



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

Can you say kuh-myoo-nuh-kay?

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 and on YouTube.

www.youtube.com
UUFCC Port Charlotte

A Letter from the President

Dear Ones,

I write to you on a hot, humid, rainy Sunday afternoon following a well-attended morning service. **Rev. Robert Murphy's sermon** made me more aware of the significant challenges so many elderly Americans face. Given **UUFCC's demographic and commitment to social justice**, I am assuming that some of us may want to explore this topic further. If you are interested, email the Board (Board@uufcc.org).

I was also uplifted by the service's **music**. Under the leadership of **Janet Morrill**, the choir is providing excellent support for congregational singing, and our new pianist, **Ryan Smith**, is a gem. Janet and choir members typically meet on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM, and Ryan joins us for more practice at 9:30 on Sunday mornings prior to the services. All are welcome.

The **Board of Trustees** has **changed its meeting time to 2 PM** on the third Thursday of each month. This allows the Fellowship to host the monthly meetings of the **NAACP** which are scheduled for third Thursday evenings.



In response to my request for volunteers to work on our grounds as a means to **re-certify our UUA Green Sanctuary status**, I received an inspiring email from member **Mike Krzyzkowski**. Mike knows that **Peace River Audubon has a "Birds and Plants" program**. The emphasis is on using native plants that provide food and

shelter for birds to counter-act the loss of habitat. The loss of bird habitat has already led to a 50% decrease in our avian population. These plants also frequently attract pollinators. I would really like a group of us to explore this program! If interested, email me at shawdenniss@icloud.com.

Please remember that our **CAPAS family needs our support**. Transportation is a primary priority, and play dates are extremely important for the children. Contact **Myrna Charry** at myrnabcharry@gmail.com if you can help.

Finally, if you have **Board meeting agenda items** for the next meeting, which will be held on **June 15th at 2 PM**, please notify us via Board@uufcc.org by **June 11th**.

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



The Banana Index?



Alan Searle

"Want to reduce the carbon footprint of your diet? Go nuts" was a sub-headline in *The Economist's* April 15, 2023 edition. The magazine has devised a way to rate the calorie and protein content of certain foods and compare them to the "humble banana."

The winners in the **low CO2 per calories** are **almonds**, closely followed by potatoes, but it also turns out that even meat-free burgers and olive oil are more climate-friendly than bananas. At the opposite end of the spectrum, those foods which are distinctly climate-unfriendly, by the banana index, are (no surprise) beef products.

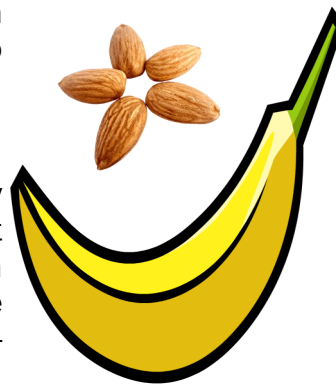
Comparing foods by protein content gives a similar picture except that grapes and coconut milk are less friendly than beef. That's because you have to eat a lot of both of those to get the protein in one banana, and

you have to eat a lot of bananas to get the same protein as beef. However, not many of us eat bananas and grapes for their protein value.

Again, **almonds** come out as the **star food** creating less than one tenth of the CO2 produced by bananas.

The authors realize that there are limitations to strict comparisons. Their index does not include water and land use and many foods require transportation to the consumer.

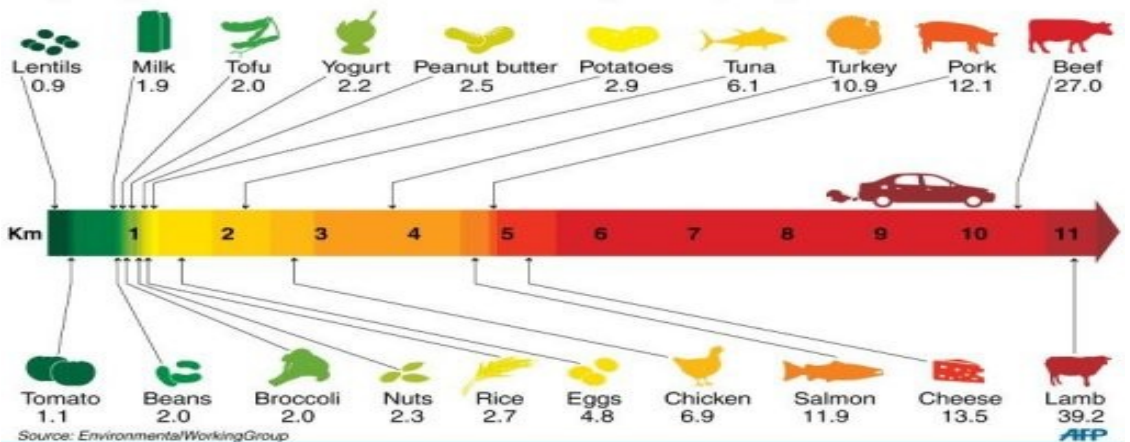
However, the message is the same: staying on the vegetarian side of the banana index is kinder to the planet. That's not new, but the article also mentions that surveys in Europe have shown that consumers are very interested in knowing the CO2 component of their food choices. Maybe one day that will be included on our food labels.



