



## 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](http://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](http://www.youtube.com)  
UUFCC Port Charlotte

## A Letter from the President

Dear Ones,

On April 20th our new **Board of Trustees** held their first meeting of the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Current members include Vice President **Laura Liermann**, Secretary **Laura Anderson**, Treasurer **Dick Schwartz** and Trustees **Betty Barriga**, **Robert Moran**, **John Lee** and **Sharon Whitehill**. I will continue to serve one more year as President.

You can communicate with all members by email at [board@uufcc.org](mailto:board@uufcc.org).

One of the most important items on the agenda is our **Annual Pledge Drive**. Our goal is \$100,000 and we still have approximately \$25,000 to raise. If you have not sent your pledge to the office, please do so as soon as possible!

It is time to update our Green Sanctuary status with the UUA. I would like to form a **Green Sanctuary Team** to explore how we can enhance our environmental efforts and improve our

landscape by adding numerous plants that attract pollinators. Talk with me if you are interested in planning and planting.

Please remember that our **CAPAS family** needs our support. Transportation is a primary priority. Contact **Myrna Charry** if you can help.

Three members, **Robert and Peggy Moran** and **Betty Barriga**, will attend the **UUA General Assembly** in Pittsburgh in June. I am sure they will return with lots of new ideas and insights.



**Dennis Shaw**  
President  
UUFCC Board of Trustees

A new **Choir Committee** has been formed. **Janet Morrill** will serve as chair with the support of **Sharon Whitehill**, **Laura Anderson** and **Lorrie Douglas**. The group continues to meet on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM. Please consider joining.

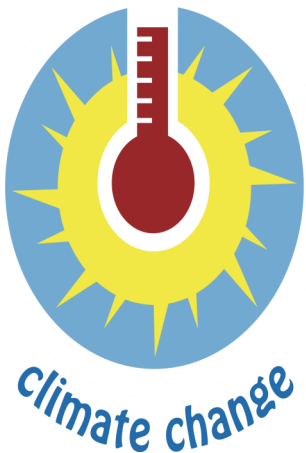
Finally, if you have **agenda items for the next Board meeting**, which will be held on the **third Thursday of May at 4 PM**, please notify us via our email.

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





Alan Searle



# CHILL HOURS



I've successfully grown peaches in the rainy, Seattle side of Washington State. They all seemed to ripen within minutes of each other, so suddenly having to deal with 200 of them was difficult. There's a limit to how many peach cobbles you can make and consume in a day. However, I was helped by the sheep and lambs I was raising at the time, so only a manageable portion of the fruit made it to the kitchen.

species. Some require 1000 hours but there is one species that only requires 150. That particular peach is a cultivar of the University of Florida.

Most fruit requires chill hours. For some the requirement is high. For example, there are only a few species of apple that will thrive in Florida, and that doesn't include the apples

found commonly on our store shelves. Figs, olives and quince have the lowest chill hours requirements.

**Question:**  
So why don't peaches do so well in Coastal SW Florida?

**What is going to happen as the climate warms?**

I don't know. I could speculate, but this time I'll leave it to you to do so instead.

**Answer:**  
There aren't enough chill hours.

A **CHILL HOUR** is any hour when the temperature is between 35°F and 45°F, and there aren't consistently enough of those in coastal SW Florida. Without those chill hours, the tree won't bear fruit. The number of chill hours required depends on the



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)



**SWITCHING FROM OIL WELLS TO STEAM WELLS – GEOTHERMAL ENERGY FOR SNOWBIRDS**

In 2008, I presented "Humanity & Energy Options" to my Congregation in Yellow Springs OH arguing the need to switch our energy supplies from oxidation of carbon to natural nuclear sources (solar and geothermal) and slow or stop global climate change. 'Natural' here means not having to deal with intense x-rays (fusion) or nuclear radiation from uranium (fission). No coal-fired plants, Chernobyls, Three Mile Islands, or radioactive waste.

This requires global engineering/scientific effort to switch from oil and gas to deep dry-steam wells feeding electrical generators. Oil exploration technology has the widest range of experience applicable to this problem.

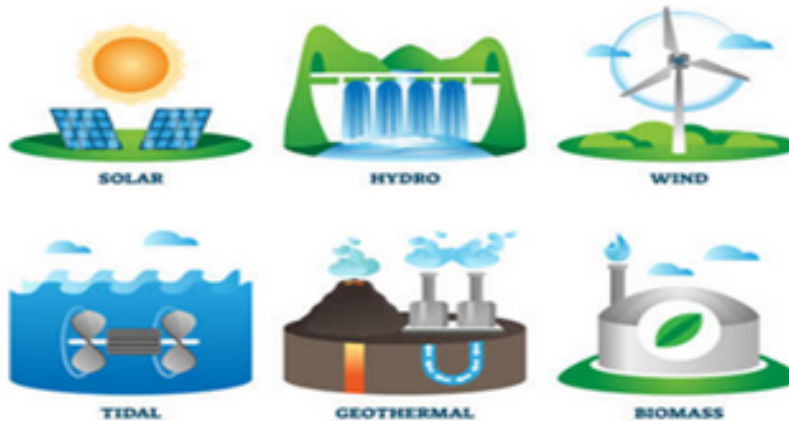
I held a Prof. Engr. license in Ohio, but Geophysics training came from 15 years attending Geothermal Resource Council meetings. There I heard the idea that our continental plates are essentially islands floating on very hot magma which is slowly moving by convection. Heat is from the natural decay of uranium, thorium and potassium selectively dissolved in these granitic plates plus the original heat of Earth's formation.

