

QUEST



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine Newsletter

St. Augustine Beach, Florida

November, 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

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The Quest is published monthly from September through July.

Materials for inclusion in the December issue are due by November 22.

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

Sunday, November 3, 10:30 a.m.

“You Go Where You Look”



Rev. Jack Ford

Lessons I learn from my motorcycle. Riding a bike is quite different from traveling in a car: more to see, more to do. While working both hands and both feet I am watching in every direction, anticipating other drivers, checking road and weather conditions, feeling the cycle beneath me. I am constantly receiving and interpreting a steady stream of information and feedback. I find in this experience some interesting parallels in the way we approach our spiritual or religious journeys.

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, November 10, 10:30 a.m.

“Reasons for Faith: The Double Love Commandment in Christianity and World Religions”



James L. Rowell

The “double love” commandment of Christianity reflects a form the “golden rule”, that is important not only to this religion, but also to Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism. We will explore how this double love commandment is essential to Christianity, and also opens a path to greater pluralism and universalism.

James L. Rowell was born in 1969 and raised in Amherst Massachusetts. He received his PhD from the University of Pittsburgh in 2002, was married to Marina in 2004, and came to teach at Flagler College in 2006. He is the author of “Gandhi and Bin Laden: Religion at the Extremes”, he is a father, and an Associate Professor of Religion, teaching World Religions and a variety of courses on religion and politics at Flagler.

Sunday, November 17, 10:30 a.m.

**“I Know You Are But What Am I?”
Part I - Humanism**



Rev. Jack Ford

Ministering to Unitarian Universalists is challenging, rewarding, and very interesting. So many journeys. So much love and happiness and caring. And a willingness to be mixed up. Often we seem to be unsure of what we really 'believe', what label we choose to wear, if any. Defining our spiritual, religious, or philosophic endeavors is not easy for thinkers who promote "the right of conscience" and "a free and responsible search for truth and meaning" and such high hopes as these. Far easier to understand them. You know: those Christians meeting on Sunday morning (of course); those Pagans meeting somewhere; those Spiritualists taking over the 'church'; those Humanists, wherever they are.

In this sermon series, Rev. Jack will explore the affinity groups, philosophies and movements which make up this great big bright umbrella called the Unitarian Universalist Association. Part One is a look at HUMANISM.

Sunday, November 24, 10:30 a.m.

“Lost and Found”



Rev. Kenneth Gordon Hurto

With the shift to regional staffing, Kenn Hurto has added the role of Lead Executive to his duties as Congregational Life staff member for the Florida District, a role he has served since 2006. In addition to providing direct service to congregations, he supervises a team of seven professional staff serving the deep South, with 216 congregations and over 30,000 members in 13 states. The team's primary work is with congregational leaders, providing consultation for organizational development, establishing healthy practices, conflict management, and strengthening Unitarian Universalism in our congregations to further the impact of our values in society. As Lead, Kenn provides team oversight, collaborates with the four District Boards in the Region, and is the direct link to the Department of Congregational Life in our UUA.

Rev. Kenn is a graduate of the Divinity School at Harvard University. He has served Unitarian Universalist congregations in Indiana and Iowa, Wyoming, northern Virginia, and Pennsylvania, with consulting resident ministries in New Zealand and Australia. He also served as Professional Development Director in the Department of Ministry for our Association. Prior to joining the field staff, Kenn served as the senior minister to our congregation in Fort Myers, Florida.

Upholding Our Covenant

Saturday, November 23

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Mark the date and sign up to join in a region-wide workshop, “**Promises, Promises—Being Together in a Faith Community,**” led by the Rev. Kenneth Hurto, Southern Region Lead, Congregation Life Staff. Since Rev. Hurto has taken this new position with UUA, we don’t get to see too much of him, so try not to miss this opportunity. **We are hosting it right here at our own fellowship.**

Cost is \$15, which includes lunch. Please sign up before November 18, as the price goes up after that! Sign up downstairs on the Tom May table and please pay your \$15 to Lola Sorensen. She will then send everyone’s name to the district office.

Please take this opportunity to learn more about how we can better honor our covenant with one another.