Carbon footprint of what you eat

Calculations of greenhouse gas emissions from the production, processing and transportation of specific food items

■ Main chart compares 110g of food against a journey in a mid-sized car ■ Number shows kg of carbon dioxide equivalent produced per 1kg of food



Source: EnvironmentalWorkingGroup
Creative Commons public domain. Also see related article <https://sustainablediet.com/shrinking-your-carbon-footprint/>.

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

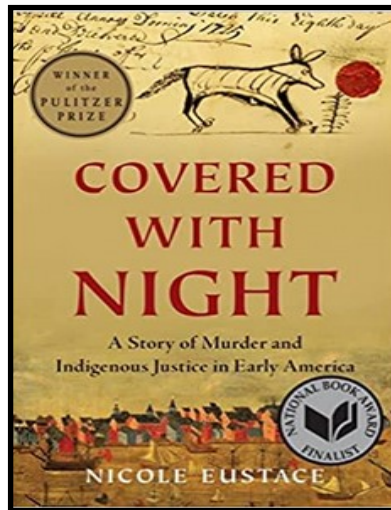
WHITE WASHING THE ROOTS OF DEMOCRACY

The Native American, the original population of North America, is far too often forgotten. Perhaps not so much forgotten as dismissed. Unless you are from an area near a reservation, or that still has Native American names attached to historical places or rivers, the original indigenous population is never brought up. Their major contributions to the concept of Democracy are a well kept secret.

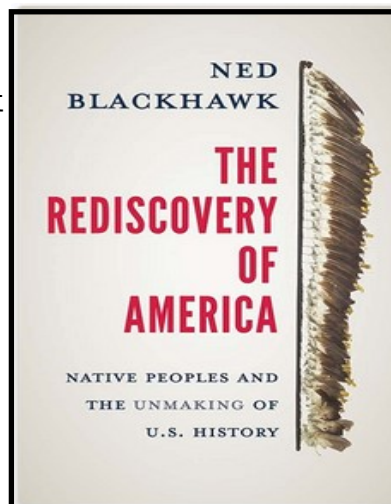
During my formative years, the only Indians I knew were a boy in my elementary school and Tonto (Jay Silverheels), the faithful companion of The Lone Ranger (Clayton Moore). Looking back on it now, I realize that, like other people of color portrayed in the movies and on television, they were shown in a stereotypical way by Caucasians in makeup.

There was no example of a representational government on the continent of the European invaders. The Iroquois Confederacy "The Great League of Peace" founded in 1142 is said to be the oldest living participatory democracy on earth. The other two are the Parliamentary Democracy of Iceland, 1262, and that of the Swiss Cantons (States), 1353.

The Iroquois Confederacy originally consisted of five separate nations: the Mohawk, the Cayuga, the Onondaga, the Oneida and the Seneca. The separate nations which were continually fighting each other were united by two peacemakers who, at a council meeting, brought the Nations together as the Iroquois



Stephanie Garrett
Co-Chair, Membership Comm.



Confederacy. Many of the concepts in the U.S. Constitution were taken from the League of Peace. This constitution is recorded and available on a two-row wampum belt.

In 1722, leaders of three British colonies met with representatives of the Iroquois Confederacy to resolve an issue of murder after two white fur traders brutally killed a Seneca hunter. The colonists were afraid of violence but the Seneca were about peace, not war. The Great Treaty of 1722 is never mentioned in the founding documents of the United States. It is the oldest treaty still recognized by the State Department.

In 1744, the Onondaga leader Canassatego gave a speech urging the 13 separate and contentious colonies to unite. The English colonist Benjamin Franklin printed the speech for circulation among the colonies. Again, many of the concepts from the speech, including uniting the separate colonies, were inspired by the Native American.

I would like to recommend two sources of information *WHITE* washed from American History:

“Covered With Night: A Story of Murder and Indigenous Justice in Early America”
by Nicole Eustace

“The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History”
by Ned Blackhawk

CREATION MYTHS IN MYTHOLOGY

A Class by Sharon Whitehill

BEGAN: Tuesday, May 23, 2023

DURATION: Six (6) consecutive Tuesdays

WHEN: Tuesdays from 2-4 pm

WHERE: UUFCC

FOR MORE INFO: Contact Sharon Whitehill

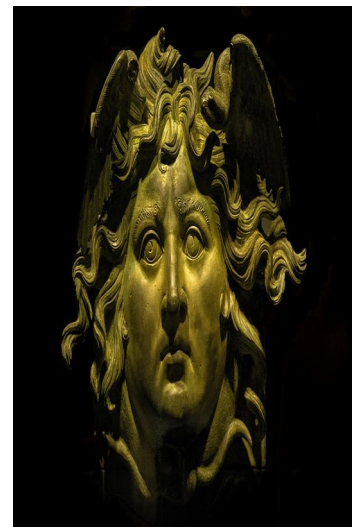
**“Where do we come from?
What are we?
Where are we going?”***

These are questions human cultures have asked from their beginnings.

