitcase and paddles for a reason, it is clear He will guide us through these rocky waters.”

The disagreement persisted for a while, and eventually Kavanaugh, Thomas, and Gorsuch got on the suitcase with the others, still trying to persuade the others to do it their way. Fifteen minutes later, all six were found dead, drowned in the river.

What happened?

They overturned the case during Row vs Wade arguments.



UUFCC IMMIGRATION JUSTICE COMMITTEE & OUR CAPAS FAMILY MAKE UUSC NEWS!

To read article in its entirety, please go to:

<https://www.uusc.org/florida-congregation-welcomes-asylum-seeking-family-with-assistance-of-a-matching-grant-from-uusc/>





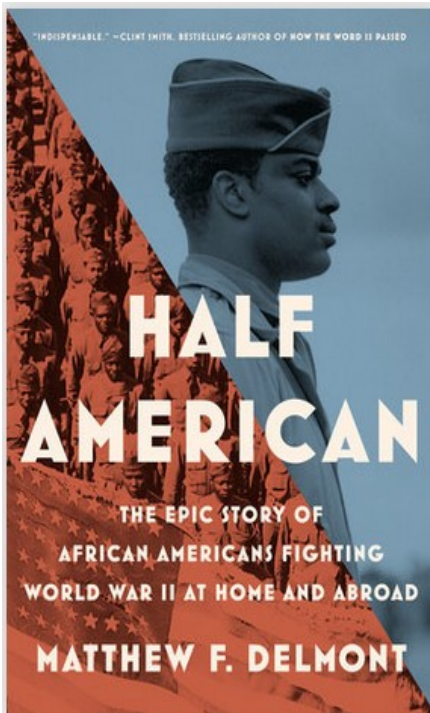
Black History Month, initially Negro History Week, was the brainchild of historian Carter G. Woodson. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History month.

Note that I use the terms Black, Negro and African American interchangeably. The race designation is reflected by the generation in which it was commonly used.

There has been a continuing issue around Black Lives Matter rather than that all lives matter. Historically, since at least 1619, Africans were brought to the North and South American continents of the Americas as slaves, in most cases for life. They were the laborers that cleared the land, planted and harvested the crops, served as servants, served as wet nurses. They had no real control over their lives and were thought of as inferior to the white race.

Even after Emancipation, former slaves were limited to the

underclass. This continues today with a major bank recently fined for redlining and concern about teaching American history to include the African American and Hispanic experience in our Democratic society.

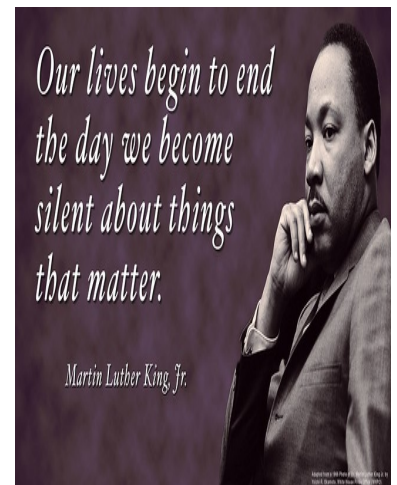


Veterans Day reminded me of the many people of color who willingly enlisted to defend America against its enemies. However, when they returned home, they were still treated as second class and denied even the right to vote. Voting rights still remain an issue today.

The book *Half American, The Epic Story of African Americans Fighting World War II at Home and Abroad*, by Matthew F. Delmont, is worth reading.

We as a UU congregation must let the marginalized know they are welcome here. The BLM and Gay Pride flags publicly shown at UUFCC say it all.

— Stephanie Garrett



White Continent. South Pole. Bottom of the World. *Terra Australis Incognita* (unknown Southern Land). (or Why Feb/Mar Issues Are Combined) — *MaryLou Kennedy*

Cruises postponed for the pandemic are now use it or lose it. So January 21st, Doug and I went to:

ANTARCTICA!

Highest, driest, windiest, coldest, iciest, most southernmost continent.

Think the Arctic and Antarctic are the same? Actually, they're polar opposites. Ba bum dumb.

ARTIC vs ANTARTIC?

North Pole vs South Pole.

Polar bears vs penguins.

Ocean with sea ice vs a continent.

Aurora Borealis vs Aurora Australis.

Four million people vs no native people having ever lived there.