Program Committee



Building Your Own Theology

The Lifelong Learning team is pleased to announce that we will offer a "Building Your Own Theology" seminar beginning in January. The ten-session course, developed by Richard Gilbert, is "based on the assumption that everyone is their own theologian. The program invites participants to develop their personal credos: the fundamental religious beliefs, values and convictions that inform and direct the living of our lives. Gilbert poses various developmental tasks in which participants come to terms with human nature, ultimate reality, ethics and religious meaning." It is a classic Unitarian Universalist adult education program!

When: 10 consecutive Wednesday evenings, beginning January 15 and ending March 19. Time TDB

Participation in "Building Your Own Theology" requires a commitment to attend all sessions (as possible), and the course involves at least one hour of homework during the week. Also, participants must purchase the work book for \$16. We will try to get a volume discount if possible.

Group size is limited, so if you're interested, please sign up on the sheet on the Tom May table.

Questions? Email ruthweber@bellsouth.net or westjrcw@gmail.com.



Downstairs Dialog



Immigration: Problems and Opportunities

Sunday, November 17

Before Service: 9:15 – 10:15

November's Downstairs Dialogue will be an in depth discussion of “Immigration: Problems and Opportunities,” moderated by Charlie West.

Thanksgiving / Hospitality



We need a coordinator/host for our annual, traditional Thanksgiving dinner on November 28th. If you would like to continue this tradition, please let Guy Reid guyreid1938@aol.com or 794 4068 or Rita Golts gorita@aol.com or 461-6765 know ASAP. Rita is willing to help you set up and help in any other way needed.

If you have not yet signed up to do coffee this fall, please do so on the calendar downstairs over the coffee table. You may be reimbursed up to twenty dollars for your expenditures if you give Rita Golts your receipts. If you have never done it, we can pair you up with someone who has. It really is not that difficult.

Rita

Dinner Groups

Dinner groups are a great way to get to know other church members and have fun too. Groups of 5 to 7 meet at a host members home. If you are interested in attending or hosting, sign up at the Tom May table. Indicate if you are willing to serve as a host. If you will be attending with a spouse or someone else sign on the same line. After 2 weeks of sign up the host members will draw names at random and then the hosts will contact the members in their group to decide when to meet and what to eat, taking into consideration others food needs. The dinners are informal and can be potluck, pizza, a holiday party or even a trip to a restaurant if that is what the group decides. The main point is to share food, good conversation, and fellowship.

John Porter (Membership committee)

St. Johns Food Pantry



Many thanks to our 50 guests who supported the recent Empty Bowls fundraiser for the St. Johns Food Pantry. Soup was generously donated by The Present Moment Cafe, Ned's Southside Kitchen, Vince's Sandwich Shop, South Beach Grill, Cafe Atlantico, La Herencia Cafe, Manatee Cafe, The Gallery Cafe and from the kitchen of Peter and Lenny Gemski.

Lenny and Nana Royer made the bread that was served, along with a gift from Publix Super Markets, which also supplied the paper products. People took home their empty bowls, which were donated, to remind them that there are many people in our country and the world who have only an empty bowl.

Highlights of the evening were fabulous music by Pete Gemski and the Lighthouse Jazz Band, as well as a drawing for a gorgeous handmade bowl by Westside Studio Clayarts. The lucky winner was Jill Cerulli, a Food Pantry volunteer. Other volunteers who were essential to the night's success were Lenny Gemski, Nana Royer, Ruth Weber, Pat Maguire, Cal Marshall, John Porter, Megan Porter, Lou Cerulli, Guy Reid, Pat Moore, Fred Dolgin, Tom Dolgin and Cherie Dolgin. And thanks to Mary Kellough for taking some wonderful photos.

A total of \$1400 was raised and will be given to the St. Johns Food Pantry to purchase groceries! The pantry depends solely on

monetary and food donations to assist low income individuals and families in our county. Last year the pantry provided 4679 adults and 2804 children in 3219 families with 114,216 meals! You can see how important our contribution is.

Sincere thanks to all who put such hard work into creating a fun and purposeful evening. Much appreciation to all who came to support the food pantry and to those who bought tickets knowing that they would not be able to attend.

Cherie Dolgin

Dining with Dignity



Our group of steadfast volunteers had a very successful food sharing event last month. Approximately 77 people were served a hearty meal which included chili, rice, cornbread, salad, and much, much more. Thanks to everyone who signed up, prepared a dish, or brought take-away items to share.

