



## Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County

1532 Forest Nelson Boulevard, Port Charlotte, Florida 33952  
941.627.4303 — [www.uufcc.org](http://www.uufcc.org) — [www.facebook.com/uufcc](https://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](https://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.

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



**Dennis Shaw**  
President  
UUFCC Board of Trustees



peace.



love.

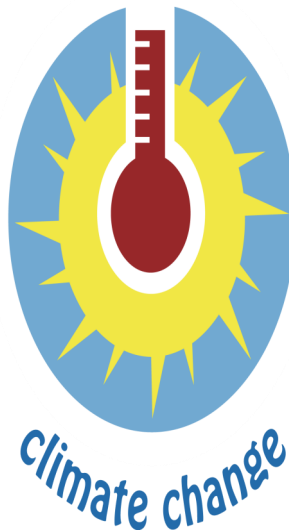


community.

## Conversations with Climate Change Skeptics



**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](http://www.uua.org/beliefs/who-we-are)

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

## 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. Marna 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 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-

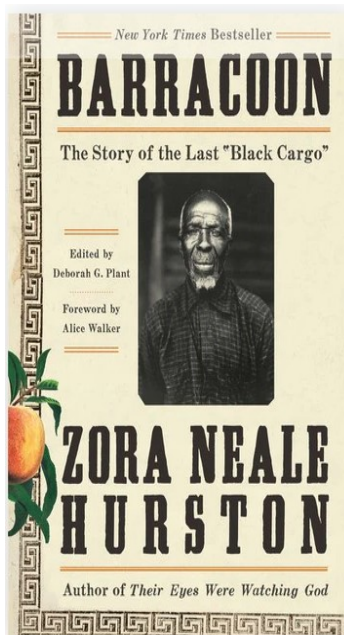
17th Century Europe. How much knowledge was lost people of color from the Middle East and Africa and their contributions to society at large?

The international slave trade was real. Although made illegal in America in 1807, it continued. 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.

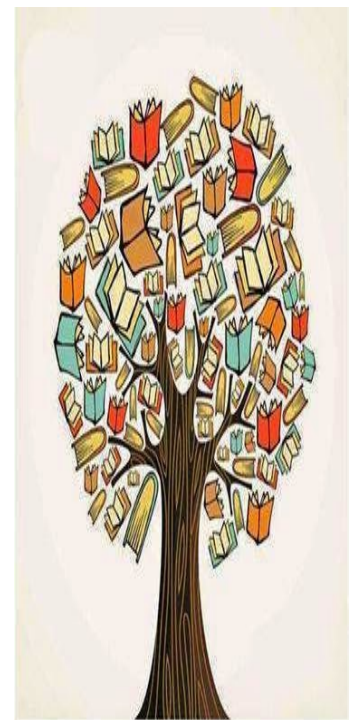
The Book, *Barracoon, The Story of the Last "Black Cargo*,

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



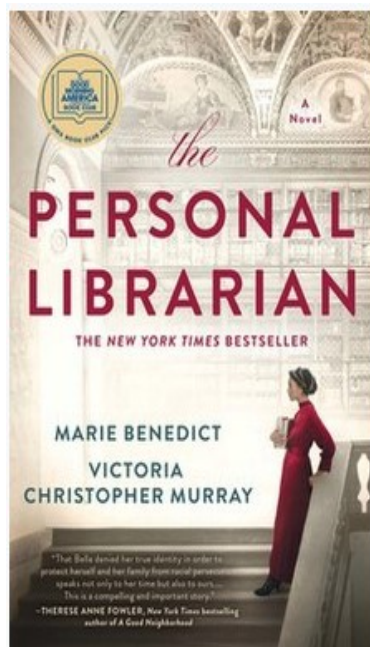
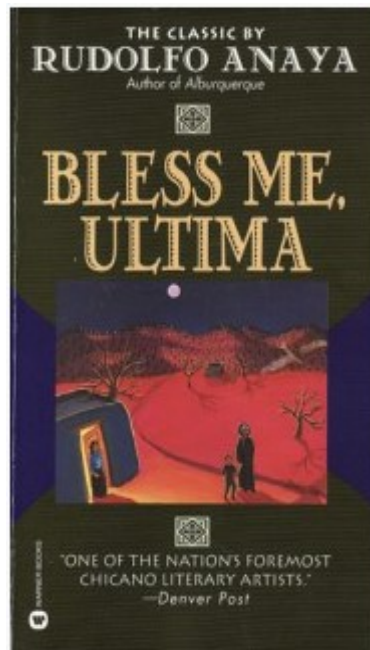
Reading can  
seriously damage  
your ignorance