I emphasize Geothermal Energy because it seems to lack the publicity accorded Solar Energy and can also supply 24 hour clean power. For example, our personal transportation could be switched from petroleum to hydrogen or electricity without producing carbon dioxide emissions. Our home heating/cooling could be

switched from air-cooling to ground-water heating/cooling for about a 70% savings on electricity. This presentation covered 100+ slides on both commercial and domestic geothermal usage plus my "Humanity & Energy" paper. Slides were originally prepared (circa 1999) by Geothermal Education, whose e-mail address starts with, 24hourcleanpower; for further information Google 'Geothermal Energy.'

This effort is global and a growth industry. Third-world nations around the Pacific 'Ring of Fire' and continental rift zones are developing power stations operating continuously around existing steam vents.

**SOURCES OF ELECTRICITY**



The Larderello, Italy plant has been operating for over a century. Geysers supplying San Francisco in California have 60 years experience so far and also inject wastewater to recharge. Operational plants enjoy high rates of financial returns and long service lives (15 years for turbine).

Douglas Kennedy has an important counterpoint that thermal gradients aren't uniform and, in fact, may only be available in restricted areas like the 'Hot Spot' under Hawaii's Big Island or continental rift-zones.

A century of drilling for hydrocarbons worldwide is the source of the Geophysical concept of "Normal Gradient" for the temperature rise in drilling. I recall numbers of around 15°F per 1000 feet, and when higher as in volcanic calderas, the multiple used is between 1 and 10. The gradient may change upward with extreme depth. See Wikipedia paper (2016) on Geothermal Gradient with extensive data (6 pages).

We deal with a massive ignorance of the Earth's interior. Russians have the deepest known borehole at 12.25 Km/7.7 Mile (Kola Peninsula) and apparently were stopped by the "plasticity" of the rock. However, past heat-flow paths are shown by structures like Wyoming's Devil's Tower or the calderas or 'mouths' of old volcanos and may offer a key to finding localized "hot-spots."

Some US groups like USGS or DOE are working to develop "Enhanced Geothermal" in areas not on natural steam vents by circulating water through "Hot Dry Rock" areas. Google also backs this effort. Max depth is estimated at 6 Km/3.7 Miles (Muffler's estimate to get 300°C steam) and deep-well fracturing is needed to achieve the desired thermal contact. Hopefully, deep fracking will be less contentious than shallow hydrocarbon fracking. Many skills are needed to make it feasible so it is a future effort and should be a source for new jobs. If successful, it would provide a world-

wide method of electrical generation while possibly reducing the frequency of volcanoes and major earthquakes.

Recent comments on the "Hot Dry Rock Idea" suggest difficulty keeping injected water near the central borehole. Withdrawing heat may cause localized shrinkage of the bottom rock and permit increased flow over time.

Multiple unsolved problems needing solutions.



James Quentin "Que" Burgess

# The UUFCC Book Group

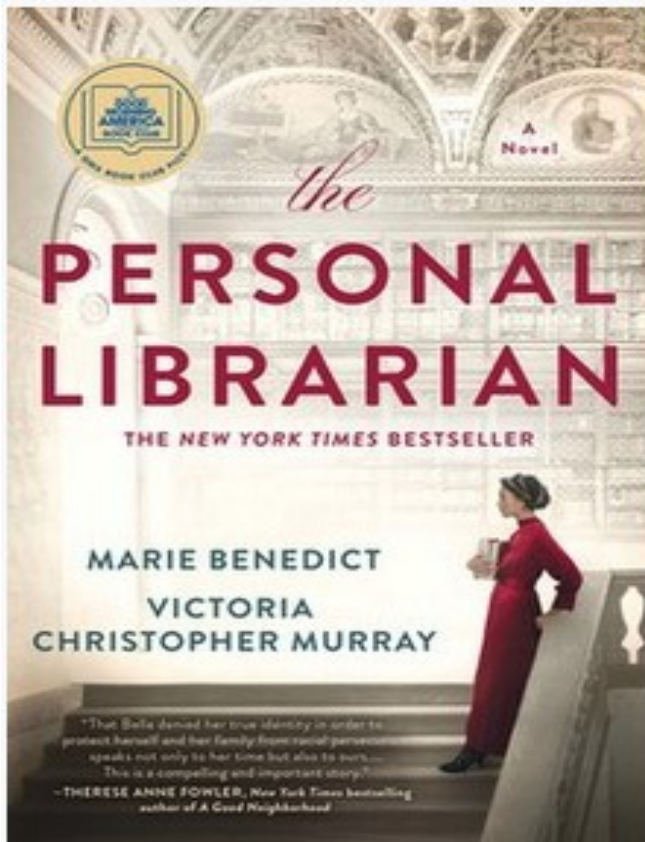
Wednesday, May 31st, at 1:30 pm,  
the UUFCC Book Group will discuss:

## ***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.

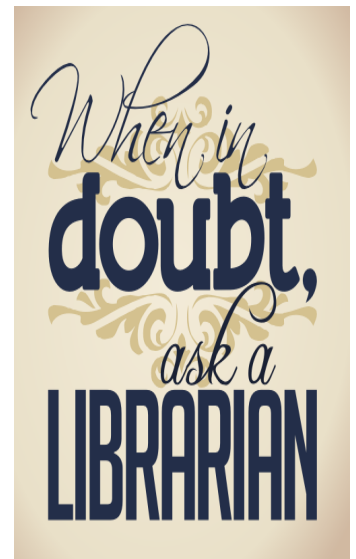
This book became an instant best seller and was named **Best Book of the Year** by NPR and **Notable Book of the Year** by the Washington Post!



*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, The Book Group  
Office Admin., UUFCC



Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion characterized by a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

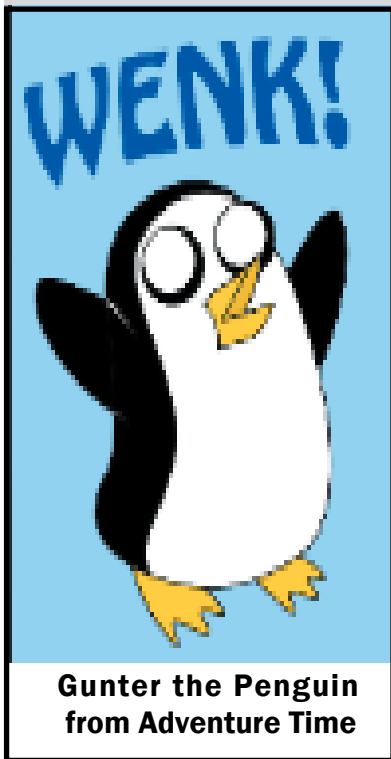
Unitarian Universalists assert no creed, but instead are unified by their shared search for spiritual growth, guided by a dynamic, living tradition.

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unitarian Universalism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unitarian_Universalism)





**Laura Anderson**  
Program Council of  
Committee Chairs



**Gunter the Penguin**  
from Adventure Time

# WENK!

is what Gunter the Penguin says. Well, he actually says, "Wenk Wenk!"

AND YOU SHOULD TOO!

WENK is also what Rev. Kathy Schmitz says. We aren't exactly sure what Gunter means, but Rev. Kathy means

## Who Else Needs to Know?

When you are in conversation with others at UUFCC in a committee meeting, etc., especially after a decision has been made or input is needed to make a decision, ask yourself, "Who else needs to know?"

If we all embrace **WENK**, we will become better at communicating. If we all embrace Gunter, we might smile more.



**Lorrie Douglas**  
Program Council of  
Committee Chairs



**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**

**For May ‘World Laughter Day’ and May ‘Wordsmith Day’**



1. An Oxford comma walks into a bar where it spends the evening watching the television, getting drunk, and smoking cigars.
2. A dangling participle walks into a bar. Enjoying a cocktail and chatting with the bartender, the evening passes pleasantly.
3. A bar was walked into by the passive voice.
4. An oxymoron walked into a bar, and the silence was deafening.
5. Two quotation marks walk into a “bar.”
6. A malapropism walks into a bar, looking for all intents and purposes like a wolf in cheap clothing, muttering epitaphs and casting dispersions on his magnificent other, who takes him for granite.
7. Hyperbole totally rips into this insane bar and absolutely destroys everything.
8. A question mark walks into a bar?
9. A non sequitur walks into a bar. In a strong wind, even turkeys can fly.
10. Papyrus and Comic Sans walk into a bar. The bartender says, "Get out — we don't serve your type."
11. A mixed metaphor walks into a bar, seeing the handwriting on the wall but hoping to nip it in the bud.
12. A comma splice walks into a bar, it has a drink and then leaves.
13. Three intransitive verbs walk into a bar. They sit. They converse. They depart.
14. A synonym strolls into a tavern.
15. At the end of the day, a cliché walks into a bar — fresh as a daisy, cute as a button, and sharp as a tack.
16. A run-on sentence walks into a bar it starts flirting. With a cute little sentence fragment.
17. Falling slowly, softly falling, the chiasmus collapses to the bar floor.
18. A figure of speech literally walks into a bar and ends up getting figuratively hammered.
19. An allusion walks into a bar, despite the fact that alcohol is its Achilles heel.
20. The subjunctive would have walked into a bar, had it only known.
21. A misplaced modifier walks into a bar owned by a man with a glass eye named Ralph.
22. A dyslexic walks into a bar.
23. A verb walks into a bar, sees a beautiful noun, and suggests they conjugate. The noun declines.
24. A simile walks into a bar, as parched as a desert.
25. A gerund and an infinitive walk into a bar, drinking to forget.
26. A hyphenated word and a non-hyphenated word walk into a bar and the bartender nearly chokes on the irony.

