

QUEST



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine Newsletter

St. Augustine Beach, Florida

September 8, 2013

FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS ARE HELD SUNDAYS AT 10:30 A.M.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:30 A.M. CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED FOR THE VERY YOUNG

2487 A1A SOUTH, 3/4 MILES SOUTH OF STATE ROAD 312

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED SO ALL MAY SOCIALIZE

Audio transcripts of most presentations are available on the website www.uufsa.org

Board of Trustees

2013 - 2014

President Guy Reid
 Vice President Cherie Dolgin
 Secretary Cynthia McAuliffe
 Treasurer Ruth Weber
 Trustee..... Elle Barry
 Trustee..... Priscilla Gulliver
 Trustee..... Pat Moore
 Trustee..... Charlie West
 Trustee..... Dave Perkins



In This Issue

Sunday Program Topics..... 2 - 3
 Committees and Events 4 - 8
 Anniversaries and Birthdays 8
 Fellowship Calendar 9
 Beyond Our Congregation..... 9
 Notes from the President..... 10

The Quest is published monthly from August through June.

Notice change of publishing schedule: Beginning with the October 2013 issue, the *Quest* will be published at the beginning of each month. Materials for inclusion in the October issue are due by September 27.

Don Brandes. Editor e-mail: donaldbrandes@gmail.net

Sunday, September 15, 10:30 a.m.

Y UU?



JoLaine Pokorny

JoLaine Pokorny will discuss "Y UU?" (or Why UU? to be a little less obtuse). In my experience, many people I meet who are "UU material" are not part of any organized religion, and don't see a reason to be. I want to talk about the reasons to be involved in a faith community, specifically a UU faith community. I believe Unitarian Universalism is "evolved" religion, the next step in the spiritual development of the human race.

JoLaine Jones-Pokorny is a Worship Elder and a Pastoral Associate at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville. She also serves on the Right Relations Team. JoLaine has been a UU for 20 years.



Sunday, September 22, 10:30 a.m.

Water Under the Bridge

How our benign neglect for water may be drowning us.



Rev. Jack Ford

I grew up in the springs and sink holes, lakes and rivers, 'borrow pits' and puddles of Florida. Twenty years ago my brother and I could drive across a lonely pasture in central Florida, strap on a tank, and dive into the deep, clear waters of our amazing aquifer. And Silver Springs was the crown jewel among those mystical waters, a first-magnitude spring discharging more than 550 million gallons of water a day! As a child I enjoyed our family trips to ride glass-bottomed boats and watch pyramids of water skiers.

Today, our misguided illusion of endless cascades of pure, clean water is costing us dearly. Florida's finest gift of life is drying up: polluted, choked and smothering in a sea of mistakes and abuse. Let not this water flow under our bridge unnoticed.

The Rev. Jack Ford is a fellowshipped minister with the Unitarian Universalist Ministerial Association. He has been in UU ministry for 21 years serving in the Florida district. He is also a carpenter and a lover of nature.

Sunday, September 29, 10:30 a.m.

“Love & Marriage”



Jewell Kutzer

Back in the 1950s Frank Sinatra had a hit song with these lyrics, “Love and Marriage, Love and Marriage. go together like a horse and carriage. Dad was told by mother, ‘You can’t have one without the other.’” One of the problems with that message was that, even when the song was written, horses and carriages were no longer regularly seen except in Amish villages or tourist destinations.

On Sunday, September 29, Rev. Jewell Kutzer will speak to the attendees as the St. Augustine Unitarian Universalist congregation about the history of the definitions of both Love and Marriage. She will point out that actually the idea of marriage being between two people because they “love each other” was a fairly recent construct. She will suggest that perhaps both “Love” and “Marriage” deserve a much a more expansive understanding in today’s world.

Rev. Jewell Kutzer is an Ordained Minister of the Church of Religious Science, whose teaching draws from all religions, science, and philosophy. During her thirty-five-year ministerial career, she established two churches, both of which grew to more

than 200 members. The first was in Jacksonville in 1978, and in 1985 she was the founding minister of a church in St. Augustine, which continues to operate today as the Center for Spiritual Living. Since 2010, Rev. Kutzer has been the speaker one Sunday a month at the Palatka Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Guest Service Leader

September 29



Nancy Smith

Nancy J. Smith, PhD, has been a Unitarian Universalist since 1989. As an active member of the UU Church of Lancaster, Pa, for over 20 years, she served on the Board and in numerous other roles. She is currently a member and lay leader at All Souls of Palatka, FL.