Special thanks to those of you who took on the added responsibilities of bringing the supplies, the beverages, and the donated desserts from Publix while we were out of town... mucha gracias!

Our next event is coming up on November 3rd, and we have chosen to go Italian this month. Pasta, garlic bread, chicken or eggplant parmesan, green beans, and fresh salads are on the menu. Everyone is encouraged to sign-up ahead of time at the UU, or if you wish, you can contact me via email at forrestleann@yahoo.com, and I will be happy to add you to our DWD team.

Lee Ann & Dave Forrest

Lifelong Learning for Youth Meeting

Sunday, November 10 at 12:30 pm

Everyone interested in discussing our UUFSA Youth Religious Education Program is invited to join us at the home of Beverly Cree and Charlie West for lunch and discussion. This will be an opportunity to get to know one another better, as well consider how to provide for our youth and families.

We will be considering: what our goals are for religious education, including what is religion; what can be done to support our program as a vital part of our congregation; how do we include our families as part of our congregation; and whatever else needs to be discussed related to this program.

Please let Beverly know if you are planning to participate in this discussion and planning session. Someone asked what we would do if 50 people want to participate – that will be wonderful – just need to know about how many to provide lunch for. Our home is about five miles south of UUFSA, just off A1A – let me know if you are coming and I will provide specific directions. Contact: bjcree@gmail.com or 904.471.0335



Afternoon Book Club



The Afternoon Book Club will meet downstairs at UU at 1:00 p.m. We will discuss the following books:

November 21, 2013

Heart Of Palm by Laurie Lee Smith, led by Janet Jamal.

December 17, 2013

Crow Lake by Mary Lawson, led by Florence Abarbanel.

January 21, 2014

Out Stealing Horses by Per Petterson, led by Uldis Golts

February 18, 2014

A Land Remembered by Patrick D. Smith, led by Rita Golts

March 18, 2014

The Night of Circus by Erin Morgenstern, led by Joyce Peterson

April 15, 2014

The Bonobo and the Atheist by Frans de Waal, led by Barbara Brenner

May 20, 2014

And the Mountains Echoed by Khaled Hosseini, led by Pat Maguire

Isobel Siegel 794-2293

MUUvies Film

FOOTNOTE (2012)

November 8th, 7:00 p.m.

At the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Directed by: Joseph Cedar;

Starring: Aliza Rosen, Lior Ashkenazi, Shlomo Bar-Aba
Metacritic: 82



Summary: Eliezer and Uriel Shkolnik are both eccentric professors, who have dedicated their lives to their work in Talmudic Studies. The father, Eliezer, is a stubborn purist who fears the establishment and has never been recognized for his work. Meanwhile his son, Uriel, is an up-and-coming star in the field, who appears to feed on accolades, endlessly seeking recognition. Then one day, the tables turn...

Footnote has two of the best performances I've seen in world cinema over the past year: One from Shlomo Bar Aba (apparently best known in Israel as a stand-up comic and stage actor), playing the aging, bitter philologist Eliezer Shkolnik, and the other from Lior Ashkenazi, one of the country's best known movie stars, as his son and rival, Uriel. Andrew O'Hehir, Salon.com

Exquisitely assembled, with a pointedly grand musical score to emphasize the titanic (and at times hilarious) nature of filial duty, Footnote is itself a perfect little piece of Talmud, full of text, commentary, and colorful argument. —Lisa Schwarzbaum, Entertainment Weekly

A brilliant film. Academic infighting provides the comedy, and father-son relationship provides the pathos. Not for anyone who does not know what "philology" is, but for audiences that lament the absence of intelligent films, this is a must. Amboy

UU DocUmentary

BIX

November, 22, 2013, 7:00

At the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Directed by: Brigitte Berman

119 minutes

Rating of 8.3 on IMDB

Now for the first time ever this compelling documentary details the Bix Beiderbecke story from his early beginnings as a child prodigy to his tragic death at twenty eight. While noting his family's disapproval of his career and life, the movie posits other explanations for Bix's early death - the grueling pace of touring and the relentless demands of fans, who wouldn't let the celebrity stop playing or drinking which broke down his health. This film stresses Bix's natural musical genius and influence on other musicians who admired his unique style. Straight from the roots of Jazz, it features rare interviews and performances from the era by such Jazz legends Louis Armstrong, Hoagy Carmichael, Doc Cheatham, Jack Fulton, Matt Malneck and Artie Shaw.