The past, the present, and the future walked into a bar. It was tense.

# Herb Levin ruminates on FAMOUS DAYS IN HISTORY

According to Wikipedia (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mayday>):

“The ‘mayday’ procedure word was conceived as a distress call in the early 1920s by **Frederick Stanley Mockford**, officer-in-charge of radio at Croydon Airport, England. He had been asked to think of a word that would indicate distress and would easily be understood by all pilots and ground staff in an emergency. Since much of the air traffic at the time was between Croydon and Le Bourget Airport in Paris, he proposed the term “mayday,” the phonetic equivalent of the French m'aidez (“help me”) or m'aider (a short form of venez m'aider, “come [and] help me”). The term is unrelated to the holiday May Day.

“If a mayday call cannot be sent because a radio is not available, a variety of other distress signals and calls for help can be used. Additionally, a mayday call can be sent on behalf of one vessel by another; this is known as a **mayday relay**.

“Civilian aircraft making a mayday call in United States airspace are

encouraged by the Federal Aviation Administration to **use the following format**, omitting any portions as necessary for expediency or where they are irrelevant...

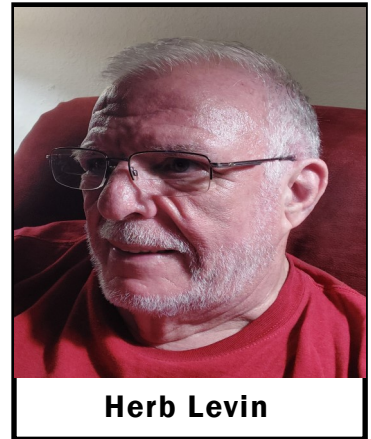
## MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY

- (Name of station addressed);
- Aircraft call sign and type;
- Nature of emergency;
- Weather; Pilot's intentions and/or requests; Present position and heading, or if lost then last known position and heading and time when aircraft was at that position;
- Altitude or Flight level;
- Fuel remaining in minutes;
- Number of people on board;
- Any other useful information.”

# MAYDAY

Hear the **ACTUAL MAYDAY CALL** to the US Coast Guard made **March 9, 1980** by the freighter **MV Summit Venture** as it struck Tampa's **Sunshine Skyway Bridge**, causing its collapse:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:MV\\_Summit\\_Venture\\_Mayday\\_C.all.flac](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:MV_Summit_Venture_Mayday_C.all.flac)



Herb Levin

# 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>

## The day the Skyway fell

On May 9, 1980, 1,200 feet of the southbound span of the old Sunshine Skyway Bridge fell into Tampa Bay. In the stormy conditions, eight unsuspecting motorists had no idea they were driving toward the edge.



Tampa Tribune graphic, <https://www.heraldtribune.com/picture-gallery/news/2021/05/09/photos-anniversary-sunshine-skyway-bridge-disaster-tampa-bay-florida/6987324002/>





“There’s only one Spelman Glee Club in the world,” Director Kevin Johnson says, “And our motto is to **amaze and inspire.**” You’ll hear exactly what he means with this incredible 2019 performance of “Children, Go Where I Send Thee” arranged by Director Kevin Johnson, featuring a rap solo by Iyana “YaNi” Davis, C’2009, [and also featuring Imani Diggs, soloist]. It’s one of several selections from the Atlanta ensemble’s recent virtual holiday concert – with The Morehouse College Glee Club (Verified) – that [they’re] thrilled to share.’

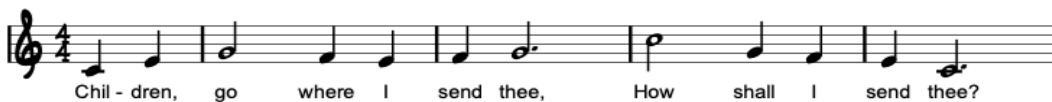
**“Children,  
Go Where I Send Thee”**  
(Arranged by Kevin Johnson)  
**Spelman College Glee Club**  
Imani Diggs, soloist  
Iyana “YaNi” Davis, rapper  
Recorded at Sisters Chapel,  
Spelman College, 2019’  
<https://www.facebook.com/choralstream/videos/spelman-college-gee-club-children-go-where-i-send-thee/437904900922043/>

**Listen! Watch! Enjoy!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sMT69Adeog>

**Children Go Where I Send Thee**

African American Spiritual



\*2nd time, sing verse 2, then verse 1



- 2. I'm gonna send thee two by two, Two for Paul and Silas (*one for the little bitty Baby...*)
- 3. ...three by three, Three for the Hebrew children (*two for Paul and Silas, one for the little bitty Baby...*)
- 4. ...four by four, Four for the four who stood at the door (*three... two... one*)
- 5. ...five by five, Five for the Gospel preachers (*four, three, two, one*)
- 6. ...six by six, Six for the six that never got fixed...
- 7. ...seven by seven, Seven for the seven that came down from heaven...
- 8. ...eight by eight, Eight for the eight that stood at the gate...
- 9. ...nine by nine, Nine for the nine that dressed so fine...
- 10. ...ten by ten, Ten for the Ten Commandments...
- 11. ...eleven by eleven, Eleven for the 'leven who went to heaven...
- 12. ...twelve by twelve, Twelve for the Twelve Disciples...