Nancy has over 40 years experience as a teacher, administrator and social justice advocate. She taught high school and middle school English before earning a PhD while teaching at the University of Georgia. She taught at Kansas State University and served as a dean and professor at Millersville University of Pennsylvania where she taught courses in women's studies, queer studies, educational psychology, and leadership theory. She is currently Professor Emeritus of Educational Foundations.

UUFSA Committee Opportunities

The Fellowship still needs people to lead several committees and to host our web page. This is an opportunity to enrich your life through participation and help your fellowship. We need people to lead the following efforts:

- Green Team (Co-chair with Nana Royer)
- Fund Raising
- Hospitality
- Social Concerns
- Web page

Please contact Guy Ried if you are interested in helping with any of these services: 794 4068 or guyried1938@aol.com.

Guy

Lifespan Religious Education

UUFSA is combining the adult and youth programs as one committee providing opportunities for UUs of all ages to learn about and discuss a variety of topics.

Please join us to share your ideas and be part of extending these programs for our UU community.

Sunday, September 29 12:00 (after service) – planning meeting for adult programs

Sunday, October 13, 12:00 (after services) – Lifespan Religious Education general meeting for adult and youth programming.

For more information, please contact the *Lifespan Religious Education Co-Chairs* – *Ruth Weber and Beverly Cree*.

UUFSA Sound Booth

We need people to help in the sound and video booth on Sunday mornings. Jerome Fosaaen will train volunteers who are willing to run the sound system once a month or on occasion when needed. Contact at fosaaenj@gmail.com, 471-8416 or cell 417-7344.

Jerome

Notes from the Program Committee

Welcome, everyone, to another Program Year at UUFSA. We look forward to presenting interesting and enriching Sunday morning experiences, beginning with the Water Ceremony on September 8.

Remember to bring your water to add to the waters we mix in the bowl as we gather together to begin our Fellowship year.

At our summer retreat, the Program Committee chose "From Promise to Commitment" as our theme for the coming year, selecting the same theme as the one for the General Assembly in June, 2013.

You'll notice a few little changes this year. The first is that we will now have a Service Leader instead of a Lay Leader facilitating our Sunday Services. In addition, we will experiment with a team leader approach, with Service Leaders in teams of three sharing responsibility for services for a month at a time. More about this later, and watch for the Service Leader training, which Elle Barry will provide in October.

If you have an Announcement, the system will remain the same. Please have your announcement to Lola's email, lolax43@gmail.com, by 3pm on Saturday.

I look forward to seeing everyone again. Welcome back.

Lola Sorensen
Program Chair



Help Feed People in Need in St Johns County

A benefit for the
St. Johns Ecumenical Ministries Food Pantry

Saturday October 19
6 to 8 pm
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
2487 A1A South
St Augustine Beach

\$20
Adults
\$10
kids under
12

Price Includes:

- * a meal of soup and bread
- * Entertainment
- * Fun and Fellowship
- * A bowl to take home as a reminder that someone in our county and the world often has an empty bowl

Contact Cherie Dolgin for tickets
cdolgin@bellsouth.net

Cherie Dolgin



Afternoon Book Club

Dear Afternoon Book Club members,
Besides sun and fun, I hope your summer
Included reading interesting books.
Of course you will bring good suggestions to our first
Meeting, Sept.17th, the third Tuesday of the month.
I am looking forward to seeing you. New members are welcome.
For more information, call Isobel Siegel 794-2293

Isobel



Suggestion Box

The Suggestion Box downstairs (on wall next to Tom May table) is ready and willing to accept questions, requests etc. for the board to consider each month.

Janis May

Caring for Our Youngest UU's

While we are hoping to build our youth program, we rarely have infants and toddlers. Until we are confident that we need someone each Sunday, we are arranging for volunteers to be on call during services to provide a caring experience. Please consider supporting our congregation in this way. Contact Beverly Cree to discuss ways to be involved.