One slightly larger than the other, and the smaller, Antarctica, is about twice the size of Australia.

COVID-19? Not so fated, too ice-o-lated. Ba bum dumb.

Weather? Oct-Feb is Antarctica's summer: 34°F avg. Never dark. Dec-Feb, penguins are hatching!

Penguins? Monogamous. Toothless. Flightless with wings that are actually flippers: they swim really well. Catastrophic molters. Tuxedoed fashionistas. Waddlers. Poop every 20 minutes. Pleasantly plump.

Food? Roast penguin! Recipe in *Hoosh* by Jason C. Anthony who spent eight seasons in the U.S. Antarctic Program and also ate hoosh, a meat, fat and melted snow porridge. Tastes like chicken? More like cod liver oil. Salivating? Wish you were here?

Way to go! Errr ... Ways to go?

1. **Fly Over** for purists wanting to follow explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton (first to try to cross the Antarctic Continent), or for those wanting to cross the 66°33'S Antarctic Circle.
2. **Sail By** on small cruise ship—least expensive.
3. **Go By Expedition Ship** with stabilizers & strengthened hulls to get thru sea ice. Small with 50-200 passengers who can then get on Zodiacs or go ashore by foot, accompanied by polar expert guides. Up close and personal.

Our Way? Sail By. Spectacular views onboard with an onboard polar/naturalist expert to guide, educate, inform.

Polar Plunges in Subzero Waters? Some did but ice say no way.

Pre-Cruise Land Trip? Buenos Aires. Iguazu Falls—world's largest *broken* waterfall—close up on Argentina side for our in-Zodiac under-waterfall soaking, & more panoramic on Brazil side. Patagonia. Puerto Madryn. Welsh Village Gaiman who noted penguin is a Welsh word meaning head and white. Montevideo—danced their milonga, precursor to tango. Estancia/ranch, guacho/cowboys—went horseback riding. Hands-on cooking class—made empanadas!

Onboard? Navigated Antarctic Sound. Survived "Drake Shake"

on Drake Passage—had to tie shower doors shut & barricade drawers to stop banging! Paradise Bay. Rojas Mountain Peak. Bryde Peak. Petzval Glacier. Whales.. Elephant Seals. Penguins right next to our ship! Cruised Schollaert Channel. Sailed to Elephant Island, aka Hell of an Island, where Shackleton's men spent one hell of a winter.

Good Read re Shackleton Trip? *Endurance* by Alfred Lansing.

Anemophobia? Fear of wind.

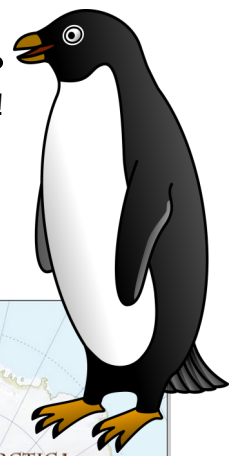
Frozen Chosen? Chapel of the Snows and its stained glass penguin!

Remote, beautiful, so much untouched by humans or modern civilization.

Seven Continents? Have now seen all 7!

Collecting moments not things.

What are yours?





Linda Lusk, C.A.R.E. Chief Advancement Officer, spoke to UUFCC on January 8, 2023, and shared the following resources:

<https://carefl.org/>

<https://www.thehotline.org/identify-abuse/power-and-control/>

<http://www.ncdsv.org/images/equalitywheelnoshading.pdf>

<https://www.thehotline.org/>

<https://everydaypower.com/domestic-violence-quotes/>

<https://www.rainn.org/resources>

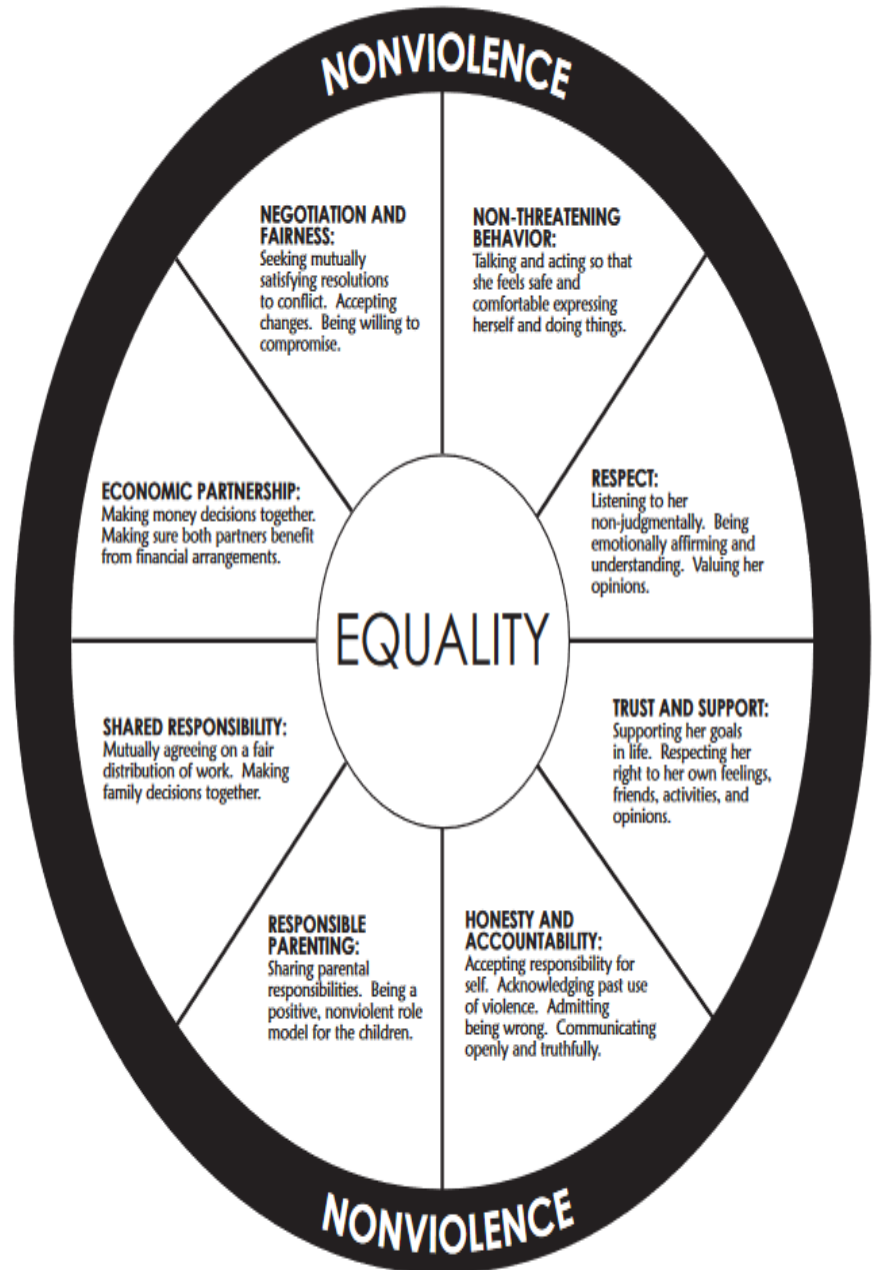
<https://www.healthyplace.com/abuse/articles/inspiration-for-rape-survivors-sexual-abuse-survivors>

The Power & Control Wheel is a basic tool used to help victims understand what they are experiencing is truly abuse. Abuse is often not physical; emotional and psychological abuse is a much greater percentage and least understood by most people. Abusers are controllers and manipulators, and to the outside world are generally well-liked. The Equality Wheel is used to portray how a healthy respectful relationship works.

Words/phrases to encourage people to understand how to support survivors in a positive ways:

- Believe what a survivor says
- No judgment
- Personal Safety
- Boundaries and Respect
- Partnership
- Mutual decisions and respect
- Compromise, not conflict
- Non-violent role as a parent
- Value others
- Respect

EQUALITY WHEEL



Developed by:
Domestic Abuse Intervention Project
202 East Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55802
218.722.4134

Produced and distributed by:



NATIONAL CENTER
on Domestic and Sexual Violence
training • consulting • advocacy
4612 Shoal Creek Blvd. • Austin, Texas 78756
512.407.9090 (phone and fax) • www.ncdsv.org

Herb Levin ruminates on FAMOUS DAYS IN HISTORY

When the United States entered World War I in 1917, thousands of African American men volunteered to fight for a country that granted them only limited civil rights. Many from New York City joined the 15th N.Y. Infantry, a National Guard regiment later designated the 369th U.S. Infantry.