This six-week course will explore how each of five particular cultures — the ancient Egyptians and Greeks, the pre-Christian Hebrews and Norsemen, and the traditional Navajos of the American Southwest — has answered that need to follow up with a similar study of the hero myths, the trickster myths, and the death-and-afterlife myths of these same groups.

Future courses are in the works.

**Also the title of one of Paul Gauguin’s Tahiti paintings [below].* [Creative Commons]



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)

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



1. Since my last report, this employee has reached rock-bottom and shows signs of starting to dig.
2. His men would follow him anywhere, but only out of morbid curiosity.
3. I would not allow this employee to breed.
4. This associate is really not so much of a has-been but more of a definitely won't be.
5. He would be out of his depth in a parking lot puddle.
6. This young lady has delusions of adequacy.
7. This employee should go far – and the sooner he starts, the better.
8. This employee is depriving a village somewhere of an idiot.
9. He sets low personal standards and then consistently fails to achieve them.
10. He has a full 6-pack, but lacks the plastic thing to hold it all together.
11. A gross ignoramus – 144 times worse than an ordinary ignoramus.
12. He's been working with glue too much.
13. He would argue with a signpost.
14. He brings a lot of joy whenever he leaves the room.
15. When his IQ reaches 50, he should sell.
16. If you see two people talking and one looks bored, he's the other one.
17. A prime candidate for natural de-selection.
18. A photographic memory but with the lens cover glued on.
19. The gates are down, the lights are flashing, but the train isn't coming.
20. He's got two brain cells, one is lost and the other is out looking for it.
21. If you give him a penny for his thoughts, you'd get change.
22. If you stand close enough to him, you can hear the ocean.
23. Some drink from the fountain of knowledge; he only gargled.
24. Takes him 2 hours to watch '60 Minutes.'
25. The wheel is turning, but the hamster is dead.

**“Wow!
I’m so excited
for my
PERFORMANCE
EVALUATION
today!”
said no one ever.**

Herb Levin ruminates on FAMOUS DAYS IN HISTORY

The “largest seaborne invasion in history ... began the liberation of France (and later Western Europe) and laid the foundations of the Allied victory on the Western Front.” https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Normandy_landings.

“On June 6, 1944, more than 160,000 Allied troops landed along a 50-mile stretch of heavily-fortified French coastline, to fight Nazi Germany on the beaches of Normandy, France.” <https://www.army.mil/d-day/>.

“We will accept nothing less than full victory.” Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, <https://www.army.mil/d-day/>.

“Everyone was violently busy on that crowded, dangerous shore. The pebbles were the size of apples and feet deep, and we stumbled up a road that a huge road shovel was scooping out. We walked with the utmost care between the narrowly placed white tape lines that marked the mine-cleared path, and headed for a tent marked with a red cross... Everyone agreed that the beach was a stinker, and that it would be a great pleasure to get the hell out of here sometimes.”
– *Martha Gellhorn, the first female journalist to report on D-Day.* <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/dday-quotes-famous-lines-from-winston-churchill-dwight-d-eisenhower-other-figures-as-the-world-commemorates-75th-anniversary-of-dday-a4160771.html>.

“They’re murdering us here. Let’s move inland and get murdered.”

**6 JUNE 1944
D-DAY**

– Col. Charles D. Canham, commanding the 116th Infantry Regiment, First Infantry Division, on Omaha Beach. <https://www.historyonthenet.com/D-day-quotes>.

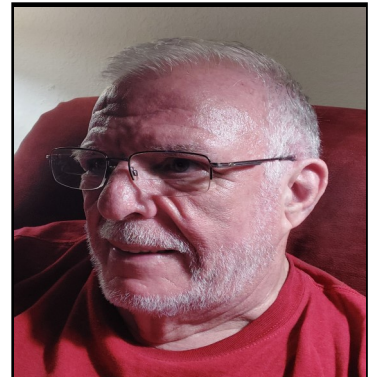
“No thoughts had I of anything, or at least that’s what I thought; I even thought I couldn’t think, but now I think I never thought.”

– Christopher Miller, *At This Point in Time* (BookBaby, 1975). https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/8030579.Christopher_Miller.

“So much of the progress that would define the 20th century, on both sides of the Atlantic, came down to the battle for a slice of beach only six miles long and two miles wide.”

– U.S. President Barack Obama, in Normandy (2009) to mark the 65th anniversary of D-Day. <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-d-day-65th-anniversary-ceremony>.

“There’s a graveyard in northern France where all the dead boys from D-Day are buried. The white crosses reach from one horizon to the other. I remember looking it over and thinking it was a forest of graves. But the rows were like this, dizzying, diagonal, perfectly straight, so after all it wasn’t a forest but an orchard of graves. Nothing to do with nature, unless you count human nature.” -- Barbara Kingsolver, *Animal Dreams: A Novel*, p.14 (Harper Collins, 2009). <https://www.azquotes.com/quote/600189>.