Pressure Cleaning the Downstairs Walk

Thanks to Joyce and Palmer.



Fellowship Calendar

November Events:

- 2 – Finance Committee 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
- 3 – Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 3 – Dining with Dignity 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 4 – Great Decisions 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- 5 – Election Day
- 8 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 11 – Veterans Day
- 17 – Downstairs Dialogue 9:15 – 10:15
- 21 – Book Club 1:00
- 22 – Food Pantry 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- 23 – Southern Region Workshop, “Promises, Promises—Being Together in a Faith Community” 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- 28 – Thanksgiving

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

November Birthdays

- 04 Judy Weisberger
- 05 Megan Porter
- 15 Jane Mahoney
- 16 Dot Brandes
- 25 Tony Rose
- 25 Lola Sorensen
- 25 Beverly Cree
- 27 Rita Golts
- 27 Anne Wilke

Please let me know if I have missed you. *Don*

November Anniversary

- 13 Cindy & Tristin Woolsey

Please let me know if I have missed you. *Don*

Beyond Our Congregation:

Florida District Northeast Cluster meeting

Saturday, November 2, 9:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

First UUC of Orlando

Reproductive Justice Perspectives, Margaret McLaren, PhD, and Terri Susan Fine, PhD, morning speakers. Business meeting after lunch.

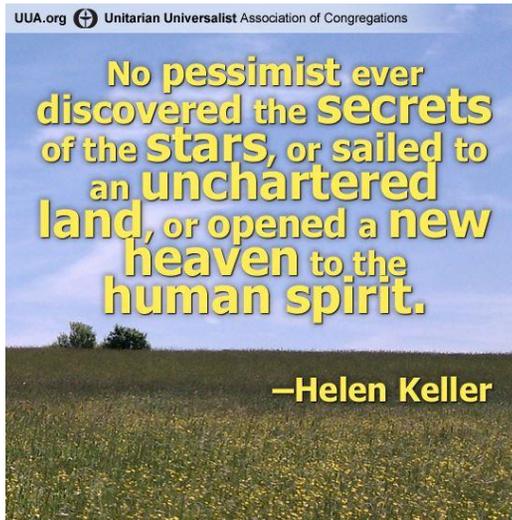
Southern Region Workshop:

“Promises, Promises—

Being Together in a Faith Community”

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. At UUFSA, led by the Rev. Kenneth Hurto, Southern Region Lead, Congregation Life Staff. See page 4 for more details.

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



Gardening Internship at

The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center

In Highlands, NC, The Mountain is providing the opportunity for a few interns to work with and learn from our Garden Manager. There are three focus areas for this program: Sustainable Agriculture, Garden to Table Program, and Leadership and Facilitation.

Intern Support: Shared on-site housing, meals in the dining hall, and \$200 per month stipend

Intern Schedule: February 5 to August 3, 2014; Application due by December 15.

More Information: www.mountaincenters.org to download details, or contact our Garden Manager and Intern Mentor, Bill Hageman at bill.hagemann@mountaincenters.org or 828.526.5838 x 252. Or, contact Beverly Cree (St. Augustine): bjcree@gmail.com or 904.471.0335.

The Mountain Happenings

Five people from UUFSA had a great time at SUUFI (Southern UU Fall Institute) in early October. Check out the SUUFI photo book at The Mountain display downstairs. Plan to join us for SUUFI 2014—October 6-10.

May 19 – 24, 2014 – Appalachian Spring

The program includes Native American spirituality, orienteering in the forest, wild edibles, music, hiking, exploring waterfalls, ziplining, rafting or rock climbing (depending on group interest), a variety of workshops and enjoying the fellowship and peacefulness of The Mountain.

More info at The Mountain display downstairs or contact Beverly Cree, Lyn Klarman or Priscilla Gulliver, or check out the website: www.mountaincenters.org.

