

Sunday, April 2, 10:30 a.m.
“Life is Divine”
Rev. Tom Schmidt

Service Leader – Nana Royer

Last spring we held discussions and voted as a congregation to add our support to a proposal to change our first principle. We didn't vote to approve the change, only to have it considered further by Unitarian Universalists around the world. The proposal would change our first principle from declaring the inherent worth and dignity of every person to the inherent worth and dignity of every being. We will explore the underlying implications of this idea and why it is an important discussion for us.

Sunday, April 9, 10:30 a.m.
“Joy Moja”
Christina Joy

Service Leader – Robin Mahonen
Chalice lighters; The Dowey-Blank Family,
(Anya, Alex, Rio, and Arbor)

The UUA 2nd Principle calls us to seek justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and our 6th Principle is to work toward the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all. We consider service to be our prayer. As such, UU's are called to activism. Christina will be discussing her journey into philanthropic enterprise which has taken her to Tanzania.

Christina Joy is the founder and the face of Joy Moja, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization to improve educational opportunities for children in Tanzania. She was inspired to start the organization after traveling there in 2012. Christina personally travels to Tanzania, purchasing products directly from markets and artisans and works directly with schools and students that are the very heart of Joy Moja. She has a BA in International Studies from the University of North Florida where she focused her studies on African countries and post-colonial development. She also has an AS in paralegal studies. When Christina isn't working on Joy Moja or traveling to Tanzania, she works as a bartender, and she enjoys spending time with her pets, camping, and empowering people to pursue their dreams. <http://www.joymoja.com/>



Sunday, April 16, 10:30 a.m.
“Resurrection Reconsidered”
Rev. Tom Schmidt

Service Leader – Vanessa Friedman
There will be a children and youth food collection.
“This I Believe” by Ray Adman

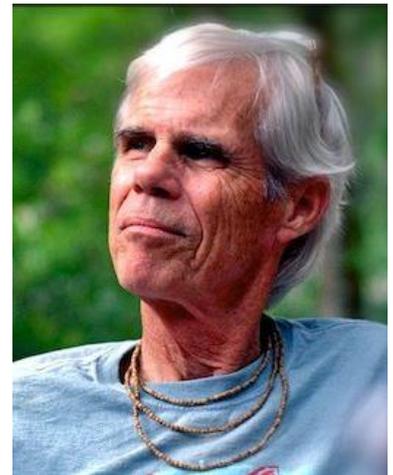
Easter can be filled with conflict for many Unitarian Universalists. While the traditional story of death and resurrection may not resonate with us, the pageantry and traditions of the holiday may still hold sway. On this most holy day for Christianity, let us take a look at the traditional story through the lens of the hero journey and perhaps see what has been hiding there in plain sight.

Sunday, April 23, 10:30 a.m.
“Removing Obstacles on the Path”
Haydn Larson

Service Leader – Robin Mahonen

Haydn Larson will be sharing and discussing several key verses from the Bhagavad Gita, a Vedic scripture explaining Yogic principles. There will also be a performance of a kirtan, classical Vedic music, and a buffet of Indian vegetarian finger food snacks will follow the presentation.

Haydn Larson is a local sculptor and poet, and a fixture at the St. Augustine Farmer's Market. He is known for his distinctive astrological, Pagan, and Vedic spiritual pieces. Haydn grew up in Texas, graduated from University of Texas in sculpture, then began studying Yoga with friends in the Hare Krishna Movement. This led to a year and half in India studying sculpture and yoga. Upon returning to America he organized a team of artists who created multi-media exhibits of the Bhagavad Gita in Los Angeles and Detroit. He and his family moved to Florida in 2002.
<http://www.haydnlarsonstudios.com/>



Sunday, April 30, 10:30 a.m.
“Our First Unitarian Universalist Principle”

Linda Crawford

Service Leader – Megan Porter



Our first principle asks us to affirm and promote the dignity and worth of every person. But what does that mean? Does everybody have dignity and worth, even mass murderers? Linda will discuss how our first principle came about, why it is so fundamental to our faith, and how we, as Unitarian Universalists, can honor it.

Linda and her husband Dale became Unitarian Universalists eight years ago, when they joined the Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church in Jacksonville. Linda was raised as a secular Jew by an atheist and an agnostic. She had never felt the need to join a community of faith until the couple retired to Jacksonville, and moved to Clay County, one of the most conservative counties in Florida. At the time they joined, they were looking for companionship rather than spirituality. But as time has passed, and Linda has delved ever more deeply into the Unitarian Universalist principles and way of life, she has realized that she does have a deep need to uncover some meaning in her life. Linda's sermons are one way to find that meaning. Linda and Dale have two sons, who live with their wives in Tallahassee and Washington DC. Linda is still waiting for grandchildren, but is not allowed to mention it anymore.