Herb Levin



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)



“THE MOST FAMOUS AUDITION IN HISTORY”

SUSAN BOYLE

on *Britain's Got Talent*
April 2009

“Susan Magdalane Boyle was born 1 April 1961 and is a Scottish singer. She rose to fame in April 2009 after appearing as a contestant on the third series of *Britain's Got Talent*, singing:

“I Dreamed a Dream’ from *Les Misérables*”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Boyle



Picture from Creative Commons public domain

“Her rendition immediately silenced the cynicism of the judges and the audience, earning her a standing ovation. Videos of Boyle’s debut on the show (and a later appearance as a semifinalist) were viewed on the internet by an estimated 100 million people worldwide.” <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Susan-Boyle>.

Listen! Watch! Enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mS50m47vsaA>

For more Susan Boyle info, see:
<http://www.susan-boyle.com>.



A Unitarian Universalist died, and to his surprise discovered that there was indeed an afterlife.

The angel in charge of these things told him,
“Because you were an unbeliever and a doubter and a skeptic, you will be sent to Hell for all eternity — which, in your case, consists of a place where no one will disagree with you ever again.”



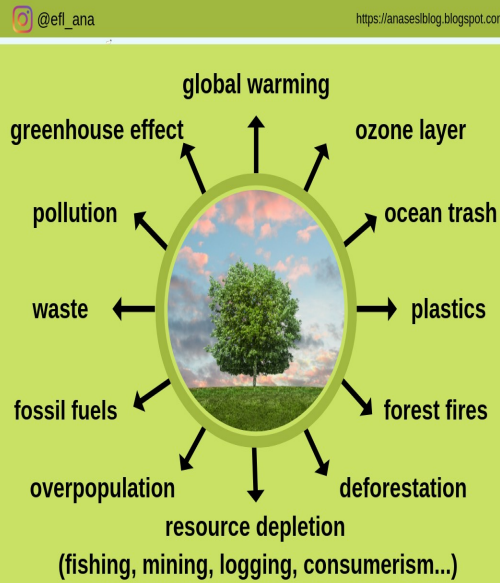
Irish Republican Army, Individual Retirement Account, the first name of a famous American composer, and now another acronym/abbreviation for IRA:

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT OF 2022

It passed last summer, by one vote in the Senate, and as long as it doesn't get watered down too much (it was a compromise anyway) it will change the way we do business in the USA over the next few decades.

It provides dollars (billions of them) for investment in multiple projects aiming to **improve energy production** and use of wind and solar power. It is particularly geared towards poorer communities which, historically, have suffered disproportionately from lack of services and pollution.

Environmental issues



It should lead to the **air being cleaner** in our cities and on our roads and save American's money!

Many of the dollars are likely to be earmarked for cooperative projects between government and private or grass-root organizations.

However, there are individual incentives/rebates for purchasing electric vehicles and retro-fitting your home for **increased energy efficiency and reduced CO2 production.**

The Citizens' Climate Lobby has more information about the Inflation Reduction Act:

<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/inflation-reduction-act/>

See also:

https://www.democrats.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/inflation_reduction_act_one_page_summary.pdf



Alan Searle



JUNE SPOTS & THOUGHTS ● Stephanie Garrett



On **January 1, 1863**, during the Civil War, President Lincoln issued a proclamation to **emancipate all enslaved African Americans**. It wasn't until after the war that this edict took affect throughout the country.

THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION issuance didn't reach Texas until **June 19, 1865**. The name of the month, June, and the date, the 19th, were combined to form **Juneteenth**. This date was made a federal holiday by President Biden in 2021.

Called **THE GREAT SCHISM OF 1054**, the final break between the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches occurred. This was a yearlong process which finalized between **June and July 1054 AD**.

In July of 1054 AD, a mysterious light exploded in the sky that was seen around the world. It was documented by Chinese astronomers. The sky was lit for 23 days and nights.

Today it is called a **SUPERNOVA**, the smoldering remains of a once large star.



LOVE HAS NO GENDER



Celebrate pride month to continue the fight for equality and human rights. Love has no gender.

JAN O'ROURKE, my Co-President at UUFCC 2003-2005, was transgendered. Prior to that time, the Fellowship was going through the course work to become a **Welcoming Congregation**. She and I decided to put up a gay pride flag in the UUFCC lobby. It was a first. She was all things good, and a Wicca.

Found her obit online. She was a state committee woman for the Charlotte County Democratic Party, a Big Sister, NAACP, and initiated our relationship with the local Mosque right after 9/11. She was on the Board of Directors for the Bernice A Russell house when it was an idea.

EID AL-ADHA (pronounced EED al-UHD-huh) aka The Feast of the Sacrifice and The Greater Eid

**Celebrated the evening of Wednesday, June 28, 2023
through the evening of Thursday, June 29, 2023**

What is Eid al-Adha?