Led by mostly inexperienced white and black officers, these men not only received little instruction at their training camp in South Carolina but were frequent victims of racial harassment from both civilians and their white comrades.

Once in France, they initially served as laborers, all while chafing to prove their worth as American soldiers. Then they got their chance.

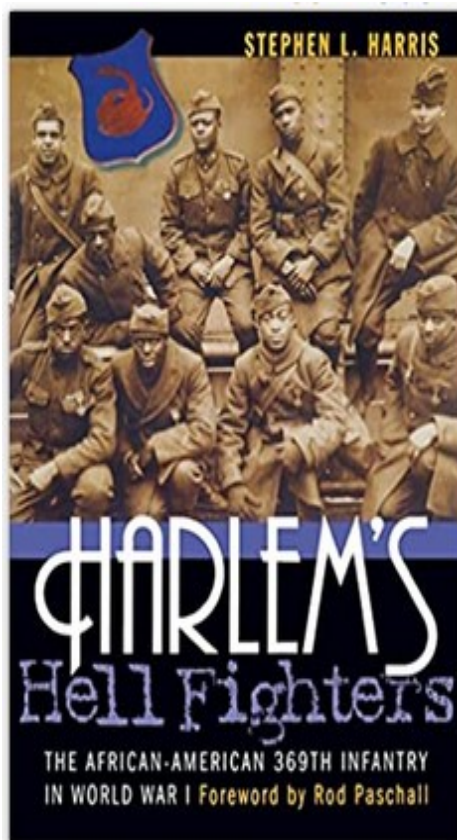
The 369th became one of the few U.S. units that American

commanding general John J. Pershing agreed to let serve under French command. Donning French uniforms and taking up French rifles, the men of the 369th fought valiantly alongside French Moroccans and held one of the widest sectors on the Western Front.

The entire regiment was awarded the Croix de Guerre, the French government's highest military honor.

In *Harlem's Hell Fighters*, Stephen L. Harris's accounts of the valor of a number of individual soldiers make for exciting

reading, especially that of Henry Johnson, who defended himself against an entire German squad with a large knife. After reading this book, you will know why the Germans feared the black men of the 369th and why the French called them hell fighters.



Herb Levin
Secretary, UUFCC

H HISTORY

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. Jonalu Johnston,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
[http://archive.uuworld.org/
2003/06/affirmations.html](http://archive.uuworld.org/2003/06/affirmations.html)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

on KAY AZAR

FAMOUS UUs

ABIGAIL ADAMS
(1744–1818)

Women's Rights Advocate
and first Second Lady and
Second First Lady of USA

HENRY BERGH
(1811-1888)

Founded American Society for the
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
and the Society for the
Prevention of Cruelty to Children

ROBERT JOSEPH GREEN
(1973–)

Black Canadian author,
anthologist and LGBT activist.
Best known for writing
The Gay Icon Classics of the World,
gay-themed love stories from
over 12 different countries.

ISAAC NEWTON
(1642–1726)

English Physicist & Mathematician

JOSEPH STORY
(1779–1845)

US Supreme Court
Associate Justice from 1811-1845

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
List_of_Unitarians_Universalists,
and_Unitarian_Universalists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Unitarians_Universalists,_and_Unitarian_Universalists)

Hi, I'm Kay Azar. What most people hear immediately after that is "and I'll be your **Worship Associate** this morning." I've been a friend or member at UUFCC for 10 years as a snowbird. I like doing things with and for the Fellowship. It seems like every few years I pick up a new activity. So far it's been helping lead the **Annual Service Auction**, being on the **Racial Justice Committee** and organizing past **Racial Monologues**, being a **Worship Associate**, and this year I've joined the **choir**.

I'm originally from Chicago where I met my husband, Deeb. We've been married for 51 years and have two children, Mona, and Ryan who lives in Overland Park, KS with his family. Deeb and I have spent most of our married life in South Bend, IN, in the heart of Notre Dame University country.

From there to here has been quite a journey. My family of origin is Jewish and, for my first 23 years, I

lived in a Jewish saturated world, ending up living briefly in Jerusalem. There I saw the Palestinian apartheid very clearly and it changed my life. I left Israel as I became unemployed, came home to Chicago and married a Christian Palestinian.

I also started hearing about a religious movement where everyone was welcome and could "believe anything you wanted." It took me another few years and the move to South Bend to find

Unitarian Universalism.