**MOVIE**

The main characters ask a woman on the shore of a Minnesota lake about who lives in a certain cabin.

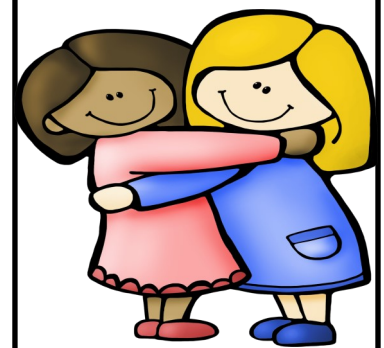
The woman says, “A couple bought it last year. They’re Unitarians.”

“What does that mean,” asks one of the main characters.

His companion answers, “It means they hug too much in church.”

– *Paulie Go!*  
Comedy directed by Andrew Nackman  
Released July 2022

<https://reddit.com/r/UnitarianUniversalist/comments/vflav1/m...>





# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## on **ROBERT MORAN**

### Finding my way to UUFCC

#### FAMOUS UUs

**BROCK CHISHOLM**  
(1896–1971)

Dir., World Health Org.

**HILIARY GOODRIDGE**  
(1956–)

Lead Plaintiff in Goodrich v Dept of Public Health where Massachusetts Supreme Court extended marital rights to same-sex couples (2003).  
UU Funding Director, UUA.

**IACOB HERACLID**  
(1527–1563)

Greek Maltese adventurer, missionary, Prince of Moldavia.

**NAOMI KING**  
(1970–)

Unitarian Minister. Daughter of author Stephen King.

**FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT**  
(1867–1959)

Architect. Work includes Unity Temple (Illinois) & First Unitarian Society (Wisconsin).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Unitarians\\_Universalists\\_and\\_Unitarian\\_Universalists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Unitarians_Universalists_and_Unitarian_Universalists)

I remember my early days in the First Baptist Church of Shinnston, West Virginia. When I was about 12 years old, the preacher said, “All of those people in the Methodist and Catholic churches were going to Hell, because only people in the Baptist church were going to Heaven.” That struck me the wrong way. That was the start of my unanswered questions about religion.



I started drinking in the Army and alcohol was the higher power until I was 43 years old. After 11 years of sober living and 54 years old, I started a new life with Peggydawn. After we moved to Punta Gorda,

one of Peggydawn’s friends told her we should try “The Center For Positive Living” in Sarasota. I loved the place:

it was inclusive, loving and a caring community without anyone going to Hell. That lasted about five years, until the pastor left and then it fell apart.

We tried Unity and then UU, from Sarasota to Naples. We keep coming back to UUFCC.

After many years of not having a spiritual home, I joined UUFCC. It’s not just the message from

the pulpit but the connection I feel with everyone in this Congregation. Just the fact that we all walk through the door of UU, I feel that human connection.

I now have found my spiritual home.

*Yes, we’d like to get to know you if we could ... (Spanky & Our Gang flashback)*

#### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT SUBMISSION SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS

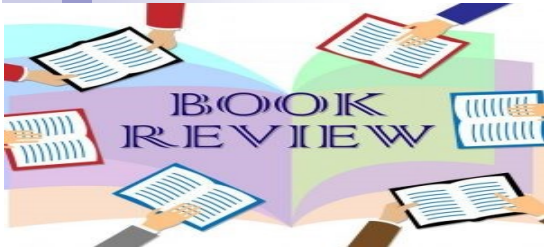
Tell us about you. What is your background? Where are you from?

Tell us about your life journey and what brought you to Florida and when.

Tell us about your career paths. Any accomplishments? Your interests?

How did you come to UUFCC? What keeps you here? Current & past UU roles? Something else? You decide! You tell us what you want us to know!

Note: UUFCC directory/archives picture is used unless another is provided.

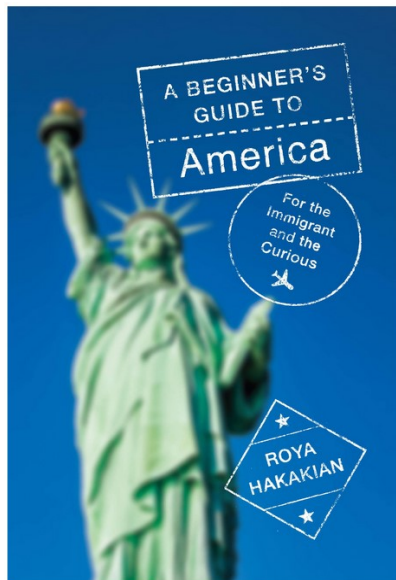


In *A Beginner's Guide to America*, author **Roya Hakakian** describes moving to the US in the 1980s from Iran. She came as a refugee. She sought refuge from war and violent revolution. She sought refuge from perse-cution for her religion and her gender. Her purpose in writing this book was to help immigrants understand American culture and to help Americans understand the immigrant experience. In my opinion, she is wildly successful in achieving this purpose.