It is “the second and the larger of the two main holidays celebrated in Islam (the other being Eid al-Fitr). It honors the willingness of Abraham (Ibrahim) to sacrifice his son Ishmael (Ismail) as an act of obedience to God's command. Before Abraham could sacrifice his son, however, God provided him with a lamb which he was supposed to kill in his son's place because of his willingness to sacrifice his own son in the name of God.” https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eid_al-Adha.

“The Torah and the Old Testament both recount a similar version of this story.” <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/7/31/what-is-eid-al-adha-and-how-is-it-celebrated>.

How is Eid al-Adha celebrated?

“In commemoration of God's intervention, animals are ritually sacrificed. Part of their meat is consumed by the family which offers the animal, while the rest is distributed to the poor and needy.



“Sweets and gifts are given, and extended family members are typically visited and welcomed.” https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eid_al-Adha.

“Muslim worshippers typically perform a communal prayer at dawn on the first day of the festival, attend Mosque, donate to charities and visit with family and friends, also exchanging gifts.” https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eid_al-Adha.

What is an Eid greeting?

“Eid Mubarak. Happy Eid UL Adha! On this blessed occasion of Eid, wishing you and your family joy, happiness, peace and prosperity! May Allah flood your life with happiness on this occasion, your heart with love, your soul with

spirituality, and your mind with wisdom.” <https://www.businessinsider.in/thelife/article/bakr-id-or-eid-al-adhais-wishes-and-messages-for-whatsapp-and-facebook-users/articleshow/77256084.cms>

Remember UUFCC pre-COVID?

UUFCC ♀ used to be invited once a year to attend the local mosque, Masjid Nur Islamic Community of Southwest Florida, for prayer service and a meal. We'd reciprocate and host them at a later date. Enriching, enlightening, community-building.

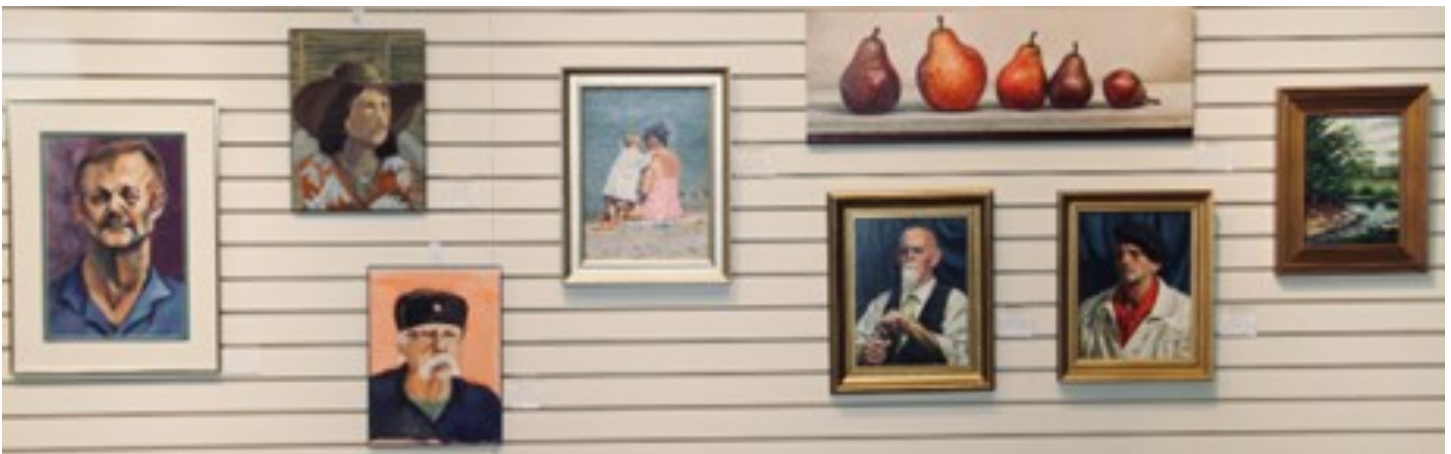


**On May 26, 2023,
UUFCC Art Committee hosted a:
RECEPTION
for the Portrait Group of the
Visual Arts Center in Punta Gorda
– some of them were award winners
in juried competitions!**



◀ Artist Sandy Miller

Model and Portrait ▶



◀ Artist Vicki Beverly Clark

Artist Vladimir Chapko ▶



ART SHOW RECEPTION continued on page 12

ART SHOW RECEPTION continued from page 11



Ken Brennan

Cheryl Deuley



Guests

Artists and spouses

What is World Humanist Day?

It is an opportunity each June 21st to “publicize the positive values of Humanism and share global concerns of the Humanist movement.” “It is the only freethought holiday officially recognized by the International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU), the global federation for Humanist, atheist, rationalist, ethical culture, secularist and other freethought groups.”

<https://huumanists.org/events/world-humanist-day-0>

What is the history of this day?

“During the 1980s as ... chapters of the American Humanist Association (AHA) began to celebrate.... The date ... varied from chapter to chapter, with selections such as the founding date of the IHEU.... From the late 1980s to the early 1990s, the AHA and IHEU passed resolutions declaring World Humanist Day to be on the northern summer solstice.”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Humanist_Day

What is humanism?