Beverly

Dining with Dignity



We actively participate in this ongoing food sharing program along with many other charitable organizations in the St. Augustine area. On the first Sunday of every month, UU volunteers typically serve between 85-100 meals to the hungry and homeless in our community. Dinner is served at 6:00 pm in an

empty lot on Bridge Street in downtown St. Augustine, just west of city hall.

As many of you may know, this program has undergone several changes over the summer, particularly due to the loss of a major food contribution from the Reef Restaurant. Needless to say, we were a little concerned about how we would manage to feed such a large group of people without this supplemental food. But after the tremendous show of support and generosity we received from our members and volunteers, we have managed to adapt to these changes by creating a new menu driven approach that will enable us to provide enough food to serve 100 nutritiously balanced and adequately portioned meals.

New menu/sign-up sheets are available downstairs on the Tom May table, and anyone who would like to prepare a dish on the menu is encouraged to sign-up ahead of time. Please select from one of the following categories: a main dish, a side dish, a vegetable dish, a salad, or a takeaway item or two. Toiletry items like toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, razors, mosquito repellent, etc., can be deposited in the 'treasure box' downstairs and will be distributed each month, as well.

As always, we are extraordinarily grateful for all of your help and support. Thank you!

Lee Ann & Dave Forrest

Co-chairs for the UUFSA Dining with Dignity Program

UUFSA Summer Sojourner Program

Unitarian Universalism celebrates diversity of belief. This summer, UUFSA Sojourners attended worship services with several local congregations. The goal of the Sojourner Program was to deepen religious understanding and to build interfaith community. Host sites included the United Church of Christ, St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, St. Paul AME Church and the Center for Spiritual Living of St. Augustine. Sojourners also attended Friday prayers at the Islamic Center of Northeast Florida and a splendid 'Sharing Ramadan' celebration and feast.

You're invited to join the Sojourners as they share insights from their summer travels. This meeting, the first in the Downstairs Dialogue series for the year, will take place at 9:15 am. on Sunday, September 15 in the downstairs Fellowship hall, just before the morning service. All are welcome!

Lola Sorensen



St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church

MUUvies Film

September 13, 2013, 7:00 p.m. at UUFSA

MILAGRO BEANFIELD WAR

(1988) USA - 117 minutes

Directed and Produced by Robert Redford

Starring Ruben Blades, Sonia Braga and Richard Bradford

From Variety: *The Milagro Beanfield War* is a charming, fanciful little fable built around weighty issues concerning the environment, the preservation of a cultural heritage and the rights of citizens versus the might of the dollar.

The director and his screenwriters, who adapted John Nichols' 1974 novel, adeptly juggle at least a dozen major characters in telling the story of how one man's decision to cultivate his land, which is coveted by outside developers intent upon building a resort, leads to a standoff between natives of the area and the big boys. Redford and company have put a quirky twist on the material, investing it with a quasi-mystical aspect as well as some raw comedy.

From the Washington Post: Whether it's Mr. Smith or Norma Rae or Billy Jack, Americans like their heroes homespun -- ordinary people who take on the fat cats, and win by persuading their fellows to join the cause. *The Milagro Beanfield War*, Robert Redford's lyrical second film, follows the fail-safe formula, but there's something new under the New Mexico sun: Mr. Smith is Chicano.