New Members

Pat Maguire

Cal Marshall (my husband) and I moved to St. Augustine in April. Having grown up in Jacksonville Beach, I longed to get back to the ocean after 30 years on New Mexico's high desert plateau. I've worked as a school and mental health counselor, international training consultant, and university professor. I had a long involvement with the U.S. Peace Corps: first as a volunteer, then as a trainer in West Africa, and starting WNMU's Peace Corps Fellows program for returned volunteers. I've done community activism around domestic violence and sexual assault. I loved being a Girl Scout leader for 13 years! Now I volunteer with other UUsers in Dining with Dignity and the Food Pantry.

I recently retired Professor Emeritus from Western New Mexico University. For 23 years, I chaired WNMU's Gallup Graduate Center, which offers innovative and social justice-oriented graduate programs for educators and mental health professionals on the Navajo Nation, Pueblo of Zuni, and Gallup area. My teaching, research, and publishing interests included the interface between feminisms and participatory action research.



Cal Marshall

I'm a bit of a St. Augustine rarity: a Florida native born in Jacksonville in the 1940's. After earning a BA and MA in physical education from FSU, I joined the Peace Corps, spending two years in Jamaica. I've taught and/or coached in junior high, high school, and college, and helped start an Alternative High School that is still going strong 40 years later.

For three years between my BA and MA, I was a US Coast Guard Officer, first doing search and rescue in the Gulf of Mexico, then running rivers and canals in the Mekong Delta. After Peace Corps, I got a BSN in Nursing at USF. I figured I could combine teaching and nursing by either nursing teachers or teaching nurses. I've lived and worked in Galveston, Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Tampa, Kingston Jamaica, Amherst Massachusetts, Sitka Alaska, and Gallup, New Mexico. I recently retired after 30 years as a Trauma Nurse in the U.S. Indian Health Service, working primarily in a busy hospital ER on the edge of the Navajo Nation. Hobbies include cutting stain glass and gardening.

My wife of 37 years, Pat Maguire, and I choose St. Augustine for retirement because it reminded us of the Florida we knew growing up. We enjoy the laid back beach life style. We are able to continue community service through the UU involvement in Dining with Dignity and the Food Pantry as well as St. Augustine 450. We are building a house in Sea Grove, close enough to walk to the UU fellowship. We enjoy traveling internationally as often as we can and spending time with our daughters, Molly and Megan.

Backstage View from The President



Your Board of Trustees met October 14th. One item we discussed I want to amplify since it will take commitment from each of us to spell success. How to expand our Care Connect program in addition to the current e-mail system managed by Gale Burdick? Gale does this job well and we want to keep it intact. Additionally, we need a more

have a commitment to Fellowship Members and Friends when they require help or assistance. For example, when someone does not attend services for a couple of weeks and this is unusual, a Care Team member might call or e-mail them to see if they are okay or need assistance. Board Trustees Elle Barry and Cynthia McAuliffe agreed to team together to explore this topic and see how we might best roll it out for the Fellowship. I will be updating you when they complete their research and provide recommendations on how to proceed. If you have suggestions please share with them at ellepaper@hotmail.com and ccroteau@yahoo.com. Compassion With Action. Now is the time.

We are also exploring Covenant Groups and how we may benefit from forming them at our Fellowship. The Membership chairs Annette Kidder and John agreed to address this subject and make some preliminary recommendations on how we might proceed. More on this as it develops. These groups have been highly touted in other Fellowships and perhaps they will serve us as well.

Speaking of covenants, when we joined the Fellowship we entered into covenant to provide support to the activities of the Fellowship. That included a financial commitment or stewardship, inasmuch as

we are able and a commitment to be an active member. Many of you have been outstanding in keeping the covenant. If you are not leading a committee or helping in a group and you are able but idle, it is time to step up and fulfill your covenant with the Fellowship - Fund Raising, Green Team co-chair with Nana Royer, Social Concerns, and Hospitality. Rita Golts and I are currently sharing Hospitality. Time for new talent here. So call me 904 794 4068 or e-mail guyreid1938@aol.com. Let's quit expecting the same people who continue to bear the brunt of the load. If you are already active in the Fellowship, a hearty thank you for all you do to keep us in covenant with one another.

Hope to see you (busy) around the Fellowship

Guy