# 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\\_BookChecklist\\_2018.pdf](https://bento.cdn.pbs.org/hosted-bento-prod/filer_public/gar-phase-2/assets/TGAR_BookChecklist_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.

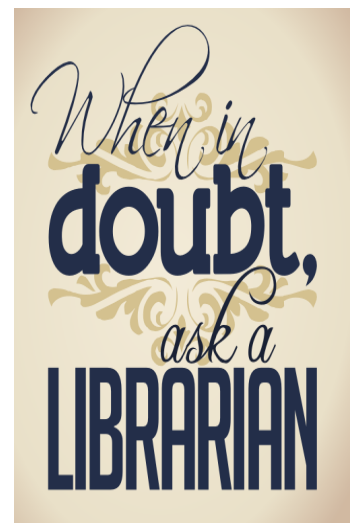
*The Personal Librarian* is fictionalized telling of the lifework of Belle da Costa Greene, the personal librarian to J.P. Morgan, as well as the first director of the Morgan Library & Museum. This book became an instant best seller and was named a Best Book of the Year by NPR and a Notable Book of the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

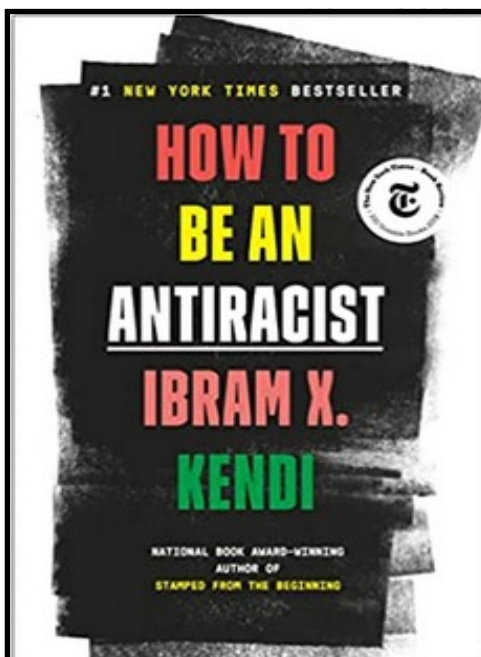
I took the **HARVARD UNIVERSITY BIAS TEST** at:  
[implicit.harvard.edu](https://implicit.harvard.edu)

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.

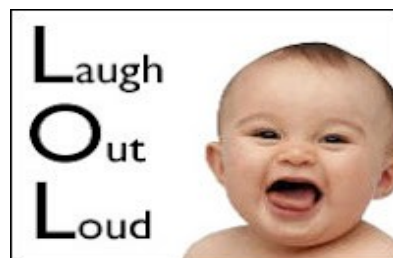
Kavanaugh, Thomas, and Gorsuch said, "We are strong and manly. We shall march across these raging waters unafraid!"