MUUvies Documentary

September 27, 2013, 7:00 p.m. at UUFSA

THE AGRONOMIST

(2003) 90 min

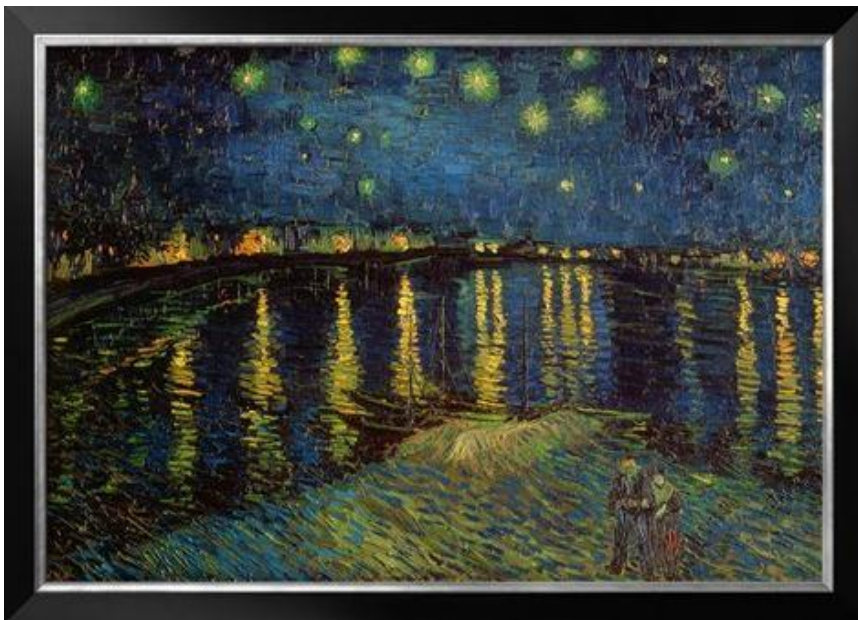
Directed by Jonathan Demme

Jean Dominique, a Haitian journalist who spent nearly all of his much-too-short life fighting for a better existence for himself and his countrymen, exudes charisma. The fierce passion he displays throughout Jonathan Demme's ragtag documentary *The Agronomist* fairly stirs the soul; to see Dominique hold forth on why Haiti deserves a taste of freedom is to witness but a glimmer of what perhaps drove revolutionaries such as Che Guevara. The almost animalistic hunger for the desire to have his voice heard is chilling; Dominique most certainly puts his money where his mouth is, which makes for a riveting 90 minutes.

Demme (*Silence of the Lambs*, *Stop Making Sense*) first met Dominique in 1986 and continued to meet with and film the Haitian journalist and activist until his shocking and still mysterious assassination in April 2000 - their conversations, which make up the spine of Demme's film are laced with idealism and grand thoughts of triumphing over injustice.

The Agronomist is many things but most of all it's entertaining - Demme blends interview footage seamlessly with vintage material and stock footage to create a cinematic collage of Jean Dominique's life and work; it's a moving testament to the resiliency of the human spirit and the ability to overcome anything with determination and pride. It's one of the great films of 2004 and should appeal to doc fans and non-fans alike. Preston Jones, *New Line*, June 7, 2005

Art Exhibit and Sale



Hello Fellowship Artists!

Our exhibition year will begin in October, so start thinking about the work you might like to show. Opening day will be Sunday, October 6. You can bring your work on Sunday, Sept. 29 and leave it in the Meditation/Art room, as the show will be hung during the week.

Please have your work "gallery ready." We prefer wires to the small toothed metal pieces on the backs of paintings or anything to be hung. Please include your name, the name of the piece(s), the price, and the medium you used. And remember, 20% of the sales price will go to the Fellowship, so this is a mini fund raiser as well as a cultural experience.

Thanks, and see you in the gallery!

Lola Sorensen and Janis May

September Anniversaries

Sept 17 Forrest, Lee Ann & David
Sept 25 Schepers, JoAnne & Eugene
Please let me know if I have missed you.

Don

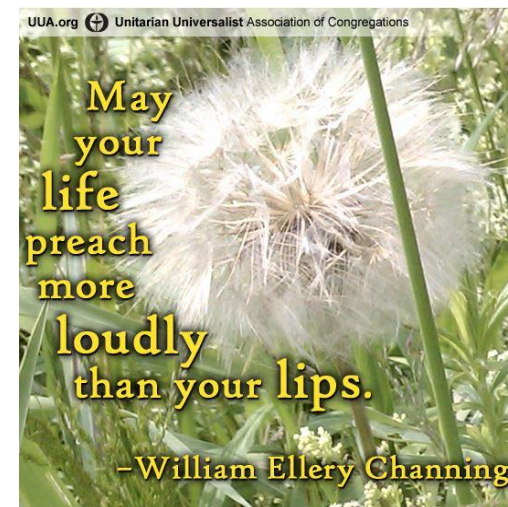
September Birthdays

September

02 Jindy Gelow
07 Peggy Stephenson
15 Susan L. Ballantyne
19 Ian Abarbanel
20 Janis May
22 Uldis Golts
22 Steve Boone
22 Dave Forrest
25 Isobel Siegel

Please let me know if I have missed you.