I went to the University of Missouri to become a physical therapist. My dream was to work with children. I was able to do that for most of my career. I loved the work.

Now retired, we split our time but UUFCC is my Florida home and the place in Port Charlotte I feel most accepted and loved.





MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SECOND HELPING

- \$ 683.00 Your December 2022 Donations
- \$ 115.00 Given to Harry Chapin
- \$ 115.00 Given to Meals on Wheels
- \$ 115.00 Given to CHAPS
- \$1,000.00 Given to Charlotte County Public Schools Homeless Education Project (SJC added to round up)

PEACE GARDEN ENGRAVED PAVERS

Honor beloved UUFCC members and friends AND help UUFCC. Percentage of proceeds go to UUFCC. Order via UUFCC office.

WOW!

ENDOWMENT

Honor beloved Fellowship members and friends AND help UUFCC.

Endowment funds assure UUFCC's financial future and further UU principles & practices.

Make a contribution in beloved's name to UUFCC Endowment Fund.

Write "In Memory of ..." on check memo line.

CAPAS VOLUNTEERS

December 2022

- 11 Volunteers
- 100 Volunteer Hours for school & appt drives
- 1 Volunteer Teaches ESL once a week
- 24/7 Temporary Lodging from 2 Superstars
- Need Outing Volunteers

Happiness doesn't result from what we get, but from what we give.
 — Ben Carson



February 2023 Recipient of
SJC SECOND HELPING



March 2023 Recipient of
SJC SECOND HELPING

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

February Theme: LOVE

- 02-05-23 **What is Love?** — Speaker Dennis Shaw.
Worship Associate Joseph Fenty.
- 02-12-23 **Virginia B. Andes Volunteer Community Clinic**
Speaker Barbara Wastart, Donor Development Director.
Worship Associate Kay Azar.
- 02-19-23 **We Are Promise Makers**
Speaker UUA Rev. Kenneth Gordon Hurto (virtual).
Worship Associate Kenneth Brennen.
- 02-26-23 **Humanism Reconsidered: How far does our love extend?**
Spkr UU Rev. Bob Murphy. Worship Assoc Jackie Williams.

March Theme: VULNERABILITY

- 03-05-23 **Topic TBD** — Speaker Dave Martin.
Worship Associate Dennis Shaw.
- 03-12-23 **Charlotte County Homeless Coalition** — Speaker
Jenifer Welch, Director of Development. WA Kay Azar.
- 03-19-23 **Spring Equinox** — Speaker Rev. Elaine "Fairie" Silver
—Metaphysical Musical Ministry. WA Joseph Fenty.
- 03-26-23 **Topic TBD** — Speaker Rev. Ann Parker.
Worship Associate Laura Anderson.

THE BOOK OF LIFE

Your Book of Life entries or announcements you would like read from the pulpit Sunday mornings are important. Make sure your entry or announcement gets read on Sunday morning; 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*.

Your
Worship
Associate
Committee



02-01 Peg Stunkard
02-02 Stephanie Garrett
02-03 Jim Kellar
02-05 Helen Sokalski
02-14 Que Burgess
02-21 Joan Osborne
02-23 Mona Azar-Johns
02-26 Herb Levin

For a Birthday Shoutout, contact Stephanie Garrett
editorialboard@uufcc.org

Weekly Events

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

Links

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

To add to **SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS** or **BOOK OF LIFE**
 email bookoflife@uufcc.org 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=c2tUenpGMmhjSExaUINOL3VHNIK5UT09>

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

Spanish for Beginners
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81408957224pwd=cUhGejBuOVVRckU0L1R2SkM2SXhZQT09>