Have you had the experience of witnessing something new that was exciting and unexpected? Do you remember having visitors — young ones are best at this because they are often not busy filtering their thoughts and reactions? Recently we had visitors and we went to the beach for sunset. I hadn't seen the sunset on the beach yet this year and had forgotten how beautiful it is. When the sun is at the horizon, it hardly seems like the same star that is high above earlier in the day. The sun grows in size and then the colors that reflect on the still water



**Laura Anderson**



**Have you read a good book?  
Write a review and share!**

emanate from the golden semi-circle as it gets smaller. We drove to a creek to look for alligators and the five-year-old with us wanted to touch it because he had never seen a

creature that looked like an alligator and I was reminded of the wonder of seeing something for the first time.

Reading this book reminded me of how people view Americans. It is that same reminder of what sometimes seems common and meaningless but when it is experienced by someone

for the first time, it is wondrous. It is not only wondrous, it is meaningful. One oft-referenced story in the book is about her first trip to a large super-market. She is in the cereal aisle and reflects that America is about choice and there are many choices we make and many aspects of life that we have many options to choose from. I have again been reminded that I am in

control of my life because I am able to make those choices. How American!

Hakakian is observant and articulate and her book is charming. It is available in print, electronically, and as an audiobook from the Charlotte County library. If you read/listen to it, let me know what you think of it.



**A man was given  
A TOUR OF HELL  
by the Devil.**

**"This is the area where we keep people who violated the food taboos of their religion," the Devil said.**

**"Behind this first door are the Catholics. These are the ones who ate meat on Friday.**

**"Behind the second door are the Jews. They all ate pork.**

**"Behind the third door are the Unitarian Universalists." The man looked puzzled.**

**The Devil clarified: "They ate their entrée with their salad fork."**



**WORLD BEE DAY — Celebrated on May 20 each year.**

Purpose of the international day:

To acknowledge the role of bees and other pollinators for the ecosystem.

Every year on this day, the global public will focus on the importance of preserving honey bees and all other pollinators.

People are reminded of the significance of bees in providing for the needs of humanity.

<https://nationaldaycalendar.com/world-bee-day-may-20/>

**Here are three poems about bees, which I hope make the point that every bee in the hive is female except for the drones.**

— Sharon Whitehill

**DIVISION OF LABOR**

In and out the field bees go  
when they're on a honey flow,  
bringing nectar drop by drop.  
Hive bees' fanning never stops  
forcing air to circulate  
so water can evaporate:  
stale air out and fresh air in  
till honey forms from nectar thin.

Wings are pumping, air is humming:  
hive bees fanning, field bees coming.



**POOR OLD DRONES**

When Summer grieves  
The dying leaves  
Which Autumn fans to fire,  
The drones still eat  
Of honey sweet  
As much as they desire.

But when the days  
No longer blaze,  
Those poor old drones are banished:  
Doors are barred  
(The girls stand guard),  
And bed and board have vanished.

Whiskered Frost  
Has now embossed  
The boughs with silver glitter.  
Without a hive  
Drones can't survive,  
For Winter's breath is bitter.

With soft caress,  
In flowing dress,  
Its pastel colors matching,  
Spring arrives.  
Inside the hives,  
and brand-new drones are hatching.

**DIRGE FOR A DRONE**

Doesn't dance,  
Can't sing,  
Won't work—  
Useless thing...  
Yet not quite:  
Virgin queen  
Now takes flight.

Here's the scene:  
Suitors soar,  
Queen bee calls,  
Drones pursue,  
The swiftest falls.

Broken body,  
Broken heart—  
Love can tear  
A drone apart.





# ART SHOW RECEPTION

April 14, 2023, UUFCC Art Committee held its first post-COVID outdoor for exhibitors who are artists that paint at the Visual Arts Center in Punta Gorda.



**SEE ART SHOW RECEPTION continued on pg. 13**



**ART SHOW RECEPTION continued from page 12**

The UUFCC Art Committee was proud to host its first exhibit from an outside group. This colorful collection of mostly acrylic paintings creates a lively display for our UUFCC art wall. Five artists from the Punta Gorda Visual Arts Center participate in a 2D Studio on Thursday mornings.

**Cathy Blaine, Joanne Collins, Lionel Lewis, Janet Lottman, and Marilyn Dorsey** have painted together for many years. They share tips and suggestions with each other as they each work on projects of their own choosing. The reception was a great success, enjoyed by members and friends from the community.

**This exhibit will run through May 19th. Be sure to take a look.**

Also in the cases are art pieces on loan by members, from the collection of **Mary Wolf**. Additionally, you will find beautiful cards created by **Debbie Conrad**.