Don



Fellowship Calendar

Sept. 13 SJEM Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 18 Program Committee 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 22 Potluck Sunday after service

Sept. 23 Strategic Planning Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 27 SJEM Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 29 Lifespan Religious Ed. committee – After service

For the most up-to-date calendar, always go to uufsa.org and click on Events Calendar (left side)

Florida District Calendar

For info on the Florida District Calendar, go to <http://www.floridadistrict.org>

Beyond Our Congregation:

Let's Go to The Mountain for SUUFI Southern Unitarian Universalist Fall Institute October 7-11

Some workshops will be led by Michael Dowd and Connie Barlow, international presenters who have created stimulating workshops about the “Connection between the Sacred and Science.” Other activities include workshops on photography and healing touch, exploration of local falls or the Bascom Arts Center, evening entertainment, talent shows or singing around the campfire. In addition, there are opportunities to walk the outdoor labyrinth, check out the organic farm (large garden and chickens), hike in the mountains, relax on the deck or climb the tower, and much more.

For this five-day multi-faceted programming, four nights lodging, great meals, stimulating fellowship, and breath-taking views of fall colors in the mountains, the cost is \$440.

If you are interested, please go ahead and register. If you would like to be part of car-pooling or renting a small bus depending on the number of participants, please contact Beverly by September 28. There will be an additional charge for those wanting group transportation.

For more information, contact Beverly Cree, or check out the SUUFI website at www.suufi.org or The Mountain website at www.mountaincenters.org. The program info would be in The Mountain Calendar webpage. For general info about The Mountain, check out the display downstairs at UUFSA or talk with *Beverly Cree, Lyn Klarman or Priscilla Gulliver.*



Notes from the President



Can you believe the summer break is behind us? We had a very successful evening program in which we explored the essays in the book “Everyday Spiritual Practice,” edited by Scott W. Alexander. At our final session in which we reflected on how the series had inspired us to make changes, Tom May summed the overall experience up when he said, “It reinforced a reverence for

life.” Well put Tom. A special thank you to Lola Sorenson for leading this session and asking me to chair a group. It was most enjoyable.

We also had a Sojourner’s project this summer in which we participated in visiting other churches and religious houses as guests. A special thank you to Jane Mahoney for coordinating these visits. They helped broaden our perspectives, appreciate other faiths, and make new friends. That is a worthwhile outcome!

The Board of Trustees also had their retreat in August which gave us the opportunity to get to know each other better in an informal atmosphere. While there was no agenda as such we did agree to a covenant with one another on Board participation in the new year. The Board also agreed to advance the UUFSA theme for our new season, “Promise to Commitment” to “Commitment to Action.” We welcomed two new board members as well, Pat Moore, and Charlie West. They will help us to move forward in conducting the business of the Fellowship. While Dave Perkins our immediate past President was not present, we received the benefit of his and Nana Royer’s reports on the workshop they attended conducted by Rev. Kenn Hurto, “Becoming a Hospitable Congregation.” A special thank you to Dave and Nana. Our first meeting is on Monday, September 9th, at 6:30 downstairs at the Fellowship. Anyone who wishes to attend is cordially invited.

You will notice some changes downstairs in the main meeting room. We have moved the tables to abut with the walls and eliminated the center tables, except one. This is to give us the opportunity to “mingle” more, especially with our guests. We also are taking a different approach to the Social Time (used to be called Coffee Hour). We will no longer serve “mini meals” on these Sundays but coffee and doughnuts or Danish or coffee cake. This will give us the opportunity to include more volunteers in the Sunday Social Time duty since the cost will be much less, and it helps us focus on socializing together, especially with guests and newcomers. The potluck Sunday will continue as before, on the fourth Sunday of the month.

We still have several key chair posts open and available: Green Team, Social Concerns, Fund Raising, and Hospitality (should be easier with the changes), We also still need a volunteer(s) to manage our web site. Some Fellowships have the philosophy “Choose or be chosen.” We still hope to recruit volunteers as we have traditionally done. So if any of these areas appeal to you, give me a call at 794 4068 or e-mail guyreid1938@aol.com. Today would not be too soon.

One final tidbit: We signed up to support the initiative for Compassion approved by the St. Augustine City Commission for us to become a Compassionate City, for which the Mayor will include the proclamation at their September 9th meeting.

See you around the Fellowship

Guy