February 2023 Activities

02/01 Wed	05:00pm	Immigration Justice
	06:00pm	Choir Practice
02/02 Thu	01:00pm	Facing Death with Life
02/04 Sat	10:00am	Worship Associates
02/05 Sun	Noon	PFLAG General Meeting
02/06 Mon	02:00pm	Shaw Chalice Circle
	02:00pm	Moran Chalice Circle
	03:30pm	Yoga in the Sanctuary
	04:00pm	Azar Chalice Circle
02/07 Tue	10:00am	Spanish Class
	01:00pm	Spanish Class
02/08 Wed	10:00am	Policies & Procedures
	01:00pm	Caring Committee
	06:00pm	Choir Practice
02/09 Thu	01:00pm	Facing Death with Life
	03:00pm	Whitehill Chalice Circle
	04:30pm	Buddhist
02/10 Fri	01:00pm	Communications Committee
	01:30pm	Game Afternoon
02/12 Sun	Noon	Social Justice Committee
02/13 Mon	03:30pm	Yoga in the Sanctuary
02/14 Tue	10:00am	Spanish Class
	01:00pm	Spanish Class
02/15 Wed	05:00pm	Immigration Justice Committee
	06:00pm	Choir Practice
02/16 Thu	01:00pm	Facing Death with Life
	04:00pm	Board Meeting
02/18 Sat	04:30pm	Live Annual Service Auction
02/19 Sun	Noon	PFLAG Steering Meeting
	Noon	Art Committee
02/20 Mon	02:00pm	Shaw Chalice Circle
	03:30pm	Yoga in the Sanctuary
	04:00pm	Azar Chalice Circle
02/21 Tue	10:00am	Spanish Class
	01:00pm	Spanish Class
	07:00pm	Sierra Club
02/22 Wed	10:00am	Policies & Procedures
	01:30pm	Book Group
	06:00pm	Choir Practice
02/23 Thu	01:00pm	Facing Death with Life
	03:00pm	Whitehill Chalice Circle
	04:30pm	Buddhist
02/24 Fri	01:30pm	Game Afternoon
02/25 Sun	03:00pm	Secular Community
02/27 Mon	03:30pm	Yoga in the Sanctuary
02/28 Tue	10:00am	Spanish Class
	01:00pm	Spanish Class



03-02 Trudy Gerhardt
 03-10 Debbie Conrad
 03-11 Trisha Lane
 03-14 David Martin
 03-18 Ken Brennan
 03-31 Myrna Charry

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03/26 Sun	03:00pm	Secular Community
03/27 Mon	03:30pm	Yoga in the Sanctuary
03/28 Tue	01:00pm	Spanish Class
	02:00pm	Program Council
03/29 Wed	01:30pm	Book Group
	06:00pm	Choir Practice



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 (Adopted 03-27-22).*

VISION: In five years, we, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County, will be a thriving, intergenerational, racially diverse, and Welcoming Congregation. We will have an inspiring minister, committed lay leadership, enhanced facilities, uplifting music and art and vibrant activities and programs that support our mission. *UUFCC PPM.*

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).*

HOPPIN’ JOHN, A NEW YEAR’S BLACK TRADITION – Stephanie Garrett

The first written recipe appeared in 1840. However, black slaves in the low country of South Carolina were preparing it prior. Growing of both **rice and black-eyed peas** were initiatives of slaves with plantation owners able to sell the rice.

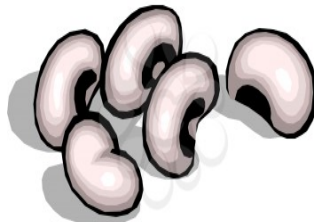
The name Hoppin’ John is a mystery. Some say it was the name of a one legged black man who sold black-eyed peas and rice. Others say it came from children hoppin’ around the table at the thought of this meal which was served as a main meal or with additions.

There are many versions of this recipe. On New Year’s Eve or Day it is served along with collard greens and corn bread. My female elders added potato salad and homemade dessert.

Eating black-eyed peas on **New Year’s Eve or Day** was for **GOOD LUCK** in the coming year!

INGREDIENTS:

- Dry black-eyed peas
- Yellow onion, chopped
- Finely chopped celery
- Smoked turkey butt, ham hock, or chicken [or vegetable] bouillon
- Ground pepper, red pepper flakes
- Thyme
- Basmati Rice



VERSION #1—SLOW:

Follow directions on black-eyed pea pkg for an overnight or quick soak. Drain & replenish with fresh water to

cover over an inch. Add water during cooking as necessary. Add meat or chicken bouillon, & seasonings. Boil, then turn down to simmer with pot lid closed. Cook until peas become soft, about 1-1/2 hrs.

I like Basmati rice because it cooks quickly. Again follow directions on package. Mix peas and rice together prior to serving.

VERSION #2—QUICK: Use canned black-eyed peas. Drain liquid out of can. Put in pot, add water, & heat. Mix with rice and serve.

NOTE: I don’t use salt. Your choice.

UUFCC CONTACTS

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

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EDITORIAL BOARD**

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- MaryLou Kennedy
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