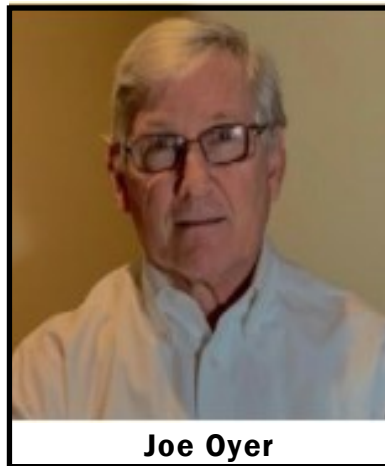
A USA Today April 21, 2023 article states:

“On the eve of Earth Day, President Joe Biden announced the creation of an **Office of Environmental Justice** as he lays out a plan to make it "the mission of every single executive agency," the White House said.

“As part of an executive order, the new office will coordinate environmental justice efforts across the federal government. The order presses agencies to close gaps in data and use scientific research to understand and prevent the damage to people's health brought by pollution.

“The White House calls it “the most ambitious environmental justice agenda in our nation’s history.”

“The action is the result of nearly two decades of organizing by the environmental justice movement, said the Climate Justice Alliance,



Joe Oyer

a nonprofit representing 89 rural and urban community-based environmental justice organizations....” <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2023/04/21/white-house-environmental-justice-office/11711790002/>

Republicans are threatening to run the US government into default by not increasing the debt ceiling. Their goal is to defund programs that use federal money to combat climate change and climate injustice under the Inflation Reduction Act. The IRA (Inflation Reduction Act of 2022) was passed by the last congress. President Biden and his team are prioritizing efforts to reduce the ill effects of climate change and climate injustice.

## SPEAKING OUT — TRYING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

UUFCC Members and Friends spoke at a recent Charlotte County School Board meeting and a Charlotte County Sun newspaper article (April 25, 2023, Local News, pages 1B and 2B) quoted them:

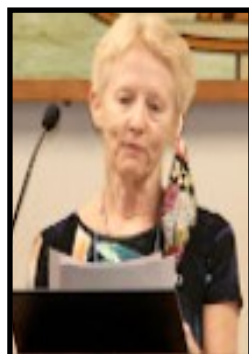


Myrna Charry

[Reading a statement from NAACP member Raneé Phillips]: “All children are human beings and should be treated as

such. When the governor [DeSantis] talks about taking

away diversity, equity and inclusion, he is talking about taking away the bones of progress ... Those who try to reframe these concepts as being woke or who use them as a weapon in a culture war will never serve the best interest of students.”



Linda Richardson

“[S]tudents [displaced by natural disasters and wars in other countries] need books that reflect their culture and help heal their scars.”



Lorrie Douglas

[Acknowledged challenges for teachers and students in schools today including worrying about school shootings, threats, fights and being

judged for being different], saying students need “a safe and supportive space.”

Per Bill Maher, “We need more people speaking out. This country is not overrun with rebels and free thinkers. It’s overrun with sheep and conformists.”



# LOOK AT THIS AMAZING! UUFCC GENEROSITY!

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## SECOND HELPING

Your FEBRUARY 2023 Donations Totaled **\$995.00** which was given to:



Wow!

## PEACE GARDEN ENGRAVED PAVERS

Honor beloved UUFCC members and friends AND help UUFCC. Percentage of proceeds goes to UUFCC. SJC has order form.



## ENDOWMENT

In Memory



Of...

Honor beloved Fellowship members and friends AND help UUFCC.

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

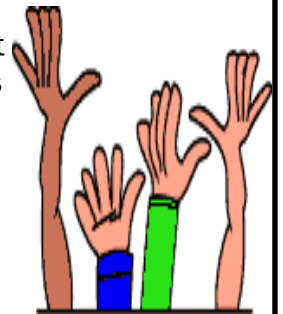
Make contribution payable to **UUFCC Endowment Fund** and write "In Memory of [beloved's name]" on check memo line.

## -UUSC's CAPAS-

Congregational Accompaniment Project for Asylum Seekers and UUFCC are assisting a Venezuelan family seeking asylum.

### YOU CAN HELP!

- Donate clothing, diapers, food, filing fees, etc.
- Provide transportation to school, appointments, etc.
- Translate for the host family.
- Plan a recreational outing.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



**SECOND HELPING**  
May Recipient



So no child grieves alone.  
<https://valereshouse.org/>

**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**

**May Theme: CREATIVITY**

**05-07-23 THOMAS PAINE — A MAN AHEAD OF HIS TIME**

Speaker: Joseph Fenty  
Worship Associate: Sue Burgess

**05-14-23 VALERIE'S HOUSE**

Speaker: Christine Carey, Charlotte County Director  
Worship Associate: Laura Anderson

**05-21-23 FLAMINGO THEOLOGY (CLIMATE CHANGE)**

Speaker: Rev. Bob Murphy, Retired  
Emeritus UU Church of Tarpon Springs  
Worship Associate: Jackie Williams