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/>







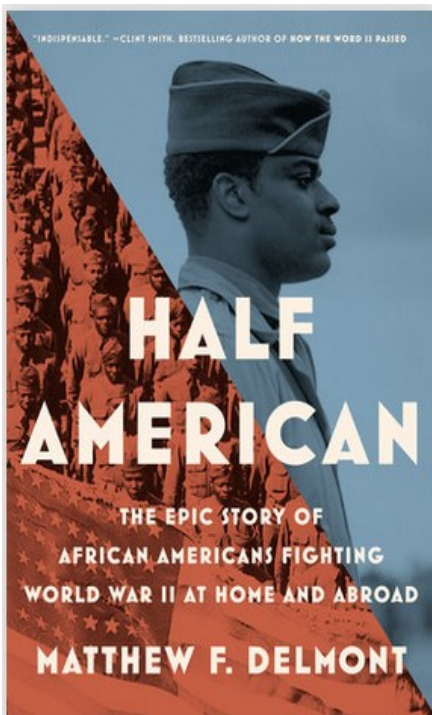
Black History Month, initially Negro History Week, was the brainchild of historian Carter G. Woodson. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History month.

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

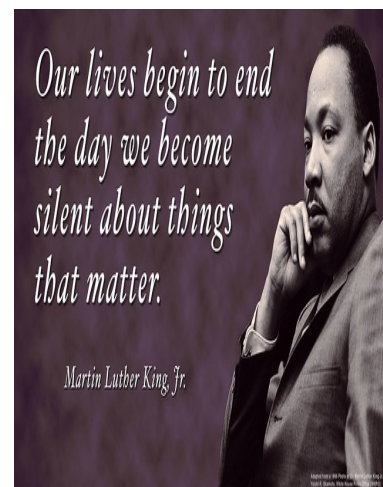
underclass. This continues today with a major bank recently fined for redlining and concern about teaching American history to include the African American and Hispanic experience in our Democratic society.



*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 21<sup>st</sup>, 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.

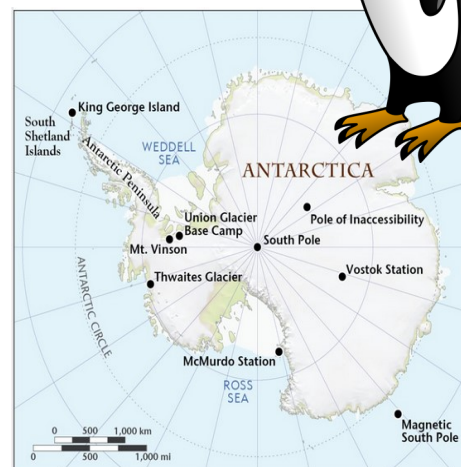
**Frozen Chosen?** Chapel of the Snows and its stained glass penguin!