It is the “philosophy or ethical system that centers on the concept of the dignity, freedom, and value of human beings.

The belief that there is an essential human condition that emerges regardless of historical circumstance and that this can be used as the basis for developing an understanding of the past.”

<https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/oj/authority.20111017141751899;jsessionid=74081D13E10A08DE1ADD9E0F52163634>

WORLD HUMANIST DAY

06-21-23

**What are humanism’s origins?**

It “is thought to have begun in the late 14th century in Italy ... as a major movement of the Renaissance. According to research published in Oxford Bibliographies, it spread to the rest of Europe in the mid-15th century, and by the 16th century ... was the dominant intellectual movement ... [and became] the humanism we now know ... in the mid-1800s when the word was used by German historian Georg Voigt to describe a philosophy centered on humankind.” <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/world-humanist-day-2019-humanism-what-beliefs-a8965186.html>

What do humanists do?

They “work tirelessly in courts, legislatures, and communities to defend civil liberties, secular governance, and scientific thinking.” <https://americanhumanist.org/what-we-do/>

How is this day celebrated?

Humanists “publicize the positive values of humanism and ... share the global concerns of the humanist movement.” <https://humanists.international/what-is-humanism/world-humanist-day/>

Activities range from activism to parties, with official proclamations or promotional campaigns to

educate people about the size of the secular community and their ethical values, by running courses or conferences to deepen understanding of Humanist principles and programs to raise awareness and money for a freethought group working in a different country, or many simply throw a party or share a picnic. <https://huumanists.org/events/world-humanist-day-0>

Missing Herb’s Humanist meetings at Kingsgate?



MY GETTYSBURG REPLY

— *Theodore L. Zawistowski*



Some people cast a long shadow. Others cast a beam of light. We may find ourselves in awe of those who loom so uncommonly large. Others fill us with hope and inspire us to walk tall ourselves, to grow and to do better not only for ourselves but for and with our fellow human beings together.

When we say the first words of our Constitution, “We the people,” we include not only those whom we respect, honor or look up to, but also all those we usually forget, disregard or look upon questioningly. When we repeat the words “We hold these truths to be self-evident that all people are created equal,” we do not mean in talent, ability, ambition or in all ways altogether, but as human beings, members of our common



humanity, to whom due respect must be paid. Human rights are not conferred but are inborn. Therefore, our government must necessarily be “of the people, by the people and for the people” all inclusively. The responsibility to conduct and to have a good government of

benefit to all falls upon each of us. To serve honorably and forthrightly is the duty of all of us. We are citizens, not subjects.

What constitutes good government? Is it not one in which all people can live reasonably well off, in good health, with an enriching education?

Our principle of “we the people” does not reach only to our nation’s border but to all humankind. Just as Lincoln said that we cannot live in a country “half slave and half free,” we cannot live peacefully in a world half slave and half free.

HUG AN ATHEIST DAY

Friday, 06-02-23

“Hug an Atheist Day was created by William Bermudez in 2009 in the United States.

“Atheism is a lack of belief in the gods, not a skepticism, denial, or refutation of them.

“Some people who describe themselves as atheists also say they believe in a higher power, while others identify with a religion but do not believe in God. And so atheism is complicated to measure. However, according to the Pew Research Center, there are between 450 and 500 million unbelievers worldwide, about 7% of the global population.

“There is still an opinion that atheists lack morals and must be silent. Compliance is about treating atheists like normal people instead of judging their opinions.

“To celebrate ... one just has to run up and hug as many disbelievers as possible. You don't even have to be a disbeliever to do this!”

https://www.wikidates.org/holiday/hug-an-atheist-day_1863.html



See the UUFCC calendar for local **Secular Community** meeting info, usually held the last Sunday of each month at 3:00 pm at UUFCC.



“I am an atheist (or at best a Unitarian who winds up in church quite a lot).”
— Kurt Vonnegut,
Fates Worse Than Death: An Autobiographical Collage of the 1980s.
G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1991.
<https://ffrf.org/ftod-cr/item/14645-kurt-vonnegut>



“We are all atheists about most of the gods that humanity has ever believed in. Some of us just go one god further.”
— Richard Dawkins,
The God Delusion.
Bantam Press, 2006.
https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/1194.Richard_Dawkins

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

on MYRNA CHARRY

FAMOUS UUs

ETHAN ALLEN
(1738–1789)

Author of *Reason, The Only Oracle of Man*;
Chief source of Hosea Ballou's Universalist ideas

MARIA COOK
(1779–1835)

First woman to be recognized as a Universalist preacher

MARGARET FULLER
(1810–1850)

Journalist,
Women's rights advocate associated with Transcendental movement,
First American female war correspondent

PAUL NEWMAN
(1925–2008)

Actor, film director

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT
(1857–1930)

US President (1909-1913),
Tenth US Supreme Court Chief Justice (1921-1930)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Unitarians_Universalists_and_Unitarian_Universalists

I grew up in Brooklyn NY, an only child, with a sick mother and a disturbed father. My parents, revolutionaries, hoped for a just world -- I waited for justice to prevail -- at home and abroad!