**05-28-23 WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO**

Speakers: UUFCC Committees and Groups  
Worship Associate: Lorrie Douglas

**THE BOOK OF LIFE**

Your Book of Life entries or If you have an emergent/urgent announcements you would like read need to be announced after that, from the pulpit Sunday mornings are please call the worship associate important. Make sure your entry or directly. See info in Weekly announcement gets read on Sunday Update.  
morning; send it to:

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

by 6:00 p.m. Saturday



Your  
Worship  
Associate  
Committee



- 05-02 Robert Moran
- 05-06 Sally Milne
- 05-10 Joseph Oyer
- 05-12 Janet Morrill
- 05-14 David Martin
- 05-17 Patricia Oyer
- 05-20 Sue Goldson
- 05-21 Cathy Ross-Shea
- 05-26 Mary Howard

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**

**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](mailto:social-uufcc@googlegroups.com)

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

**May 2023 Activities**

- 05/01 Mon 10:30 am Membership Committee  
 01:30 pm Shaw Chalice Circle  
 01:30 pm Moran Chalice Circle  
 04:00 pm Azar Chalice Circle
- 05/02 Tue 10:00 am Spanish Class  
 01:00 pm Spanish Class
- 05/03 Wed 10:00 am Policies & Procedures  
 04:00 pm Immigration Justice Committee  
 06:00 pm Choir Circle Meeting
- 05/06 Sat 10:00 am Worship Associates Meeting
- 05/07 Sun Noon PFLAG Interest Group Meeting
- 05/08 Mon 10:30 am Program Council (via Zoom)
- 05/09 Tue 10:00 am Spanish Class  
 01:00 pm Spanish Class
- 05/10 Wed 10:00 am Caring Committee  
 06:00 pm Choir Circle Meeting
- 05/11 Thu 03:00 pm Whitehill Chalice Circle  
 04:30 pm Buddhist Meditation
- 05/12 Fri 01:00 pm Communications Committee
- 05/14 Sun Noon Social Justice Committee
- 05/15 Mon 01:30 pm Shaw Chalice Circle  
 01:30 pm Moran Chalice Circle  
 04:00 pm Azar Chalice Circle
- 05/16 Tue 10:00 am Spanish Class  
 01:00 pm Spanish Class  
 01:00 pm NAACP Criminal Justice
- 05/17 Wed 10:00 am Policies & Procedures  
 04:00 pm Immigration Justice Committee  
 06:00 pm Choir Circle Meeting
- 05/18 Thu 04:00 pm Board Meeting
- 05/19 Fri 10:00 am Art Show Take Down
- 05/21 Sun Noon BIRTHDAY CAKE SUNDAY  
 Noon PFLAG Steering Committee  
 Noon Art Committee
- 05/24 Wed 06:00 pm Choir Circle Meeting
- 05/25 Thu 03:00 pm Whitehill Chalice Circle  
 04:30 pm Buddhist Meditation
- 05/29 Mon 01:30 pm Shaw Chalice Circle
- 05/31 Wed 10:00 am Policies & Procedures  
 01:30 pm Book Group  
 06:00 pm Choir Circle Meeting





**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).*

**How much Mexican food am I going to eat this Cinco de Mayo? That's nacho business.**

**MEXICAN CHOCOLATE COOKIES**

Makes about 36 cookies

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1-¼ c all-purpose flour
- 1/3 c Dutch-processed cocoa powder
- ½ teaspoon ground chili (I use Anaheim)
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp baking soda
- 1 stick plus 3 TBS (5½ ounce, 150 grams) unsalted butter (If you have to use salted butter, omit the salt later in the recipe.)
- 2/3 cup packed light brown sugar
- ¼ cup sugar
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 5-oz semisweet chocolate chips (Do not use milk chocolate!)

**DIRECTIONS:**

Combine flour, spices, cocoa, and baking soda in a bowl separate from your mixing bowl. Cream butter and sugars until fluffy.



Add vanilla. Reduce mixer speed to low and add dry ingredients. Mix only until combined. **DO NOT OVERMIX!** Stir in chocolate pieces. Form the dough into TWO 1½ inch diameter logs. Wrap in wax paper or plastic wrap and chill at least 1 hr.

May chill up to three days if tightly wrapped. Preheat oven to 325° F. Slice into ½ inch wafers. Place on parchment lined cookie sheet about 1 inch apart. Bake for 15 minutes. Cool on a rack and store in an airtight container.

**NOTE:** This cookie has a texture similar to a traditional shortbread cookie. It is a rather dry and crumbly cookie, perfect with a cup of tea in the afternoon. It is from my “tea cookie” collection. The spice makes it rather addictive and gives it its character.

— Mary Jane Williams

**CINCO DE MAYO!**  
A celebration of the Mexican Army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco Mexican War.

**UUFCC CONTACTS**

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- [bookgroup@uufcc.org](mailto:bookgroup@uufcc.org)
- [bookoflife@uufcc.org](mailto:bookoflife@uufcc.org)
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- [pflag@uufcc.org](mailto:pflag@uufcc.org)
- [president@uufcc.org](mailto:president@uufcc.org)
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[Photos provided by Tam Deuley]