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>

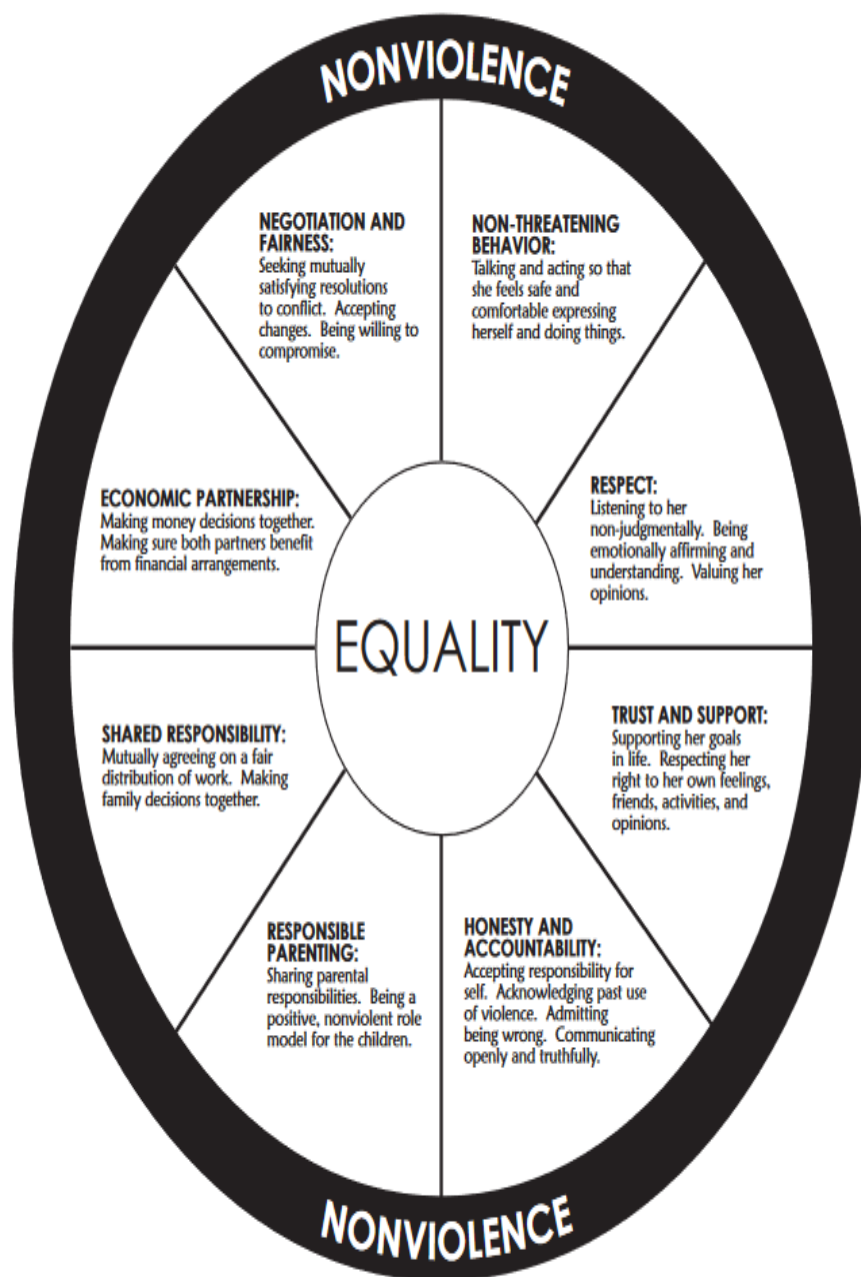
<https://www.healthyplace.com/abuse/articles/inspiration-for-rape-survivors-sexual-abuse-survivors>

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  
512.407.9030 (phone and fax) • [www.ncdsv.org](http://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.

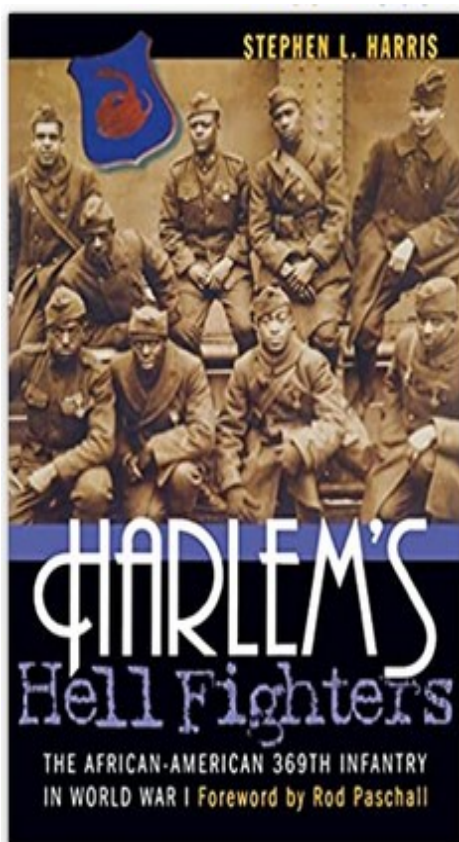
The 369th became one of the few U.S. units that American

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, UU FCC

# 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>

# 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 consider-  
ate, 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:

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

[bookoflife@uufcc.org](mailto:bookoflife@uufcc.org)

by 6:00 p.m. Saturday



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](mailto: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](mailto: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](https://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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	04:30pm	Buddhist
03/24 Fri	01:30pm	Game Afternoon
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 1-½ 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

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