At 15, a boy said he loved me and, grateful, I married him, dropped out of school, and had four babies before I was 23. I parented as best as a troubled young woman could -- it wasn't good enough. We five have worked to soften scars, and today we share love, intimacies, travel and adventure -- they are my most favorite people and revolutionaries too.

In my thirties, I went back to school, earned my BA, then my MA, and finally my doctorate. I was a tenured professor at the City University of New York, and when I retired, I followed one of my daughters to Florida.

Moving to a new state, a southern state, a slave state, was not easy. I always had a diverse group of friends and relatives and I set out to make that happen in Florida.



The UUFCC was my path. I joined in 2000 -- we fell in love with each other. I loved their insistence on justice and they loved my commitment to "forging a better world." But the scope of anti-Semitism that surrounded me

in Charlotte County went unnoticed by most. That invisible feeling stung -- the Christmas trees, the "Merry Christmas" greeting, calling the "Fellowship" a "church" stung then and stings now.

I remain a member of UUFCC doing wonderful immigration justice work but have joined a synagogue -- it's a progressive Reconstructionist synagogue -- it gives me a sense of belonging and it is good for me to sometimes be with my "lansmen."

GO VEGAN



COMPASSION



NONVIOLENCE



FOR THE ANIMALS



FOR THE PLANET



FOR THE PEOPLE

SWEET POTATO LENTIL CASSEROLE

INGREDIENTS

2 TBS coconut oil
 ½ yellow onion diced
 3 cloves garlic, minced
 1" fresh ginger, minced
 1 TBS curry powder
 1 tsp garam masala
 1 tsp cumin powder
 1 tsp coriander powder
 1 tsp turmeric powder
 ½ tsp Kashmiri chili powder –or–
 ¼ tsp cayenne pepper plus more when serving, to taste
 1½ tsp salt
 1 tsp pepper
 1 lg sweet potato, cubed
 Peeling is optional.
 1½ c red lentils, rinsed until water runs clear –or- Moong Dal
 14-oz can coconut milk, full fat
 14-oz can diced tomatoes
 1¼ c water
 If cooking stovetop, use 1½ to 2 c.
 Start with less, & add as necessary.
 Fresh lime
 Fresh cilantro



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Turn IP (Instant Pot) onto HIGH. Sauté, and melt the coconut oil.
2. Reduce to medium heat and sauté onions, garlic and ginger. Sweat 10-15 minutes.
3. Then put through food processor.
4. Once onions are tender, add: curry powder, garam masala, cumin, coriander, turmeric, Kashmiri chili, and salt & pepper.
5. Stir to toast about 30 seconds.
6. Add sweet potato, red lentils, coconut milk, diced tomatoes, and water. Stir well.
7. Cancel sauté setting. Turn IP to pressure cook for 10 minutes.
8. Natural pressure release 10 min.
9. Season to taste with more salt.
10. Serve, garnished with lime and cilantro.

STOVETOP: Use instructions above, but bring lentils to simmer after combining them with the sweet potatoes and liquids. Simmer 20-25 minutes, or until potatoes are tender. Add more water to thin if necessary.

A dollop of sour cream or Greek yogurt on top works well.

Namaste

Maureen Peters



LOOK AT THIS AMAZING! UUFCC GENEROSITY!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SECOND HELPING

Your MARCH 2023 Donations Totaled **\$1,041.00** 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

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 on check memo line write "In Memory of [beloved's name]."

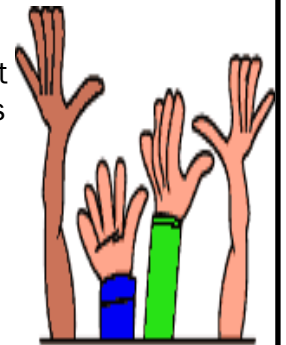


UUSC CAPAS

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





**Celebrate Summer Solstice
with Rev. & Divinity Priestess
*Faerie Elaine Silver***

Sunday, June 18 * 10:30am

Ritual Format

Special Guest - The Choir!

**UU Fellowship of Charlotte County
1532 Forrest Nelson Blvd, Pt. Charlotte**

***Also commemorating Juneteenth, Fathers Day &
Paul McCartney's 81st Birthday! Yeah, Yeah, Yeah!***

uufcc.org * elainesilver.com

**SECOND SUNDAY
SECOND HELPING
JUNE RECIPIENT**

ARAY

Creating a better community for Charlotte County LGBTQ+ youth
www.allrainbowandalliedyouth.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

June Theme: DELIGHT

06-04-23 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Speaker: Joseph Fenty & Laura Anderson
Worship Associate: Dennis Shaw

06-11-23 FORGIVENESS

Speaker: Robert Moran
Worship Associate: Sue Burgess

06-18-23 SPRING INTO SUMMER!

**Celebrate Summer Solstice!
Commemorate Juneteenth, Father's Day,
and Paul McCartney's 81st Birthday!**

Speaker: Rev. & Divinity Priestess Faerie Elaine Silver,
Metaphysical Musical Ministry
Worship Associate: Lorrie Douglas

06-25-23 WHAT BRINGS DELIGHT TO DAILY LIFE?

Speaker: Rev. Ann L. Parker
Religious educator, minister and soul friend.
Feminist. Now retired.
Worship Associate: Sharon Whitehill

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

by 6:00 p.m. Saturday



Your
Worship
Associate
Committee



**06-08 Sharon Desruisseaux
(formerly Goding)**

06-11 Jackie Williamson

06-30 Lynn Ritchie

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

Weekly Events

**Sundays — 09:00 am Conversation Among Friends
10:30 am Worship Services**

Wednesdays — 07:00 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>

JUNE 2023 ACTIVITIES **LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH**

| | | |
|-----------|----------|------------------------------|
| 06/03 Sat | 10:00 am | Worship Associates Meeting |
| 06/04 | Noon | PFLAG Interest Group Meeting |
| 06/05 Mon | 10:30 am | Membership Committee |
| | 01:30 pm | Shaw Chalice Circle |
| | 04:00 pm | Azar Chalice Circle |
| 06/05 Tue | 02:00 pm | Creation Myths in Mythology |
| 06/07 Wed | 04:00 pm | Immigration Committee |
| | 06:00 pm | Choir Circle Meeting |
| 06/08 Thu | 04:30 pm | Buddhist Meditation |
| 06/09 Fri | 01:00 pm | Communications Committee |
| 06/11 Sun | 11:45 am | Social Justice Committee |
| 06/12 Mon | 10:30 am | Program Council |
| 06/13 Tue | 02:00 pm | Creation Myths in Mythology |
| 06/14 Wed | | FLAG DAY |
| | 10:00 am | Caring Committee |
| | 10:00 am | Policies & Procedures Cmte |
| | 06:00 pm | Choir Circle Meeting |
| 06/15 Thu | 02:00 pm | UUFCC Board Meeting |
| | 06:00 pm | NAACP Gen. Membership Mtg |
| 06/18 Sun | | FATHER'S DAY |
| | | BIRTHDAY CAKE SUNDAY |
| | Noon | PFLAG Steering Committee |
| | Noon | Art Committee |
| 06/19 Mon | | JUNETEENTH |
| | 01:30 pm | Shaw Chalice Circle |
| | 04:00 pm | Azar Chalice Circle |
| 06/20 Tue | 02:00 pm | Creation Myths in Mythology |
| 06/21 Wed | 06:00 pm | Choir Circle Meeting |
| 06/22 Thu | 04:30 pm | Buddhist Meditation |
| 06/25 Sun | 03:00 pm | Secular Community Meeting |
| 06/27 Tue | 02:00 pm | Creation Myths in Mythology |
| 06/28 Wed | 10:00 am | Policies & Procedures Cmte |
| | 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).*

SUBMISSIONS INFO

COMMUNIQUE welcomes submissions of **300 words or less.**

Submissions may be edited for spelling, grammar, punctuation, clarity, legal ramifications, length, or general taste at the editors' discretion. Editors reserve the right to refuse to publish submissions for the same reasons. While acceptance rules are lenient, the editorial board will reject that deemed potentially libelous, racist, hateful, or a personal attack. Anonymous submissions are not accepted.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT SUGGESTIONS & IDEAS

Yes, we'd like to get to know you if we could ... (Spanky & Our Gang flashback?) Tell us about you. What is your background? Where are you from? Tell us about your life journey. What brought you to Florida and when? Tell us about your career paths. Accomplishments? Interests? Hobbies? How did you come to UUFCC? What keeps you here? Tell us about current and past UU roles or involvement. Something else? You decide! You tell us what you want us to know! UUFCC directory/archives picture is used unless another is provided.

REALITY CHECK — DISCLAIMER — THE FINE PRINT

Views and opinions expressed in submissions are personal and belong solely to the author/submitter. Views and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the official view, policy, Principles, Covenants, or positions of UUFCC or its newsletter editors. Views and opinions expressed are not intended to malign any religion, ethnic group, organization, individual, or anyone or anything. Guarantees are not made as to completeness, accuracy, usefulness, or timeliness.

SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER'S INDIVIDUAL SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS

Content is not intended to be negative, divisive, and/or diminishing. Uphold one another's First Amendment right to free speech. Encourage and value a free, open, and mutually respectful exchange. Cherish our Beloved Community. Take all content kindly and in the spirit in which it was intended.

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
- office@uufcc.org
- patientadvocacy@uufcc.org
- pflag@uufcc.org
- president@uufcc.org
- socialjustice@uufcc.org
- sundaytech@uufcc.org
- worship@uufcc.org

UUFCC

COMMUNIQUE

Can you say kuh-myoo-nuh-kay?

EDITORIAL BOARD

Stephanie Garrett
Herb Levin
MaryLou Kennedy
300-word limit articles due 1-wk before last day of month:
editorialboard@uufcc.org
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